

A NEW BEGINNING !!

Steve officially left us in January 2015 but he was unwell from September 2014, so it is effectively two years since we had a leader in our Mission Community. But that will soon be changing as we prepare to welcome Steph Jeffs to be our Rector; her institution being set for 14 December at Cruwys Morchard Church.

Sometimes it is said that a long vacancy is good for a church, and we may have differing opinions about whether or not that is so! It has certainly been a time of hard work for our Churchwardens, Lay Leaders and Administrators and we have so much to thank them for, as they have kept our Church life going during this difficult period.

But of course Christian faith is so much more than just "Church Life". After one of our Christianity Explored

Courses a few years ago, one Church member said to me "I have always gone to Church, but until I did this course, I had no idea that there was so much more to Christianity than just going to Church".

CHAPTER ONE

What this person had realised for the first time, was that what God desires for each one of us, is that we should enjoy a personal relationship with Him. That is why Jesus came "to seek and to save the lost." He said this, in the house of a rich business man who had been sailing very close to the wind indeed in his dealings and was now

determined to put things right, to repay what he had obtained by dishonesty and to follow the Lord Jesus in His ways of righteousness. You can read the story in Luke Chapter 19.

So as we prepare to welcome Steph, let us all be ready to support her as she leads, preaches and teaches amongst us. We know that Steph loves Jesus, is passionate about the Gospel and looks to the Bible as the source of her teaching and life. It is up to us to make her Ministry in the Exe Valley possible, by prayer and by having a big vision, reaching beyond our own Parish, to make Jesus known throughout the Mission Community; we know Steph will welcome such an approach.

John Roberts

THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Calverleigh, Cruwys
Morchard, Loxbeare,
Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton,
Washfield and Withleigh
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EDITORIAL

Editors should always try to remain impartial - but on such a momentous occasion as this, we wish to add to all the welcome messages in your "Round-ups" and John's "Front Page".

Welcome and "Thank you" Steph !!

Steph told us that God had called her to lead us in the Exe Valley and we are so grateful that she is brave enough to take us all on. What a huge Challenge !!

Steph is a prolific writer of children's books, including a "Children's Bible for the 21st Century" and she will be helping us to write the next Chapter in the history of the Exe Valley Mission Community.

Paul and Elizabeth Iliff have given many years and hundreds of hours to supporting our Parishes but they are now retiring from their roles as Administrators. They will be an impossible act to follow and we would like to say a personal "Thank you" to them for their help, advice and support with the magazine.

Jenny and Geoff

WE ARE SEEKING an Administrator for the EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Details have not yet been finalised but please read the 'MOVING ON 10' article on Page 3 for more information



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MOVING ON PART 10

A New Dawn

Probably the most difficult part of the process of appointing our new Rector, has been the necessity to keep things 'under wraps' until a formal announcement could be made; the fact that this had to be delayed for several reasons did not help matters! Also, with our new Rector being local, many had already put two and two together, so it came as little surprise to some, when the announcement was finally made on Sunday, 14 August. Nevertheless, the news that Rev. Steph Jeffs was to be our Rector and team leader was received with great enthusiasm and anticipation. Steph is already known to some through her former teaching role. Elizabeth and I have known Steph for some twenty-seven years, and we both believe that the waiting and frustrations of the past months will have been well worth it. From conversations with Steph since her appointment, we know that we are in for some exciting and, no doubt challenging, times; her forward thinking and planning (already into Advent 2017!) give reasons for confidence in our future. Steph will be instituted by Bishop Sarah at Cruwys Morchard on Wednesday 14 December, the Service beginning at 7.30pm.

A big 'thank you' to all who have been praying for a successful conclusion to the vacancy, but please now pray for Steph as she takes on this new role, and also for our Parishes as we prepare to really 'move on' in the ministry of our Mission Community.

Over the past months, Churchwardens' Council has been considering the necessity to employ an administrator on the basis of a set number of hours each week. When the vacancy was announced,

Elizabeth and I agreed to take this role back on (after less than twelve months of retirement!) to see the Mission Community through the vacancy. With the end of the vacancy now firmly in sight, we are both looking forward to retiring – again! The Mission Community is, therefore, looking to take on an administrator, though exactly what would be involved and where he or she would be based, is still the subject of discussion, but the probability is that somewhere between two and four mornings a week, of two-and-a-half hours each would be involved. We have had interest shown by one person but, if you think you might be interested, or know of someone else who might, then please do let me know. Elizabeth is willing to help in any way she can to ensure a smooth hand-over.

Our thanks to Templeton who hosted and co-ordinated the refreshments for "Tea, Cake and Conversation" with Bishop Sarah, on 21 August in Templeton Village Hall, being part of the "Bishops in Mission" weekend. Thanks also to the other Parishes for the donations of cakes.

Our Group Service in October will be at Stoodleigh at 10.30am on Sunday 23rd, with the November service at Templeton on Sunday 27th. There will not be a Group Service in December, as the fourth Sunday just happens to be Christmas Day!

Paul Iliff

NATURE NOTES

I have just mown my wild-flower meadow for the first time. I realise this gardening fashion is over a decade old but it is not for the faint hearted. The best example I know is at the RHS Garden

Hyde Hall. The wild flowers cascade in swathes down a hillside into which narrow paths, which cannot be seen at a distance, spread randomly through the planting like veins. Thus the clock is turned back a century and you walk through the meadow whilst dragging the obligatory hand through the wispy, waving sea.

My tangled and minuscule effort suffered because, not surprisingly in one season, few grasses had established in the plot. The books assure me that eventually they will try to dominate and advise Yellow Rattle should be introduced to weaken their growth. Other invaders showed no such reticence and Sow's Thistle, Bindweed and Creeping [should I say galloping?] Buttercup could not resist the carefully cleared ground. At least the insects pronounced the somewhat visually disappointing result a great success.

As usual, my sowing was heavy handed and I am sure I am not alone with a feeling of wonder and uncertainty every time I stand over open ground holding seeds that amount to little more than a handful of dust. I had wild-flower seed packets from many sources and, for once, was particularly grateful to the supermarkets. They had greatly padded out their boxes of seeds with vermicullite, thus enabling easy observation of where the seeds were cast whilst supplying a comfortable feeling of being given a lot for your money.

I am totally charmed by some of the common names given to wild-flowers that will now grace my patch, particularly if they refer to the use to which they were once put. An example would be Lady's Bedstraw. Presumably the chambermaids of today struggle to find this online.

continued overleaf →

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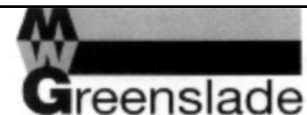
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It is going to be an interesting challenge to work with Nature, trying to establish what it once produced so easily. Surely next year's invaders can be Camomile or Bird Foot Trefoil or even Clover, with a little more help from me? Ah well - "One man went to mow"

Thomas More



HOLIDAY CLUB 2016 SPACE ACADEMY

This year Holiday Club returned to Calverleigh Hall to enjoy a fun packed four days of fun and games. Between 50 and 60 children attended each day, learning from the Bible and taking part in sports and crafts. The weather was very kind to us and the children were able to enjoy sports and games out on the grass during the afternoons.

During the mornings we worked in teams to play games and to fill in activity books finding out the answers through discussion and reading the Bible. The children were able to learn through the book of Daniel how we can trust in God. We watched a DVD which gave us many interesting facts and stories about space and we heard the stories of Daniel told by Bob Hartman, a very good storyteller, children were enthralled. We also watched a puppet show. The children were encouraged throughout the week to

bring in prayers, space jokes and facts about space. We all learnt so much, not just the children. We got to know each other and make new friends during the week.

Lunchtimes were times for getting together to chat over lunch and the much loved tuck shop! In the afternoons children were able to take part in crafts - junk modelling being a favourite with many large and intricate models being made. They also took part in painting, making rocket cards, masks, photo frames, sun catchers and more. During the afternoon there were opportunities for team games outside. A favourite is the clown game and football, as always, is



very popular with the children and adults. I would like to say a big thank you to all the helpers who gave up their time during this week, to help. Without their support we would not be able to run Holiday Club.

We finished the week on Sunday with a Service, picnic and fun day. The bouncy castle was a great attraction and with the sun shining it made a fitting end to the week.

Preparations are already under way for next year's Holiday Club. Look out for next year's dates and if you would like to help, and want to know more about what we do, contact Cindy on 01363 866621

Cindy Trick

FROM THE ARCHIVES "TODAY" 50 years ago October/November 1966

Over the past few years I have accumulated a number of old issues of "Today" magazine, and now have an archive covering January 1966 to date - more than fifty years! Thank you to those of you who have given me copies, but the following seven issues have, so far, proved elusive :-
February 1968; November 1971; November/December 1972; October/November 1973; December 1973/January 1974; June/July 1977; December 1998/January 1999.

If anybody has a copy of any of these hidden away somewhere, I would be pleased to hear from you.

The reason for all this is that I thought it might be interesting to look back at where we were in the Exe Valley on a 'Fifty years ago' basis. Please feedback what you think, but here goes with October and November, 1966.

The Exe Valley then comprised seven parishes - Calverleigh, Morebath, Oakford, Rackenford, Stoodleigh, Washfield and Withleigh, under the leadership of Ron Herniman. Each church had at least one service on Sundays, two on some Sundays, but the Group was about to grow with the addition of Loxbears and Templeton, and this would affect service times.

The magazine, then in A5 format, carried a section "Tots, Teens and In-betweens", written by a certain Mr Wicawastrom - how many can remember the name, and what it signified?

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Witleigh's church had just re-opened, having been closed since May, 1962 on safety grounds, though a new heating system and organ were short-term future plans.

The weather was just as unpredictable then, as the Stoodleigh Harvest Sports were washed out by a cloudburst.

Autumn / Christmas Fayres were happening in Oakford, Rackenford and Witleigh.

The W.I. was active with all seven parishes having branches.

But the entry that most appealed to my sense of humour was the following, which may strike a chord with all who have sat in a cold church. It needs to be "read" to the tune of 'Lead, kindly light':

Speed, kindly heat, amid the encircling chill,
Warm through our bones!
The day is cold, and we are trembling still,
Warm through our bones!
Thaw out our knees, we do not ask to feel
Our distant feet, but need our joints to kneel!

For years and years we've shouted out the hymns
To warm our bones!
And through the sermons fidgeted our limbs
To warm our bones!
With running noses and with rasping throats
We've wheezed and croaked -
Regardless of false notes!

Soon a new system will provide the heat
To warm our bones!
No need to cough or sneeze, or stamp our feet,
No further moans!
And in the choir - a greater wonder yet -
Young earnest faces shine -
And shine with sweat!

There was a suspicion that these blissful lines were penned somewhere in Rackenford.

Paul Iliff

PARISH ROUND-UP

CALVERLEIGH

Church & Community News:

The Annual Potato Competition (now in its 34th year) was held at the Rose and Crown in July. The winners were Geoffrey Thomas and Lorna Thomas in the Men's and Ladies' competitions, children's winners were Callum Findlay for the boys and sister Abigail Findlay for the girls. It was lovely that so many children took part and the evening was supported well with so many entrants overall. Well done to you all. Thanks to Gillian and Mary for organising such an enjoyable evening and auctioneer Tim Laman, who once again helped raise a lot of money by encouraging everyone to pay top prices for their own potatoes! Thank you to Stuart and Kath of the Rose and Crown for the lovely supper. These occasions are only a success because of those taking part or supporting on the weigh-in night. A cheque for £374.05 was handed over for church funds. Thank you all.

A party to celebrate the 30th birthday of Nikki Burton was held on 23 July as a joint fundraiser for both Calverleigh Church and 5th Tiverton Guides. Spinach for Norman provided the music for the Barn Dance. Many people spent the evening on their feet dancing along to the lively music. Nik wishes to thank all those

who attended and gave donations - and to those who helped in any way with setting up and packing away. Your help was greatly appreciated.

The annual inter-village "It's a Knockout Contest" took place at Washfield with 5 teams competing this year. The young Calverleigh team gave their very best but didn't do quite enough to win but they certainly won the impromptu water fight at the end of the afternoon.



Above: Visitors to Calverleigh's 3rd Annual Produce Show !!

Our 3rd Annual Produce Show took place on Saturday 27 August with a spectacular array of fruit, vegetables, flower arrangements, cakes, biscuits, limericks and scarecrows. Thank you to those who tirelessly organised the event and everyone who made the show such a success including the judges, stewards, those making teas & coffees and stall helpers. Thank you to all who entered and congratulations to all the prize winners, the entries were up and the standard was excellent - what a clever lot you are!

On 4 September a large congregation attended the double Baptism of cousins Dyllan Smith, son of Kelly, and Leo Harris, son of Myles and Leanne. Leo's big sister Freya did a wonderful job of reading the lesson with confidence. Well done Freya. The lovely service was conducted by Rev'd Jane Wilson.

A service of celebration for the life of June Evans took place on Tuesday 6

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

September, followed by burial in the churchyard. The service was led by Rev'd Keith Gale and a lovely tribute to June - from her early life, through to her and husband Dave's move to Calverleigh, was given by Jackie Herniman. She spoke of June's support of the church and village hall, through her fundraising and her floral and craft talents. Our deepest sympathy goes to Dave and all the family and loved ones. June's husband David, sister Gillian and Gillian's husband Stephen wish to express their sincere thanks to the wonderful people of Calverleigh for their prayers, support and love over the recent difficult weeks. Heartfelt thanks also for the beautiful church service and the gathering in the village hall afterwards. So many contributed and you all deserve our special gratitude.

Condolences also go to Brian and Ann Longbottom and family on the sad loss of their son James, who passed away in early August. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all who have lost a loved one in recent times.

It is with great sadness that we have heard in the past few days of the passing of Susan Luffman, daughter of Diana Hopper and the late Clive. Our condolences go to Susan's children David & Jessica and all of her family at this very sad time. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you all.

To anyone who has been feeling under the weather lately or are waiting for or recovering from operations we send our very best wishes and hope that life can get back to normal for you very soon.

A pleasant afternoon was spent in the company of Bishop Sarah, at Templeton Village Hall on 21 August. Bishop Sarah spoke of her role within the life of the

Exeter Diocese, joined people at their tables as they enjoyed a sumptuous tea and was then open to questions from Exe Valley parishioners. Thank you to the people of Templeton for hosting this event.

Harvest Thanksgiving took place over the weekend of the 10-11 September. An enjoyable Harvest Supper was held on the Saturday evening with a delicious meal prepared by many. Pastor Philip Porter gave a very interesting talk on voluntary projects on the go around Tiverton, including the Street Pastors, Let's Make Lunch and an upcoming group for unemployed people. All very worthwhile causes. Thank you Philip for joining us. The evening started and ended with harvest hymns.

The evening continued with light-hearted entertainment from the Goldsworthy Family who brought a new spin on some classic tunes from The Sound of Music which was thoroughly enjoyed by all in the audience. Thanks for entertaining us, we look forward to seeing what you come up with next! Our thanks go to Rita Tapp and Sheila Greenslade for organising the evening, the Webber Family for the starters, those who helped with the main meal preparation, all who provided a dessert and to the many people who chipped in with setting up the hall through the day or helped with clearing away at the end of the evening, where many hands made light work. It was lovely that so many people were able to attend and we give a warm welcome to those new to the village.

The Harvest Service on Sunday morning was led by Julie Goldsworthy. The church was beautifully decorated with a large selection of fruit, vegetables and flower arrangements. Thank you to all who made the church look and smell so lovely. The scarecrows from the Produce Show

put in another appearance firstly at the harvest supper on the previous night and then they made their way over to the church for their final outing.

We look forward to welcoming Rev'd Steph Jeffs as our Team Rector when she joins us in December.

Coming Up:

Calverleigh Church will be hosting a special concert by Tiverton Salvation Army Band, Songsters and timbrels on Saturday 24 September at 7.30pm. £5 entry to include refreshments. All welcome. For details phone 01884 258549

Our Autumn Fayre will take place on Saturday 19 November 2016 from 10.30am until 2pm. If you are available to help on the day in any way, please contact a member of the PCC. All help will be gladly received.

Church Mowing Rota:

Thanks to everyone involved in keeping our churchyard looking so good, especially Churchwarden Aubrey Goldsworthy. Take a well deserved Winter rest!

Church Cleaning Rota:

19 Sept / 1 Oct: Mrs M Webber
 3 Oct / 15 Oct: Mrs R Tapp
 17 Oct / 29 Oct: Mrs S Greenslade
 31 Oct / 12 Nov: Mrs M Herniman
 14 Nov / 26 Nov: Mrs M Furneaux
 28 Nov / 10 Dec: Miss S Goldsworthy

Altar Flower Rota:

25 Sep / 2 Oct: Mrs L Thomas
 9 / 16 Oct: Mrs D Hopper
 23 / 30 Oct: TBA
 6 / 13 Nov: Mrs R Tapp
 20 / 27 Nov: Mrs M Furneaux

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New Creation News

Proclaiming the Gospel since 1988

OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2016

Psalm 150 verse 6: Let everything that has breath Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! Another year, another milestone, another birthday to celebrate, another opportunity to thank our wonderful Lord God! It's October again so please pray for New Creation on our 28th Birthday (on the 4th) and give grateful thanks to our loving Heavenly Father. He has enabled and encouraged us since 1988! Only the Lord knows what effect a scripture verse, book or card may have on the receiver. We pray that the vision for this mission, given so many years ago, is still being worked out to His glory and that He will continue to guide us as we seek to faithfully serve Him.

Penny's Special for October - £3.50 Cheese Scone with Pickle, Cheese and Apple Slices and a hot drink and for November - Soup with a Roll and Butter -£3.00

"Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the first-born over all creation" Col 1 v.15

Preparing for Advent! Advent is just a couple of months away!

Does everyone have a real understanding of the meaning of the season? How can we encourage our family, friends and neighbours? With Advent so close - we have the resources, suitable for all ages, to guide and teach us through the days leading up to Christmas. These will help us to approach Christmas Day with a real understanding of the meaning of the Season.

Our Christmas stock is coming in. All our Christmas cards, calendars, diaries, books and gifts display the Christian message - lasting longer than the festive season - making it easy to share your faith. And you also may be helping other Charities, for she has ordered from Tear Fund, the Barnabas Fund, and other similar relief organisations.

Look for the several offers in store on books and cards. Come and browse to find the many different ways you can send out God's Word this Christmas. Diaries and Calendars make great presents and can offer a different uplifting message daily, weekly or monthly - some show, in pictorial splendour, God's beautiful world. The Christmas Card selections all contain a scripture text. They make an acceptable way of sending out the Gospel message so, before going elsewhere, please come in to see our collection. Either pop into the shop or give us a phone call.

Have you thought about bringing your small group here for supper? New Creation is always available as a Supper Venue for groups of up to 14. Who knows, a change of surroundings may be a source of inspiration to your group. In years gone by the coffee house was a place to discuss and share - maybe we could be that place for you. So do get in touch on 255769 as we are now taking bookings for your Christmas or New Year Celebration

Our Prayer Topics - Please join with us in prayer for:-

- 1 More volunteers, especially for Wednesdays and Saturdays
2. The Landlords to carry out further repairs to the building quickly, especially to the outside walls and the front window, before the Winter
3. Thanks to our Lord for all those who have supported this mission, donated, prayed and helped here over the last 28 years. We are so grateful.

This year One World Week takes place from 23rd to the 30th October. The situation with refugees is desperate - please pray. More information may be had from www.oneworldweek.org and www.cte.org.uk/news (the latter is the Churches Together in England website)

We do thank you for all your prayers and support, enabling God's Word to be sent out into the community and beyond. By God's grace we look forward to continuing to serve Him and you, from 58 Bampton Street, in the days to come.

May God bless you all.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Want to help? If you feel a desire to help with any of the events, with the mowing, cleaning or flowers, do get in touch.

Have we missed something? If there is anything that you think we should have mentioned, or you have anything for the next magazine? please send them to Dave Burton by calling 07817 851856 / 01884 561499 or by email: calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org. Get the latest at: www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh.

CRUWYS MORCHARD

Hooray, we now have a new Rector. The Rev'd Stephanie Jeffs - we are very lucky. Welcome Steph.

We will first meet Steph at her Institution, here in Cruwys Morchard, on WEDNESDAY 14th December 2016 7.30pm.

HOLIDAY CLUB Today, Sunday 11 September, we had a special presentation to Cindy Trick to thank her for all the hard work in running The Holiday Club in Calverleigh Village Hall this Summer. So many children and helpers enjoyed the week.

HARVEST FESTIVAL is to be celebrated on 24/25 September. Starting with a short Service in the Church on Saturday 24 at 2.15pm, immediately followed by games and races in the field and tea for everyone in the Parish Hall, do come. In the evening there is a Social in the Hall at 7pm.

continued overleaf



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PARISH ROUND-UP

On Sunday 25 September there is a Service of Celebration at 11am in the Church with the help of the Young Farmers. Do bring Harvest gifts (non perishable please) to either Service. They will be given to CHAT in Tiverton.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE is on Saturday 12 November at 10.30am to 1.30pm. with a large array of stalls, a hamper raffle, Children's tombola and cakes. Refreshments - mince pies, shortbread and soup with rolls will be available.

SENIORS LUNCH has been very popular over the last few years, but there has always been confusion over the name of it and the ages! At a recent meeting of the Ladies Committee we thought that the name should be changed to **COMMUNITY LUNCH** to encompass everyone. Its aim is just to provide a time to meet together and chat over a great lunch and to catch up with people you might not see very often. So from our next one, which is Friday 14 October, **COMMUNITY LUNCH** is open to all ages 12.30pm - 14.30pm. Bring a bottle if you want? Please help us by letting us know that you would like to come by phoning Sonia on 01363 866864, so that we can plan the meal. We are always glad to have new helpers to either make a pudding or serve the food and extra numbers may mean we need more help ... so if you would like to join the team for this lunch, please ring Diana Vincent on 01363 860227.

THE YOUNG FARMERS

Many members of Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers entered classes in the Exe Valley Group Rally held at The Mid Devon Show at the end of July. The Club did very well in the stock classes. Look out for future events, as the Club had their Annual General Meeting at the beginning of September. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tom Palmer - 01363 866398. The Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Parish Hall. Short and sweet but nothing much happens during the Summer months, as they are all harvesting!!

YOGA continues on Thursday mornings at 10-11.30am. The class is gentle, Hatha yoga. New members welcome. Enquiries Hilary 01363 866245.

CRUWYS ARMS GARDENERS - the next meeting is on 5 October. The last meeting was poorly attended, as it was during the Summer holidays. Caterpillars were discussed, at the bar!

STOVE ROTA -

November - Mr D. Vincent
 December - Mr J. Carter
 January - Mr M. Trick
 February - Mr G. Cruwys
 March - Mr J. Lake
 Please light the church stove on Saturday (Morning if possible). If you are unable to, please contact: Cindy Tel: 01363 866621 or Diana Tel: 01363 860227

FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

Sept 26 / Oct 3 - Marilyn Hill
 Oct 10 / 17 - Sonia Notley
 Oct 24 / 31 - Sue & Pauline Guscott
 Nov 7 / 14 - Denyse Standen & Jo Hilton
 Nov 21 / 28 - Carole Chisholm & Jackie Mitchell, Sarah Cruwys flowers
 Dec 5- Lorna Warren

MOWERS OF THE CHURCHYARD -

Thank you to all of you who have given up so much of your time and energy to keep our Churchyard looking so neat and tidy.

THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW, held on

13 August was, as always, very well attended, with a great number of exhibits of flowers, vegetables, crafts, cooking, jams and wines. Also the photograph and ode competitions which were judged by us, the public. Well done and thank you very much to the organizers.

Pennymoor Congregational Church

Services 4.30pm, North Street, Pennymoor
 2 Oct Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service
 9 Oct Rev Ruth Green
 16 Oct Join Way Village 2.30pm
 23 Oct Praise & Prayer Mr O Mears
 30 Oct Rev Ruth Green Lens Factor
 6 Nov Danny Beaven Family Service

13 Nov Ossy & Ruth
 20 Nov Join Way Village 2.30pm
 Mon 31 Oct Light Party after-school Club
 Sat 29 Oct Lens Factor & Picnic
 Thurs 24 Nov to Sun 27 Community Tree Festival
 27 Nov Tree Festival Carol Singing including After School Club - Friday 25

Future Events

Harvest Festival 24/25 September
 Community Lunch Friday 14 October at 12.30pm in the Parish Hall
 Christmas Fayre Saturday 12 November at 10.30-1.30pm
 Quiz Night Saturday 3 December
 Institution of new Rector Wednesday 14 December at 7.30pm
 Bingo 29 October and 26 November in the Parish Hall

Congratulations to Ryan and Kelly on their wedding in August and to Catherine and Simon upon the birth of their daughter Eliza.

Welcome to Steve Lane - we hope you will be very happy in Pennymoor.

Good Luck to all those going to new schools and colleges.

Our prayers are with everyone who is not well, or grieving.

LOXBARE

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Harvest Celebrations over the weekend of 17-18 September and Harvest Supper on 20 September. We thank God for seed-time and harvest which again this year has not failed. We welcome and pray for Rev. Stephanie Jeffs as she prepares to come and minister in the E.V.C later in the year, that God will bless her ministry here and she will soon settle in and feel at home.

On 7 September a Service was held in Loxbore Church celebrating the life of Pauline Cowderoy who went to be with her Lord on 22 August aged 93 years. The Service incorporated a Songs of

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Praise at Pauline's request, with hymns chosen by family and members of Loxbeare congregation, and also one composed by Pauline herself for the millennium. She was a great lover of music and played the organ faithfully for many years and felt it was a privilege to do so. She moved to Loxbeare with Jim, her husband 36 years ago, before moving to Castle Grove Residential Home in Bampton, for the last 2.5 years.

She has been likened to the agony aunt and matriarch of Loxbeare village, being the eldest resident and always ready with a smile and welcome for all who visited her. She was a much loved and respected lady who was willing to speak, encourage and help anyone of any age and background and share her vast knowledge of many subjects. We all, near and far, have many precious memories of her. She will be greatly missed.

On 31 July we held a lovely picnic Service led by John at Steve & Sue's. Thank you to them for allowing us to meet at their home and for the lovely treats after the Service!

We continue to pray for those undergoing treatment: Claudine Lear, Trish Bending, Steve Troake, Derrick McManus, Peter Thornton and all who are feeling unwell.

Congratulations to all celebrating special occasions and Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in October and November.

On Thursday 10 November 7 for 7.30pm we will be visiting the New Creation Christian Bookshop for our annual supper and browse amongst the cards, books, CD's and other items - many suitable for Christmas gifts! Come and join us. Contact Margaret Tidball on 01884-881362 if you wish to go.

The Exe Valley Woman's Bible Study Group will recommence in October. Meeting on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at Christine Weatherley's, Churchill House at 2-4pm. All ladies welcome. Contact Marion on 01884 256302.

The date for the next PCC meeting will be 25 October at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

The Family Service in September was taken by Rev Jane Wilson who spoke on the Lost Sheep & Coin. God searches for us when we are lost.

Our next Family Service will be on the 9 October, when Stephen & Janice Roach and helpers from St Andrews Church, Cullompton will be taking it, with puppets. Do encourage any children (and adults too!) to come along at 11am.

On 8 October there will be a Cream Tea in the Hall at 3-5pm and also a bring and buy stall to raise money to pay for extra Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's purse, boxes for needy children. Anyone wishing to fill a shoe box themselves needs to leave them in the Church by 13 November or give them to Carol. Contact Carol for more info on 01884 881480.

On Friday 7 October at 10am - helpers are needed for giving the Church an extra clean-up and some work is required to be done outside as well. Anyone willing to help will be most welcome. Contact Ron & Margaret on 01884 887362.

Thank you to Maurice and Marlene for organising and hosting a Coffee Morning on 13 August which raised £230 for Village Hall Funds, and also to all who supported and gave to the event.

There will be a Wine and Cheese evening at the Village Hall 7 for 7.30pm on Friday 14 October also for Village Hall Funds. A Beatle Drive on 29 October at 7pm. All ages welcome. Contact Jean on 01884 881400 for more details.

Date of the Christmas Fayre to be confirmed but probably 26 November.

Loxbeare Ladies:

3 October - a Bring and Share evening at Sue's at 7.30pm.

7 November: Bowls at Amory Park. 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Gerald on 01884 8813279.

8 December will be the Christmas Meal at Bickleigh Mill. 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Sue on 01884-259496.

OAKFORD

The July Group Service took place at Oakford and was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Now we look forward to our **Harvest Festival** which will be on Sunday 25 September at 2.30 pm. Followed by tea and cake at the back of the church. Gifts of produce, jams etc. very welcome. Harvest Supper will take place on Monday 26 September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall followed by an auction of produce. Supper £6.50. Please phone Dawn on 324035 for tickets. Bring your own drinks. Everyone very welcome.

Remembrance Service. Sunday 13 November 10.50am at the War Memorial followed by a Service in the Church. All are welcome

We send our love, prayers and best wishes to all those who are not well at this time. We hope you have a speedy recovery.

The vestry roof has been leaking for some time. At last it is going to be replaced and a new ceiling put in it. Two happy Churchwardens (when it is finished)!

Looking forward to Christmas. The **Carols by Candlelight Service** will be on 18 December at 5.30pm. Please come and enjoy readings and carols followed by mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. This year there will be a **Christmas Day Service** at 10am.

Village events:

Moorland Club 13 October at 7.30pm. Musical Entertainment: Sing and play along with Ian Smith. 10 November at 7.30pm. Evening of Festive Fayre and Fun **Moorland Christmas Fayre** Saturday November 12 from 10.30 to 2.00pm. Cakes, gifts, light refreshments. Everyone welcome.

Auction of Promises in aid of a Defibrillator for the Village. This will be held on Saturday 15 October at 7.30pm in

Continued on Page 12 →



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EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Praying and Worshipping Together

Saturday Prayer Breakfasts

8 October and 12 November
9 am in Loxbeare Hall

Mission Community Home Group

Fortnightly from 19 October
Church Cottage, Stoodleigh

Exe Valley Women's Bible Study

A chance for women of all ages to meet together,
to learn from the Bible and encourage
and support one another.

We meet on alternate TUESDAYS at
Churchill House, Loxbeare, EX16 8BX from 2-4 pm
This Autumn Term, we will be studying Paul's letter
to the Ephesians: "Your place in God's plan"

4 October: Every blessing in Christ
Ephesians 1 v. 1-14

18 October: Praying big prayers
Ephesians 1 v. 15-23

1 November: New life, new people
Ephesians 2 v. 1-22

15 November: Mystery revealed
Ephesians 3 v. 1-21

29 November: How churches grow
Ephesians 4 v. 1-16

Parish Groups

Walk the Talk - Withleigh Home Group

Alternate Mondays at 8 pm. 01884 253473

Exe Valley Central Services

Each Sunday in Templeton Village Hall
11 am (Unless otherwise stated)

We are doing a series on Christian Hope

- 2 October: HOPE for the future ^
9 October: HOPE that is fully realised *
16 October: HOPE as an anchor for the soul,
firm and secure
23 October: Group Service Stoodleigh
"The Persecuted Church"
30 October: Holding unwaveringly to the
HOPE we profess

- 6 November: Faith is confidence in what we
HOPE for ^
13 November: Join with Parishes for
Remembrance Services
20 November: The Hope of Christ's Return *
27 November: Advent Sunday.
Group Service Templeton

^ Cafe style set up

* Informal Holy Communion

OAKFORD

2 October

9.30 am Holy Communion

9 October

9.30 am Morning Prayer

16 October

9.30 am Holy Communion

23 October

See Stoodleigh

30 October

9.30 am Family Service

6 November

9.30 am Holy Communion

13 November

10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November

9.30 am Holy Communion

27 November

See Templeton

RACKENFORD

2 October

9.30 am Morning Worship

9 October

6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

16 October

11 am Family Service
with Baptism

23 October

See Stoodleigh

30 October

9.30 am Holy Communion

6 November

9.30 am Holy Communion

13 November

10.50 am Remembrance
Service at War Memorial

20 November

9.30 am Family Service

27 November

See Templeton

STOODLEIGH

2 October

11 am Harvest Festival

9 October

11 am Holy Communion
by Extension

16 October

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

23 October

10.30 am Group Service

30 October

11 am Morning Prayer

6 November

11 am Family Service

13 November

10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November

11 am Holy Communion
by Extension

27 November

See Templeton

CALVERLEIGH

2 October
9.30 am Holy Communion

9 October
11.15 am Family Service

16 October
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
No Service

6 November
3 pm Evening Prayer

13 November
9.30 am Holy Communion

20 November
11.15 am Family Service

27 November
See Templeton

CRUWYS MORCHARD

2 October
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

9 October
11 am Holy Communion

16 October
11 am Family Service

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
No Service

6 November
11 am Family Service
with Baptism

13 November
10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November
11 am Holy Communion
with Baptism

27 November
See Templeton

LOXBEARE

2 October
6.30 pm Evening Praise

9 October
11 am Family Service

16 October
9.30 am Family Communion

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
No Service

6 November
6.30 pm Evening Praise

13 November
10.50 am Family Service

20 November
9.30 am Family Communion

27 November
See Templeton

TEMPLETON

2 October
11 am Harvest Festival

9 October
No Service

16 October
9.30 am Morning Prayer
with Holy Communion
by extension

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
10.30 am Read and Reflect

6 November
5 pm Taizé

13 November
10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November
9.30am Morning Service
with Holy Communion

27 November
10.30 am Group Service

WASHFIELD

2 October
9.30 am Holy Communion

9 October
11 am Morning Prayer

16 October
11 am Family Service

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
6 pm Evening Prayer

6 November
11 am Holy Communion

13 November
10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November
11 am Family Service

27 November
See Templeton

WITHLEIGH

2 October
10.30 am Morning Worship

9 October
9.30 am Holy Communion

16 October
11 am Family Service
with Baptism

23 October
See Stoodleigh

30 October
3 pm Family Service
with Baptism

6 November
10.30 am Family Service

13 November
10.50 am Remembrance
Service

20 November
9.30 am Holy Communion
by extension

27 November
See Templeton

PARISH ROUND-UP

the Village Hall. Tickets £10.00 includes Supper and two bottles of wine per table. Please contact John on 07583146498 or the Red Lion for more details.

Oakford Players: Up Pompeii in the Village Hall on 1,2,3 December. Please contact Dawn on 01398 324035 and look out for posters.

RACKENFORD

We are delighted to begin with good and positive news. The Rev'd Stephanie Jeffs is to be the Team Rector of The Exe Valley Mission Community. She is currently Assistant Curate of The Benefic of St Peter, Tiverton and Chevithorne with Cove. We remember her in our prayers and pray for her future in our community.

Another reason for celebration is the revitalized sound of our pipe organ. It has been completely dismantled and fully restored over the last 2 months. We are tremendously grateful to Rackenford Community Shop for a grant of £5,000 and the contributions from private donors who have made this project possible. Thank you so much everyone.

We would like to wish Rod and Fiona all the very best in their new home and also the people who have left Crosby. We welcome Michael and Sarah Cox to Rose Cottage and Mike and Sara Menhewitt to Acres Wild (formally Crosby) and also a warm welcome to Leslie, Sam and family to East Nutcott. We hope you will all enjoy living in Rackenford.

Rackenford School Concert was held on 14 July at 2pm and 7pm. Once again it was a joy to watch the young children perform Roald Dahl's Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs. Amazing costumes,

singing and acting throughout made it a show to remember. At the evening performance "goodbyes" were said to Year 6 and they were presented with a Bible and other gifts. We wish them, and all the teachers and staff, happy and good times ahead at this very important time. We remember you all in our prayers.

The weather was great for the School Fun Day on 16 July, which was held to raise money towards the new classroom. It was very well supported and everyone could enjoy a variety of stalls, bouncy castle, good food and an excellent draw - not forgetting the Dog Show. Good sportsmanship shone through especially thinking of Mrs Lewry and Mr Ferdinando.

Our very best wishes to Sylvia and Brian Muchmore who have stepped down from our Community Shop volunteers after 8 years of being at the helm. We are most grateful for all you have done and hope that you will be able to relax more and enjoy better health together.

Our last Group Service was taken by Anna Hansford and saw a congregation of 85. Eight children, ages ranging from 3 to 10 years played the Bell Plates and having the Church Bells being rung is always a welcome bonus. Refreshments and a chat after was a perfect conclusion to a lovely Service. Thank you to everyone involved in this special coming together of Parishes.

On Saturday 15 October at 10am (weather permitting) we intend to continue our project of righting up the grave headstones, so we really need all the help and muscle power we can gather, to enable us to achieve this. A cuppa and biscuits will be on hand to keep your strength up.

Tim and Amy Haywood will be having their son Bobby christened with us on 16 October and we look forward to

welcoming him into our Church. We do hope his sister Elle is feeling better since having her tonsils removed.

Our thoughts and best wishes to Elan Luckett (Andy's son) who has been in hospital since suffering a bad accident, also our prayers to anyone who has been receiving treatment or are not well, Jacquie Cann, Joan Phillips, Ann Freeman, Sharon Dart, Jean Berry, Jo Bates, Muriel Blinman, Joan Clark and Peter Reynolds and to anyone else we have not heard about.

A few in our village will remember Reg Pincombe, son of the late Gwen and Den. Sadly we heard about his death in August. Some will remember his childhood days amongst us. Our thoughts go to his family and friends.

On 19 September we hope work will commence on our Church roof. It would be a blessing to have this completed before Winter really sets in.

Eyes down, more dates for all you bingo enthusiasts. 13 October, 10 November, and the Christmas special on 8 December at Rackenford Club. This is in aid of Church funds and any details you need contact Herbert Smith 881375.

HARVEST. The Harvest celebrations are nearly upon us again. Our Harvest Songs of Praise will be on Sunday 9 October 6.30pm and our Harvest Supper on Monday 10 October 7pm PROMPT. We are so grateful to Jacque and Mary Cann for letting us use Lower Tidderson once again, so please book your tickets in advance at the beginning of October from Herbert Smith 881375, Jenny Sleep 881280 or Mary Cann 881696. It is such a lovely evening of good food, company and fun for all to enjoy. A good auction and draw. Tickets Adults £7.50 Children £3.00.

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DOIVE DESIGNS

PARISH ROUND-UP

If you have any flowers or foliage you would like to give for decorating the Church on Thursday 6 October in the afternoon, it can be left in the porch - or come and enjoy decorating with us - anyone welcome.

Rackenford Gardening Club Autumn Show was held on Saturday 10 September at West Backstone, where some beautiful exhibits of a wide variety were on show to admire. We obviously have lots of green fingers amongst us. Cream teas, cakes and sandwiches were available and a lovely draw - before the presentations of cups were made. Prizes were also given to the Scarecrow competition winners.

Many thanks to all who help in anyway with the upkeep and work involved with our Church, both unpaid and paid. We are very grateful to you all.

We have received, as a donation in memory of the late Mary Lester, £185.25 for our Church funds. A celebration for the life of Mary was held on 27 June 2016. We are very grateful for this generous sum and send our prayers and blessings to Pam, Pat and family.

Evelyn Brown is travelling down, with her parents, from the Scottish Borders, to sound the Last Post at our little Service at the War Memorial, on 13 November at 10.50am, in memory of her Grandfather, who was killed in Holland in 1944. William Brown was Head-gardener at the Manor. Young Bill, aged nine, reluctantly returned to Scotland with his Mother. We have always kept in touch over the last 72 years. (Derek Herniman)

Last but certainly not least, many thanks to Jenny and Geoff Parnell for all their hard work to enable us to receive this "Today" magazine in the Exe Valley.

STOODLEIGH

Stoodleigh Parish is delighted with the appointment of Stephanie Jeffs as the new Rector and we look forward to her joining the Exe Valley Mission Community on 15 December, living at Withleigh Rectory. The Licensing Service is on Wednesday 14 December at Cruwys Morchard. Some of us remember Stephanie as the warm and inspiring woman who used to teach drama and produce plays at St Aubyn's / Blundell's Prep School.

August and September have been busy months. The **Family Fun Dog Show** on 13 August was a huge success and we are grateful to Fred and Pat Robinson for allowing the use of their paddock. Just over £800 was raised, split between the Church and the Parish Hall. It was a sunny day with lots of different dogs and owners - coming from as far afield as Glasgow! Jeannie Morrissey was a versatile judge who generously produced a "best in show" cup, won by Bournville (owned by Liz Pile), and a cup for the best young handler, won by Kira from Dunkeswell. Details of all the winners and photographs of the event can be found on the Stoodleigh website (parish.middevon.gov.uk/stoodleigh/).

The Ploughmans Lunch at Champles Barn on Bank Holiday Monday was great fun with nearly fifty people attending and over £320 raised. It was a lovely sunny day and after socialising in the garden over a drink, people settled in the shade of the gazebos to enjoy a spread of pate and cheese. Thanks, too, to all the helpers for putting up and taking down the gazebos and setting up both this event and the dog show. Without such sterling help, these events would be very difficult to put on.

Stoodleigh Harvest Festival is on Sunday 2 October at 11am and Harvest Supper is on Monday 3 October at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Please contact Margaret (351252) or Jennifer (351402) to book your place.

The **Group Service** is in Stoodleigh on Sunday 23 October at 10.30am. Do come and join members from our other Parishes at this Service.

And finally, advance notice that the Carol Service on Sunday 18 December will be at the later time of 7pm.

Garden Club Show

A big thank you to all the entrants for making the show look so spectacular, and an equally big thank you to the helpers who made it run so smoothly. We had a new Champion this year, Shirley Cope, who was closely followed by Jennifer Fraser (only one point behind). Best in sections were: Flowers - Jan Mills, Craft - Phil Talbot, Cookery - Sue Joosse, Produce - Elaine Morison, Flower-arranging - Brenda Buckland, Specimen Rose - Pat Robinson, Most potatoes in a bucket - Fred Robinson. Phil Talbot's timber-hauling lorry deserves a special mention.

A **Folk Dance** at the Parish Hall on 2 September provided entertainment for all those attending and much fun was had learning new dances and steps. A thoroughly sociable evening, which included a Ploughman's Supper, raised almost £100 for Hall funds.

Coming events in the Parish Hall

The **Parish Hall AGM** will be on Tuesday 22 November at 7.30pm. All residents in the Parish are invited to take part, to find

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

out about how the Hall is run and to be involved in plans for the future.

Autumn Market & Coffee Morning:

Saturday 29 October, 10am-12noon

Wine-tasting Evening: Friday 18 November, 7.30pm

Christmas Bingo and Grand Draw:

Monday 19 December, 7.30pm

Regular events: Afternoon Board Games at 2pm on Mondays 10 October, 7 November and 5 December; Books & Coffee on Saturdays between 10.30 and 12noon; Pilates Classes at 7pm on Mondays; Zumba Classes – Autumn sessions start on 6 October, 7pm.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: Prizewinners for July – 1 Malcolm Jones, 2 David Wotton, 3 Jennifer Fraser, 4 Pat Robinson; August – 1 Jennifer Fraser, 2 Annette Penwill, 3 Pat Aplin, 4 Mandy Widdowson.

Church Flower Rota

2 Oct Harvest - all help please.

23 / 30 Oct Linda Hill

6 / 13 Nov Eileen Fewings, Phyllis Hill

20 / 27 Nov Phyllis Hill

any produce, whether fresh or canned to the Church on Saturday morning.

Details of our regular Church Services are always on the Church notice board by the lych gate.

Other dates to put in your diary for November are:

A Taizé Service on Sunday 6 November at 5.00pm

Service of Remembrance on Sunday 13 November at 10.50am

Group Service at Templeton on 27 November at 10.30am with speaker Phil Wales from Exeter Prison Fellowship.

At present, some of our Church windows are being repaired and it was decided at our last PCC meeting that any other money raised in the Parish for the Church, would be spent on getting our bells working again. There has been a professional assessment, so we now know what needs repairing and how much it will cost.

We continue with our Knit and Natter Group on the fourth Wednesday in the month at 10.30 - 12 noon. All are welcome.

The Templeton Village Fete was held on Saturday 13 August with good weather, to enjoy many indoor and outdoor events, including refreshments, bouncy castle, Aunt Sally, tombolas, raffles, water pistol game, and many other stalls and events.

Finally, Templeton's famous General Auction was led by the well-known and entertaining auctioneer, Stafford Sampson. The "Guess the date of the half sovereign" competition was won by Jan Heptinstall – many thanks to the anonymous donor who generously contributed the 1910 half sovereign which was valued at over £150. And well done Poppy and Alicia for running such a successful jam jar tombola. Many thanks go to everyone who took part in, and

contributed to the day, helping to raise a total of over £1500 for village funds.

There will be the usual bonfire & fireworks etc on 5 November at Templeton Village Hall. Please look at notice boards for details.

We welcome Adam & Eleri to Templeton Farm, formerly Townsville the home of Pat Taylor. We also welcome Alan & Maria Stibbs to Rose Cottage. We hope that they will all be happy living within the Templeton community.

Sadly Len Fisher died on Monday 26 August. He lived at Dartford, Morchard Mill for many years. We send our love and sympathy to Doreen and her family.

Flower & Cleaning Rota

Phillida Strong

Flowers & Cleaning 2 / 9 Oct

Julie Dent

Flowers & Cleaning 16 / 23 Oct

Bindy Linden

Flowers & Cleaning 30 Oct / 6 Nov

Gloria Woollacott Remembrance -

Poppies 13 / 20 Nov

Jan Heptinstall

Cleaning only - Advent 27 Nov / 4 Dec

TEMPLETON

Our Harvest Supper is on Saturday 1 October at Templeton Village Hall. The bar will be open at 7.00pm and the meal will begin at 7.30pm. There are posters around to give you further details and remind you of the event. Tickets cost £7.50 and can be obtained from Gloria Woollacott, Bindy Linden, Martin Strong & Jan Heptinstall. We really hope you have this in your diary and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

This is followed by our Harvest Service at 11.00am on Sunday 2 October. Our produce this year will be given to The Haven Day Centre. Can you please bring

WASHFIELD

The sun shines every day
This we know is true
But if the clouds obscure it
Let it shine through you.

In 1964, Dusty Springfield had a Top 10 hit with "Wishin' and Hopin' and Thinkin' and Prayin'". This sums up what we have all been doing in the Exe Valley, for eighteen months, and now our prayers have been wonderfully answered. On 15 December, Rev'd Steph Jeffs will become

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PARISH ROUND-UP

our new Rector. God had a plan – and ‘we love it when a plan comes together’.

On Sunday 11 September we celebrated our Harvest Thanksgiving, when the ringing of the bells welcomed us to Church on this fine, sunny day. The Service, with its popular, traditional hymns was thoughtfully led by Jeanne and Jenny and was followed by Sports for the children on the lawns of the Old Rectory. Thank you Claire and William Webber for once again taking charge of these outdoor games. A lovely 'bring and share' tea was laid up in the hall and, although we were down on numbers, this was enjoyed by everyone who came.

The Church was adorned with flowers, fruit and vegetables all showcasing the beauty of Autumn and its colours. It was lovely to see the traditional sheaths of corn in the Church, too. Thanks to all who helped in any way (with laying out the teas and those who donated and decorated the Church so appropriately and beautifully) and to Bronson and Camilla for the kind use of their lawn.

Washfield was well represented at the ‘Wings for Worship’ Course that took place in our Hall in June. All enjoyed the fresh and well-led look at leading Services. We learnt the value of working together to find refreshing ways of leading prayers and using music to enrich weekly worship in St Mary’s Church.

Washfield children enjoyed the Exe Valley Holiday Club - another action-packed and instructive 4 days in August. The smiles on the children’s faces, their seriousness in tackling the bible work and joy with the games and crafts was a delight. Next year will be the 50th anniversary - so “Watch this Space”.

A very successful Coffee/Breakfast Morning was held in September on behalf of Children's Hospice SW and saw many villagers, friends and supporters of this amazing charity enjoying a ‘Full English’ and a mug of tea in the Hall. With various stalls and a raffle it was a great morning raising funds for the 'life-limited' children (and their families) that the charity supports. A magnificent sum of £500 was raised. Thank you for everyone’s help and support.

The sun shone down on Washfield bride Diane Elston as she arrived in style on a classic tractor and trailer for her wedding to Alex at the end of July. With many good wishes for your marriage.

Templeton lifted gold when they, Calverleigh, Rackenford, and Witleigh joined Washfield for an afternoon of madcap “Knock-out” sports. The sun shone, the barbecue roared, and village competitiveness dissolved into good-natured, neighbourly banter. The afternoon ended – as all good afternoons do – with a water fight, leaving the children of the Exe Valley to skip home wet and elated. Final scores: Templeton: 29; Rackenford: 27; Washfield: 26; Witleigh: 17; Calverleigh: 16. Thanks to all those who helped to make this event a fun-filled afternoon.

Another annual event coming around again soon is the charity Pumpkin Weigh-in evening on Saturday 29 October at the Social Club. Keep tending/feeding your pumpkins until then and bring them along to be judged.

Don't forget too, that Social Club subscriptions are due for renewal on 1 October. Its such good value to join and a great way to socialise and keep in touch with friends and neighbours.

One more way to keep up to date with village life is to join the Facebook group, ‘Humans of Washfield & Lower Washfield’. It's a closed group for anyone with a connection to, or interest in, the village. Find the page, click the 'Join Group' button, and our smiling administrator, Franny Armstrong, will welcome you in.

At this time of the year the anxiety for students who were awaiting their exam results has passed and relief sets in. Congratulations are sent to Stephanie Symns who gained top results and is off to Birmingham University to continue her studies. Congratulations too to Lily Juleff who, after completing her International Baccalaureate at Exeter College and graduating last year and then taking a gap year, is off to Manchester University to study Human Geography.

Best wishes are also sent to anyone celebrating a special birthday or anniversary.

Get well wishes are sent to everyone who is unwell, our love and prayers are with you all.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 1 October Grand Charity Frog Race Night to raise money for the work done by Save the Children and Medecins sans Frontiers for the children of Syria. 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Come along for a great 'Frog Experience' and a lot of fun!

Tuesday 11 October teatime@thehall at 3pm

Thursday 13 October W.I. meeting in hall 7.30pm. Speaker: Hilary Richardson on health and fitness (with Witleigh W.I.) All welcome

Saturday 29 October Pumpkin weigh-in and judging evening at the Social Club.

Continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Tuesday 8 November teatime@thehall 2.30pm

Thursday 10 November W.I.meeting in hall 7.30pm. Talk by Sue and Ivan Godfrey on their Icelandic travels. All welcome.

Saturday 3 December Coffee Morning at 'The Cottage' (kindly hosted by Jeanne Jones) in aid of church funds 10am - 12 noon. All welcome.

Altar Flower Rota

Sept 25/Oct 2	Mrs Lane
Oct 9/16	Mrs E Arnold
Oct 23/10	Mrs S Balment
Nov 6/13	Miss A Bolt
Nov 20/27	Mrs J Ellis

Cleaning Rota

Oct 3/10	Mr & Mrs Walton
Oct 17/24	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
Oct 31/Nov 7	Mrs Albery
Nov 14/21	Mr & Mrs Ellis
Nov 28/Dec 5	Mrs French

to Fred and Darren of Barracuda for accompanying us with their music which was very much enjoyed especially by the little ones present - who were seen doing their own dance routines! Thank you to everyone who contributed or helped in any way and we especially thank Henry and Shirley for their hospitality once again.

On 17 July, we welcomed Hugo, son of Fred and Katie Allen and grandson of Dr Peter and Sue Rumble, into our Church at his Christening. Rev'd Jane Wilson officiated at this enjoyable and happy service.

A team from Withleigh entered into the Inter Village "It's a Knockout" at Washfield. They would like to thank Washfield for such an enjoyable afternoon.

Congratulations to Withleigh Women's Institute on achieving first place and winning a cup at the Mid-Devon Show with their entry depicting the Proms. We congratulate Brenda and her team for also winning a cup at the Show for their displays and presentation in the Garden and Flower Tent. Well done to you all!

Our Garden and Produce Show on 20 August was once again a success gaining a few more entries than last year. Cup winners were Henry and Shirley Cruwys and Grace Sellick. Many thanks to all who helped with the Show and to all who entered, making this a stronger show each year.

We send our congratulations to Tyson and Claire on the birth of their son, Harley - another grandson for Steve and Lynne Shelley. Also to Laura and Tommy Butcher on the birth of Freddie, whose baptism is to take place on 30 October. Love and best wishes to you all.

If you feel you would like to host a meal to boost the funds for the new roof and

refurbishments of the Village Hall - as mentioned in the last edition of 'Today', please do not forget to contact Brenda 252431 or Duncan 252949 for more details.

We send our sympathy to Brenda, Nigel and family on the death of Maurice Lee, Brenda's step dad. Maurice played bowls in the Village Hall until ill health prevailed and was a regular attendee with Sylvia, Brenda's mum, at functions associated with our Church and Village Hall. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Our Harvest Festival Service on 11 September was well attended, though numbers were down on last year. Our thanks to all who decorated the church for the occasion, to Anna Hansford for taking the Service, and to Janet Roche for travelling from Cullompton to play the organ for us. Following the Service, the congregation enjoyed tea in the Village Hall, and our thanks to those who provided and prepared the food.

The Harvest Supper, the following evening, was also well attended, with an excellent meal provided. Our guest this year was Phil Lloyd, who spoke about the work of 'Kids who Care' - providing respite for youngsters between the ages of five and seventeen, who find themselves carers for parents or siblings. The auction of harvest produce, ably conducted by Henry Cruwys, raised the sum of £212.70 towards the work of this local charity.

The Annual Skittles evening in the Village Hall is on Friday, 28 October at 7.30 pm. Teams of six to play, but if you have not got a full team, just come along and make up a team. Hot dogs, beef burgers, tea and coffee will be available but please feel free to bring your own alcoholic or soft drinks.

WITHLEIGH

We are pleased to hear of the appointment of a new Rector and we look forward to welcoming Rev'd Steph Jeffs in December.

Another bit of good news is that we now have a new post box after some campaigning. It is situated in the Village Hall car park and is proving to be popular, so instead of having to travel to Tiverton to post your letters, try to remember to use the new post box so that it is seen to be used, and we do not end up losing it again.

Rev'd Jane Wilson opened our Church Fete on 16 July at Bona Vista on a lovely day, as a result of which, our Church Funds benefited by £1,132. Many thanks

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Our Christmas Craft Fayre is on Saturday, 26 November, 10.30 am. - 3.30 pm. There will be the usual cake, chutneys and jam stalls and draw for Church funds, plus many other craft stalls attending, some new to Witleigh this year. Coffee and biscuits will be served in the morning, ploughman's lunches and soup at lunchtime with cakes in the afternoon. Please come along and do some of your Christmas shopping!

Get well wishes to all those not well at the moment. We also think of those known to us who have recently been bereaved. Our love and prayers are with you all.

Witleigh WI meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Guests are welcome to come along. If any of the forthcoming events are of interest to you, please call Rosie, 257123. Meetings are held in the Village Hall at 7.15 pm. unless otherwise stated in the programme.

13 October - Joint meeting with Washfield WI at Washfield Village Hall
 10 November - Richard Kerwood from Living Willow - with members making something

Forthcoming Events:

- 6 October Bingo in Village Hall
- 13 October WI Meeting at Washfield Village Hall at 7.15 pm
- 17 October PCC meeting at Ditchetts, 7.30pm
- 28 October Skittles evening in Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 3 November Bingo in Village Hall
- 10 November WI Meeting in Witleigh Village Hall at 7.15 pm
- 26 November Christmas Craft Fayre in Village Hall 10.30am - 3.30 pm

Flower Rota:

- 2/9 Oct Shirley Cruwys
- 16/23/30 Oct Christine Luxton
- 6/13/20 Nov Sylvia Hann
- 27 Nov Janet Stacey
- 4/11 Dec Janet Stacey

Monthly Diary Dates:

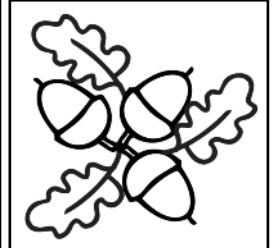
- First Thursday - Bingo
- Second Monday - Whist Drive
- Second Thursday - WI



CHILDREN'S CORNER



temple	men	Jesus
festival	Jerusalem	twelve
Mary	camp	Joseph
evening	Passover	third
teachers	feasting	walking
searching	talking	clever
son	father	working
home	women	children



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QUOTATIONS, JOKES AND CHARITY EVENTS

Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 7 November

Nature does not rush from
Summer blue to Winter grey.
We are given time to watch
the glory fade away.

Time to see the changing
colours of the countryside,
as we stroll along the lanes
of golden Autumn-tide.



Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 14 October

Happiness is catching ~
Smile and give it out.
Other folks will take it
Once it gets about.

Laughter is infectious ~
Gloomy moods suppress.
Start an epidemic
Spreading happiness.

KEEP SMILING ...

Late For Class

A little girl, dressed in her
"Sunday Best", was late and
running to her Sunday School
Class. As she ran, she prayed,
"Dear God, please don't let me be
late. Dear God, please don't let
me be late." Then she fell.

She got up, dusted herself off
and saw that her dress was now
dirty and had a little tear but she
started running again, still
praying, "Dear God, please don't
let me be late." This time she
added ... "But ...
Please don't push me, either!"

A Child's "Bed-time" Prayer

Dear Lord

Thank you for a lovely day ~
With food to eat and games to play.
Teachers, friends and family ~
They really mean a lot to me.

Forgive me if I've not been good.
I don't do all the things I should !!!
I know Your love for me is deep.
Please keep me safe while I'm
asleep.

Amen



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SATURDAY
19 NOVEMBER**

**CRUWYS MORCHARD
CHRISTMAS
FAYRE
10.30am - 1.30pm
SATURDAY
12 NOVEMBER**

**LOXBEARE
CHRISTMAS
FAYRE
TBC probably
26 NOVEMBER
Look out for details**

**OAKFORD
MOORLAND
CHRISTMAS FAYRE
10.30am - 2pm
SATURDAY
12 NOVEMBER**

**RACKENFORD
HARVEST
SONGS OF PRAISE
6.30pm
SUNDAY
9 OCTOBER**

**STOODLEIGH
AUTUMN MARKET
10am - 12 noon
SATURDAY
29 OCTOBER**

**TEMPLETON
TAIZÉ SERVICE
5pm
SUNDAY
6 NOVEMBER**

**WASHFIELD
COFFEE MORNING
At 'The Cottage'
In aid of Church funds.
10am - 12 noon
SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER**

**WITHLEIGH
CHRISTMAS CRAFT
FAYRE
10.30am - 3.30pm
SATURDAY
26 NOVEMBER**

**LOXBEARE
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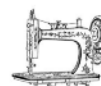


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