



TODAY

The Parish Magazine for the Exe Valley Mission Community

August - September 2017

Price 50p

WHICH DO YOU WANT FIRST ...

I'm not normally one to feel down or despondent. I'm a pretty chirpy little Rector, most of the time but the news has been depressing. Austerity, calamities and disasters, at home and abroad, along with global uncertainty and provocative outspokenness – from people who should know better. Despite the sunshine of recent days, and even though everything in my own garden is rosy, it's difficult not to feel that just over the proverbial garden wall, all is not well.

Bad news hangs around like a bad smell that you can't quite eliminate.

So, I've been on the quest to find good news. And I have. I have read that the MP Jacob Rees-Mogg and his wife have just called their sixth child Sixtus! Sixtus! Mr and Mrs R-M may well see this as being good news, but I rather suspect that, in a few short years, R-M Junior may well think otherwise. I also understand that Mr R-M would like 12 children, although Mrs R-M has been surprisingly silent on the matter.

There was good news from a couple in Cumbria who lost their two dogs for five days. Despite several days of extensive searching, the dogs could not be found. Their owners decided to try one final thing to find them, and cooked some sausages on the very spot where they had last been seen. Moments later, as if by magic, the smell of sausages flushed the dogs out. 'I could not believe it was them!' the owner was reported as saying. 'They absolutely love sausages. They have them every Sunday for breakfast.'

THE BAD NEWS OR THE GOOD NEWS ??

In addition to all that good news, I have had a bit of good news myself. (Please see Page 10 for details)

Apart from being jolly chuffed and extremely happy, I have been overwhelmed by the love, joy and support I have received from so many people. We have been sent

dozens of cards, received loads of messages, stopped in the street, hugged and kissed and I have even been mistaken for the Bishop! It seems as if good news travels fast and brings with it a 'feel-good factor' and a joy, which is quite infectious and contagious, as well as being deeply humbling.

And in light of all that, it seems strange and slightly puzzling to me that the good news of Jesus is not greeted with the same universal enthusiasm and unreserved happiness. Falling in love and getting married may be fantastic news to me (and hopefully to Robert!), but it is nothing, absolutely nothing, compared with the good news of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the best news in the world, and needs to be celebrated and enjoyed, especially when there is so much bad news out there.

Steph

Please read additional information from Steph on Pages 3, 10, 12 & 13 (in box)

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Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton,
Washfield and Withleigh
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EDITORIAL

The boxes are back on Page 19 !! All your Harvest dates are there but as some of the celebrations spread over a weekend, you'll have to check the Round-ups for times and details.

There has been a great deal of discussion recently about how we can encourage more people to read the magazine. If you don't "do" Church and think it's not for you, you are missing out on so much more to read about than religion and it's a way to discover what is going on in your area - and to check out the adverts.

If you do attend your Church, it is advisable to look at the Middle Pages for details of the Services being held within the Exe Valley - and also read the other information given to us by Steph. She makes sure that we have all the dates and times of everything happening within the two months covered by the current issue - and beyond !! The pages where this info can be found, will always be listed at the end of her article on the front cover.

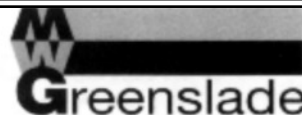
Jenny and Geoff

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STEPH REFLEXE ...

I love the summer. I love the sun and the heat, when we have it. And we have had quite a bit of it lately. The only trouble with it is, that there are certain parts of my anatomy, that for most of the year remain discreetly under wraps, but then are exposed, when the sun comes out. Take the tops of my arms for example. Or bare legs. Or – dare I say it? - my feet! Fond though I am of them, and useful though they are, I have never thought of my feet as being one of my more attractive features. In fact, quite the opposite. To put them out on show requires a fair amount of work, pumicing, creaming, ex-foliating and maybe even, in extreme circumstances, varnishing!

While I was thinking about feet, bare feet, sandaled feet, I was reminded of a beautiful passage from Isaiah, which paints a picture of a royal city, waiting in eager suspense, for good news. A messenger arrives and declares that the king has won the victory and the city shouts for joy.

And that's what we should be doing! Shouting for joy that through King Jesus, God has won the victory over sin and death and everything that brings sorrow and destruction.

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Isaiah 52: 7
(verses 8-10 continue on Page 13)

Steph

FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago August and September, 1967

The Editorial for this issue looked positively at what, then, comprised the Exe Valley Group of nine parishes, three years after it came into being. Though including Morebath, but still no sign of Cruwys Morchard! - "... there is abundant evidence that the nine-partners-marriage has worked". Ours was the first 'grouping' within the Diocese of Exeter, initially experimentally, but the proposal to make it a legal entity led to severe criticism of the 'Right of Patronage'. At one time Patronage could, literally, be bought and sold by individuals and societies, and could result in individuals who had no connection or genuine interest in a Parish, or its people, being able to influence the choice of clergy, and the churchmanship of the Parish.

Patrons didn't even have to be members of the Church of England! "So it is, then, that although the Bishop and our own church officers – wardens and PCC members – wish to secure the East Devon (?) Group, a couple of men who live hundreds of miles away are trying to wreck it. What do they care about Church Fêtes and Holidays at Home? If our children never have the chance to join a youth club; if congregations are small and clergy disheartened, they are not here, to see or care."

On a brighter note, 'Holidays at Home' had brought together more than 200 youngsters, and 100 teenagers in the evenings. The Youth Club regularly attracted 60 members

each week to Washfield, from September to April, and three minibuses were collecting children for Sunday School each week.

Washfield's B.G. wrote, bemoaning the regular appearance of salesmen proffering religious literature, and reluctant to take "no" for an answer. Cold calling is, clearly, nothing new!

M.H.A. wrote about children's attitudes to Nursery Rhymes, and quoting a couple of 'unauthorised versions', which may well be familiar to some:-

"...There came a big spider who drank all the cider, and so the poor dog had none".

"Mary had a little lamb, her father shot it dead, and now it goes to school with her between two chunks of bread"!

Oakford had plans to hold an Autumn Fair. Following a successful outing to Teignmouth, Washfield were planning a coach trip to Plymouth – at a cost of 10/- (50p) for adults! Loxbeare had just held its first Fête for thirteen years.

Paul Iliff

NATURE NOTES

Watching the Natural World on television causes wonder but feels like escapism. Seeing the real thing close to home during a long leisurely Summer is quite different

continued overleaf →



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PARISH ROUND-UP

CALVERLEIGH

Our Annual Day of Prayer took place on 27 May with 30 people taking part. Our thanks go to all who participated but especially to Aubrey and Julie Goldsworthy who arranged the whole thing. We are sure that the power of prayer will prevail.

This was also the day of the Duck Race, which set off just below Lurley Bridge, with a novel use of party poppers by race official Liz Carrey as a starter gun. The lure of water was a great draw for the many children who splashed their way through to the end of the course, in front of the ducks or helped to free ducks that became stuck along the way. Our appreciation go to all who helped and donated with the thrilling race but especially to organisers Geoffrey & Lorna Thomas, Aubrey & Sheila Greenslade and Roland Morrish. The £882.29 raised was split between Calverleigh Church and Hospice Care.

On Saturday 3 June we celebrated the marriage of Natasha Goldsworthy and Marc Gerolimatos, which was conducted by Steph. We wish Tasha and Marc many congratulations as they embark on a long and happy marriage. Thanks to all who had any part in the preparation of the day, especially with the flowers in and around the church. All your hard work and time was greatly appreciated.

Our congratulations also go to Keith and Clare Hayes who were married on 23 June at the Fox and Hounds,

and engenders a feeling of well being. It started on an evening in apple blossom time when the pollinating insects made me stop and watch. I presume others have experienced the calmness this induces. The gentle and low hum of activity is less hectic than later in the year, and the promise of things to come or perhaps the pleasure of watching others work induces a feeling of peace.

seems to be wasted given their target - usually shellfish, over which they have total mastery whether to open or to eat. Their flight path intersects that of wet-suited surfers and, at a distance, both share the same dress code - black and white with a flash of red.

Thomas More

We also have a short-tailed vole that emerges from the field up a surface drain from the patio, to keep us amused. It has a run along the edge of the patio and its destination is a long-spent clump of aubrietia. It neatly snips off a bunch and exactly retraces its steps. It dodges from pot to pot on its journey, but though very furtive, is hardly an expert at concealment. Indeed when it discovered a shard of coriander that had escaped between herb pot and kitchen, he or she trembled and could not contain their excitement. A modern Wind in the Willows would have Ratty's cousin enjoying a curry whilst resting on a bed of dried aubrietia.

The slow spiraling of buzzards is a restful sight but this year attention has often been spoilt by flapping and belligerent blackbirds. An escape to the coast for cooler breezes allows the graceful flight of birds to be watched with less interruption. The larger birds glide with no sense of effort but, as a contrast, I find oyster-catchers particularly compelling to watch. Squadrons fly in tight formation across the bay along the edge of the waves with a great sense of urgency and purpose. Quite why and how they decide to land is a mystery and their flying prowess

Bus Service Secretary earns Award



The Exe Valley Market and Community Bus, which provides transport in the Exe Valley and beyond, has celebrated 40 years with an award to one of its key members. It was started in 1977 and, although it is still going strong, it is always looking for new drivers and passengers.

Recently, Ann Roberts picked up a Volunteer Enabler Award which was presented to her at County Hall. (See photo above) She has been instrumental in many changes to the Service, including the addition of a route from Knowstone. She works tirelessly in her role as Secretary and all her efforts are much appreciated by the residents of the area.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Eggesford. We wish you both every happiness for the future.

Our congratulations go to Steph and Robert on the occasion of their engagement. It is wonderful news and we wish you all God's blessings for your future together.

Sunday 11 June was our Annual Open-air Service for which, thankfully, the weather just about stayed dry for us (although it was a little bit windy at times as the threatening clouds got ever closer!). This year we congregated at the top of the churchyard to listen to our special guests Ad-Lib as they played a mix of hymns and their own choice of spiritual songs. We were also joined for the occasion by a family of Canada Geese that took a liking to the pond for a few days. Thank you to all who came along provided refreshments, including fruit punch and cake.

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of John Greenslade, who farmed at Palmershayes. After a Service at Devon and Exeter Crematorium, a Thanksgiving Service for his life was held in the Church on 22 June. Colin Radford, a lifelong friend of John's read a tribute, giving details of school life at Calverleigh School and also Tiverton Grammar School, times spent at Young Farmers, his love of family, village life, his animals and growing fuchsias.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Aubrey, Sheila and all the family at this time and also with all who have lost a loved one in recent months.

We would like to say a big thank you to Alison Webber for her skilful job of updating the list of St. Mary's Clergy and the Baptismal Roll - not an easy task and requiring a lot of patience. It is lovely to see it all back in place and know it is a great source of interest to visitors of the church.

If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in playing the organ (or any other musical instrument) during our Sunday services, please contact Aubrey or Jackie, our Churchwardens.

Coming Up

Our now annual Calverleigh Produce Show will take place on 26 August at the Village Hall. We would like to remind you that all entries must be returned to Rita Tapp or Sheila Greenslade by 9 August, at the latest. On the Show day, we open at 2.30pm for results, Teas & Coffees, Draw and a "Bring and buy" stall. Entries have to be in place on the day of the Show by 11.30am for judging. Rumour has it, that there has been a great deal of practising already going on, especially in the Swiss roll category. Competition will be well fought again this year, particularly between our male bakers!!

Refreshments, which may include prize winning cake, pasties etc ... will be served during the afternoon.

Our **Harvest Supper** and Thanksgiving Service takes place on the weekend of 9/10 September. Details of tickets for the Supper on the Saturday evening will be available from all the Church Committee (PCC) members from 30 August, at a cost of £8 per person. The Thanksgiving Service will be at 11.15am on the Sunday.

Advance Notice: Our Autumn Fayre will take place on 18 November at Calverleigh Hall.

Mowing Rota

24 Jul / 5 Aug: Mr K Hayes
 7 / 29 Aug: Mr D White
 21 Aug / 2 Sep: Mr C Durnan
 4 / 16 Sep: Mr A Hancock
 18 / 30 Sep: The Webber Family

Church Cleaning Rota

31 Jul / 12 Aug: Mrs A Webber
 14 / 26 Aug: Mrs R Tapp
 28 Aug / 9 Sep: Mrs S Greenslade
 11 / 23 Sep: Mrs J Goldsworthy
 25 Sep / 7 Oct: Mrs M Herniman

Altar Flower Rota

23 / 30 Jul: Mrs N Burton
 6 / 13 Aug: Mrs B Hill
 20 / 27 Aug: Mrs T Pugsley
 3 / 10 Sep: Mrs S Greenslade
 17 / 24 Sep: Mrs M L Ravnkilde

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

continued overleaf ➔



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PARISH ROUND-UP

CRUWYS MORCHARD

Happy Birthday Steph and many congratulations on your engagement to Robert Gordon.

Our next Group Service is in Calverleigh at 10.30am on 30 July, followed by a Family Picnic, as a Holiday Club Finale. The next two Group Services will be 27 August in Stoodleigh and 24 September in Templeton.

HARVEST FESTIVAL is to be on Saturday 23 September. Starting with a Service at 2.15pm in the Church, followed by Sports and Tea in the Parish Hall for all. In the evening at 7pm there will be a social with a disco.

80th Cruwys Morchard Flower Show

The Annual Flower show takes place on Saturday 12 August, in the Parish Hall. Doors are open to the public at 2.30pm. Please come along and enjoy the exhibits. Once again there are two classes that will be judged by public vote, so please come along and make your choices. Refreshments will be available and also a raffle.

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers.

The Club recently held a Clay Pigeon Shoot which was very well attended and made a big profit. By the time you read this, the Tractor Run will have happened. Hopefully everyone saw a good variety of tractors and all had a great time! At the time of writing, members are busy preparing for Mid Devon Show as it is our turn to run

this year's Exe Valley Rally. The Club are going to organise an End of Year Dinner; where members will celebrate the past year.

Cruwys Morchard Gardeners visited Rosemoor on 3 May and Cothay Manor on 5 July. They are planning a BBQ sometime (date to be confirmed).

Yoga continues on Thursday mornings at 10am-11.30am, in the Parish Hall.

THE PENNYMOOR FESTIVAL

Pennymoor Festival 4/5 August 2017 Family Festival with lots of different music to be enjoyed with a range of beers and ciders. In the Saturday afternoon there will also be childrens' entertainment! Food will be available throughout the Festival with the Vintage tea tent providing cream teas and homemade cakes for those who prefer something softer. Please see www.pennymoorfestival.org.uk or like us on Facebook. For more information please email pennymoorfestival@yahoo.com In aid of Macmillan Cancer

CHURCH FETE and DOG SHOW

The Fete and Dog Show was declared a resounding success by all – the attendance was magnificent. A grand total of around £1450 was raised and thanks go to everyone who helped to make it such a successful day. Special thanks to our judge for the day, Judith Haydon and her very able steward Tracey. Thanks also must go to Sarah and Buster Brown, Claire and Alan Miller and Maggie and Steve Croucher (from Kingsteignton) for all their help before, during and after the event. In addition, the Young Farmers provided a very able and

much needed service, manning Vicky's Icicle Tricycle vintage ice cream trike, and we are extremely grateful to Winston Reed for the use of the field. Must not forget our wonderful sponsors.

Looking forward to next year.

Ann McGoun and Sonia Notley

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Aug 7/14 - Cindy Trick
 Aug 21/28 - Marilyn Hill
 Sept 4/11 - Mrs J. Townsend
 Sept 18 - Decorators for Harvest
 Sept 25/Oct 2 - Marilyn Hill
 Oct 9/16 - Sonia Notley/Claire Miller

Mowing Rota

July The Berry's
 August Les Tosdevin
 September The Notley's

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Wednesday 18 October in the Parish Hall at 12noon for 12.30pm. For transport, any special dietary requirements and to book in, please ring Sonia on 01363 866864.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

Is on Saturday 11 November in the Parish Hall at 10.30am – 1.30pm There will be a one minute silence at 11am.

Flower Festival and Scarecrow Extravaganza

at the beginning of June was a great success. On the Thursday and Friday before the opening, the Church was buzzing with flower arrangers, and lots of chat. On Saturday, we welcomed a steady stream of people coming to admire the 44 arrangements around the Church, all with a theme of Book Titles.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

New Creation News

Proclaiming the Gospel since 1988

In the light of recent sad events in our country. "We pray that we may have the courage to be peacemakers in our homes, our community and our world."

As is usual at this time of year, we joined together with fellow Christians from the area in the Churches Tent at the MID-DEVON SHOW on Saturday 22 July. It was such a wonderful opportunity for local people to see how the Christians in the area work together. Thank you to everyone who helped. It was a lovely outreach event.

Another opportunity to praise the Lord together with fellow Christians was on Sunday 30 July (5th Sunday in the month) at the 'Churches Together in Tiverton' joint worship Service at the Baptist Church at 6:30pm. Did you come? Did you bring any friends?

Some of our children will be moving from Primary to Secondary School next month. This could be a traumatic time for them. A little book called 'It's Your Move!' is designed to help young people as they move on. It's full of useful tips and information on what to expect and how to cope, and reassures them that God is with them.

We also have other interesting books for teens, covering many topics. Please pray for all young people, those starting nursery or school, those changing schools, those going to College or University and those about to start work for the first time. If they are anxious, some of our books might help them. Please encourage them to come in and look at the books written especially for them.

Penny's special for August – a cup-cake and hot drink or squash for £2.00

For some time now we have been part of the Toilet Twinning Association, helping to provide toilet facilities in parts of the world where there are none. So far we have been able to send away £750!! Thank you, and bless you, for putting donations in our collecting bowl in the bathroom.

!! EXCITING NEWS FROM CHAT !!

Mid Devon Hub for Housing Help

You are warmly invited to visit their new premises before they open to the public. Go along on Thursday 31 August to Coggans Well House, Phoenix Lane between 4 and 7pm to hear about, and pray for, their exciting plans for the future. Snacks available. Bishop Sarah Mullally will be there.

Call 01884 255606 for more information.

Whatever you are doing this summer we pray that the Lord will bless you, your Parishes, your families and all those with whom you come into contact. May His light shine through you as you witness to His love.

God bless you all.

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Thank you very much Pauline, Marion and Lynette for all your hard work and time for such a very special event, and all the many other flower arrangers. At the same time, the ladies on the Committee were serving Ploughman's Lunches and Cream Teas in the Parish Hall. Thank you very much to everyone who helped with the whole weekend, which made nearly £700. The Scarecrows met you all over the village!

PENNYMOOR

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Services on Sundays at 4.30pm including refreshments.

- 1st All age Service
- 2nd Communion Service
- 3rd Join Way Village at 2.30pm
- 4th Praise and Prayer

"Come to C" every Wednesday, we will be having Coffee, Cake, Chat, Companionship between 11.00am and 12.30pm. We hope to do a special activity on one Wednesday per month if there is sufficient interest. Premises available for community use at no charge. Contact Ruth on (01363) 83451

Congratulations go to Debbie and Stuart, for their Marriage on Saturday 24 June.

Welcome Eliza Grace Tapp to the Church, who was baptised on 22 July, in Exeter Cathedral. We look forward to welcoming you to Cruwys Morchard Church.

Our love and prayers go to Cindy as she continues her treatment.

Visit the website on www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

continued overleaf →



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PARISH ROUND-UP

LOXBEARE

A BBQ Service was held on Sunday 9 July at the Village Hall. The Service, taken by Ron, was preceded by a lovely BBQ. Many thanks to all who helped in any way and those who brought the food. A lovely time sharing together.

Come and join us on 13 August at 11am, when we will be having a Picnic Service by kind invitation of Steve & Sue Troake at Leigh Mill. Please bring your own picnic.

Our Harvest Celebrations will be held one week later than previous years, beginning on Saturday 23 September with a Service at 2.15pm. There will be opportunity for the children to bring Harvest gifts to the front of the Church during the Service. The offerings will go to Tear Fund. Sports and Tea will follow. On the following day, the Harvest Service will be at 6.30pm. Both Services will be taken by Rev Steph Jeffs. Do come and join us to give thanks to God for his abundant provision. Decorating the Church will take place on the Friday & Saturday mornings. Gifts and help would be much appreciated. The Harvest Supper will be on Monday 25 September 7pm for 7.30pm, tickets £5. If you wish to go, please let Carol know, on 01884 881480. The after supper speaker will be Mrs Ruth Morley from CHAT. The Harvest Gifts will be auctioned with proceeds going to CHAT.

A PCC meeting was held on 20 June and the date of the next meeting is 31 October, in the Village Hall.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are having treatment or feeling unwell. We are pleased to hear that Shirley Gibbons is now home after a long spell in hospital, may she continue on her road to recovery.

Omitted from the last magazine, with apologies, the Wedding of Guy, Bob & Christine Weatherley's son, and Melissa took place in Loxbeare Church on 27 May. We wish them much happiness and blessings in their future life together.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to all celebrating special occasions and Birthdays in August and September.

Well done to all our Children and young people who have done well in exams and we wish you all the best for the future. We hope all who are starting school or moving to a different school in September, attending College or University or starting a new job, will soon settle, make new friends and be happy. We welcome Alistair and Tamanda, Xander, Noah and Amelia Evans & hope that you will settle and be very happy living in Loxbeare.

We also welcome Mel to the Village following her marriage to Matt. We hope you will both be very happy.

Maurice & Marlene Taylor would like to thank all who donated money at their Diamond Wedding celebration. A total of £590 has been given to the Devon Air Ambulance. They will be holding a Coffee Morning at their home, Dart Rise, on 19 August 10-12.30 - also in aid of Devon Air

Ambulance. There will be cakes and various stalls etc. Do come and support us if you can.

Loxbeare Ladies. Thank you to Steve & Sue for a lovely BBQ in July. Next date will be 7 August with a Canal Walk & food afterwards in the tea-rooms. Contact Sue on 259496. 4 September will be in the Village Hall. Activity to be decided.

There will be a village BBQ on 12 August at 7pm in the Village Hall. Please bring either a salad or pudding & your own drinks.

There will be a Cream Tea in the Village Hall, 3-5pm on 16 September.

OAKFORD

What a weekend of celebration we had at St Peters on 3/4 June.

First, on Saturday, the Blessing of the Marriage of Monica and Robin Nicoll, with the Church full of family and friends and decked out in red and white floral displays.

This was followed by the Group Pentecostal Service on Sunday morning - and then came a surprise announcement from Steph. The congregation gasped and applauded at the news that Rev Robert Gordon had proposed to her and she had accepted. During coffee after the service Steph was showered with congratulations and good wishes and everyone wanted to know the wedding date. We wish Robert and Steph every happiness in their life together.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

A Tea Party organised by Brenda & Bun Burrows and held in their quarry garden in early June, raised £471.50 which the Burrows family have very kindly donated to the Church funds. Thank you.

Mary Shere is taking a break and will not be leading 'Pause for Prayer' on Thursday mornings during August. However, the Church is always open to anyone wishing to spend quiet time in prayer.

THE PYNCOMBE TRUST

If you are pursuing any form of further education this September and you have been a resident of Oakford Parish for at least one year, you could be eligible for a grant of up to £150 from Oakford's own educational charity. We'll need your personal and course details before 1st September. Please contact Sue Llewellyn 351338 sue.llewellyn@hotmail.com or Dawn Williams 324035 williams.dawn@btinternet.com

OAKFORD FÊTE

Oakford Village Fête saw a blustery and showery day which did keep some of the usual crowds away but didn't dampen the enjoyment for those who came. All the usual fun with a Dog Show, games and lots of side shows and stalls. As always many thanks to the willing band of villagers who make it all happen. We are still awaiting final accounts but we hope to donate about £700 to local charities. More details next edition.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

HARVEST FESTIVAL Sunday 17 September in Church at 6pm to be followed by Harvest Supper in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Rev Steph presiding. Watch out for the posters

for more information. All are welcome to buy tickets for the Supper. Contact: Dawn Williams 324035. Donated produce to auction gratefully received.

MOORLAND CLUB

Thursday 10 August, 2.30pm at the Village Hall, 'Tea Dance', a light hearted dance demo followed by a cream tea. Friends and partners welcome. Non-members £2

OAKFORD & DISTRICT FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 12 August, Oakford Village Hall. There's still time to enter something into this year's show, schedules can be obtained from the Red Lion in Oakford, Brenda Burrows, 3 Manor Cottages, Oakford or call Chris on 01398 332039. Last date for entries is Thursday 10 August. If you can't enter an exhibit, come along and see the fabulous items that others have grown or made. Open to the public 2-4pm. Teas and cakes available and a prize draw.

OAKFORD PLAYERS. Next production 30th November - 2nd December in the Village Hall. 'Anything but Christmas Variety Show'. More details out soon.

And finally ... the new timings for Church Services are being well received. Do come and join us at a Service soon.

another grandchild for Peter and Moy and great granddaughter for Daphne. We pray you are all well.

At the time of going to print we wish Francis Dart and Gilbert Isaac, who are in hospital, well and also hope Vera Sutton is making good progress, now back in Rackenford.

The Auction of Promises and Raffle was held at Rackenford Club on Friday 12 May and resulted in £6,240 being raised in Aid of Rackenford School's new classroom. Many thanks to all who organised, helped and supported this event and a thank you to Rackenford Club.

Congratulations to Alex and Jasmine Muchmore who were married at our Church on 3 June and blessed with beautiful weather. We wish you a long, healthy and happy married life.

Many thanks to Liz Paxton for organizing our Church Sponsored walk. The circular walk was from Simonsbath, which followed the Two Moors Way along the River Barle, passing ancient sites of interest. Flexbarrow, Wheel Eliza, and Cow Castle, where we all enjoyed the stunning views and each other's company, comprising of 14 adults, 2 children and 6 dogs. £1014 has been raised, so many thanks to everyone who walked and the kind sponsors.

We are so pleased to hear that the children and staff at our School had such a good educational residential in London. You obviously had an amazing time and took in so many places of interest.

continued on Page 12 →

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1 Peter 1:6 (NLT)

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in celebrating their Marriage on
Saturday 21 October 2017

at **2.30pm** in the
Church of the Holy Cross,
Cruwys Morchard



Light refreshments
will be served afterwards in
Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall

To give us some idea of numbers,
if you are able to come,
please email the address below
stephanie.jeffs@yahoo.co.uk
and NOT the Exe Valley Office

To help with catering, Jo Hilton
has very kindly agreed to
co-ordinate a "Bring and Share"
tea, after the Service. If you
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providing some food,
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joannahilton53@icloud.com

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Mark 6: 31

9 September 2017

10.30am - 4pm

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friends, to listen to God.

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Come and spend some time with me,
and with one another,
to listen to God, worship together,
think and pray.

The cost is £20, which includes
tea, coffee, cake and a light lunch.

For further information,
or to book a place, please contact :
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6 AUGUST

CALVERLEIGH

6.30 pm Evening Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

11 am Family Service

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

13 AUGUST

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service
with Baptism **Steph Jeffs**

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Picnic Service
at Leigh Mill

OAKFORD

11 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

11 am Holy Communion

TEMPLETON

No Service

WASHFIELD

6 pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion

20 AUGUST

CALVERLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE

11 am Holy Communion

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

Steph Jeffs

RACKENFORD

11 am Family Service
with Baptism ***Steph Jeffs***

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

27 AUGUST

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

3 SEPTEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

9.30 am Family
Breakfast Service

Steph Jeffs

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD

6 pm Holy Communion

WITHLEIGH

11.15 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

10 SEPTEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Harvest Thanksgiving

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Service

OAKFORD

11 am Family Service

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Holy Communion

STOODLEIGH

11 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

TEMPLETON

No Service

WASHFIELD

2.30pm Harvest Festival
Sports and Tea

WITHLEIGH

3 pm Harvest Festival

17 SEPTEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service with
Baptism ***Steph Jeffs***

LOXBEARE

11 am Holy Communion

OAKFORD

6 pm Harvest Festival followed
by Supper in Village Hall

Steph Jeffs

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Holy Communion

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

24 SEPTEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

See Templeton

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Templeton

LOXBEARE

See Templeton

and

6.30 pm Harvest Service

Steph Jeffs

OAKFORD

See Templeton

RACKENFORD

See Templeton

STOODLEIGH

See Templeton

TEMPLETON

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

See Templeton

WITHLEIGH

See Templeton

FROM STEPH



PRAYER DIARY A TASTE OF THE KINGDOM

Let us pray for the kingdoms of the world ...

6-12 August

We pray for the nations of the world and for the people living in them, who face economic hardship.

13-19 August

We pray for those places in the world, which are engaged in conflict and war, and for their citizens.

20-26 August

We pray for the organisations in the world who are working for peace, justice and equality.

27-2 September

We pray for all people who seek to make a positive difference and we give thanks for them.

... Lord, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Living together well

3-9 September

Thank you loving God, that you are with us in our Community for the Exe Valley, and that we are strengthened and enriched by one another.

10-16 September

We pray for all those returning to school after the Summer and for those planning to go to university. We thank you for our schools and colleges.

17-23 September

We pray for those who work on the land, especially those who work in our Community. Please bless their labours.

24-30 September

We pray for all those who live in our Community, particularly those who feel lonely and isolated.

We pray for the coming of your kingdom, when all will be valued, and all will be safe and secure. Amen.

Congratulations to Debbie Attrill on her amazing cycling charity ride, 1,000 miles in 12 days from Lands End to John O Groats. Very well done Debbie.

Rackenford School enjoyed beautiful weather for their Fete on the common on 1 July. A variety of stalls, a draw

and the refreshments raised £1,480.08. Races were enjoyed and the event was very well supported. Many thanks to everyone who, organized, helped and supported the school.

On 25 June we were delighted to welcome a large congregation to our

PARISH ROUND-UP

Group Service taken by Steph. The bells were rung prior to the Service and the young children entertained us with their Bell Plates, taught by Marjorie Smith. As always we enjoyed Steph's interesting and entertaining Sermon and her warm welcome. Refreshments were enjoyed afterwards, as we chatted to our friends from other Parishes.

We are most grateful for a kind gift of £403 for churchyard funds, given in donations during the Funeral Service of Cyril Blackford.

Sadly, and suddenly, we hear of the death of John Nott. John spent many happy years living in Rackenford with his late parents Les and Doris Nott and his siblings Trevor, Linda, Roy, Ann and Judith, before moving to Tiverton. We send our deepest sympathy to his wife Jean and children Caroline, Rachel and Tom and all the families at this very difficult time.

Our deepest sympathy to the children, Nicky and Jonathan, and families of the late Pauline (Beele) who some will remember lived in Rackenford many years ago.

We are pleased to hear The Stag has been sold and we look forward to the door opening again soon so that we can meet and support the new owners.

Congratulation to Dennis and Sharon Saupe who married in Gretna Green in June. We wish you a very happy married life in Rackenford.

By the time you receive this edition Charlotte Howlett and Daniel Morrison will have married on 15 July. We hope it was a very happy day for you and many congratulations.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

On 20 August we will be welcoming Annabell into our Church for her Christening with her parents Gary and Jo Muchmore. We pray for Annabell, her Godparents and the family on this special day.

More dates for your diary, Church Bingo's at Rackenford Club on 10 August and 14 September.

Our **Harvest** celebrations begin on Sunday 8 October with Harvest Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper and Auction on Monday 9 October. More details next time.

Reminder. The Gardening Club Autumn Show on Saturday 26 August at West Backstone.

Our thoughts and prayers to our friends Muriel Blinman, Joan Clark, Jacques Cann and Mike Lane and to anyone receiving treatment, not well, lonely or depressed.

Congratulations to anyone celebrating special birthdays or anniversaries.

Last but not least. We may have been enjoying Wimbledon but Rackenford has had its own tennis to celebrate. This is the 25th year of fund raising at Rackenford and All England Tennis Court, which has been held for so many years at Brian and Jen Peace's tennis court and also at Rackenford Manor. This year Brian and Jen have welcomed the talented, to enjoy this special time again, at the home where it all began. A variety of places have been helped by this kindness and are most grateful. We hope this event will continue for many years and you all enjoyed a wonderful day.

STOODLEIGH

It is hard to believe that Steph has been with us for six months. We were all delighted to hear of her engagement to Robert Gordon of St Peter's Tiverton. We wish them both every happiness and hope that their chosen wedding day of 21 October will bring with it some Autumn sunshine.

We were sad to say goodbye from the village to Ian and Jennifer Fraser when they moved to Bampton at the end of June. They had lived in the Coach House since 1997, where they always enjoyed entertaining their family and friends and contributed so much to the village. Ian and Jennifer were the founder members of the Garden Club and helped organise the annual show. Both of them produced wonderful watercolour paintings in the craft section every year.

Jennifer was an active member of the WI until it folded and Ian was a founder member of SWAG (Stoodleigh Working Action Group), which was set up to put together celebrations for the millennium and has continued ever since supporting village events. They will be sadly missed but being in the centre of Bampton they are likely to find a lot of visitors popping in as they do their shopping.

Graham and Sue Fowler have moved into the Coach House and we wish them well as they become part of the village, supporting their daughter and son-in-law, Louise and Matt Butcher at Kingsmead.

The Murray family have moved out of Wheatland Farm into the newly renovated barn and we welcome the Parker family who have moved into the farmhouse.

There are two main events to look forward to in August. The first is the Annual Dog Show on Saturday 12 August organised jointly by the Church and the Parish Hall. Do come along to Vials Corner where Fred and Pat Robinson have again generously permitted us to use their paddock.

The event will open at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Apart from the show classes there will be cream teas, refreshments and a Pimms tent as well as a raffle, tombola, cake stall and competitions.

On Bank Holiday Monday, 28 August, the Ploughmans Lunch will be held at Champles Barn starting at 12.30pm. Please contact Margaret Cuningham (351252) or Christine Broadbent (351374) to book.

Advance warning that **Harvest** Supper on Monday 2 October will this year take on a different form and instead of the usual auction there will be skittles. This should be a fun evening and to book, contact Margaret Cuningham (351252).

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to make the Village Day a huge success once again, particularly to Martine and Sally, the main organisers for a number of years. These two are now stepping aside but the event will continue 'under new management'.

continued overleaf →

STEPH - Continued from Page 3 Isaiah 52: Verses 8 -10

Listen!

Your watchmen lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy.
When the Lord returns to Zion,
they will see it with their own eyes.
Burst into songs of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted
his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord will lay bare his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth
will see the salvation of our God.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

We doff our mortarboards to William Browne, who has graduated as an MChem from Durham University.

The Parish Hall was the start and finish for a Stoodleigh Summer Walk in July. Following their bacon roll breakfasts, the longer distance walkers enjoyed a 9 mile route in and around Stoodleigh and Oakford, while another group took part in a more leisurely stroll around the village. A delicious lunch was then served at the Hall to walkers and non-walkers.

Thanks to all the walkers and diners who supported the event, which raised £305 for Parish Hall funds.

Stoodleigh Garden Club Open Flower and Produce Show at the Parish Hall is being held on a Saturday this year – 2 September – hoping this will be more convenient for many people than a Friday evening. Entries must be delivered to the Hall between 9am and 11am, and public admission is from 2pm. Entry forms to Shirley Cope at Rowhill (351126) by Sunday 27 August.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: Prizewinners for May – 1 David Wotton, 2 Sally Holland, 3 Janet Russell, 4 Willie Knowles; June – 1 Angela Hill, 2 Henry Ayre, 3 Jennifer Fraser, 4 Trevor Cope.

Church Flowers

6, 13 Aug	Yvonne Lang
20, 27 Aug	Mandy Widdowson
3, 10 Sept	Christine Palfrey
17, 24 Sept	Pat Aplin
1 October	Harvest Flowers

TEMPLETON

The Songs of Praise Service with cream teas to follow was enjoyed by those attending on a hot sunny afternoon. We left the door open and our singing hopefully could be heard by those around.

There will be changes to our Services in the coming months as we rely less on visiting clergy and more on Steph, Anna and the lay leaders in the Exe Valley. This means that Steph will take Holy Communion at the Cluster Services once a month (our cluster is Witleigh, Cruwys Morchard and Templeton) which means once every three months there will be Holy Communion at Templeton and we travel to Witleigh and Cruwys Morchard the other two months. It also means that sometimes that Service will be in the afternoon/early evening and that Morning Cluster Services will vary in time.

From now on, there will be no set pattern for Services and it will be important to look in the Today Parish Magazine for details. Having said that, our Harvest Service will be on 1 October at 11.00am. Having enjoyed the Harvest Supper the night before, we hope that more people will provide produce and attend this year (it might be the last thanksgiving for Harvest in Templeton). Look at notice boards for details of the latter.

Thank you to all those who returned the questionnaire on Templeton Church. If you haven't, please do. If you've lost your questionnaire, Jan or Bindy can provide one, just pop it in the box in the Church or to Jan or

Bindy. The next meeting to discuss both the results of the questionnaire and the future of St Margaret's Church will be at the Village Hall on Tuesday 19 September at 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

We were sorry to hear that Ruby Buckingham died, at home, on 18 May. She was 99 years old. Her funeral took place in our Church and she was buried in the church yard. Templeton Church was very special to Ruby as she played the organ here for many years. She also played at Witleigh and Cruwys Morchard. She taught at Cruwys Morchard School and later became a Registrar in Tiverton. Ruby will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

We send our best wishes to Mike Childs who has recently been in hospital and to Matthew Palmer who has broken his leg. May they make a speedy recovery and also anyone else who has been unwell recently; our good wishes go to you too.

We sadly have to say goodbye to John & Audrey McInerney as they leave us for Gloucestershire. We thank them so much for all they have contributed to village life and wish them well in their new home.

The Quiz Night on 30 June was great fun! This was a 'no paper' speed quiz – just one person in the team needed to use a smart phone or a tablet to select the correct answer. Congratulations to the winning team – the Monster Trucks! Thank you, Bruce and Chris Pearson for a great evening and thanks to everyone who contributed to the delicious supper. John and Audrey have organised the

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PARISH ROUND-UP

popular annual quiz night for the last six years. £260 was raised for village funds.

The next big Templeton event for your diary is the Village Fete on Saturday 12 August from 1.30pm till Late. This year it's a fete with a difference with all the usual fun stalls plus so much more, including classic tractors and cars, blacksmith demonstration, wood-carving, pony rides, bouncy castle, animal corner, tug-of-war, skittles, outside auction, auction of pledges, and live music (including Rosie Hunter and Bicycle Repair Man) after the auction, and real ales and cider. The live music and bar will continue into the evening. There are competitions for the best-dressed teddy, toy or doll, and a Men's Bake-Off (the best-baked cake) – bring these to the hall before 11am on the Saturday. Please help to make the day a success! Any clothes or bric-a-brac, just pop them up to the Hall any time during the week before. Cakes, savouries or produce would be really welcome on the Saturday morning. If you'd like anything to be collected, please phone Bindy on 860655 or Julie Woollacott on 01884 251646 or 07807892118.

The Duck Race is on Saturday 2 September at 2pm at Dartcoombe Mill, Templeton Bridge, followed by Cream Teas and pasties in the garden. Bric-a-Brac, books and plants for sale! Ducks £1 each. Money prizes! Contact Roger or Bindy to buy your duck! 01884 860655.

Flower & Cleaning Rota:

Gloria Woollacott 6/13 Aug
Jan Heptinstall 20/27 Aug
Julie Dent 3/10 Sept
Bindy Linden 17/24 Sept

WASHFIELD

*In Seed time learn, in Summer till,
In Autumn harvest, in Winter enjoy!*

The Rev Steph Jeffs opened our Church Fete on Saturday, 1 July. We were delighted that she was accompanied by her fiancé Rev Robert Gordon. We give them our congratulations and wish them every happiness and God's blessings, in their future life together.

Steph was introduced and welcomed by Richard Scholes, the chair of the Fabric Committee, who used the opportunity to thank, publicly, the charities who so generously contributed towards the cost of the recently completed work on the external masonry and windows. Viridor Credits awarded a grant of £12,800 and there were also grants from The Viscount Amory Trust and the Sir John and Lady Amory Trust. He expressed the gratitude of all those present, to these charities, for funding this important and specialist work. Whilst the completion of this work is a major move forward, Richard reminded us that there remained other work to be done, which it is hoped can be achieved by local volunteers.

The PCC are extremely grateful to Elizabeth Fathi for her invaluable guidance through the intricacies of carrying out the Quinquennial Report repairs and for dealing with the Architect and builders so expertly, and to Richard for overseeing the whole process. They are also indebted to West Access, specialist stonemasons, for being so thoughtful and obliging as they carried out the work.

It was a bright and sunny afternoon for the Fete, held again in the beautiful setting of The Old Rectory. Thanks go to Bronson and Camilla for allowing us to use their immaculate lawn. The bells rang out, the flag was flying and it was good to welcome Steph and Robert, to this happy Summer occasion. Many people were able to meet her and have a chat. The Tiverton Concert Band added to the festive atmosphere. Cream Teas, always a highlight, were much enjoyed and many cups of tea consumed!

The PCC are hugely grateful to all the people who helped on stalls and with games, gave generously to everything, & assisted with the setting up and clearing away. Help was offered at every turn, which made the whole day a pleasure. The healthy total of £830 realized will be invaluable towards the running of the church. Thank you all.

HARVEST FESTIVAL is the next big Church Event. It is on Sunday 10 September at 2.30pm – followed by the traditional Sports and Tea. Let's make it a great celebration!

It's been a busy Summer in Washfield with community events a-plenty (mostly outdoor).

On 3 June we had a Car Treasure Hunt with Cream Teas. Several car loads of treasure hunters set off from the Hall in search of clues and so began another successful afternoon in the sunshine, driving around lanes not often visited and then being rewarded with a Cream Tea back at the Hall! A £94 profit was made - to be split between the Hall and Social

continued overleaf ➔

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Club funds and £55 was also raised for the Syrian refugee family, by stalls selling cakes, toys, plants etc.

Several villagers enjoyed the 'Great Get Together' on 17 June at Spillifords (by kind invitation of Adam and Franny), in memory of murdered MP, Jo Cox. A good time was enjoyed by everyone, on this hot Summer's day by the river - the more intrepid of the group swam or boated. A relaxed, communal picnic was then enjoyed by young and "more mature" alike, who definitely had "a lot in common".

An informative evening was held on 22 June to encourage understanding of some of the simpler aspects of the culture, food and language of the Syrian family due to join us in Washfield within the next few months. Those who came learned common phrases and sampled delicious food prepared with the Middle East in mind. Thanks to all who organised or took part in this informal presentation evening.

The Washfield in Bloom Competition culminated on Fete day with a magnificent display of "Planters" deposited around the Village Green, and what a picture they were; some so inventive and with much attention to detail. The many prizes for the different categories in children and adult sections were then awarded at the end of the Fete. Thanks must go to Tony and Ann for organising this event so capably and to Bill and Angela for taking on the unenviable task of judging. Congratulations too, to all those who took part in this green-fingered challenge.

The Tractor Festival on 8 July saw 27 vintage tractors being dusted off and serviced in order to take part in this

parade of classic farm workhorses. They all looked and sounded good as they left the village for a cross country trip around the area before returning for a Ploughman's and a Barn Dance. A good time was had by all, and monies raised will be used for new bar stools. Thanks to the organisers from the Social Club.

We send sincere welcome wishes to two families who are making the move to Washfield. Firstly Nigel, Tanya and Austin White who are the new owners of Stagstile, Lower Washfield. They have quite a bit of work ahead of them, renovating the house and making it their own, before moving in but nevertheless we will be seeing a lot of them at the house over the coming months as they complete their labour of love.

Meanwhile, at Courtenay Cottages, Bill and Patricia will be doing something similar (but not maybe on such a large scale) to make their new house their home. We welcome you all to Washfield and hope you will be very happy living here.

To all those in our midst who are being challenged by poor health, we send heartfelt good wishes. Some are in hospital, some are struggling whilst awaiting surgeries or recovering from operations or accidents, some are having ongoing treatments and some feel worn down or tired (especially in the hot Summer weather of late). We hope that your strength and resolve will help you through these difficult times.

We send good wishes to Priscilla and Gavin of Courtney Farm who are having a blessing of Marriage in the Church on 29 July, and to Lee and Samantha of Penny Cottage who are

marrying on 5 August. We will think of you on those important days.

Best wishes to anyone having a special occasion, birthday or anniversary soon. We hope your day is joyful. To the young people of the Parish who are starting, changing or leaving school, college or university, our thoughts are with you at this time of change. We hope that you can embrace it and make it a positive experience that works for you.

Congratulations to all those who have passed important exams and we wish you continued success in the future and we hope all the children of our Parishes have a happy Summer holiday!

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 8 Aug teatime@thehall from 3pm. Come along for tea, cake, conversation and support (plus a game of cards or a jigsaw!)

Thursday 24 Aug Lunch Club's 10th birthday lunch in the Hall 12 for 12.30
Sunday 10 Sept Harvest Festival 2.30pm followed by Sports and Tea.

Tuesday 12 Sept teatime@thehall. All welcome - for tea and a chat
Thursday 14 Sept W.I. An evening in the President's garden (Brookvale) from 7.30pm

Friday 29 Sept "Britain on Film" presentation in hall. The descriptive narrative says "Rural Life takes audiences down the country lanes of the past, meandering through the dwindling customs of another era. Relive the work of a local blacksmith preparing shoes for the horses that will plough the fields, and the shepherd's trials as he protects his flock from an encroaching storm." It promises to be a treat, so make it a definite date in your diary.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Full details of the evening later. Look out for posters, on our Facebook page 'Humans of Washfield and Lower Washfield' and on the Village website.

Altar Flower Rota

July 30	Mrs S Balment
August 6/13	Mrs H Arnold
August 20/27	Mrs Boundy
September 3/10	Mrs E Arnold
September 17/24	Mrs Lane
October 1/8	Mrs Moore

Church Cleaning Rota

Aug 7/14	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
Aug 21/28	Mrs Albery
Sept 4/11	Mr & Mrs Ellis
Sept 18/25	Mrs French
Oct 2/9	Mr & Mrs Parnell

award at the Devon Farm Business Awards, which took place on Wednesday 17 May – the eve of the Devon County Show. Well done to you both on your achievements.

Also congratulations to Paul and Elizabeth Iliff who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 1 July. It was good to share in their celebrations in our Family Service on 2 July - singing their wedding hymns, and followed by an organ recital by their granddaughter, Lauren, which included The Prince of Denmark's March which had been played at their wedding. This was followed by cake and coffee.

We are sad to report the death of Rodney Grant, our local farrier for many years, who always had a smile and wave as he travelled around in his van. We send our sympathy to Shirley and all the family. Our love and prayers are with you all.

If you have passed the Village Hall recently you are sure to have noticed that David Britton has already put the new roof on. The extension to the store room is well on its way, and by the time you are reading these notes the hall ceiling will have been taken down and the new one going up. The hall will remain closed until about the end of August, when we will be looking forward to using our newly refurbished hall, with its new lighting and heating in place.

Our **Garden & Produce Show** on Saturday 19 August will now be held in St Catherine's Church, as the Hall will not be finished in time. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Doors open at 7.30pm. Entries close for competitors on

Tuesday 15 August; please get your entries with your entry fees to Henry Cruwys at Bona Vista. If you have lost your schedules or have any questions please call Brenda 01884 252431.

Our **Harvest Festival** will follow the usual format with Sunday Service on 10 September at 3.00 pm followed by tea in the Village Hall. Our Harvest Supper is on 11 September, 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm, followed by an auction of produce. The proceeds will be given to Devon Freewheelers and it is hoped that they will be represented at the Supper. Please ring Brenda, 252431 or Christine, 257571 to order tickets. Please join us for either or both of these celebrations as it is so good to keep tradition going.

Withleigh WI meets 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 10 August – Afternoon, **ANNUAL OUTING** – Quince Bee Farm, South Molton.

Thursday 14th September - 7.15 pm, with Mr & Mrs Godfrey, speaking on Iceland – Land of Ice & Fire

Thursday 12th October - 7.15 pm, joint meeting with Washfield W.I. at Withleigh Village Hall, with Jilly, of "Jilly, Tilly & Boo", on Annie Sloane's Shabby-Chic.

We think of all those waiting for their exam results, and hope these allow them to further their careers. Best wishes to those starting or changing schools in September, and hope you settle in well.

continued overleaf →

WITHLEIGH

Congratulations to our Rector, Steph, who has become engaged to Rev. Robert Gordon. We now look forward to your marriage in October in the Exe Valley Community.

Another happy occasion was the wedding of Hannah Luxton and Henry Frankpitt in our Church in May. We send our congratulations to them both, and best wishes for your future together.

It is a congratulatory time for Withleigh at the moment. Eric Shapland won the Hero of the Year Award and Richard Tucker won the Young Farmer of the Year Award in a competition run by the Tiverton Gazette. Richard had also previously won the 'Devon's Best Young Farmer'

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Get well wishes to those who are receiving treatment, recovering from operations, or feeling not well generally. We hope you will all feel better soon.

Forthcoming Events:

Thurs; 10 August - WI Annual outing.
 Sat; 19 August - Garden & Produce Show, in the Church at 7.30pm.
 Sun: 10 September - Harvest Festival Service in Church at 3pm.
 Thurs; 14 September - WI in the Hall at 7.15pm.
 Thurs; 12 October - WI in the Hall at 7.15pm.

Flower Rota:

30 July, 6 / 13 Aug Sara Kittow
 20 / 27 Aug, 3 Sept Daphne Chown
 10 Sept HARVEST
 17 Sept Janet Sellick
 24 Sept, 1 / 8 Oct Shirley Cruwys

Monthly Diary Dates:

First Thursday – Bingo
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MISCELLANY

Thoughts for Everyday
 by Patience Strong ~
 for 27 August

THE COUNTRY

Wherever you may picnic
 By stile or stream or tree,
 Remember where you're sitting
 Belongs to somebody.
 The corner of the cornfield
 The path beside the brook,
 The gap between the hedges,
 The bank, the shady nook.
 It all belongs to someone,
 It's someone's special care,
 So leave it clean and tidy ~
 That others passing there, might
 Rest where you have rested
 And see no tell-tale trace
 That someone's had a picnic
 And spoilt a lovely place.

Thoughts for Everyday
 by Patience Strong ~
 for 23 September

HARVEST HOME

From sowing-time to harvest home
 The farmer watches, works and prays
 That fruitfulness and rich reward
 Will bless the labour of his days.
 Men work in wood and coal and steel
 At loom and lathe and bench they stand
 And they must feel a glow of pride
 At work well done, by head and hand.
 But only those who spend their lives
 At work beneath the sky's wide dome
 Can share with God this golden hour
 And know the joy of Harvest Home.

BE LOVING

To bring a piece of Heaven
 Down to earth from high above,
 God blessed the world abundantly
 With many kinds of love.

The love within a family,
 The love of man and wife,
 The love for creatures great
 and small
 And all that's good in life.

Every bit of love we show,
 Each act of love we do,
 Brings us closer yet to Heaven
 And God ~ who loves us too !!

... let us love one another :
 ... for God is love. 1 John 4: 7,8

Parish Pump



"... and to think we grumbled because
 the Church used unintelligible
 Archaic language !!"

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<p>OAKFORD HARVEST SERVICE 17 SEPTEMBER</p>	<p>RACKENFORD HARVEST WEEKEND 8 / 9 OCTOBER</p>	<p>STOODLEIGH HARVEST WEEKEND 1 / 2 OCTOBER</p>
<p>TEMPLETON HARVEST SERVICE 1 OCTOBER</p>	<p>WASHFIELD HARVEST FESTIVAL 10 SEPTEMBER</p>	<p>WITHLEIGH HARVEST WEEKEND 10 / 11 SEPTEMBER</p>
<p>RACKENFORD GARDENING CLUB AUTUMN SHOW 26 AUGUST WEST BACKSTONE</p>	<p>TEMPLETON VILLAGE FETE 12 AUGUST 1.30pm 'till LATE</p>	<p>WITHLEIGH GARDEN AND PRODUCE SHOW 19 AUGUST 7.30pm St Catherine's Church</p>



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