

TODAY

The Parish
Magazine
for the
Exe Valley
Mission
Community

August / September, 2012

Price 40p

FAITH OR FUN?

So often the Christian is portrayed as either a killjoy or a wimp. Maybe we sometimes deserve this image, but on other occasions I suggest it might be brought about by a psychological fear on behalf of the non believer that there is more to this "Christian" thing than we might want to think.

How common it is in our TV shows for the vicar to be portrayed as an inadequate person who is barely able to cope with the reality of life in the real world – one who has retreated into a make believe existence behind the walls of his mediaeval building. Certainly the vicar in one of my favourite comedy shows – Dad's Army – (that dates me!) falls into this category. Not only is he an inadequate who shelters behind his religiosity but he is about the only character in the cast who is not at all funny! Typical Christian we are led to believe!

How different the lifestyle of the believer that the Bible portrays to us. We see Jesus Himself joining in celebrations at a wedding and saving the party from embarrassing disaster by producing additional wine. The word "Joy" or "Joyful" appear about 240 times in the Bible in such phrases as "the joy of The Lord is your strength" and "the disciples were filled with joy". The Apostle Paul outlines the Christian life in these words "May the God of hope fill you with all joy &

peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit".

These sentiments have come to me as we considered the question of the purposes of Holiday Club – is the purpose of this annual event to give the children a fun time OR to teach them about faith in Jesus? And it is that word "OR" which is the problem! Yes, Holiday club will give the children – and teenagers in the evening – a good time, we can be confident of that as those who have attended over the years can testify. But the overarching purpose of both the day events for the children and the evenings for the helpers is to introduce people to The Lord Jesus Christ and to help them forward in their Christian faith. So many of us can say from experience that our joy, our purpose and our hope for the future in an uncertain world come from our faith in the living Lord Jesus – he is the fount of all "joy and peace in believing". For if I thought that we were introducing them to the long faced wimpish religiosity of the Dad's army vicar, I would not support it for one moment!

John Roberts.

Holiday club will be held at Calverleigh Hall from 11.15am – 3.30pm Tuesday 24th to Friday 27th July with Youth activities from 7.30pm. Then all day "Service, picnic & fun day" on Sunday 29th July.

EDITORIAL

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee already seems a long time ago, but it is obvious that our parishes went to town on celebrations which were enjoyed by all who took part in them, and that it was a time that will be well remembered.

August is traditionally the 'silly season' when things go quiet, and everybody unwinds and enjoys the sunshine and balmy summer evenings! The ongoing liquid sunshine is, perhaps, more likely to wind us up and keep us indoors with barny summer evenings!

Things are certainly not quiet in the Exe Valley as these words are being written in early July. With our rector, Steve, currently on compassionate leave, it has been decided to reschedule some of the services which had previously been worked out for August, rather than expect him to come straight back in with up to three services on a Sunday. Because some retired clergy also take holidays during August, some parishes have been asked to share services by joining with another on the odd occasion. Whilst the ideal is to have a service in each of our churches each Sunday, we only have limited resources, especially during the summer months. Please bear with us as we pass through this present difficulty. We all wish Steve and Sarah a speedy return to full health, but let's not expect too much of Steve on his immediate return.

Katie has written on the next page about her time with us in the Exe Valley, and others have also mentioned the contribution she has made to the life of

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**THE EXE VALLEY
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Loxbeare, Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton, Washfield
and Withleigh

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our churches and outreach. Thank you, Katie, from all of us for all you have done. We will be saying farewell to Katie at our group service at Loxbeare on 2nd September. The service is at 10.30am, followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the village hall.

Again, in early July, the question of finding a new group treasurer was brought into immediate focus when Martin Hansford resigned from a role which he has ably fulfilled for some six years. We are extremely grateful to Martin for the efficient way in which he has managed the group's financial affairs during that time. Until a successor can be found, interim arrangements are being put in place, but these have not been confirmed at the time of going to print. However, can you, or do you know someone who would be willing to, take on this vital role? Last time we made a similar appeal, you all kept quiet, didn't you!? Please don't assume that someone else will offer!

Finally, Holiday Club are looking for safe items for 'junk' modelling, recycled materials any packaging, card and plastic; please no glass or tins. Please bring to Calverleigh hall on Monday 23rd July, between 10am and 4pm.

Paul

THE APPRENTICE - 2.....

As Holiday Club fast approaches, the end of the school year beckons and, sadly, so does the end of my year here in the Exe Valley.

I've really enjoyed getting to know everyone and serving the Mission Community. The year has taught me so much - about God, about ministry, and about myself. I've really valued everyone's fellowship and prayers. Your support has been a great source of joy and

encouragement! So a big thank you to you all.

In particular I've enjoyed teaching the Bible to kids and learning more about God's Word through the Peninsula Gospel Partnership Training Course (PGP). The course has helped me grow in confidence as I handle and teach the Bible, and I would highly recommend it to anyone who wants to grow in love and knowledge of the Lord Jesus!

Come September, I'm venturing up North to Oldham, near Manchester, to work for a church as an apprentice for another year. It's exciting but rather terrifying as it's a new place, with new people, and in a very different area! (Oldham is as urban as the Exe Valley is rural.) I'll get involved with the children's and youth groups, help at the local primary school, and also attend the North West Partnership Training Course. This will be very similar to PGP in its focus on equipping students to teach God's Word, it's just with Northerners instead!

I'm very much looking forward to it all, but I am rather sad to be leaving! I will continue to pray for you in your gospel ministry and your growth as God's people centred around his Word, and I would value your prayers as I settle into an environment which is very much out of my comfort zone!

I am already planning when I'll be able to visit the Exe Valley, so you definitely won't have seen the end of me yet! Thank you once again for your support. With love and prayers,

Katie



FISH CLUB

Fish Club has met at Calverleigh each

Friday after School during term time.

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This term we have followed a series of stories leading up to and including how Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. We have enjoyed a variety of activities, the younger children particularly enjoyed having their treasure boxes and filling them with reminders of the stories we read. They also followed the journey of Jesus on the map.

We finished the term with sports and a picnic.

We have been extremely grateful to have had Katie Benjamin working with us over the last year, and we wish her well as she moves on to new things.

If Fish Club is to continue in September, we need to have new helpers, people who are willing to lead the session and to teach the bible to groups of children. If you are able to offer any help please ring me: Cindy Trick Tel: 01363 866621.

OUR ANGLICAN FUTURE

Visit of Rev'd Charles Raven.

Charles Raven will be staying in one of our parishes as a private guest for about 2 weeks at the beginning of August. Charles has been invited to preach in some of our services on the 5th & 12th of August. In addition he will be leading an evening session in Loxbeare Hall on 8th August at 7.30pm with the above title. We do hope many will take this opportunity of hearing Charles – the issues he will be speaking about are those we will all have to think about in the coming years irrespective of where we stand on the issues concerned.

Charles has recently been appointed as Archbishop's Officer for Anglican Communion Affairs to the Archbishop of Kenya, who is Chairman of the Fellowship

of Confessing Anglicans, a body representing the majority of Anglican believers world-wide. Thika diocese in Kenya is one of the dioceses with which we in Exeter are linked.

Charles has been at the forefront of the fight to maintain Biblical faith in the Anglican Communion. He was vicar of St John's Kidderminster when the debate about homosexually active clergy within the Church of England started to hot up in the late 1990s and, in 1999, his then bishop very publicly rejected agreed Anglican teaching.

Like so many of us, he was concerned that Biblical standards be maintained within the church and, following discussions with the bishop, Charles and his congregation decided they could not accept his spiritual authority. Eventually he felt he had no option but to lead his congregation away from the parish church for the sake of a local Anglican future, and in 2002 he became Rector of Christ Church Wyre Forest, an Anglican Church outside the formal structures of the Church of England, and which is now part of the Anglican Mission in England.

The issues which confronted Charles in 1999 increasingly confront many in the Church of England today. Charles has continued to play a very active role in Anglican affairs world wide culminating in his key appointment in Kenya

In short, Charles will be talking to us in the meeting on the 8th August about our future as Anglican Christians in the light of present trends within the Church of England.

John Roberts

CRUWYS MORCHARD CHURCH BELLS

We are absolutely delighted that our plans for re-hanging the Church bells

have the go-ahead. We have just learned of our success in obtaining a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant which, when added to the monies already raised by us and promised by various grant-giving bodies, will give us the required £40,000.00.

The Heritage Lottery Fund application involves us in organising a great many activities designed to promote learning, participation and conservation of church bells and bell ringing within the community.

We have just started some of our planned activities and are very grateful to Rackenford Church for allowing us to use their bells to teach some of the Rackenford school children to ring. We began with a 'teach the teachers' session on two consecutive mornings, when some of our ringers had the opportunity to learn 'how to teach' from three experienced members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. Three Rackenford school children (and their Headmistress) kindly agreed to be guinea pigs for us to practise on. We are now continuing to teach these children, together with others, once a week at lunchtime.



Teaching in Rackenford Church

We have also recently organised two excellent days at Cruwys Morchard Church, when all the 9-11 year olds from Rackenford school (as it is part of our Mission Community) and Bickleigh school (as it is attended by many Cruwys

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Morchard children) took part in bell-related activities.



Schools visit.

ANN'S NATURE NOTES

The summer is the time of sunshine, and holidays, let's hope! Butterflies should be at their busiest then, but so far this year, they have been in small numbers because of the dreadful weather. The resident birds are, on the whole, moulting, so go into hiding. They have had a busy time laying eggs; brooding them and feeding young has taken a lot out of them, and they need to regroup and grow new feathers. The migrant birds are beginning to return to warmer climes. I was surprised to read that Cuckoos start to return in late June, the Swifts start to go in late July, and the rest follow in their own time.

Possibly, because of climate change, new birds are nesting in England for the first time; Great White Egrets are nesting on Sedgemoor, Spoonbills are somewhere, not sure where, and there are more Glossy Ibises appearing in the South West.

For a walk I think, along the Tiverton Canal, park either in Tiverton at the beginning, or the Jubilee Bridge, Sampford Peverell, or Burlescombe. There are many Dragonflies and darters there, as well as Butterflies.

Ann

DEANERY SYNOD

Thursday 28th June 2012.

Bishop Richard Hawkins commissioned Rev'd Barry Dugmore as the new Rural Dean. The church warden of Bampton spoke on behalf of Rev'd Lynne

Burgon on her experiences developing mission in a rural context.

We had a plenary session on what is, and what is not, working to encourage mission. Then there was a feedback. This is a good idea as it gives us a picture as to what is happening elsewhere in the deanery. We do need to work together and get ideas of what might help us. The picture I got was that Steve has managed to do a lot of things in the parish that were mentioned. The results were divided into strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The strengths included holiday clubs, Toddler groups, lunch and breakfast clubs, street pastors, special services and ecumenical linking. Weaknesses included vicars being spread too thinly, geography of rural areas, finance and communication problems. Opportunities included using secular events like the Jubilee to include non churchgoers, outward fundraising and working in schools. Threats include peoples' reaction, fear of change, very small congregations in village parishes, parochialism. It gave food for thought.

There was a report from Diocese. The main topic for discussion was the Anglican Communion Covenant. General Synod discussed many subjects including assisted dying, training of ordinands, parochial fees, the code of practice of ordination of women, aid to poorer countries, concern about the events in Nigeria, new Eucharistic prayers, and the Health service. I am sure that you will agree it is a very wide range of subjects.

Ann Crawford



CHATter

Smelly prayers?

There are several references in the Bible to our prayers being like incense to God – a pleasing, all-pervasive smell that's hard to ignore. The view of Heaven in Revelation 5 shows the elders and living creatures surrounding the throne of the lamb: 'holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people' – a powerful image of how close our prayers are to God. At CHAT we see

answers to prayer each week. Due to the nature of our work it is not often possible to share them publicly, but we are able to testify to God's goodness and faithfulness.

CHAT has a group of people dedicated to praying for specific people and situations via our prayer chain. Could this be something God is calling you to join? If you would like to know more, please contact The Office on the number below.

In a town near you –
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Pye Corner, Church Street
Mondays 2 - 4.30pm
Tiverton 28 Gold Street Monday from
10.30 & Tuesday to Friday from 9.30
Advice by phone 01884 255606 or email
theoffice@chatmid.co.uk

Saturday 18 August -11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
TOWER OPEN DAY

at Cruwys Morchard Church

Everyone in the Exe Valley Mission Community is invited. It promises to be a great day out with tower bells, handbells and a mini ring to listen to, watch or even have a go at. There will be morris dancing; teddy bear parachuting; barbecued sausages; picnic teas; exhibits and trips up the church tower. Look out for posters designed by school children, soon to appear around the villages

Thursday 27 September – 7.30p.m.

The next in our series of concerts
in Cruwys Morchard Church

This time it is to be a group of musicians playing early music instruments. There will be the usual delicious refreshments during the interval. Tickets £10

4th October 11 a.m.

A Special "Trace your Ancestor" Coffee Morning to be held at the Cruwys Arms.

PARISH ROUND-UP

Calverleigh

Some of us attended the Visitation of the new Archdeacon on 14th May. The

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Cathedral Church of St Peter in Exeter was full to capacity.

May 16th was a special day for one young couple in our community. Paul and Maureen Furneaux celebrated their Silver wedding. They were married in Calverleigh Church 25 years ago. Congratulations to you both and we hope you will have many more happy years together.

We held our annual day of prayer on 19th May. The response for this was very good indeed, with every half hour slot for prayer filled by one or two people between the hours of 9am and 9pm. This day seems to be very popular in our yearly calendar, long may it continue. Thanks must go to Aubrey and Julie for organising this, with prayer times and prayer suggestions.

A coffee morning was held at the home of Derek and Mary Herniman on 26th May. It was a very successful event with many people attending. Believe it or not, the sun shone all morning, no rain and very warm, we were so lucky. People were able to sit outside, drink their coffee and enjoy the sunshine. Thank you to all who helped, provided and bought; this enabled us to raise £310.00 for Church Funds.

Our Church celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of our Queen with a special service on July 3rd. Julie led the service with many special items, including poems and recollections of Coronation Day 1953 by three members of the congregation. We ended the afternoon with sparkling wine or juice and special celebration cakes which had been made and decorated by Julie. The cake and drink area looked very festive with the red, white and blue bunting and flags etc. A toast was proposed to her Majesty by Derek Herniman. Everyone who attended agreed that it was a memorable afternoon.

We send our best wishes to all those who are not so well at the present time, we are thinking especially of Mary Walker and Mary Greenslade.

Our annual Open Air service was held on June 24th, and we had a good number attending. We were getting a little worried about the weather but Sunday dawned sunny and bright, so we were able to go outside; it was a little breezy but quite warm. Rob led the service, and our choir gave us two spots of marvellous singing, ably accompanied by Myrtle on the keyboard. Thank you all for your wonderful contribution to such a successful afternoon. Everyone that came stayed after the service for tea and cakes to round off the afternoon.

It was with great sadness and shock that we heard of the death of Chris Hussell on June 14th. Chris and Trisha had spent 43 years of their married life here at Calverleigh in 2 Lower Farleigh Cottages. His funeral took place here at Calverleigh on June 29th. The Church was full of family and friends, with many more people outside waiting to pay their last respects to Chris. Reverend Tony Grosse took the service, one of Chris's Granddaughters read a poem, and Derek Herniman gave a very fitting tribute to Chris. Our love and prayers are with Trisha and all the family; Chris will be sorely missed.

The PCC would like to thank all who returned the completed questionnaires. Your opinions have been discussed and suggestions taken into account.

On the evening of July 6th we held a wine and cheese evening at Calverleigh Court, by kind invitation of Sir Ian and Lady Louise Amory. Thank you so much for your hospitality. It was a wet evening, but there were two lovely log fires burning when we arrived which was very welcoming. Thank you to all friends who supplied the magnificent array of savouries and draw prizes. Sixty people enjoyed what was a first class evening. Hilda Forward provided light music throughout the evening on her keyboard, thank you Hilda. We made a profit of £400.00 toward the cost of repairs to the Church roof. Many thanks once again to all involved in organising this successful event.

At our recent PCC meeting, the condition of the Church roof was discussed. With all the recent wet weather we have had some leaks. It has been inspected and unfortunately some major work needs to be carried out. It looks as though we will be looking for more funding and fund-raising ideas !!

On July 6th Betty Slade became a Great Grandmother once again. Grandson Philip and Julia Slade presented her with twins, Mathew William and Hannah Mary. Congratulations to you all. Michael and Christine, you must be so proud.

Our Harvest celebrations were discussed at the PCC meeting. It was agreed to have a harvest Supper, similar to last year with some entertainment on Saturday 8th September. Details will be available in the near future.

Cruwys Morchard

It was a wet and windy day for our Jubilee celebrations, and our Street party moved into the Parish Hall. More than 100 people wearing red, white and blue sat down to a wonderful bring and share lunch. After lunch we moved back to the village, where there was a bouncy castle for the children and games in the Cruwys Arms. In the evening, a Songs of Praise service was held in our Church

On June 30th a group of about 80 people who are interested in church architecture visited our church. They enjoyed a cream tea in the Parish Hall, before they listened to a talk on the church. There were many favourable comments made about the church and the tea.

We are all very pleased to hear the news that the funding for the Church Bells Restoration Project has been approved by the Heritage Lottery Fund and smaller

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PARISH ROUND-UP

grants from 12 other national charities. Work should start in mid October and hopefully completed by Christmas.

Cruwys Morchard Bellringers

We have been very busy lately doing a lot of what bell ringers enjoy doing!! As well as ringing for all Sunday services here, we recently rang the Rackenford bells for the Group Service. We also love to ring for special occasions and were very happy to oblige, when asked to ring for three recent weddings. On June 3rd we joined in the 'bells' theme of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and rang our own celebration, together with ringers in towers throughout the country and those floating down the Thames. We rang a well known peal of call changes called 'sixty on thirds' which consists of 60 changes, based on an order of the bells known as 'Queens'. We felt this was very appropriate!! It took 20 minutes, which was the longest piece of continual ringing some of our ringers have yet done, and it was also the first time we had rung that piece all the way through - so we were pleased with our achievement.

We are now starting to get busy with events and activities connected to our Heritage Lottery Fund Grant and there is a separate article about this elsewhere in the magazine.

Nellie Croft

Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers

Thank you to everyone who supported the Young Farmer's Club at their recent and first Breakfast Morning, which was followed by a Bingo in the evening. The total of £400 was raised in aid of their charity of the year - The Brain Tumour Trust. If you are interested in joining the club, they meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

Tania Palmer

We say a sad farewell to Frank and Chris Wheeler who have lived at Middle Vulscombe, as they move to Somerset to be near their family. We welcome Mark and Sarah Oakly and their daughter who have moved into Middle Vulscombe.

We welcomed Leevi Campbell to our church for Baptism on Sunday 20th of May.

Congratulations and best wishes for a long and happy marriage to all the couples who were recently married in our church. Belinda Cruwys and Christopher Sadek, were married in May, and James Pike married Melissa Radley, and Amy Randerson married Martyn Williams in June.

It was with great sadness that we heard that Trevor Hill had passed away after a long illness. He was a very popular and willing member of the community. We send our prayers and condolences to Marilyn and all the family. We also send our prayers and condolences to the families of Michael Low of Pennymoor and Michael Martin of Nomansland who have died recently. There will be a memorial service for Michael Low in Cruwys Morchard Church on 4th August at 12 o'clock.

We keep in our prayers all those in our parish who are unwell and those who care for them.

Congratulations to Bob and Liz Cruwys on the birth of George on July 2nd.

Forthcoming Events

Seniors Lunch – On Wednesday 22nd August, the Ladies' committee will be providing a 'free' lunch to parishioners who are over 65. If you would like to come and see old friends and meet new ones, and be well fed, please ring Di on 01363 860227 or Val on 01363 866662, and make your reservation! If transport is a problem, please tell us when you ring, and we will arrange for you to be picked up.

PCC Meeting on Thursday 2nd of August at Wringsland House at 7.30pm.

Ladies Committee meeting on Tuesday 4th September at 7.30 at Valley View (Cindy Trick's).

Breakfast & Brunch - Saturday 4th August 7am to 2pm for new hall funds. Prices start at 50p for coffee. Full English is £4 and BIG Breakfast is £6. Individual items for smaller appetites. Larger parties would be best to

book by texting surname, time and number of people to Mary 07773 362305 or use 'contact us' on the new temporary website (website bookings cannot be taken after midnight Thursday 2nd August. Please text after that - <http://cruwysmorchardparish.sharepoint.com>.

Cruwys Morchard Flower show is on Saturday August 11th at 2.30 pm.

Harvest Festival – 22nd and 23rd September. Service at 2.15 on Saturday in church followed by sports and tea. Evening social with Disco and games 7 - 10pm in the parish Hall. Donations towards the cost of the tea can be made on the day. Donations of produce can be brought to Saturday or Sunday's Harvest Festival services and will be taken to Charlton Lodge after the Sunday service.

Bingo Dates

25th August - final 200 club draw for the year. Time to renew / purchase your 200 club ticket.

29th September - first 200 club draw of the year.

Further dates for your diary - 27th October, 10th November, 24th November.

Flower and Cleaning Rota:

July 16th and July 23rd - Mrs J. Townsend
 July 30th and 6th August - Wendy Lake
 August 13th and 20th - Vine Spragg
 August 27th and September 3rd - Sonia Notley

September 10th - Mrs J. Townsend
 17th - September - Decorators for Harvest

24th September - Mrs J Townsend
 October 1st - Jo Hilton - Wedding

Loxbeare

Our Jubilee Celebrations began with a service in Church on the Sunday, where



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NEW CREATION NEWS

We continue to try and encourage people in to New Creation with our monthly SPECIAL OFFER in the café – they are really good value.

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Coffee Shop SPECIAL OFFER for August
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May we remind you of the Lion Special 3 for 2 offer on Children's Books and Games: e.g.

The First Rainbow – board book (very colourful illustrations).
Raising Dragons – Action, Adventure, Inspiration as Two Teens Meet Their Dragon Past. (Fiction, just in case you wondered).
Bible Memory Game – 40 cards suitable for all ages.
The Ultimate Bible Quiz – 100 quizzes, 1,000 questions. Designed to do alone, with a friend, or in teams; in a fun game format.

Prices range between £4.99 / £7.99 lowest price item is free in offer. Ideal for holiday reading or long car journeys.

God Bless you this holiday time with safe travel and enjoyable experiences.

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it was so good to see so many come to worship God and also to give thanks for the long reign of our Queen and her faith in God. We all, I am sure, agree with the sentiments of Anne Ackland of our celebrations on the Monday "What a lovely day we had in Loxbeare on the Monday of the Jubilee weekend. The weather was kind and, speaking for myself, all I did was to turn up with a bit of food on a plate. We had a 'Super Street Party' followed by games etc. The evening was celebrated with a barbeque and beacon. A big thank you to all those people who worked so hard to make these events so enjoyable"

The Leprosy Mission Service will have been held on July 22nd with Natalie Husk as the speaker.

On August 19th we will be having a Songs of Praise preceded by a barbeque at Ron & Margaret's at 6.00pm. All are welcome.

Our Harvest Festival will be held on the weekend of September 15th & 16th. The Saturday service will be at 2pm when there will be opportunity for the Children to bring their Harvest gifts, followed by sports and tea. On Sunday the service will be at 11am; come and join us. Decorating the Church will take place on the Friday. Gifts and help will be appreciated. The Harvest Supper will be on Thursday the 20th Sept in the Village Hall. 7 for 7.30. Contact Carol on 01884 881480.

On the 10th July some of the Ladies visited

PARISH ROUND-UP

New Creation Christian Bookshop and enjoyed a lovely tea and a browse amongst the cards, books, DVD's etc. Well worth a visit.

Loxbeare Woman's Bible Study Group, Marion writes "We would like to invite all ladies who are interested to join us for "Discipleship Explored", starting on September 11th, and meeting twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, from 2.00pm-4.00pm. 'Discipleship Explored' is designed to give you time and space to think about what it means to live the Christian life. It includes a short video presentation, some Bible Study on Paul's letter to the Philippian Christians, and some group discussion. There will be some study to do in your own time at home.....but not to be given in and marked!!! It's just to help you make the most of the course. You do not have to say anything if you don't want to, or you can contribute your opinions and ask any questions you may have. The afternoon is rounded off with a cup of tea and refreshments". Speak to Marion Roberts for more information 01884 256302.

We will miss Katie as she leaves us in August and we want to say thank you to her for the help she has been to us at the Woman's Bible Study Group and also at the church services. We pray God's blessing on you Katie as you seek to serve elsewhere.

We continue to pray for and send our love and thoughts to Margery, Chris, Viv and anyone else who is feeling unwell, recovering from operations or who are waiting for one. Also we remember all who have lost loved ones and those who are feeling lonely. For farmers and growers who are experiencing trying times because of the weather. Hopefully by the time the magazine is out we will be enjoying drier and sunny days. We pray for the young people as they face the challenges of leaving school, finding employment, or going to college or university; the younger children as they start school for the first time in September, and the older children as they change schools.

Congratulations Michael and Claudine Lear on their Golden Wedding in

Continued on Page 10 ⇨

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In Calverleigh Village Hall

LEADER
Cindy Trick (01363 866621)

YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays at 6.30 pm.
For more information phone
Nicki Burton (01884-255248)

HOME GROUPS

PRAISE AND PRAYER

2nd Sunday in month
At 8.00pm.
(Tel.01884-881362 for venues)

COFFEE PLUS

Alternate Thursdays
9.30am - 10.30am.
Prayer for the Exe Valley
at Church Cottage, Stoodleigh
(Tel. 01398-351364)

LOXBARE PRAYER MEETING

On 3rd Tuesday in month
(Tel. 01884-881362)

LOXBARE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Alternate Tuesdays at 2pm
2nd Tuesday - East Sidborough
4th Tuesday - Highgate Cottage

WALK THE TALK

Withleigh Home Group
Alternate Tuesdays at 8pm
(Tel. 01884-253473)

MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sunday 2nd September Sunday Club

4pm at Calverleigh Village Hall
(No service in August)

10.30am **Group Service** at
Loxbeare (farewell to Katie),
followed by Bring-and-share lunch in
village hall

Sunday 30th September
11am Rob's Priesting at Silverton

Mission Community Prayer
Meetings (at East Sidborough)
begin again on 12th September

Mission Community
Home-groups
(at Withleigh Rectory
& Stoodleigh Vicarage)
begin again on 5th September

Our Anglican Future
Wednesday 8th August
Charles Raven
Loxbeare Village Hall at 7.30pm

OAKFORD

5th August

9.30 am Holy Communion

12th August

9.30 am Morning Prayer

19th August

Join with Stoodleigh

26th August

9.30 am Family Service

2nd September

See Loxbeare

9th September

9.30 am Morning Prayer

16th September

9.30 am Holy Communion

23rd September

9.30 am Family Service

30th September

2.30 pm Harvest Festival

RACKENFORD

5th August

11.15 am Morning Prayer

12th August

11.15 am Holy Communion

19th August

Join with Loxbeare

26th August

9.30 am Morning Prayer

2nd September

See Loxbeare

9th September

11.15 am Holy Communion

16th September

9.30 am Family Service

23rd September

9.30 am Morning Prayer

30th September

11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silverton

STOODLEIGH

5th August

11 am Family Service
And Holy Communion

12th August

11 am Morning Prayer

19th August

9.30 am Holy Communion

26th August

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

2nd September

See Loxbeare

9th September

11 am Morning Prayer

16th September

9.30 am Holy Communion

23rd September

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

30th September

11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silverton

CALVERLEIGH

5th August
11.15 am Morning Worship

12th August
9.30 am Holy Communion

19th August
11.15 am Family Service

26th August
5 pm Evening Prayer

2nd September
See Loxbeare

9th September
6.30 pm Harvest Festival

16th September
11.15 am Holy Communion

23rd September
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

CRUWYS MORCHARD

5th August
11 am Morning Prayer

12th August
11 am Family Service

19th August
9.30 am Holy Communion

26th August
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

2nd September
See Loxbeare

9th September
11 am Family Service

16th September
9.30 am Holy Communion

23rd September
11 am Harvest Festival
With Baptism

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

LOXBEARE

5th August
9.30 am Family Communion

12th August
Join with Rackenford

19th August
6.30 pm BBQ Service
at Lower Ingrams

26th August
11 am Family Service

2nd September
10.30 am Family Service
(farewell to Katie), followed by
Bring & Share Lunch

9th September
6.30 pm Evening Praise
with Holy Communion

16th September
11 am Harvest Praise

23rd September
11 am Family Communion

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

TEMPLETON

5th August
9.30 am Morning Prayer

12th August
No Service

19th August
9.30 am Family Service

26th August
11 am Morning Worship

2nd September
See Loxbeare

9th September
No Service

16th September
11 am Holy Communion

23rd September
11 am Family Service

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

WASHFIELD

5th August
6 pm Evening Prayer

12th August
11 am Morning Prayer

19th August
11 am Family Service

26th August
9.30 am Holy Communion

2nd September
See Loxbeare

9th September
2.30 pm Harvest Festival

16th September
11 am Family Service

23rd September
9.30 am Holy Communion

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

WITHLEIGH

5th August
11 am Family Service

12th August
9.30 am Morning Worship

19th August
11 am Holy Communion

26th August
Join with Templeton

2nd September
See Loxbeare

9th September
3 pm Harvest Festival

16th September
11 am Morning Worship

23rd September
9.30 am Holy Communion
By Extension

30th September
11 am Rob's Priesting
at Silvertown

PARISH ROUND-UP

September; also to anyone else celebrating special occasions and birthdays.

Well done to Josh, Libby & Nathaniel Button, Lucy Radford and Jack Stuckey who completed the Exmoor Challenge at the beginning of May. Dawn Radford who completed the 35 miles Ten Tors and Josh Britton the 45 miles Ten Tors. Dawn & Josh should have completed in July the 3peaks-Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon.

We are planning a Thanksgiving Festival of talents and crafts over the weekend of October 20th-21st. There will be another planning meeting on August 20th. More details in the next magazine.

An outing to Woolacombe is planned for the 1st of August, meeting on the beach at 4.00pm and finishing with a picnic supper. Contact Ron & Maraget on 01884 881362.

The walking group have enjoyed two local walks recently around Calverleigh and Templeton, finishing with lunch.

Loxbeare Ladies. Thank you to Anne Ackland for a lovely meal on July 5th. We all enjoyed the evening and a total of £150 was raised for Village Hall funds. August 2nd will be a barbeque at Sue Troakes at 7.00pm, cost £4. Bring either a salad or pudding, letting Sue know if you wish to come by July 30th. Contact Sue on 01884 259496. September 3rd A walk along the Great Western Canal is planned followed by food. 6pm start. Again, contact Sue.

If anyone is interested in learning to ring the church bells please contact Marion on 01884 256302.

We have received a letter from Devon Libraries Mobile Service. They are very keen to promote the mobile library and want to encourage our residents to join the library and enjoy the benefits of this service. Membership is free and for any age. There is no charge for borrowing books and there

is a great choice. DVD's can be hired from as little as £1 a fortnight. Non-fiction books, large print and children's books can be reserved free. Also books can be reserved online and collected from the mobile library. Children have extra fun joining the Book Track and Summer Reading Challenge. The mobile Library stops in Loxbeare at the church fortnightly on Fridays 9.35-9.55am. Why not come and see what is on offer. See notice board.

Oakford

As part of the Oakford Jubilee weekend, our Jubilee Songs of Praise took place on Sunday June 3rd with almost a full church. The Oakford Choir took part in this happy occasion singing three hymns and the lovely anthem by Vaughn Williams, 'O Taste and See'. The congregation joined in other hymns and this was interspersed with poems, some humorous, some thought-provoking. The church looked lovely with all the windows, font and pulpit decorated with flower arrangements with the Jubilee in mind - red, white and blue being the dominant colours! Afterwards everyone enjoyed a glass of wine with savouries. Oakford's Jubilee weekend was a great success and the Songs of Praise no exception. Our thanks to all who decorated the church, to all who contributed food, to Dawn and family for organizing the wine, Mike for producing the programme, the readers and all the choir

members, who sang so well, special thanks to Sarah who led the choir so beautifully, and Cilla and Pauline for playing the organ. All those rehearsals with Sarah and Cilla paid off handsomely.

It seems a long way off, but our Harvest Festival will take place on Sunday September 30th at 2.30pm. We have high hopes of the Choir coming together to take part in this service. Tea will be served at the back of the church afterwards. We would appreciate any produce you can donate which will be auctioned at the Harvest Supper which is on Monday October 1st at 7.30pm. Please bring your own wine. Contact Mike or Wendy on 351383 for further details.

Congratulations to Martin Williams of Oakford on his marriage to Amy Randerson from Cruwys Morchard, with very best wishes for their future happiness together.

Jubilee Celebrations. Through the hard work of many individuals and groups, Oakford put on 4 days of celebrations to suit all ages and tastes. And all ages and tastes joined in with what was a really great weekend, one to be remembered for a long time to come. To all those who helped in any way, many, many thanks. To all those who came along and just enjoyed the fun



The Jubilee Choir performed some popular songs for the Party and choral songs for the Celebration Service in St. Peter's Church.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

and friendship, many, many thanks. Oakford celebrating in style, as it always does!

Olympic Walk: There will be a walk along some of Oakford's public footpaths on Sunday July 29th (hope you get this in time!). The walk will be about 3 miles, starting from the Red Lion at 10am. Please come dressed for walking, especially if the weather looks wet, and bring a drink too. Dogs welcome, but may need to be on a lead at times or where there is livestock. Like all walks around Oakford there are some steep hills and steps, and the walk may not be suitable for everyone. We return to the Red Lion afterwards for those in need of some refreshment! Contact Kelvin on 01398 351573 or Tony on 01398 351320 for more details, or visit the website at www.middevon.gov.uk/oakford.

Oakford & District Flower and Produce Show: Saturday, August 11th, Oakford Village Hall. The competition is open to anyone in Oakford and the surrounding villages, and schedules are free. There are sections covering flowers, fruit and vegetables, cookery, handicraft, children's exhibits and a cookery item just for men! Schedules are available from the Toucan Restaurant in Bampton, from Greenslade House, Oakford, or by calling Chris on 01398 351573. Entry forms must be returned by Thursday, August 9th to the Show Secretary, Chris Holdom at Greenslade House, Oakford. The Show opens to the public at 2p.m. and light refreshments are available.

Rain! Just to confirm how wet it has been, there were 204mm – just over 8" – of rain in June in Oakford. And July has started off just as wet!

Children's Hospice South West: Ladies' Day Saturday September 22nd 10am until 4pm at Oakford Village Hall. Shopping and light lunches. If you have any nearly-new quality

occasion-wear to donate. Please phone Tracey on 351665 or Angela on 341471. Watch out for posters.

Rackenford

Donations of £259.72 given for Church Porch Funds have been received in memory of Winnie Cox, whose funeral took place on 28th April. We are most grateful for this kind donation.

Sadly the weather wasn't on our side during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. However, that didn't deter those who wanted to continue with the plans, and others taking part in the variety of events that had been organised by Rackenford Club – a picnic on the common, pram race, competitions, etc, and a delicious hog roast and music evening. Many children had great fun on the big slide at The Stag, along with a barbecue.

The church and friends held an exhibition of over 60 years' memorabilia, including old newspaper cuttings from 1948, 51 and 53 and lots of interesting items. The church was beautifully decorated by various people. Many thanks to the gardening club for helping, and to the Rackenford School children for their lovely flag display. Delicious cakes, sandwiches and teas, etc, were also available. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in this.

Our 6pm Songs of Praise service began with the National Anthem, followed by favourite hymns chosen by members of the congregation. The collection of £147.52 was given to Children's Hospice South West. Our Union Flag flew with pride marking 60 years of the Queen's loyal, devoted and faithful service. Many wonderful television programmes were available during the weekend to enjoy in the comfort of our own

homes if we felt unable to venture out. However we celebrated, we will always remember.

Our belated deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the late Ethel Thorne at this difficult time. Ethel used to clean our church when living at Blindwell Farm.

During the family service on 17th June, Alisha Fisher was brought to church by her mum Julie, dad Kevin and siblings Chloe and Tom to be christened and welcomed into the church. Our prayers to Alisha, her family and godparents.

Many congratulations to Leslie and Frances Kelland on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Also congratulations to Tim and Liz Paxton on their Silver Wedding Anniversary. We hope you all had a lovely day.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the sponsored walk on May 19th. We believe we had nine adult walkers, eight dogs, and a special well done to Holley, the only child, who did so well. To date £629 has been raised by the walkers, so thanks to you, the much needed sponsors, who gave so generously. Thanks also to the drivers and to Liz Paxton and Jane Phillips. This was a beautiful circular walk from Porlock Weir with stunning coastal scenery and a chance to visit Culbone Church, the smallest and one of the remotest churches in England. And the sun shone!! Little Elenor Foot cycled from Tiverton to Sampford Peverell and back across the canal (instead of doing the walk) and raised £25 for the church. Well done and thank you Elenor.

It was lovely to have so many people join us for the Group Rogation Service on May 27th. Rev. Steve Goodbody and Rev. John Roberts took our service, and our thanks to the musicians who were wonderful. During the service Liz Paxton, Brian Peace, Donna



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PARISH ROUND-UP

and Katie spoke to John Roberts on aspects of their lives, the changes over the years, good times, the worries of farming and the ups and downs of life; a most interesting and informative part of the service. This moving, uplifting and heart-warming service concluded with tea and biscuits.

Many congratulations to James Paxton, Madeline Davey and Charlie Stone who have achieved high grades at their universities, and also congratulations to Laura Morrison on becoming a Doctor of Medicine. Some of the above started their education at Rackenford School. Well done to you all and our very best wishes for the future.

Thanks as always to Mr Baillie for all his hard work in the churchyard.

Our very best wishes and prayers to Percy Stone, Ken Blackford, Joan Clark, Gwendoline and Mrs Arcscott. We sadly have several people amongst us who are poorly, have had hospital treatment and various health problems, so we send our prayers and very best wishes to Bob Mogridge, Jane McLeod, Des Reed, Joan Phillips, Marjorie and Herbert Smith and to all who are not well, lonely or depressed or bereaved.

We are very lucky to have the help of Graham Fennel at the organ while Marjorie is unable to play. Thank you so much.

The Gardening Club Autumn Show is on Saturday 18 August from 2:30pm, followed by a barbecue. This will all be held at West Backstone.

Other dates for your diary:

Harvest -

Children's Service; Friday 12 October

Harvest Praise; Sunday 14 October 6:30pm

Harvest Supper; Monday 15 October

7:00pm at the Stag

If you feel you would like something included in the magazine, please contact Hilda Nott on 01884 881248 a week before the copy deadline on the front of the magazine.

Stoodleigh

What a wonderful time of Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations we had in Stoodleigh.

The celebrations began on the Sunday with a lively 'Songs of Praise', with many well-loved hymns being chosen by members of the congregation. On the Monday, we were truly blessed with a window of really good weather for the family day of races and games. What a happy and entertaining afternoon! The Hog Roast and Dancing that followed in the evening in one of Roger Hill's barns, was delightful, with 250 people attending and music from the Lucy Lastic Band. The grand lighting of the Jubilee Beacon completed an unforgettable day.

Martine Jaquemet was incredible in her organising - planning and leading the afternoon games (with many others) and playing a key part in transforming the barn into such a colourful, celebratory setting. Alistair Morison produced the massive bonfire as if by magic. But really it was a community effort, backed by a committee with Margaret Cunningham in the chair, and with Phil and Geraldine Talbot to keep things pointing in the right direction. Everyone worked hard, and so many people just quietly turned up to help with setting up or clearing up, etc. We cannot thank all of them enough! Truly a day to remember!

Special thanks are due to Roger and Linda Hill and family for the use of their barn, and for all their work to get it ready; and to Ian and Merv Carey for the use of their field for

the beacon. We also thank Devon and Somerset Marquees for their generous help. This combination of kindness, generosity and hard work reflects the happiness and coming together of our village community.

Copies of the group photograph taken in the afternoon by Phil Bird can be obtained from him with the accompanying names of all present, phone 351765.

On a sadder note, we have to report the death of Dinah Rycroft, a great character and much loved friend of many. She and her husband Peter ran the Black Cat garage and café near Bampton before retiring to Stoodleigh in 1972. They lived at Barns Cottage for over 30 years and created the lovely garden there from what had been a field. For some years Dinah organised the church flowers and always tried to insist on garden flowers rather than shop bought! She had moved to Castle Grove in Bampton by the time of her death, aged 91. Her funeral was here at St Margaret's Church.

At about the same time (at the end of May), Barbara Marsh also died at the young age of 56. Barbara went to the village school and lived with her family in the same cottage in Stoodleigh almost all her life. She was fond of wild flowers and of music.

Please don't forget these forthcoming village events:

Saturday August 27th - The annual Ploughman's Lunch at 12 noon and Walk from Parkhouse Water.

Friday September 14th - A chance to bring your Antiques for Valuation, with Cheese and Wine, 7pm in church - £7.50.

Sunday October 7th - Service of Harvest Thanksgiving, 11am.

Monday October 8th - Harvest Supper with Auction in the Village Hall at 7pm.

Saturday December 8th - Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall 10.30 - 12.30.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Parish Hall: The underfloor insulation work is now finished - thank you to Devon County Councillor Polly Colthorpe for her support! We're now working on the next phase which is the re-surfacing of the car park. The following stage of improvement will be the replacement of the windows and we're awaiting the outcome of a grant application to the Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All. Contact Geraldine on 351391 or geraldinetalbot@tiscali.co.uk

Garden Club: May we remind you that the Stoodleigh Garden Club Show will be taking place on Friday 7th September in the Village Hall. Schedules may be downloaded from the Stoodleigh website, or are available from Jennifer Fraser, Pat Pennington or Diana Honnor. We look forward to seeing you all either as exhibitors or as visitors enjoying the results.

Children's Hospice South West: Ladies Day, Saturday 22nd September 10am-4pm, Oakford Village Hall. Shopping and light lunches. If you have any nearly new quality occasion wear to donate, please phone Paula on 351342 or Pauline on 351765.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: Prizewinners, May - 1 Janet Russell, 2 Lesley Ayre, 3 Christine Snell; June - 1 Heather Burmeister, 2 Alistair Morison, 3 Phil Talbot. It is not too late to join the club if you wish: contact Christine Palfrey 351271.

Church Flowers:

August 18th & 26th - Pat Aplin;
September 9th & 16th - Phyllis Hill;
September 23rd & 30th - Christine Palfrey.

Templeton

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations were well attended and very enjoyable. They began with Songs of Praise based on the Coronation Service, followed by a cream tea.

Our Jubilee lunch was held on 6th June, and was hosted by Bruce and Christine Pearson. A huge thank you to you both and to your team for their hard work and the

delicious food. Around 130 people attended, and a total of £366.41 was raised for the village hall and the church funds.

The 100 Club winner for May was Jan Heptinstall, June's winner was Rita Pratt, formerly Rita Ayre, from Higher Way, Templeton and July's winner was Teresa Panchez.

The Annual Fete will be on August 11th with all the usual stalls, cream teas, hot dogs, bric-a-brac, cakes, books, games, a general Auction, plus an Auction of Pledges. Anyone wishing to volunteer a pledge should contact Julie Dent on 233507.

We have some good news on the repair of the village hall roof; the insurers will cover 100% of the costs, so hopefully the work will begin soon. Our thanks to Jem Dinneen for his negotiating so skillfully with the insurers.

The first stage of repair to the church tower has been completed; therefore anyone interested in seeing this work, please contact Martin Strong on 253220.

Other future events include a Duck Race at Dartcoomb Mill on Saturday 22nd September, and there will be a Dr Who themed bonfire night on Saturday 3rd November. A second Christmas Fare will be held in December, the date and time to be announced later.

We were sorry to hear that Christine Chittenden passed away on 12th May. Our thoughts are with the family at this sad time.

We were also sorry to hear that Monica Salisbury has been in hospital with a chipped bone in her foot; we hope you make a speedy recovery, and anyone that has been ill or in hospital recently, our thoughts are with you.

Our congratulations to Robert and Julie Chittenden on the birth of their baby boy.

Flower and Cleaning Rota:

Hannah Nobbs 29th July - 5th August

Lynda Newnes 12th - 19th August
Ginah Palmer 26th August - 2nd Sept.
Audrey McInerney 9th - 16th September
Jan Heptinstall 23rd - 30th September

Washfield

Experience is what you gain when you don't get what you want!

This year's annual Fete day was VERY wet but, thanks to PCC members and a band of willing helpers, Plan B swung into action and tables were soon put up in the hall and stalls allocated a dry space. Then the fortitude of parishioners and friends kicked in and it was a well attended afternoon after all. Mr Maurice Balment and his wife, Alice, declared the Fete open and were presented with a buttonhole and a basket of flowers by little Elena Lampard. As usual, the stalls were laden with donated goods and a delicious tea was served. Thank you to everyone who donated items and those who worked so hard to make it such a success, in spite of the weather. A profit of over £700 was raised.

We were welcomed to our Diamond Jubilee celebrations with the village adorned by bunting and tubs of red, white and blue flowers. The village groups worked together to make all the events over the four days enjoyable and successful. Despite some inclement weather all were well attended. The Social Club put on a wonderful 50's night with children's entertainment, games and a crown competition. The Songs of Praise was uplifting as the large congregation sang the favourite hymns they had chosen. The service was taken by Anna. We were blessed with a lovely day on Monday for the photograph and Tea Party. The photograph, taken by Norman, captured the one hundred and fifty attendees against the beautiful backdrop of the Old Rectory gardens (thanks Bronson and Camilla) with a clear view to Tiverton in the distance. A great aide memoir for a lovely day. Photos are available from Paul Crease on 256284 in A3 and A4 formats at £2 and £1.50. The hall and tables looked cheerful as we sat down

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PARISH ROUND-UP

for a scrumptious tea (served by the W.I.) and rounded off with patriotic singing, led by Jenny. The children had their faces painted in red, white and blue by Stephanie and Charlotte, and the adults studied the wonderful display of village/Jubilee memorabilia (thanks Gill, John and Oliver). The rain of the next day did not deter the many that undertook the Farm Walk to Stanterton (with kind permission of Julian and Marianne) and scavenger hunt (good one Maggie!) and were rewarded with a cream tea. The day was rounded off with a Right Royal Quiz set by Arthur, and a supper. Thanks are extended to everyone who helped to make this occasion a wonderful community time and brought villagers together to celebrate. Well done everyone.

The Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 9th September at 2.30pm with a short service followed, as is usual, by the sports and then a Bring and Share tea in the hall. Any produce you may have to decorate the church would be much appreciated. Decorating will take place on Saturday 8th. Thank you.

Congratulations to Angela Slade and her fiancé, James Wych, who marry in August, and to two other Washfield couples: Jason Hann and Charlotte Williams and William and Janey Diggle who held their own special wedding ceremonies recently. We send blessings and much happiness to you all.

Congratulations of a different sort are sent to James and Sarah Herniman on the birth of baby Jack Chandler (a brother for Matilda and Gilbert), and to Sarah and Graham Willis on the birth of Harry George, a brother for Chloe, and first grandson for Pete and Anne. Congratulations also go to Phoebe Nicholson who has graduated with a First from Oxford, well done Phoebe.

On July 15th little Noah Rhys Trout, baby son of Raymond and Claire, and grandson

of Allison and Paul, will be blessed with God's love and guidance at his Baptism. A very proud day for all the family. For many years Mrs Jenny Parnell has been singing in a choir which took her to many churches and Cathedrals. Jenny retired on a high - singing at Wells Cathedral in June. She was honoured when music she composed was sung by the choir.

Our love and thoughts are with everyone who is not in the best of health at this time. We are particularly thinking of Frannie and Adam of Spillifords whose little baby daughter, Eva is in a London hospital. Our love and prayers are with you at this very anxious time and hope Eva will be well enough to come home soon.

The new Defibrillator is soon to be sited on the outside wall of the hall so that it will be readily accessible to anyone who should need to use it. Training is not necessary to save a life with this 'intelligent' machine, as it leads the user through the steps to be taken. Twelve people have however already been trained to use the Defibrillator with confidence, and the Hall committee is holding another session so as to re-cap and pass this training knowledge onto others. It will be on Wednesday 5th September at 7.30pm with anyone welcome to attend. Come along and find out more about how you could help in an emergency, or phone Anne Moore (255298) for more details of how to access the defibrillator.

Dates for your Diary:

- Thursday 23rd August - Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30
- Wednesday 5th September - Defibrillator training/interest session Hall 7.30pm
- Sunday 9th September - Harvest Festival Service 2.30pm followed by sports and Bring-and-Share tea in hall
- Friday 21st September - Mouse Racing in hall (Look out for further details)
- Thursday 27th September
Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30

Church Flower Rota:

- August 12th/19th Mrs Harding
- August 26th/Sept 2nd Mrs Moore
- September 9th/16th Mrs Trout
- September 23rd/30th Mrs French

Church Cleaning Rota:

- August 12th/19th Mrs French
- August 26th/Sept 2nd Mrs Arnold/
Mrs Bicknell
- September 9th/16th Mr and Mrs Parnell
- September 23rd/30th Mrs Harding/
Mrs Jones
- October 7th/14th Mr and Mrs McCahon

Withleigh

At the time of writing these notes the rain is beating against the window so by the time you receive your magazine, we hope you will be enjoying some sunshine. Our thoughts have been with the farmers and contractors who have been battling against the rain to get the grass cut and harvested.

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations got off to a great start with 23 "scarecrow" Queens appearing around the Village! There were very regal Queens and also some humorous Queens, as well as a life size horse, corgis and a carriage. Everyone put in so much effort and the scarecrows attracted many visitors to the Village! Well done to Janet and Ron Stacey at Waylands for their winning Queen.

A full English breakfast was enjoyed by more than 60 people in the Village Hall on Sunday, 3 June - thank you to the Chefs, Rodney Gale and Mark Luxton, ably assisted by Janet Sellick and Margaret Gale. Breakfast was followed by "Songs of Praise"



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PARISH ROUND-UP

in the Church which was beautifully decorated with flowers in Jubilee colours.

Janet Stacey devised an interesting and sometimes, challenging Treasure Hunt around the Village on Monday, 4 June. There were several teams all trying to solve the cryptic clues and find that elusive feather! This was followed by a delicious tea in the Village Hall – again, enjoyed by many.

The final event of the day was the Diamond Party. The Village Hall was full to capacity with standing room only! Peter Edmunds organised and compered a fantastic evening of entertainment, all provided by people from the Village and their friends. Acts included guitar playing, singing, comedy sketches and even bagpipes! Witleigh didn't know it had so much talent and, after a delicious supper of hot pork rolls and puds, the evening was rounded off with a sing-along and the National Anthem. Our Royal knowledge was tested during the evening with a quiz prepared by Rosie and Giles Edmonston-Low.

The scarecrows and the events over the whole weekend were a great success and a truly, memorable celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.



Winner of the Queen Scarecrow competition - Ron & Janet Stacey

(A child's Fat Face check shirt was found after the Jubilee weekend. If it's yours please contact Cathy Luxton).

Our Village Hall AGM was held on the 2nd July; the committee would like to thank everyone who has supported them throughout the year, helping with the Whist Drives, Bingos, etc, and also for cutting the grass around the Hall.

The Annual Garden and Produce Show will be held on Saturday 11th August. If you would like a schedule, or have lost the one that came with the last magazine, please contact either Gill on 242977 or Brenda 252431. Entries close on Tuesday 7th August. Doors open to the public at 7.30pm, refreshments will be available during the evening. Do come along and join in the cake-tasting competition.

This year's Inter Village 'It's a knockout' will be held at Witleigh on Saturday 18th August, beginning at 3pm. Come along and enjoy the fun, there will be a BBQ during the afternoon, and an original Olympic Torch will be there to see and to hold. For more details please call the Tucker family on 252431.

Our Harvest Celebrations are on 9th/10th September. On 9th September, our Harvest Service is at 3pm, followed by tea in the Village Hall. Then, on Monday 10th September, we have our Harvest Supper in the Village Hall, 7.00pm for 7.30pm, followed by the auction of the harvest produce from Church. If you would like to attend the supper, please contact Brenda, 252431 or Christine, 257571. Proceeds of the auction will be donated to Devon Air Ambulance. Please do come along and join us in these traditional celebrations

On Saturday 6th October there will be a Car Treasure Hunt followed by Supper in the Village Hall. The Treasure Hunt will begin at 5pm, starting from the Village Hall, and will take approx 2hours to complete. Ending back at the hall in time for a Home-cooked Supper at 7.30pm. Come along to either or both of the events; for more details or to book our supper please call Duncan 252949 or Brenda 252431.

By general request, Walk the Talk, our homegroup, restarted at the end of June, and meets fortnightly on Tuesday evenings.

We are thinking of those awaiting their exam results and wish them well in their chosen careers. We also wish all those starting a new school, university or college well and hope they will settle into their new environments quickly and happily.

We send get well wishes to all those not well at the moment especially those who are in hospital or recovering from having a stay in hospital, and those receiving treatment. We also remember those known to us in care, and their families. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Forthcoming Events:

- Sat 11th August; Garden & Produce Show, doors open @ 7.30pm.
- Sat 18th August; Inter Village It's a Knockout, beginning @ 3pm.
- Sat 6th October; Car Treasure Hunt & Supper Night (see above for details).
- Wed 24th October; Team Skittles Evening at 7.30pm.
- Sat 3rd November; Bonfire and Firework evening.

Flower Rota:

- July 29th) Rosie Edmondston-Low
- Aug 5th)
- Aug 12th) Ruby Reed
- 19th)
- Aug 26th) Ann Gornall &
- Sept 2nd) Maureen Stubbington
- Sept 9th HARVEST
- Sept 16th) Janet Sellick
- 23rd)
- Sept 30th Shirley Cruwys

Monthly Diary dates:

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



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