

June / July 2015

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JESUS IN GLORY

After the first space flight on 12th April 1961 Nikita Khrushchev made a speech to the Soviet Communist Party in which he claimed that the astronaut Yuri Gagarin “flew into space, but didn't see any god there.” This was surely meant to indicate that God was a fantasy - apparently we all knew He lived up in the sky!

We have just passed Ascension Day when we celebrate Jesus passing from this earth to His Father in heaven. But what does that mean? If Jesus is with God the Father what is he doing there? What are we to make of Luke's account at the start of the book of Acts in the Bible. It is worth reading, Acts 1. v1 - 11. Luke is a very careful historian; he records that Jesus' earthly ministry consisted of what he *began* to do, the clear implication being that Jesus' work continues in the Book of Acts and then into the future, as the Gospel spreads around the world.

Even at this time the disciples were completely at a loss to understand what Jesus' mission was all about. They had seen him

executed, they had seen the empty tomb and then they had had 40 days of teaching with Him. Yet still they expected an earthly Kingdom - still they thought that He was to be King in Jerusalem “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” they asked. But at least they recognised that Jesus was a King - they could hardly believe less of a man who had overcome death and was now talking, living and eating with them!



Christians know that Jesus is indeed a king. We have a children's chorus, “*Jesus is the King, Ruler over everything ... He is the King.*” The Bible is clear that Jesus' kingship is not of this world. He has ascended to the Glory of God the Father and there presented His self sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. That means that the

very presence of God is open for all human beings. Each one of us can have direct access to God through Jesus Christ - we need no other mediator, no priest, no ritual to give us this access.

King Jesus, we are assured “ever lives to make intercession for us!” Yes, Jesus is continually praying for each of His people - ordinary people who trust Him.

The message of the Ascension of King Jesus is that there is nothing on earth or in the spiritual realm that can keep us from Him. Think of your greatest fear, your most terrible memory, your saddest moment, then think of the happiest moments of your life, each one can be brought before King Jesus - He understands, He has died for you and He assures you of His love and forgiveness if you trust Him.

Now that is some Saviour.

Jesus is the King - Ruler over everything!

John Roberts

THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Calverleigh, Cruwys Morchard, Loxbeare, Oakford, Rackenford, Stoodleigh, Templeton, Washfield and Withleigh
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The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of its readers



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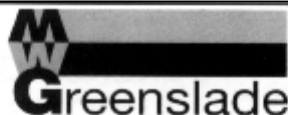
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EDITORIAL

You will notice that we now have four extra pages. It is such a relief to be able to spread things out and not turn away items that you would like us to include. Also, the June/July issue is always busy - with all your APCMs, Summer Fetes and Shows. I have made a page for Parish Notices inside the back cover - for quick reference - so that you can see some of what's going on, at a glance.

We also have more space for new Advertisers and we already have some on our waiting list. If you've been thinking of upgrading the size of your existing advert, now would be a good time to do it.

Some adverts from the old Page 15 have moved to the bottom of the new pages.

PDF copies of the Today magazine, dating back several years, can be read on the Exe Valley Churches web-site run by Dave Burton. You can now tell any of your friends and family, at home and abroad, that they can read them all on-line.

Jenny and Geoff

MOVING ON PART 2

Two months have now passed since the previous update and, although progress has been made regarding the paperwork, it has been slower than hoped. The nine parish representatives have met on two occasions and general agreement has been reached on some aspects. There are, however, issues which, at the time of writing, have yet to be resolved. By the time you read this, a further meeting will have taken place with



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the Archdeacon of Exeter in attendance. Please pray that the documentation which is finally produced, will attract the right candidates.

On a slightly more positive note, a provisional date has been set by the Diocese for interviews to take place in October, but this is subject to all of the paperwork being completed in good time. Before too much excitement develops, please don't get any ideas that we might have a new Rector by the end of the year. Even if an offer was to be made immediately following the interviews, there is still the question of the three months notice which the prospective incumbent would have to give to their current benefice, plus the time allowed for moving and settling in. Such would effectively take us to late February / early March, and bear in mind that this is the **earliest** we can expect.

At the recent Churchwardens' Council meeting, it was agreed that we should try having a monthly Group Service which would take place in our churches, in rotation, and that there would be no Exe Valley Central on those Sundays. It has been decided, initially, that this will be on the fourth Sunday of each month, beginning in June. It also seemed logical to go around our churches in alphabetical order, that way we would all know where the next service was going to be, and when it would be the turn of our own parish to play host.

Finally, in his article in the last magazine, John painted a bleak picture of the prospects for a potential new incumbent, and I have had my ear bent with criticism of the negativity of the article. Whilst I do not share John's seemingly pessimistic viewpoint, there is no doubt that we may need to carefully consider, realistically, our

expectations of our new incumbent. Nobody can be in nine parishes at once, nor can they fulfil the role of a parish priest of the past. But, rather than looking for what cannot be done, let us consider what we would like to see happening in our parishes, then asking ourselves the question, "What can I contribute to making this happen?" If we ourselves are willing to rise to the challenge, then those who are not yet part of our congregations may be able to see the gospel being lived out in our communities, and that is far more powerful than preaching it. Our rector may then have the time to do those things which it would be inappropriate for the rest of us to be doing. Let us also pray that the Lord will show us what **HE** wants for **HIS** Church in our mission community.

Paul Iliff

HAVE YOU READ ? ...

The House of Bishops' Pastoral Letter's comments on FAITH

Christianity is an incarnational faith – Jesus Christ lived as one of us, shared the joys and hardships of ordinary life and died a violent and shameful death... Christ's incarnation confirms the fundamental truth that every human being is created in the image of God. Because of this, we are called to love our neighbour as ourselves. This is the starting point for all of the church's engagement with society, politics and national life.

It is a mistake to imagine that all manifestations of religion are essentially similar or always benign. But the challenge to politicians is to understand how faith can shape communities, nations and individuals for the good. The answer to 'furious religion' (that is, the religious impulse turned in on itself or used to justify oppression and conflict) is not to marginalise religion in general or see religious faith as some kind of problem. It is to acknowledge that religious commitment is extraordinarily widespread and that people of faith within all the historic traditions have much to offer to a vision of a good society and a peaceful world.


and also ...

The House of Bishops' Pastoral Letter's comments on NEIGHBOURS

We have become much more of a Society of Strangers through recent decades. That is one consequence of greatly increased physical mobility and the advance of communication technologies which allow ... transactions without people meeting face to face.

But we are also a society of strangers in a more worrying sense. Consumption, rather than Production, has come to define us, and Individualism has tended to estrange people. The Individualism of consumer economics and political life today makes the

continued overleaf ➔



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individual sovereign. In Christian theology, God is sovereign and the individual and the community are the focus of God's choice to love and nurture his people. The extent of loneliness in society today ... is one indication of how far we have drifted into a Society of Strangers.

And yet we are not entirely a Society of Strangers. Most people still find numerous ways of belonging amongst other people – through the workplace, through voluntary associations, through shared religious and other beliefs, through shared interests, and through shared places. In each of these modes of belonging, there are solidarities, customs, and a sense of identifying with each other, without which our lives would be extraordinarily fragile and lonely.

Seneca

NATURE NOTES

My annual war against weeds is well underway and I am determined to do better than last year. In my time, I have defeated ground elder, creeping buttercup and bindweed by cultivation/manual methods alone. Once you can identify all parts of the plant and apply the principle of never letting a weed see a Sunday, you can be assured of success. However my foes of last year won, and to those who believe a weed is only a wild flower in

the wrong place I have news – dock and burdock are just weeds.

As a child I knew that after close encounters with stinging nettles, a dock could soon be found to relieve the sting. However I tolerate stinging nettles as they are so beneficial to wildlife, and I once read that they were imported by the Romans. Apparently legionnaires liked to thrash themselves with them to improve circulation and hence warmth, whilst guarding the cold outposts of empire. I could be sceptical about stories of this kind but when you come across a Roman snail when walking, you realise to what extremes of detail colonists went. I imagine the snails were released from captivity by native Britons when the occupiers left, thus starting a long tradition of valuing freedom whilst not welcoming these delicacies on our plates. My reference book suggests they were released in the South East but not by whom, so as I have only found them in the West Country, and near to areas of Roman influence, I maintain my theory.

However like all Europeans we are not scared to experiment with weeds and herbs when manufacturing our drinks. We know for example that burdock was first used to flavour drinks in the Middle Ages. The names of drinks often reference their natural ingredients. Dandelion and burdock, ginger beer, coca cola and even nettle beer have a long history, even if some may believe the American import is modern. Time moves on, and cocaine has disappeared from coca cola and burdock flavours are now wholly artificial.

So, much as I can never resist throwing sticky bobs at woollen garments and much as the idea of wrapping butter in dock leaves has a certain charm, these weeds have no use in my world. Although I learn that a dock root can get to be 5 ft long and I have reached the stage of only being a 4 dock-a-day man, I expect to win, without reaching for bottles of glyphosate and whisky.

Thomas More

UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS

The following article was written by Rt Rev John Armes, Bishop of Edinburgh. This excerpt is being reproduced with permission from the Diocesan Office. It was published last year in "The Edge" which is their quarterly magazine. We picked up a copy in Rosslyn Chapel – famed for its appearance in the "Da Vinci Code" film. It is a beautiful and spiritual place and well worth a visit if you are ever in that area. We have been saving this article until we had the space to include it because we hoped you might find it interesting.

"How do we train bishops?" people often ask me. Well this is part of the answer.

26 bishops, men and women, from every continent (except Antarctica), gathered to spend eight days together in Canterbury Cathedral, as part of the Canterbury Scholars' programme – Anglican conferences

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PARISH ROUND-UP

for bishops, seminarians and the newly ordained.

Our programme ranged widely over the esoteric demands of "bishops". We visited the Anglican Communion Office in London and St Martin-in-the-fields. We reflected on the Anglican Communion's relationship to colonialism. We studied the Bible together; we ate together and prayed together. And on the last day we gathered in St Augustine's Chapel and exchanged gifts.

Our first main session was led by Canon David Porter, the Archbishop's Director of Reconciliation. He reminded us that conflict is not a distraction from the gospel, for ours is a gospel of reconciliation. We were only too well aware of the tensions that threaten to divide Anglicanism, so it was helpful to learn from David's experience, forged in the crucible of Northern Ireland's peace-making.

He spoke on the painfulness of peace and reconciliation. He quoted Stanley Hauerwas "Reconciliation occurs when my enemy tells me my story in a way to which I can say "Yes". Easy enough, we thought, to call each other friends but are we really willing to listen to those parts of our stories that may place us at enmity? And when we have done that, are we able to imagine a future for the Anglican Communion that includes those we disagree with?

CALVERLEIGH

Our Palm Sunday Communion service, led by The Right Reverend Bishop Nick McKinnel, was well attended.

On Easter Sunday our Communion Service was led by Rev'd Kenneth Blyth who was an Exe Valley Rector, in Washfield, many years ago. As the service commenced the sun shone - enhancing the beautifully decorated church.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held in church on Tuesday 14 April. Aubrey Goldsworthy and Jackie Herniman were both re-elected as Churchwardens. Julie Goldsworthy was re-elected as Secretary and Jackie Herniman as Treasurer. Nick Lineham, Barbara Hill, Sheila Greenslade, Rita Tapp, Shirley Goldsworthy and David Burton were all re-elected to the PCC. Sadly Derek and Mary Herniman stood down after many years of service on the PCC and we will miss their input greatly.

Aubrey, who chaired the meeting, took the opportunity to thank everyone involved in the running of the Church: The PCC, Worship leaders, the organists, choir, readers, bell ringers, flower arrangers, church cleaners and churchyard mowers.

He also thanked those who distribute the Today magazine and everyone involved in any way with fundraising. Mary Herniman was thanked for gathering the Calverleigh information for the magazine, which she has done for many years but has now stood down.

On Sunday 3 May we had another informal get together in the Church, as we had no service on this day. Twenty-three of us met up from 10am at the Church for a chat whilst sharing refreshments. Some people then moved on to Services in other parishes. We will hopefully have another one soon.

Our best wishes go to all who have been unwell recently and hope that you are now on the mend or feeling better.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 14 June – Open Air Service at 3.00pm in the churchyard with music by Ad Lib.

Friday 16 October – Bingo in Calverleigh Village Hall – details will follow later

Saturday 21 November – Autumn Fayre, Calverleigh Village Hall.

Village Hall News

A very successful auction took place on Saturday 25 April at which a total of £2010.50 was raised towards the Hall repairs. The rain held off until evening, and the many varied lots were sold by Stafford Sampson at a cracking pace. The few unsold items of furniture were accepted by Children's Hospice South West for their shop in Tiverton, while the final settee was delivered to a workshop in Rackenford where the men are now enjoying their morning coffee in comfort. The prize draw - ingredients for an Italian meal - was won by Mrs. Betty Hyde from Bolham.

The committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to this event through donating, attending and giving their time.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Work on the Hall will be commencing on 18 May and will, therefore, be closed during June / July / August whilst the necessary repairs and re-decorations are taking place. Details of the grand re-opening will be advertised in due course.

After last year's successful Produce and Flower Show we are hoping to have this year's on Saturday 29 August (Village Hall Refurbishment permitting). For more information and for entry forms please contact Rita on 01884 252601 or Sheila on 01884 254579.

Church Cleaning Rota

25 May / 6 Jun: Shirley Goldsworthy
 8 Jun / 20 Jun: Myrtle Webber
 22 Jun / 4 Jul: Rita Tapp
 6 Jul / 18 Jul: Mary Herniman
 20 Jul / 1 Aug: Julie Goldsworthy

Mowing Rota

1 Jun / 13 Jun: Andrew Hancock
 15 Jun / 27 Jun: Dennis White
 29 Jun / 11 Jul: The Heathcoat-Amory Family
 13 Jul / 25 Jul: Aubrey Goldsworthy
 27 Jul / 8 Aug: Keith Hayes

If you have any items for the magazine, contact Dave Burton by calling 07817 851856 or email: calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org

CRUWYS MORCHARD

We are still in a Vacancy and looking for our next Rector. In the meantime we are having three Services a month in our Church plus a joint service with the Congregational Chapel on the fifth Sunday. There is also a Group Service once a month in a different Parish Church each time.

Lex

EPIC

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HOLIDAY CLUB

Holiday Club this year - EPIC EXPLORERS - will take place at Templeton Hall from Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 July. 11.15am to 3.30pm.

PLEASE NOTE that Holiday Club will **not** take place on Monday, this year.

Epic Explorers is part of the "Christianity Explored" range - specially designed for the 5-11s. Epic Explorers takes children through Mark's Gospel, as they explore the life of Jesus together. On the way, they will discover who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.

The final part of the program will form part of our Sunday Service and Fun Day, on 2 August and will also be at Templeton Hall.

We look forward to a fun-filled week learning more about Jesus and taking part in Sports and Craft activities. Holiday Club is for children aged 5 - 11.

They need to bring a packed lunch. We have a tuck shop which children can buy sweets, so please give them a small amount of money to bring with them, if you are happy for your child to buy sweets.

We may need to limit numbers, so pre-registering is advisable. All are welcome but priority will be given to children who live in, or are associated with, the Exe Valley Mission Community and who return their registration forms by 17 July.

For registration forms or for more information, contact Cindy Trick -
 Tel. 01363 866621. We need helpers to ensure a safe and happy Holiday Club.
 If you are able to help in any way, please let Cindy know.

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New Creation News ***June 2015***

Proclaiming the Gospel since 1988

Lion Hudson Promotion

From the beginning of June we shall have on display a special Summer Promotion for children by Lion Hudson Publications. Most of us like a good story. Summer gives us a chance to curl up in the shade with a child, sharing a book together. What a wonderful way to introduce Jesus to children who do not yet know Him.

This promotion also provides an ideal time to choose prizes for Sunday School or Junior Church. There are many special prices and discounts so do take this opportunity to come in and browse and see what's on offer.

Out for a walk in the sunshine?

Take a break and bring friends in to enjoy Penny's special offer for June. Come in for a toasted tea-cake and a drink - all for £2.25 and have a look round the shop at the same time. You may just see something to help you share God's word.

Fathers' Day 21 June 21

Honours fathers and celebrates fatherhood.

Worship our Father God and then take this wonderful opportunity to show Dad how much he's appreciated and loved. Give him a card and a gift from New Creation or take him one of Penny's home-made slices.

Get involved in Small Charity Week!

Small Charity Week runs from 15 to 20 June, 2015. It celebrates and raises awareness of the essential work of the UK's small charity sector which makes an invaluable contribution to the lives of millions of individuals, communities and causes across the UK and the rest of the world.

There's a wide range of events going on so do check out the website at <http://smallcharityweek.com/> or follow them on twitter @SCWeek2015 to see how you can get involved

Please pray for all these initiatives and for us as we try to reach as many people as possible with God's word.

Have a happy, holy and blessed month and may the Lord be with you all.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

PALM SUNDAY was a very popular Service despite the driving wind and rain. Jessie Kingdom rode the "ponkey" (pony with long ears !!) who behaved beautifully. The young farmers took parts of the service, thank you very much to them - the children joined in as well.

SENIORS LUNCH 24 people came and enjoyed a delicious meal in the Parish Hall. Thank you to all those who helped and did the cooking.

CHURCH FETE Saturday 11 July 12 noon-3.00pm. There will be live music and a barbeque, plus all the usual stalls and sideshows. If you are able to help with the Fete please speak to Diana or Val. Donations for the stalls would be much appreciated. For the white elephant stall, we would prefer not to have large items please, unless you are able to take them away after the Fete, if they are not sold. Home-made cakes are very much appreciated at the fete, so if you are able to bring one to sell that would be really good.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

May 18 / 25 Diana Vincent and Val Randerson

June 1 / 8 Marian Kingdom
June 15 / 22 Sarah Cruwys
June 29 / July 6 Wendy Lake
July 13 / July 20 Mrs J. Townsend
July 27 Wendy Lake

MOWING ROTA

JUNE - Steve and Sam Ratcliffe
JULY - Dave Berry

THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 8 August. Schedules are now available, they can be collected from the Parish Church or The Cruwys Arms. They are also available on the Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall website. Please take a look at our schedule, as we have many new classes this year and would like to encourage new exhibitors, to ensure

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PARISH ROUND-UP

we have another great show. The buckets are now available for children, under 16, who would like to grow their own potato. Any questions please contact Pauline Guscott 01363866754 or email. pauline.8@hotmail.co.uk

THE BELL RINGING is continuing for services and special occasions. We had a busy day on 9 May, with a wedding in the afternoon and the St Peter's Shield in the evening at Stoodleigh. We were delighted when we came third. If you are interested in ringing do come and join us on Monday evenings at 7.30pm.

YOGA advanced warning – there will only be one class on both Thursday 11 June and Thursday 18 June, these will both be at 10am.

YOUNG FARMERS

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers Club held a joint Clay Pigeon Shoot with Cadeleigh, in aid of their charities of the year, MIND and the new YFC building. The shoot was by kind permission of David and Carol Chapple at Haydon Farm. A profit of £950 was made and a good day was had by all. The Club entered stock in The Exe Valley Show and Sale, where success was gained in most classes.

PENNYMOOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

7 June & 5 July Family Services, Rev Danny Beaven
 14 June Rev Ruth Green (Hong Kong travels)
 28 June & 26 July Praise and Prayer
 12 July Mr O Mears
 Penny Moor Pop-in Coffee morning
 Saturday 6 June & 4 July

THE PARISH LIBRARY is now up and running so now that the weather is getting warmer, why not pop into the church to either browse or borrow some books. It is free. Thank you very much Nigel Parris for making the lovely book cases.

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 20 June 7pm Di & Dave's Quiz
 Saturday 4 July 7am-2pm Breakfast and Brunch.
 Saturday 11 July Church Fete in the Parish Hall. See above.
 Saturday 8 August The Annual Flower Show
 August Holiday Club. Please contact Cindy Trick for further details.
 01363 866621.

It is hoped that the **BARN DANCES** will re-commence in the Autumn.

We would like to welcome Sarah and Lee Waterman into the village.

We would also like to welcome Oscar Glover and Lilly Gillbard into the church upon their baptisms. Oscar's was in April and Lilly's in May.

Congratulations to Beth and Robert Hodnett, on the occasion of their marriage on 10 May.

We are praying for all in the parish who are unwell or grieving.

LOXBEORE

Our Mothering Sunday breakfast Family Service was held in the hall and was well attended and enjoyed by all. Donna led the service and gave a meaningful and encouraging message. Potted coloured primrose plants were distributed by the children. The service was preceded by an excellent breakfast cooked by the men. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

The Easter Services began at Cruwys Morchard on Thursday with the Agape meal and Communion, taken by John.

On Good Friday, John led a very moving and meaningful Meditation Service at Loxbeare Church. The

Easter Day Service was well attended again taken by John celebrating Jesus's resurrection. He is risen. Hallelujah. Linda led the children's slot. Later they hunted for Easter eggs hidden around the Church. Thank you to all who helped and for those who decorated the Church so beautifully.

The annual PCC meeting was held on the 18 April with all roles remaining the same. Thank you to all who serve our Church so faithfully.

The Women's Bible Study Group continues to meet alternate Tuesdays at Christine Weatherley's, Churchill House, Loxbeare at 2-4pm. All ladies welcome. For more information contact Marion on 01884 256302.

Sunday 14 June (instead of 3 May) the Evening Praise Service at 6.30pm in the Church will be taken by members of St George's/St Paul's Youth Group. Do come along and join us.

Friday 12 July at Ron & Margaret's, Lower Ingrams, there will be a BBQ at 1pm followed by the Service. All are welcome.

Sunday 9 August a picnic Service is planned. More details to follow.

Also forward dates. Harvest weekend will be the **19 / 20 September** with the Harvest Supper to be held on **Tuesday 22 September** with Dave Britton giving a talk on the work of the Street Pastors.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are undergoing treatment and for Marlene Taylor recovering from a knee operation and Matt Shaw and girlfriend Mel Barker recovering from their accident. For all who have been unwell recently, we hope you will all soon be feeling much better.

Congratulations to Maurice & Marlene Taylor on the birth recently of two great-grandsons. Best wishes to all celebrating special occasions and Happy Birthday to those with birthdays in June/July.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

We welcome Scott, Kelly, James and Richard Hamlin into Little Holmead and hope you will soon be settled and happy in your new home.

Wednesday 8 July the Village Hall Committee are organising a three course meal in the Village Hall. 7 for 7.30. Cost £10. For more details and booking contact Richard Vickery on 01884 881234.

Loxbeare Ladies:

Monday 1 June at 7pm a Wine and Cheese evening at Christine Weatherley's, Churchill House. Ladies only. Cost £4. Contact Christine on 01884 881566 by 25 May.

Saturday 6 July a trip to the Valley of Rocks meeting at Loxbeare Church at 10am. Bring a picnic. Contact Sue on 01884 259496 by 29 June.

Loxbeare is starting a monthly "Coffee Shop / Tea Shop" in the Village Hall, starting on 8 August. On the 2nd Saturday of every month, there will either be a Coffee Morning between 10am – 12 noon or a Cream Tea from 4pm – 6pm. There will be no charge but a "pot" will be put out for contributions towards costs. The idea is to enable villagers to meet and chat for an hour or so each month. We start with "Coffee Shop" on 8 August, followed by "Tea Shop" on 12 September.

Give it a try !!

OAKFORD

It is with sadness we record the passing of Pauline Stone at the age of 95. Pauline had lived in the village for over forty years and for some of that time had run the Post office. The church was an important part of Pauline's life and she contributed so much to it, being the sacristan: looking after the church and setting up for services and so on. She had also been the organist for over thirty years. We

send our sympathy to Brian and to all the family.

On Saturday 25 April a 'St George's Day' tea was held in the church with cake and plant stalls - as well as delicious cream teas. It was well supported and £264 was raised for church funds. Thank you to everyone who helped to make it a lovely afternoon.

On **Sunday 14 June** we are having a 'Songs of Praise' at 5.30pm. Our theme: God's wonderful gift of Summer - with readings and favourite hymns. Come and join us for the service and for a 'get together' in 'The Red Lion' afterwards. Everyone is most welcome.

Village Events

Royal Ascot Night Saturday 13 June at 7.30pm .

Dress code: 'Ladies Day' at Royal Ascot

Gentlemen : Formal wear

Tickets £8 inc. Buffet. Licensed Bar.

Ladies: Prize for the best Ascot Hat.

Tel. Carla 351609 or Dawn 324035

Oakford Village Fete Saturday 20 June from 2- 5pm. Oakford Playground. A traditional village fete! This year we have a dog agility show and a chance to let your dog have a go. Also classic cars, lots of side shows and stalls, fun games for adults and children, including a tug of war and the popular egg - throwing challenge. A beer and Pimms marquee, BBQ, and teas and cakes will keep you going all afternoon. And all for free, even car parking. What's not to like!

Saturday 1 August. A Male Voice Choir Concert is being organized by Julia Mayer, in the church, in aid of PSPA. Please come and support this worthwhile charity. Look out for posters for this event and more information.

Oakford and District Flower and Produce, 15 August. The Show is

open to anyone from Oakford and the surrounding district to enter. Schedules are available from The Red Lion, Brenda Burrows (3 Manor Cottages) and Chris Holdom (01398 332039) The show opens to visitors from 2pm. to 4pm. and tea and cakes always available.

RACKENFORD

Our Mothering Sunday Service on 15 March was taken by Anna Hansford. Bunches of flowers were prepared and given to Mums during the service and a time for us to reflect on the memories we all have over the years. Lovely refreshments followed the service.

A Coffee Morning was held in our church on 21 March, with a variety of stalls and a good draw. Many thanks to all who helped in any way. Refreshments were available, which included lovely home made sponges and cakes. £468.50 was raised. We were delighted the kettle was still boiling, as towards the end of the morning about 6 cyclists called in, en-route, to refresh themselves. A lovely morning.

Thank you to everyone who had a hand in decorating our church for Easter, so pretty with all the spring flowers. The Easter service was taken by Rev Ian Johnson of Tiverton. The congregation was invited to take an Easter egg from the basket as they left the service.

Bob Mogridge had been a familiar face to many over the years he lived in Rackenford and several friends played a part in helping Bob during his illness. Sadly he died on 29 March and his Service took place at Exeter Crematorium on 15 April. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Continued on Page 12 ➔

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01398 351364

LOXBEARE PRAISE AND PRAYER MEETING

3rd Tuesday in month
at 7.30pm.

01884 881362 - for venues

EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays 2-4pm
Churchill House, Loxbeare,
EX16 8DX

Contact Marion on
01884 256302,
for details

WALK THE TALK

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EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Teaching Programme

Sundays at 11am
in Templeton Village Hall
(Unless otherwise stated)

Daniel - staying strong in a hostile World

7 June The Fiery Furnace: Chapter 3
14 June The Test of Faith: Chapter 1
21 June The King's Dream: Chapter 2
28 June Group Service Calverleigh
The King loses!: Chapter 4

5 July Den of Lions: Chapter 6
12 July BBQ with Loxbeare
Writing on the Wall: Chapter 5
19 July The Ancient of Days: Chapter 7
26 July Group Service Cruwys Morchard
Daniel's Prayer and The End
Times: Chapters 8 - 12

EXE VALLEY CENTRAL

Each Sunday

Templeton Village Hall
At 11 am
(Unless otherwise stated)

7 June Cafe Style Family event
14 June Morning Worship
21 June Morning Worship
28 June Group Service
Calverleigh

5 July Cafe Style Family event
12 July Joint Outreach BBQ
with Loxbeare
1pm at Lower Ingrams
19 July Holy Communion
26 July Group Service
Cruwys Morchard



Dove of Pentecost

OAKFORD

7 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

14 June

5.30 pm Songs of Praise

21 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

12 July

9.30 am Family Service

19 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

RACKENFORD

7 June

9.30 am Songs of Praise

14 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

21 June

11.15 am Morning Worship

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

9.30 am Family Service

12 July

11 am Holy Communion

19 July

11 am Morning Worship

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

STOODLEIGH

7 June

11 am Family Service
with Baptism

14 June

6.30 pm Evensong

21 June

11 am Holy Communion

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

11 am Family Service

12 July

11 am Morning Prayer

19 July

11 am Holy Communion

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

CALVERLEIGH

7 June

11.15 am Morning Worship

14 June

3 pm Open Air Service

21 June

9.30 am Holy Communion
by Extension

28 June

10.30 am **Group Service**

5 July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

12 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

19 July

11.15 am Morning Worship

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

CRUWYS MORCHARD

7 June

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

14 June

11 am Holy Communion

21 June

11 am Family Service

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

12 July

11 am Holy Communion

19 July

11 am Family Service

26 July

10.30 am **Group Service**

LOXBEARE

7 June

6.30 pm Evening Praise

14 June

No Service

21 June

9.30 am Family Communion

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

6.30 pm Evening Praise

12 July

1 pm Barbecue Service
with EVC at Lower Ingrams

19 July

9.30 am Family Communion

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

TEMPLETON

7 June

11 am Family Service

14 June

No Service

21 June

9.30 am Morning Prayer and
Holy Communion

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

11 am Family Service

12 July

No Service

19 July

9.30 am Morning Prayer and
Holy Communion

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD

7 June

11 am Holy Communion

14 June

11 am Morning Prayer

21 June

11 am Family Service

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

11 am Holy Communion

12 July

6 pm Evening Prayer

19 July

11 am Family Service

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

WITHLEIGH

7 June

11 am Family Service

14 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

21 June

11 am Morning Worship

28 June

See Calverleigh

5 July

11 am Family Service

12 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

19 July

11 am Morning Worship

26 July

See Cruwys Morchard

PARISH ROUND-UP

We also send our deepest sympathy to Sue Cole and her family on the death of her father. You are very much in our thoughts Sue.

Our very best wishes to Peter Reynolds, Marc Howlett and Jenny Sleep's Dad, who are all continuing to recover. We understand Muriel is back home after a spell at The Firs, you are in our prayers Muriel.

The ashes of Hazel Suter have been laid to rest, with her late husband Hugh, in our churchyard. Our prayers to the family.

A very big well done to Suzanne Coleman, who ran the London Marathon in 5 hours at her first attempt. Suzanne would like to thank everyone who sponsored her.

A warm welcome to Anita, Rob and family, who are now running The Stag. We hope all will go well for you and that you will enjoy being in the village.

The Gardening Club held a plant sale near the tennis court on 25 April, where you were able to purchase your bedding plants and hanging baskets etc. Hope you did a good trade.

From time to time we continue to have Services taken by Mary Cann and Herbert Smith, our Churchwardens, and supported by members of the congregation. We are very grateful for this. Thank you.

We thought you may be interested in the following item:

The organ was recently inspected, tuned and adjusted by Andrew

Fearn of T W Fearn Organ Builders of Ottery St Mary. It is nearly 150 years since the organ was installed by Bevington of London in September 1870. Bevingtons won medals for their work at the Great Exhibition of 1851 and it seems likely that the oldest half, the "Great" organ, was originally in a London church with some of the pipes dating back to the eighteenth century. When replacing the original instrument in London, Bevingtons doubtless salvaged and rebuilt our instrument, doubling it in size with the addition of a second manual and set of pipes, known as the "Swell". The organ is not the biggest in the group (that honour goes to Oakford) but is a pleasant, sweet-sounding instrument, well suited to the size of the church. Organ pipes inevitably accumulate deposits of dust and detritus, the last major overhaul was in the 1970s, so the instrument is about due for some TLC in time for its 150 birthday in 2020. Many thanks to Graham Fennel for all of the above.

The Auction of Promises and Raffle in aid of the Rackenford Village Defibrillator Project took place at Rackenford Club on 10 April. Helen Hyland began the evening thanking everyone who had contributed to the auction and the large draw and also thanking Ann Freeman for all her help and warm welcome received at The Club, also Geoff and Stella the auctioneers for the night. What an amazing evening, approximately 66 lots, and competitive bidders resulted in the target being reached by the end of the

evening. £3282.00 from the auction, £250 draw and £390 donations, totaling £3,922.00. Many thanks from us all to Helen and her team of helpers.

Congratulations to Jenny and John Sleep on becoming grandparents again. Their daughter Sam and Adam have had a baby girl. Lovely news.

Let us hope that the new parking spaces opposite the school will make travelling and walking around a lot safer. We have become a very busy village and this should be of help.

The Diocese has kindly given a free entry ticket, that can be used more than once, into The Cathedral Church of St. Peter, Exeter. If you would like to take up this offer please contact Herbert Smith 881375 for details.

A few dates for your diary:
Sponsored Walk 30 May - an 8 mile circular route in the Timberscombe area, taking in Minehead and Dunkery with beautiful scenery to enjoy. Please contact Liz Paxton 881331 or Jenny Sleep 881280 for all the details. Sponsor forms we hope will be available from the church and shop.

Bingo nights are 11 June and 9 July at Rackenford Club 7.30pm. All meat prizes and draw. Raising money for church funds. Many thanks to Herbert and Marjorie.

Our Cream Tea is 27 June at Rackenford Manor - many thanks to David and Moy Scott. We hope you can join us and enjoy a variety of stalls etc as well as scones, strawberries and cream.

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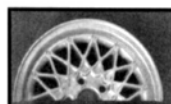
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DOIVE DESIGNS

PARISH ROUND-UP

We are pleased to report that we have a new caretaker for our churchyard. Many thanks.

As always we remember our friends Ken Blackford, Mrs Clark and Mrs Arscott and indeed anyone who is poorly, lonely or depressed. You are in our prayers.

We hope we can now look forward to a long warm summer.

STOODLEIGH

The future of church services at Stoodleigh, and elsewhere in the Exe Valley, is currently under discussion. What is decided may affect the viability of our church. This statement has been submitted for publication, as representing the majority opinion of worshippers in this parish:

"A recent article in this magazine seemed to suggest that the incoming rector for the Exe Valley would need to change service patterns to a central weekly service in one church. The general view of our congregation is opposed to this. Instead we believe there should be one group service a month in an Exe Valley church on a rotational basis. The incoming rector, by taking three services each Sunday, would be able to take one service in each parish per month, with services on other Sundays taken by retired clergy and lay readers."

The nine churches of the Exe Valley are, of course, without any full-time clergy

at present and it is unlikely that a new Rector could be in place before the end of the year.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, the two churchwardens, John Fewings and Margaret Cuninghame, were warmly thanked for all their hard work and were re-elected. The other officers – Treasurer Christine Broadbent and Secretary Audrey Rigg – and PCC members Peter Broadbent, Eileen Fewings, Enid Hamidullah, Christine Palfrey, Bryan Rigg and Jennifer Rowlandson were also re-elected.

Thanks to funding from the "Friends of St Margaret's Church", and the support given by so many at all church fundraising events, the church is at the moment just financially viable, but much time has to be given to planning other fundraising events for the coming year.

It was reported that the fabric of the church was under continual review and therefore needing constant repair work. We are extremely grateful to the many who give of their time and talents, quietly working behind the scenes to maintain all aspects of our beautiful church.

It was good to have so many in Church for the Mothering Sunday Family Service in March. We hope many will come to the 11am Family Service on Sunday 5 July, when our CMS mission partners will be with us and Eric will tell us about their agricultural work in the Philippines.

Delightful arrangements of spring flowers filled the church for the Easter

weekend celebrations and were much appreciated by the many who attended the Easter Day Holy Communion service.

The bells were rung in Stoodleigh, and in many other churches throughout the country, at 11am on Saturday 9 May to mark the 70th Anniversary of VE Day. In addition, that day saw us hosting the St Peter's annual ringing competition when several teams from the Tiverton Diocese competed, before relaxing at the Stoodleigh Inn. Mentioning bells seems a good opportunity to encourage more people to take up bell ringing. It is enormous fun, very rewarding and social. Contact Jennifer Rowlandson (01398 351402).

We are so pleased to report that Ian Fraser and Trish Fish are both making good recoveries after their operations and treatment. We continue to send them our love and prayers. Trish has asked for the chance to say thank you to all the people who have been so supportive and kind during this time.

Village Day: Stoodleigh is ready to welcome everyone with their friends and family for another Village Day at the cricket field on Saturday 13 June from 3pm. Once again this hugely popular event is free, with games, sports and competitions for all. Come to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with a cup of tea and famously delicious cakes. In the evening, Lizzie will welcome you at the Stoodleigh Inn.

Parish Hall: The Easter Market and Coffee Morning provided an opportunity to bring and buy local produce, arts and

continued overleaf ➔

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PARISH ROUND-UP

crafts. The committee would like to thank everyone for their support in helping to make the event such a success, raising £511 for Parish Hall funds.

Dates for your diary

Friday 17 July: Community event from 6.30pm, with BBQ, live music, dancing and bar at Quoit at Cross. Tickets only -available soon. In aid of Church and Parish Hall.

Saturday 8 August: Family Fun Dog Show at Vials Corner. In aid of Church and Parish Hall.

Bank Holiday Monday 31 August: Ploughman's Lunch at Parkhouse Water. In aid of Church.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: prizewinners for March – 1 Betty Wotton, 2 Jean Winter, 3 Phyllis Hill, 4 Jan Mills; April – 1 Jennifer Rowlandson, 2 Jennifer Fraser, 3 Henny Nethercot, 4 Linda Brice. The new year started in May, subscriptions are now due.

Church Flowers

31 May / 7 June Phyllis Hill
14 / 21 June Angela Hill
28 June / 5 July Dorothy Ayre
12 / 19 July Wedding Flowers
26 July / 2 Aug Pat Aplin

TEMPLETON

St Margaret's Church held its AGM on 14 April at the Village Hall but sadly it was not very well attended by the community, however the community has contributed greatly to the fabric and to the upkeep of the church. We would like to thank both the Village Hall

Committee and the Parish Council for their generous donations which we can assure people will be put to good use.

We have recently received the Diocesan architect's Quinquennial Report and find we have much to repair within the next five years. Our first objective is to make sure that the church is completely water proof and to that end we have applied for a Government grant to make repairs to the roof. We have just been given permission to proceed to the next stage. Hopefully we will receive £15,000 incrementally. Other repairs include, the east chancel and vestry walls and the windows need attention. The bells and belfry also need attention for which the Fabric Committee are looking for a separate grant. We have held two events to raise money ourselves for the church fabric. The first was on 14 March when a folk group called Wildwood Kin entertained us, preceded by a supper. We took just over £1,000. A great evening which was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy it. The second event was a supper followed by a Call My Bluff Antiques Evening. A lot of fun was had by all and we raised £626. A grateful "thank you" to all who contributed food or helped in any way for these two occasions.

The process to find a new Rector continues and we would ask your prayers for guidance during the coming months as the church representatives meet. A possible date for interviews may be in October.

Our congratulations to Chris and Gilly Boumphrey on the birth of their first grandchild, Alice Jemima Owen born on

8 April to Clare and Richard Owen who were married in our church last year.

The Village Hall bar area has been redecorated and is looking very smart. Thanks to all who helped with this.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Bindy Linden 31 May / 7 June
Lynda Newnes 14 June / 21 June
Sarah Coffin 28 June / 5 July
Audrey McInerney 12 July / 19 July
Sally Greenslade 26 July / 2 August

WASHFIELD

*Whatever life may bring your way,
Albeit work or task,
Your God will help and understand.
You only need to ask.*

St Mary's Church Annual Parochial meeting began with the welcoming of parishioners with cheese and wine. Mr Richard Scholes was in the chair. He extended thanks to all who help to keep our Church open and welcoming. Mrs Jeanne Jones will continue as our Churchwarden. Mrs Grace Bicknell, who stood down after over 30 years on our P.C.C., was presented with flowers. She was warmly thanked for the wonderful way she had helped over the past years.

The Mothering Sunday service was taken by Jeanne Jones, to a well-attended service at which the children were proud to present posies to their Mums and all the other ladies in the congregation.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Our Easter services began with Anna taking a quiet and reflective Meditation service on Good Friday. On Easter Saturday the children gathered excitedly at the church porch with their precious, decorated eggs. These were judged by Mrs Carol Scholes. All then proceeded to Brook Farm Lane for the Egg Rolling. Prizes of Easter eggs were in abundance, for which we warmly thank Sarah and Oliver Tobey, as they once again organised this event and also to Denise for allowing use of the lane again for this age old tradition.

The Egg Rolling was followed by a Coffee Morning in the Hall, where everyone could relax over coffee and hot cross buns and also to browse the cake and plant stalls and buy a raffle ticket. It was excellently supported and a profit of £282 was raised for the Church. A very sincere thank you to all who donated to the stalls (including growing on the plants for the plant stall), attended and purchased goods to make this such a success.

The service of Holy Communion held on Easter Day, a very special time in the church calendar, was taken by the Rev. Ken Blyth to a large congregation of adults and children with Avenel providing a drawing competition for the children. They were rewarded with Easter eggs as they left.

Thank you to Ken and Avenel for giving us your reverence and time (as they took two services on that day!). Once again the Church looked delightful, decorated with Spring flowers. Thank you to all the arrangers for their continued commitment to producing these pieces.

“The Fabric Committee” wishes to thank all those members of the Parish who have agreed to undertake the tasks we have been set, following the Quinquennial Report on the fabric of the church. Some have already been done and hopefully, with better weather, others will be done in the next few months. These are a large number of relatively minor but still important tasks. Voluntary support to date has been excellent and will hopefully enable us to conserve our funds to address larger issues, such as stone restoration around the windows.

Washfield has recently had the very sad news that two stalwart men of our village have died. Garth Jones, the husband of our Churchwarden Jeanne, died at the end of March. Garth was a local doctor in Tiverton until his retirement and had lived in Washfield for over 30 years. A 'larger than life' character, they had eight children between them - all of whom he adored and who kept him young and forward thinking. Being a doctor he was looked up to but probably told his patients "Don't do as I do, do as I tell you!". Garth loved his home in Washfield, sitting on his terrace with a pint in his hand, admiring the view. An avid book reader and historian, he was a man of the people and will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him. A full church, overflowing into a marquee, paid their last respects to Garth and listened as his family shared, with love and humour, their memories of a much-loved father and grand-father. He was then interred in the churchyard. Our sincere sympathies go out to Jeanne, their children and grandchildren.

We are also very sad to announce the death of Colin French in April. Colin, Jean and their family moved to the village in 1970. Colin initially worked as a police officer in the area for 12 years, after joining as a cadet at 16 years old. He enjoyed village life, especially St Mary's Church where he was a regular worshipper and our Churchwarden for ten years. After his retirement Colin began working as a milk recorder and was also an avid bee keeper. His hobbies and pursuits were all country orientated, including walking on Exmoor, wildlife and nature in general. Our sympathies are with Jean, Simon, Jane and all the family at this sad time. Jean and family wish to express their deep gratitude for all the loving messages and support.

Our April Morning Prayer Service was taken by Martin, after which we had to say our sad farewells and thanks to Shaun and Joan McCahon as they left Washfield to live in Yorkshire.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

Joan acted as our Churchwarden with Jeanne for many years. She is also warmly remembered for taking a monthly Service in our Church and, at one time, was both Treasurer and Secretary of the P.C.C., helping our Church in any way possible! A presentation to them, a cake and a toast to their future happiness in their new home, followed the service. We will miss them so much and remain indebted to them for all they did whilst living in the village.

Good, as they say, follows sad and it was with much pleasure that we met Chas and Deb Walton, who have come to live at Gunshot Cottage. The day after moving in, they attended the Parish Council AGM making themselves known to the villagers attending. We wish you much happiness living in Washfield.

We are so sorry to hear that Mrs Irene Bolt has been very poorly and in hospital, now at home again. Our love and prayers are with you Rene, and also to everyone else who has not been enjoying good health at this time.

Sympathies are sent to Mike Hunt on the death of his partner, Heather, of Courtenay Cottages after a short illness.

Congratulations to anyone with special birthdays or celebrations in the coming months.

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE: The date of our annual Fete has been changed - to take place at The Old Rectory on **Saturday June 27 at 2.30pm**. The stall holders and tea ladies would like to, once again, ask for

your contributions to their stalls PLEASE. Cakes, Bottles, Produce, Tombola, Books, White Elephant and of course, food items for the Teas would be much appreciated. Thank you in anticipation, you never let us down! There is to be a Fete planning meeting in the church on Monday 1 June at 7pm. All are welcome to this.

Well done to all those children who took part in the Exmoor Challenge and the Ten Tors events and, thinking of all the young people who are taking exams at this time of the year - Good Luck to you all.

As you will no doubt have heard, there is to be a follow-up Scarecrow Festival in the village this June. The theme is to be 'Heroes and Heroines' and if you haven't constructed one yet - get making. Entry forms are available from the Social Club and all scarecrows should be in position by Saturday 6 June. On that day there will be a Children's Scarecrow Puzzle Walk from 4.30pm plus Cream Teas and a Car Treasure Hunt (look out for posters). On Saturday 20 June the Scarecrow prize-giving will take place at the Social Club from 7pm with a Barbecue.

Dates for your diary

Sunday 31 May St Mary's church are hosting the Group Service 'Songs of Praise' at 10.30am

Monday 1 June Fete planning meeting in the church 7pm

Saturday 6 June Scarecrows to be up. Children's Scarecrow Puzzle Walk from 4.30pm Cream Teas from 4.30pm. Car Treasure Hunt leaving the Hall anytime between 5-7pm

Tuesday 9 June teatime@the hall from 3pm. All welcome to come along.

Thursday 1 June W.I. meeting in hall 7.30pm

Thursday 18 June Lunch Club in Hall. 12 noon for 12.30pm

Saturday 20 June Scarecrow Prize-giving and Barbecue at Social Club from 7pm

Saturday 27 June St Mary's Church Annual Fete in the Old Rectory at 2.30pm all usual stalls.

Tuesday 14 July teatime@the hall from 3pm. Come and partake in tea, cake and friendship.

Thursday 23 July Lunch Club in Hall. 12 noon for 12.30pm

Altar Flower Rota

7 June Mrs Albery
14 / 21 June Mrs Lane
28 June / 5 July Mrs E Arnold
12 / 19 July Mrs Smith
26 July / 2 Aug Mrs Tobey

Cleaning Rota

1 / 8 June Mrs Harding & Mrs Jones
15 / 22 June Mr & Mrs Ellis
29 June / 6 July Mrs French
13 / 20 July Mrs Arnold
27 July / 3 Aug Mr & Mrs Parnell

WITHLEIGH

We were pleased to be able to welcome friends from Templeton who joined us for our Mothering Sunday service on 15 March. Thank you to all who took part in any way.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

At our Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting, we were very pleased that Paul and Brenda agreed to continue as our Churchwardens and also Elizabeth as Secretary and Christine as Treasurer. Paul thanked everyone for their support in all aspects of our church life during the past year.

Our Easter Beetle Drive held on Friday 27 March was a good fun evening, enjoyed by young and old alike. Some people were very creative when drawing their beetles, and some of us struggled to even start drawing at all, not being able to throw a six to start! Many thanks to Duncan for getting the prizes and for keeping order on the night, and to Christine and Sara for running the draw.

Our Easter services were well supported. On Good Friday our informal service in the village hall began with coffee and hot cross buns, and we then looked at the Crucifixion as foretold in the Old Testament. Our Easter Sunday service of Holy Communion was taken by Keith Gale, he and Jill then joined us for breakfast in the village hall, and it was so good to see so many sitting down to the breakfast. This was followed by a short Family Service back in church. Thank you to those who provided the breakfast, and to all those who decorated our Church complementing Easter.

Welcome to Johnny and Becky Hardy and their family to the Rectory. We hope you will be happy living there and we look forward to seeing you at our events.

Congratulations to Janet Stacey who has won the Devon Federation

Women's Institute Writing Competition for writing a ten minute play. She was presented with the Radio Devon Writing Cup at Torquay at the Spring Council Meeting for the Women's Institute. This is the second year running for a Witleigh member to win this, as Fiona Bladen won it last year. We now wish Witleigh W.I. well in their entry at the Mid Devon Show, depicting 'This Green and Pleasant Land'.

Twenty of us enjoyed the dinner for PCC members, partners and members of our congregation, held at The Thelbridge Cross Inn on the evening of 8 May. An excellent meal, and thank you, Sara, for making the arrangements.

Our informal service on 10 May was very well attended, with little spare space in the vestry. Laura spoke on the theme of relationships – with each other and with God.

We send our sympathy to all those who have been recently bereaved. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

There is a PCC meeting at Topfield on Tuesday, 9 June at 7.30 pm.

The Village Hall AGM will be held on Tuesday 23 June, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. All are very welcome to attend. We would very much like any ideas of what events/functions people would like to see happening in our hall. So do come along with your ideas.

At our Morning Worship service on 5 July, we shall be welcoming a volunteer from Devon Freewheelers, who are motorcycle volunteers delivering blood,

organs for transplants, etc., to hospitals. He will be talking about their work and the organization itself. The reason for this visit is because our PCC has chosen Devon Freewheelers to be our Church's charity for this year, and a cheque will be presented to them during the service. Please come along to this service and listen to this very interesting talk. The PCC feel it is good to support other good causes as well as our own Church.

Do not forget our Church Fete on 18 July at Bona Vista opening at 2.00 pm. You will be accompanied by the Tiverton Concert Band throughout the afternoon whilst viewing and buying from all the usual stalls, participating in the attractions or enjoying the refreshments on offer, which will include cream teas. Stalls will include bric-a-brac, cakes, plants and preserves, books, £1 stall and draw, and contributions for any of these stalls would be greatly appreciated, and can be left with Janet Sellick or Henry and Shirley Cruwys. There is another planning meeting at Bona Vista on 15 June, beginning at 8pm. Please come along if you could help in any way. All we want now is sunshine to make it a perfect day!

Get well wishes to those not feeling well at the moment and to those who have had to spend time in hospital. We hope you will all soon feel better and enjoy the summer months ahead.

Witleigh W.I. meet on the second Thursday of each month, usually in the Village Hall. Call Rosie on 01884 257123 or e-mail rosie@ceramics.lu

Continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

for more details. New members are always welcome. Below is the program for the next few months:

Thursday 11 June, 7.30pm with Fiona Swan, Nordic Walking, come with suitable shoes for a short walk.

Thursday 9 July, 7.30pm with Sally Lloyd, Astrology - The Ladies Planets, the Moon & Venus.

Friday 7 August, 2pm. Annual Outing, Exmoor Pony Centre, Dulverton, with Dr Sue Baker, The History of the Exmoor Pony.

This year's Garden & Produce Show will be held on Saturday 15 August. Witleigh parishioners and friends will find a schedule attached to this magazine. Please remember to get your entry forms to Henry Cruwys by Tuesday 11 August. As before, we will be staging entries during the afternoon and the hall will be open from 7.30pm

for public viewing. Refreshments will be served during the evening. For more information please call Brenda on 01884 252431.

Forthcoming Events:

Tuesday 23 June, Village Hall AGM at 7.30pm in the Hall.

Saturday 15 August, Garden & Produce Show at 7.30pm in the Hall.

Flower rota:

7 / 14 June Susie Wade

12 / 28 June Rosie Edmonston-Low

5 / 12 July Sara Kittow

19 / 26 July Val Kingston

Monthly Diary Dates:

First Thursday – Bingo

Second Monday – Whist Drive

Second Thursday – W.I.

and also ...

KEEP SMILING ...

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read ...

"The man named Lot was warned to take his wife - and flee out of the city - but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt".

His son asked ...

"What happened to the flea?"

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This prayer hangs in the porch of Gumfreston Church near Tenby, Wales

O God, make the doorway of this Church, wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship but narrow enough to shut out envy, pride and strife.

Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children ~ or barrier to the elderly or disabled.

**Let its doors be open and inviting to all who enter here,
And its walls resound with the praise and worship of your people.**

Thoughts for Everyday ~
by Patience Strong ~
for 29 June



How God must have loved the world, to make such lovely things.

Roses, stars, butterflies,
and birds with painted wings.

Rainbows, dawns and sunsets,
tree, stream and waterfall.

Surely there is Love behind
the beauty of it all.

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CRUWYS MORCHARD
SATURDAY 11 JULY
CHURCH FETE
 12 noon - 3 pm
 Live music and BBQ
 plus all usual stalls

LOXBEARE
SUNDAY 14 JUNE
EVENING PRAISE
 6.30pm in Church
 Taken by members of
 St George's/St Paul's Youth
 Group

OAKFORD
VILLAGE FETE
SATURDAY 20 JUNE
 2 - 5pm
 Dog agility Show,
 Classic Cars, Beer/Pimms
 Marquee, BBQ, Stalls

RACKENFORD MANOR
CREAM TEA
SATURDAY 27 JUNE
 Variety of Stalls,
 Scones, Strawberries
 and cream

STOODLEIGH
VILLAGE DAY
SATURDAY 13 JUNE
 from 3.00pm
 Games, Sports, Competitions,
 Teas/Cakes - Continued in
 Stoodleigh Inn, in the evening

WASHFIELD
CHURCH FETE
 in Old Rectory 2.30pm
SATURDAY 27 JUNE
 Town Band, Usual Stalls
 Creams Teas & Sandwiches in
 Village Hall

WASHFIELD'S 2nd
SCARECROW FESTIVAL
 Starts 6 JUNE
 4.30pm Children's Puzzle Walk
 plus Cream Teas and
 Car Treasure Hunt leave
 Village Hall 5-7pm
 (Look out for Posters)

WITHLEIGH
CHURCH FETE
SATURDAY 18 JULY
 2.00PM
 at Bona Vista
 Town Band, Usual Stalls,
 Cream Teas

WASHFIELD
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 normally 1st Saturday of July
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