

September/October 2026

Price £1.00

What are you building?

Back at the beginning of the summer, in the first heatwave – can you even remember the first heatwave? – I was on holiday in the Yorkshire Dales. One of the things we did was to visit some of the abbey buildings which pepper the area and are a testament to early Celtic Christianity. In that area abbeys were mainly built by the Cistercians.

The Cistercian monks were highly organised and built some wonderful buildings which were not only used for worship in a daily (and demanding) rhythm of prayers and praise, but served the local community, modelling sacrificial service and using their buildings as hospitals, sanctuaries, places of safety, places of learning, farms, apothecaries etc. The buildings and the people who worked in them were awe inspiring beacons of hope dominating the landscape. I suspect they found it hard to imagine that the whim of one king, hundreds of miles away in London, could shut them down and render them and those who served in them, as worthless. A salutary lesson.

All of this led me to reflect on a couple of things. People who built abbeys and cathedrals back in the day, never expected to see

the finished result. They just knew that they were doing something which was much greater than them. We live in an age when we expect to see the end result and probably demand that it is something we like! Those early ecclesiastical builders had no idea what society would be like when the building was finished. But they kept going. They were building for the glory of God, not for themselves for the people of the future.



With that in mind, I have been wondering what am I building in my life, in the life of my family, my community and in our churches, to the glory of God? That's been part of my summer soul work!

I have just read a story which takes place in France in the Middle Ages....

A traveller was journeying along the road when he came upon a great deal of activity. There was a building site. The traveller stopped to watch the stone cutters. They were hard at work. 'What are you doing?' the traveller asked one of them.

The man scowled. He was not happy. 'I'm cutting these huge bits of rock but look at the tools I've been given! They are hardly suitable. I shape the rocks and put them back together! Not only are my tools useless – it's so boring! I'm sweating, my back hurts. I hate this job!'

The traveller moved on. He came across another worker.

'What are you doing?' he asked.

'Well,' said the second man, 'I do what I'm told! I've got a family at home to feed, so come here each day, and I shape the rock. It's boring, but it helps feed my family, and that's what I want.'

The traveller walked on and came across a third man. 'What are you doing?' he asked.

The third man stopped. He looked at the traveller and smiled. His eyes were full of tears and he pointed to the sky. 'I,' he said with a look of wonder and joy in his face, 'I am building a cathedral!'

May we all be able to see the bigger picture and experience the same joy and wonder as the last stone cutter!

*With my love to you and
those you love,
Steph*

THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Calverleigh, Cruwys
Morchard, Loxbeare,
Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton,
Washfield and Withleigh
www.exevalleychurches.org

RECTOR

Rev'd Stephanie Gordon-Jeffs
The Rectory, Withleigh,
Tiverton, EX16 8JQ
Tel: 01884 250417
Email : Steph@
exevalleymissioncommunity.org
NOT TUESDAYS PLEASE

ADMINISTRATOR

Dawn Williams
C/O The Rectory
Tel: 01884 250417
Email: office@
exevalleymissioncommunity.org

SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

Mrs Cindy Trick
Tel: 01363 866621
Email: cindyltrick@gmail.com

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Dawn Williams
Post Farm
Dulverton
TA22 9RU
01398 324035
today@exevalleychurches.org

ADVERTISEMENTS

Dawn Williams
As above - using email address
today@exevalleychurches.org

Advertisements are accepted and
included in good faith - but the
Exe Valley Mission Community
accepts no responsibility for the
performance or non-performance
of the Advertisers

CHURCHWARDEN CONTACT DETAILS

CALVERLEIGH
Aubrey Goldsworthy 01884 255248
thegoldsworthys@yahoo.co.uk
Jackie Herniman 01884 255814
jmherniman@gmail.com

CRUWYS MORCHARD
Diana Vincent 01363 860227
vindrv@hotmail.com
Sarah Cruwys 01884 860287
wagscruwys@live.com

LOXBEARE
Jean Heard 01884 881400
jeanm.heard@googlemail.com

OAKFORD
Wendy Boynton 01398 351383
mboynton@btinternet.com
Dawn Williams 01398 324035
dawnannwilliams1@gmail.com

RACKENFORD
Mary Cann 01884 881696
mary_cann@outlook.com

STOODLEIGH
Church office 01884 250417
office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org

TEMPLETON
William Withers 01884 253030
william@williamwithers.co.uk
Reg Coffin 01884 860246
sueandreg.coffin@fhsinternet.com

WASHFIELD
Malcolm Dudley-Williams 07860 203564
malcolm@dudley-williams.com

WITHLEIGH
Brenda Tucker 01884 252431
tucks@btconnect.com



Lighthouse

Christian Books and Café
Registered Charity No: 1063294

13 Bampton Street
Tiverton
Devon
EX16 6AA

Phone: 01884 255769

Email: office@lighthouseiverton.org.uk

Web site: www.lighthouseiverton.org.uk

Formerly New Creation Christian Book and Coffee Shop



Comprehensive Tree Surgery | Stump
Grinding Site Clearance Estate
Maintenance | Excavator Services

01884906960

curtistreeservices.com

contact@curtistreeservices.com

S SQUIRE & SONS

Local friendly handyman services.

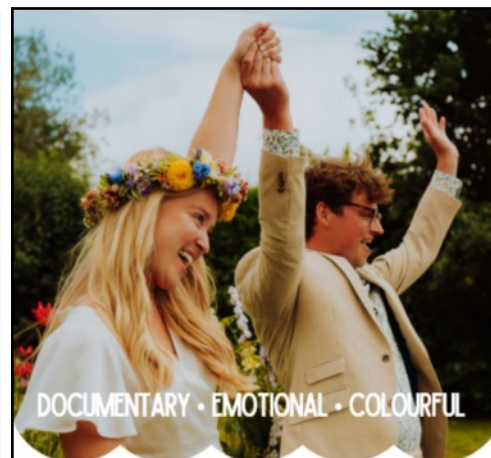
Interior/Exterior work, Plastering,
Painting, Decorating, Fencing,
Garden maintenance and
Bespoke handmade furniture.



Call Sam 01884 255723 / 07922170639

E-mail sam.wj.squire@gmail.com

Sparkle e3 Shine
Cleaning Services
Michaela
07515020174



DOCUMENTARY • EMOTIONAL • COLOURFUL

m.

www.meilouphotography.com

WHAT'S ON

NATURE NOTES

The river you don't see

When was the last time you saw a salmon? I don't mean one on the fish counter at your local supermarket, all chubby of belly and ragged of fin. I am talking about a wild salmon, *Salmo salar*, the king of fish, lean, torpedo shaped and the absolute bellwether for our watery ecosystems.

I ask because getting face to face with one of these fish is about putting in the time on the river bank, and doing that is a good thing; I'll explain why later. In the meantime it is fair to say that seeing these fish is getting increasingly difficult, particularly here in the Southwest. Nationally salmon numbers have declined by 70% in the last 25 years and all of Devon's recognised salmon rivers are classified as 'at risk' or 'probably at risk' by the Environment Agency, meaning that the river's population is no longer sustainable. At the current rate of decline salmon will become functionally extinct in Devon rivers within the next 25 years.

Why, you may ask? Well, it's complicated. A significant proportion of the salmon's lifecycle is at sea and there is plenty going on out there, not least a warming of our seas driven by climate change that is shifting prey distribution and increasing salmon mortality.

However, the salmon begins its life in the rivers and it's here that we should concentrate, because it is here that we can, and should make a difference. Here the challenges are racking up against the salmon. This summer has been a familiar picture – record breaking heat and low rainfall has seen our rivers shrink, making the adult salmon's journey from the sea, to the breeding grounds at the head of our rivers, more and more difficult. The record breaking sunshine coupled with the reduction in trees lining our rivers means that these waters warm even more quickly, reducing the dissolved oxygen available to the fish. The salmon fry and young parr become trapped in warm and ever-diminishing pools.

Agricultural practices are changing, and many practices impact our rivers and streams in some way. Within living

memory, maize was a very unusual crop in Devon, yet today it is a common produce of the Exe valley. Bare winter soils associated with maize production are a major source of sediment run-off into the river, smothering the clean oxygen-rich gravel that salmon need to lay their eggs. This problem is exacerbated by the increasingly frequent flash-flood downpours driven by climate change, which strip exposed fields and wash soil straight into the water. It isn't only soil washing off the land; modern dairy systems now produce huge volumes of slurry and parlour washings, and when these escape—as in recent fish-kill incidents the sudden surge of oxygen-stripping waste can devastate whole stretches of river. Even milk, when spilled, is potent enough to wipe out fish for kilometres.

But it's not just pollution from agriculture; the impact of sewage releases into our rivers is increasingly grabbing public attention. Just this summer we saw video evidence on local social media sites suggesting sewage entering the Exe at Bickleigh, coinciding with the illness of children who had been cooling off in the river a stark reminder that the pollution affecting people is the same pollution that harms the river's wildlife.

This is the key point; had there not been a heatwave, and those children had not gone down to the Exe for a rare summer swim at Bickleigh, we might never have known about the suspected sewage release at all. Very few people access our rivers regularly, and because we don't see them, we don't value them; so the harm they suffer goes largely unwitnessed.

Across the world there are cultures that hold their rivers close. In Hindu traditions, rivers like the Ganges and Yamuna are treated as living deities, places of ritual bathing and daily connection. Many Indigenous nations in North America regard their rivers as relatives, central to identity, ceremony and the survival of salmon. And in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Mori see rivers as ancestors—the Whanganui River is even recognised in law as a living being. None of these rivers are without their problems—the Ganges, for example, faces severe pollution pressures—but in all these societies rivers are part of life, not scenery, and that closeness creates a deep instinct to protect them.

By contrast, here in Britain our rivers rarely hold that kind of cultural or spiritual place. For most of us they are something we glimpse from a bridge or pass at speed in a car, not places we spend time in or beside. Access is tightly controlled—most riverbanks are in private ownership, fenced off or signed off-limits—and that distance means we seldom see the state our rivers are in. When people are kept away from rivers, rivers slip out of everyday life; and when they slip out of life, they slip out of mind.

And closer to home, the River Wye has just been granted a charter recognising it as a living ecosystem with intrinsic rights—the first river in the UK to receive such protection—a sign that this way of seeing rivers may finally be beginning to take root here too.

So, how we start reversing the decline of the salmon—and all the other species suffering in the same way—is first and foremost by finding a bit of riverbank that you can legally and safely access, and by sitting there. And then encourage others to do the same. Despite everything we seem to have done to hurt our rivers, they are still pretty magical places to spend time. So grab a flask, make yourself comfortable, and see what you can see.

There are good news stories waiting to reveal themselves if you just give the river your time—Devon's otter population has made a remarkable comeback, and kingfishers still flash electric blue along many stretches of the Exe. Who knows—if you spend enough time in the right places, and at the right moments, you might just find yourself face to face with the king of fish, the salmon, a sight that grows rarer every year.

Derrick

Coffee and Chat

Steph will be in

Banbury's Cafe on

Friday

18 September

10.30am - 12.30pm

for a coffee/tea and chat if

you would like to join her.





Elliot from Rackenford at the English Beach Soccer National Championships - Full story on page 12



St Peter's Oakford Bell Ringers

A Service of Celebration and Faithful Service
with The Rt Revd Moira Astin and
Rev Stephen Gordon-Jeffs

Presentation for faithful service to Christine Palfrey
and Margaret Cunningham, plus the blessing of the loo
and rededication of the ring of eight bells
at St Peter's Oakford



Mill House Retreat Day





Congratulations to Reece & Rosie



Explore & More, Calverleigh



Messy Church
Rackenford School



DOIVE DESIGNS
Web Design, Development and Hosting

Need a new website?
or do you simply need advice
about your current one?

Give Dave a call on
07817 851856
or 01884 561499

www.doivedesigns.co.uk

DEEPALLER FARM B&B
LOXBEARE, TIVERTON, EX16 8BX



Very accessible and yet private B&B -
only 10 mins from Tiverton.

En-suite & private bathrooms.

See our website for details and reviews.

e-mail: deepallerfarmbandb@hotmail.com

www.deepallerfarmbandb.com

Mike & Sheila Watson

01884 881410

Exe Valley Osteopathy

Sam Mildren & Lauren Mildren



Conveniently located in
Tiverton & Dulverton

07902831602

www.exevalleyosteopathy.co.uk


Computer Repairs and Upgrades
TV and Satellite Installation
TV Sales and Repairs
Networking and CCTV
Contact Jamie (ex Stoneman TV)
01884 243997 or 07999909130
www.jsp-electronics.co.uk

PARISH ROUND-UP

Celebrating 40 years of service 1977-2017

EXE VALLEY MARKET AND COMMUNITY BUS



Scheduled route runs every Tuesday and Friday between Oakford and Tiverton via Stoodleigh, Washfield, Lurley, Loxbeare and Calverleigh

Affordable fares: Free to Senior Bus Pass holders.

For more details or to book a seat ring
01884 881351
www.exevalleymarketbus.btck.co.uk

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE
CONTACT JENNIE CHAPPELL
01398 351666

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS ALWAYS
NEEDED**

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next Prayer Breakfast at
The Rectory
Witleigh

12th September 9.30am



Coffee and Croissants

Exe Valley M.C.

Many thanks for the picture presented to me at Oakford. It brings back many memories over the 60 years. The picture is now hanging in the hall. Thanks once more it was much appreciated.

Yours
Christine Palfrey

CALVERLEIGH

After what has been a good (but very warm and dry) Summer, thoughts now return to the approaching Autumn with schools returning for a new academic year. We hope that all our young people that have received exam results have gained what you need for your next stage of education or employment. To those of you who are starting primary school for the very first time, we hope that you settle in well and enjoy it. Our prayers and best wishes also for those who are moving on to secondary education, and we hope that you enjoy the experience and make positive choices for the future.

During the past year several church members have been competing against each other once again in the form of Fantasy Football. Top of the league has changed hands a few times over the season with a few lucky people becoming manager of the month and receiving a small gift. The ultimate challenge though was to be at the top at the end of the season so: (drumroll

please) the Head-to-Head winner was Nicola, the "It's not the winning but the taking part" award went to Jackie, in third place was Rita with 2073 points, in second place was Tasha with 2084 points and in first place once again was Paul with 2269 points. Very well done to you and thank you for organising this fun competition. The new season will have started as you read this and new managers will have joined the Calverleagh. Good luck everyone!

Back in June there was a very enjoyable Tea on the Green arranged by the village hall committee. It was a lovely sunny day with people from the village and further afield either seeking shelter inside or enjoying the sunshine alfresco. A good variety of sandwiches and cakes were on offer for afternoon tea at a small charge. Entertainment came from Stacey who sang a variety of songs.

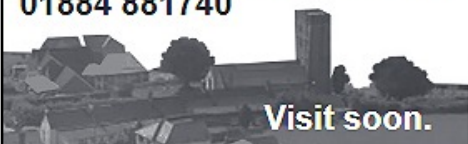
Over the Summer months there have been a couple of weddings at St. Mary's Church, firstly Henry and Chloe were married in June and then Rosie and Reece who had their wedding in July. The bells rang out for both couples as the sun shone brightly. We also learned that Sophie and Sam had a blessing at Sophie's mum and dad's farm in June on what was a beautiful day. Our congratulations go to all three couples, and we wish you all many happy years together filled with companionship, love and laughter.

At the beginning of July our Open-air service was held, but this year instead of ducking inside to dodge the rain for a change, seating had to be arranged to make the most of any shade that was available! Unheard of! Jackie led the service and gave us plenty to reflect on as we sat listening to birdsong in the lovely surroundings of the churchyard. Cake and biscuits along with tea and

local ... convenient ... friendly YOUR COMMUNITY SHOP AT RACKENFORD

For all your grocery and household needs, including specialty bread, local honey and home-baked cakes and biscuits, plus cash ATM.

Open daily (check for hours)
01884 881740



Visit soon.

hmad architects



Experienced, friendly and local RIBA Chartered Architectural Practice, working across the South West.

Specialising in the adaptive reuse of listed buildings, residential extensions and renovations.

Call Luke McAdam for a chat about your project, and to see how we can help: 01392 459777.

mail@hmad.co.uk www.hmad.co.uk

PARISH ROUND-UP

coffee were enjoyed afterwards. Thanks to all who provided refreshments.

Also in July was the annual Potato Competition evening. There was a good turnout of competitors, potatoes were weighed and growing techniques were talked about along with successes and failures. After all the totals were recorded the winners were announced:

Ladies - Brenda (17lb 12ozs), Lorna (12lb 10ozs), Pat (7lb 13ozs).

Men: Eric (11lb 4ozs), Anthony (9lb 5ozs), Kipper (9lb 3ozs) and Richard (8lb 9ozs).

A good number of children also joined in the fun: Halle (3lb 1 oz), Chester (2lb 1oz), Tilly (1lb 15ozs), Evie (1lb 4ozs), Seb (1lb) and Elijah (10ozs). Well done to everyone!

Thank you to the staff at the Rose and Crown who provided a lovely supper of varieties of hot potato - It was wonderful to be able to meet back in the Rose and Crown once again. £530.00 was raised from the event, which was split between St. Mary's and Devon Air Ambulance. Thanks also to Gillian, Mary, Tim and Louise for continuing to arrange this event each year.

Explore & More in July was led by Tash and Nik with Rev'd Steph giving the talk. During the service children were invited to find pebbles hidden around the church with a word of encouragement painted on them. They were formed into a rock pile and the congregation were invited to write their concerns on a piece of paper that were then pushed into the pile. A representation of the rock that Jacob used as a pillow was in the form of rock buns that were handed out. After the service we moved to the village hall and green to continue the fun. Crafts, junk modelling and face painting took place, games were played

before picnics were eaten, a few more games played before it was time to leave. Thank you, Steph, Tasha, Nik and Dave for all you did on the day and all the preparations beforehand. (Photos on page 4)

Our very best wishes go to those who have been celebrating a big birthday recently or in the very near future also to all who have or are going to celebrate a special occasion. If you would like to share a special event with the parish please contact Dave Burton (see advert in Today magazine)

To those of you who have been feeling unwell recently or are waiting for test results or operations, we hope that you will be feeling better very soon. Our prayers are also with those families who are mourning the loss of a loved one. If you'd like to be prayed for in church, whether by name or anonymously, a prayer suggestion box is available in the church.

If you'd like your special birthday, anniversary or a special event here? Please contact Dave by emailing: calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org or call 01884 561499.

Forthcoming Events

Last minute reminder:

The annual Calverleigh Produce Show will take place on Saturday 29 August. On the day all exhibits need to be in place by 11am (the hall will be open from 8:30am). Doors will open for viewing at 2:30pm. Any donations for a Bring and Buy stall or draw prizes would be very gratefully received and refreshments will be available on the day. This is a fun event, and hopefully there is something for everyone to have a go at or come along and see what a talented community we have, good luck.

Harvest Thanksgiving weekend: Our Harvest Supper Saturday 19 September at 7pm in the village hall with Bring and Share supper, guest speaker and fun competitions.

Family Harvest Thanksgiving service Sunday 20 at 10.45am followed by games and bring your own picnic, on the village green or in the hall.

There will be a collection of dried and tinned goods along with toiletries as part of our harvest celebrations for CHAT. Boxes will be available in church by the font for any items you are able to donate. These are always gratefully received by CHAT and distributed to those in need.

The church's regular Explore Service is a fun and interactive all age family friendly service starting at 9.15am with tea, coffee, squash and biscuits for a 9:30am start. Explore usually takes place on the third Sunday of each month, though exceptions do apply including in September for Harvest. See the magazine centre pages for dates and please join us if you can!

On Saturday 17 October, at Calverleigh Village Hall there will be a Fun Family Bingo, in aid of Calverleigh Church. Doors open from 6:15pm with 'eyes down' at 7pm. Draw prizes welcome. Any queries please contact Mo & Paul Furneaux on 07967 989 724

More Dates for your Diary:

Autumn Fayre - The Village Hall
21 Nov @ 10:30am - 2.00pm

Church cleaning rota:

17 Aug - 29 Aug:	Mrs A Balsdon
31 Aug - 12 Sep:	Mrs J Goldsworthy
14 Sep - 26 Sep:	Mrs S Greenslade
28 Sep - 10 Oct:	Mrs R Tapp
12 Oct - 24 Oct:	Mrs N Burton
26 Oct - 7 Nov:	Miss J Herniman



HAMPTON MAINTENANCE

Property & Garden Maintenance Grass cutting Hedgecutting
Chainsaw Work Fencing Landscaping
Interior and Exterior Decorating

www.hamptonmaintenance.co.uk
info@hamptonmaintenance.co.uk
07972 736829



**GARNETT
PLASTERING
& Building**

Gavin Garnett

• Plastering • General Building • Extensions
• Renovations • Conversions

07808 523348 01884 563396
garnettplasteringandbuilding@gmail.com

PARISH ROUND-UP

Mowing rota:

31 Aug - 12 Sep: Mr C Durnan
14 Sep - 26 Sep: The Webber Family
28 Sep - 10 Oct: Mr A Goldsworthy

Flower Rota:

6 Sep - 13 Sep: Mrs A Turner
20 Sep - 27 Sep: Mrs L Thomas
4 Oct - 11 Oct: Mrs D Hopper
18 Oct - 25 Oct: Mrs T Pugsley

CRUWYS MORCHARD

Church of the Holy Cross.

Throughout the spring the wildflowers in our churchyard have been beautiful. Now mowing has begun and we give our thanks to all who keep the grounds of the church tidy. We are always in need of more help, so, if you are able to volunteer to do some mowing, please contact Diana Vincent, 07801 937401.

This year's Harvest Festival Service, sports and tea will be held on Saturday 26th September at 2.15 pm.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are not well, have been in hospital, are awaiting treatment, recovering from surgery or having a difficult time. We wish you a speedy recovery.

The Beer and Boogie night raised £500 for church funds and was a great night. Cruwys Social Evening

On the second and fourth Wednesday of each month there is a social evening at the Parish Hall from 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Come and join your neighbours for a chat and drink and perhaps take part in the quiz that starts at 7.30 pm. All welcome. For more information contact Diana Vincent 07801 937401.

Flower & cleaning rota
September 7 and 14 -- Marilyn Hill

Please let Cindy know if there are any problems.

Please see the central pages of the magazine for details of upcoming services in the church.

Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall

For enquiries regarding hall hire, please contact Diana Vincent, 07801 937401.

Yoga at the Parish Hall

General Hatha yoga class at Cruwys Parish Hall Thursday 10am – 11.15am. All abilities & ages welcome. Call Hilary on 01363 866245

Cruwys Morchard and Puddington Garden Club

The first of our monthly meetings this year was held on the 1st Wednesday in February when we discussed topics and activities for the year.

So far we have discussed soil as the fundamental basis for all gardening. Members brought along samples from their gardens and using a kit we tested them for type and any deficiencies. We have discussed trichomonosis in the light of advice from the R.S.P.B. re feeding garden birds and reported back on the results so far of our bird survey. As usual each year we had a 'seed swap' and brought along surplus plants to give away in addition to providing 'mystery seeds' to sow.

We went on a visit to the charming Walled Gardens of Cannington where we had a very informative tour from the head gardener.

We are currently assisting a new resident with a 'garden makeover' drawing on the design and hard landscaping skills of members. In response to suggestions we are planning a visit to a local wild flower meadow, a talk on mosses and lichens and another on fungi.

If you would like to join this small but lively group we meet on the first Wednesday of each month in Puddington Village Hall at 8.00pm. For more information contact Claire and Allan Miller cmiller94@yahoo.co.uk

Cruwys Morchard YFC

A big thank you to landowners that permitted access across fields and woodland to allow the YFC fun ride to take place and neighbours and riders for supporting us. We welcomed over 100 riders taking part in a 5-mile or 10-mile course. The bluebells were in abundance, and it was a privilege to enjoy the ride across privately owned woodlands. A total for the event is not yet finalised, but we hope to have raised ~£1000 for Macmillan.

We enjoyed a walk & talk at Weeke Farm this month. Thank you to Dave & Ginny for showing us around the new calving unit, robotic milking parlour and wider farm set up.

The club performed well at the recent show and sale, with several members taking part. Congratulations to Susan, James, Elodie, Luke, Tommy, Riley, Max, Maggie & Esme and special mention to Harry taking best presented and supreme champion with his calf. Oscar was awarded reserve supreme champion with his tame lamb.

Cruwys did well at the Devon County Show, placing 3rd for pallet art and 5th for club cubicle across the 37 YFC's in Devon. They had fun preparing entries and attempting to master the art of corn dolly making.

We continue to raise money through the collection of aluminium drinks cans. Please let us have yours. If you have cans that we can collect, please call Helen on 07810 502623.

If you are aged between 10-28 years and would like to see what else we get up to, monthly meetings are held at the Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall on the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Club email: cmffc.devon@gmail.com

Congregational churches

Please join us for:

Tea & cake at Nomansland Chapel 3-4pm every Friday

Sunday services

2.30pm Nomansland chapel*

4pm Pennymoor chapel*

*except 3rd Sunday of the month, all join Way Village chapel 3pm.

STUART HAGLEY LTD

BUILDING

New builds, extensions,
conversions and alterations
Please call Stuart on 01884 881487
or 07926 291 442 for a quote
Rackenford, Tiverton

F. BALMENT

& Sons Ltd. EST. 1930

BUILDERS CONTRACTORS
DECORATORS

STONE AND BRICK WALLING
PATIO'S - PAVING

'Davia', Washfield, Tiverton.
Tel: 01884 256094

RoseTime Flowers

43 Bampton Street, Tiverton, EX16 6AH

Tim Nichols

Tel: 01884 561763

Unique affordable
floral designs
for all occasions

www.rosetimeflowers.co.uk

PARISH ROUND-UP

Please check Facebook or notice board for advertising or call Ruth on 01363 530013.

Magazine contact

If you would like something included in the Cruwys Morchard parish round-up, please contact Helen on 07810 502623 or email helenkeeble@btinternet.com.

LOXBEARE

What a remarkable summer we have had and whilst the heat has been overwhelming at times, it has been lovely to have blue skies and sunshine. A very warm welcome back to Avril – it is lovely to have you back in Loxbeare. We have missed you.

The sunshine was enjoyed by all – the young children and the not so young adults – who came to the open air service which was held in the churchyard, on 5 July.

As we move from summer into autumn, please come and join in the Harvest celebrations when we give thanks to our faithful God for all the abundant gifts he has provided. We look forward to welcoming the Archdeacon of Exeter, Reverend Andrew Beane to lead the Harvest Songs of Praise on Sunday 2 September at 6.30 p.m.

Anyone is most welcome to bring any flowers or produce to the church, or help to decorate the church for harvest, on Saturday 19 September.

The Harvest supper will be on Tuesday 22 September in the Village Hall at 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

On 17 October, there will be a coffee morning from 10.30 to 12 noon at Barton

View to raise money to purchase items for the shoe boxes which we fill and are subsequently send to various parts of the world to give to men, women, children and young people who have so very little. Your support would be very much appreciated.

Some time ago Libby Ford, who for several years lived in Loxbeare House, passed away, and at the beginning of August her ashes were interred in the plot with her late husband, Peter, in the churchyard.

We send our good wishes to anyone who has celebrated a special birthday, anniversary or milestone. Congratulations to Colin and Margaret for whom this is a very special year: in May they celebrated 65 years of marriage – a wonderful achievement, and in July Colin celebrated his 90th birthday and Margaret will be 90 in September.

Our thoughts and prayers are with anyone who is struggling with physical or mental health, difficult diagnosis and treatment and for all who are awaiting surgery. We also continue to remember carers, family members and friends who support those who are not well and for whom daily life is not easy. We think too of families who have lost loved ones and how anniversaries through the year can be emotionally painful and difficult to cope with.

As the Autumn school term approaches our thoughts and prayers are for the challenges that children and young people face as they start school for the first time, move to a new school, leave home to go to college, university or begin an apprenticeship or for any new venture that they are beginning. Whilst they may have many opportunities, there

are also many challenges and we do pray for their protection.

COMMUNITY EVENTS – in the Village Hall

On 12 September there will be a Ploughman's Lunch from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. in aid of Exeter Leukaemia Fund

On 17 October there will be a Cream Tea from 3.00 to 4.30 p.m. in aid of Children's Hospice South West

NEW DATE

Cruwys Morchard & Withleigh Ploughing Match & Produce Show to be held on 3rd October at Loxbeare Barton. If you would like a Schedule, please contact Arthur or Carol.

OAKFORD

Although this report goes to print in the days full of late summer sun, the September/October edition leads to thoughts of harvest festivals, falling leaves, bonfires and making jams and chutneys. A golden season full of a fruitful bounty.

St Peter's Church

It is wonderful to have our re-tuned bells back! Many thanks to all who helped raise the funds to achieve the re-ordering with the installation of running water and loo.

On Sunday 12 July Steph Gordon-Jeffs and the Rt Rev Moira, Bishop of Crediton joined us for a Service of Celebration and Faithful Service. Presentations were made to Christine Palfrey and Margaret Cuninghame for faithful service to Stoodleigh and the Exe Valley Mission Community. The loo was blessed and the bells rededicated. The bells then rang out by the Oakford

WOTTON of TIVERTON

SELF STORAGE

REMOVALS • SHIPPING • HAULAGE

Local, National and International Removal Services

Interested in Our Services?

Call us on **01398 351221**
send us an email at enquiries@wotton.co.uk
or get a quote online www.wotton.co.uk



FOUR SEASONS
PROFESSIONAL TREE SERVICES

All Aspects of Tree Surgery
Stump Removal
Crown Lifting Crown Reduction
Grounds Maintenance Grass Cutting
Hedge Cutting All types of Fencing
Wood Chip Seasoned Logs
General Garden Maintenance Turfing
Fully Insured Private & Commercial Customers
Free Quotations
www.fourseasons-treeservices.com
Oliver Vernon
info@fourseasons-treeservices.com
01884 563021/07766168162

City & Guilds
NPTC

6 SEPTEMBER

The 14th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

Get ready for God

Exodus 12: 1-14
Matthew 18: 15-20

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Morning Praise

LOXBEARE

10.45am Morning Praise

OAKFORD

10.45am Harvest Festival
Steph Gordon-Jeffs and
David Edwards followed by lunch
in the hall

RACKENFORD

10.45am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

10.45am Holy Communion
Christopher Rowley

TEMPLETON

10.45am Morning Praise

WASHFIELD

10.45am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

3.00pm Harvest Festival
Steph Gordon-Jeffs
followed by tea in the hall

13 SEPTEMBER

The 15th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY HOLY COMMUNION GROUP SERVICE

is at

10.45am in

CALVERLEIGH

Steph Gordon-Jeffs
and David Edwards

Everyone is welcome

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU
ARE WELCOME TO JOIN ANY
SERVICE IN ANY CHURCH IN THE
EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY
ON A SUNDAY

CRUWYS MORCHARD

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER
2.15pm
Harvest Games and Tea

20 SEPTEMBER

The 16th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

Enough!

Exodus 16: 2-15
Matthew 20: 1-16

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH

10.45am Family Harvest
Thanksgiving followed by games
and a picnic

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Morning Praise

LOXBEARE

6.30pm Harvest Songs of Praise
followed by refreshments in
church

A.D. Andrew Beane

OAKFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

10.45am Morning Praise
Steph Gordon-Jeffs and
David Edwards

STOODLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise

TEMPLETON

10.45am Holy Communion
Tim Gorringer

WASHFIELD

10.45am Harvest Festival

WITHLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise

27 SEPTEMBER

16th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY HOLY COMMUNION GROUP SERVICE WITH BAPTISM

is at

10.45am in

CRUWYS MORCHARD

Steph Gordon-Jeffs and
David Edwards
Everyone welcome

Baptism and Confirmation

We have had a wonderful number of Baptisms booked in
this year. What a joy it is 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.



4 CTOBER

The 18th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

A God to honour

Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20
Matthew 21: 33-46

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH

10.45am Songs of Praise
4.00pm Taize
Tim Gorringer

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Morning Praise

LOXBEARE

10.45am Morning Praise

OAKFORD

10.45am Holy Communion
Christopher Rowley

RACKENFORD

6.30pm Harvest Festival

STOODLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise
Tim Gorringer

TEMPLETON

10.45am Harvest Festival

WASHFIELD

No Service

WITHLEIGH

10.45am Family Service

11 OCTOBER

The 19th Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

What kind of God?

Exodus 32: 1-14
Matthew 22: 1-14

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY GROUP

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

is at
10.45am
in

CRUWYS MORCHARD

with
Paul Kingdom
and David Edwards

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

PRAYER CHAIN

The Exe Valley Mission Community run a telephone prayer chain. If you like to be included for prayer or know someone who would like to be included, please contact the church office. Only first initials will be used to ensure total confidentiality



Volunteers needed to help with the community lunches each month.

If you could spare a couple of hours on the second Thursday of the month please contact the church office on 01884 250417 or Email: office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org

18 OCTOBER

Luke the Evangelist
(Green)

In God's presence

Exodus 33:12-23
Matthew 22:15-22

9.30am Zoom Service

CALVERLEIGH

9.15am 'Explore'
Tash & Nik

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Morning Praise

LOXBEARE

10.45am Morning Praise

OAKFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

STOODLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise

TEMPLETON

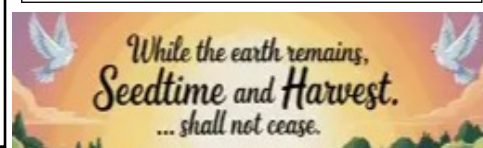
10.45am Family Service

WASHFIELD

3.00pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH

10.45am Holy Communion
Paul Kingdom and
David Edwards



Exe Valley Lunches

12.30pm - 2.30pm

Wednesday September 9th -
Tiverton Golf Club

As with last time you will need to pre-order, I will circulate a menu.

Contact the church office to let us know if you will be joining us or if you need transport.

01884 250417

25 OCTOBER

Last Sunday after Trinity
(Green)

9.30am Zoom Service

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY GROUP HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

is at
10.45am
in

LOXBEARE

with
Tim Gorringer

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

PARISH ROUND-UP

ringers. Photos on page 4. Following the service we all enjoyed a glass of fizz and sandwiches and cake. A lovely morning enjoyed by many from the Exe Valley.

On Tuesday the following week a team from Matthew Higby Ltd returned to ring a quarter peal in memory of our friend and fellow bell ringer the late Shirley Hutter.

Word is out! and we have had visting ringers from NE Branch of The Guild of Devonshire Ringers, Bovey Tracey ringers and other groups are in the diary. On 19 July the bells rang out to a full church for the baptism of Monty Robin and Andrew Herniman played the organ.

Many thanks to Geoff Baylis for 'The Movie' a wonderful record of the renovation of St Peter's bells. A showing was enjoyed by many parishioners, held in the village hall with tea and cakes (of course!) A huge amount of work and skill by Geoff went into making the film.

Autumn in numbers.

100 Research has found those born in autumn are more likely to live to this age.

40 The number of years it takes most English Oak (Quercus Robur) to produce acorns.

174 The weight in stones of the heaviest ever pumpkin recoded in the UK. (Roughly the weight of a Ford Fiesta)

20 The distance in metres you need to move a slug to syop it returning 'home' to your garden.

The Annual Moorland Club Flower and Produce Show took place in the village Hall on 8 August.

Even in this difficult year for produce and flowers there was a considerable number of entries in these classes and lots of entries in the cookery and craft

classes. The talent in Oakford is amazing. Club chair Louise thanked the new show chair Julie for a wonderful show and thanked all the Moorland Ladies for their hard work.

Trophies were presented by local MP Rachel Gilmour.

Cut Flowers - Clare Vigus

Floral Art - Laura Parkman

Produce - Laura Parkman

Cookery - Laura Parkman

Preserves and alcohol - Laura

Parkman and Wendy Vigus

Handicraft - Laura Parkman

Photography - Lucy Gould

Men's Cookery - Leigh Cridland

Moorland Ladies Cup - Louise Wilder and Julie Cridland

The Sue Vigus Cup - Louise Wilder

Dates for your diary

6 September - St Peter's Harvest Festival followed by lunch in the village hall. Tickets £7.50 bring your own drink Tel: Dawn 07733949295

12 September - The Big Breakfast

2/3 October - Oakford Players present 'The Hound of the Baskervilles.' Tickets £20 to inc a 2 course supper. Licensed Bar. Tel: Dawn 07733949295

The Lord's Larder - feeding hope

St Peter's, Oakford is joining hands to support CHAT. Every tin of soup, packet of pasta or box of cereal makes a real difference to families and people in need.

CHAT provides supplies to people facing difficult times. With your help, we can ensure that no one in our community goes hungry.

CHAT helps in many ways, debts, housing and there are leaflets in church.

So, how can we help? Together we can share God's love in practical ways.

Please consider giving - your kindness will bring hope and nourishment to our neighbours.

You will find a basket near the back of church where you can add your donated items. All donated items will be collected regularly and go directly to CHAT. There is a list of the most wanted items.

RACKENFORD

The Parish Church of St Peters held a Group Holy Communion service and celebration for faithful service, the new loo (very handy!) and re-dedication of the Ring of Eight Bells at Oakford on Sunday 12 July. A warm welcome was given to the Rt Revd Moira Astin, Bishop of Crediton, by Rev Steph Gordon-Jeffs amid great applause from the congregation. It was a delight to meet Bishop Moira and listen to her very enjoyable talk. Lots of fund-raising, grants and hard work enabled this achievement. The bell frame has been replaced by a new steel one, the bells have been returned and the ringing floor returned to its original height, making the ringing of the bells a much easier prospect. A wonderful view looking down from the bell tower. The celebrations commenced with a wide variety of tasty refreshments, enjoyed outside with a drink as we listened to the bellw ringing out. Wonderful achievement for Oakford, we enjoyed being with you.

Our Mission Community 5 Sunday Holy Communion Group Service was taken by Rev Steph Gordon-Jeffs and Tim Gorridge. Dave Edwards and Levon provided the music and, as always, with such joy, passion and enthusiasm.

Ray Westcott & Sons

Traditional West Country
Thatchers

Over **35** years experience.

No job too **SMALL**

Estimates given **FREE**



Contact:

01884 861577

07990 951809

07788 293580

angela123westcott@hotmail.com

Bay Leaf Garden Services

- . Full Garden Maintenance
- . Bush and Shrub Management
- . Weeding, Planting, Pruning and Clearances

Weekly, Fortnightly or Monthly sessions
at affordable hourly rates

Please call Steve on 07970 820 057

CAROLYN SPILLER

Hypnotherapy

Help with anxiety, confidence,
alcohol control, phobias, sleep.

07514 931 096

www.carolynspiller.co.uk

To place an advertisement,
please contact Dawn Williams
01398 324035
dawnannwilliams1@gmail.com

PARISH ROUND-UP

Always a blessing to have others join us from the Exe Valley.

Belated congratulations to Rowena and Rob on the birth of their son Thomas Percy who was born on April 19. Also congratulations to Gail and Andrew on becoming grandparents to Thomas. More congratulations to Liz and Tim on becoming grandparents for the first time. Their son, Richard, and wife, Charlotte, having given birth to a daughter Annabel on July 12. Congratulations. Many of us will remember Richard attending Rackenford Church through the years of living at home and always first to put his hand up to answer questions throughout services and always willing to read a lesson and be involved. We look forward to seeing you with your family sometime in the future.

Volunteers have now come forward and are helping to cut paths and areas where it's possible in our churchyard. It's made a big difference, so thank you all, we appreciate it so much. Our plea for help has been answered. More help is always welcome. Just a reminder not to use glass for loved ones flowers as it can be very dangerous when cutting, and to remove any pots etc not being used. It helps when tidying around.

You may have noticed our outside notice board is missing. Well it's seen better days and no longer serves a purpose. However, we hope to replace it in the near future. More about it next time.

Congratulations to all those who have received pleasing exam results, an anxious time waiting for you. Many will be starting school for the first time, changing schools and going into higher education with college and university.

We pray you will enjoy learning and making new friends. Be happy and achieve all you work for. You and your teachers have had a long hot summer to enjoy and are now probably ready for the next step in your education.

Samantha Gardner, Head of School for Rackenford CofE Primary School will start in September. We wish her well in her new post.

On July 19, Mikey and Steve did a motorbike ride-out, starting in Rackenford and travelling a 99 mile round loop. They were given a rousing send off by family and friends as they left. They were raising money for FORCE because of the way they have been looked after through their different cancer journeys and wanted to give back after being offered a lifeline. Many congratulations to them and very pleased you are both doing well now.

The weather was on our side as we got together for another Village Day. Inside or outside seating was available. A wide range of delicious cakes were donated to your 'cakes & cuppa' stall by so many of you. How lucky we were and so very kind and generous of you all. We received lots of compliments on your behalf. Other stalls were available to enjoy savoury food and drinks to go with it. Lots of competitions to enter, games to play, things to buy and a dog show to enter or enjoy the fun of the bouncy castle etc. Flowers and cake competitions were inside the marquee. Some very clever and talented children around us. Well done to you all for taking part. It's the taking part that's good to see, the more the merrier. The day ended with singing and dancing to the music provided and heading home safely after a good day out. Thank you

to everyone who worked so hard in putting this event together and all who helped on the day.

We must remember in our prayers Jacques and Graham who have both needed medical attention in hospital. Happy to report they are now home and making steady progress. Also our prayers to Derek and Jean who are struggling with health issues. We are here if you need us just give us a call. Sorry if we haven't heard you are ill. Our deepest sympathy to Graham and Ruth on the death of Grahams' sister. A very sad and difficult time for you both as Ruth's brother awaits major surgery. You are very much in our prayers.

Congratulations to all who are celebrating good times, always a boost to hear of happy times.

We thought we would like to share this news from Elliotts family. 'We went to the Isle of Wight for the English Beach Soccer National Championships held at Appley Beach, Ryde on Sunday July 26. Elliotts team North Devon United (7 players) played amazingly and won, so they are National Champions! Elliott also won an award for MVP (Most Valuable Player) for his age group. We're very proud of him!' Such lovely news Elliott and very well done to you and the whole team. Nice to end on a positive note. (Photo on page 4)

We do continue to pray for peace.

STOODLEIGH

Hello from Stoodleigh, and here are dates for your diaries in the coming months. The Autumn and Winter

SJM tree services 

- Tree Surgery
- Hedge Maintenance
- Professional Tree Advice
- Tree Surveys
- Fencing
- Log & Woodchip Supply

Please call or email for a free no obligation quote.

Sam Manaton FdSc Arb, MArborA
Phone: 01884 821153
Mobile: 07411941258
Email: s.j.manaton@gmail.com
www.sjmtree.services




LTA
COACH
ACCREDITATION+

CALL GILES
07963 646402

**IMPROVE
YOUR
TENNIS**

**CHECK OUT THE
ALL NEW EXE
VALLEY WEBSITE**

www.exevalleychurches.org

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

PARISH ROUND-UP

seasons seem to be as busy as the Summer!

St Margaret's Church will be holding our Harvest Festival service on Sunday 6th September at 10.45am. We do hope you can join us to celebrate our farming community and beautiful Devon countryside after what has been a long, dry, and for some, a difficult summer and harvest.

Our traditional Harvest supper and Skittles evening will be held on Saturday 19 September at 7pm in Stoodleigh Parish Hall. This evening gets more competitive as the hours tick on, with two teams challenging each other (cheating is probable) with the Big Guns being brought on towards the end! Bring your own tipples please folks and tickets are the same price as last year (Yes, the same as last year people) at £10 each adult, under 14 years £5, and under 5 years are free. A sumptuous two course supper is provided. We do hope you can join us for an evening of friends and fun. Please register you are coming (for catering purposes.....we don't want to be a pudding short) with Mandy 07729 406646 or email mandy@exevalleyeggs.co.uk Or email Yvonne at yvonneilang@outlook.com or Phyllis at phyllisrosemount@gmail.com Thank you.

And further dates.....

Our Remembrance Service in St Margaret's church will be held on Sunday 8 November at 10.50am.

Church Christmas bingo will be on Thursday 12 November at the Stoodleigh Inn by kind permission of Lizzie & Mike. That well known comedy duo 'Jules & Ed' will be in action (Julian & Ed doing their community work and

keeping us in order) and eyes down at 7pm. Come along for a fun night and some cracking Christmas prizes!

St Margaret's will be holding our Christmas Coffee Morning in our church on Saturday 12 December, and our traditional Carol Service will be on Sunday 20 December at 6pm.

Eileen Fewings

We recently said 'Goodbye' to a long standing resident of our village, Eileen Fewings. Eileen's funeral was held at St Margaret's on 22nd July where she was laid to rest alongside her husband John. Eileen was a Yorkshire lass who loved the countryside, farming and horses. She moved to Tiverton in 1953 with her parents and worked in the town's Lloyds Bank where she met her future husband. They were married in 1956 and moved into Great Coleford in Stoodleigh from Tiverton in 1976 with their 2 daughters Jill and Debbie. In 1984 the family moved back to Tiverton for a couple of years before moving back into Stoodleigh in 1986 to Court Place. Eileen was a keen member of Stoodleigh WI and also played an active role in St Margaret's Church being on the PCC and also greatly enjoyed doing flowers in the church. Sadly John passed away in 2018 and Eileen then moved from Court Place into The Larches Care Home, Tiverton in 2020. She lived happily in the Larches for six years with good friends visiting, however their years spent living in Stoodleigh were always cherished and chatted about with great fondness.

Magazine subscription

For those in Stoodleigh who would like to make a contribution to the cost of the Today magazine there are envelopes in this edition. If you would prefer to make your contribution by bank transfer

please contact our Treasurer, Yvonne by email - yvonneilang@outlook.com. Thank you for your support

The "Big June Tea Party" - A joint event organised by the teams from the Parish Hall and St Margaret's Church. What a great Stoodleigh community tea party we enjoyed! Thank you so much to Mandy and John for hosting the event at Linney Mead and providing such a lovely welcome and the perfect venue. Much preparation was involved by our hosts and for that we are extremely grateful. We were thrilled that so many of you in the community could join us for the afternoon - thank you for supporting us. The tea, sandwiches, cakes and scones went down a treat and there was plenty for everyone. Drinks were available from the bar and the Pimm's flowed. It was great to see our new and long-time neighbours and friends relaxing together over tea, chat and laughter and enjoying the amazing views over the Exe valley. Thank you to our wonderful Stoodleigh bakers who donated delicious cakes of every description. Thanks to the Stoodleigh Tea Party team without whom we couldn't have done this - those with muscle, trucks, tractors and trailers, who moved the equipment from the Hall and back again afterwards, the sandwich makers and more bakers, those who gave their time, energy and community spirit. We were delighted and you will be pleased to hear - the sum of £1,091.73 was raised and split between St Margaret's and the Parish Hall. Thank you everyone for your support and all the great comments we received from you afterwards.

Stoodleigh Parish Hall

Saturday Coffee Mornings at the Hall
Please pop in for coffee, a slice of cake and a catch up with others in the

LOGS



L Adams Tree Services

All aspects of Tree Surgery
Stump Grinding | Hedge Trimming
Fencing | Garden Maintenance
Grass Cutting & Strimming
Landscaping | Logs

contact Lloyd Adams on

07809
613490

lloyd@ladamstreeservices.co.uk



01884
32864

www.ladamstreeservices.co.uk



Withers Steele

Chartered Accountants

The newly merged
William Withers & Co with
Paul Steele Chartered Accounts
For all your accountancy needs

info@witherssteele.co.uk
01884 253030

PARISH ROUND-UP

community. The Hall is open on the first Saturday of the month between 10.30am and 12noon - 5 September, 3 October and 7 November.

Stoodleigh Winter Fair: Saturday 14 November

The Hall will be welcoming stallholders offering goods from local craftspeople, residents and groups. If you would like to have a stall for your items or promote your local business, please contact us as soon as possible - speak to members of the Hall Committee or ring Geraldine on 07734 451741 for information. This event will give our visitors a great opportunity for some local Christmas shopping. The Kitchen Cafe team will be serving refreshments throughout the Fair so please come and visit.

Stoodleigh Christmas Tree Lighting Event: Saturday 5 December. More information nearer the time - pop the date in your diary now!

Stoodleigh 100 Club

Recent Winners:

June - Sean Manuel, Phil Talbot and Mette Larsen

July - Paula Moore, Kay Bassano and Sam Earl

August - Phil Talbot, Hilary Squire and Graham Radford

The profits of Stoodleigh 100 Club are split between St Margaret's Church and Stoodleigh Parish Hall. Cheques for £300 each were presented to representatives of St Margaret's and the Parish Hall for the year 2025/26 at the Big June Tea Party. If you would like to join Stoodleigh 100 Club or like more info, contact Geraldine on 07734 451741.

Welcome to Charmaine and Stuart and family to the village. We hope you'll be very happy in Stoodleigh.

Garden Club

The Garden Club arranged a visit to Fursdon House and Gardens near Cadbury in July, attended by a just a few members. It was very hot, which probably deterred some, but the gardens were lovely, though obviously suffering from the dryness, and the interesting house offered some coolness.

Later in the month we held our summer garden party at Langdon. Mercifully the day was a little cooler than other days and plenty of shade was provided. The garden at Langdale was immaculate and even the grass had some green in it! We all enjoyed a pleasant afternoon with food and drink... and much chat.

By the time you read this Stoodleigh Annual Show will have come and gone. We do hope that many of you will have been able to come along and that you enjoyed the afternoon. If you were able to enter any of the classes, we do hope it was a good experience and that you managed to collect some prizes! If you didn't get to come along.... there is always next year!

We must mention the figure omitted from the last issue... The money raised at the coffee morning in aid of the Brain Tumour Charity was £700, for which the charity is most grateful.

rest of the world resets its calendar, our local farmers follow the same ancient rhythm of the seasons which sounds romantic but in reality, Autumn is a season of relentless, round-the-clock grafting trying to bring in the harvest. They truly are 'outstanding in their field'. When they do finally get home, most won't watch five minutes of that new TV season without falling asleep on the sofa. As for the latest autumn fashion? The farmer's 'Autumn Collection' will probably feature mud-caked overalls, checked shirt (if it isn't plaid, it's a medical emergency) and wellies with a mud-splatter aesthetic ...again. So, move over, Paris Fashion Week—even style is timeless! It is a 'proper job' too but with their relentless schedule, a spare five minutes to themselves is the one luxury most farmers won't get at this time of year.

St Margaret's Church and churchyard
Our church and churchyard always need attention. The interior walls were painted by an expert team a few years ago, but the paint is now peeling and mould is appearing on the walls. The plan now is to strip the walls of all the paintwork and start again.

Thank you to everyone who brought their trimmers to the churchyard to clear the overgrowth. The brambles will be cleared through the summer. We are very grateful to Peter who has kept the churchyard so neat and tidy over the years. Peter's work load has increased and sadly he won't be able to continue maintaining our churchyard after the summer.

Interested in grass-cutting?

Is there anyone in the area who would be interested in regularly cutting the grass in the churchyard? Contact Reg (01884 860246) or William (01884 253030) if you would be willing to take this on or would like to know more.

TEMPLETON

Greetings from Templeton

Whether you consider it the end of Summer or the dawn of Autumn, September is a month of change. For many, it's a new school year, a new season on the telly, or the launch of autumn fashion. Yet for those who work the land, this month of transition is also a reminder that the more things change, the more they stay the same. While the

TR CAREERS

Independent Careers Adviser

For online and in-person
personal careers advice

- GCSE and A Level choices
- Support on Results Day
- UCAS and Job Applications
- CV Writing and Interview Prep
- Morrisby Psychometric Assessment
- Assessment Centre Preparation

including Officer Selection

- Workshops, talks and facilitation

Annabel Taylor-Ross info@trcareers.org



**BROOKWOOD
CONSULTING**

Structural Engineers

Structural Design

Project Management

T: 07938 175940

E: info@bwbeconsulting.co.uk

www.bwbeconsulting.co.uk

SaveX Services Ltd

Rob Vinnicombe

**GENERATOR & OFF GRID SPECIALIST
SUPPLIERS OF AC POWER EVERYWHERE
SUPPLIER OF GENERATORS, CONTROL
PANELS, SOLAR FOR OFF GRID AND
GENERATOR HIRE**

MOB: 07770637924

OFFICE: 01363 866992

EMAIL: savexgenerators@aol.com

PARISH ROUND-UP

The Sunday Services at St Margaret's Church are usually held twice a month, with a mix of lay-led services and group services that rotate between all the nine parishes. The Services in Templeton and the other parishes over September and October are shown on the centre pages of this magazine. We are very grateful to Marjorie who plays the organ for most of our services in Templeton.

Gloria's 100 Club: Matthew has succeeded in reviving Gloria's popular 100 Club to raise funds towards restoring the church windows and walls. It costs each person £12 year (£1 a month) to take part. Half the money entered each month will be split between two winners – the more people that take part the higher the winnings! The next monthly draw over the next two months will be on Monday, September 7 and Monday October 5 at the Village Hall on Club Night! Well done Matthew for making it happen! If you want to take part, contact Matthew at 07595 868165.

Events in Templeton:

Saturday August 8th - Templeton Summer Fete at Templeton Village Hall. By the time this magazine goes to print, this popular community event will have been and gone! The Summer Fete included cream teas, hot dogs, pay bar, bric-a-brac, nearly new clothes, books, produce, tombola and games ...and so much more. We are so grateful for the donations and the volunteers that always make this village event great fun for everyone! 50p tokens were available for people to buy with their bank cards if they didn't have enough cash handy. Thank you to all those who came and supported the event ...and all those who prepared the ground, cut the grass, strimmed the banks, set up the marquee, baked cakes, contributed

gifts, food, produce and many other items as well as helping with the stalls and games.

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th October - Harvest Festival Weekend

This will begin with a three-course Harvest Supper at Templeton Village Hall on Saturday evening 3rd October – Tickets, £15.00 adults and £10 children, available from Lynda, William, Reg, Val, Ginah, Laurel and Bindy.

Harvest Festival will be at 10.45am on Sunday 4 October at St Margaret's Church, Templeton, with donations displayed in the church for the Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT). We would be grateful if you could bring any fresh fruit, vegetables, packaged or canned produce to the porch of St Margaret's Church during the week before the service so that it can all be displayed around the church on the Sunday. CHAT is an amazing charity that provides a huge amount of support for local people who are homeless or in financial difficulties.

Friday 23 October: Halloween Party

Get ready for a spooky night of fun. Join us on Friday 23rd October from 6pm for our Halloween Party. Dress up in your scariest, funniest, or most creative costume and enjoy a fantastic evening with music, games, and plenty of Halloween fun.

Fancy dress encouraged

Everyone welcome

Don't miss out—come along for a frightfully good time

Saturday 31st October: Bonfire and firework display at Templeton Village Hall from 6.30pm. This very popular event will take place at Templeton Village Hall. People really do come from far and wide to see it. The display

is always spectacular. The bar will be open, with delicious hot dogs and hot drinks for sale, and a Guy Competition so make a note of the date now! (Tickets on the gate –cash only please). The hall has a card reader for drinks and food, as well as accepting cash. *No personal fireworks or sparklers please as this contravenes our insurance.*

Sunday 8 November: Remembrance Sunday Service at St Margaret's Church, Templeton honouring the efforts, achievements and sacrifices made in past wars. Alfie has agreed to play again for us this year The Last Post and The Reveille. It was so moving to hear him play last year.

Friday 20 November and Saturday 21 November: Wine and Cheese evening and Art Sale and Exhibition will be held at Templeton Village Hall on the Friday evening of 20 November, and the Art Sale and Exhibition will continue all day on Saturday 21 November with refreshments available. This will be a wonderful display and sale of paintings, drawings, cards, pottery, and other gifts by Templeton's talented Art Group and also by local artists, and ceramic artists.

Sunday 6 December: Templeton Christmas Dinner

Put the date in your diary now for this marvellous event. Sue and Shaun have kindly agreed to provide this wonderful meal again (with helpers) at 1pm at Templeton Village Hall. More information to follow.

Sunday 13 December: Christmas Children's Party - at 3pm at Templeton Village Hall with a visit by the man in the red suit. You know the festive season has arrived with this wonderful annual family event organised by Tony



THOMAS PAYNE
UPHOLSTERY

25+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

TEL: 07595 893146

EMAIL: tomtom.payne@gmail.com



Mike Ackland Motors

For All Your Motoring Needs

**Car & Motorcycle MOT
Repairs, Servicing, Diagnostics
Tyres, Tracking and most other
things to all makes.**

**Forward House, Loxbeare Cross,
Tiverton. 01884 881370**

mikeacklandmotors@btinternet.com
www.mikeacklandmotors.co.uk



(South West) Limited

**COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF
CONSTRUCTION, BUILDING AND
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.**

Internal and External

Please call Rory on:

01884 860637 or

07818566757

info@blythconstruction.co.uk

www.blythconstruction.net

PARISH ROUND-UP

Loosemore, with a disco, party food and fun.

Regular groups

Garden Club

Our garden club goes from strength to strength with numbers increasing monthly. The successive heatwaves and subsequent hose pipe ban have proved a challenge for maintaining our gardens. There will be garden groups coming up soon. If anyone would like any information about the club please email Ginah at ginahpalmer@gmail.com.

Templeton Art Group

The Art Group meets at Templeton Village Hall fortnightly on Tuesdays from 10am until 12 midday. These dates will be September 8th and 22nd and October 6th and 20th. Everyone is invited. No charge. Just bring yourselves with whatever art work you are doing or want to have a go at, with Lynda there to help if needed. Coffee and cake provided. If you want to know more, contact Lynda at newnes7@mail.com. Already mentioned in this magazine is an exhibition and sale of the Art Group, local artists and ceramicists' work on Friday November 20th in the evening (with wine and cheese) and Saturday November 21 all day.

Book Group

The Templeton Book Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 3pm at Templeton Village Hall with coffee, tea and cake. The next book groups will be on September 9th and October 14th. It's a great time to share and talk about a wide variety of books. If you'd like to join the book group or would like to know more about it just get in touch with Julie at julie.dent@yahoo.co.uk.

Templeton Village Hall and Social Club.

If anyone would like to use the hall at any time, for table tennis, darts, skittles, game of football outside, or just a get-together, please just contact Bindy (01884 860655) who will open up the hall for you, providing there is not already a booking on that day. The Social Club is open every Monday and Saturday evening from 8pm to 11pm – with a wide range of drinks available at very reasonable prices. Club Membership is only £2 a year.

Welcome

Welcome to Vicki and Chris and family who have recently moved into Higher South Coombe Farm. We hope that you will be very happy in Templeton.

Farewell.

We were sad to say goodbye to Selena and Alex who lived at Higher South Coombe for many years. We wish them both well in their next home which we hope will not be too far away from Templeton.

Thoughts and prayers

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes are with all those who are unwell, who are receiving or awaiting treatment, who have been in hospital, recovering from surgery, or going through a tough time.

Church Flowers and Cleaning Rota September and October 2026

6th to 13th September Teresa Pancherz

20th to 27th September Liz Walker
4th to 11th October Phillida Strong
18th to 25th October Val Hopley
1st to 8th November Bindy Linden

October baptises me with leaves and its flaming torches light the path to winter.

For a change the annual church fete this year was blessed with superb weather— although it was almost too hot in the early 30s.

Susan Miles, a new resident to the village, opened proceedings with welcoming remarks, and by Richard Scholes our chairman of the Parochial Church Council who formally opened the event.

Our community was drawn together to enjoy a broad range of excellent stalls and games, all taking place in the shade of Camilla and Bronson Albery's wonderful gardens.

In spite of the searing heat attendance was very good and once again everybody was so generous and we all send thanks to all the volunteers who made it all possible and to Camilla for drawing it together.

The Tiverton Town Band added to the joyful atmosphere, playing throughout the afternoon. We felt we deserved the delicious tea in the memorial hall, finishing off with the raffle.

A huge thanks again to everyone who helped, volunteered and made it possible, raising a great sum of £1358 which is a significant contribution towards looking after our village centrepiece, St Mary's.

The Social club, ever productive, would like to thank all who have supported events this year so far, we are lucky to have so many social club members who support and come to events. A reminder that folk need to be members of the Social Club to attend events, only £ annually. Please see the membership officer, Chas or get in touch washfieldsocialclub@gmail.com Open every Tuesday from 8pm

WASHFIELD

September glows like old amber and would have me forget summer.



Quoit-at-cross Vineyard.

Award Winning Wines.

Tours and tastings start Spring 2026.

Contact Tim: 07983 974957

Email: quoitatcrossvineyard@gmail.com

Website:

www.quoitatcrossvineyard.com

S.S. ROOFING SPECIALISTS EST 30 YEARS

Roofing & Leadwork Specialists

Family Run Independent Roofing & Leadwork Specialists Covering Devon For 30 Years

Re-roofing • New Builds
Residential • Domestic • Commercial
Public sector • Heritage & Listed • Leadwork • Conservation

Phone : 01884 252768 / 07856250874
Email: ssroofingspecialist@hotmail.co.uk
Web: www.ssroofingspecialist.co.uk Fax: 01884 255167
Web: www.ssroofingspecialists.co.uk

PARISH ROUND-UP

Upcoming Events

Saturday 31 August – Social Club BBQ.
 Tues 8 September teatime@thehall 3pm
 Saturday 19 September – Film night with
 'The Ballad of Wallis Island'
 Saturday 26 Sept –S.C. Skittles Night
 Friday 2 Oct–First Friday Supper evening
 Saturday 10 Oct Film night (suggestions
 of film welcomed)
 Saturday 17 October –EVBH Ferret racing
 in the hall.
 Saturday 24 October –Pumpkin judging
 evening. Bring your monster (or maybe
 not so big) pumpkin along to be
 weighed/judged. Its not just the weight as
 there is a 'rettiest'section too. Also,
 money is raised during this fun evening
 for charity so do come along (pumpkin
 grower or not)
 Friday 6 Nov First Friday Supper evening

Please keep taking part in these lovely
 events to support YOUR village.
 Everything is advertised on posters,
 Friends of Washfield Social Club
 WhatsApp page and Humans of
 Washfield and Lower Washfield FB page.
 Don't forget our time-honoured
 teatime@thehall is still as popular as
 ever. Held on the 2nd Tuesday of each
 month between 3-4.30pm (this changes
 when the clocks alter to 2.30 – 4pm). All
 ages are welcome to these friendly,
 chatty afternoons (bring some food to
 share (sweet or savoury) Come along,
 you'll be most welcome.

We were sad to hear of the death of
 Eileen Fewings (formerly of Stoodleigh)
 who died aged 94 in July. We send our
 sympathies to her daughter Gill and
 husband Les and their children on her
 passing.

We are pleased to welcome babies galore
 to our village:

Abby and Chris' son Albie, Emma and
 Tom' Olive (baby sister for Evie) and
 Lydia and Richard' Samuel (baby brother

for Martha) Congratulations to you all and
 grandparents too.

To those who are not enjoying good
 health at the time of writing (we know of
 several neighbours/friends who are
 recovering after hospital
 treatments/visits) we wish you all a
 speedy recovery.

Flower Rota

Sept 6/13

Sept 20/27

Oct 4/11

Oct 18/25

Nov 1/8

Anne Boundy

Jenny Raynes

Angela Bolt

Carol Bolt

Liz Arnold

WITHLEIGH

What a wonderful summer we have
 been having blue skies and lovely
 sunshine, but the lack of rain means our
 garden flowers and trees are struggling
 but God's beautiful nature will survive as
 it always does. As Vincent van Gogh said
 many years ago – How right it is to love
 flowers and the greenery of pines and ivy
 and hawthorn hedges; they have been
 with us from the very beginning.

As we now look forward to harvest time I
 leave you with a poem by Maggie Ingall.

Apple, Damson, plum or pear,
 Harvest home and time to share,
 Kitchen filled with smells so nice;
 Fresh chopped fruit and fragrant spice,
 Pickles sharp and chutney sweet,
 Homemade jam, a tasty treat,
 Gifts for neighbours, gifts for friends,
 Nature's bounty never ends, Some for
 you and some for me
 Perfect for a fireside tea!

"Each year St Catherine's PCC nominates
 a charity to support that year. This year
 Mid-Devon Messenger was chosen, in
 memory of Harry who had been involved
 with it. At our service on Sunday 19 July

we welcomed Helen, who talked about
 the Messenger and its work. In addition
 to the PCC's donation there was a
 retiring collection, and these combined
 resulted in a cheque for £385 being
 presented to Helen. A further
 subsequent donation took the overall
 total to £500. Grateful thanks to all who
 gave so generously."

'A BBQ was held on Sunday 12th July and
 enjoyed by all those who attended on
 such a hot and sunny summers day.
 Many thanks to Rodney and Margaret for
 the cooking and to all who helped

Our Summer Fete took place on the
 following Saturday, another lovely day.
 There were stall, games, ice cream,
 raffles and food . Flags and bunting
 were out for both events to add to the
 happy atmosphere. £1560 was raised
 for the upkeep of St.Catherine's church
 yard. '

We welcome two new additions for
 Grandparents living in Withleigh, well
 three really as Daniel and Megan are the
 proud parents of a second set of twins!
 A Girl and a Boy, Molly and Charlie,
 grandchildren of Kevin and Trudi.

Cathy became a Grandmother again, to
 William and Jess's baby girl, Matilda.
 Another Great Granddaughter for both
 Christine and Sylvia.

This year's Harvest Festival is the first
 weekend of September. The Harvest
 Thanksgiving service is on Sunday 6
 September with a service in church at
 3pm, taken by Steph. Then followed by
 our traditional tea in the Village Hall.
 Everyone is welcome to come and join
 us.

On Monday 7 September we have our
 Harvest Supper in the Village Hall,
 followed by the auction of produce, this
 year the proceeds will be donated to
 Multiple Sclerosis Society, who have a
 base in Exeter supporting people living

DEVON & SOMERSET
MARQUEES
 EVENT MANAGEMENT & MARQUEE HIRE

dsmarquees.co.uk
 01398 351 210

A COMPLETE
MARQUEE HIRE SERVICE

- Weddings & Anniversaries
- Sports & Charity Events
- Christening & Birthdays
- Corporate & Club Functions
- Christmas & Special Occasions

SC JOINERY

All aspects of joinery & carpentry

Mobile: 07725129757

Email: scjoinery@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: @joinerysc

PARISH ROUND UP

with MS. Time 7 for 7.30pm. Please book your tickets for the Supper by calling either Christine 01884 257571 or Sara 01884 252949. Please bring your own drinks.

The monthly Bingo's in the Village Hall continue right through to Christmas. The next Bingo will be on Thursday 3rd September, with the October Bingo on the 1st of the month. Eyes down at 7.30pm. We will be resuming our Community Lunches again now that Autumn is upon us, please watch out for the next date on the WhatsApp Group. If you are not on the Withleigh WhatsApp group and would like to join us and keep up to date with things in and around the village, please message Brenda on 07591000479.

Short Mat Bowls is a weekly event in the Village Hall, with the winter months approaching our new season of League matches will soon begin. But if you just want to bowl for fun, you will be in good company. For more details, please call Duncan 01884 252949.

We send our best wishes to Sylvia & Janet after their operations and anyone else waiting or recovering from their operations.

The ladies of Withleigh (WOW) are holding a coffee morning on Saturday September 19 from 10 until 12 in aid of the charities Unite Carers and Bounce of Tiverton at Withleigh village hall. The WOW ladies cookbook will also be on sale then but unfortunately they can only accept cash. Everyone welcome.

WOW

The weather has not been on our side. In June our Teddy Bears' Picnic was held indoors because of the rain

and in July our barbecue was held inside because of the sun! However, both occasions were very enjoyable and made so by our generous hostesses.

You will see we are hosting a Coffee Morning in September, in aid of charity, to launch our Recipe Book, and for you to taste some of the recipes.

We hope to see you there!
Contact Susie 01884 258492

Flower Rota

6,20,27, Sept & 4 October – Margaret Gale

11,18,25 October – Pauline Rooks



Unite Carers



Our enthusiastic team of volunteers run many free support groups for carers in the mid-Devon area, as well as offering 1 : 1 services, such as free befriending, form-filling, IT support and counselling.

We have a quarterly newsletter which you can read online at www.unitecarers.org.uk or catch up on all the latest news on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/unitecarers>

If you are an unpaid carer, or if you know someone who is. We would love to meet you. Please contact us for more information on 01884 257551 or info@unitemd.org.uk.

Our main office is on Bridge Street Tiverton.

Unite Carers in mid-Devon - Supporting unpaid carers and former carers across mid-Devon since 2003. We are a charitable company, limited by guarantee. Charity number: 1099188



Award winning AA 5-Star Gold B & B and Breakfast Award

**Warm Welcome. En-suite rooms.
Special dietary requirements catered for.**
**Fernside Cottage, Templeton Bridge,
Tiverton, Devonshire, EX16 8BP**

Email :

ianthorington@hotmail.co.uk

Website :

www.fernsidecottage-bed-and-breakfast.co.uk

Telephone : 01884 860025

Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall



For weddings, parties or other events. Well equipped and ample parking

Tel: Diana 01363 860227

www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

FAX & FILES Tel: 01884 254254

15 Westex South, Tiverton, Devon EX16 5DQ

Email: faxandfiles@gmail.com

PHOTOCOPYING (Black & White / Colour)
Business Cards & Business Stationery,
Typing, Schedules/Booklets, Invitations
Menus, Flyers/Posters, Laminating etc

Open Mon to Fri 9.30am to 4.00pm



Ele Davidson

Painter & Decorator
North Devon Area

07775 600298

eledav1@btinternet.com

 [painterdecoratorcommissions](https://www.facebook.com/painterdecoratorcommissions)

Ian Curtis Painter & Decorator

Interior
Exterior
Tiling
Wallpapering
Minor repairs
Free estimates
No VAT

Friendly & efficient local service

Contact Ian on
07821 349314 (mobile)

 **RICHARD GRANT
MEMORIALS**
2-4 WESTEXE NORTH
TIVERTON
DEVON, EX16 5LX
TEL: (01884) 255737
WWW.FINEMEMORIALS.CO.UK

 **GLEN HOOKINS Ltd**
Electrical Contractor
01884 881202
07714 293782
glen.hookins@gmail.com


Apsleys

CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS

Accountancy
Taxation
Payroll
Probate Services
R&D Tax Credits
Corporate Finance
Company Secretarial

tiverton@apsleys.com
01884 257725



DSC
Exterior cleaning

Here to assist you with a wide
range of cleaning services for
clients with residential, commercial
and agricultural properties.

- Roof cleaning & moss removal
- Gutter, gulies and drain cleaning
- Pressure washing driveways, patios, steps & paths
- Solar panels, PVC fascias & signage
- Commercial exterior cleaning
- Steam cleaning & soft-wash render treatment

Time to Transform 01884 370073 | devonsurfacecare.co.uk

CORNERSTONE

PLASTERING & BUILDING CONTRACTOR

ALL PLASTERING, RENDERING
LIME RENDER & BUILDING WORKS
UNDERTAKEN

HASSLE FREE QUOTE
CALL SAMUEL

07500968774



HAWKE BARN
WEDDING & SPECIAL EVENT VENUE
rustic | romantic | relaxed



An enchanting 16th century barn
venue available for weddings, special
occasions and business functions

- Close to main routes and railway
- On-site accommodation options
- Ample free parking

hawkebarnvenue.co.uk

Passionate about horseracing?

Get involved with

NIGEL HAWKE



Thorne Farm
RACING

We offer:

- Racehorse Experience Days
- A range of Racehorse Ownership Options

Contact Nigel Hawke
07769 295839/01884 881666
marketing@thornefarmracingltd.co.uk

nigelhawkehornefarmracing.co.uk



THORNE FARM
HOLIDAY COTTAGES & COUNTRY STAYS
calm | country | comfort



Stay with us in our
beautiful Devon valley

Book online at:

*Devon Farms
& Country Stays*

thornefarmholidaycottages.co.uk

Three great businesses, one stunning location...

Thorne Farm • Stoodleigh • Tiverton • Devon EX16 9QC