



TODAY

The Parish
Magazine
for the
Exe Valley
Mission
Community

October - November 2018

Price 50p

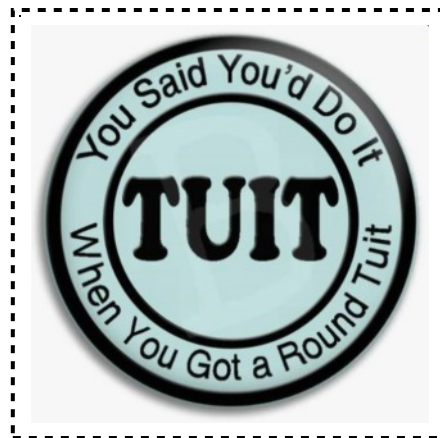
AROUNDTOIT !!

There are some things I never get around to doing. Never. Never ever. The coats on the hooks by the front door, for example. There are several coats hanging on those hooks. And a couple of handbags. And one stiletto shoe, size 5, lying underneath. They have been there for months. And I have absolutely no idea who they belong to, or where they have come from. By now, I should have put them in a bag and taken them to a charity shop.

But I haven't. Because, I never get around to it.

There are boxes in the garage, full of stuff. No doubt valuable stuff. Important stuff. But I've no idea what – because I never get around to opening them and sorting out the contents. There are photos that need to be put in albums. There are change of address cards that still need to be sent! There are old cards to be made into gift tags, and there are even boxes of Christmas decorations waiting to be put in the attic, but ... I never get around to it. Anyway, once June has been and gone there seems very little point!

So, I know, just as much as anyone, how many things I never quite manage to do. That is why I am full of admiration for three of the Exe Valley's finest, who have got around to looking at their faith and are taking the big step of being confirmed on 18 November in the Cathedral. How wonderful! It's so easy for things like that not to be a priority, in the 'busyness' of life. But they have got around to it – and we wish them every blessing for the next stage of their journey.



And then there's Gerda! She had every reason not to spend time looking at Rural Ministry as part of her training, and yet she did! And, as you can see from her letter on page 17.

she loved it and is now seriously considering Rural Ministry when she becomes a priest.

So, what about you? What about the things you never quite seem to get around to? Perhaps reading the Bible and looking at the Christian faith is one of them? If that is the case, I would like to ask you to seriously consider coming on 'The Bible Course', which will be held in three different venues across the Mission Community. The dates and contact details are on Page 3. You would all be very welcome.

And – by the way – if you have left a coat, a handbag or one stiletto at my house, don't worry, they will probably be in exactly the same place this time next year, because I never get !!

Wishing you and those you love every blessing,

Steph

Please read additional information from Steph on Pages 3, 10,11,19

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EDITORIAL

Any "townie" who thinks that Rural Churches are dying, needs to visit the Exe Valley to see an extremely successful Mission Community in action. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading all the "Round-ups" again and the joy, love and enthusiasm leaps off the pages.

What marvellous things have been happening and huge amounts of money raised. Steph has given us a belief in ourselves and we have sprung into life. Congregation numbers are very encouraging and, if we could find a way to bring more children back into our Services, our future would be assured.

It was easy for us "oldies" because we didn't have any school commitments (or anything else) on a Sunday, so going to Church was part of our weekly routine. This would then be followed by visits to family for lunch, or in the afternoon. Church came first in those days and it's hard to know how we can bring this level of commitment back into today's world. All we can do is cherish our young congregations and pray that their numbers will increase.

Jenny and Geoff

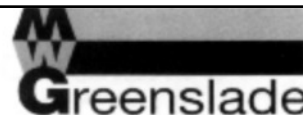
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FROM STEPH

A date for your diary

On Saturday 17 November, TEARFUND are holding 'The Big Quiz Night', which they hope will be the biggest multi-quiz event ever !!

And we want to join in - so ...

- Put the date in your diary
- Make up a team of between 4 - 6 people
- Contact the Church Office to register your team
- Bring a plate of food to share
- Wine and soft drinks available
- Cost £5 per person



Saturday 17 November 2018

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Taster Evening with Supper

Wednesday 10 October Washfield Village Hall.
Supper at 6.30pm for 7.30pm

Withleigh Great Bradley Farm 8pm

(Telephone Paul Iliff 01884 253473)

Monday 15 October

Monday 5 November

Monday 19 November

Monday 3 December

Washfield Village Hall

6.30pm for supper, 7.30pm start

Wednesday 31 October

Wednesday 7 November

Wednesday 14 November

Wednesday 21 November

Withleigh Village Hall

12.30pm for a light lunch, 1.15pm start

Friday 2 November

Friday 9 November

Friday 16 November

Friday 23 November



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago

October and November, 1968

Thanks were recorded for the generous giving within the parishes – eight of the (then) nine parish churches now had new heating systems.

In the Washfield Post, the youth club had run into money difficulties. Washfield School was suffering severely from dry rot, and it was felt there was no option but to dispose of the building.

A Group Committee had come into being, to deal with Group matters, including finances. The Exe Valley Group was the first Group ministry in the whole of the Exeter Diocese.

At Witleigh, Percy Crook had retired as Sexton – the third generation of his family, and the only ones to hold the post since the building of the church in 1846. It was hoped that the choir would have their robes by Christmas. A Country Market was also being planned.

Loxbear ladies broke a record with their September Country Stall, raising £37 for the church fabric fund. A whist drive and draw had raised £114 towards the new heating system.

The lead article in the November issue ran to no less than 4½ pages on the rights and wrongs of factory farming and animal welfare.

At Stoodleigh, the future of the Cottages was safe. Dryhill Turkeys for Christmas would be on sale at 5/6 (27½p) a pound (up to 15lbs) and 4/6 (22½p) a pound for larger.

Templeton had jams, marmalade and chutneys on sale at 1/6 (7½p) a pound, in aid of church funds and they were also planning a Christmas Country Market, to be held in Tiverton. Thanks were expressed to the boys who had organised dances to raise money for the Tower Fund. A village hall committee was proposed to deal with the provision of a new hall.

An article on the relevance, or otherwise, of Remembrance Day, and whether or not it glorified war, concluded that “...we should continue to honour all who have died in the service of their country with thanksgiving; that also we resolve with God's help to improve this troubled world which we have inherited; and to rededicate ourselves to service to our community and nation.”

Paul Iliff

NATURE NOTES

It is self evident that when you live in the countryside you are closer to Nature. What may not be as clear to City dwellers is that all your senses become heightened and you actually feel part of Nature. Not least in this shared experience, is the enhanced awareness of the weather. It would not be uncommon for an urban dweller, if they escape to the countryside or a park at the weekend, to be surprised at how wet and heavy the ground is. They and the town will have forgotten that there was any rain during the week.

We have been acutely aware of the weather this last year. The harsh Winter and the snow provided lovely silent landscapes in which the colours of the

fox and pheasant showed up as never before. Traffic and radio reports indicated that we were hardly less vulnerable than the rest of Nature but for first-time sledgers it was Winter to remember. There then followed the period of the 'Grand Wet' and it felt like three months. Seeds could not be planted, no animals could be turned out and the only sense energised was that of depression - save for the brave snowdrops and primroses. Other bulbs seemed to know better, as if the glorious summer was expected.

However, those plants not lost in Winter had to face desperate difficulties in Summer and farmers watched the abundant grass disappear, along with their cereal yield and feedstocks. Nevertheless, it was a miracle how green the trees remained and the people of Devon should be grateful of how much of this previously captured water found its way back to the parched land. 'Treeless' Cornwall, by contrast, was brown and even the golf greens were not 'green'. In this period I was overwhelmed with the smell of the lime trees and for once, urban dwellers risked breathing deeply – whole streets in some towns were drenched in the perfume, thanks to the stillness and the heat. Nature and the land breathed a sigh of relief when the drought was broken and our senses were given an ancient word to remember – petrichor – the pleasant smell of dry ground after the first rain.

Thomas More

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PARISH ROUND-UP

CALVERLEIGH

On 14 July a fund-raising Summer Tea with Friends was held at Calverleigh village hall. The afternoon was hosted by Jackie Herniman and Mandy Cotter who, with the help of others provided a sumptuous tea. We were entertained by Andrew and Sue Herniman who gave comedic renditions through song and poetry. Our thanks go to all who catered for the afternoon and we are pleased to say that £586, including donations, was raised and shared between Children's Hospice South West and Calverleigh Church.

The following day, Maggie Powell was brought to church for Baptism by parents Sarah and Neil, who kindly invited members of the congregation to join them afterwards in the hall for refreshments. This day was extra special as it was also Maggie's first birthday, which was spent with family and friends.

An informal get-together with coffee, cake and conversation (tea was also available) was held on 29 July in church, and despite the morning being very wet and windy, loads of you came along. This was open to everyone and we warmly welcome you to join us next time. It is a relaxed time of meeting together for a chat about everything and nothing in particular. The next one is being held on 30 September at 10am and another is planned for later in the year.

On Sunday 5 August, the service was led by Nikki Burton. As part of her talk, medals were handed out to the congregation, by other members of the congregation, to show their appreciation to each other for all they do in the life of the church, at social gatherings and how they use their various God given gifts and

skills. Even if you weren't there on the day, you probably still deserve a medal if you help out in any way!

Back in August, our annual flower and produce show was another great success. The number of entries were up again, with the youngest under a year old. Our thanks to the judges, stewards and all who helped in any way, especially afterwards with the cleaning up. The judges were amazed at the overall standards and particularly impressed by some of the open classes. The section winners were: Vegetables – Q Dickinson; Flowers – Mandy Cotter; Bakery – Nikki Burton; Children's – Rebecca Dummett and Most Points – Diana Hopper. Thank you all for making it such an enjoyable day.

The marriage of Matthew and Lucy Hammett took place on 1 September. The sun shone, the bells rang and family and friends joined them to celebrate afterwards with the reception at the village hall. Our very best wishes go to you both for a long and happy future together.

At our Harvest Supper on Saturday 8 September, former Olympic Race Walker Chris Maddocks gave us a very interesting and informative talk about his training and his experiences, leading up to and during his many years of representing Great Britain in Athletics. This included taking part in five Olympic Games, making him a record holder. We were served a delicious meal including a field mushroom soup (which was harvested locally) a cold meat salad and home-made desserts. Our thanks go to all who supplied food or who helped with setting up the hall, for this special time of fellowship and praise.

The following day a Harvest Cluster service with Holy Communion was led by

Rev'd Steph Gordon-Jeffs. The church was beautifully decorated with a vast variety of fruit, vegetables and flowers, some of which were given to the church from the wedding the week before. Thank you to all who provided produce, which was given to the Salvation Army for distribution to those in need.

As ever, our deepest sympathies and prayers are with anyone who is going through a hard time at present, whether due to ill health or bereavement. Please do get in contact with us if you'd like to be mentioned in prayers at any of our services.

Coming Up ...

The next Coffee, Cake and Company is being held on 30 September at 10am.

On Sunday 11 November, which is the 100 year anniversary of the end of the First World War, as many church towers as possible will be ringing the bells as part of a nation's tribute. The ringers at Calverleigh are joining in with many other churches and Cathedrals taking part throughout the country. Ringing begins at 7.05pm. Listen out for us!

Our **Autumn Fayre** takes place on Saturday 17 November at Calverleigh village hall from 10.30am – 2pm with the usual children's craft, raffle, tombolas, produce, bric-a-brac, tea, coffee, cakes and much more!

Calverleigh & District Village Hall's AGM will be held in the Hall on 20 November 2018 at 7.30pm. Members of the local community are welcome to attend.

Details of our Christmas services will follow in the next magazine, but if you can't wait that long they will be on our website shortly!

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Cleaning Rota

17 / 29 Sept: Mrs M Furneaux
 1 / 13 Oct: Miss S Goldsworthy
 15 / 27 Oct: Mrs A Webber
 29 Oct / 10 Nov: Mrs R Tapp
 12 / 24 Nov: Mrs N Burton
 26 Nov / 8 Dec: Mrs S Greenslade

Mowing Rota

17 / 29 Sept: The Webber Family
 1 / 13 Oct: Mr A Goldsworthy

Altar Flower Rota

30 Sept / 7 Oct: Mrs D Hopper
 14 / 21 Oct: Mrs M L Ravnkilde
 28 Oct / 4 Nov: Mrs L Thomas
 11 / 18 Nov: Mrs R Tapp
 26 Nov / 2 Dec: Mrs A Webber

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 are soon to welcome the new Bishop of Crediton, Bishop Jackie Searle. She is to be consecrated, in Southwark Cathedral, on Thursday 27 September, with her welcoming service in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 14 October. She is married to the Rev'd David Runcorn.

Harvest weekend starts in the afternoon of **Saturday 29 September**, with a short service at 2.15pm in the Church, followed by games in the field and tea in the Hall,

free for all, donations can be given at the door. On Sunday there is a Harvest Festival service at 11.15am taken by the Rector, Steph Gordon-Jeffs. Harvest gifts may be taken to either service. They will then be given to CHAT, so please could they be non-perishable. This year there will be no evening social but we are looking into having a Christmas Party instead – ideas??

Community Lunch is to be on Wednesday 17 October, Free to all at 12 noon in the Parish Hall - there will be a raffle and soft drinks will be provided or bring a bottle. To book your place and tell us of any dietary requirements, please ring: Sonia on 01363 866864. Do come.

Photo Shoot

On Sunday 28 October at 2pm at the Parish Hall, there will be an opportunity for you to have a family or individual portrait taken by Hannah, a local photographer. You can even include your pet if you want!! Hannah will e-mail your photos to you and then you can print off your favourite (s). You might like to wear Christmas jumpers if you wanted to turn one into a card. We will be running an appointment system starting at 2pm, and each 'shoot' will take approximately 10-15 minutes, and will cost £15.00. If you would like to book a slot, please phone Val on 01363 866662. Tea, coffee and cakes will be on sale for you to enjoy during the afternoon.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Oct 1 / 8 Marilyn Hill – Sarah Cruwys flowers
 Oct 15 / 22 Sonia Notley & Claire Miller
 Oct 29 / 5 Nov Sue & Pauline Guscott
 Nov 12 / 19 Denyse Standen & Jo Hilton
 Nov 26 / 3 Dec Carole Chisholm & Jackie Mitchell
 Dec 10 Lorna Warren

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 3 November 10.30am – 2.00pm. With Stalls, Crafts, Cakes, Teas, Coffees, Mince pies, followed by Soup and Rolls, & of course, a Raffle and Children's Tombola. We look forward to seeing everyone then.

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers

Many members entered the recent Exe Valley Group Rally held at The Mid Devon Show. Well done to Tom Palmer who won the Senior Boys Points Cup and other members who won prizes for their entries.

The Club is preparing for their Annual General Meeting and their End of Year Dinner where a cheque, to the Club's chosen charity, MIND, will be presented. Layla Hill is now home from South Africa, where she was representing Devon Young Farmers. I am sure she will write an account for us all for the next issue of TODAY.

The Annual Flower Show (the best show of the year)

What a fantastic flower show we had this year! Entries were up, which was surprising considering the weather we have experienced this year.

Cup winners were; Highest points in veg. classes - Keith Westcott, Highest points in flower classes - Shirley Grant, Highest points in Domestic classes - Pauline Guscott, Highest points in children's classes - AJ Davidian, Best exhibit in flower classes - Teresa Grant, Best exhibit in veg. Classes - Keith Westcott, Best exhibit in domestic classes - John Standen, Most points at the show - Clare Penney. Well done to all who entered exhibits this year, we hope to see you again next year.

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NEW CREATION NEWS

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*"Faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see" Hebrews 11: v1*

4 OCTOBER - OUR 30th BIRTHDAY

A big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who has helped and supported this ministry over the years. To the members of the many churches, chapels and fellowships who have prayed for us, provided volunteers and given donations, may God bless you all for your encouragement, enthusiasm and support. We pray that the Gospel that has gone out from this little shop will encourage you and, like ripples on a pond, reach far shores and bring much fruit. Amen

1988 to 2018; 30 years - a long time in one place!

Please join together with all who are, or have been, involved in spreading the 'Good News' from 58, Bampton Street since the beginning, to thank and praise our dear Lord for His encouragement in enabling New Creation to be a place of renewal, refreshment, learning, service and outreach in His name for all those years. Praise the Lord!

But now is the time for change!

For some years the state of this property and its position has caused concern. Many prayers have been offered and now God has provided. Over the summer a wonderful donation came in and also a generous legacy! These amounts will, we pray, enable a move to new premises in the Spring.

Talks are in progress with the owners of a vacant shop nearer the town centre.

Please pray that these are positive and that the Lord's Will, will be done.

Meanwhile -

Penny's Special for October
Hot soup and a roll - £3.00

ADVENT and CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas stock is coming in.

Every year Val tries to provide as wide a variety of cards, books and gifts as she possibly can. Please come in, browse, and choose your Christmas Greetings.

All our Christmas cards, calendars, diaries, books and gifts display the Christian message, making it easy to share your faith. And you will be helping other Charities, for she has ordered from Tear Fund, the Barnabas Fund, and other similar relief organisations.

This may be your opportunity to make sure that the Good News of Jesus is not packed away like a decoration - but will last for a lifetime!

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Apple Day

The Flower show committee will be hosting an Apple Day on Sunday 14 October from 11am - 4pm at Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall. Bring your apples for pressing but please remember to bring your own containers to take home the juice. Food and refreshments available. More details will follow on the Hall website.

Thank you Roland Notley and all the parishioners who spent so many hours installing the new heating in the Church, it should be finished soon, so we will be warm this Winter, Hooray! We are all delighted!

Cruwys Arms Gardeners

In August we met at Roland and Sonia Notley's garden for a bring and share tea, with an opportunity to wander around and admire the mature shrubs and trees. The selection of sandwiches and cakes were sumptuous.

The usual monthly meeting, on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Cruwys Arms was well attended. The main topic for discussion was the forthcoming presentation by Stephen Powles, the expert on Otters, entitled 'Coming to a River Near You'. It is on Tuesday 23 October, in the Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall with the talk starting at 8pm, doors open at 7.30pm. Admission £5 on the door, under 14s free, to include tea/coffee/and biscuits, do bring your own bottle. There will be a raffle.

Our Christmas dinner venue was then discussed - followed by our entries to the flower show. Despite the weather, they were stunning but not all were as the judge liked them though: some notes, do not skin your onions, leave the outer skins intact, leave the stalk on the runner

continued overleaf →



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PARISH ROUND-UP

beans, do not damage the natural bloom on pea pods, and present courgettes with the flower even if it is not attached. As usual there was a lot of non-gardening banter, the quote of the evening being: 'I don't know why everyone does not come to gardening club, when it's held in such a nice pub'. Next meeting 3rd October at 8pm in the Cruwys Arms.

Forthcoming Events.

Saturday 6 October, Theatre in the Parish Hall. Drakes Drummers - Shakespeare's Avengers: All's War That Ends War. 8pm-9.30pm.

Please book and pay on the door; tickets and enquiries, phone on 01884 860620 or 07773 362305 or contact us on the website.

Saturday 8 December Di and Dave's Annual Quiz Night. 7pm Bar for 7.30pm start.

Pennymoor Congregational Church

Services 4.30pm (unless stated)

First Sunday All age Service Rev R Green

Second Sunday Communion Mr O Mears

Third Sunday Join Way Village at 2.30pm

Fourth Sunday Pray and Praise Rev R Green

We are pleased to welcome Jessica, daughter of Darron and Kelly Garmsworth, brother to Joshua, at her baptism in July, also to welcome Cerys Rose, daughter of Amy and Martyn Williams, and Beatrice, daughter of Aimi and Ian Glover, into our church at their baptisms in August. They were all very happy occasions with the church full of young people.

Welcome Sarah, James and Bradley Stone to Sunday School Cottage.

Our best wishes and prayers are with everyone in the parish, especially those who are not well or undergoing treatment.

LOXBEARE

At the time of writing we are looking forward to Harvest Celebrations on 22 September with service, sports & teas. Harvest Supper on 24 September and Harvest Praise on 30 September at 11.15.

Our picnic service on Exmoor Saturday 29 July was unfortunately rained off, so we held a service in Loxbeare Church and then an indoor picnic at East Sidborough. Three weeks later we were again at East Sidborough for a BBQ followed by a service, both taken by John. Thank you to John & Marion for their kind hospitality to both events.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are unwell and sympathy to those who have lost loved ones.

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

Our next PCC meeting will be held on 9 October.

Anyone wishing to participate in the **Shoe Box Appeal** this year, needs to leave boxes in the Church by **4 November** or pass them onto Carol. This year boxes will be given to all ages. If you want more details contact Carol on 01884 881480.

The next **Cream Tea** will be on **13 October** and proceeds will go towards the shoe box appeal. The following month, the tea will be on 10 November.

Loxbeare Ladies enjoyed a lovely afternoon with a cream tea at Horner in August. In September an evening in the Hall with a speaker talking about

Alzheimer's. Thank you to Jan for organising the evening.

1 October a Skittles evening to be arranged. Contact Sue on 01884 259496. November bowls also to be decided. Contact Gerald on 01884

The Christmas Meal will be at Bickleigh Mill on 13 December 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Sue on 01884 259496.

Jean Heard has received a letter of thanks for the plastic bottle tops collected for Air Ambulance, South Molton. The last consignment raised £23.65. Contact Jean on 07835300232 for further details if interested in collecting.

The **Hall AGM** will be on **20 November** at 7.30pm.

There will be a **Bring & Share evening** on **24 November** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

OAKFORD

St Peter's was buzzing with celebration on 31 August, when family and friends gathered in the beautifully decorated church to take part in Paul and Jennie Chappell's Service of Thanksgiving for ten years of marriage.

Steph officiated at the moving service and, in her address, introduced some light hearted moments producing a can of magic beans (the tenth anniversary being 'tin') and huge silver balloons in the shape of the number 10.

Guests enjoyed tea and cake after the service. All good wishes Paul and Jennie for the next ten years.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

We welcome to the parish a new family living at Ringstones: Laura, Patrick, Richard and Bronwen Hurley. We wish them a long and happy stay in Oakford.

Oakford Village Hall presents Bristol's RSVP Bhangra Band on **Saturday 3 November**. The musicians are drawn from one family with the emphasis on partying Punjabi style. They will be bringing their Big Bhangra Beats and interactive vibe, so be prepared to learn some Bhangra grooves and moves. Please look out for posters for more information nearer the date. Tickets £17.50 per head to include Supper. Tel; Dawn 01398 324035 or Julia Mayer 01398 351682 juliabluehayes@yahoo.co.uk.

OAKFORD REMEMBERS:

The centenary of the end of WWI will be marked in Oakford by special events around the village throughout the weekend of 10/11 November. There are to be displays in the church of historical interest and visual impact. Sunday 11 November will begin with a gathering at the memorial at 10.50am to be followed by a service in St Peter's to which all are invited. The village hall will be decorated 1918 style for a celebratory Bring and Share Lunch with sing-along time and a family quiz. Period dress is encouraged! Watch out for more information nearer the time. It is planned that at 7.05pm the church bells will ring out joining many others throughout the nation to mark the Armistice Centenary. If anyone has any artefacts or memories to contribute or could volunteer to help, please contact Julia Mayer 01398 351682 juliabluehayes@yahoo.co.uk

THE MOORLAND CLUB:

Lots of visitors came along to The Annual Flower & Produce Show in August to enjoy viewing the exhibits and tucking into a delicious afternoon tea. There was a

really good atmosphere with much banter and friendly rivalry between exhibitors. Class entries were a little down this year but this is not surprising, as weather conditions have been unusual with excessive wet and cold in the Spring and high temperatures with minimum rainfall in June and July. So if the veggies failed this year there's always August 2019. Put it in your diary and start ordering the seed catalogues.

Monthly meetings:

Thursday 11 October – Afternoon meeting – 2.30pm in the village hall. The Exmoor Pony Centre – Talk and Slides. All welcome. Non-members £2.

Thursday 15 November – 7pm. Setting up the hall for the Christmas Fayre. Members please bring any decorations you can spare for the stalls.

Saturday 17 November – Christmas Fayre – 11am-2.30pm – village hall. Christmas stalls – gifts, produce and raffle. Modest entry fee. Coffee/tea and light lunches. Proceeds to Hospice Care Tiverton, and the Exe Valley Community Bus. Everyone welcome.

They're back - OAKFORD PLAYERS present 'A Variety Show' on **6/7/8 December**. Tickets £15 to include great entertainment and a two-course supper. Licensed bar and raffle. Contact Dawn Williams: 01398 324035. Be quick – tickets sell out fast!

Prepare now for the return of The Great Oakford Taste Off! In February 2019. Calling all foragers – harvest your fruit and berries now for your favourite alcoholic tipples and fruit cordials. Alcoholic Classes: Sloe Gin, Fruit Vodka, Flavoured tittle such as Brandy, Rum or Whisky. Non-alcoholic Class: Fruit Cordial. Blackberries are plentiful, sloes are filling out, rose hips are full to bursting. Go hunt and gather!

The John Reed Memorial Quiz is held on the third Wednesday of every month in the village hall. Bring your own nibbles and drinks. Start 8pm.

The days are shortening and all things Winter loom but Summer won't leave the stage without a terrific blaze of fireworks. Stand back and appreciate the glories of the English countryside in Autumn and be thankful.

RACKENFORD

Friends of Trevor Downing travelled to Bodmin for his funeral on 11 July, to say goodbye and remember the good times they had together in Rackenford. Our deepest sympathy to Mich, Jayne, family and friends.

We also remember the family and friends of the late Ingrid Burrige who has passed away.

Our best wishes to Andrew Shovelton who fell and broke his wrist, and to Francis Dart who is now at Ashdowne House, Tiverton.

We were so sorry to hear of the terrible injuries Bella (White) sustained after a car accident. We wish you the very best for the future Bella and also thinking of your family and friends at this difficult time.

Many congratulations to Joan Blackford who recently celebrated her 90 birthday. We hope you had a happy day Joan and are continuing to do well after your brief stay in hospital.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to cleaning out the church tower. Not an

continued on Page 12 ➔

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FOR THE FALLEN

(Taken from the poem by Robert Laurence Binyon (1869 - 1943))

With proud thanksgiving,
a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead
across the sea.

Flesh of her flesh they were,
spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

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 Autumn term, with the help the Good Book Guide, "Elijah - A man just like us", we shall be looking at the life of one of God's all-time greats in the Bible.

We shall only meet during September and October, to allow people to support The Bible Course, starting with a "Taster Evening" in Washfield on 10 October (See Page 3)

26 September	Standing alone	1 Kings 18 v1-39
10 October	Feeling down	1 Kings 19
24 October	Going home	2 Kings 1 v1-2 v15

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

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 27 October and 24 November
Please look at the website for venues, and come and join us.

Sing to the Lord of harvest,
Sing songs of love and praise.
With joyful hearts and voices
Your hallelujahs raise.
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move.
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A song of grateful love.



7 OCTOBER Trinity 19

CALVERLEIGH

3 pm Evening Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Morning Prayer

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

10 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship and Baptism

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

STOODLEIGH

11.15 am Harvest Service

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD

6 pm Evening Prayer
with Steph

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

14 OCTOBER Trinity 20

**CLUSTER SERVICES
ALL HOLY COMMUNION**

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

CALVERLEIGH

See Washfield

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Withleigh

LOXBEARE

See Washfield

OAKFORD

See Rackenford

RACKENFORD

6.30 pm Cluster Service

STOODLEIGH

See Rackenford

TEMPLETON

See Withleigh

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Cluster Service

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Cluster Service

21 OCTOBER Trinity 21

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE

11.15 am Family Service

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Morning Service

with Steph

WASHFIELD

11 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

28 OCTOBER Trinity 22

GROUP SERVICE
with Commissioning
of Chalice Helpers
and Worship Leaders
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

**ALL PARISHES
SEE WITHLEIGH**

CALVERLEIGH

CRUWYS MORCHARD

LOXBEARE

OAKFORD

RACKENFORD

STOODLEIGH

TEMPLETON

WASHFIELD

WITHLEIGH
10.30 am Group Service

4 NOVEMBER

4th Sunday before Advent
CLUSTER SERVICES
ALL HOLY COMMUNION
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

CALVERLEIGH
See Loxbeare

CRUWYS MORCHARD
11.15 am Cluster Service

LOXBEARE
6.30 pm Cluster Service

OAKFORD
9.30 am Cluster Service

RACKENFORD
See Oakford

STOODLEIGH
See Oakford

TEMPLETON
See Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD
See Loxbeare

WITHLEIGH
See Cruwys Morchard

11 NOVEMBER

3rd Sunday before Advent
**REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY SERVICES**

CALVERLEIGH
10.50 am

CRUWYS MORCHARD
10.50 am

LOXBEARE
10.45 am

OAKFORD
10.50 am

RACKENFORD
10.50 am
Service at the War Memorial

STOODLEIGH
10.50 am

TEMPLETON
10.50 am

WASHFIELD
10.50 am

WITHLEIGH
10.50 am

18 NOVEMBER

2nd Sunday before Advent

CALVERLEIGH
11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD
11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE
11.15 am Family Service

OAKFORD
6.30 pm Evening Praise

RACKENFORD
9.30 am Family Service
with Steph

STOODLEIGH
6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON
11.15 am Morning Service
with Steph

WASHFIELD
11 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH
10.30 am Family Service

25 NOVEMBER

Sunday before Advent

GROUP SERVICE

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

**ALL PARISHES see
CRUWYS MORCHARD**

CALVERLEIGH

CRUWYS MORCHARD
10.30 am Group Service

LOXBEARE

OAKFORD

RACKENFORD

STOODLEIGH

TEMPLETON

WASHFIELD

WITHLEIGH



**SING
PRAISE!**

Informal mid-week worship

7.00 pm

18 October Withleigh

15 November Washfield

Everyone welcome !

PARISH ROUND-UP

easy task in such cramped conditions but a necessary one. We know your good work is continuing.

It is difficult to keep up to date with who is moving in and out of our village. We welcome the new family to Picnic Cottage and wish Pam, who has left Rackenford, happiness in her new home.

All the best to David and Alison Trazies who have now moved and a special 'Thank you' to Alison for being part of our flower rota team and your kind gift of items to be used for flower arranging at Rackenford Church, in the future.

A warm welcome to the new occupants of The Old Police House and to Simon and Annabel Brook Ward at The Old Rectory. We hope you will all enjoy village life.

Our cream teas at The Manor were very well supported and such beautiful weather enabled us to sit in the garden and enjoy delicious creams teas, strawberries and cream etc and catch up with some familiar faces who once lived in and around Rackenford, it was lovely to see you coming to this event. A profit of £785.45 was made for the fabric fund. Many thanks to David and Moy Scott for their hospitality and to all who helped in any way to make this such a success.

A final figure for the sponsored walk was £1,781.50, amazing, thank you again everyone.

The Rackenford and All England Tennis Tournament prize giving and donations took place at Rackenford Manor. We are most grateful for the generous gift of £1,705.00 for our church fabric fund. Many thanks to David and Moy Scott for all the work involved.

West Backstone, Rackenford on 1 September was the venue for the

Rackenford Gardening Club Show.

Once again there were high class flower, fruit, vegetable, cookery, photography, arts and crafts exhibits from all ages with a record number of entries.

Toby, Louis, Eliza, Millie, and Arthur all produced excellent entries in the children's section in addition to those from Little Angels.

Gordon and Thelma Willmetts, Francis Kelland, Marjorie Smith, Dawn Adie, Margaret Tapp and Roy Bertram all won trophies.

Sharon Saupé's silver stag won the most votes of those who attended to win best in the show.

Many familiar faces from the village and further afield were there to admire the exhibits and enjoy a cream tea in Sarah and David's fantastic barn. Thank you to all who made the day possible and ensured another highly successful show.

A date for your diary is **Friday 23 November 7.30pm** when the gardening club will be holding a Cheese, Wine and Quiz evening. VENUE to be confirmed.

Many thanks to Andrew Parker for all his hard work this year trying to keep our churchyard neat and tidy. You do a good job Andrew.

We hope the children and staff have all enjoyed their six week holiday and a bonus being the beautiful weather for getting out and about, and you are now refreshed for the new term. Hopefully your exam results were pleasing and we wish everyone well in their new schools, colleges and universities. Also children starting school for the first time.

The bells rang out for the wedding of Charlotte Drake and Alexander Hart at

their wedding in Rackenford on Saturday 8 September. We hope you had a wonderful day and wish you a long, happy life together.

On **Saturday 3 November** from 10am to 12pm, we are holding a Coffee Morning in the church. Tea and coffee, mince pies, etc will be on offer along with a variety of stalls for you to browse. Cake, raffle, books, Christmas stall, jewellery etc stall, plants, a stall from the school and more, so tell your friends and come along and join us - have a cuppa and shop !!!

Not long before our **Harvest Celebrations** begin. We will be decorating in the church on the afternoon of Thursday 11 October. Harvest Praise will be Sunday 14 October, and Harvest Supper on Monday 15 October, once again kind permission of Jacques and Mary Cann for the use of their amazing barn (Lower Tidderson) followed by our great auction of goods and as always a wonderful draw. Look out for posters relating to booking tickets for the supper. You can book by ringing Mary Cann on 881696, Hilda Nott on 881248 or Herbert Smith on 881375 if you wish.

Sending our love and prayers to all who are not well, lonely or depressed, you are in our thoughts.

STOODLEIGH

A beautiful wedding took place at St Margaret's at the end of July, when Betty Wotton's granddaughter Laura married James Muir. The church was superbly decorated by Betty and her team of flower arrangers and despite a rather inclement day it was a very happy occasion with a full church.

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PARISH ROUND-UP



The following week, **Bryan and Audrey Rigg** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary (what a shining achievement!) It was lovely that the flowers from James and Laura's wedding were still looking so fresh. A third great event happened, the same week – the birth of a baby boy, Lucas Sinclair, to Emily and Tom from Little Gratton.

The Dog Show was a jolly occasion although slightly wet and we were delighted to have so many people enjoying the fun of the afternoon. Thanks to our judge Lesley Thwaites, our hosts Pat and Fred Robinson, the sponsors, supporters and volunteers and to everyone who came along, almost £800 was raised for Church and Parish Hall funds.

The annual Ploughmans Lunch on August Bank Holiday was also a great success with better weather and over £320 was raised for the church. As usual we are enormously grateful to everyone who works hard to prepare these events, helping set up and coming along on the day. Without this support the church would have a tremendous struggle to keep going.

We are extremely grateful to the anonymous donor of the new steps and gate at the east end of the churchyard. Martin Balment has done a magnificent job on them.

On **Saturday 6 October** from 10am a full peal will be rung by Exeter Cathedral ringers lasting up to three hours. Apologies to everyone, particularly those living close to the church!! The good news is that only one full peal is allowed each year – the last one was in August 2017. While on the subject of ringing, Jennifer has been delighted to welcome two beginners, so the number of Stoodleigh bell ringers is increasing and hopefully soon there will be enough to be assured of ringing for all services.

Harvest Festival in St Margaret's is on **Sunday 7 October** followed by the Harvest Supper and skittles in the Parish Hall - at 7pm on **Monday 8 October**. Please book with Margaret 351252 – tickets £7.

Peter Broadbent has worked hard, organising our Remembrance Day events on **Sunday 11 November**, marking the centenary of the end of World War One. After the 10.50am church service there will be a ceremony outside the west door starting at approximately 11.30 with readings and a cascade of poppies. In the evening a beacon will be lit near Coldblow and the church bells will ring out. Please see the enclosed flyer for further details.

On **Tuesday 13 November**, there is a coffee morning 10.30-12.00 noon, at the Old Stable and all are welcome.

An advance notice - the Christmas Fayre will be in the morning of Saturday 8 December.

The next event at the Parish Hall will be the **Autumn Market on 3 November**,

10am to 12noon. You are all invited. Local businesses with their goods, local artists displaying their wares, local bakers, cooks and makers ... come and join us. Community event for all to enjoy, entry is free, refreshments available. For more info or to book a table, ring Geraldine Talbot on 01398 351391.

Classes are run and local groups meet in the Parish Hall – please see the website. This is a message from Kim Grimston: 'Come and join our exercise classes at the Parish Hall – Tuesdays at 10 am Gentle Keep Fit, it's fun, healthy and local; Thursdays 7pm Zumba/Aerobics, great music, great workout.' Call Kim for details 07773 019564.

Stoodleigh Open Flower and Produce Show was held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 1 September. The Show, organised by Stoodleigh Garden Club as a community event, attracted more entries than last year but sadly very few from the children. The hall looked resplendent with everyone's exhibits. The winner of Best in Show was Laura Parkman and Reserve Best in Show was Jan Mills. The Single specimen Rose Bowl was won by Jan Mills and the Best Flower Arrangement bowl was won by Geraldine Talbot. Results and pictures are on the website.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: prizewinners for July – 1 Jennifer Rowlandson, 2 Geraldine Talbot, 3 Carol Radford, 4 David Wotton; August – 1 Jean Winter, 2 Alistair Morrison, 3 Pat Robinson, 4 Philip Turner.

Church Flowers

7 Oct Harvestdecorating, all help please.
14/21 Oct Linda Hill
28 Oct Eileen Fewings/Phyllis Hill
4/11 Nov Decorating the church with knitted poppies for 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

TEMPLETON

The glorious, hot days of Summer have come to an end. School and college have started, the nights are starting to draw in and we are all adjusting our routines accordingly, thinking about all the inside jobs we haven't done because it was so lovely outside. Time passes at a rate of knots so let's take the time to celebrate Autumn, 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'. There is a lot of beauty in the world, isn't there.

As many of you will know, after many years on the Templeton PCC, Jan Heptinstall has stepped down from her role as Churchwarden and has now also left the PCC, as she and Trevor plan to move to Sampford Peverell soon. Both Jan and Trevor have been hugely supportive of the Church and our Templeton village community, over many years. We thank them for all they have contributed, and we shall miss them both a great deal. Jan and Trevor have asked us to thank everyone for their very generous gift, beautiful card and superb meal, with great company, in the village hall.

Congratulations to William Withers who has been appointed as Churchwarden and to Reg Coffin and Lynda Newnes, our new deputy Churchwardens. On Sunday November 18 Reg Coffin will be receiving his Confirmation at Exeter Cathedral. Some of us are going there, to share this occasion with him. Please contact William if you'd like to go too and want to know any more details about the day.

Please come and join our Sunday services if you can and enjoy a coffee and chat afterwards. The dates of the services are always in the magazine and on noticeboards in the village and at

Templeton Bridge. Our Harvest Festival service is on **Sunday 30 September** at 11.15am. Any donations of fresh, canned or packaged produce would be most welcome (for the Haven Centre – Age UK in Tiverton).

We would like to welcome Pat and Tony who have moved into Dart Cottage at Templeton Bridge.

Congratulations to Martin and Phillida on the birth of their grandson Phynn, born on 28 July. Congratulations also to Anthea on the birth of her first granddaughter, Bridget Louise, born on 6 September.

We were very sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs Blackmore, formerly of Rose Cottage, before moving into Tiverton three years ago. Mrs Blackmore had lived at Rose Cottage since the 1970s. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy go to her family. She will be sadly missed.

Past events:

The Templeton Village Fete on Saturday 11 August was great fun despite the inclement weather. It seemed to pour down all day but this did not dampen the spirits of those who attended nor the wonderful team of people who made it possible. A special shout out to Beth Tiernan and her son Gus who stayed at their post and manned the water pistol game - in the rain. It really was weather for ducks and we had a lovely visit from a giant yellow one. There were lots of cream teas, hot dogs, craft beers, Pimms, cakes, produce, bric-a-brac, stalls, and games and the grand auction which entertained everyone all afternoon. Thank you to everyone for supporting the day so well and helping to making it yet another success. Overall, £2282.50 was raised for village funds.

A very enjoyable afternoon was spent at the Inter-village It's a Knockout

Competition on Saturday 25 August and we thank the hosts, Rackenford, for their hospitality and their ingenious games. This fun competition is a great social event and brings the village communities together in friendly rivalry but also celebration. Washfield won this year.

We are always on the lookout for enthusiastic new members to join Team Templeton, so if you think you might like to 'don the yellow' next year and represent your village then please contact Mark on 251102.

The weather was kind to us at the Duck Race on Saturday 1 September, when a starting line-up of 385 well trained ducks scrambled down the River Dart from Great Esworthy to Dartcombe Mill with the help of children, rakes and wellies! There were also more sightings of the giant yellow duck, previously spotted at the Fete, although we are assured it did not compete in the race. The winner of £30 for the first duck to the finish was Neville Norman, second prize of £20 to Julie and Anthony's baby granddaughter Stella Aurora, third prize of £10 to Lucy Else (Bindy and Roger's granddaughter) and the winner of £5 for the last duck to the finish was Debs Taylor from the Old Rectory. Thank you to everyone for contributing so generously to a great afternoon under the sunny skies. There were cream teas (scones provided by Adrian Wren - Number 33 Bakery), pasties, plants (plants from Witleigh Nurseries) and bric-a-brac stalls. The total amount raised for village funds was £626.

We were delighted to welcome Cruwys Morchard and Rackenford to share a most enjoyable Cluster Communion Service at St Margaret's Church, Templeton on Sunday 9 September at 6.30pm led by Steph Gordon-Jeffs, with Rex the cat also in attendance.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

Future events:

Harvest Supper in Templeton Village Hall on Saturday 29 September, 7pm for 7.30pm – Eat drink and be merry! Please come and enjoy a delicious hot meal, with plenty of puddings and cheeses. Bar from 7pm. Tickets £7 for adults / £3.50 for children under 14yrs. Available from Lynda 881318, Reg 860246, Gloria 254509, William 251513 or Bindy 860655. All the money raised will support the much-needed funds for the maintenance of, and repairs to our church.

Firework Night on Saturday 3 November at Templeton Village Hall. Gates open at 6.30pm. Come and enjoy this much anticipated, fun event which promises to be a great time for all the family. There will be hot dogs, other light refreshments and the bar will be open. As always, a large bonfire will be lit, and will then be followed by an amazing display of fireworks. Please be aware that Sparklers are not permitted. Hope to see you there.

Children's Christmas Party with Father Christmas on Saturday 15 December at 3pm! This is a wonderful annual family event organised by Tony Loosemore each year. If any of your children would like to join the party, please let Tony know beforehand, so that he can arrange for enough food for everyone (07510128683). You will need to bring a wrapped and named gift for each child, for Father Christmas to distribute.

Please keep a lookout for upcoming events on the Templeton noticeboards.

Flower/Cleaning Rota

Phillida Strong Harvest 30 Sept / 7 Oct
 Ginah Palmer Flowers/Cleaning 14/21 Oct
 Eleri Pugh Flowers/Cleaning 28 Oct/4 Nov
 Gloria Woollacott Remembrance Sunday 11/18 Nov
 Teresa Pancherz Advent 1 Dec
 No Flowers 25 Nov/2 Dec (Cleaning only)

WASHFIELD

*Autumn time is here again,
 days grow short and colder,
 But there's still lots we can enjoy,
 as the year grows older.*

The long hot Summer has gone and Autumn is here, bringing with it Harvest Festival. Harvest weekend was celebrated with the Church and the Social Club combining in an evening of country and harvest songs and comic stories presented by Pennymoor Singaround.

A splendid Harvest Supper of local home-grown produce added to the festive atmosphere. Grateful thanks are due to all those who contributed food, helped prepare and clear up, and manned the bar! A very enjoyable Saturday evening!

Sunday saw the Church full for Harvest Songs of Praise, with generous contributions of food for CHAT being brought to the altar by the children. Julian Ayre gave a heart-warming insight into the life of farmers in the parish of Washfield over five decades and all the changes they have had to withstand. His wise conclusion was that, to make farming work, you have to "work with nature".

Sports in the lovely garden of the The Old Rectory saw all the children enjoying themselves and our thanks go to Will and Claire Webber for giving them so much fun. A Harvest Cream Tea brought a weekend of gratitude to God and to the farmers for our food, to a fitting end.

4 July saw the Marriage of James Ayre and Natasha Ashton in St. Mary's. It always a special day in the village when there is a Wedding! We wish them well for their future together.

Support for the restoration of the Lych Gate has been overwhelming and the PCC is very grateful. We are hoping that grants will be forthcoming.

Look out for wayward pumpkins as they swell up to fruition all around the village. These monsters will be growing until the culmination of the Pumpkin growing contest (in aid of charity) on 20 October at the Social Club.

Heartfelt wishes go out to anyone who is unwell at present. We do hope that you feel better soon.

Congratulations go to anyone celebrating a special event or birthday.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9 Oct teatime@thehall 3pm
 Thursday 11 Oct W.I. in hall 7.30pm. Speaker: Paula Steer 'From farm to yarn'
 Saturday 20 Oct Pumpkin weigh-in and fund-raising night (Look out for more details) Money raised to go to E.L.F.
 Thursday 8 Nov W.I. in hall 7.30pm Cookery demonstration by Jessica Lampard
 Tuesday 13 Nov teatime@thehall 2.30pm
 Tuesday 27 Nov Social Club AGM in hall. Look out for details. New committee members are always welcomed.

FORWARD NOTICE:

Saturday 5 Dec Annual Coffee Morning in The Cottage - see next issue for details.
 Friday 14 Dec W.I. Christmas party with three-course meal and entertainment. All welcome - Contact Jenny Raynes or Jean French for details

Church Altar Flowers Rota

Sept 30/Oct 7 Mrs Lane
 Oct 14/21 Mrs Boundy
 Oct 28/Nov 4 Mrs S Balment
 Nov 11/18 Mrs H Arnold
 Nov 25/Dec 2 Mrs E Arnold

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Church Cleaning Rota

Oct 1/8	Mr & Mrs Parnell
Oct 15	Mr & Mrs Walton
Oct 22/29	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
Nov 5/12	Mrs Albery
Nov 19/26	Mr & Mrs Ellis
Dec 3/10	Mrs French

Cookery Classes - Sheila Kerslake. And our new trophy, The Eric Shapland Challenge Cup, awarded to the Overall Best Exhibit in the Show - Christine Luxton.

The following day saw our Wedding Hymns 'Songs of Praise' service in church, with the singing of wedding hymns chosen by church family members, each being introduced with facts about the hymn and the writer.

It was good to see some new faces at our Village Hall meeting which we had made an Open meeting. We had asked for anyone to come along and have their say, bringing some new ideas on what they would like to see happening in our Hall. A number of ideas were discussed, many of which you will see mentioned in the forthcoming events here in this magazine, so 'Watch this Space!!'

Maureen and Val from New Creation joined us for our service on 2 September, to tell us about the origins and work of this Christian Book and Coffee Shop in Bampton Street. (See the 'New Creation News' item elsewhere in this magazine). They would greatly value your support by using the shop, as they seek God's will for the shop's future.

We have set up a Fruit & Vegetable Exchange Stall in Witleigh. You will see it as you drive through the village on the main road, at the entrance to the Old Post Office. Fiona Bladen has kindly agreed to keep the produce rotated and has placed an Honesty Box on the stall for anyone who does not have produce to swap but would like to purchase something. The money will go to a different charity each month.

Scottish Dancing Classes begin in the Village Hall on Monday 8 October, starting at 7pm, finishing at 9pm. The Classes will continue fortnightly through the winter

months. For more information please call Giles on 01884 257123.

On the morning of **Saturday 13 October**, we will be holding 'The Big Breakfast' in the Village Hall from 9.30am until 12noon. The cost will be £5 for a cooked breakfast, and half of the proceeds will go to Devon Historic Churches Trust, who provided us with a grant towards the cost of the recent work to the west wall of the church. Fruit, toast and cereals will be available for those not wanting a cooked breakfast (or as an extra for those who do!). Tea and coffee will be on the menu. There will also be a raffle.

This year's **Team Skittles** will be held on Friday 26 October, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The usual teams of 6 will take part with the aim of taking home the trophy! Teams can come along to take part or you can just turn up and we can make up the teams on the night. It will cost £1.50 each to play. Hot Dogs, snacks, hot and cold drinks will be served during the evening.

We look forward to welcoming members of the other Exe Valley Churches when St Catherine's hosts the **Group Service on Sunday 28 October**.

A Community Lunch is to be held on Tuesday 6 November in the Village Hall, 12.30pm for 1pm. A Home-cooked Two Course Meal followed by Tea or Coffee will cost just £5. Booking is essential, please call Christine 257571 or Sara 252949 to book your lunch.

Our Craft Fayre, in aid of Church Funds is on 25 November in the Village Hall, 10.30am - 3.30pm. Coffee, lunches and afternoon teas will be served. Come and find those Christmas presents you may be looking for, and enjoy some refreshments at the same time!

We look forward to seeing you.

WITLEIGH

St Catherine's chosen charity for this year was Children's Hospice South-West and, on Sunday 15 July, we were pleased to welcome Alison Nelson from CHSW to talk about the work of the hospice. A cheque for £150 was presented on behalf of the church.

Our Summer Fête which took place on Saturday 20 July was, after a doubtful start to the day, well blessed with a (perhaps too!) hot and sunny afternoon. A good social occasion raised a record £1,364 for church funds. Thank you, Henry and Shirley, for once again hosting the event.

Congratulations to Richard Tucker and Becky Grist who were married at St Mary's, Cheriton Bishop, on 17 August. We wish you both every happiness for the future.

The Garden & Produce Show held on Saturday 18 August, in the Village Hall, was well supported, even after the really bad growing season that we have just experienced. It is good to see all the hard work rewarded when the prize cards, rosettes and trophies are given out. The main award winners were; The Challenge Cup awarded for the most points in the Vegetable Classes - Henry Cruwys. The Pat Shapland Memorial Cup for the most points in the Flower Classes - Shirley Cruwys. The Challenge Cup for the most points in the Handicraft, Preserves and

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Our thoughts and prayers are with Eric Shapland who has moved into Ashdowne House, and with Andy and Fiona on the sudden death of Fiona's father. We continue to send get well wishes to any 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.

Witleigh 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 11 October, meet with Washfield, at Washfield. Speaker, Paula Steer, on Lily Warner Wool - From Farm to Yarn.
Thursday 8 November, in the Village Hall. Speaker Kenneth McKechnie, on Poldark. Put your shirt on!

Forthcoming Events:

Monday 8 October, Scottish Dancing starts in the Hall at 7pm.

Thursday 11 October, WI meet with Washfield at Washfield at 7.15pm.

Saturday 13 October, 'The Big Breakfast' in the Hall, 9.30am – 12noon.

Friday 26 October, Team Skittles in the Hall at 7.30pm.

Tuesday 6 November, Community Lunch, in the Hall 12.30 for 1pm. See notes above.

Sunday 11 November, Remembrance Service in church at 10.50am.

Saturday 24 November, Christmas Craft Fayre in the Hall, 10.30am – 3.30pm.

Flower Rota:

Sept 30 / Oct 7 / 14 Shirley Cruwys
Oct 21 / 28 / Nov 4 Christine Luxton
Nov 11 / 18 / 25 Sylvia Hann
Dec 2 Linda Taylor

Monthly Diary Dates:

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

REFLECTIONS AT THE END OF MY PLACEMENT

During my placement with the Exe Valley Mission Community I have learned so much, that it's hard to know where to start.

It has been a privilege to be part of your Mission Community for a short while. You have given me a better understanding of what makes a community (whether church or village or the wider Mission Community) and more important, how to keep it going. I have seen great examples of mutual encouragement and genuine friendship, of patience with each other's quirks, and of willingness to help and support each other in times of need. Not only have I myself felt loved while being with you, I have watched you being welcoming to other strangers too. My main worry was whether I would be accepted, not being a Devon or indeed a UK native, and you have totally smashed that to pieces!



I have been amazed by your resilience. Having always been in town ministry myself, I now realise – thanks to you – how 'spoilt' churches in towns and cities can be, with every possible facility and resource at hand. You have demonstrated how true worship comes from the heart, with ingredients like sincerity, honesty and kindness outweighing beamers and coffee makers. (This is not to romanticise things: I pray that running water and toilet facilities can be installed in all your churches!)

What has also particularly struck me is your fortitude. I loved the Group Services I was able to attend, with people from all nine churches attending; only later did I realise that some of you would have had to travel some 15 to 20 miles over narrow lanes. But you did and you do!

I have loved accompanying you on part of your faith journey, and continue to pray for you, your churches and the Mission Community as a whole.

With love and blessings and very best wishes to you all, *Gerda van Ommerman*

SIMON AND CLARE EDWARDS

(They worked very hard, for many years, with the Exe Valley Market Bus)

We would like to thank all our Exe Valley friends for their best wishes on our move to Kent. It was not without incident, including a burst hot water tank, no mobile reception and a long struggle to get a TV signal (some may say the last two are blessings!). However we are now settled in Smarden and even before our move, we had decided that we would like to continue bell-ringing. We were delighted to hear that there was an active band which was looking for more ringers and we were immediately welcomed by the Captain and his team. Our house is within a five minute walk of the church and we hear the clock striking on every quarter hour. Right from our first lesson in Minehead, we were told how welcoming towers are to visitors/new ringers and our experience in Smarden has echoed this. If you fancy giving bell-ringing a try, find out your local tower's practice night and go along. It may, or may not be your thing but you won't know if you don't go!

We have many happy memories of our time with you all in Devon and if you are ever in Kent please look us up. Thank you again and all the best, Simon and Clare.

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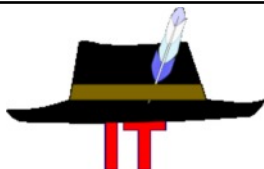
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HOLIDAY CLUB 2018



KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HATS

This year's Holiday Club was held at Calverleigh Hall.
Around 50 children attended during the week.

A big thank you to all who helped in any way to make Holiday Club a happy and fun way to learn about Jesus. Without the support of helpers who are able to give their time during this week, it would not run and we are very grateful to them all.

During the mornings we sang songs accompanied by live music, which proved to be very popular. Once again Steph's dramatised story telling was also very well received by children and adults and this was made even better this year by Steph's array of hats and outfits to fit the theme for each day. Children worked in their teams to fill in activity books relating to the day's story, finding out the answers through discussion. Each day we learnt a different story about Jesus starting, on Tuesday with 'The feeding of the 5000', on Wednesday we had the story of 'Jesus walking on water', on Thursday 'the healing of Blind Bartimaeus' and on Friday, 'the empty tomb'.

Children learnt about prayer in a different way each day.

- Day 1/ making a basket and putting into it what we can share
- Day 2/ writing down what are we afraid of and attaching it to an umbrella
- Day 3/ what makes us sad or happy and making a double faced puppet
- Day 4/ making origami flowers & streamers and said thank you to God in our prayers.

It was lovely to welcome the younger children, who enjoyed a story and activity and joined in with the holiday club children singing.

We all learnt so much, not just the children!! We got to know each other and made new friends during the week. Lunchtimes were times for getting together to chat over lunch and the enjoy the much loved tuck shop! In the afternoons children were able to take part in crafts, junk modelling being a favourite and they also enjoyed making fish kites, weaving, making bread, medical bags, rainbow glasses and more.

During the afternoon there were opportunities for team games outside, taking part in football and other fun games.

This year we finished off on Friday with extra activities, decorating the hall for Sunday's 'Wedding' and a Barbecue, it was lovely to have so many families join us.

On Sunday at the Group Service we celebrated with a 'Wedding', making button holes and singing some of the songs we had learnt during the week.

Preparations are already underway for Holiday Club 2019.

Check out the dates in the next magazine.

If you would like to help, or would like to know more about what we do, please contact Cindy on 01363 866621

Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 10 October

Every day's a new adventure,
never lived before.
Fresh experience awaits you.
New things lie in store.
You can ask to be set free
from every binding chain.
You can ask to be forgiven
and can start you life again.

Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 14 November

Other people's problems ...
What are they to you ?
Maybe you could solve them,
if you wanted to.
Do not shrug your shoulders
and turn the other way.
Other people's problems
might be yours one day.

Famous Last Words

"I have travelled the length and
breath of this country and talked to
the best people - and I can assure
you that Data processing is a fad
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... MORE FROM STEPH

Baptism and Confirmation

We have had a wonderful number of Baptisms recently.

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.

Steph



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