

June - July 2018

Price 50p

A CHRISTIAN COMMENT - OF SORTS !

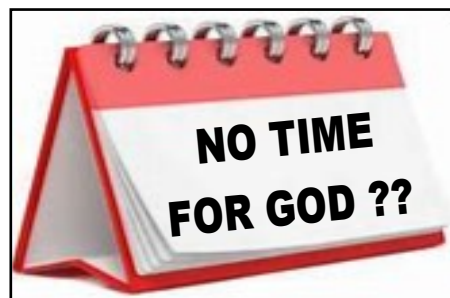
Oh dear! I've done something that I haven't done before – as far as I know. I have missed a deadline. Not for this magazine, I hasten to add, (Oh no! we are far too on top of things, here in the Exe Valley!) but for another publication I occasionally get asked to write for. And I completely forgot about it. I just didn't see it in my diary! In fact, I am not even sure that I put it there, in the first place. I didn't even have so much as a twinge of alarm as the deadline date came and went.

And then, of course I realised!

I sulked round the supermarket and bought a copy of the newspaper I was supposed to have contributed to. I half expected to see a snide, barbed headline wagging its finger at me on the front page. But there was nothing.

I went through the remaining pages, wondering if there would be a half page spread of **ABSOLUTELY NOTHING** or **'THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A CHRISTIAN COMMENT IN THIS SPACE IF ONLY THE RECTOR OF THE EXE VALLEY HAD PULLED HER FINGER OUT...'**

But there was nothing! No space. No blank columns. No white paper. No gaps. No comments. Nothing! I flicked through the pages. It all looked pretty much the same. And then I noticed something! My space had been filled!



Outrageously, my space had been filled! The place where I was supposed to have waxed lyrical, pointing the population towards spiritual truth and enlightenment, towards a God who loves them and cares for them and Jesus his son who died for them, that space had been filled by something else! Things like supermarkets, recipes, and cars, allowing extra space for yet more letters from people who comment on something every single week, people who presumably have the common sense to put the publication deadline date in

their diary! And what was worse, I realised that, unless you were absolutely desperate to read a Christian Comment, you would never have known that it was missing!

And of course, that's exactly what happens, isn't it? So many of us intend to make a bit of space for God in our lives, but stuff happens and the space that we have tried to carve out gets filled with things. Necessary things. Things that take time. Things that fill every available bit of space, so that there are no gaps left to think, pray, worship and wonder. Well, hopefully with Summer approaching, there will be the opportunity to find the gaps and make time for all sorts of lovely things, but especially important, some space for God.

May the Son shine on us all!

Steph

Please read additional information from Steph on Pages 3 and 19

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EDITORIAL



At last the sun is shining and the temperature is rising. Everything is growing amazingly quickly now, to make up for lost time, and our garden looks like a jungle !! Still, green's an OK colour !!

How wonderful to have the pot-holes down from the Rackenford Road into Washfield transformed into a wonderful smooth road. Maybe they'll do the road going the other way down past Hatswell next !!

It has been renewal time for our Advertisers and we would like to thank them for their continued support and to welcome several new adverts. We could not survive without you all.

It is also "Brown Envelope" time again. These bring in much needed income and your contributions are greatly valued Whether you come to Church or not, we hope that you find it interesting to know what has been going on in our nine Parishes and also make use of the adverts. We haven't increased the price for two years and 50p would seem like good value.

Jenny and Geoff

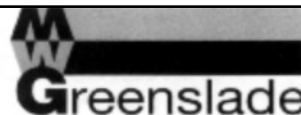
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STEPH REFLEXE ...

I have just come back from a few days away, in Assisi. I have never been before. It is, allegedly, one of those 'thin' places, where the distance between heaven and earth is so slim it is virtually non-existent - or so people believe.

And I can see why. Assisi is truly a beautiful place; the art work, the architecture, and the surrounding landscape. However, I think the thing that struck me most was the people. There was an extraordinary gathering of people, from all over the world, young and old, the sick and the healthy, the religious and the curious, the certain and the doubtful. The streets were full of pilgrim groups, walking together, singing, 'Alleluia', praising God unashamedly and openly as they walked from one holy place to another.

I couldn't help pondering what a huge impact Francis, his cousin Clare and their companions must have had on their city. What reckless youths they were! I expect some of the older generation thought they were barking! Yet their wholehearted obedience to follow Jesus Christ has been a lasting example to many people, throughout the world.

I hope to be that dedicated - although I expect I like shoes, fine dining and comfort far too much. However, I have found myself saying and singing along with St Francis:

Lord, make me an instrument
of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not
so much seek to be consoled,
as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.

Steph

FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago

June and July, 1968

Rev. Herniman's lead articles, continued in controversial vein, that in June castigating the government for selling arms to Nigeria, where there was a genocide in progress, and to which we were, therefore, party. In the July issue he focussed on the 'automatic right' to university education which was producing graduates qualified in theory, but who had no understanding of the practicalities of real world.

The sale of Witleigh 'church sheep' in Tiverton Market had raised £150, and thanks were expressed to farmers and organisers.

Oakford were having problems with dogs scratching over and fouling the churchyard.

Holidays at Home ran from Sunday 28 July to Wednesday 7 August, generally at Calverleigh, but beginning with a Group Service on 28 July at Stoodleigh. On Sunday 4 August, there were activities in all of the parishes. Buses were provided from all of the villages for transport to and from Calverleigh. The cost of the event was put at £150.

The June issue included a brief history of St Mary's, Calverleigh, from its origin in 1337 through its state of being 'miserable and neglected' in 1855 and its Victorian restoration.

The future of Rackenford's Church Room was in doubt, and was to be discussed at an open meeting in mid-July. Percy Stone retired after 27 years as sexton.

'Stoodleigh Beacon' focussed on our feelings of need of security. The fate of Nos. 1 & 2 Church Cottages was to be decided by a vote by parishioners.

Loxbear was to lose the old yew tree which was beginning to damage the church tower.

£55 was raised by members of the Witleigh choir, through an eight mile walk, to buy psalters and build up a fund for choir robes.

Washfield M.U. members were off to Arlington Court for their coach outing, at a cost of 7/6d (37½p) each!

Paul Iliff

NATURE NOTES

We were recently encouraged to review the list of endangered species in Britain and it was with mixed feelings that one saw that so many were in Devon. Anyway, I came across Bastard Balm, and it made me think of the naming of things and to wonder at the ancient creative, who decided to name it this or thus. Of course language was more robust then and gardeners called a spade

continued overleaf →



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PARISH ROUND-UP

a spade, but you wonder why a pretty plant gets such a name and why others adopted it so that it became common currency.

I well remember being in the States and having a "robin" pointed out to me. Blatantly it wasn't a robin. It was nearly as big as a thrush, and I've seen more red in the cheeks of a Devon farmer. Similarly I understand that the Christmas rose in Australia, is in fact a hydrangea. Fortunately in the 18th Century, Carl Linnaeus [a Swede] waded into this problem and reverted back to Latin to, not only rename himself [Linnaeus was not the family name and means Linden Tree] but also to leave us with a means of naming all animals and plants. As an example [I must apologise if I'm boring you] Ekhinos is the Greek for hedgehog and therefore the Latin derivative [Echinops] describes the spiky animal and the plant, and hence their 'proper' name. {It is a cause for much regret that I have not had a classical education.} However the need for exact naming of animals somewhat escapes me [as I can usually identify and name a lion before it's too late] but for plants the need has taken root. Any professional gardener, or worker in a garden centre, can sound convincingly authoritative by using the Latin names but must be careful if the customer has a dog collar, or is a lawyer, as they may come back with a quid pro quo.

Thomas More



CALVERLEIGH

It is so good to see our glorious countryside coming back to life with trees and hedgerows bursting with wonderful colour once again.

Bishop Sarah came to our Palm Sunday Mission Community group service. It was one of her final services in Devon as Bishop of Crediton. A full church of over 100 people from around the valley and Tiverton attended, with many taking part through the service. Steph led the service with Bishop Sarah giving the sermon. A bring and share lunch was held in the village hall afterwards. Our very best wishes and congratulations go to Bishop Sarah as she moves away to take up her new post as Bishop of London.



The Maundy Thursday Agape meal, hosted by Withleigh, was attended by people from around the Mission Community. Thank you to the people of Withleigh who provided a lovely meal for this time of fellowship and reflection.

On Good Friday a service of meditation was held at Calverleigh church as part of

the Lent Meditations. Thank you Steph for some thought provoking moments.

Our Easter Sunday service was a 9.30am Holy Communion and over 60 people (including 11 children), came to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The church was beautifully adorned with beautiful spring flowers.

April 7 saw the wedding of Daniel Webber and Lorna Wilson. The day started with rain but the weather later cleared in time for the happy couple to leave the church as Mr and Mrs Webber. We send our very best wishes to them for a long and happy future together.

At the APCM on 11th April, Aubrey Goldsworthy and Jackie Herniman were voted in to carry on as Churchwardens for another 12 months. They were thanked for all their hard work (and they do work very very hard indeed!) as were all who are involved in church life in any way: those on the mowing, cleaning and flower rota's, worship leaders, lesson readers, those who read intercessions, fund raisers, bell ringers, magazine distributors etc. Our grateful thanks go to you all for helping to keep our church going and also for keeping it looking so nice and tidy for parishioners and visitors alike.

The PCC was also voted back en-bloc and our thanks go to them all for they do towards the smooth running of the church and we would like to especially thank Mrs Hilda Forward and Mr. Nick Lineham for their continued organ playing for our services.

The baptism of Matilda Burton, long-awaited daughter of Nikki and Dave, took place on 15 April. Supported by many family, church family and friends, the church was once again full. A lovely

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PARISH ROUND-UP

service was led by Steph and guests were provided with a not so 'light lunch' afterwards in the hall.

Our Church Spring Clean day took place on 21 April. A band of willing helpers turned out on the day with their dusters, brushes and mops and did a brilliant job, cleaning high and low and everywhere in-between. Our grateful thanks go to all who helped in any way and also to those who, because of prior commitments on the day, gave time on the Friday to do their bit and supply us with some yummy cookies.

April was a very busy month for the Webber family as on 29th, the Church hosted a double Baptism. Emily Webber, daughter of Cheryl and Andrew, and Archie Gardner, son of Sam and Tom, were supported by many family and friends who filled the pews and the extra seating. It was lovely to see so many young families in Church for this very special occasion and we are sure that Great-grandma Myrtle must have been very proud to be surrounded by them all.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have been unwell, are awaiting/recovering from treatment or mourning the loss of a loved one. We hope that you will all be feeling better and at peace soon.

Coming Up ...

The Duck Race is proving to be a popular fund raiser and time of fellowship. This year it takes place on Saturday 26 May and will be in aid of Devon Air Ambulance and Calverleigh Church. It all starts at Lurley Bridge at 3pm with parking at the bridge or at the Village Hall. Ducks will cost £2 each.

Refreshments will be served in the Village Hall after the race, where prizes will be

awarded. This year we have been generously sponsored by R W Berry & Son, Heard and Sendell, James Pryce Tractors, Jansen UK, Morrish Landscaping & Building, Romantica of Devon, The Jolly Vintner, Waterman's Country Supplies and I J Webber & Sons.

The now annual Flower and Produce show will be on 25 August in the Village Hall, with the usual competitions, teas etc. Schedules are now available from Rita or Sheila.

Our Open-air Service takes place on Sunday 1 July at 3pm in the Churchyard (hopefully the weather will be good to us), with music once again by Ad-Lib.

Although there will not be an official Service in Calverleigh on 29 July, we are holding another of our informal get-togethers from 10am. Come along for some Coffee, Cake and Company (though Tea & Biscuits may also be served!) even if it's just for 5-10 minutes.

Cleaning Rota

28 May / 9 Jun: Mrs M Furneaux
11 / 23 Jun: Miss S Goldsworthy
25 Jun / 7 Jul: Mrs N Burton
9 / 21 Jul: Mrs A Webber
23 Jul / 4 Aug: Mrs R Tapp

Mowing Rota

28 May / 9 Jun: Mr C Durnan
11 / 23 Jun: Mr A Hancock
25 Jun / 7 Jul: Mr S Powell
9 / 21 Jul: The Heathcoat-Amory Family
23 Jul / 4 Aug: Mr K Hayes

Altar Flower Rota

27 May / 3 Jun: Mrs R Tapp
10 / 17 Jun: Ms L Carrey
24 Jun / 1 Jul: Mrs A Webber
8 / 15 Jul: Mrs T Pugsley
22 / 29 Jul: Mrs M Furneaux

Have we missed anything? If there is something that you think we should have mentioned, or you have something for inclusion in the next Magazine, please contact Dave Burton 01884 561499 or calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org and get the latest on the website at: www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

We said "Good Bye" to Bishop Sarah, Bishop of Crediton at a Group Communion Service in Calverleigh Church on Palm Sunday, followed by a Bring and Share lunch in Calverleigh Church Hall. Bishop Sarah is to have her Installation as Bishop of London in St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 12 May. It has been a great privilege to have her as our Bishop, even for such a short time.

For our Church Services in June and July please consult the middle pages.

Cleaning and Flower Rota

May 28 / 4 June: Marian Kingdom
June 11 / 18: Sarah Cruwys
June 25 / 2 July: Wendy Lake
July 9 / 16 July: Mrs J Townsend
July 23 / 30 July: Cindy Trick

Mowing Rota

April: Guy Cruwys
May: Peter Lake & the Vincents
June: Steve Guscott
July: The Berry's
August: Les Tosdevin
September: The Notley's

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

The Parish Fete

Saturday 14 July 12 noon-3pm in the Parish Hall. To be opened by our Rector Steph Gordon-Jeffs. Complete with all the usual side shows, a barbecue, teas and coffee, cake, ice cream, a Dog Show, bouncy castle, a static Classic Vehicle Show and hopefully a police car and fire engine. All enquiries for the Dog Show or Classic Vehicles please ring either 01363 866864 or 01884 254099 Email; sonianotley@yahoo.co.uk Do come and keep your fingers crossed for good weather again.

Community Lunch

We had a most successful free lunch in the Parish Hall, for all, on Tuesday 17 April, with over 40 people attending, many of whom were new to the village, also three "meals on wheels" for those who could not get to the Hall. The food, provided by Judith Taylor, was delicious, deserts were from many village members, as was the serving and washing up! We look forward to the next one.

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers Club held a Big Breakfast at the end of March. This was well supported by members of the community, family and friends - thank you to everyone. Several younger members of the Club entered the Exe Valley Show and Sale; they all gained rosettes for their livestock, so a very big well done to them. Entries are being completed for the upcoming Devon County Show. The next big event for the Club will be the Exe Valley Group Rally being held at Mid Devon Show. Congratulations to our chairman, Layla Hill, for being chosen to represent the nation in South Africa for the National Federation of Young Farmer's Clubs, through the YFC Travel programme. She will travel to South Africa in August with Projects Abroad, and hopes to do a presentation evening on her return.

Cruwys Arms Gardeners

We had a lively meeting on 4 April. Discussed frost damage, cutting back and the best place to grow lemons and oranges. Gerry gave us some Egyptian Walking Onions (a lot like chives). Everyone has lots of eggs and our chickens are enjoying the longer days. You can use old seeds mixed up to make good ground cover in the chicken run. Strawberries and tomato plants are growing, is Spring here? On Thursday 12 April, Gavin Haig gave us an informative talk and slide show on the 'Healing Garden'. We finished the evening with lively discussion and a bring and share supper, (must do this again).

On 2nd of May, nine of us gathered in the Cruwys Arms. Our 'Mystery' seeds are growing and remain a mystery! The Swallows are back to Westland and there are Wagtails nesting in the woodpile of a Puddington garden. None of us are inclined to do anything with our hedges for fear of upsetting the nesting birds. Sparrows everywhere, numbers definitely not declining here. Sonia has found aphids on her citrus plants and was advised to wash them off with soapy water. Clare has planted out her Brussels, grown from seed, and has eaten her first 4 Asparagus - very impressive! We also discussed the merits of growing Potatoes in pots, and agreed that Earlies performed better than the Blight Resistant varieties. This month's tip - try germinating parsnips in the airing cupboard. We have planned our garden visits for Summer and are hoping to get another speaker in October. Please join us in the Cruwys Arms 8pm on the first Wednesday in the month.

The Annual Flower Show

The Annual Flower Show will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 11 August. Please take a look at our schedule, as we have many new classes this year.

Schedules are available at the Church or the Cruwys Arms They are also available online at cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk. Entries will be accepted by email, pauline.8@hotmail.co.uk, but entry fees must be paid before displaying exhibits on the day. We would like to welcome and encourage new exhibitors, to ensure we have another great show. Any questions, or help with exhibiting your entries, please contact Pauline Guscott 07968 101121 or email. pauline.8@hotmail.co.uk

Yoga

To give everyone plenty of time to plan ahead and put things in the diary, I am sending changes to Yoga class dates now. Apologies, as there are a few in June. JUNE:- NO Yoga 7 June or that week. Yoga on will change from Thurs 14 June to Tues 12 June - change of day only. NO Yoga on 28 June or that week. After that things will be back on an even keel at least until end of September. Thank you to everyone for your support over the last few weeks whilst I have been hobbling around. As always if you would like to be taken off the e-mail list please let me know. Hilary x

Welcome to Guy and Anna who have recently arrived in Pennymoor.

Our best wishes go to all those in the Parish who are not well, our prayers will be with you.

Pennymoor Congregational Church Services 4.30pm

3 June. All age Service, Rev. R Green
10 June Communion, Mr. O Mears
17 June Join Way Village at 2.30pm
24 June Prayer & Praise (C)
1 July All age Service, Rev. R Green
8 July Mr. O Mears
15 July Join Way Village 2.30pm
22 July Prayer & Praise Rev R Green (C)
29 July DVD film fun

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NEW CREATION NEWS

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New Creation News – June 2018 Registered Charity 1063294

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

Proverbs 3 verses 5 and 6 (NIV)

As you know, New Creation, a registered charity and under the Lord's guidance, is run on your behalf, supporting churches and individual Christians to spread the Gospel. Last October we wrote to you with an Urgent Message from the Trustees about the situation facing us at present. Since that letter we have had some very generous donations and many encouraging words from customers.

Thank you for all your love, gifts and prayers - we are greatly uplifted by them all. As we promised to keep you updated on the financial situation in New Creation we are writing to you again as our June Newsletter.

The donations before Christmas enabled us to end the year positively but, sadly, the footfall in the shop has not increased and our takings for the first four months of 2018 are down on last year. We realize that we cannot run a business at a loss. That is not honouring to our Lord. Without the Lord's leading and guiding there is no point in putting forward our ideas. We have relied on our faithful God for over 30 years. New Creation was founded on prayer and it is still the most important part of the work that is done here. Thank you for praying for and with us for so long. In the shop every morning begins with prayer and there is a longer prayer time on Wednesdays between 9 and 10 o'clock. We would love you to come and join in. Just recently we have been praying about an opportunity to move to Market Walk. We were told the cost of fitting out would be over £30,000. Unfortunately all the wonderful donations we have had would not cover the initial set-up fee or the rent in advance and other expenses. To move we would need, as well as financial help, younger volunteers to provide 'people power'. We are considering what our next step should be:

Should we try to move, have a new or different vision, or should New Creation continue as it is? If the latter, how do we change our existing premises, how do we improve takings, how do we increase footfall?

We are open to input from anyone who would like to become involved with New Creation, maybe with new ideas and a new vision for the charity. We need help and advice from you, the communities and people we represent.

We are very aware that many of us – staff, trustees and volunteers – are getting older and will soon be thinking about stepping down, so new blood is vital if a move, or anything else, is going to get off the ground. Like Moses, we have to find new people to take New Creation into 'the Promised Land'. Please help us.

If you would like to talk with one of us, have someone come to talk to your church or group, or volunteer in any way please get in touch. If the Lord is prompting you about any aspect of New Creation and/or a possible change please speak to us, or write, or e-mail to shop@newcreationtiverton.org.uk

We are open to all your ideas about how the original vision, or a new one, could move forward.

Thank you for reading this letter.

With every blessing,

Maureen Rendell, Holly Haig, Bruce Govett, Cliff Bailey, Rikky Apps (Trustees); Val Bloxham and Penny Tedder (our treasured staff).

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58, Bampton Street, Tiverton, EX16 6AH www.newcreationtiverton.org.uk 01884 255769

PARISH ROUND-UP

All our Special events are advertised on the notice board and our Facebook page.

The Hall is available for free Community use contact Ruth on 83451

LOXBEARE

Our Easter Day Service was taken by John with Family Communion, celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Hallelujah! He is risen. It was good to see the children there and they were all happy to receive their Easter eggs. Thank you to all who decorated the Church so beautifully.

On the 8 April it was good to welcome Washfield and Calverleigh, joining us for the Cluster Service. 15 April we held a Songs of Praise in the evening taken by John and we sang many favourite hymns chosen by the congregation. After the Service the A.G.P.C meeting was held with all roles unanimously elected to remain the same. A big thank you was given appreciating all those who have served God and the Church so faithfully over the years. The next PCC meeting will be in the Hall on 12 July.

On Sunday 29 July we are planning to hold a Picnic Service. We will meet at the Church car park at 11am and then travel to Exmoor for our Service and picnic - weather permitting.

Forward notice:

The Harvest Festival Service and celebrations will be on Saturday 22 September at 2.15pm followed by sports & tea. Sunday 23 at 6.30pm for Harvest Praise. Monday 24 Harvest Supper in the Hall. More details next time.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

We welcome into the Village Tim & Debbie Newlove and family who have moved into Lower Ingrams. Also Chris & Felicity Wyman & Family into Stonehaven. We hope you will all soon settle and feel at home in Loxbeare.

We are pleased to hear that Steve Hirst is home from hospital and we pray for a speedy and complete recovery. Also for Thomas Newlove who spent a few days in hospital. Steve Troake, Derek McManus, Anne Ackland and any who are having treatment or waiting appointments, or just generally not feeling well. We hope you will all soon be feeling much better.

We have just learned that Mrs Gwen Berry passed away on 9 May. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob and all the family at this sad time.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating special occasions or birthdays in June/July.

Loxbeare Ladies:

June 4 A day trip is being planned.

July 2 A BBQ at Steve & Sue Troakes. Men also invited. Please contact Sue on 01884 259496 for more details of both days.

Village News:

A Loxbeare Village Spring Banquet was held in the Hall on Saturday 5 May with a three course meal. There was a varied menu to choose from. Thank you to all who organised the evening and cooked or made all the lovely food which we all enjoyed.

On 9 June & 14 July there will be a Cream Tea in the Hall from 3-5pm. Everyone welcome.

A walk is being organised by Richard Vickery on 21 July finishing with a BBQ in the Village Hall. For more details contact Richard on 01884 881234

OAKFORD

Thank you to all the ladies who decorated the Church for the Easter Day service. It was a most welcome burst of colour to add to our Easter celebrations.

Congratulations to all members of the Church who helped raise £390 at the St George's Day tea. A great effort and well rewarded. Thank you. The local history display of old books and photos proved very popular and many people requested more access to these in the future.

A reminder that the Memorial Service for the life of Kitty Francis will be held in Church on Friday 29 June at 12 noon.

On 6 May, Ruth Morley from CHAT came to the Morning Service to give a talk about the work done to help people with housing problems in Tiverton. There are many singles and families who face financial and accommodation difficulties and the community is very fortunate to have this organisation with its skilled staff to offer help. Fund-raising is relentless to keep CHAT going. Ruth also thanked us for our contribution to the food bank and explained that tins of meat, potatoes and vegetables are especially appreciated.

Oakford Village Fête is to take place on the playing field on Saturday 9 June starting at 2pm. Come and enjoy the international theme with games and stalls to include cakes and plants. Lots of

refreshments on offer: beer tent, BBQ and cream teas. Free entry and parking.

The French evening featuring the Gypsy Jazz Group, 'La Vie en Rose' on 2 June in Oakford Village Hall is sold out and there is a waiting list, so sorry if you have missed out this time.

The Moorland Club:

The next meeting is a trip to Crediton Church Flower Festival on Thursday 7 June. Meet at 2pm at Crediton Church and let Patsy know (01398 351 648) if you would like to go. There will be afternoon tea at 3.30pm.

The 12 July meeting is afternoon tea at The Bark House; 3pm for 3.30pm. We'll be out in the garden if the sun is shining.

Songs of Praise:

this year's theme for the Songs of Praise Service in St Peter's on 15 July at 6.30pm is 'Memories'. Let Dawn know (324035) if you have any special readings or hymns you'd like included. Stay for Pimms, canapés and nibbles afterwards.

The Annual Flower & Produce Show is to be on 11 August 2pm – 4pm in the Village Hall. Schedules are available from 3 Manor Cottages, Oakford, the library and resource centre and Toucan Café in Bampton or by calling Chris on 01398 332039. It is hoped that lots of entries will be received making this year's show just as successful and enjoyable as last year's. Anyone may enter – not just Moorland Club members.

Finally, Hutswell Farm garden, Oakford is opening to the public for the National Gardens Scheme (NGS) on 22 and 23 June, 11am – 5pm. The NGS raises money for many different charities including Macmillan Cancer Support,



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PARISH ROUND-UP

Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Parkinson's UK and the MS Society. So please support if you are able to. Light refreshments – soup, ploughman's, cream teas will be available. Admission £4.50, children free. Dogs on leads welcome. Follow the yellow signs.

RACKENFORD

As this goes to print, we have been enjoying several warm, sunny days which is a blessing after the wet weather we have experienced over the last few months.

Many thanks to anyone who played a part in distributing bottled water to our homes or making us aware of the problems we may be having with our water. Luckily it did not materialize into anything major.

Welcome home to Vera Sutton after spending several months away from the village. We hope you are progressing well Vera.

The bells rang out on Friday 30 March to celebrate the eagerly awaited opening of The Stag - approximately 18/24 months after it closed. A warm welcome to Steve and Oliver and we hope your new venture will prove to be a success after all your hard work. We look forward to meeting you.

On Easter Sunday 1 April, our Service was taken by Rev Jane Wilson - it was a delight to have Jane with us again. Together we rejoiced at this special time in our Church and received Holy Communion together. Jane hid Easter eggs in the Church for the children to seek out and all the congregation were offered an egg as they left the service.

Many thanks to those who brought flowers to decorate the Church and how lovely to

have Mary Cann back amongst us again. We have missed you Mary.

At Easter, Rackenford School provided an exhibition in the Church from its project on the School, the Church and the Community. Part of this was a wonderful life size collage of a Church window, full of local pictures. This was still up on 7 April when, despite the weather, the Rackenford Garden Club managed to put on its Spring show. The Church was full of the scent of daffodils and other lovely flower arrangements. Exhibits included 20 brilliantly coloured-in cockerels from the Little Angels nursery, who had also made some amazing Easter hats. The judges took some time to decide winners among no less than 47 poems about Spring - many beautifully illustrated. The children's junior cup went to Arthur Hyland for his chocolate muffin, drawing of a cabbage and a cockerel, the senior one to Thomas Blackburn for chocolate muffins and a decorated cake, and the main trophies to Thelma Wilmetts and Sharon Saupe. Congratulations to all.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Jo Bates on 29 March. Jo was such a lovely lady and always ready for a friendly chat with a smile on her face, even when she was struggling while recovering from a stroke. She also helped out as a volunteer in our shop. Jo's funeral and interment was held in our Church on 30 April, where many gathered to pay their respects. The service was taken by Rev Steph Gordon-Jeffs. Our deepest sympathy to her daughter Heide and family.

On 3 April we heard about the sudden death of John Blinman, brother to the late Muriel and father of Sally (Lloyd). John lived in Rackenford for many years with his sister Muriel and became involved in the gardening club and helping Muriel with a variety of her interests. John's cremation took place at Taunton Deane Crematorium

on 24 April. It was followed by a lovely buffet at Rackenford Club where people were able to chat with Sally, who had returned from New Zealand at this sad time in her life. Our deepest sympathy to Sally and her family.

The funeral service and interment of Bill Slader took place in our Church on 1 May. Our sympathy to his family and friends.

Congratulations to Joan and Fred Phillips on becoming Great-grandparents when baby Tommy arrived. Enjoy the new addition to your family.

Our best wishes to Marjorie Smith who has had a fall which resulted in a badly bruised leg and broken rib.

Welcome home to Mike Priscott who has been recovering away after a long spell in hospital. So nice to see you home and out and about again.

We send our best wishes to Mr and Mrs Phythian who have left Rackenford. We hope you will be happy in your new home.

We are very lucky to have Andrew back as our Church caretaker again and take this opportunity on Andrew's behalf to remind everyone not to use GLASS containers to place flowers on loved one's graves, where they could be hit by the strimmer and cause Andrew an injury, as well as damage the machine. If he sees glass he will have to remove it. If anyone would like a loved ones grave levelled please speak to Andrew or Mary Cann on 881696.

Our AGM took place on 18 April 2018 in the Church. At this meeting Herbert Smith resigned as Churchwarden after 42 and half years of service to our Church, but he will continue on the Church Council. Herbert was thanked by Steph and the

continued on Page 12 ➔

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

We meet on alternate WEDNESDAYS, at Barton View, Loxbeare, EX16 9RH from 2pm - 4pm

This Summer term, with the help two Good Book Guides, "Shining with joy", and "Meeting Jesus", we shall be completing Philipians, and thinking about some women of faith who met Jesus in the Gospels.

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| May 30th | Faith that transforms suffering | Mark 5v 24-34 |
| June 13th | Faith that perseveres | Matthew 15v 21-28 |
| June 27th | Faith that overcomes death | John 11v 1-44 |

For more information contact Marion on 01884 256302
E-mail: marion@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk

The **HOME GROUP** meet on alternate Wednesdays - starting on 11 April.

We gather at Church Cottage, Stoodleigh (the home of Bryan and Audrey Rigg) at 7.30pm

| | |
|---------|--|
| 6 June | Family ties 1 John 3 v 10-24 |
| 20 June | True love 1 John 4 v 1-21 <i>(NB only 1 week gap to next meeting)</i> |
| 27 June | True confidence 1 John 5 v 1-21 BBQ & Home Communion at East Sidborough |

All are welcome – please join us

PRAYER BREAKFASTS



On the last Saturday of each month, there will be an opportunity to meet together and to pray – as well as eat breakfast !!

The next two Prayer Breakfasts are on 30 June and 28 July
Please look at the website for venues, and come and join us.

How sweet the name
of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear
It soothes his sorrows
Heals his wounds
And drives away his fear



3 JUNE

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Songs of Praise

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

10 am Morning Prayer

RACKENFORD

11.15 am Family Service and Baptism with
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

STOODLEIGH

11 am Family Service

TEMPLETON

11 am Visiting Speaker from CHAT

WASHFIELD

11 am Morning Prayer

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

10 JUNE

CLUSTER SERVICES

ALL SERVICES TODAY ARE HOLY COMMUNION

CALVERLEIGH

9.30 am Loxbeare

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Templeton

LOXBEARE

9.30 am Cluster Service

OAKFORD

11.15 am Stoodleigh

RACKENFORD

11.15 am Stoodleigh

STOODLEIGH

11.15 am Cluster Service

TEMPLETON

6.30 pm Cluster Service

WASHFIELD

9.30 am Loxbeare

WITHLEIGH

6.30 pm Templeton

17 JUNE

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Service

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong
with Steph Gordon-Jeffs

TEMPLETON

11 am Morning Prayer

WASHFIELD

11 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship and Baptism
with Steph Gordon-Jeffs

24 JUNE

CALVERLEIGH

See Stoodleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Stoodleigh

LOXBEARE

See Stoodleigh

OAKFORD

See Stoodleigh

RACKENFORD

See Stoodleigh

STOODLEIGH

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

TEMPLETON

See Stoodleigh

WASHFIELD

See Stoodleigh

WITHLEIGH

See Stoodleigh

1 JULY

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service
with Baptism

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

3.00 pm Open Air Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Prayer
and Holy Communion

with Steph Gordon-Jeffs

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

10 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

11 am Family Service

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD

6 pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

8 JULY

CLUSTER SERVICES

ALL SERVICES TODAY ARE

HOLY COMMUNION

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Washfield

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am Withleigh

LOXBEARE

11.15 am Washfield

OAKFORD

6.30pm Rackenford

RACKENFORD

6.30pm Cluster Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30pm Rackenford

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Withleigh

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Cluster Service

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Cluster Service

15 JULY

RURAL MISSION SUNDAY

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service
with Baptism

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11.15 am Family Service
with Baptism

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Service

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Songs of Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

11 am Morning Prayer

WASHFIELD

11 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

22 JULY

CALVERLEIGH

See Templeton

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Templeton

LOXBEARE

See Templeton

OAKFORD

See Templeton

RACKENFORD

See Templeton

STOODLEIGH

See Templeton

TEMPLETON

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

WASHFIELD

See Templeton

WITHLEIGH

See Templeton

29 JULY

CALVERLEIGH

No Service
Informal Get-together

CRUWYS MORCHARD

No Service

LOXBEARE

11 am Picnic Service

OAKFORD

No Service

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Songs of Praise

STOODLEIGH

11 am Morning Praise

TEMPLETON

11 am Read and Reflect

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Holy Communion
with Steph Gordon-Jeffs

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Holy Communion
with Steph Gordon-Jeffs

PARISH ROUND-UP

Church Council members, for carrying out his duties for all those years. Thankfully our remaining Churchwarden Mary Cann will continue and be supported by the Church Council. Contact Mary on 881696 for Church matters.

If you are reading this prior to 26 May, there is still time to join us for our Sponsored Walk in aid of Rackenford Church. It will be a circular walk of 8 miles. We meet at The Stag at 9.00am prompt please. Contact Liz Paxton for details. If we have already walked we will update you in the next TODAY issue.

Most of the scaffolding has been removed from our Church and hopefully the work is almost completed.

A date for your diary.

Our cream teas will be at The Manor, many thanks to David and Moy, on 21 July at 3pm, look forward to seeing you all. Hope the weather will be kind to us.

Our congratulations to Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the birth of Prince Louis (on St Georges Day) and every blessing to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on their wedding.

If you are not well, lonely or depressed we send you our thoughts and prayers. Best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

STOODLEIGH

The many who attended the Easter Day Holy Communion Service, thoughtfully led by the Revd Keith Gale, were also able to enjoy the beautiful flower displays and Easter arrangements in the Church. Martine's delicately painted eggs

suspended from corkscrew hazel branches on the font were a fascinating example of the talent displayed by Stoodleigh's gifted flower arrangers. Thank you to all of them.

We look forward to welcoming parishioners from Oakford and Rackenford to the Cluster Service here on Sunday 10 June at 11.15am. This service, including Holy Communion, will be taken by Keith Gale. Later in the month, on Sunday 24 June, Stoodleigh hosts the Group Service at 10.30am. People are sometimes not sure where to park for these services, and for the young and fit it is often best to park on the road by Quoit-a-Cross and walk the short way down to the Church - but on 24 June, with the kind permission of Cecil Partridge, parking if it is dry, will be in the field opposite the west end of the Church.

The PCC has appointed Peter Broadbent as a Churchwarden, following the sad death of John Fewings. Margaret Cuninghame continues as the other warden.

As usual, there seems to be much movement in Stoodleigh. Tricia Summers has moved down to Bampton. She will be missed for her many contributions to life in the village, but she has already returned for several occasions so we will not lose touch. We extend a warm welcome to Tom Sinclair and Emily Hancock, who have moved into Little Gratton.

A major Summer event is almost upon us. At 3pm on Saturday 9 June, the **Stoodleigh Village Family Fun Day** will be held at the cricket field. There will be games and competitions for children and adults, plus ice-creams and delicious cream teas. The afternoon is free for everyone, by courtesy of SWAG

(Stoodleigh Working Action Group). As this is a children's event, it would be preferable if dogs were left at home. For details ring Janet 351401 or Sheila 351756.

The cricket field itself deserves a mention. As the season began the ground was looking better than ever, thanks to a lot of hard work under the leadership of head groundsman Steve Partridge. There has been work on the pavilion and a gleaming new 'thunderbox' has appeared! Let's hope the cricket lives up to its surroundings. Friendlies are played on weekday evenings, usually Thursday, league games on Saturday afternoons when the team is at home.

Coming events

Sat 7 July – Breakfast, Walk and Lunch. An event where there's something for everyone – starting and finishing at the Parish Hall – you can have an early breakfast and take part in a longer walk returning for lunch, have a later breakfast with a shorter stroll and back again for lunch, or just have breakfast, lunch or both and enjoy the company. Tickets will be available from Geraldine – 351391. All profit to Parish Hall funds.

Sat 11 August – Family Fun Dog Show. In addition to the Dog Show, there will as usual be cream teas, a Pimm's tent, cakes, tombola, competitions, a raffle and much more. Details about show classes will be available soon. See the Stoodleigh website and posters in due course or contact Geraldine or Margaret – 351252 or 351391. Volunteers for this event are always welcome so please let us know if you would like to be involved. This is a joint event organised by the Church and the Parish Hall who will share any funds raised.

The SWAG events for June and July:

Tues 12 June – Trip over Exmoor, meeting at the Parish Hall at 9.15am with

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PARISH ROUND-UP

a picnic lunch, weather permitting, further details from Margaret 351252.

Wed 4 July – The annual trip to the Turf Inn, Topsham, details from Alistair 351220.

Stoodleigh 100 Club:

Prizewinners for March – 1 Pat Robinson, 2 John Lang, 3 Shirley Blake, 4 Rosie James, Easter Bunny – Shirley Cope; April – 1 Pat Pennington, 2 Philip Turner, 3 Felicity Green, 4 Alison Palfrey. Subscriptions are now overdue, please pay as soon as possible.

Church Flower Rota

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 10,17 June | Yvonne Lang |
| 24 June, 1 July | Angela Hill |
| 8,15 July | Phyllis Hill |
| 22 July | Enid Hamidullah |

TEMPLETON

It was lovely to welcome members of other Exe Valley Churches to share the Easter Garden Service with us on Good Friday; such a memorable day in the Church calendar. We thank Gloria, Ron and Teresa for building our Easter Garden and a grateful thank you to all those who contributed to making our Church so beautiful to celebrate Christ's resurrection.

We held our Annual Open Church Meeting on 19 April. We had hoped a few more would attend to find out how Templeton Church had developed in the last year and what the future held for 2018-2019. However our Rector, Steph said in her report that with the introduction of Cluster and Group services throughout the Exe Valley Churches, people were coming together for worship eg. 90 people attended the Cluster Services in January and there were signs of Church growth

and new friendships created. Steph also took the opportunity to thank everyone for their welcome, support and encouragement throughout the year.

William Withers was elected as the People's Churchwarden on that day and will be legally endorsed by the diocese at the Archdeacon's Visitation Service on 17 May at St Paul's church, Tiverton. Templeton now has two people attending The Wings for Worship course; training to be Lay Leaders in our Church. They are Lynda Newnes and Reg Coffin.

We would like to thank Chris Newnes who made a wonderful notice board for inside the Church. It has lots of information about the work of the wider Church in Devon.

We would ask you to put the date Friday 29 June in your diary to support an event to raise money for the Church fabric and the bells. We are giving an informal concert entitled Wine, Words and Music in Templeton Church, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Wine, cheese and nibbles will be served from 7.30pm. The music will be light and varied as will the "words"! Tickets are available from Bindy Linden, Gloria Woollacott, Jan Heptinstall and Martin Strong. We hope to see you there.

Mrs Taylor's Memorial Service, held on 24 April was attended by some of her friends from Templeton. They joined the congregation at the Methodist Church in Tiverton to celebrate Pat's life. Pat and her family lived in Templeton many years ago. We learnt that often after a Service at the Chapel, Templeton Bridge, there was a large supper served at Pat's family home and this was followed by lively singing with Pat accompanying this on the piano. Pat met her husband Victor when he came to take the Service at the Chapel. They "courted", married and left for Church work elsewhere including

some missionary work abroad. They had three children, some of whom we met at the Service. Pat and Victor returned to Templeton for their retirement.

On Sunday 29 April we had a village Sunday Roast with all the trimmings which was great fun. Hopefully there will be more Sunday roasts over the year. Thank you to everyone who made it such an enjoyable event.

On 1 May the Village Hall and Social Club held their Annual General Meeting, with the election of new officers, looking at past events and bookings and arrangements for next year. If you have any ideas for events please contact Reg (Chairman – Village Hall) or Teresa (Chairman – Social Club)

Over the weekend of 2 / 3 June between 10am – 3.00pm the Village Hall is having a Spring Clean both inside and out. We need your help with cleaning, clearing, and painting/DIY. Any time you could give would be appreciated! Could you bring some gardening gloves and cleaning materials with you. Thank you.

On Saturday 11 August it's Templeton Annual Fete, which will have plenty of fun, food and entertainment for the whole family – more information to follow. Please could you look in your cupboards now for any unwanted gifts, clothes, bric-a-brac, books, DVD's etc. If you would like anything to be collected just get in touch at any time. Phone 860655

Following the approach from Devon Air Ambulance Trust, it has been agreed that the Village Hall grounds be used to install a Lighting Tower to provide an emergency night landing site for the helicopter. Detailed costs have now been received (funding to be agreed shortly). It will take

continued overleaf →

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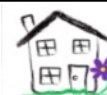
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PARISH ROUND-UP

up a small area near the gate at the hall and the mast lights will automatically turn on as the helicopter approaches. We will all benefit in an emergency with faster access to the medics and possible transfer to hospital.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Phillida Strong | 27 May / 3 June |
| Gloria Woollacott | 10 / 17 June |
| Teresa Panchez | 24 June / 1 July |
| Jill Rose | 8 / 15 July |
| Julie Dent | 22 / 29 July |

WASHFIELD

Remember: A smile is contagious so pass one on every day and enjoy sharing the happiness bug all around.

We hope you have all survived the wet and cold Winter and are looking forward to some warmth and sunshine. We know that our farmers have had a hard time with the grass not growing and so much mud everywhere. Let's hope that Nature puts it all right eventually and that all their hard work is rewarded by a good year to come!

The Annual Church Meeting, postponed by snow, eventually took place on 5 March, when Parishioners met to revue the past year and to elect the various officers. If you have not had a sight of The Annual Report and Accounts - (It is on view in the Church Porch) - where many sincere thanks were expressed, please may we thank you now in the Magazine. We have so much support from the willing volunteers in the Parish and we owe them all a very big "thank you."

The Church is in good order following the five yearly inspection when the architect ordered repairs to the stone work on the

tower and repairs to window bars. Our capable Fabric Committee, led by the Treasurer, oversaw all this, and tirelessly obtained grants from several charities and from Viridor. All other work needed was done by volunteers, who are invaluable.

We also wish to thank the bell-ringers who faithfully make a joyful sound on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings, the Sexton, who keeps the churchyard looking so well-cared for, the magazine deliverers who keep us all in touch and we have the Editors in our Parish, too, and we thank them for a wonderful publication. We thank Church cleaners, flower arrangers and all those who help at Services, not forgetting the Sacristan, the readers and lay-leaders, who all combine to keep the Church alive and ready to serve.

There will be a planning meeting for the Church Fete on 4 June at 7.30pm in the Worth Chapel. (Fete is 7 July). New ideas are needed! If you have them and would like to help, please come!

Churchyard Working Party - 23rd June - 10am to Midday. Come if you can!

April saw families returning to Washfield for Easter and there was a happy gathering for the Egg Rolling and for the decorated egg competition. A very enjoyable coffee and hot cross bun morning followed, with plant and produce stalls being well patronised to the considerable benefit of Church funds. The Easter Day Service, taken by the Revd. Ken Blyth, making a welcome return to his old Parish to lead our worship.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18 April. Parish councillors and members of the public were welcomed by the Chair, Allison

Trout. After the usual business was covered, a very interesting and informative talk was given by Allan Sheath who is a Trustee at C.H.A.T. After many questions were asked refreshments were served and everyone enjoyed an informal end to the evening.

The May Day celebrations were blessed with fine, warm weather and all those who came and enjoyed the programme of events and were pleased to be part of such an uplifting afternoon which included Maypole dancing and Morris Dancing. There were lots of activities for the children, cake, a barbecue (and more cake). Well done and thank you to all the organisers.

We send very happy wishes to David and Kate Oakley of Balmans Wood End on the birth of baby Olive, a much-welcomed sister for Laurel. Congratulations to both parents and a happy big sister.

Congratulations too, are sent to Donald and Jenny Raynes who celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary in June, we hope you enjoy your special day. To anyone else celebrating special anniversaries or birthdays we wish you many congratulations.

To all of those amongst us who are unwell, we wish you get well wishes including Robert Julier, and others who are known to us, who have had operations and treatments or are just feeling unwell and low.

A big well done to all those who have taken part in the recent Exmoor Challenge and the Ten Tors events.

Washfield Scarecrow Festival 2018. Don't forget to have your Scarecrows in position by June 2 - ready for the Puzzle Walk etc (see below)

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FAMOUS LAST WORDS

The telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication.

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Western Union internal memo 1876.

PARISH ROUND-UP

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 2 June Scarecrow puzzle walk from 4.30pm from the Hall. Cream teas and Car Treasure Hunt (4.30-7pm)

Tuesday 12 June teatime@thehall 3.00pm

Thursday 14 June W.I. in Hall. OPEN EVENING All welcome. Speaker Maurice Balment on Bygone Days in Washfield.

Saturday 16 June BBQ and Scarecrow Awards Evening

Thursday 21 June Lunch Club in the Hall 12 for 12.30pm.

Saturday 7 July Annual Church Fete 2.30pm in grounds of Old Rectory

Tuesday 10 July teatime@thehall 3.00pm
Thursday 12 July W.I. in Hall. Speaker: John Smith on a day in the life of a 'Legal Eagle'

Saturday 14 July Tractor Fest. Tractors meet in the Village centre before heading off. Look out for posters, website and Facebook for details.

Thursday 26 July Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30

DON'T FORGET - Start snapping now for a Photographic Competition "Year in the Life of Washfield" (closing in the Autumn)

Church Altar Flowers Rota

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| May 27/June 3 | Mrs May |
| June 10/17 | Mrs Jones |
| June 24/July 1 | Mrs Parnell |
| July 8/15 | Jessica Lampard |
| July 22/29 | Mrs Raynes |
| August 5/12 | Mrs Ellis |

Church Cleaning Rota

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| May 28/June 4 | Mr & Mrs Ellis |
| June 11/18 | Mrs French |
| June 25/July 2 | Mr & Mrs Dickman |
| July 9/16 | Mr & Mrs Parnell |
| July 23/30 | Mr & Mrs Walton |
| August 6/13 | Mrs Harding /Mrs Jones |

WITHLEIGH

The heavy snow of March may now be consigned to history, but not before causing the cancellation of our Service on the 18th.

Our Church's APCM took place on 22 March, chaired by Steph who, in addition to thanking the members of St Catherine's for their input during the year, set out her vision for the Mission Community during 2018. Brenda and Paul were re-elected as churchwardens, the PCC being re-elected, with the exception of Janet Sellick and Laura Butcher who wished to stand down. Our grateful thanks to both for their service, and especially to Janet who has faithfully served on the PCC for many years.

On Maundy Thursday, Withleigh hosted the Agape Meal (A service of Holy Communion within the setting of a meal, commemorating The Last Supper) in the Village Hall. Our grateful thanks to all who helped in the preparation and on the evening, and especially to Brenda for organising the meal itself.

Good Friday morning saw our customary informal Service in the Village Hall, beginning with tea / coffee and hot cross buns.

Everything was running half-an-hour ahead of normal on Easter Sunday morning, with Steph presiding over our Holy Communion service at 8am. This was followed by breakfast in the Village hall and, in turn, by a Family Service at 10am. Thank you to all who decorated the Church so beautifully, and to those who provided the breakfast.

Work started in April to repair the west wall of the Church (the cause of major

work carried out when the church was closed on safety grounds for several years during the 1960s). The PCC did not want to see a similar situation arise again and, although faced with considerable expense, agreed to put the work in hand. It is hoped that all will be completed in early June.

Thank you, Susie for a thought-provoking informal Service on 5 April on the theme of creation.

On 29 April, the Church was well-populated, as Archie Allen was welcomed into the Church family at his Baptism during our morning Family Service.

The afternoon saw a good number in Church for our Patronal Festival, celebrating the feast day of St Catherine, at which Elizabeth educated us all with facts about the life of St Catherine. This was followed by a bring-and-share tea in the vestry.

St Catherine, our patron saint, was born on 25 March, 1347 and died on 29 April, 1380. She had a twin sister, and twenty-four siblings in all (!!), though about half died at an early age. She experienced numerous mystical visions. One, it is said, was at the age of 5 or 6 years old, when as she was walking home, she had a vision of Jesus enthroned in heaven surrounded by the Apostles Peter, Paul and John. This inspired her to make a private vow, dedicating her life to God. Catherine was a lay woman, becoming a Dominican tertiary, or "Third Order" member, permitted to wear the habit of the Dominican Order. She was active in the world, catechising the young, that is, teaching the principles of Christian religion by means of questions and answer, caring for the sick and serving the poor.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Congratulations, to the Cheriton Tedburn YFC, whose pantomime, written and co-produced by Richard Tucker, was second in the national competition at Blackpool on 5 May.

A real family atmosphere was evident at our Service on 6 May, led by Laura on the theme of 'Friendship', engaging the congregation in making 'friendship bracelets'.

The next meeting of the PCC will be on 12 June at 6, Southfield Way.

St Catherine's will witness two weddings in June. Jason Parr and Kelly Parkhouse on the 15th, and Andrew Bulled and Kate Kittow on the 30th.

Our Worship Leaders will be meeting again on 19 June.

A representative from Children's Hospice South-West is due to be with us to speak at our service on Sunday 15 July.

Our Summer Fête will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 21 July, opening at 2pm, at Bona Vista, courtesy of Henry and Shirley Cruwys, with all the usual stalls and sideshows, raffle and refreshments. There will be another planning meeting on Monday 11 June, 8pm at Bona Vista. Any more ideas or offers of help will be most welcome. Help with the setting-up during the morning, and clearing away afterwards, will be especially welcome.

Advance notice of our Harvest celebrations on Sunday 16 September, when Stephen and Janet will be bringing their puppet troop to take part in our Festival Service.

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of George Carter who died on 19 April. George had coached children at

table tennis in the Village Hall, and was co-founder of Tiverton Table Tennis Club.

We continue to send get well wishes to Janet Stacey, Margaret Gale and Betty Kitchen, and any others known to us who are unwell at the moment, especially those receiving treatment, waiting for or recovering from operations. Our love and prayers are with you all.

We wish every success to those who are currently sitting exams, and to those entering the various competitions at the Mid-Devon Show.

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. 14 June. Tony Burgess. The City of Exeter through the Ages.

Forthcoming Events;

Monday 11 June, Fête planning meeting at Bona Vista at 8pm

Tuesday 12 June, PCC meets at 6 Southfield Way

Thursday 14 June, WI in the Village Hall at 7.15pm.

Friday 15 June - wedding of Jason Parr and Kelly Parkhouse

Saturday 30th June - wedding of Andrew Bulled and Kate Kittow

Saturday 21st July - Summer Fête at Bona Vista at 2pm

Flower Rota:

June 3 / 10 Val Kingston

June 17 / 18 Wedding

July 1 / 8 Wedding

July 15 / 22 Sara Kittow

July 29 / Aug 5 Susie Wade

Monthly Diary Dates:

First Thursday - Bingo

Second Monday - Whist Drive

Second Thursday - W.I.

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The average household wastes £470 worth of food every year! Join Community Action Groups Devon and Somerset Waste Partnership, on a Training Day to learn about how to support people to eat well and waste less in their households.

In the afternoon, we will share ideas on how to set up a Food Surplus Café in your community, using food from retailers (that would otherwise be wasted) to make delicious community meals.

No experience is needed, just enthusiasm and willingness to take part.

Training days will be held on Saturday 23 June, 10am – 3:30pm. Saturday 21st July 10am to 3:30pm, Use contact details below for venues.

The cost is just £5 and booking is essential. Do get in touch to find out more and to book a place, on info@cagdevon.org.uk or phone 07725760081. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @CAGDevon.



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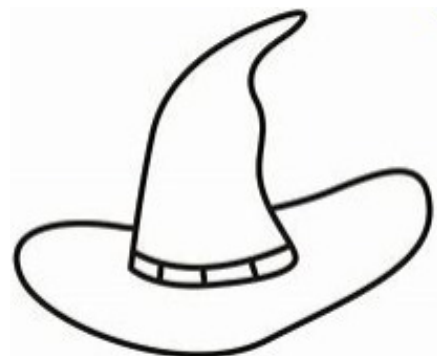
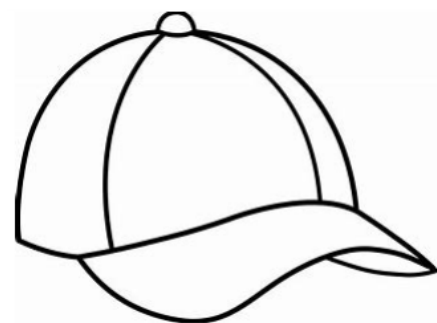
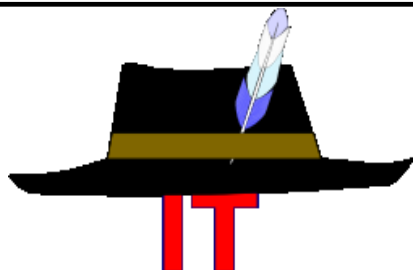
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Group Celebration Service -
Sunday 12th August at 10.30 am at Calverleigh

Please note that we are starting earlier in the mornings and on Friday we are finishing at 5pm followed by the barbecue.

We are always looking for more helpers, so if you have any time to spare and would like to help please contact Cindy on 01363 866621. 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 with you and lasts 5 years. Please ring Cindy if you would like more information.

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Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 7 June

Seek the silent places
Where no jarring sound is heard
And nothing breaks the silence
But the singing of a bird

Nature tells her secrets
Not to those who hurry by
But those who walk with quiet heart
And a seeing eye.

The same yesterday...

Why did Moses wander in the
desert for 40 years?

Because even back then men wouldn't
ask for directions !!!

Eve and leaves

Adam bit the apple and, feeling great
shame, covered himself with a fig leaf.

Eve, too, felt shame and covered
herself with a fig leaf. Then she went
behind the bush to try on a maple leaf,
a sycamore, and an oak.



*"Looks like they've introduced contactless
payments for their collections"*

Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 6 July

Getting all you've prayed for
Doesn't always bring content.
Learn to take with gratitude
What Providence has sent.

Often God withholds from us
The things for which we pray
And in the end we find that
Something better comes our way.

Sign of the times

My 10-year-old niece says her prayers
every night but instead of 'Amen', she says
'Click, Send.'

Got it all already

'I can't understand you,' said a young man to his unmarried Aunt. 'You seem so happy and contented. I've always thought that unmarried women are lonely and miserable and longing for the presence of a man about the place.'

'Well,' his Aunt responded, smiling, 'I've got a fireplace that smokes, a parrot that swears, a cat that stays out half the night with no explanation, and a dog that leaves muddy footprints all over the house and lies on the couch in front of the telly for hours. *What more do I want?*'

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Please check the website for the latest details.

Baptism and Confirmation

We have had a wonderful number of Baptisms over the past few months. What a joy it has been to welcome so many families into our churches.

Do please get in touch if you or your child would like to be baptised.

Maybe you have been baptised, but never confirmed. If you are interested in being confirmed and would like to find out more, do please contact the Church Office to talk to Steph about it.

15 JULY

RURAL MISSION SUNDAY 2018

Rural Mission Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate the life of the Rural Church.

We know that rural Christians can, and do, make a real difference in their communities.

However, that is not always how it feels. We can often feel overshadowed by larger urban and suburban churches, so it's important to stop, reflect on what we do and give thanks.

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Find out what is on in your local Church.

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| Business Card | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Bags | Workwear | Umbrellas | Menu's | Fleeces | Feather Flags | Postcards | Sportswear | Ties | Corporate Shirts | Booklets | Wedding Invites | Mouse Mats | Key Rings | Coasters | Sports Bottles | Leaflets | Magnets | Stickers |
| Car Sticker | Workwear | Umbrellas | Menu's | Fleeces | Feather Flags | Postcards | Sportswear | Ties | Corporate Shirts | Booklets | Wedding Invites | Mouse Mats | Key Rings | Coasters | Sports Bottles | Leaflets | Magnets | Stickers |
| Leaflets | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Sweatshirts | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Mugs | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Envelopes | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Hi-Viz | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Canvas Prints | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Football Kits | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Draw Tickets | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| School Wear | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |
| Greeting cards | Stag Party Shirts | Invites | Programmes | Banners | Flags | Letterheads | Rain Jackets | Aprons | Pennants | Tour Shirts | Hen Night Shirts | Fens | T-Shirts | Posters | Hoodies | Folders | Caps | |

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