



TODAY

The Parish
Magazine
for the
Exe Valley
Mission
Community

April - May 2017

Price 40p

WE'VE MOVED !

And the whole thing happened remarkably smoothly. Unpacking wasn't too bad either. Friends came and emptied boxes. And despite having to ignore several unnecessary comments about the number of ramekins/ earrings/ shoes I possess, things quickly took shape. But one thing was missing. The oven. All we had was a Massive Big Gap, where an oven should have been.

I had spent weeks agonising about an oven. Should it be a 60 or a 90 or a 110? LPG, oil, ceramic or induction? Black, chrome, grey or red? I read. I scrolled the internet. I asked questions. I looked at other people's and still I found it difficult to reach a decision, because it was impossible to see one. I needed to see the oven of my choice. I needed to feel it. To open and close its doors, to turn its dials, to experience its heat and its fan, to caress its surfaces, to stand in front of it, like the High Priestess Delia, tossing in herbs, spices and seeds, conjuring imaginary culinary delights.

In the end, I heard my mother's voice ringing in my ears. 'You can't go wrong with John Lewis ...John Lewis...John Lew...' So, I listened to the ghost of Ma and went to the Sainted John,

ordered an oven and was given a delivery date. But the delivery date changed. So much for saints! So much for Ma!

After nearly three weeks, Oven Delivery Day dawned. But something very strange had happened to the Massive Big Gap – it was no longer there! It had been filled with other items. With the longed-for promise of a roast, and surrounded by salivating offspring, the oven was installed. I reached for a saucepan, and assumed, what I hoped was a Kitchen Goddess pose. But I couldn't open the cupboard door! Not now I had an oven in the Massive Big Gap.

Squeezing my arm through a crack, I desperately tried to feel the familiar shape of a pan. Any pan. Contorting like Houdini, I limbered down, with absolutely none of the elasticity of a pole-dancer (or should it be vaulter?), and without any of the poise and grace of Darcy (I wish!). Eventually I managed to twist a pan through the gap and slam it, triumphantly on the hob. (Eat your heart out Mary Berry!) Only to find that none of my saucepans worked on my new induction hob!

So why am I telling you this? Well, it strikes me that it is something of a metaphor. I

bought my oven in faith, without having seen it or tried it out. I plumped for it on good advice. Before it arrived, I had filled the space with other things. Repeatedly using old stuff on it was not going to work. Faith is a bit like that. Sometimes we need to buy into it before fully experiencing it. Sometimes we need to act upon a hunch, a feeling or a prompt while there's still space for it. In so doing, we may have to ditch some old stuff to fully enjoy the new. Jesus said that all it takes for incredible things to happen is faith the size of a mustard seed. Have a look at all the faith stuff that is happening across the Exe Valley in the next couple of months on pages 10 and 11 and find out what it's all about.

Easter is a good time to 'dip your toe' in the waters of faith. You may well be surprised. And join me, wherever you are, however much faith you do or don't have, to pray. Together, great things can happen.

Oh, by the way – the oven's wonderful! Better than I could ever have imagined.

Steph

More from Steph on Pages 3/12

THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY
Calverleigh, Cruwys Morchard, Loxbeare, Oakford, Rackenford, Stoodleigh, Templeton, Washfield and Withleigh
www.exevalleychurches.org

RECTOR

Rev'd Steph Jeffs
The Rectory, Withleigh, Tiverton, EX16 8JQ
Tel: (01884) 250417
Email : Steph@exevalleymissioncommunity.org
NOT FRIDAYS PLEASE !!

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Stephen Hirst
C/O The Rectory
Tel: 01884 250417
Email: office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org

NON STIPENDIARY MINISTER

Rev'd John Roberts
East Sidborough, Loxbeare, Tiverton EX16 8DA.
Tel: (01884) 256302
john@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk

READER

Mrs Anna Hansford
The Paddock,
2 Kensington Court,
Washfield, Tiverton, EX16 9QU
Tel: (01884) 253463
hansfordam@john-lewis.com

MAGAZINE EDITORS

Jenny & Geoff Parnell
Keepers Cottage,
Lower Washfield,
Tiverton, EX16 9PF
Tel: (01884) 254402
today@exevalleychurches.org

ADVERTISEMENTS

Geoff Parnell
As above but new email address
todayadverts@aol.com

CHURCHWARDEN CONTACT DETAILS

Calverleigh
Aubrey Goldsworthy 01884 255248
Jackie Herniman 01884 255814
jmherniman@talktalk.net

Cruwys Morchard
Diana Vincent 01363 860227
vindr@hotmail.com
Sarah Cruwys 01884 860287
wagscruwys@live.com

Loxbeare
Ron Tidball 01884 881362
margaret.tidball@yahoo.com
Jean Heard 01884 881400
jeanm.heard@googlemail.com

Oakford
Wendy Boynton 01398 351383
mboynton@btinternet.com

Rackenford
Herbert Smith 01884 881375
ejsesqldetc@btinternet.com
Mary Cann 01884 881696
mary_cann@outlook.com

Stoodleigh
Margaret Cuningham 01398 351252
margaret.cuningham@btinternet.com
John Fewings 01398 351328
johnfewings@btinternet.com

Templeton
Jan Heptinstall 01884 255399
Jan.Heptinstall@BTOpenworld.com

Washfield
Jeanne Jones 01884 254306
jeannejones007@gmail.com

Withleigh
Brenda Tucker 01884 252431
e-mail:tucks@btconnect.com
Paul Iliff 01884 253473
pe.iliff@tiv.eclipse.co.uk



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EDITORIAL

Can it really be Easter ?
Wasn't it only yesterday that it was New Year's Eve ?

We have been busy making some changes to the Middle Pages.

Steph is keen to promote more inter-linking of the Parishes and felt that it would help, if it was set out as one box per week - instead of one box per Parish. This means that we can see exactly what is happening every week, throughout the Exe Valley Community, at one glance.

It is now easier to see where and when the Group and Cluster Services are taking place.

In his role as Advertising Co-ordinator, Geoff has been preparing to send out reminders for the Annual Renewals - so don't say you haven't been warned !!

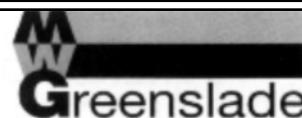
We will delay sending out the brown Subscription envelopes until the June/July issue.

Jenny and Geoff

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STEPH REFLEXE ...

Every morning I try and say the Daily Prayer. It's something I promised to do. I don't always manage it, but most of the time I do, and the words sink in deeply.

Some of those words have taken an extra significance, since moving to Withleigh. What I like to do, first thing in the morning, is to open my curtains, lie in bed and say the Daily Prayer, using my phone, or my iPad – or even the book.

Some mornings I can see the sun just making an appearance, in the far corner of my window. As the sun comes up, slowly the light changes and a rosy glow fills my room. It is truly amazing.

And then I say these words:

'In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.' (Luke 1: 78-79) The dawn from on high shall break upon us!

God's love, his resurrection hope and promise of new life have broken upon us. They have broken upon us in the form of Jesus, God's much loved son. And we remember this at Easter, at Pentecost and every day a new day dawns. It's truly amazing.

Perhaps you would like to join me, every morning, whatever time you surface, wherever you find yourself, and think about these words:

Through the heartfelt mercies of our God,
God's Sunrise will break in upon us,

Shining on those in the darkness, those sitting in the shadow of death, Then showing us the way, one foot at a time, down the path of peace.

Luke 1: 78-79 The Message

Steph

FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago

April and May, 1967

On Herniman's lead article in the April issue talked about wells in various properties (Withleigh Rectory included) that were fed from more than one source, and the extent to which water quality from one well to the next varied so much, from clean to 'disgusting'. He continued by likening television to the one source, but from which the standard of programmes varied from the wholesome to the disgusting. This was at the time of the Mary Whitehouse campaign, which readers were encouraged to join. [Seems to me that little has changed – PI].

At Templeton, films were shown at the end of their annual meetings.

Washfield's Notes included reference to the Isles of Scilly, with its dangers of submerged and part-submerged rocks. Aberfan, and the Torrey Canyon (1967 disasters) were also mentioned.

The youngsters of Oakford had beaten Exmouth to reach the 'Criss-

cross-quiz' final (a regional Bible quiz), though Withleigh had lost out to Lapford in their semi-final.

The lead article in the May magazine (Yes, the magazine was monthly in those days!) concerned the process of selection in our secondary schools, and attitudes to education. [What goes round, comes round?].

The front cover carried the words, "Well done, Oakford", after the young people had won the final of the Bible quiz, winning a cup and a plaque, by beating Lapford 240 - 150.

The Torrey Canyon disaster again featured in May, reference being made in both the Stoodleigh and Loxbeare notes.

Stoodleigh's parishioners were also concerned about the possibility that Bishops would no longer have the final say on C of E matters, including doctrine.

'Templeton Tales' looked at churches named 'Temple'.

Paul Iliff

THANK YOU ...

We would like to say a big "Thank you" to the members of the Exe Valley Mission Community for the beautiful bouquet and most generous cheque presented to us at the February Group Service in Withleigh. We have gained the impression that everyone present at the Service knew what was happening – apart from us!

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

CALVERLEIGH

We are pleased to have been able to serve the Exe Valley Mission Community during another vacancy, but it would be wrong not to record our thanks to all who have encouraged and supported us, especially when things dragged on, and the prospect of self-inflicted baldness looked a distinct possibility!

Our grateful thanks are also due to those members of the clergy who willingly helped out during the vacancy (and we are pleased to learn will continue to be involved in the Exe Valley) – without you, covering the pattern of services, month on month, would have been impossible. That is one aspect we are pleased to be able to shed after some 7½ years!

Paul & Elizabeth

NATURE NOTES

Down in the valley, our approach to Spring has been accompanied by the incredible view of Venus in the evening sky, and constant visits of a family of five long tailed tits. It made me reflect on how many memorable sights in Nature are only specific to that time in the calendar.

Immediately one thinks of the flowering of spring bulbs but my observations and experience often deviate from the accepted norm. For example, I have often drifted home on an early Summer evening and heard my first cuckoo of the year but to say it was ‘the first cuckoo of Spring’ would be an exaggeration. Similarly,

I have never seen hares boxing in March when their liveliness is associated with the start of the breeding season.

In the shelter of the lanes of Devon, the seasons can be out of kilter with the rest of the world. Saxifrage and cleavers have been busily colonising the banks from as early as January. However, I would like to promote one sight that is pending [but I accept may not be to everyone’s taste] and that is the arrival of the St Mark’s fly – so named because they will indeed emerge for the feast day of the saint [25 April]. The males are a shiny, sinister black but their long legs and thus strange flight paths, like drones with broken undercarriages, make them instantly recognisable as they swarm in the lane. Unfortunately they do this at head height, so you have a choice to either limbo dance under, or walk through with a tightly closed mouth. You can guarantee that it will be a lovely fine day because, if your lifetime in flight is restricted to seven days, you do well to choose good weather.

I am reminded of a sermon from childhood. The priest invited the congregation to marvel at the wonder of creation and to contrast the immensity of the universe with the exquisite detail of smaller components. Children were asked to imagine how difficult it must have been to design and fix the legs on a fly. Thus in our household, any task that demands concentration and fine detail, is forever referred to as a “fly’s leg job”.

Thomas More

Firstly, we would like to start by saying a huge “Thank you” to Paul and Elizabeth for all their hard work in keeping the Mission Community running smoothly before, during and following the interregnum. We wish you both a long and happy “retirement”.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Gordon Ferris, who was known to a great many people in and around the local and wider area. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family and friends of Gordon and also with all who mourn the loss of a loved one.

It was good to hear that after several cancelled operations, Derek Herniman was able to have his hip done. He is now at home recovering and itching to get out and about properly. Our very best wishes go to him and all those who have had a spell in hospital, been feeling unwell recently, are recovering from treatment or recuperating and are on the mend. Our prayers are also with all those who are awaiting or receiving treatment at this time.

Coming up...

This year we will be holding a special Meditation and Worship Service on Good Friday at 3pm, in addition to our Easter Sunday Holy Communion Service at 9.30am.

The APCM will be held on Tuesday 18 April at 7.30pm in the church. Anyone can come along, whether you're on the PCC or not.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

The church Spring Clean will take place on Saturday 22 April, starting at 9am. If you are able to spare a little of your time during the morning, please bring a bucket, mop and cleaning cloth. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided, of course.

Our Annual Day of Prayer will take place on Saturday 27 May from 9am - 9pm. To join in, simply select a half hour time slot of your choice and pray wherever you feel most comfortable. A list of times will be available on the font at the back of the church in the weeks leading up to the event. Please contact Aubrey Goldsworthy or Jackie Herniman for more information.

On Sunday 11 June we will be holding our Open Air Service at 3pm. Last year we had to hold it indoors, so we are praying that God will give us better weather this year, so that we are able to enjoy the tranquillity and beauty of the churchyard. Music will once again be provided by special guests Ad-Lib.

Advanced Notice: The Duck Race will be held on Saturday 27 May, starting at 3pm from Lurley Bridge. This year the proceeds will be split between Calverleigh Church and Hospiscare. Prizes will be presented in the Village Hall after the race where, as usual, refreshments will be available. Ducks are available from members of the Church Council. Sponsors are welcome and they will have a large duck with their name on, floating down the stream.

Mowing Rota

3 / 15 Apr: Mr A Goldsworthy
17 / 29 Apr: Mr D White

1 / 13 May: Mr K Hayes
15 / 27 May: The Webber Family
29 / 10 Jun: Mr C Durnan

Church Cleaning Rota

27 Mar / 8 Apr: Mrs J Goldsworthy
10 / 22 Apr: Mrs A Webber
24 / 6 May: Mrs R Tapp
8 / 20 May: Mrs S Greenslade
22 / 3 Jun: Mrs J Goldsworthy

Altar Flower Rota

2 / 9 Apr: Mrs L Thomas
16 / 23 Apr: Mrs D Hopper
30 Apr / 7 May: Ms L Carrey
14 / 21 May: Mrs R Tapp
28 May / 4 Jun: Mrs M Furneaux

If anyone would like to be included on the church cleaning or mowing rotas, please contact Aubrey Goldsworthy on 01884 255248. Any more offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Have we missed anything? If there is something 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

MOTHERING SUNDAY is on 26th March, the Service is at 11am,

with posies for the children to take home for their Mothers.

Our new Rector Steph Jeffs is now at home in the Withleigh Vicarage. Home visits by the Rector can be arranged by ringing her number on Page 2, which you also use to make appointments to go and see her. Special services can be accommodated. We are encouraged to use the website which is to be activated.

A new Baptism Service Sheet is now available.

Services for April

2 April 6.30pm Evening Prayer

9 April PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION
Follow the Donkey, from the Parish Hall to the Church, enacting the triumphal entry into Jerusalem by Jesus on a donkey, HOSANNA they cried. We will leave the car park at 10.45am. For everyone, young, very young and old alike. Palms will be provided to spread before the donkey. Children please feel free to dress up appropriately; shepherds, wise men or what ever you would like. If you have a hobby horse do bring him along to ride behind the donkey, and then be blessed in the church. It will be nice to have as many as possible with us, if young children would like to take part or you have any inquiries please contact me, Sonia, 01363 866864. There will be refreshments after the Service.

16 APRIL EASTER SUNDAY 11.00am Holy Communion

23 April GROUP SERVICE taken by the Rector, at 10.30am in Cruwys Morchard.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

5 April CLUSTER SERVICE, at 10.30am, also taken by Steph. Check middle pages for venue. A Cluster Service is one for three parishes in the group. Our Cluster is Cruwys Morchard, Templeton and Withleigh. The service is at 10.30am.

Services for May

Check the middle pages for 7 / 14 / 21

28 May GROUP SERVICE 10.30am taken by the Rector in Stoodleigh

COMMUNITY LUNCH - Wednesday 10 May from 12noon to 2.30pm.

A hot two course lunch, free to all and all ages, bring a bottle if you wish, soft drinks provided, raffle and lots of chat! We are always glad to have helpers if you would like. Please ring Sonia on 01363 866864 to book your place and tell us about any dietary requirements or transport needs. There will be another Community Lunch for parishioners on Wednesday 18 October 2017.

Church Fete Saturday 8 July, 12noon-3.00pm. With a Dog Show, two rings, Pedigree and Fun.

Christmas Fayre Saturday 11 November, 10.30am-1.30pm.

The Ladies Committee, which is a fund raising committee for the church events, would love to have more members with fresh ideas, we meet in people's houses, about four times a year. Do come and join us, ring Diana on 860227.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

March 27 and 3 April - Ann Gillbard and Judith Taylor
April 10 - Decorations for Easter

April 17 and 24 - Denyse Standen and Jo Hilton

May 1 and 8 - Vine Spragg
May 15 and 22 - Diana Vincent and Val Randerson

May 29 and 5 June - Marian Kingdom

Mowing Rota for 2017

April - Guy Cruwys
May - Peter Lake and Diana Vincent
June - Steve Guscott
July - The Berrys
August - Les Tosdevin
September - The Notleys

The Churchyard

Any volunteers to help with the mowing please? It involves mowing the new yard and the paths in the old churchyard about once a week for a month, depending upon the weather and growth of grass, or less if you cannot make a full month. It is so nice that many parishioners are looking after their graves so well and lovingly but please could you take your water bottles away with you as they do not look very nice in the banks and could get in the way of the mowers.

The graveyard entrance is sometimes difficult and, although it has hardcore on one side of the gateway, it is very steep. There is a small gate at the western (Parish Hall) end of the yard, and also through the Lych Gate and then the path up the middle of the old yard, either of which can be used.

We are to have a Flower/Scarecrow Festival on 3 / 4 June, co-ordinated by Pauline Guscott.

Please see Flyer/letter put inside your magazine or ask Pauline on 866754. For everyone to join in.

The Annual Flower Show will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 12 August. This year is our 80th Anniversary. Please take a look at our schedule, as we have many new classes this year. We would like to welcome and encourage new exhibitors, to ensure we have another great show. The buckets are now available for children, under 16, who would like to grow their own potato. Any questions, or help with exhibiting your entries, please contact Pauline Guscott 07968 101121 or email. pauline.8@hotmail.co.uk

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers Club

took part in the Exe Valley Group Entertainments Competition and came second. On the same day, Jake Henson and Jake Hill won the Best Male Actors Cup, Jess Parkhouse won Junior Member of the Year, Jake Henson came third and Layla Hill came fourth in the Senior Member of the Year. Well done to all those members who took part. An excellent day was had by all and congratulations on bringing home some silverware!! The Club then did a re-run of their Entertainments "Countryside Capers" with Witheridge YFC at The New Hall, Tiverton; thank you to all those people who attended.

Two Bingos have been held; January and February making a huge profit of over £500.00. The Club is holding a Tractor Run on Sunday 2nd July - look out for posters advertising this.

Anyone interested in becoming a young farmer, please come along to our meetings held at The Parish Hall on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

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New Creation News

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... Jesus said "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" ...
(John Ch. 20 v. 21)

This is such a very special time of year.

As we continue through Lent and prepare for Easter,
the wonderful celebration of our Lord's Death and Resurrection,
may we challenge you to think how
you may share with others the events recorded in the Bible.

For example:

If you still have cards or gifts to buy please do come in and look for ways in which
you can proclaim this joyous Easter story, helping to bring the receiver closer to God

When you give Easter Eggs, give the Fair Trade REAL EASTER EGG,
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It contains a new illustrated version of the Easter story,
a high quality milk chocolate egg, and a 25g Yummie Bar
- all at last year's price of £3.99!

Also available is the Real Easter Egg Hunt Box (6 x 20g each egg) for £5 and the Real
Easter Egg Special Edition (200g), with an orange milk choc. bar, for £8.50. We also
have bags of mini eggs @ £4.50 and 'Shaun the Sheep' chocolate lollies, 2 for £3.20.

An opportunity for the Summer Term.

New Creation is part of the 'Speaking Volumes' outreach in the area. Churches or
individuals can place quality Christian Books and DVDs in schools, libraries, rest
homes, day centres etc. for half the usual cost. Already a £200 grant has been given
to a local 'Messy Church'. Further orders may be placed through us. Applications
need to be in by the end of April for their May Funding Consideration. More
information may be had from Val or Penny in the shop, where there are pamphlets
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A cheese scone with apple, cheese and pickle and a cup of tea, coffee or squash.
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Our Easter Break

The shop will be closed for the weekend on Friday 14th, Saturday 15th,
Sunday 16th
and Monday 17th April, re-opening on Tuesday 18th April at 09.30am

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Cruwys Arms Gardeners. Our
meeting on Wednesday 1 March
there were only five of us but we had
plenty to discuss about our gardens.
The next meeting is to be on
Wednesday 5 April when we hope to
choose a garden for our Summer visit
and to talk about the plans we have
for our gardens this summer.

YOGA continues on Thursday
mornings at 10.00am-11.30am.

Pennymoor Congregational Church

Services at 4.30pm followed by tea.
Family service in North Street
Pennymoor

On 1st, 2nd and 4th Sunday
3rd Sunday Way Village Chapel
2.30pm.

PARISH EVENTS

Saturday April 8 Di and Dave's
Spring Quiz, 7.30pm prompt

Saturday April 29 Bingo for Hall
funds and 200 Club Draw

Sunday May 19 YFC Big Breakfast
9.00am-1.00pm

Saturday May 27 Bingo 8.00pm

Our sympathy goes to Sue Hodnett
and her family upon the very sad
death of her Mother, Gill Lyon who
lived in Puddington. They are having
a memorial service for Gill in
Puddington on Wednesday 5 April.

Our love and prayers go to all who
are unwell at this time and those
recovering from operations. Get well
soon.

Visit the website on
www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

LOXBEARE

At the time of writing we are seeing signs of Spring with many plants & shrubs beginning to flower and the promise of warmer, drier days to look forward to!

As Easter will soon be here may we reflect on Jesus' death, celebrate his Resurrection and give thanks for his great love to us. There will be no Good Friday Service at Loxbeare this year but do come and join us on Easter Sunday. This Service will be at 11am and will be taken by our Rector.

The February Family Service was taken by Ron with Linda, doing a talk on 'The Good Shepherd' with activities for the children. We were reminded how Jesus is our Good Shepherd, who looks after us and is with us always.

Mothering Sunday will also be our Family Service for March in the Village Hall, starting with a Full English Breakfast from 9.00am. Service to commence at approx 10.30am.

It is with great sadness we learned that Claudine Lear passed away on 7 March. Our love, sympathy and prayers are with Michael and all the family, at this sad time.

Our sympathy and prayers are also with Muriel, Margery, Wendy & Family on the sudden death of Gordon Ferris at the end of January. Gordon was born in Leightown, Loxbeare and lived there for most of his life, moving to Tiverton for the past approximately

twenty years. He started work at Fulfords for Mr Bob Hill and then went to St Bridget's Nurseries before starting his own Landscaping Business. He attended Loxbeare Church, was on the PCC and secretary for a time. He cut the Churchyard for many years and joined in the Village community.

Our thoughts and prayers are especially with Derek McManus, Trish Bending, Steve Troake and any others who are unwell.

The Woman's Bible Study Group continues to meet at Christine's in Churchill House Loxbeare. All Ladies welcome. Contact Marion for dates and more details on 01884 256302.

The Village Party in January was enjoyed by all who came - with quite an age range! Thank you to Ron and Margaret for organising the event.

3 April NB Change of date from 10 April Easter Bingo 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Carol on 01884 881480.
8 April Cream Tea in the Village Hall 3-5pm.

5 May Progressive meal. Details to be decided. Contact Richard Vickery on 01884 881234

Loxbeare Ladies Dates:
4 April a trip to Northcott Theatre to see Northanger Abbey.

8 May A get-together at 'Old Barn' Loxbeare by kind invitation of Margaret Tidball. Phone Margaret on 01884 881362.

OAKFORD

On 20 January relations and friends filled St Peter's to give thanks for the life of Mike Boynton. The Rev'd Ian Johnson led an uplifting Service and the tribute was read by Mike and Wendy's eldest son, Tim, who spoke of his father's varied interests and achievements and a working life that had required him to live in many different countries. After coming to settle in Oakford in 1994, Mike pursued a quieter life but still kept busy looking after his land, delighting in his grandchildren and devoting his time to service in the church. The reading chosen by Wendy and read by Steph (1 Corinthians Chapter 13 verses 4-13) offered encouragement to all, especially those trying to follow Mike's example in service to St Peter's: There is nothing love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope and its endurance.

Wendy sends heartfelt thanks to all those who have shown support with visits, cards and letters. The love expressed has been of great comfort.

The Devonshire Society of Bell Ringers visited St Peter's on 4 February and rang a very special peal of 5088 changes taking 3 hours 6 minutes and named it the Boynton Surprise Major in memory of Mike. They returned on 2 March to present a plaque to Wendy for display in the church, commemorating the event.

On 31 January the church was full again for the funeral of Alex Millage, aged 35 and chef at The Red Lion, who died following a tragic drowning



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PARISH ROUND-UP

accident in Torquay. Many members of the community, along with friends who had travelled from far and wide, came together to pay their last respects. Alex's mother, Suzie, gave a moving tribute to her only son and there was a retiring collection for the benefit of Alfie, Alex's 4-year old son.

Thirty eight people attended the public meeting in church called by the PCC on 22 February to discuss how best St Peter's can serve the needs of Oakford in the future. A questionnaire was circulated and following a brief overview of the current situation by a member of the PCC, attendees were invited to ask questions and give their view. No conclusions were drawn but the PCC will meet to discuss the findings and present recommendations at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 11 April at 7.30pm in church. This meeting is open to all.

Dates for the diary:

All are welcome to the informal Pause for Prayer which takes place every Thursday at 9.30am in the back of the church. Tea/coffee provided. Drop in and join in.

Defibrillator training: 1 April 10am – 12 noon, Village Hall. Open to all.

Rejoice and enjoy the Easter morning Holy Communion celebration 16 April at 10.30am when the church will be beautifully decorated. The Rev'd Canon Jane Wilson will officiate. Stay on for tea, coffee and possibly something chocolatey after the service.

Moorland Club: 13 April at 7.30pm AGM to be followed by a Beetle Drive. 11 May at 7.00pm talk on Guide Dogs

by David Botsford (and furry friends) from Bampton. Meet in Village Hall.

St George's Day get together in the church on Saturday 22nd April from 2.30pm. Come along, enjoy a delicious tea and browse a few stalls.

Village Fete: keep the date 24 June. Offers of help to: kelvinholdom@btinternet.com

RACKENFORD

As this went to print the first day of Spring had arrived, so I hope we are all enjoying pleasant weather and the joys of the spring flowers in and around our village.

A warm welcome to the new occupants of No 8 Meadow View and also to Jeff and Nancy Brennan at High Barn Farm. We really hope you will enjoy being with us.

The Auction of Promises to help raise the rest of the money towards the new school classroom will be held at Rackenford Club on Friday 12 May at 7.30pm. If you would like to come, would you please let Helen Hyland know on 01884881386 or rackenfordhelen@gmail.com or Mandy Lewry in school.

A pledge can range from a night's glamping - to a load of logs or a days digging, whatever you would like to pledge. We would also be very glad of any raffle prizes. We look forward to seeing you and having an entertaining and profitable evening together.

We were very saddened to hear of the death of Peter Turpin, who once lived at The Old Forge. We send our deepest sympathy to his children Sarah, Emma, Annabel and Matthew, at this sad and difficult time.

Our thoughts and best wishes to Rosemary Dart who is in hospital recovering from an operation after an accident at home. We continue to remember and pray for all who are not well or receiving treatment, Muriel Blinman, Joan Clark, Peter Reynolds, Jacques Cann, Mike Lane, and Cyril Blackford and to all who we have not heard about.

Our Mothering Sunday Service is on 26 March when we look forward to the children bringing their Mums to church to receive posies from them and thanking them for all the love and care they give to our families. A very special Service, which will be taken by Rev Steph Jeffs.

Eyes down for Bingo !!! Bingo will be held at Rackenford Club on Thursday 20 April, and Thursday 11 May at 7.30pm. Look forward to seeing you all again.

The Church AGM will be on 19 April at 7pm, when you will be most welcome to attend.

Our Sponsored Walk will be on 10 June more details later but please contact Liz Paxton on 01884881331 if you need information.

Many thanks to Herbert Smith and Mary Cann and all who contribute to the Services they take for us. This is much appreciated.

continued on Page 12 ➔

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LENT AND HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

29 March	6.30pm	Lent Meditation	Washfield
5 April	6.30pm	Lent Meditation	Templeton
10 April	6.30pm	Journey to the Cross	Loxbeare
11 April	6.30pm	Anointed with perfume	Oakford
12 April	6.30pm	Betrayed by a friend	Witleigh
13 April	7.00pm	A meal shared together	Templeton Village Hall

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 Hallowed be Thy name;
 Thy kingdom come;
 Thy will be done;
 On earth, as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 And forgive us our trespasses;
 As we forgive those who
 trespass against us;
 And lead us not into temptation;
 But deliver us from evil;
 For Thine is the kingdom,
 The power and the glory,
 For ever and ever. Amen

14 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY

WITHLEIGH
 10.30 am Informal Service
 Village Hall

TEMPLETON
 11 am Easter Garden Service
Steph Jeffs

CALVERLEIGH
 3 pm Quiet Meditation
 and Worship

4 JUNE PENTECOST OAKFORD GROUP SERVICE

**10.30 am
Holy Communion**
Steph Jeffs
 (Maybe wear something red)

2 APRIL 5 of Lent

CALVERLEIGH
 No Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD
 6.30 pm Evening Prayer

LOXBEARE
 6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD
 9.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD
 9.30 am Morning Praise

STOODLEIGH
 11 am Family Service
Steph Jeffs

TEMPLETON
 11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD
 9 am Holy Communion
Steph Jeffs

WITHLEIGH
 10.30 am Family Service

9 APRIL PALM SUNDAY

CALVERLEIGH
 11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD
 10.45 am Family Service
 with Donkey

LOXBEARE
 10.30 am Family Service
 with Donkey

OAKFORD
 9.30 am Family Service

RACKENFORD
 11 am Holy Communion

STOODLEIGH
 6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON
 No Service

WASHFIELD
 6.30pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH
 9.30am Holy Communion
Steph Jeffs

16 APRIL EASTER DAY

CALVERLEIGH
 9.30 am Holy Communion

CRUWYS MORCHARD
 11 am Holy Communion

LOXBEARE
 11 am Holy Communion
Steph Jeffs

OAKFORD
 10.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD
 9.30 am Holy Communion

STOODLEIGH
 11 am Holy Communion

TEMPLETON
 9.45 am Holy Communion
Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD
 11 am Holy Communion

WITHLEIGH
 8.30 am Holy Communion
Steph Jeffs
 10.30 am Family Service

**23 APRIL
2 of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

See Cruwys Morchard

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Jeffs

LOXBEARE

See Cruwys Morchard

OAKFORD

See Cruwys Morchard

RACKENFORD

See Cruwys Morchard

STOODLEIGH

See Cruwys Morchard

TEMPLETON

See Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD

See Cruwys Morchard

WITHLEIGH

See Cruwys Morchard

**30 APRIL
3 Of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

See Loxbeare

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11.15 am CLUSTER SERVICE

followed by Parish Lunch

Steph Jeffs

LOXBEARE

10.30 am CLUSTER SERVICE

OAKFORD

See Rackenford

RACKENFORD

9.30 am CLUSTER SERVICE

Steph Jeffs

STOODLEIGH

See Rackenford

TEMPLETON

See Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD

See Loxbeare

WITHLEIGH

See Cruwys Morchard

**7 MAY
4 of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion
by Extension

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Praise

STOODLEIGH

11 am Family Service

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD

10.30 am Holy Communion

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

**14 MAY
5 of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Service

OAKFORD

9.30 am Family Service

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

STOODLEIGH

11 am Holy Communion

TEMPLETON

No Service

WASHFIELD

10.30 am Morning Praise

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

**21 MAY
6 of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

6.30 pm Evening Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE

9.30 am Holy Communion

OAKFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

Steph Jeffs

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Morning Praise
with Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Family Service

Steph Jeffs

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

**28 MAY
7 of Easter**

CALVERLEIGH

See Stoodleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Stoodleigh

LOXBEARE

See Stoodleigh

OAKFORD

See Stoodleigh

RACKENFORD

See Stoodleigh

STOODLEIGH

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Jeffs

TEMPLETON

See Stoodleigh

WASHFIELD

See Stoodleigh

WITHLEIGH

See Stoodleigh

FROM STEPH

PARISH ROUND-UP



PRAYER DIARY THY KINGDOM COME Pledge2Pray 9 4 9

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

The hope is that:

people will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family; churches will hold prayer events, across the UK and in other parts of the world; people will be empowered through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Thy Kingdom Come 2017 has just been launched by Archbishop Justin and we are being encouraged as Christians, from across our traditions and denominations to come together specific focus of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost. Find out more from www.thykingdomcome.global

Bishop Robert has filmed a special message for our Diocese – <http://exeter.anglican.org/bishop-robert-thy-kingdom-come>

This year, prayer boxes will go out to every church in the county, to collect peoples' prayers. They will be brought back to a big event at Pentecost in Exeter Cathedral at 6.30pm with Bishop Sarah, to which everybody is invited.

Growing in prayer is the first priority of the new diocesan vision and we are praying for more people to know God's love for them. In his video message on the diocesan website, where he encourages communities to get involved, Bishop Robert said: "This is a special time dedicated to renewing the life of prayer in our churches. As I am going around the Diocese, one of the priorities I am talking about is the importance of us growing in prayer and so I am asking people to come together and pray together in creative and imaginative ways for their communities."

In response to this, I am suggesting that as a Mission Community, and as individuals we Pledge2Pray 9 4 9. Every day at 9.00am and 9.00pm between Ascension and Pentecost I am asking that we "stop" in our 9 parishes and pray for 4 people, countries, issues, friends – or whatever is on our hearts. Prayer boxes will be given out, nearer the time. When we come together to celebrate Pentecost at Oakford on 4 June, we will bring our prayer boxes, before the event in the evening, at the Cathedral.

More details in the next Issue.

Also continued thanks to Glenn Hookins for winding our church clock, it means a lot to us all.

On Saturday 15 April we will be decorating the church for Easter from 10am. If you would like to help or if you would rather bring flowers or foliage that would be a great help.

STOODLEIGH

March came in like a lion, with a succession of storms, some of which tried to fool us by adopting friendly names like Doris. We had high winds (we lost one of the big old ash trees across the field from the church a few weeks ago) and plenty of good Devon rain to put a squelch under our boots. But this is always a month of hope and promise, and we look forward to seeing it 'go out like a lamb'.

Ash Wednesday fell on 1 March and a Group Service was held that (stormy) evening here at Stoodleigh. It was Holy Communion with Ashes, taken by Steph. It was good to see the return of this moving service which marks the beginning of Lent and we were delighted to welcome so many from the Exe Valley Mission Community. Perhaps suitably, the church was pretty cold!

Steph will be with us for our Family Service on 2 April at 11am and for another Group Service at Stoodleigh on 28 May at 10.30am.

Over the Winter we replaced the monthly Evensong with Morning Prayer but now that the days are lengthening and it is getting warmer,

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DOIVE DESIGNS

PARISH ROUND-UP

we will be reinstating 6.30pm Evensong. The first one will be on Palm Sunday (9 April) and Steph will be joining us for the Evensong on 21 May.

The Winter months have been very quiet but there are plenty of plans for the rest of the year.

Dates of all events will be on www.exevalleychurches.org as well as the Stoodleigh website.

Currently firm dates are:

Saturday 12 August, Dog Show, always popular, a joint event with the Parish Hall.

Monday 28 August, Ploughmans Lunch.

Monday 2 October, Harvest Supper with a difference – skittles!

Saturday 9 December, Christmas Fayre.

Another important event, though not church-related, is Stoodleigh Village Day, which will be on Saturday 10 June.

Parish Hall events

Saturday 15 April: Stoodleigh Easter Market & Coffee Morning, 10am-12 in the Hall. Local businesses and craft-makers offering goods for sale, as well as books, cakes, veg, community plant stall and coffee, tea and cakes. Free entry. To book a table or for more information ring 01398 351391.

Saturday 8 July: Breakfast, walking and lunch – another chance to explore some of the Stoodleigh footpaths, bridleways and lanes, with refreshments at the Hall before and afterwards.

Regular Saturday Book & Coffee mornings, weekly classes and monthly Board Game afternoons – for details see the Stoodleigh website at

<https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/stoodleigh>

Parish Hall cleaning – we are looking for some help with cleaning the Hall. Are you free for two/three hours a month or at times to be arranged? Or do you know someone who would be interested? Please call Geraldine on 01398 351391 to discuss.

Stoodleigh Working Action Group SWAG held a successful Skittles and Ploughman's event recently at the Parish Hall and is pleased to report that over £400 was raised for Mary's Meals, a charity helping to provide food and education to hungry children in some of the world's poorest communities.

SWAG is organising some summer trips. The first, on Tuesday 20 June, is a day out over Exmoor with stops at various venues for sightseeing and refreshments. Travel will be by car share. If you are interested, please ring Margaret 351252, or Geraldine 351391.

The second is a musical, Sister Act, at Plymouth Theatre Royal, starring Alexandra Burke and directed by Craig Revel Horwood, from 3-15 July. Please contact Margaret or Geraldine, on the numbers above, as soon as possible if you would like to join in.

Stoodleigh Inn

Lizzie and Mike have been busy making improvements at the Inn, with new patio doors leading to a new garden terrace. "There are views towards the Sidmouth Gap – or so I'm

told," Lizzie says. "Just right for a summer drink." Another innovation is opening on Mondays from 1pm until 5, with simple lunches for a fiver. Bar meals are always available. "We have had a busy 12 months and we've seen a lot of new faces. But our regular users are the backbone here and their loyalty is greatly appreciated."

Stoodleigh 100 Club: Prizewinners for January – 1 Phil Talbot, 2 Di Honnor, 3 Alistair Morison, 4 Lesley Ayre; February – 1 Phil Bird, 2 Pat Robinson, 3 Betty Wotton, 4 Jennifer Ayre.

Church Flower Rota

16 April Easter flowers, all help please.

30 April, 7 May Betty Wotton

14, 21 May Enid Hamidullah

28 May, 4 June Geraldine Talbot

TEMPLETON

Spring has sprung! at least amongst the flowers:- daffodils, primroses, tulips, irises and hopefully bluebells soon - even if the weather doesn't keep up at times. Spring means new growth, warmth and hope following darkness and death in nature during the winter months. This similarly mirrors the message of Easter.

Our Easter Garden Service on Good Friday 14 April at 11.00am speaks of the historical and theological death of Christ, while our Easter Sunday Service on 16 April at 9.45am, sees a risen Christ bringing new life, hope

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

and joy to all. We look forward to seeing you then.

There is now a new heating system in the Village Hall and normal service will be resumed.

follows a long tradition - with decorated eggs being judged in the church porch at 10 am, (if wet in the Hall) followed by the fun of rolling them down the hill opposite the hall! Coffee and hot cross buns will be on hand, cakes and plants will be on sale, and, of course, there will be a mammoth Easter Draw! Our celebration of Easter Day is at 11am.

We have just produced a coloured booklet about the history of our church and an explanation of what you see around you in St Margaret's. They are to be found on the table by the door. We hope you will buy one when you next visit, as the money will go towards the upkeep of the church.

Flower & Cleaning Rota:

Teresa Pancherz
(cleaning only) 2/ 9 April
Lynda Newnes
(Easter Day) 16 / 23 April
Jan Heptinstall 30 April / 7 May
Ginah Palmer 14 / 21 May
Jukie Dent 28 May / 4 June

Having just said that, our church is in crisis. If you did not get a flyer in your magazine, this is what it said:

We send our sincere sympathy to Margaret May whose mother died in February. Margaret and Chris are faithful supporters of St. Mary's and our thoughts are with them and their family.

* * * * *

St Margaret's Church Templeton

CRUNCH TIME!

Decisions have to be made about the future of the church at Templeton. In one year's time there will be no Churchwarden and only a very small congregation.

WASHFIELD

With Spring in mind :~
Your mind is a garden,
your thoughts are the seeds.
You can grow flowers
or you can grow weeds !

The church was represented at a wonderful Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Dorothy at the Baptist Church, Tiverton.

So, what are the OPTIONS?

1. The church closes.
2. The church becomes a Festival only church.
3. More people attend, a Churchwarden is found and St Margaret's continues in its present form.

Spring is here and we hope all of you who have been attacked by nasty viruses are feeling better and are looking forward to Easter. We have heard of several parishioners who have had coughs, colds and chest infections recently, along with other ailments, including Joe Elston who spent a few days in hospital with sepsis. We are glad that you are home now, Joe, and recovering. We wish everyone who has been feeling unwell a speedy recovery.

We send our love and congratulations to Anne Moore on her 'special' Birthday. We wish her happy celebrations and we thank her for all the many things she does for our community as a whole. Happy Birthday, Anne!

This is an Historic moment for Templeton. Please attend the Annual Parish Church Meeting on Wednesday 5 April at 7.45pm in Templeton Village Hall, to hear more and voice your opinion.

Please see details of the various Services and events during Lent and especially Holy Week, when Steph has arranged for the whole Mission Community to be together as much as possible. We will be gathered in Washfield on 29 March at 6.30 pm. This year we can join with Calverleigh at a quiet service on Good Friday at 3pm. Easter Saturday in Washfield

The Hall Committee held its AGM on 6 March when several guests joined with the committee for the Annual Meeting followed by light refreshments. Two new members were voted onto the committee and it was a productive meeting. The Joint Events group reported that several fund-raising opportunities were being arranged. See the details in the "Dates for your diary" and watch out for posters and updates on the village website and Facebook (Humans of Washfield and Lower Washfield). Also planned is a Washfield in Bloom Competition: Entry £3.00 including trough. Pick up your trough planter from Tony and

* * * * *

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Ann Roberts. Sow your seeds/plant it up ready to bring back to the village by late June for the Summer and in time for the Church Fete on 1 July.

We extend many congratulations to Carly and Stuart of School House on the birth of their daughter, Ruby, a lovely little sister for Harrison. Many good wishes to you all.

Our sincere congratulations too, go to Jasmine and Mike Welch on the birth of their daughter, Freya, a baby sister for Seren and second grandchild for Julian and Marianne.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 11 April teatime@thehall from 3pm. Drop in for unlimited tea, cakes, smiles and friendship and a round of cards or jigsaw challenge.

Thursday 13 April W.I. in hall 7.30 Games Night.

Saturday 15 April Flower arrangements to church please for Easter service

Saturday 15 April Egg Decorating and Rolling competitions. In church porch 10am. Classes for all ages. Please come along.

Saturday 15 April Coffee Morning on Easter Saturday (for church funds) following the Egg Decorating & Rolling. Your help and support will be very much appreciated to stock the stalls - including cakes, produce and plants, Easter-themed raffle, Coffee and teas with Hot Cross buns. All welcome.

Saturday 15 April Games and skittles evening at the Social Club – from 8.30 pm

Thursday 20 April Lunch Club in Hall 12 for 12.30pm

Saturday 22 April Musical evening 'Music, bangers and burgers' at the

Club. An open mic format where any budding musicians/singers can come along to make music for the assembled listeners in a relaxed atmosphere – from 8.30 pm.

Monday 1 May May Day Party on the Green with Maypole, Morris dancers, cream teas/cakes and more. Details are to still be confirmed but a jolly atmosphere is a definite - whatever the day brings!

Tuesday 9 May teatime@thehall from 3pm

Thursday 11 May W.I. in hall 7.30 - AGM and resolutions meeting

Thursday 25 May Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30pm

Saturday 3 June Car Treasure Hunt from 4.30pm with cream teas

Saturday 17 June TBC 'The Great Get Together' (in memory of Jo Cox) at Hatherland Mill with kind permission of Richard and Alison Bunning. A day of games, teas, river swimming and fun, fun, fun!

Altar Flower Rota

April 2/9 LENT
 April 16/23 Mrs Ellis
 April 30/May 7 Mrs Lewis
 May 14/21 Mrs Tobey
 May 28/June 4 Mrs A Balment

Cleaning Rota

April 3/10 Mr & Mrs Walton
 April 17/24 Mr & Mrs Parnell
 May 1/8 Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
 May 15/22 Mrs Albery
 May 29/June 5 Mr & Mrs Ellis

We don't often ask for help but we would be so grateful for anyone who could go on the Church Cleaning Rota. Age is catching up with several of us and we could do with some young blood !!

WITHLEIGH

Our churchyard, once again, is adorned with snowdrops, crocuses, primroses and daffodils telling us Spring is on its way.

We would like to thank Brenda for leading the Plough Sunday Service. Thanks also go to members of Withleigh Young Farmers Club for carrying the plough in and out of Church, and taking part in the Service. It is good to have this traditional Service in our Church.

On 24 January, a Service of Celebration for the life of Emma Headon took place in our Church, followed by interment in the Churchyard. Emma and Jim attended services here, especially Harvest Festival, until Emma's ill health prevailed.

It was good to welcome everyone to the Group Service led by Steph in our Church on 26 February. Steph presented flowers and a cheque to Paul and Elizabeth from the Group at this Service, for all the invaluable work they carried out as Administrators during the vacancy. Enjoy - Paul and Elizabeth!

We send our sympathy to Andy and Fiona Bladen and family on the death of Andy's mother, June. She had lived with Andy and Fiona for a while, and had attended our Women's Institute meetings and functions in the Village Hall.

Our Easter Beetle Drive will be on Saturday 8 April, at 7.30pm in the

continued overleaf ➔

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Village Hall. All are welcome to join us, young or old, or somewhere in-between!! Don't worry if you have never played Beetle before, it is really easy, and we would be more than willing to show you the ropes, so to speak! If you need more information please call Duncan 252949 or Brenda 252431.

Wednesday 12 April will see St Catherine's turn to host a Holy Week service, beginning at 6.30pm.

Our Easter Services are as follows:
 Good Friday - An Informal Service, beginning with coffee and hot cross buns, in the Village Hall, 10.00am - 11.30am. Easter Sunday - Holy Communion in the Church at 8.30 am followed by breakfast in the Village Hall, after which there will be a Family Service in Church at 10.30 am. If you feel you would like to join us just for breakfast or attend one or both of the Services, with or without breakfast, please do.

On Saturday 22 April, Paul and Elizabeth are holding a Coffee Morning from 10am - 12 noon at 6, Southfield Way, Tiverton, in support of the Village Hall Roof Fund.

On Monday 24 April there is a Fete planning meeting at Bona Vista at 8pm. Please come along if you are able to offer help, or contact Brenda if you are able to run a stall.

On Sunday 30 April, St Catherine's will host a 'Cluster service', beginning at 11.15am. This will be a double celebration - the feast day of St Catherine (29 April), and 170 years since the opening of our church. The Service will be followed by lunch in

the Village Hall. Contact Brenda for details.

You are invited to join us for a Bluebell Walk followed by Tea, on Sunday 7 May, from 2.30pm onwards. If you prefer, you can just join us for Tea from 3pm onwards. The walk will begin from the Village Hall car park and the Teas will be in the Hall. Proceeds from the walk and the Teas will go to the Village Hall Roof Fund. We are asking for donations for the walk and the Teas will be priced per item.

The Women's Institute are doing well in the W.I. County Skittles Competition, having won matches through to the next round. Good luck as you progress. Also, congratulations on coming second in a Quiz Competition at Broadclyst, being just one point behind joint winners! Withleigh WI meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7.15pm. Guests are always welcome to come along. For more information please ring Rosie 01884 257123.

Thursday 9 March, guest speaker, Jo MacFarlane, on An Introduction to Lace.

Thursday 13 April, guest speaker, Mike Sampson, archivist, on Views on Blundell's School.

Thursday 11 May, AGM and Resolutions at Washfield Village Hall

Congratulations to those celebrating special birthdays or anniversaries.

Get well wishes to all those recovering from operations, receiving treatment, generally unwell from all the nasty viruses around, and to those who mourn their loved ones or feel lonely at this time. Our love and prayers are with you all.

Forthcoming Events:

Sat. 8 April - Beetle Drive in the Village Hall at 7.30pm
 Wed. 12 April - Holy Week service in church at 6.30pm
 Thurs. 13 April - WI in the Hall at 7.15pm.
 Good Friday - Informal Service in the Village Hall, 10-11.30am

Easter Day -
 8.30am Holy Communion,
 9.30am Parish breakfast,
 10.30am Family Service
 Sat. 22 April - Coffee Morning at 6, Southfield Way, Tiverton, 10-12 noon
 Sun. 30 April - 'Cluster' Service at 11.15am, followed by lunch in the village hall. See notes above.
 Sun. 7 May - Bluebell Walk followed by Tea, meet in the Hall Car Park, 2.30pm onwards. See notes above.

Flower Rota:

16 April	EASTER
23 / 30 April	Margaret Gale
7 / 14 May	Michaela Luxton
21 May	Wedding
28 May / 4 June	Linda Taylor

Monthly Diary Dates:

First Thursday - Bingo
 Second Monday - Whist Drive
 Second Thursday - W.I.

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

HOLIDAY CLUB 2017 DRESS REHEARSAL



This year's Holiday Club is called "Dress Rehearsal" which, as the name suggests, has a theatrical theme.

Dress Rehearsal will see us explore and learn about some of the popular Bible stories, including the story of Noah, The Ten Commandments and The Prodigal Son. We do this in a fun way, through craft and physical activities, talks, drama, singing and prayer.

This will all take place in Calverleigh Hall from Wednesday 26 July to Saturday 29 July, 11.15am to 3.30pm. It is for children aged 5 - 11.

The Holiday Club Service and Fun Day will be on Sunday 30 July. This will also be in Calverleigh Hall.

Holiday Club or "Holidays at Home" as it was formerly called, has been running for over 50 years and we would like to make this a celebration year.

In order for us to run Holiday Club, we need plenty of helpers, and this can be as little or as much time as you are able to give. I would like to hear from anyone who is able to help during the week. There is no age limit for helping. Teenagers - if you have been to Holiday Club (or even if you haven't) and would like to help, I will be pleased to hear from you.

All volunteers over 16 need a DBS check. Please do not be put off by this. It is a simple process, which I can do, and it doesn't have to be renewed for 5 years.

More details in the next Magazine.

Please ring Cindy on 01363 866621, if you can help or if you would like more information.

continued overleaf →

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of its readers.

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DEREK RECUPERATES FROM HIS HIP OPERATION.**

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Templeton Trails Cross Country Challenge
Two courses, 5k and 10k
Sunday 9 April

The Templeton Trails will take place this year on Sunday 9th April 2017. Come along for an exciting cross-country fun run. You will get to see parts of the Devon countryside at its glorious best in Spring, for a 5k or 10k run which takes place wholly off the road.

Up hill and down dale, and if you are lucky, through a couple of streams as well!

Last year we had the largest turn-out of runners to date for this event and without exception, they were all very positive about the experience. So come along and help us to make this year bigger & better than ever.

Children up to 16, £3.00. Adults, £4.00. Any surplus goes to charity.

Venue for start and finish: Templeton Village Hall, Temple Cross, Nr Tiverton, EX16 8BJ

Registration from 10.30a.m. Start Time: staggered from 11.00am
For more information contact Exe Valley Rotary Club
Charlotte.Waelde@gmail.com



"...and finally I'm happy to report that decision-making has become much easier following the downsizing of the Church Council."

EASTER SYMBOLS

At Easter it is all bunnies, eggs and lambs in the shops. Why are they symbols of Easter?

One of the oldest Spring symbols in the world is the egg - it promises new life as in Spring, fluffy yellow chicks are hatched from eggs.

The hare was a symbol of the moon and is connected with Easter because the date of Easter depends upon the full moon.

Over time, the hare became a rabbit, because there are more rabbits around than hares!

The lamb represents Jesus and links His death to that of the lamb sacrificed on the first Passover.

Jesus is called "the Lamb of God."

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QUOTATIONS, JOKES AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Thoughts for Everyday
by Patience Strong ~
for 6 April

Every dawn is a miracle.
We wake to life once more.
Every morning is a key
that opens another door.
Every day is a precious gift
that God bestows on you ~
and an opportunity
to prove yourself anew.

KEEP SMILING ...

How do baby hens
dance?

Chick to chick.

Which rabbits were
famous bank
robbers?

Bunny and Clyde!

Why does the chicken
go to the theatre?

For hentertainment

Thoughts for Everyday
by Patience Strong ~
for 16 May

The world is full of clocks
that tick our lives away.
We cannot halt or hold,
the minutes of passing days.
So make the most of every one,
the sunshine and the showers
and fill your heart with
memories
of good and happy hours.

2017 Annual General Meeting of the Exe Valley Market and Community Bus

The Bus Committee AGM is on Tuesday 16th May at 7.30pm in The Stoodleigh Inn. Everyone is very welcome to attend but please telephone the Secretary, Ann Roberts, on 01884 254501 so we can make sure we have enough sandwiches!

Using volunteer drivers it runs each Tuesday and Friday morning from Oakford to Tiverton. To travel on this service, please telephone Colin Radford on 01884 881351 for more details and to reserve your seat.

On Thursdays it runs from Oakford to South Molton or Barnstaple (alternate weeks) via Roachill and Knowstone. The journey to Barnstaple stops at the car park at Moortown Cross enabling passengers from other parishes to pick up the bus there. Ring Phil Sealy on 01398 341404 to book your seat. Concessionary Bus Passes can be used.

It is also available for private hire, ring Ann Roberts on 01884 254501 for details. We also run regular trips on the 1st Wednesday of each month and we do sometimes have spare seats - more information from Judith Govier on 01884 256325.

All details are on our website <http://www.exevalleymarketbus.btck.co.uk>

We would like to thank the volunteer drivers and committee who generously give their time to keep this service running - and most of all to thank our passengers for their loyal support.

If you would like to join us, either as a passenger or a driver, please ring either Colin or Ann.

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