

June - July 2016

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## SHOULD JUDAS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN ?

Recently a member of one of our congregations showed me an article claiming that Judas Iscariot has had a "Bad Press". Surely, it asked, if Peter was forgiven by our Lord shouldn't Judas have been? A Clergy-person and a diocesan Bishop are quoted in support of this idea. This article, based upon a document known as "The Gospel of Judas", made me consider again the whole matter of forgiveness.

The so called "Gospel of Judas" was written about 250 AD and never circulated widely. Similar apocryphal Gospels are the basis for Dan Brown's novel "The Da Vinci Code".

The article shows a very common misunderstanding of what forgiveness is. God is a Holy God. He is "of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look upon iniquity". Forgiveness is a very costly matter; it is far more than just "overlooking" wrong. God never says sin does not matter - if He did, He would have no basis for judgement and no reason to condemn a Hitler.

The article goes on to suggest that Jesus forgave those who were crucifying Him so why not Judas? However, in fact, Jesus

did not forgive those who crucified Him.

He prayed for them to be forgiven which is quite different - that is in line with His teaching, to pray for our enemies and would have required their repentance for the prayer to be answered.



Throughout the Bible, God's forgiveness is shown to be very costly, dependent upon repentance on the part of the sinner, and then only on the basis of sacrifice. In the Old Testament this was seen symbolically in the sacrificial system within the Temple worship.

Under the New Covenant, instituted by Jesus, we know that it is the even more costly sacrifice of Jesus upon the cross, that enables a repentant sinner to approach God and receive His forgiveness. The Apostle Peter makes the extraordinary statement that "God made Jesus

to be sin, who knew no sin, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him".

Yes, the Gospel proclaims that forgiveness is free, but it is not without cost - the cost of the sacrifice of God's own Son upon the cross. The freedom is available to us, only because the cost has been paid by none other than the Son of God!

*Such is the love of God!*

As far as Judas is concerned, we must not confuse feeling guilty with repentance. Guilt may well lead to repentance and gloriously often does - but not always and it is quite possible to die in our guilt without being forgiven.

After Peter's denial he "went out and wept bitterly". He knew his guilt but was truly repentant.

There is no record of Judas repenting - only feeling sorry for himself and committing suicide.

That is not repentance so, sadly, he died unforgiven, and like all unrepentant sinners, must now face the judgement of a Holy God.

*John Roberts*

## THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

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## EDITORIAL

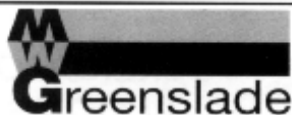
It is Advert Renewal time again and we would like to welcome all our new Advertisers and to thank those leaving us for their past support of our Magazine.

We are pleased that many readers have told us that they find the Boxes on Pages 18/19 helpful as a quick "Heads-up" for upcoming events. They are small and can only contain the "bare bones", so please look in the Parish Round-up" for full details of these and other events being held throughout the Exe Valley Community.

Times of Services for all nine Parishes can be found on the Middle Pages (10/11).

The Churchwarden "Box" has been updated and enlarged, to include all phone numbers and email addresses, for easy reference. They are all happy to answer any of your Church related queries.

*Jenny and Geoff*



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## MOVING ON PART 8

The heading to this article tells its town story, as to how long this saga has been running – multiply by two for the number of months!

The meeting between Bishop Sarah, Archdeacon Christopher and our churchwardens, to consider the way forward, duly took place on 11 March. As a result of that meeting, Churchwardens' Council have since met on two occasions to rewrite our advert and Profile document into what, it is hoped, will make the position more attractive than previously. At the time of writing (early May), we are awaiting the Archdeacon's updated Foreword to the Profile, but we are working towards a target date for interviews on 14 July – watch this space! Please pray that we have got it right this time around, and that we will be able to rejoice in a successful outcome.

The 'Wings for Worship' course, to help and encourage our current and prospective lay leaders, gets under way on Wednesday 1 June, at Washfield, and on successive Wednesdays throughout June. There is still time to 'sign up' if you have not already done so – please contact Anna.

Our Ascension Day service, this year, took place at Rackenford, and was attended by members of many of our parishes. Thank you, John, for taking the service, and to our hosts.

Please do try to support our Group Services which, in June will be at Loxbeare on Sunday 26, and in July will

be at Oakford on Sunday 24, both services starting at 10.30am.

*Paul Iliff*

## AT THE CROSSROADS

*We've tried to confront radical Islam with imperialism and F-16s, and now it's time to give Jesus a try. Christianity in the Middle East is not dying - it is radically changing"*

*"In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria ... Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth, whom the Lord of hosts has blessed, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my inheritance." (Isaiah 19:23-25)*

We have just received this exciting report of 'At the Crossroads' - a gathering at Christ Church, Jerusalem, of some two hundred Middle Eastern believers from radically different backgrounds. United by a common love for the Lord Jesus, they are demonstrating that love in remarkable ways.

Inspired by Isaiah's vision that the Middle East will be a blessing, Muslim-background followers of Jesus from various Middle Eastern countries met with their Christian and Messianic Jewish counterparts to worship, pray and strategise how to help their war-torn region. They met 21-23 March in Jerusalem's Old City at Christ Church, the oldest Protestant (Anglican) Church in the Middle East.

Nearly 200 delegates came from Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Iraq, the Palestinian Authority, Cyprus, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Iran and Kenya. Attendees worshipped and prayed together in Arabic, Turkish, Kurdish, Hebrew and heard testimonies about the blessings and challenges of following Jesus in this region.


Christian workers from Cyprus, Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan shared how they have been caring for some of the millions of refugees streaming out of war-torn Syria and Iraq. "God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things," said Pastors from Cyprus. Their small church hosted 56 Muslim refugees for seven months, rescued from a sinking fishing boat.

"We did everything wrong culturally, not being Muslims ourselves," said a Pastor from northern Iraq. Still, God has blessed his work by restoring hope in the camps housing Muslim refugees from Mosul. Numerous refugees are responding to this message of hope by asking to be baptised and joining newly established churches.

Several speakers stressed that while the traditional churches are in decline, due to war and extremism, there are new Christian communities forming, consisting of Yazidis, Alawites, Turks, Kurds, Sunnis and Shi'ites. In the words of one of the organisers, "Christianity in the Middle East is not dying - it is radically changing."

Tuesday morning, Rev. David Pileggi, Rector of Christ Church Anglican Jerusalem, announced the terrorist

continued overleaf →



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attacks in Brussels, Belgium, and led attendees in a time of prayer. "This is why what we're doing here is so important. We've tried to confront radical Islam with imperialism and F-16s, and now it's time to give Jesus a try."

Due to security concerns the conference was a closed, invitation-only gathering. "At the Crossroads" was made possible by the contributions of Christians world-wide and numerous international volunteers, including the staff of Christ Church Jerusalem, the oldest Anglican Church in Jerusalem.

*From a recent Press Release issued by the Organisation "At the Crossroads" slightly edited.*

*Submitted by John Roberts*

## NATURE NOTES

Trees, like children, should only be briefly staked during the early stage of their life. They have every intention of growing straight, upright and true.

If a tree leans and its foliage is blighted down one side it is very probable that there is a problem with the associated roots. I am indebted to a tree surgeon for this diagnosis and it demonstrates the limits of observation alone.

I think I presumed there was an airborne problem or the tree could overcome root deficiencies by better distributing its total supply of food and water. The human analogy is again not

far to find, but the point I wish to make concerns the art of observing Nature. The work of Tristan Gooley is particularly interesting in this context. In his books he demonstrates how Nature can be used as an aid to navigation or [eg. "Red sky at night ..."] how old sayings contain an element of truth For example no tree is symmetrical and its shape will be determined by the prevailing wind [from the south west in Britain] and the promotion of growth on the southerly side.

Similarly, if you have not seen stinging nettles for a while whilst walking but they start to appear, it is very likely that you are nearing a place of previous or current habitation. [nettles favour ground that has been disturbed or cultivated – so children are right when they complain that nettles seem to follow them around]

All this must come as no surprise to farmers and landowners as their very livelihood depends on their observation of Nature. Any change in the environment is observed, and the possible consequence for their crops and livestock evaluated. They too, like the previous example quoted, can make me feel like Dr. Watson, in that I obviously "look but do not see"

However I do know that when the sun aligns with the two outhouses in the garden it is four o'clock. Time enough for a cup of tea and to observe the world around more carefully and patiently.

*Thomas More*



## Holiday Club

this year is - **Space Academy** and will take place at Calverleigh Hall from **Tuesday 2 August to Friday 5 August**, 11.15am to 3.30 pm. **Sunday 7 August** – Service and Fun day at 11.00 am. Exe Valley Holiday Club welcomes all children from 5-11.

The story of Daniel is one of challenge, danger, courage and facing the unknown. Daniel is plunged (against his wishes and as a result of conflict) into an amazing adventure where he has to make difficult choices, combat enemies, understand dreams and work miracles, all the time living for God in a world that appears totally alien to him. Though he did not have today's scientific knowledge, it must have been to him like living on another planet. Space Academy allows us to parallel their experiences. Children will learn what it means to follow God and to have confidence in God's power in the tough times.

During the four days of Holiday Club children will take part in exciting and

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fun activities which include crafts, games and sports to help them to learn about and be like Daniel and trust in God. The final part of the program will form part of our Sunday service and Fun day, bring a picnic and join in with the celebrations.

Children will need to bring a packed lunch. There will also be a tuck shop available after lunch where children can buy sweets.

**Helpers! We need lots of helpers to ensure children get the maximum they can from Holiday Club and to stay safe. If you can spare any time during the week or know of anyone who can, please contact Cindy Trick. All helpers over 16 need to be checked by the DBS, this is easier than it sounds and I am happy to do that with you. If there are any teenagers who would like to help please get contact me.**

**Helpers are needed: in the morning to assist children with settling in crafts and to help them with their work books and understand the bible teaching of the day, as well as generally looking after the children, sitting with them for lunch and assisting with crafts and games in the afternoons.**

Please contact **Cindy on 01363 866621** for registration forms, or for more information. Pre-registration is advisable, all children are welcome but priority will be given to children who live in, or are associated with the Exe Valley Group of Churches, if they pre-register.

### A VERY SPECIAL EVENT

**B**ack in February, I received a letter from a bell-ringer in Carmarthen, saying that he was arranging a ringing outing on Easter Monday and wondered if they could come and ring our bells at Cruwys Morchard for an hour that day. He went on to say that "One of our ringers, Dr. Liz Cruwys, has long wanted to ring at her namesake tower and it would be a very special event for her if we were granted permission." I thought how lovely that would be for her, and no doubt of interest to the Cruwys family here too, so I wrote back and said that of course we would be delighted for them to come.



As it turned out, it was a very special event for Cruwys Morchard, as well as for Liz Cruwys from Carmarthen, (who said that although she lives in Wales now, her ancestors did come from here.) The exciting thing was that the visitors had decided to spend the time on our bells ringing a quarter peal – a

piece of ringing lasting about 45 minutes- and in this quarter peal they included a new method, which had been composed by one of their ringers and had never been rung before.

Now, if a new method is rung as part of a successful quarter peal, then the band that rings it is allowed to name it. And indeed they did name it – CRUWYS DOUBLES! (Doubles indicates the number of working bells.) So there is now a bell-ringing method named after the Cruwys family – wherever they may be living.

*Nellie Croft – Tower Captain Cruwys Morchard.*

## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CALVERLEIGH

**A**s a part of our service on Sunday 13 March, we celebrated the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Derek & Mary Herniman. Jackie led the service and their grandchildren took part with readings and poems. Family and friends were then treated to a "Light lunch" prepared by the family of the happy couple. Our congratulations go to them and anyone else who has recently celebrated a special occasion.

Our Easter Day service was well attended and led by Rev'd Christopher Rowley. The church was once again beautifully decorated in celebration of

continued overleaf ➔



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Thank you to everyone who provided an abundance of Spring flowers for the occasion.

On 9 April, the Wedding of Richard and Katie Brown took place in the church. Katie's grandparents used to farm in Loxbeare, and grandfather David Burnett was a regular bellringer, when living in the area. We would like to wish Richard and Katie a long and happy life together.

On Tuesday 12 April we held our annual church meeting (APCM) where Aubrey Goldsworthy & Jackie Herniman were once again voted in as our churchwardens and Lorna Thomas was also welcomed aboard the PCC. Chairman Aubrey Goldsworthy thanked everyone who gives so much to church life including: Treasurer Jackie Herniman; Secretary Julie Goldsworthy; all the PCC; our worship leaders; choir; organists; church cleaners; flower arrangers; bell ringers; churchyard mowing team; magazine news gatherers and distributors; those who take part in services and all those who help, organise and support the many fund-raising and fellowship events each year. Whatever your contribution to church life, we appreciate you all!

The annual Spring Clean Day took place on Saturday 16 April. A willing group of helpers spent the morning cleaning and polishing with a break for tea and cake midway through. A big thank you to you all!

During our Family Service on 17 April, Archie Perry, son of Ben & Becky joined us, along with friends and family, for

Archie's baptism. The service was led by Rev'd Keith Gale. It was lovely to see so many of Archie's family back in the village.

A very enjoyable Barn Dance with the Lucy Lastic Band took place on 23 April, organised by Christine Webber and Anne Moore. The evening, which included a delicious supper, was to raise money for both HospiceCare (Pine Lodge) and Calverleigh Church. The proceeds of £800 were divided equally between them. What a fantastic result. Our thanks go to Christine, Anne and their many helpers – we look forward to the next one!!

The following day saw the Mission Community Group Service, this time hosted by Calverleigh and led by Rev'd John Roberts, where we welcomed over 60 people from all over the Exe Valley. We give thanks to God for the fellowship of friends from the nine parishes.

On 1 May we held an informal get together in the church, giving the opportunity to chat and enjoy refreshments including beverages, cake and biscuits, over a couple of hours.

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part in our annual Day of Prayer on Saturday 14 May.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the unexpected passing of Gerald Blackmore on 3 May. Gerald has been worshipping with us at Calverleigh as a member for years and will be sorely missed. Our condolences and prayers go to Joan, family and friends at this difficult time. We also send our

condolences to James Robison and family on the recent loss of his mother.

Our very best wishes go to anyone who is unwell at the moment, waiting for or recovering from treatment. We hope that you will feel much better soon. If you would like to be included in prayers, whether publicly or privately, please get in contact.

### Coming Up:

Ducks are still available at a cost of £2 for the Duck Race from Geoff and Lorna Thomas, or any PCC Member. The race will take place on Saturday 28 May - in aid of Church funds. The ducks will be set off from Lurley Bridge and end opposite Palmer Hayes. Refreshments will be served at Calverleigh Village Hall afterwards.

Our Annual Open Air Service will be held on Sunday 12 June at 3pm. This service is one of the highlights of our church calendar and refreshments will follow.

On Saturday 25 June, at 7.30pm there will be a Supper Dance held in Calverleigh Village Hall, to raise money for the Children's Hospice South West. Tickets for the evening will include a hog roast and dessert and cost £12.50 per person. Tickets can be purchased from Jackie Herniman by calling 01884 255814. For more information about Children's Hospice South West please visit: [www.chsw.org.uk](http://www.chsw.org.uk)

Schedules and Application Forms for the third annual Calverleigh Produce Show, which will be held on Saturday 27 August, are now available from Sheila or Rita. Further details to follow.

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## Our dear Queen Elizabeth

The Queen marks her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year. To celebrate, Bible Society has joined forces with HOPE and the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity to publish a book about the Queen's Christian Faith - 'The Servant Queen and the King she serves'.

This beautifully-illustrated short book uses the Queen's own words to describe her faith in God, offering us all an inspiration.

Available from the Bible Society, Stoneleigh Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG

**It is free and we have a sample copy in the shop for you to see.**

## Lion Hudson Promotion

From the beginning of June we shall have on display a special **Summer Promotion for children by Lion Hudson Publications**. Most of us like a good story. Summer gives us a chance to curl up in the shade with a child, sharing a book together. What a wonderful way to introduce Jesus to children who do not yet know Him. This promotion also provides an ideal time to choose prizes for Sunday School or Junior Church. Do take this opportunity to come in and browse and see what's on offer.

## Out for a walk in the sunshine?

Take a break and bring friends in to enjoy Penny's special offer for June. Come in for a **slice of cake and a drink** and have a look round the shop at the same time. You may just see something to help you share God's word!

## Fathers' Day Sunday June 19

Worship our Father God and then take this wonderful opportunity to show Dad how much he's appreciated and loved. Why not take him one of Penny's homemade slices or give him a card and a gift from New Creation? He may enjoy 'Faith Stories' by Archbishop John Sentamu or Jeff Lucas' 'There Are No Ordinary People' with comments by Bear Gryls.

Please pray that all these opportunities to spread the Gospel will be taken up, and for us as we try to reach as many people as possible with God's word.

Have a happy, holy and blessed month and may the Lord be with you all

## **May God bless you all.**

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# PARISH ROUND-UP

The produce show will be in aid of the Church.

## Church Mowing Rota

30 May / 11 Jun: Mr D White  
13 / 25 Jun: Mr A Hancock  
27 Jun / 9 Jul: Mr A Goldsworthy  
11 / 23 Jul: The Heathcoat-Amory Family  
25 Jul / 6 Aug: Mr K Hayes

## Church Cleaning Rota

30 May / 11 Jun: Mrs M Webber  
13 / 25 Jun: Mrs R Tapp  
27 Jun / 9 Jul: Mrs S Greenslade  
11 / 23 Jul: Miss J Herniman  
25 Jul / 6 Aug: Mrs J Goldsworthy

## Flower Rota

22 / 29 May: Mrs M Furneaux  
5 / 12 Jun: Mrs A Webber  
19 / 26 Jun: Mrs M Herniman  
3 / 10 Jul: Mrs G Tucker  
17 / 24 Jul: Mrs M Webber  
31 Jul / 7 Aug: Mrs B Hill

Want to help? If you feel a desire to help with any of the events, with the mowing, cleaning or flowers, do get in touch.

**Have we missed something?** If there is anything that you think we should have mentioned, or you have anything for the next magazine? please send them to Dave Burton by calling 07817 851856 / 01884 561499 or by email: [calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org](mailto:calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org).

Get the latest at: [www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh](http://www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh).



continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CRUWYS MORCHARD

**O**ur beautiful Churchyard. Did you see the carpet of little wild daffodils in the old church yard during April? Now, in mid May, there is just a hint of blue as we await the native blue bells. Grass cutting, apart from mowing the paths, will start in July, so that the Spring wild flowers can seed and set for next year. A big thank you to all our mowing team.

**New carpets** have recently been laid in the Church, in memory of Elliot Hallett. They were dedicated by Anna Hansford, at a Service of Holy Communion, on Sunday 10 April.

**Senior's Lunch.** 25 people enjoyed a tasty two course meal followed by coffee on Friday 22 April. Many thanks to the ladies for preparing and serving the meal and to Sue for the pretty, floral table decorations. The next **Senior's Lunch** will be on Friday 14 October, 12 for 12.30 in the Parish Hall.

**Our Annual Flower Show** takes place on Saturday 13 August in the Parish Hall. We look forward to a great show again this year. Please take a look at your schedule and get your entries to Pauline by the end of July. If you have any problems or need a new schedule, contact Pauline on 01363 866754 / pauline.8@hotmail.co.uk. The Schedule and details are also available on our Parish Hall website.

**The Bells.** Our bell ringing team meet for practice every Monday at 7.30pm, they also ring for regular Services, Weddings and Funerals. They are going from strength to strength. On Saturday 21 April they won the "St Peter's Shield" (striking competiton) which is now proudly hanging in the Bell Tower. The band was judged on the accuracy of the striking throughout a series of call

changes, lasting a minimum of ten minutes. As a relatively novice band, this really was a commendable achievement. Ringers were: Diana, Liz, Hilary, Nellie (Conductor), Les and Guy. Come and see the Shield and start to learn the art of bell ringing.

**Young Farmers.** The Club recently, held a very successful Breakfast Morning at the Parish Hall with over 100 breakfasts being served. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported this event. Well done to Sam Edworthy, James Hayes, Richard Stanbury and Luke Parkhouse for gaining prizes at the Exe Valley Group Show and Sale. The Club are holding a Tractor Run on Sunday 3 July starting at the Parish Hall - where refreshments will be sold from 9am, to leave at 10.30am. Please come along, there will be tractors of all shapes and sizes. For more details, please contact Phil or Lynnette Parkhouse 01363 866718. The Club are also holding a Bingo on Saturday 30 July in the Parish Hall. Eyes down 8.00pm.

#### Flower and Cleaning Rota.

June 6 / 13 - Sarah Cruwys  
 June 20 / 27 - Wendy Lake  
 July 4 / July 11 - Mrs J. Townsend  
 July 18 / 25 - Wendy Lake  
 August 1 / 8 - Vine Spragg

#### Mowing Rota

June: Peter Lake  
 July: The Berrys  
 August: The Guscotts  
 September: The Notleys

**Yoga** continues weekly Thursdays 10 - 11.30am and has just had it's 100th class in the Parish Hall. The class is gentle, Hatha yoga and new members welcome, enquiries Hilary 01363 866245.

**Line Dancing** in the Parish Hall will be starting on Friday 20 May at 1.45pm for an hour. Hopefully this will allow time for those with childcare commitments.

The sessions will be held every week, costing £4 each. For all ages and genders. Come along, get fit and have some fun.

**Cruwys Arms Gardeners** meet at the Cruwys Arms on the first Wednesday of each month at 8pm. (1 June). For details please contact Clare Penny, email: west.land@talktalk.net

#### Fun for all the Family Ceilidh with Dumbo' Feather. Caller Martin Hodge

Friday 1 July Cruwys Morchard Village Hall 7.30pm - 11.30pm. Tickets in advance, £10 per ticket \*\* which includes a pasty and a pint (of local cider or beer) or a glass of wine. Licensed Bar. \*\* Children under 12 years £5.00 per ticket. Tickets purchased at the door £12.50 and £6.00. In aid of Arthritis Care, Reg Charity 206563

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#### Pennymoor Congregational Church Sunday Services at 4.30 pm

5 Jun Puppet Service, Danny Beaven  
 12 Jun © Mr O Mears  
 19 Jun Join Way Village (2.30pm)  
 26 Jun © Rev. Ruth Green  
 3 July Fun Family Service Ruth Green  
 10 July © Mr O Mears

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

17 July Join Way Village (2.30pm)  
24 July © Praise and Prayer  
31 July Rev. R. Green

***Holiday at Home, Fun for all ages,  
Weds. afternoon 1st June 'Precious  
Jewels'***

Minister Rev. Ruth Green Tel; 01363  
83451 See Pennymoor Church on  
Facebook.

### Future Events

Church Fete 9 July at the Parish Hall at  
12noon – 3pm  
YFC bingo 30 July  
Annual Flower Show 13 August  
Holiday Club 2-5 August – See advert.

It was with great sadness that we said  
good-bye to Mrs Mary Collingwood  
Cruwys at her funeral on 21 April and we  
would like to send our sympathy and  
prayer to her whole family.

Congratulations to Terry and Tanya on  
their marriage on Saturday 16 April.

Welcome to Ruby, daughter of Louise  
and Nathan Horne, and granddaughter  
of Marilyn. Her baptism was on Sunday  
17 April. Also, welcome to Joshua  
Garnsworthy, son of Darren and Kelly,  
who was Baptised on Sunday 8 May.  
Congratulations to Amy and Martyn  
Williams, on the birth of their son Joshua,  
grandson for Val and Rod.

## LOXBARE

**E**aster seems a long time ago now,  
but it was good to specially  
remember Jesus' death on Good Friday,  
when John led a very moving and  
meaningful meditative Service in  
Loxbeare Church. The Easter Day  
Service was also taken by John,  
celebrating Jesus' resurrection. Thank  
you to all who decorated the Church so  
beautifully.

Our monthly Family Service in April was  
led by Anna Hansford, who spoke to the

children and adults about the picnic  
breakfast with Jesus and the disciples.  
Telling us about Jesus asking Peter  
three times 'Do you love me Peter?'  
after Peter had denied Jesus three times  
at Jesus' trial.

The May Service was taken by Ryan and  
Georgina Doeller. Georgina did a talk for  
the children about gifts and Ryan spoke  
about using the talents we have been  
given.

The Annual Parish Church Meeting  
(APCM) was held on 3 April after the  
6.30pm Service - with all roles  
remaining the same. Thank you to all  
who serve our Church so faithfully over  
the years. There was a PCC meeting in  
the Village Hall on 19 April and the next  
meeting will be on 12 July.

The Exe Valley Woman's Bible Study  
group continue to meet on 2nd & 4th  
Tuesday afternoons 2-4pm at Churchhill  
House. All ladies welcome. Contact  
Marion on 01884 256302.

We will be having a BBQ Service at Ron  
& Margaret's on Sunday 5 June at  
12.30pm followed by the Service when  
the speaker will be Rev. James Morrison.

Sunday 31 July there will be a Picnic  
Service at Steve & Sue's at 3pm. All  
welcome to both Services.

Forward Date: Our Harvest Festival will  
be over the weekend 17-18 September,  
and the Harvest Supper on Tuesday 20  
September. More details in the next  
magazine.

Congratulations to Bob & Christine and  
Heather, on the birth of their  
Granddaughter, Ruby. Congratulations  
to Matt Shaw and Mel Barker on their  
engagement and we wish them much  
happiness in their future together.  
Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in  
June & July and to Colin Radford who  
will be celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on  
19 July.

Welcome to Mike and Sheila who have  
moved into Deepaller, Donna into  
Melbrooke, Mark & Malcolm to Higher  
Haydon and to any others who have  
moved into the Village recently. We  
hope you will soon settle and be happy  
in your new homes.

Our love, prayers and sympathy are  
with Ron, Margaret & family on the loss  
of Margaret's brother and to any other  
people who have been bereaved  
recently. Our thoughts and prayers are  
with Trish and any who are having  
treatment or are feeling unwell.

We wish all who are taking exams well  
and hope they get the grades they need  
for either further education or their  
chosen career.

The Loxbeare Meal was on the 7 May  
and raised £206 for Village Hall funds.  
There will be a Cream Tea in the Village  
Hall on 11 June between 3-5pm and the  
July date will be 9 July with a BBQ at  
the Village Hall at 7pm.

Loxbeare Ladies:  
6 June a BBQ at Steve & Sue's. Details  
from Sue on 01884 259496.  
4 July a boat trip to be arranged. Phone  
Margaret on 01884 881362 for details.  
13 August at 10.30am, Marlene Taylor  
is holding a coffee morning in aid of  
Village Hall Funds.

## OAKFORD

**N**ow summer is nearly here, we are  
celebrating with a '**Songs of  
Praise**' on **Sunday 29 May** at 5.30pm.  
There will be readings, poems and  
hymns around the theme of Gos gift of  
Summer. We hope you will be able to  
come and enjoy this informal Service.

The Easter Service was a very joyous  
occasion with the Church beautifully  
decorated with Spring flowers. Many  
thanks to all who made the Church look

Continued on Page 12 





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# EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## Praying and Worshipping Together

### Saturday Prayer Breakfasts

11 June and 16 July 9am in Loxbeare Hall

### Exe Valley Women's Bible Study

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 2-4pm  
 7 June - Daniel, the Final Vision  
 21 June - Social Event  
 Churchill House, Loxbeare

## Parish Groups

Walk the Talk - Withleigh Home Group  
 Alternate Mondays at 8pm. 01884 253473

### Loxbeare Prayer and Praise Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in month at 7.30pm  
 01884 881362 for details

## Exe Valley Central Services

Each Sunday in Templeton Village Hall  
 11am (Unless otherwise stated)

5 June Joint BBQ Service with Loxbeare  
 12.30pm \*\*

12 June Stephen - the first Christian Martyr ^

19 June Paul - Apostle to the Gentiles

26 June Mission Community Group Service  
 Loxbeare 10.30am

3 July Lord Shaftesbury and the Clapham Sect \*

10 July Cranmer and the Reformation

17 July A New Testament Character ^

24 July Mission Community Group Service  
 Oakford 10.30am

31 July Corrie Ten Boom

\*Café Style set up

^ Holy Communion in the round

\*\* Not at Templeton - Venue to be announced

## OAKFORD

### 5 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 12 June

9.30 am Family Service

### 19 June

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 26 June

See Loxbeare

### 3 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 10 July

9.30 am Family Service

### 17 July

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 24 July

10.30 am Group Service

### 31 July

9.30 am Family Service

## RACKENFORD

### 5 June

9.30 am Morning Worship

### 12 June

11 am Holy Communion

### 19 June

9.30 am Family Service

### 26 June

See Loxbeare

### 3 July

11 am Holy Communion

### 10 July

9.30 am Morning Worship

### 17 July

9.30 am Family Service

### 24 July

See Oakford

### 31 July

No Service

## STOODLEIGH

### 5 June

11 am Family Service

### 12 June

11.15 am Holy Communion  
 by Extension

### 19 June

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

### 26 June

See Loxbeare

### 3 July

11 am Family Service

### 10 July

11 am Holy Communion

### 17 July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

### 24 July

See Oakford

### 31 July

11 am Morning Prayer

**CALVERLEIGH**

**5 June**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**12 June**

3 pm Open Air Service

**19 June**

11.15 am Family Service  
with Baptism

**26 June**

See Loxbeare

**3 July**

No Service

**10 July**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**17 July**

11.15 am Family Service

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

6.30 pm Evening Worship

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

**5 June**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**12 June**

9.30 am Holy Communion  
by Extension

**19 June**

11 am Family Service

**26 June**

See Loxbeare

**3 July**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**10 July**

11 am Holy Communion

**17 July**

11 am Family Service

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

No Service

**LOXBEARE**

**5 June**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**12 June**

11 am Family Service

**19 June**

9.30 am Family Communion

**26 June**

10.30 am Group Service

**3 July**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**10 July**

11 am Family Service

**17 July**

9.30 am Family Communion

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

**TEMPLETON**

**5 June**

11 am Family Service

**12 June**

No Service

**19 June**

9.30am Morning Prayer  
with Holy Communion  
by extension

**26 June**

See Loxbeare

**3 July**

5 pm Songs of Praise

**10 July**

No Service

**17 July**

9.30am Morning Service  
with Holy Communion

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

11 am Readings, Hymns  
and Meditation

**WASHFIELD**

**5 June**

11 am Holy Communion

**12 June**

6 pm Songs of Praise

**19 June**

11 am Family Service

**26 June**

See Loxbeare

**3 July**

11 am Family Service

**10 July**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**17 July**

11 am Holy Communion

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

No Service

**WITHLEIGH**

**5 June**

11 am Holy Communion

**12 June**

11 am Songs of Praise

**19 June**

10.30 am Service of the Word

**26 June**

See Loxbeare

**3 July**

10.30 am Family Service  
with "Freewheelers"

**10 July**

10.30 am Service of the Word

**17 July**

11 am Holy Communion  
with Baptism

**24 July**

See Oakford

**31 July**

No Service

## PARISH ROUND-UP

so lovely. Our thanks to Rev. Ian Johnson for taking the Service.

The St. George's Day tea was a great occasion with teas, plants, cakes and a raffle. Many thanks to Brenda who provided the teas and also to Connie, Karen, Dawn, Lindsey and Wendy who helped man the stalls.

It was lovely to see so many people enjoying the teas and looking at old pictures of Oakford (albums kindly lent by Brenda). Connie put up a gallery of wedding photos and we had to guess the year the couples got married, this caused much speculation! We raised £301 for Church funds - thank you to all who brought cakes, plants and raffle prizes and all those who supported it.

### Village Events:

**Village Hall Murder Mystery – Friday 27 May at 7.30p.m. 'The Treasure of NoBrain Atoll'** Tickets £2.50 to include supper. Raffle and Bar. Contact 01398 324035 or 01398 351665

Date for your Diary:- **Barn Dance with 'Stick the Fiddle' on 23 July.** Look out for posters

**Oakford Fete:- Saturday 18 June, 2pm. until 5pm. at the Village playing field.**

Fun Dog Show. Boot Fair. Teas/ Refreshments. Beer Tent. Barbecue. Stalls and Side shows. Free Entry and Car Park. Sellers for Boot Fair –Please contact Kelvin on 01398 332039

**Moorland Club: Thursday 9 June at 2.30pm.** Kia Ora Garden in Cullompton  
**Thursday July 14 at 6pm.** Barbecue at Hutswell Farm, Oakford

## RACKENFORD

**B**eautiful Spring flowers were on display in our Church for Easter, along with the competition entries for colouring-in Easter Egg designs, which was a really bright addition to enjoy at our Easter Service taken by Rev Ian Johnson. Little Easter Egg chocolate treats were given at the close of the service. Many thanks to the children and to all who helped in any way to make this a lovely Easter celebration.

On Sunday 3 April Rev Jane Wilson took our 11am Communion Service, which also included the baptism of Betsy Rose Nott, daughter of Simon and Mel. A joyful service when Betsy was welcomed into the Church family, with prayers said for her future.

We send our belated deepest sympathy to Liz, Tim, Richard and James Paxton on the death of Liz's Dad, Dr Geoffrey Davy on 23 March. His funeral service and internment took place at our Church on Friday 15 April, where great tributes were paid to a very respected and admired man. He was laid to rest with his wife. Our thoughts and prayers continue to Liz, Tim and all the family and friends.

A coffee morning was held at our Church on Saturday 16 April and was a great success, plenty of stalls, games to enter, a draw and not forgetting delicious refreshments. £473 was raised and an anonymous donor made it up to £500. Many thanks for that act of kindness and to all who helped and came to support our fund raising morning.

The following day a special "Songs of Praise" was held especially to celebrate our Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We had 8 hymns, with Bible readings, poems and members of the congregation reading prayers, which all contributed to our Service and a very special time in our history.

We have now received £250 for the churchyard funds from donations given at the funeral of the late Joan Arscott with the other half going to The Acute Stroke Unit at The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Also £190.50 has been given to our Churchyard fund from donations given at the funeral of the late Ken Blackford and the other half going to Alzheimer's Society. We are most grateful to both families for these thoughtful gifts which are a great help and thank you both.

It is good to welcome Andrew back taking great care of our churchyard and always keeping it so neat and tidy. We hope the weather will be kind to you in the coming months. Just as a reminder from Andrew, please **DO NOT** put glass vases or jam jars on the graves as this could cause him real harm and also damage the machinery he uses. He recommends a plastic squash bottle or juice bottle is ideal to cut down and use and all glass items he will have to remove before cutting. Thank you.

We send our very best wishes to anyone who is not well or receiving treatment, Frances Dart, Heather (Vera Suttons daughter), Ann Freeman, Gordon Shaddock, Sylvia Muchmore. Also remembering our friends Muriel Blinman, Joan Clark, Peter Reynolds and Dave Collins and to anyone we

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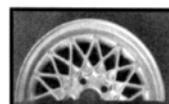


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**DOIVE DESIGNS**

## PARISH ROUND-UP

have not been told about. Please get in touch if you would like anyone remembered.

On Thursday 5 May we held a Group Ascension Day Service at 7.30pm which was taken by Rev John Roberts. After the service the congregation were welcomed to stay for refreshments and a chat.

Bishop Sarah of Crediton visited Rackenford School on Monday 25 April and enjoyed meeting the children and joining in their collective worship, which was run by Mrs Mandy Lewry. Billy Poole and Oliver Welsh happily showed Bishop Sarah around the school - pointing out places of interest along the way. A "Questions and Answers" took place later in each class, when the children had the opportunity to ask about things that were on their minds. Mrs Kate Dunning said this had been a very positive occasion. Bishop Sarah enjoyed her visit and was very impressed by the children's good behaviour.

On Saturday 30 April the Gardening Club held a plant sale near the tennis court, with a wide variety of bedding and vegetable plants etc to purchase. We hope it was a success.

The Holy Communion Service taken on 8 May by Rev Ian Johnson also included the banns being read for the second time for Rebecca Barnett and Ian Channin. We wish them every happiness for their wedding at Cruwys Morchard on 2 July. Hope you have a lovely day.

Rackenford Manor is the venue for our Cream Tea at 3pm on Saturday 9 July.

We hope you will all come and enjoy the delicious refreshments and view the variety of stall's. We are most grateful to David and Moy for inviting us once again.

Congratulations to anyone who has a special birthday or anniversary to celebrate.

## STOODLEIGH

The long and full life of Jack Webber came to an end on 6 April. He was 98. Jack was a leading figure in the local community and was well known in Stoodleigh, long before he came to live in the village in the 1990s, in the house now occupied by his daughter Ann. Farmer, landowner, businessman, churchman, sportsman...Jack was all these things and more. He brought an unshakeable belief and enthusiasm to everything he did, and a dry sense of humour. He played bowls until a year ago and he used to turn out for friendly cricket at Stoodleigh in his late eighties - he had been captain and opening batsman at Tiverton in younger days. He was president of Stoodleigh CC for some years before handing it on to his son Michael.

A service of thanksgiving for Jack's life, held at Tiverton United Church, included a reading from an account he had written of his early years at Hilltop Farm, Seven Crosses, almost a century ago, in the dusty old days of horse power and hard graft: it was a glimpse of another world. We send our love to all Jack' family.

How beautiful the Church decorations

looked for the Easter Services at St Margaret', not just flowers, but imaginative egg arrangements too! Thank you to all those very capable and talented flower arrangers, who so ably supported Betty Wotton. The large congregation on Easter Sunday could rejoice in the Spring flowers as well as the glorious Easter message.

Our Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM) took place on 29 March. The two churchwardens, John Fewings and Margaret Cuninghame, were unanimously re-elected. Christine Broadbent continues as Treasurer. Audrey Rigg resigned from the position of Secretary and was warmly thanked for her work over the last 16 years; Jennifer Rowlandson was appointed as the new Secretary. All existing PCC members were re-elected and Phyllis Hill was invited to join.

People may have noticed that the churchyard paths have undergone rather a dramatic change recently. This is the first stage of a renewal process - our thanks to Nigel Fisher. A top surface should be in place within a few weeks.

### COMING EVENTS

The ever popular **Stoodleigh Village Day** is coming up very soon - on **Saturday 11 June** at the Cricket Ground, starting at 3pm. This year it is a particularly special occasion because it falls on the weekend of the celebrations to mark the Queen' 90th Birthday. So be sure to come and enjoy the afternoon, and bring friends and family. As always, it is a completely free event, with games, sports and competitions, and tea and cakes for all.

continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

In the evening, Lizzie will welcome you at the Stoodleigh Inn.

### Family Fun Dog Show – Saturday 13 August:

This will be the fourth annual show in Stoodleigh. Come along with your family pet and take part in a variety of classes. In addition, there will be cream teas, refreshments and a Pimm's Tent. You'll be able to bring and buy cakes, plants & produce and take part in competitions, a tombola and a raffle. Show classes available soon. Ring Margaret or Geraldine on 01398 351252 or 351391. Funds in aid of St Margaret's Church and the Parish Hall.

**Ploughman's Lunch – Monday 29 August** at Champles, in aid of the church.

**Stoodleigh 100 Club** prizewinners for March – 1 Dorothy Ayre, 2 Peter Broadbent, 3 Henry Ayre, 4 Phil Bird; April – 1 Martine Jaquemet, 2 Julian Cuninghame, 3 Janet Russell, 4 Peter Ayre. Subscriptions are now overdue, so please pay as soon as possible.

### Church Flower Rota

5, 12, 19 June Betty Wotton  
26 June, 3 July Angela Hill  
10, 17 July Phyllis Hill  
24, 31 July Enid Hamidullah

the church was gloriously decorated, as befits such an occasion. Thank you to those who provided and arranged the flowers.

**On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of May (29<sup>th</sup>),** our Service will be at 10.30am. This Service will take the format of 'Readings and Reflection' when you are invited to bring one or two readings or poems of your choice, that mean something personal to you, and share it with others. There will be a short time of quiet reflection after each reading, and silent prayer following intercessions at the end of the service. Coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.15am. So do come along and be part of this new initiative.

**On Sunday 3 July,** instead of a Family Service, we are having a Songs of Praise Service preceded by cream teas in the church at 4pm. Please hand in your hymn requests to any member of the P.C.C. If you can explain the significance of your choice, then please do so at the Service.

Our 60's evening with the great band Monopole playing, plus a generous and delicious supper, was a great success, hugely enjoyable with quite a few people dancing, reclaiming their youth - although some of us realised that we weren't young any more, the next morning! Thank you so much to all involved in this event and to those who contributed food and their time. We raised over £500 towards the Church repairs.

On 16 April, Tony Loosemore and Julie Woollacott organised a very successful charity Spring Draw & Musical Evening in aid of Children's Hospice South West,

with performances from Alice Gullick who is a talented and successful singer/songwriter, singer Nigel Fisher, equally talented and well-received, with 50s/60s/70s songs, and a 70s/80s music disco with DJ Nigel, and food and drinks on sale. Julie and Tony would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to the evening and to everyone who contributed in any way. The total raised was £665, exceeding all expectations.

**On Saturday 13 August** we shall be holding the Templeton Village Fete with gates opening at 1.30pm. Please start collecting any clothes, bric-a-brac, books, draw prizes, and any items - large or small - (but not electrical items) for the grand auction. More information will follow about all the events and entertainments planned for the fete.

We say goodbye to Pat Taylor (née Turner) who lived at Town Farm as a child. We wish her well in her new home, near her son Bill in Hampshire.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

Sarah Coffin 29 May / 5 June  
Ginah Palmer 12 June / 19 June  
Sally Greenslade 26 June / 3 July  
Teresa Pancherz 10 July / 17 July  
Gill Rose 24 July / 31 July

## TEMPLETON

In spite of cold winds we have had some beautiful Spring days in April and even in the last days of March, for Easter.

Our Easter Services were thoughtfully led by Revd Christopher Rowley, and

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

**S**t Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) began with the welcoming of parishioners with wine and cheese. Mr Richard Scholes was in the chair when the meeting began. He extended thanks to everyone who keeps our Church open and welcoming. Mrs Jeanne Jones will continue to be our Churchwarden. Mr James Herniman has now been elected onto the PCC.

Anna led us into Easter with a quiet and reflective Meditation Service on Good Friday.

Easter Saturday turned out to be a wet and windy day but many children still came excitedly with their decorated eggs to be judged and rolled, as is our tradition. This event was once again organised by Sarah and Oliver Tobey and judged by Holly Fathi. So many thanks to them all, for their efforts in making this happen. After the numerous Easter Egg prizes for decorating skills and rolling techniques had been awarded, many took cover from the rain at the Coffee Morning in the Hall that followed and they could relax over a coffee and Hot Cross Bun. Also at the Coffee Morning were a selection of stalls and an Easter themed Raffle. It was excellently supported and a profit of £336 was raised for the Church. Thank you so much to all who donated, purchased and attended and made this event such a success.

How delightful the Church looked, adorned with Spring flowers, as it welcomed us to the Service of Holy Communion held on Easter Day, at

which Anna led a large congregation. The many children who attended were given the task of decorating a plate with a selection of decorations and Easter eggs. They then proudly carried them home. Thank you Anna.

On 12 June at 6pm, we are marking the Queen's 90th birthday with a Songs of Praise Service in the Church. In this way our parish can celebrate this happy occasion and give thanks for her constant and faithful service to Christian life in this country. We hope that you may consider choosing a favourite hymn to be included in this Service and then come along to hear it sung with joyful enthusiasm. Request slips are available in the Church or from Jeanne on 254306, before the end of May and then we would hope to include your choice. Wine and canapés will follow this Service to continue the celebratory aspect of Her Majesty's birthday. It would be much appreciated if our Church decorators would feel able to put some flowers in the church for this special occasion (in a red, white and blue theme please).

There will also be a celebratory event to mark the Queen's birthday on Saturday 4 June at 4pm, so please join us as we hold a "Party on the Green" with a BBQ from 5pm onwards. Maypole Dancing - Children's games and activities - All generations welcome. Also to celebrate the refurbishment of the War Memorial. If wet in the Hall.

A meeting to plan the Church Fete will take place in the Church on Monday 6 June at 7pm. We would welcome your ideas so please come. The Fete will be

held on Saturday 2 July at 2.30pm, in the grounds of the Old Rectory. Without your continued help and presence we could not make such a success of our main church event. Once again we would like to ask you for your help and contributions for all our usual stalls and tea-time food. Thank you in anticipation.

Other events planned to keep our village vibrant and interactive are: A 'best sunflower in a bucket/tub competition' to be judged in September. Make sure your exhibit can be seen or moved to be seen on a village walk-about and for judging. Get planting NOW!

And a Grand Charity Frog Race to fund-raise for Save the Children and Medecins sans Frontiers on Saturday 1 October. Come along for a great "Frog Experience" and help raise money for the Children of Syria. Watch out for posters and further details of these two events.

The cream tea and car Treasure Hunt in May was well supported with 12 car-loads following the designated route in order to solve the clues. The Webbers were worthy winners with all the teams making a good effort.

We have many good news celebrations! A baby daughter, Harriet Wych, has arrived at Cotleigh Cottages, a cherished daughter for Angela and James and welcome baby sister for Alistair. Also, a baby girl has just arrived at Balmans Wood, Lower Washfield. The beautifully named Laurel is the first

Continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

child for Katie and David. Congratulations!

We are pleased to send congratulations too, to Mrs Jeanne Jones, on becoming a great-grandmother. Her granddaughter, Charlotte and Andrew have a little boy, Benjamin Timothy.

We send our very best 'Wedding planning' wishes to Diane Elston, as she and her parents, David and Marion, move into the final stages of organising Diane's marriage to Alex in St Mary's Church on Saturday 30 July. We wish Diane and Alex (and both their families) the very best of days!

Best wishes are sent to everyone with their own special celebrations or birthdays coming up.

We are also thinking of those of you who are not well at present or going through difficult times. We hope that you can find some comfort knowing that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

### Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 24 May** Ramblers walk starting at Village hall from 10.15-12.30. Any parishioners wishing to join them are most welcome.

**Saturday 4 June** Village celebration 'Party on the Green' from 4pm with Maypole dancing, children's activities and games. BBQ from 5pm. To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday and mark the completed refurbishment of the War Memorial.

**Monday 6 June** Fete planning meeting in church 7pm. All welcome.

**Sunday 12 June** Songs of Praise to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday 6pm. In the Church, to be followed by wine and canapés.

**Tuesday 14 June** teatime@the hall. Come and enjoy tea, cake and the company of others, from 3pm. All most welcome.

**Thursday 30 June** Lunch Club in hall. 12 noon for 12.30pm

**Saturday 2 July** Church Fete in the grounds of The Old Rectory 2.30pm followed by tea in the hall.

**Tuesday 12 July** teatime@the hall. We would love you to join us here from 3pm.

**Thursday 28 July** Lunch Club in the hall. 12 noon for 12.30pm

### **Forthcoming Event**

**Saturday October 1** Frog Experience in the hall raising money for the children of Syria.

### Altar Flower Rota

June 5/12	Mrs Hansford
June 19/26	Mrs Voysey
July 3/10	Mrs Jones
July 17/24	Mrs A Balment
July 31/Aug 7	Mrs Parnell

### Cleaning Rota

May 30/June 6	Mrs Arnold
June 13/20	Mr & Mrs Parnell
June 27/July 4	Mr & Mrs Walton
July 11/18	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
July 25/Aug 1	Mrs Albery

## WITHLEIGH

It was great to see a good number to our Easter Beetle Drive on the 19 March. A fun evening with small Easter eggs being the prizes for each complete individual beetle and large eggs for the highest points for both adults and children. Thank you Duncan for running the evening and keeping us all in order.

We were delighted to be able to welcome Bishop Sarah and so many from our Mission Community to the Group Service in March held in our Church. It is always good to have so many present to really raise the roof with the hymn singing. Bishop Sarah was well received, as might be expected, and spoke at a level that all could understand. Thank you also, Laura, for playing the organ.

Our Informal Service on 3 April, led by Susie, was centred around angels, both in her talk and in all the hymns we sang - a really enjoyable service. Thank you Susie and also thanks to Paul for accompanying on his guitar. Thanks to Janet Sellick for leading our May Family Service, and in which Elizabeth presented a short play on the conversion of Lydia. This was the first occasion for which our new pew runners were in place; thank you, Christine, for organising them.

What a wonderful evening we had when Witleigh Entertained. With all local artists, we had a wide range of acts. Music was provided from the bag pipes, flute, guitar, saxophone and the star duet who finished off the evening. Comedy ranged from the village hall cleaners who got the wrong night, local reminiscences, and tales of village life!! The main performance of the evening was a drama, written and produced by Janet Stacey, called 'The Bus Trip', performed by local people who had spent several weeks learning lines and practising their parts. Well done to everyone who took part - just shows what talent we have in our village! Thank you to Janet Stacey for coming up with the idea, and not just providing us with the drama, but sorting out the whole evening as well.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Also to all of those who helped out in anyway - providing the entertainment, running the draw, taking money on the door or supplying the refreshments. Thank you one and all. To top it all we made a wonderful profit of £916, which will go towards the Village Hall roof which needs replacing.

Sara's coffee morning on 2 May proved a great success, with the amazing sum of £740 being sent to Hospiscare in Exeter. Grateful thanks to all who attended, or supported the event in any way.

Friday 6 May saw twenty-six of us gather at the Thelbridge Cross Inn for our annual PCC dinner - not that our PCC is quite that large, but, also invited, in addition to spouses, were those who take part in our services. It proved to be a very enjoyable evening, and thank you, Sara, for making the arrangements.

On Sunday 12 June, we are celebrating the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Coffee and biscuits will be served in the Church at 11.00 am. followed by Songs of Praise. There will then be a two course salad lunch in the Village Hall, (12.30pm for 1.00pm) - the cost of which is £10. If you would like to attend the lunch, please contact Brenda on 252431 to book your place.

There will be another Fete meeting on Monday, 13 June at 8.00pm at Bona Vista. Please do come along and help us finalise the arrangements.

We are always pleased to receive offers of help. If you are unable to attend this meeting and would like to help or contribute, please contact Brenda on 252431.

From the 19 June onwards, it has been agreed that, except where they are led by the clergy, our services will begin at 10.30am (instead of 11am). We will then see how this works out over the next few months.

Witleigh Village Hall AGM will be held on Tuesday 21 June, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Please do come along and support our hall committee, any ideas for fund raising for the new village hall roof would be more than welcome.

We will, again, be welcoming a representative from Devon Freewheelers to our Family Service on 3 July. Our PCC voted, once again, to make them our nominated charity for this year. There will also be a retiring collection, and all are welcome to join us for this service.

The Church Fete will take place on Saturday, 16 July opening at 2.00pm at Bona Vista, by kind permission of Henry and Shirley. There will be the usual stalls - cakes, tombola, books, garden and produce, an 'everything a £1' stall, sideshows, ice creams and teas, etc. Contributions for all of these would be greatly appreciated. All we hope for is a good sunny, dry day but, if this fails, the Fete will be held in the Village Hall.

Our grateful thanks to the family of the late Ruby Reed for donating part of the collection at her funeral service to St Catherine's. Also to the family of the late Fred Bolton for their donation from the collection taken in church at his memorial service.

We think of all those that are still taking exams and hope that their results will help them in their chosen careers.

We send get well wishes to all who are not well at the moment. Our love and prayers are with you all.

**Witleigh WI** meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Guests are always welcome to come along. If any of the forthcoming events are of interest to you, please call Rosie on 01884 257123. Meetings are held at Witleigh Village Hall, at 7.15pm, unless stated otherwise in the program.  
 9 June: Speakers, Alice Sumption and Dee Simson on Canine Partners.  
 14 July: Speaker, Lorna Rowland on Antique Dolls and Toys.

### Forthcoming Events:

**Tuesday 7 June:** PCC meets at Topfield at 7.30pm.

**Thursday 9 June:** WI in the Village Hall at 7.15pm.

**Sunday 12 June:** Songs of Praise at 11am, followed by lunch in the Village Hall

**Tuesday 21 June:** Village Hall AGM at 7.30pm in the Hall.

continued overleaf →

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## QUOTATIONS, JOKES AND CHARITY EVENTS

**Thursday 14 July:** WI in the Village Hall at 7.15pm.

**Saturday 16 July:** Summer Fete at Bona Vista, 2pm.

**Flower rota:**

May 29 / 5 June Susie Wade  
 June 12 / 10 Rosie Edmonston-Low  
 June 26 / 3 July Sara Kittow  
 July 10 / 17 Val Kingston  
 July 24 / 31 Linda Taylor

**Monthly Diary Dates:**

First Thursday – Bingo  
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“But that shouldn’t have taken this long” argued his friend.

“Well ...  
I had to toss it 35 times”

### Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for June

**REMEMBER THE BEST**  
 Remember the best ~ the friendly words, kindly deeds.  
 Remember the roses and not the weeds.  
 Remember the pleasure, forget the pain ~  
 Then only sweet memories will remain.  
 The answered prayers and the goals achieved ~  
 The wishes fulfilled and the good received.



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### Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for July

#### LOOK FOR IT

You've got to make an effort and you've got to look around, for that's the only way that precious treasure can be found.  
 You'll never see the sunshine if you always draw the blind.  
 You'll never make a friend unless you open heart and mind.  
 If you want to find the very best, you **have** to search a bit.  
 You'll never see the good in life unless you look for it.

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**CRUWYS MORCHARD  
SATURDAY 9 JULY  
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Parish Hall  
Usual stalls**

**LOXBEARE  
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12.30pm  
SUNDAY 31 JULY  
PICNIC SERVICE 3pm**

**OAKFORD  
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AND DOG SHOW  
2 - 5 pm  
Usual Stalls**

**RACKENFORD MANOR  
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Variety of Stalls**

**STOODLEIGH  
SATURDAY 11 JUNE  
VILLAGE DAY 3pm  
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Birthday**

**TEMPLETON  
SATURDAY 13 AUGUST  
ADVANCE NOTICE  
ANNUAL FETE  
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**WASHFIELD  
SATURDAY 2 JULY  
CHURCH FETE  
2.30pm  
Old Rectory  
Usual Stalls**

**WITHLEIGH  
SATURDAY 16 JULY  
CHURCH FETE  
2pm  
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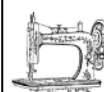
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