



# TODAY

The Parish  
Magazine  
for the  
Exe Valley  
Mission  
Community

October - November 2019

Price 50p

## BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS ...

By the time you read this it will all be over! The marquee will have gone up, been taken down and driven away. Dresses will have been worn and shoes danced in. Nails will have been manicured and hair coiffured. Drinks will have been downed and cake will have been eaten. Flowers will have been arranged, and petals will have been scattered. Oohs will have been oohed and aahs will have been aahed. No doubt speeches will have been made, jokes will have been cracked, and the odd tear may well have been shed. I will not just be a mother, but I will be a mother-in-law as well. And there will be a new Mrs Jeffs!

By the time you have read this I will have talked and laughed with my eldest son and waved him off, back to Hanoi. By the time you read this I will have sailed to and fro, across the water to Spain. I will have eaten some tapas and sipped some Rioja, played some Scrabble and read trashy novels. I have all this to look forward to – but by the time you read this, it will all be over.

And so, will the Summer.

By the time you read this, the Summer will be well and truly be over. The school holidays will be over, and a new term begun. In fact, it will nearly be half-term, and the nights will be drawing in, and the clocks ready to go back. By the time you read this, Harvest will have been well and truly gathered in and the season of Remembrance will be ahead of us – but only just.



By the time you read this, we may know a little bit more about our relationship with Europe, whether we will have a deal or no deal, or whether we face another General Election. By the time you read this ...

Time – it just races by, event after event, celebration and sadness, party and lament, season after season. Sometimes it feels as if it is just slipping through my fingers –

and I do so want to make the most of it, to linger over some of it, to press pause and remain in certain bits of it. The words of the wise teacher in the book of Ecclesiastes springs to mind, 'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven ... God has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity into people's hearts.' (Ecc 3: 1, 11)

Of course, eternity is outside normal time, and I find it a comforting thought, as I feel time passing, that God has put eternity in all our hearts. And so the best thing I can do is to join the psalmist by saying, 'I trust in you, O Lord; I say, You are my God. My times are in Your hand.' (Psalm 31: 14-15a)

Wishing you and those you love every blessing, this Autumn time,

*Steph*

Please read additional  
information from Steph  
on Pages 4, 10, 11, 19

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**THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY**  
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Morchard, Loxbeare,  
Oakford, Rackenford,  
Stoodleigh, Templeton,  
Washfield and Witleigh  
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**EDITORIAL- NEW BEGINNINGS**

In case the "Jungle Drums" haven't spread the message as far as you yet, we need to tell you that we are planning to leave the Exe Valley.

After Jenny's Mum died, we were informed that our "younger generation" are worried about us being so far from all our family. They are right, of course, *these youngsters always are* and the story sounds so familiar, with John and Marion - and Janet and Steve - recently moving away for exactly that reason.

At the moment, we are thinking that west of Chester, just into North Wales, would be a perfect spot - but we are still weighing up all our options.


This does mean that we need to find replacements for the Editor and Advertising Co-ordinator. The Magazine won't happen without them.  
See Advert on Page 4.

**BROWN ENVELOPES**

We are being asked when the annual Brown Envelopes for Subscriptions will be coming round. Hopefully next time, which will be the December / January issue - marking exactly six years since we started Editing the magazine.

*Jenny and Geoff*

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## Holiday Club 2019 Who Am I?



This year's Holiday Club was held at Calverleigh Hall in August with 40 children attending each day. A big thank you to all who helped in any way to make Holiday Club a happy and fun way to learn the stories of David. Without the support of helpers who are able to give their time during this week, the Holiday Club would not run. We are very grateful to all who help in any way.

During the mornings Steph led our time together, dressing to the theme of the story. We were very blessed to be joined by Stephen Roche with his technical wizardry. The children enjoyed seeing the stories told so well by Steph, coming to life on the screen as lego characters and popular music. A favourite was the story of David and Goliath accompanied by Rag'n'bone man, I am Giant. A lot of fun was had by all, the songs were accompanied on screen by the actions, and the children learnt sign language to one of the songs. We were grateful to Janet Roche and Robert Gordon for accompanying the singing on keyboard and Guitar.

A new and popular addition to the Holiday Club this year this year was lego. A very big thank you to all those people who generously donated lego. It seemed a mammoth task to collect enough but it just kept coming, so we had enough for each child to have a reasonable amount to create with. The children took part in a lego challenge each day and as the week went on, children joined together to create bigger and more detailed models. Some of those who had donated the lego came to our Sunday Service, were very impressed and pleased to see what the children had made.

Our prayer activities included making friendship bracelets, arrows and painting pebbles. We once again welcomed the younger children to join us for the first part of our time together. They enjoyed listening to the story and joining in with the singing.

We finished the week with the magician Ozzy D who came to join us on Friday to entertain the children with magic and balloons before we had the barbecue. A big thank you to Tony and Ann Roberts who did the barbecue for us. It was lovely to see all the families.

Thank you to all those who generously gave donations at the barbecue and at the Sunday Service, where we collected for Cayla Jones, whose family are raising funds for treatment in America. We were able to send £250.00.

We all learnt so much, not just the children. We got to know each other and make new friends during the week. It was at lunchtimes that we were able to get together to chat and enjoy the much loved tuck shop! In the afternoons children were able to take part in crafts, which included making armour and there were opportunities for team games outside, taking part in football and other fun games.

Preparations are already under-way for Holiday Club 2020. 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



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**TO ALL IN THE EXE VALLEY**

Marion & I have been completely overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of you all on our leaving. We have received so many generous thoughts and prayers from all nine churches, and the presents & cheque (not to mention Steph's torches and "Olympic medals") we received at the moving Group service in Loxbeare are amazing. We will be able to spoil ourselves as we look to use the present for something special in our new home.

We are very sad to be leaving Devon but are sure that The Lord is calling us to serve Him in Shropshire, and we follow His leading. Thank you all for your friendship and fellowship over the years, and be assured of our continued prayer for the Exe Valley.

God Bless you all,  
*John & Marion*



**MAYBE YOU COULD DO IT ??**

We need to find someone, or two people, to fill the roles of Editor and Advertising Co-ordinator because Jenny and Geoff will be leaving the Exe Valley, in the near future.



Please contact Jenny & Geoff - or Steve in the Church Office (Contact details on Page 2) for more details

They are both rewarding jobs and would suit someone with a little spare time, who has some basic Computer Skills and, even better, some experience of Desktop Publishing. Training will be given.

Contact details are on the inside cover of this magazine.



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## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### 'TODAY' 50 years ago October and November, 1969

The lead article in the October issue berated MPs for voting along party lines, rather than by conscience or by the wishes of the people who had elected them. Apart from querying the change to metric, it also asked the question, "Who wants to go into Europe?" "If ever there was a need for a referendum, this is it"! The pending change in the education system in town to comprehensive, was also questioned.

Back in 1961, ours was the only 'Group' in the Exeter Diocese, but from now on we are officially 'The Exe Valley Group'.

October had proved to be a glorious month, weather-wise, the best for many years.

The November issue carried the scores and table of the Junior Football League, the teams being fielded by Rackenfod, Morebath, Oakford, Withleigh, Calverleigh/Loxbeare, Washfield/Stoodleigh (in table order at the time!).

Loxbeare commented that the raising of funds for parochial needs had become a way of life.

Oakford's Guide Company had camped at Esworthy on one of the wettest days of the Summer, but all had survived! They were looking forward to the dedication of their new colours in December.

At Rackenfod, "A very wet pillow fight over a stream, a cross-country race up a steep hill at Washfield Bottom, and four-legged football, were some of the crazy events in a knock-out contest arranged

between Washfield and Rackenfod football teams and supporters"!

Rackenfod's young people had impressed with the way they had conducted the Young Anglicans Service in September. The revival of Rackenfod Revel Day was planned for All Saints Day.

Stoodleigh were planning their Christmas Fayre for mid-November.

The closure of Templeton's 100 year old little Methodist Chapel following its Harvest Festival at the end of September was a sad day. The members would have the choice of going to Loxbeare Chapel or Templeton Church. The Church was planning a sale in Tiverton Market in December.

Washfield W.I. members would be around Carol Singing on 20 December, and the Youth Club were putting on a pantomime. A working party was being formed to repair some of the Hall chairs before the event.

During the three years since its reopening, the visitors' book at St Catherine's, Withleigh, had collected 800 signatures, including those of three coach-loads of visitors! A Country Market was planned to be held in Tiverton.

*Paul Iliff*

## NATURE NOTES

August triggered the usual frenzy of hedge cutting. We should be very grateful to those skilful tractor drivers with their well engineered trimmers. Some pass along the hedge several times and take so much care that the end result

is better than I can achieve manually. To those like me who still have aching backs - feel grateful that you own a piece of living architecture and archaeology.

It is suggested that if you take a 30-yard hedgerow and count the number of woody species, then their number equals the age of the hedge in centuries. More simply, the depth of the hedge and steep banks is indicative of great age. The presence in a hedge of bluebells and primroses reflects that the hedge came in place of ancient woodland. It is likely that such clearance occurred in the 18th Century when the most vigorous drive for enclosing land came into force.

Children picking the flowers today may like to reflect that they are the antique plants of many generations before. The children's ancestors, like the plants, may also have been in the wrong place, as country folk hated the introduction of hedges because they prevented free access to the land and they were forced to join the drift into towns to survive.

These very hedges now provide great protection, reduce the risk of soil erosion and capture many different seeds which can germinate and flourish. In this time of Brexit it is ironical to talk of boundaries but it may be timely to reflect on something we do without any economic concern.

Any stranger flying into Britain will see something they have never seen before - a unique mosaic of differently coloured fields divided by hedges, lines of trees or dry stone walls. At least one act of Parliament brought us some good in the end.

*Thomas More*

continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CALVERLEIGH

In June, the wedding of Joe and Kate Clarke took place at Pitminster, near Taunton. Many congratulations go to you both along with best wishes for a long and happy marriage.

Potatoes galore were taken to the Rose and Crown in July for the weigh-in of the Potato Competition from competitors around the local area. As usual competition was strong, but friendly, and once all the bags of potatoes had been weighed the winning man was Gary Smith and the winning lady was Diana Hopper. Many congratulations go to them, and to all the young gardeners who took part, for their great efforts in nurturing two seed potatoes to produce so many spuds. A delicious supper of many varieties of teddies, were prepared for supper by the Rose and Crown staff. Our thanks go to Gillian and Mary for arranging this popular evening and to Tim who always manages to 'persuade' participants to buy back their own great or small efforts for a premium price. A total of £477.00 was raised for Church funds.

At the beginning of August a fund-raising Tea Dance was arranged in the Village Hall by Aubrey and Sheila. A good time was had by all who attended and over £300 was raised for the Window Restoration fund. Our thanks go to you both and all who danced the night away.

Thank you to all those who attended the 'Mooch & Munch', a leisurely walk followed by a light lunch, on 17 August. An enjoyable day was had by all - with ages ranging from 3 months to 90 years! It was a circular walk starting and finishing at the Village Hall and took us along lanes and across fields in the local area, that had not been walked by many

of us before. Younger walkers had a treasure hunt to complete and there were some lovely views across the countryside on the way round. Thank you especially to all those who gave donations, draw prizes, and refreshments or who helped in any way - especially to organisers Maureen and Paul. £641 was raised towards the Church Window Restorations.

On Saturday 31 August we held our annual Produce and Flower Show, and what a lovely day it was. The exhibits were amazing, they seem to get better every year! What a talented lot you are. There were too many prize winners to mention, but everyone was a winner in our eyes in some way. There were 23 entries in the pumpkin class alone, with Geoffrey Thomas's being the heaviest. We wish to thank all who were involved in making it the lovely day it was.

The following day the Praise Party was held in the Village Hall. Led by Steph, she was assisted by Nik, Dave, Tasha and Marc who gave an entertaining drama about King Ahab and Elijah. Janet and Steven both contributed to the video, music and slides. We were challenged to make a crow using strips of paper, googly eyes and a glue stick, which didn't turn out too badly. Activities including play-dough and crafts were available after the short Service, where we were reminded that God provides in mysterious ways. It was lovely to see so many children there. Tea and cake were served afterwards.

Belated congratulations go to Robert and Lorna Webber on the birth of their first child, daughter Evelyn. We hope that you are all keeping well and there are not too many sleep-deprived nights.

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes are with anyone who is unwell at this time and we wish you a speedy return to health. If you would like anyone to be mentioned in prayer during our Services, please let us know.

#### Dates for Your Diary:

Saturday 5 Oct - We are holding a Quiz night in the Village Hall in aid of the Church Windows Fund. The cost will be £5 per person in teams of 4 or 6. There will be a bring and share supper as a part of the evening. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Please contact Barb Hill on 01884 252572 or email honeybee5@gmail.com with your team name, prior to the event. Alternatively you can also contact Dave Burton using the details at the end of this article.

Tuesday 22 Oct - Presentation Sisters, Presentation Brothers and Christian Brothers pilgrimage to Calverleigh. Anyone who wishes to join them is invited for a Service shortly after 11am in the Church. Founder Joseph Nagle has a Memorial in the Church.

Saturday 16 Nov - Autumn Fayre in the Village Hall from 10.30am - 2pm.

Tuesday 3 Dec - Calverleigh Village Hall AGM at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

#### Cleaning Rota

30 Sep / 12 Oct:	Mrs A Webber
14 / 26 Oct:	Mrs R Tapp
28 Oct / 9 Nov:	Mrs S Greenslade
11 / 23 Nov:	Mrs N Burton
25 Nov / 7 Dec:	Miss J Herniman

#### Altar Flower Rota

22 / 29 Sep:	Mrs B Hill
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 (2 Colossians ch.4 v.2,3)

### Rev. Christopher Dunn

It is with both sadness and joy that we learned of the death of our dear friend, Rev. Christopher Dunn. He was Vicar of St George's Church for many years and was our Chaplain. He prayed with us before New Creation started and was a great source of inspiration, wisdom and spiritual guidance. Elizabeth, his wife, was one of our volunteers. They whole-heartedly supported the work here and took part in our Prayer Meetings and other events whenever they were able. Please pray for their daughters and son, Rebecca, Deborah and Jonathan, and their families as they mourn their father.

### 13 Bampton Street

We hope and pray that by the time you read this letter our new premises will be almost ready to open. Thirteen is a good number, representing Jesus and his 12 disciples. May the people who come in find love, encouragement, refreshment, acceptance, grace, prayer and friendliness as we try, with the Lord's help, to be Jesus to them. Please pray for everyone who serves here. We long to be true disciples of the Lord and be His hands and feet on the High Street.

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### School Pastors

Tiverton School Pastors are looking for new School and Prayer Pastors for lunchtimes on Mondays and Fridays (and possibly Wednesdays) in School term time, at the High School. Please contact Jenny Tower on 01884 259509 or email [jennifertower@btinternet.com](mailto:jennifertower@btinternet.com)

### We're now on Facebook!

To reach us on Facebook please type in New Creation Tiverton. There are some photos of the new shop and the work being undertaken to get everything ready.

**Please join us in Praying for Our Nation – 2 Chronicles 7 v.14**

**God bless you all**

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### Church Mowing Rota

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the Churchyard look so good this year. We can now take a well deserved break over the Winter.

**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](mailto:calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org) and get the latest on the website at: [www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh](http://www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh)

## CRUWYS MORCHARD

**AUTUMN IS HERE**, with the excitement of the run up to Christmas Day, one of our biggest festivals of the year. We will be having a Christingle and Carol Service but as yet, we do not know the date. It will be published in the centre pages of the next magazine.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday 28 September there will be a short Service, at 2.15pm, in the Church followed by games and tea in the Parish Hall. Donations of non-perishable goods can be made at this Service, which will be given to CHAT (Church Housing) again this year. There will be no evening entertainment.

Sunday 29 September there will be a Service of Harvest Thanksgiving at 11.15am in the Church. Harvest gifts may also be given at this service.

**COMMUNITY LUNCH WITH RAFFLE** on 16 October at 12.00 for 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Free for all ages, there will be a donations box to help with costs.

*continued overleaf* ➔



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Do come and chat with old friends or meet new ones. Bring a bottle if you wish, there will be squash and water on the tables. To book in, or tell us about any dietary needs you might have, please ring: SONIA on 01363 866864.

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE.**  
SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER 10.30am-1.30pm, in the Parish Hall. Teas, coffees, soup, rolls and cake, as well as many stalls and lots of fun.

### PARISH FETE

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make the Parish Fete and Family Dog Show in July such a great success. The weather was fine and it was lovely to see so many people coming to support us. Almost £1.800 was made during the afternoon for Church funds.

### CLEANING and FLOWER ROTA

Sept 30 / Oct 7- Cindy Trick  
Oct 14 / 21 - Marilyn Hill/Sarah  
Cruwys flowers  
Oct 28 / 4 Nov - Sonia Notley/Claire  
Miller  
Nov 11 / 18 - Sue/ Pauline Guscott  
Nov 25 / 2 Dec- Denyse Standen/Jo  
Hilton  
December 9th - Carole Chisholm/  
Jackie Mitchell

### MOWING ROTA

Thank you very much to everyone who has helped so much in the Churchyard, both with the mowing and keeping it clean and tidy. Sadly we have no one to mow in September or October - any volunteers? I could mow the old Churchyard in September, but I no longer have a big mower to do the job in the new yard.

### CRUWYS MORCHARD YOUNG FARMERS

In July, the Young Farmers helped out at Cruwys Morchard Church Fete and Dog Show. Members also took part in the Exe Valley Group Rally held at Mid-Devon

Show, many won prizes for their efforts. Well done to George Rice who won the Junior Boys Cup and Gracie Rice who came second in the Junior Girls. The younger members had a weekend away at Brecon Beacons which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Congratulations to Layla Hill, Jess Kingdom and Phoebe Kingdom who will represent Devon County YFC in the next round of the competition - Call My Bluff. The Club would like to wish Layla Hill the very best of luck in November, as she has been nominated and become a finalist in the South West Young Farmer of the Year. Well done Layla - a huge achievement.

### THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

On 9 August it was our Annual Flower Show, and wow, what an amazing display of entries. There were some superb exhibits in the flowers and vegetables. As usual the children's entries were absolutely brilliant, and of course there was a huge display of cakes etc in the domestic classes. Main cup winners were, Keith Westcott, Lynette Parkhouse, Pauline Guscott, Clare Penney and Teresa Grant and in the children's section, Holly Harris, Nicholas Penney and Archie Gardener. Well done and thank you to all the exhibitors, the judges and everyone who came on the day. Next year's show will be on Saturday 8 August.

### PARISH HALL NEWS

A very BIG thank you to all who supported or helped at the Breakfast and Brunch in August. The event raised just over £400 for Hall funds. We hope to see you next August.

Coming Events for Hall funds:

Bingo Dates; Sat 26 Oct, Sat 21 Dec - eyes down at 8pm.

Di & Dave's Annual Christmas Quiz on Sat 7 Dec. Book your team in from 1 Nov Text Mary 07773 362305 or ring 01884 860620.

For more details and other events please visit the parish website <https://www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk/whats-on>

### YOGA

Due to increasing numbers, the yoga class has been split into two groups, both on Thursday mornings, the first at 9.30am-10.55am. A general Hatha class. The second 11.05am-12.30pm. A similar class set at an easier more gentle pace. For further information ring Hilary 01363 866245. Hil.tosdevin@btinternet.com

**CRUWYS ARMS GARDENERS:** meet every first Wednesday of the month in the Cruwys Arms, 8pm. Do come and join us.  
**Report on August Meeting**

Nine members attended the meeting and we were pleased to welcome two guests. The theme of the evening was 'vegetable tasting'. Several members brought along a variety of both raw and cooked vegetables. We sampled peas, beans, carrots, potatoes, courgettes, cucumber and tomatoes. For many of us, the startling flavour of some of the varieties, stimulated a lot of discussion on seed sources and co-operation with swapping surplus seedling production.

There was further discussion on the forthcoming Cruwys Morchard Show; sharing advice on the correct presentation of vegetable varieties.

We agreed to devote part of the September meeting to a further tasting of fruit and vegetables.

Clare Penny was presented with a beautiful Hydrangea as a birthday gift and to thank her for the work she puts in to make the club such a success.

**BURNS NIGHT 2020 IN CRUWYS MORCHARD - FRIDAY 24 JANUARY IN THE PARISH HALL.**

Save the date, Full details to follow.



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# PARISH ROUND-UP

We were very happy to welcome Tyler Berry into the Church at his baptism on Sunday 4 August. Son of Matt and Amanda Berry.

Congratulations to Rebecca and Matthew upon their marriage on 10 August. We all enjoyed seeing them drive past the Parish Hall in the beautiful white carriage drawn by two wonderful black horses.

Congratulations to Ed and Hannah on the birth of Daisy Rose, sister to Jack and granddaughter for Teresa and Jeremy Grant.

We would like to wish Shirley Grant well in her move to Tiverton. I am sure we will go on seeing her in Cruwys Morchard.

Welcome to the new owners of Lugsland.

Our love and prayers go to all those who are not well in the Parish.

**Pennymoor Congregational Church**  
 Sat. 5 Oct. Reflection Day with lunch  
 6 Oct. Group Mission Service 2.30 pm  
 13 Oct. Communion Service 4.30 pm  
 20 Oct. Join Way Village. 2.30 pm  
 27 Oct. Praise and Prayer. 4.30 pm  
 Holiday club in half term see notice board  
 3 Nov. All Age Service. 4.30pm  
 10 Nov. Remembrance RG 4.30 pm  
 17 Nov. Join Way Village. 2.30 pm  
 24 Nov. Praise and Prayer. 4.30 pm  
 Coffee Morning each Weds 11am - 12.30pm  
 Find all our events on Facebook!

**AN APOLOGY**  
 - to everyone struggling to find 16 books of the Bible in the last issue. The word "especially" had been missed out after "jam" on the fourth line. That will give you your missing Book.  
**So sorry !!**

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## LOXBEARE

It was good to welcome so many in Loxbeare Church at the Group Service on 28 July when we said our final and sad farewells to John and Marion Roberts. Presentations were made on behalf of the Group and also from Loxbeare. The week before, on 21 July, was the last Service taken by John with Marion playing the organ. It was lovely to have James, Anna, Nathaniel and Naomi Roberts with us. After the Service we had a lovely picnic in the Church grounds. The children and a few adults braved the climb up the Church tower. John and Marion will be very much missed and we pray for God's blessing on them and all the family.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to the Harvest Celebrations giving God thanks for his plentiful provisions and blessings. These begin on Saturday 28 September with a Service at 2.15pm, followed by sports and tea. Harvest Songs of Praise on Sunday 29 at 6.30, and Harvest Supper on Monday 30 in the Village Hall at 7 for 7.30pm.

We send our thoughts, prayers & sympathy to Gerald & Linda Haywood & family on the loss of Linda's mother Mrs Freda Berry from Puddington. We remember her with much fondness. Also to Mike & Sheila Watson on the death of Sheila's father, and also we continue to remember all those who have recently been bereaved.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are feeling unwell at this time and for Avril McManus and Alastair Evans recovering from operations, for Leslie Tidball and any who are waiting for operations and those having treatment.

Happy birthday to all who have birthdays in October/November and congratulations to those celebrating special occasions.

We welcome James and Rhianna into Daws Cottage and Mickey, Lesley, Phil and Joe into The Willows (sorry we did not know surnames). Henry and Hannah Frankpitt have moved into East Sidborough from The Willows. We hope you will all be very happy and soon settle into your new homes.

A PCC meeting was held on 3 September and the next meeting will be on 5 November. Please check middle pages for Service times.

**The Village Hall AGM** will be on the 21 November in the Hall.

**Cream Teas** will be 12 October and 23 November in the Hall 3-5pm.

**The Christmas Fayre** will be 7 December 2-4pm. Bingo on 9 December 7 for 7.30pm.

On 19 October at Barton View (Jean's) there will be a **Coffee Morning** from 10.30am to raise funds for the Blythwood Shoe Boxes for Christmas. If you would like to provide one, details from Carol on 01884 881480 or leave them at the Church by 10 November.

**26 October** in the Hall 7 for 7.30pm there will be a Social Evening. Please bring a plate of cheesy savouries.

**Saturday 9 November** at Arthur's there will be a bonfire. For catering purposes, please let Richard Vickery know if you are coming on 01884 881234.

**Loxbeare Ladies** - contact Sue on 01884 259496 for details of dates and activities. The Christmas Meal is at Bickleigh Mill on 13 December. Contact Sue.

continued on Page 12 ➔

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**GROUP SERVICE**

We are delighted that  
Bishop Jackie  
is joining us for our  
Group Service  
in Oakford on  
27 October

Please put the date  
in your diary and  
come to meet her.

You are invited to a  
**Christingle Praise Party**  
on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
at 3.30pm in  
Calverleigh Church



We do hope you  
can join us !!

**EXE VALLEY WEBSITE**

Have you visited our website recently?

[www.exevalleychurches.org](http://www.exevalleychurches.org)

If you haven't, do take a look.

It's the best place to go for updates  
about what's on and what we do.

A new addition to the website is a  
monthly **Prayer Diary** with a topic to  
pray for, each day of the month.

**Thoughts for Everyday**  
by Patience Strong ~  
for 17 October

Do not cross your bridges  
Before they come to view.  
Wait until you're there  
Before deciding what to do.  
Wait before anticipating  
Trouble, tears and loss.  
The bridge you dread, may prove  
To be an easy one to cross.

**Thoughts for Everyday**  
by Patience Strong ~  
for 13 November

Don't assume you've lots of time  
For all you mean to do.  
Tho' the future seems to stretch  
Away into the blue.  
Maybe you intend to scale  
Those summits far away  
But all that matters, is the hill  
You've got to climb today.

**6 OCTOBER**

**CALVERLEIGH**

11.15 am Cluster Service  
with Holy Communion  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**LOXBEARE**

See Calverleigh

**OAKFORD**

10 am Morning Praise

**RACKENFORD**

9.30 am Morning Praise

**STOODLEIGH**

11 am Harvest Festival

**TEMPLETON**

11 am Harvest Festival

**WASHFIELD**

See Calverleigh

**WITHLEIGH**

9.30 am Service of the Word  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**13 OCTOBER**

**CALVERLEIGH**

11.15 am Songs of Praise

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

9.30 am Family Service  
with Baptism  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**LOXBEARE**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**OAKFORD**

11.15 am Cluster Service  
with Holy Communion  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**RACKENFORD**

See Oakford **PLUS**  
6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**STOODLEIGH**

See Oakford

**TEMPLETON**

10 am Morning Prayer

**WASHFIELD**

11.15 am Family Service

**WITHLEIGH**

10.30 am Family Service

**20 OCTOBER**

**CALVERLEIGH**

No Service

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

See Templeton

**LOXBEARE**

11 am Family Service

**OAKFORD**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**RACKENFORD**

9.30 am Family Service

**STOODLEIGH**

6.30 pm Evensong

**TEMPLETON**

11.15 am Cluster Service  
with Holy Communion  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**WASHFIELD**

9.30 am Morning Prayer  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**

**WITHLEIGH**

See Templeton



**27 OCTOBER**

**GROUP SERVICE**

*with*

***Holy Communion***

**BISHOP JACKIE**

**ALL PARISHES**

**10.30am**

**at**

**OAKFORD**

**3 NOVEMBER**

**CALVERLEIGH**

See Loxbeare

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**LOXBEARE**

11.15 am Cluster Service with Holy Communion and Baptism

***Steph Gordon-Jeffs***

**OAKFORD**

10 am Morning Praise

**RACKENFORD**

9.30 am Morning Worship

**STOODLEIGH**

11 am Morning Prayer

**TEMPLETON**

10 am Family Service

**WASHFIELD**

See Loxbeare

**WITHLEIGH**

10.30 am Family Service

**10 NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

**CALVERLEIGH**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

***Steph Gordon-Jeffs***

**LOXBEARE**

10.50 am Family Remembrance Service

**OAKFORD**

10.50 am Remembrance Service at War Memorial

**RACKENFORD**

10.50 am Remembrance Service at War Memorial

**STOODLEIGH**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**TEMPLETON**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**WASHFIELD**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**WITHLEIGH**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**17 NOVEMBER**

**CALVERLEIGH**

11.15 am Family Service

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

See Withleigh

**LOXBEARE**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**OAKFORD**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**RACKENFORD**

9.30 am Family Service

***Steph Gordon-Jeffs***

**STOODLEIGH**

6.30 pm Evensong

**TEMPLETON**

See Withleigh

**WASHFIELD**

11.15 am Family Service

**WITHLEIGH**

11.15 am Cluster Service with Holy Communion

***Steph Gordon-Jeffs***

**24 NOVEMBER**

**GROUP SERVICE**

***Steph Gordon-Jeffs***

**ALL PARISHES**

**10.30am**

**at**

**STOODLEIGH**

**Sing Praise!**

**Informal, contemporary mid-week worship at 7pm**

**18 October in Withleigh**

**21 November in Washfield**

**Everyone welcome**



## PARISH ROUND-UP

### OAKFORD

**B**rilliant day Oakford! The amazingly enjoyable Soap Box Derby took place in August. Fourteen intrepid drivers faced the downhill run from The Red Lion to the Village Hall. Some were a little paler at the finish line but all enjoyed the thrill cheered on by enthusiastic supporters. Thomas the Tank Engine battled it out against The Rocket, The Trotters (fur lined interior!), The Batmobile and Oakford's very own Fire Engine amongst the many other imaginatively decorated 'vehicles'. Steph and Robert kindly volunteered for the hard task of judging the presentation at the start line. At the end of the day prizes were awarded to 1st The Wacky Wares (Kenny Ware & Team), 2nd The Bell (Justin Williams & Team) and 3rd The Red Sparrows (Riley O'Flynn & Team). Special thanks to Andy Burton and his team for spot on organisation and to all who helped make the day such fun. £1328 was raised for the Church Restoration Fund. Thanks to everyone and get building ready for next year!

On the theme of raising funds, two enterprising youngsters, David and Jack, are collecting aluminium cans in their self-build can cart. It will be seen around the village so please support them in this creative initiative. Parishioners living outside the village can contribute by leaving cans, DVDs, CDs, printer cartridges (sorry not Kodak or Epsom), books and PC games (only if they have bar codes) in the boxes inside the Lychgate of St Peter's.

St Peter's is honoured to welcome Bishop Jackie who will lead the Group Service on 27 October at 10.30am. Come and meet her over coffee after the Service.

**Forward Date:** St Peter's Christmas Carols by Candlelight will be on Sunday 22 December. Everyone will be welcome at this special seasonal Service.

**The Moorland Club** meets at the Village Hall on:

10 October at 2pm – a talk by Lisette de Roche of Priestlands Birch. Lisette will talk about birch trees and describe how many cosmetics and beauty products are made from them. There will be product samples to try.

21 November at 7pm – Setting up and decorating the Village Hall for the Christmas Fayre.

23 November at 10.30 – 2.30 – The Christmas Fayre. Light lunches (soup/desserts), lots of stalls to include gifts, craft, white elephant, cakes & preserves, chocolate & fudge, tombola and raffle. Entry 50p. This year's charities are the Devon Freewheelers Volunteer Blood Bikes and Teenage Mental Health. Please come along and bring friends. All welcome.

**Quiz Nights** – 16 October and 20 November at The Red Lion. 8pm for an 8.15 start.

**The Oakford Players:** 1 – 2 November 7.30 in the Village Hall. Book NOW for a hilarious murder mystery, The Strange Affair of Guido Forks, with a Buffet Supper and Cash Bar. Tickets £15 available from Dawn Williams 01398 324035. Characters you won't believe and a banging good plot! Don't miss it.

After 25+ years living in The Old School House in Oakford, artist Lawrie Baldwin has moved, taking with him many happy memories of his time here. We wish Lawrie all the best for his future plans. Moving in are Charlotte, Jake and their daughters Hattie and Naomi. Welcome, we hope you find happiness and friendship in our community.

Also we welcome Pippa's mum, Marguerite Evans who has moved in to Apple Tree Cottage.

A big thank you to the villagers who have volunteered to join the monthly rota to lock and unlock the Church. The doors are always open in daylight hours and anyone is welcome to visit for a quiet time or to use the library.

And finally, all the glorious colours of the Autumn are here to enjoy. As the colder months approach, keep a watchful eye on those in our community who live alone especially if they become unwell. Spare a thought too for the homeless in neighbouring Tiverton and those who, for whatever reason, find it hard to make ends meet. Donations of canned and packet foods and toiletries can be placed in the box at the back of the Church. These will be taken regularly to the CHAT food bank. Thank you.

### RACKENFORD

**A**lthough we are in Autumn, we have enjoyed some beautiful Summer days to get out and about and appreciate it, during the school holidays.

Congratulations to students who have received and celebrated their A level and G C S E results. Very best wishes as you go forward to college, university etc and to everyone amongst us returning to or starting Rackenford School.

Our deepest sympathy to Linda and Marlene on the death of their mother Freda Berry, who years ago lived in Rackenford and worshipped in our Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

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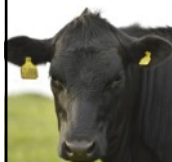
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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Welcome to Debbie and Rob who have moved into the village. We hope you will be happy living here.

Congratulations to all who have celebrated special birthdays and anniversaries, especially thinking of Vera Sutton's special birthday and Bett and Ron Kirby who have celebrated their Diamond Wedding.

Our best wishes to those who are poorly, have spent time in hospital, or are receiving treatment, especially thinking of those we know - Herbert Smith, Graham Fennell, Philippa Fraser, Andrew Shovelton, Gilbert Issac and Jacques Cann.

Congratulations to Liz Paxton who took part in her first quarter peal on the bells at Rackenford on 28 July. Liz rang the treble bell and ringers came from Tiverton, Holcombe Rogus, St Giles in the Wood and Cruwys Morchard to ring the other bells and support her in this venture, which involves ringing continuously for three quarters of an hour. This takes a lot of practice and a great deal of concentration, so we are full of admiration for you Liz on achieving this target. Rung in memory of Phillip Rolle. Thank you to Glen Hookins who has stood down as Tower Captain, you have been such a great help keeping us informed of future bell ringing events. Dennis Saupé has now taken over from Glen, thank you Dennis.

We are so grateful to the All English Tennis Club for the generous gift of £725 (a share) to our Church raised during your recent tournament. We hope you all enjoyed the fun and challenges !!!

Our final figure from the sponsored walk is just over £2,000. Thank you all again - such an amazing amount.

### BINGO DATES

October 10 Rest a While, Witheridge.  
November 14 The Stag, Rackenford.  
December 12 Rest a While, Witheridge. This one will be all meat prizes. All bingos commence at 7.30pm.

### HARVEST

October 13 Harvest Praise.  
October 14 Harvest Supper. More details will be available on posters well in advance.

We are asking for help please, from anyone who can spend a little time on Thursday 10 October at 3pm to help decorate the Church ready for Harvest. If you are happy to bring any flowers, foliage or produce, that would be such a help. Please leave it in the porch if you are not able to come and decorate. Thank you.

We were all treated to another wonderful display of entries in a wide variety of categories at the Autumn Gardening Club Show held at West Backstone Farm. Delicious refreshments added to the enjoyment of a lovely afternoon, concluding with trophy presentations and a draw run by Annette Reed.

Just a reminder to let Fiona Maddocks have your recipes, hints and tips for the book we plan to have ready before Christmas. Could be the perfect gift. It's nearer than we may like to think !!!

indoor games of hula hoops, egg and spoon and jelly eating competitions, as well as delicious cream teas and cakes generously donated by our home bakers. Jan Russell and Sheila Davis would like to thank Stoodleigh Working Action Group and the anonymous friend who provided financial support for the event.

The Family Dog Show on 10 August turned out to be a fun-filled and successful event, despite the weather. As the gales and rain calmed down, energetic and welcome volunteers secured the gazebos and delivered equipment to Pat and Fred Robinson's paddock. Dog owners and handlers arrived with visitors to enjoy the afternoon with cream teas, cakes, competitions, a raffle and a Pimm's and beer tent. Funds were raised for St Margaret's Church and the Parish Hall towards much needed maintenance, repairs and improvements. Thanks to everyone's support and generosity, £1,125 will be shared between the two causes. You can see the results and photographs on the parish website at <https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/stoodleigh/parish-hall-events-and-fundraising/family-fun-dog-show-2019/>. Margaret Cuninghame and Geraldine Talbot commented that the support from sponsors (details on the above website link), the many stallholders and volunteers was very much appreciated.

On Bank Holiday Monday, Margaret Cuninghame hosted the annual Church Ploughman's Lunch at Parkhouse Water. Just under fifty villagers and friends gathered for a delicious buffet in the glorious August sunshine, when £411 was raised. Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the day and especially to Margaret for organising and hosting this event.

## STOODLEIGH

This year's Village Fun Day back in June was relocated to the Parish Hall as it was too soggy underfoot to use the Cricket Field. However, the damp day didn't stop Stoodleigh families coming together to join the fun. This included

continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Stoodleigh Annual Show was held in the Parish Hall on 31 August. The Show, which is organised by Stoodleigh Garden Club, attracted over 180 entries. Much hard work had been expended by the exhibitors and the Hall looked magnificent, with all entries proudly displayed. The winner of the Best In Show rosette for the second year running was Laura Parkman. Reserve Best In Show was shared by Geraldine Talbot and Ann Roberts. The Single Specimen Rose Bowl was won by Shirley Cope and the Best Flower Arrangement Bowl by Laura Parkman.

All results and pictures can be found on the Stoodleigh website at <https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/stoodleigh/parish-groups-organisations/garden-club/>

The Service for **Harvest Festival** will be on Sunday 6 October at 11am, followed on Monday 7 October by the annual Harvest Supper, which is again combined with the ever-popular skittles. The evening starts at 7pm in the Parish Hall and proceeds will be donated to Devon Air Ambulance. Entry £7. Please book with Margaret Cuningham (01398 351252).

On **Thursday 17 October** there will be an inter-pub quiz at the Stoodleigh Inn in support of the local Rotary Club. The whole pub is the team, which will compete with seven other pubs in the area. Please come along and share your knowledge. Last year the Stoodleigh team came second and we are hoping for an even better result this time. Please check timings with Lizzie Isaac (01398 351357).

**Stoodleigh's Autumn Market and Coffee Morning** is being held on Saturday 26 October from 10am to 12 noon at the Parish Hall. This is an opportunity for local businesses, craft people and stallholders to showcase and

offer their goods for sale – tables for hire are available. In addition, cakes, community plants, honey, books, refreshments and more will be on sale. To book a table or for more information please ring Geraldine Talbot (01398 351391).

On **Wednesday 6 November** Enid Hamidullah is hosting a coffee morning at Furzecliff from 10.30am to 12 noon. This event, which will include a raffle, is to help towards repairs to the Church Tower. All welcome.

The **Parish Hall AGM** takes place on Tuesday 19 November at 7.30pm. All users and residents in the area served by the Parish Hall are invited to hear from the Management Committee about this year's achievements and plans for the future. Please bring ideas and suggestions for Hall use and events and let the Committee know if you are able to volunteer with help or support. For more details, please contact the Secretary on 01398 351391.

Much work has been done in the churchyard to trim the yew trees and, as usual in November, there will be the annual churchyard clearance: date to be arranged. Many people will have noticed that the Church clock is permanently stopped at ten to four, although the hours are still being rung. Repair work will be carried out soon.

As reported above, funds are being raised for repairs and renovations to the Church Tower. The costs of this are in the region of £26,000 and work starts on 6 September. St Margaret's Parochial Church Council can never cease to reiterate their thanks to everyone for their enormous support for this wonderful Grade II\* listed Church with its 15th Century bosses and green man wall plates. Long may this support continue.

To date, thanks to the generosity of so many people who supported the many Stoodleigh events this year, the village has raised £1,500. In addition, a further £6,000 has been raised from outside Trusts and £5,000 from the Devon Historic Churches Trust. The Friends of St Margaret's Fund is also making a contribution of £5,000. Other Trusts are being approached to help cover the shortfall of some £8,000.

We are sorry to hear that Mandy and John Widdowson are closing the Egg Shed. Grateful customers have been coming from the village and further afield for many years to use this 24/7 facility. The Widdowsons have asked that the following message be included:

*"Many of you will already have heard of our decision to retire after 29 years of egg production at Valley View Farm. We have thoroughly enjoyed the experience but we have now reached the stage where we no longer wish to work seven days a week. Regrettably that means the end of the Egg Shed. We would like to thank you all for your custom and we are sorry we are taking away a facility we know you have appreciated. Our last hens will leave the farm in the week commencing 23 September, which means we should still have eggs for sale until around the last week in the month. However, we know many of you travel some miles to get here so if you intend to come during that last week please contact us first (by phone or text: John 07889 765824 or Mandy 07729 406646) to make sure we still have eggs."*

Stoodleigh would like to welcome Martin and Lara Perry who have moved into Hillcrest from Plymouth, as well as James and Fara Torrance, the new owners of Stoodleigh Moor Farm, who are temporarily at Great Coleford. We hope both families will be very happy in Stoodleigh.





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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Friends of Richard (Dick) Johnston were saddened by his passing away in early August, aged 93. Richard lived at Jessamine Cottage for over 30 years. A service of celebration of his life was held at Taunton Deane Crematorium.

Congratulations and best wishes go to Charlotte Scudamore and Richard Mizen, who will be married at Roseland Abbey on 21 September.

### Church Flower Rota:

6 October – Harvest Festival flowers – all help please  
 20/27 October – Linda Hill  
 3/10 November – Eileen Fewings  
 17/24 November – Trish Fish

### Congratulations to the following prize winners in the Stoodleigh 100 Club:

July 1st Jennifer Rowlandson; 2nd Margaret Cuningham; 3rd Vivienne Menear; 4th Kathleen Cheale  
 August 1st Beth Byles; 2nd Sheila Davis; 3rd Christine Luxton; 4th Malcolm Jones

pledges, all made it an enjoyable day for all. Thank you so much everyone, for coming and supporting the event, helping with the stalls, and contributing the generous prizes, many cakes, bric a brac, provisions and books. Thanks also to Stafford Sampson for once again giving up his time for the day and being both auctioneer and entertainer! All this helped us raise a total of £2793.00 towards village funds.

### Church Services and Maintenance

The Services at St Margaret's Church, Templeton continue twice monthly along with Group and Cluster Services which rotate across the nine Parishes in the Exe Valley Mission Community. Some of the future Services in Templeton will begin at 10.00am, as this may give more time for people to return home after the Service and prepare their Sunday roast!

The work on the fabric of the Church continues, and recently a surveyor examined the work already carried out since the last quinquennial review. His report recommended both the urgent and non-urgent future work that is needed. Although there is still much to be done to maintain our Church, the survey was positive about the amount of work that has already been carried out.

### Ill-health

Our thoughts and good wishes go to those in the Village who are unwell, in hospital, receiving or awaiting treatment, or going through a difficult time. We hope that they will be feeling better soon.

### Future events

Saturday 5 October at 7.30pm - Harvest Supper  
 This will include musical entertainment from Andrew Curtis and his colleagues at Templeton Village Hall. Andrew Curtis is a well-respected and popular pianist,

organist, harpsichord and keyboard player. He has enjoyed playing and directing classical, operatic, choral and folk music, and has for many years, been a music teacher in many of our local schools. Do come and enjoy our Harvest Supper which promises lovely puddings, as well as a light-hearted musical evening. The bar will be open at 7pm and the evening will start at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 for adults and £4 for children (under 14 years), and these will be available from Lynda (881318), William (251153), Reg (860246), and Bindy (860655).

### Sunday 6 October at 11am - Templeton's Harvest Festival

This will be led by William and Reg. Please do come and support this Service at St Margaret's Church. We would be very grateful for any harvest produce, canned or packaged foods which will be donated to the Haven Centre (AGEUK) in Tiverton. Donations can also be dropped off at St Margaret's Church, Templeton on the Friday 4 or Saturday 5 October. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

### Saturday 2 November Annual Bonfire and Firework Night.

Come and enjoy this much anticipated, fun event which promises to be a great time for all the family. This is always a spectacular display! £6 adults and £3 children (5 to 15 years) at the gate. Entry from 6.30pm. There will also be a bar, hot dogs and hot drinks. Please don't bring any personal fireworks or sparklers with you. Come along and enjoy the evening and start preparing your guy or model now for the competition! This year, the theme for the competition will be a Comic Character! We hope to see you there.

For more information contact Reg (860246).

*continued overleaf* →

## TEMPLETON

It's been another busy Summer here in Templeton. The weather wasn't always kind to us but at least it has given us something else to talk about.

### Past events

#### Templeton Summer Fete

Despite a gloomy weather forecast of strong winds and heavy rain, the Templeton Annual Fete and Grand Auction on Saturday 10 August was not only great fun but also a successful event. Cream teas, hot dogs, bar drinks, entertaining games, regular stalls and generous raffle prizes along with the outside grand auction and the auction of

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

**Sunday 11 November** Remembrance Sunday Service. Please come to this Service of Remembrance which commemorates all the servicemen and women who died during the two World Wars and during other conflicts across the world. Martin Hansford has kindly agreed to lead this service at Templeton again this year. You will have probably noticed that four soldiers from Templeton, who died during the first World War, are commemorated on a plaque in the Church just on the left of the door:

Private Sidney Darch Cruwys, son of George and Hannah Cruwys of Town Cottage, died on 6 September 1916 aged 20, and his brother, Private Frank Cruwys died on 9 February 1917 aged 20.

Private Reginald Warren, son of William and Eva Warren of Coombe Mill (now Dartcoombe Mill) died on 15 September 1918 aged 22.

Private Edwin Tucker, son of Samuel and Harriet Tucker died 18 September 1918 aged 29.

*'At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.'*

**Friday 6 December**, Evening - a Festive Christmas-themed Quiz Night!

This will be a paper quiz which Bruce Pearson has kindly agreed to run. There will of course be Supper too. The exact time of the event will be confirmed soon.

**Saturday 25 January 2020** - Burns' Night! Arrangements for this event are in the early stages but this is bound to be an entertaining evening! Hamish (!) and Corinne, who used to live in Stoodleigh, have kindly agreed to lead the evening with a Ceilidh, and there will be plenty of delicious food as well as the bar. We do hope you will come and join us.

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

**September/ October/ November Flower/Cleaning Rota**

Lynda Newnes Harvest Festival 29 Sept / 6 Oct

Phyllida Strong Flowers and Cleaning 13 / 20 Oct

Julie Dent Flowers and Cleaning 27 Oct / 3 Nov

Gloria Woollacott Remembrance Sunday 10 / 17 Nov

Teresa Pancherz 1 Dec Advent - No flowers 24 Nov - 1 Dec

## WASHFIELD

Mist in patches down the lane,  
sunny skies and showers of rain,  
Early sunset, late sunrise,  
feasts of fruit for mouth and eyes

**A**utumn is upon us and we hope you have all had a good Summer.

Since our last Parish news we have sadly lost another much loved and respected friend. Bill Bolt's funeral was on 5 August when all his family and friends filled the Church, in his honour, to pay their last respects and to be reminded of the long and busy life he had led. Many tributes were paid about his great contribution to village life in so many ways and the loss of his presence is keenly felt by all who knew him. Morley, Angela, Carol and family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards and messages following the sad loss of their father, granddad and great granddad (Bill). We send our thoughts and prayers to all his family as they adjust to their great loss.

We send our condolences also to the family of Michael Steed whose ashes were interred in the churchyard recently. Michael and Betty lived in the Parish for many years and Michael was founder Treasurer of The Worth Family Trust, doing sterling work for our much valued Charity.

There have been two very happy occasions in the Church. In July and September we had the Baptisms of Rory Jackson, baby son of Rachael and John, and of Finley Stevens, baby son of Henry and Kim. Surrounded by large numbers of family and friends both babies were Christened by Steph and welcomed into the family of the Church; during services of Holy Communion - two happy days of celebration for all!

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to the wedding of Abby and Dan and hoping that their special day in their Village Church and Hall will be an amazing and momentous event for them and their families. We wish the new Mr and Mrs Ayre a very happy married life together.

All our thoughts have been with the Ayre family following their barn fire. We send our good wishes and hope you will soon settle all the aftermath and get back to normal life.

The Lychgate has now been repaired and made safe for many years to come. The work, expertly accomplished, was made possible by the generous donations of many village people and the members of the Social Club, in conjunction with Viridor and their large and welcome grant. The PCC is very grateful indeed, and also thanks to Richard for overseeing the whole enterprise so efficiently.

We hope you noticed that the wall leading to the Vestry door has also been expertly repaired by Messrs. F Balment & Sons, Ltd, with thanks to Martin for a job well done.

We now need to have a big tidy-up of the East wall of the churchyard, where brambles and undergrowth are taking over. A date for later in October will be

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# PARISH ROUND-UP

fixed at the next PCC Meeting. Willing helpers with chainsaws and loppers will be warmly welcomed! Think of it as healthy outdoor exercise!

Please come, if you can, to a Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds, in The Cottage, on **7 December** from 10am. Bring and Buy, Refreshments, Raffle and lots of chat !!

It was lovely to see so many people at 'Jeanne on the Green' (a celebration of Jeanne's 90th birthday). An amazing turnout for an amazing lady. Thanks to all those who manned the bar and cooked the barbecue.

We are thinking of all those who are unwell at present and wish you all better health in the near future. Our thoughts are with you.

We wish Joe Elston a very happy 90th birthday in October. We hope you enjoy your day, Joe.

The Social Club will be open on some mornings (yes, mornings - because of the time difference to Japan!) to screen England Rugby World Cup games. Look out for these, currently **Saturdays 5/12 October** at 9am. If we progress well there may be more!

The pumpkin growing competition will culminate towards the end of October so keep nurturing your pumpkin for a few more weeks. Also, a line dancing evening is being organised for early November. It sounds like great fun! (Look out for posters/website/FB for final details of both events).

We bid a sad farewell to Pete Moore and Paula Hullett as they move to Stoodleigh. Whilst you won't be far away and we will still see you from time to time, we will miss your involvement in Village life, particularly the Social Club. Pete has

been a member from the formation of the club in 1990 and a staunch committee member and supporter since then. Paula has added her own skills to Social Club events with many a good idea for a fundraiser and has followed them up with amazing food and willing support. We wish you both well in your new home.

Several family groups enjoyed the day at Hatherland Mill, when they were introduced to Richard, Alison and Lanti's animals including five week old puppies, cows, sheep and goats. It was a lovely day and we learnt such a lot about rare breeds, saw kingfishers, an otter holt and ate lots of yummy food including a barbecue. Thanks to the Bunning family for hosting this and Emerald for pulling it all together.

### Dates for your Diary

- Monday 7 October Hall meeting in Hall 8pm. New members always sought and interested parties welcome to attend.
- Tuesday 8 October teatime@thehall 2.30pm. All welcome
- Tuesday 12 November teatime@thehall 2.30pm for socialisation, tea and cake!
- Thursday 14 November W.I. in hall 7.30pm Speaker John Smith on 'The Legal Eagle as Advocate'
- Tuesday 26 November Social Club AGM 8pm in Hall. Current members welcome plus new club members, volunteers and committee members always welcome.

### ADVANCE NOTICES

- Saturday 7 December Jeanne's Annual Coffee Morning in The Cottage from 10am.
- Friday 13 December W.I. Party in Hall. All welcome. Jean 257703/Jenny 257872

### Church Altar Flowers Rota

- Oct 6/13 Mrs A Hansford
- Oct 20/27 Mrs K Bassano
- Nov 3/10 Mrs J Raynes
- Nov 17/24 Miss A Bolt
- Dec 1/8 Mrs A Trout

### Church Cleaning Rota

- Sept 23/30 Mr & Mrs Ellis
- October 7/14 Mrs French
- October 21/28 Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
- November 4/11 Mrs Albery
- November 18/25 Mr & Mrs Ellis

## WITHLEIGH

It seems awhile ago now, but back on 19 July, we sat down to a Community Tea in the Village Hall. About two dozen of us enjoyed a Cream Tea and some delicious home-made cakes. All washed down with a cup of Tea and a good old natter! Thank you to everyone who provided the cakes and scones. The sum of £90 was raised for Village Hall funds.

Our grateful thanks, also, to all who helped at our Summer Fête, held in the Village Hall on 20 July, and to all who came along to support the event, £1,100 being raised towards the cost of maintaining St Catherine's. Being in the Hall didn't seem to greatly affect the attendance, though it was agreed that more use could be made of the space in the car park.

Our Family Service on 4 August was certainly different, as we were given a preview of Holiday Club, with an audio-visual presentation. Well done, Stephen, for taking the Service and for the presentation.

This year's Garden & Produce Show on 17 August was another successful show. It was great to see a number of new people in the village taking part, and winning several prizes. We also had entries in the Children's classes again this year, and the Men's cookery competition is really getting competitive!

*continued overleaf* ➔

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Well done to everyone who took part, the Hall was full of lovely Flowers, Vegetables, Cookery and Handicraft. Thank You to Janet for providing the Judges' Tea, to all the stewards, and everyone who helped in any way to put on the show. Congratulations to Marianne Newsham who took the award for the Best Exhibit in the Show. Other Trophy winners were Jasper Morse (Children's), Shirley Cruwys (Cookery, Preserves and Handicraft), Henry Cruwys (Vegetables) and Brenda Tucker (Flowers).

A thought-provoking informal Service on 1 September was led by Susie, on the subject of Love. The vestry was just able to cope with the number who attended!

**The Team Skittles** competition will this year be held on Friday 25 October, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Teams can be made up of 6 people of any age, but if you do not have a full team just come along and we can make up teams on the night. It will be £1.50 each to play, refreshments will be available. If you would like more information, please call Duncan 01884 252949.

**Our Autumn Community Lunch** will be on Tuesday 5 November, in the Village Hall. 12.30pm for 1pm Lunch. A two course lunch and a cup of tea or coffee will be £5 each. Please book your tickets from Sara 01884 252949 or Christine 01884 257571.

**Our Craft Fayre**, in aid of Church Funds is on 23 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 there.

**Scottish Dancing Classes** are back with us again this Autumn/Winter. Everyone is welcome to come along and give it a go, whether you are a complete beginner or a seasoned dancer. Giles along with Rosie will be guiding us around the floor. Classes begin on Monday 4 November and will continue every other week for the next few months. For more information please call Giles 01884 257123

**A Date for your Diary;** On Saturday 11 January there will be a Late Christmas Meal, in the Village Hall 5.30pm for 6pm.

**Witleigh WI** meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7.15pm. New members are always welcome to come along. For more information please ring Rosie 01884 257123.

Thursday 10 October, joint meeting with Washfield, at Witleigh. Speaker, 'Lilly Warne and Wool' (part 2) From Farm to Yarn. Paula Steer.

Thursday 14 November, Speakers Duncan & Sara Kittow on Their trip to Canada.

Thursday 12 December, Xmas Party with Secret Santa.

Our best wishes to Shirley Grant on her move into Tiverton. We wish you well in your new home, Shirley.

A warm Witleigh welcome to the Pugsley family who have moved into Plainsfield Cottage, the former home of Fiza Durani who has moved to India.

Congratulations to all those celebrating special birthdays or anniversaries.

Get well wishes go to all those known to us who are receiving treatment, recovering from operations, or who are not well at the moment.

### Forthcoming Events;

Thursday 3 October, Bingo in the Hall, Eyes Down at 7.30pm.

Thursday 10 October, WI in the Hall at 7.15pm.

Friday 25 October, Team Skittles in the Hall at 7.30pm.

Monday 4 November, Scottish Dancing in the Hall at 7pm.

Tuesday 5 November, Community Lunch in the Hall, 12.30 for 1pm. See notes above.

Thursday 7 November, Bingo in the Hall, Eyes Down 7.30pm.

Thursday 14 November, WI in the Hall at 7.15pm.

Monday 18 November, Scottish Dancing in the Hall at 7pm.

Saturday 23 November, Craft Fayre in the Hall, 10.30am - 3.30pm.

Thursday 12 December, WI Christmas Party in the Hall at 7.15pm.

### Flower Rota:

October 6 - Shirley Cruwys  
 October 13, 20, 27 - Christine Luxton  
 November 3, 10, 17 - Sylvia Hann  
 November 24, December 1 - Linda Taylor

### Weekly Events;

Tuesdays - Yoga in the Village Hall at 7pm.  
 Wednesdays - Short Mat Bowls in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

### Monthly Diary Dates:

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

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