

June - July 2019

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IT'S A MYSTERY !

In my opinion, there are certain things that should work in exactly the same way – wherever you happen to be, home or abroad. Microwaves. Buying train or bus tickets. Showers and Shower Curtains. How many times have I tried to avoid getting soaked in cold water, only to scald myself, or flood the bathroom? How are you supposed to know that if you turn a lever, the lovely warm water gently falling on your feet will change to the force and voracity of Niagra from above your head? Definitely at the top of my list, would be anything to do with Public Conveniences of any kind.

I am extremely grateful for the fact that the Public Convenience Experience, has vastly improved since I was a child. In those days it was simple. You knew what you had to do, got on with it as quickly as possible, and got out as soon as you could. It's not so simple these days. Take washing your hands, for instance. Gone are the days when you just turned on the tap. Now you wiggle your fingers under things, only to find your hands covered in soap, then

water and finally blasted with hot air. All very easy – once you get the hang of it. The trouble is, the next Public Convenience you go to doesn't work like that! There you are waving your hands under everything you can find, like a demented flapper about to launch into the Charleston, only to find that this one is completely different! What you should have been doing was pushing things with your feet. How are you to know? Nobody tells you! You're just supposed to pick it up.



Recently, in Italy, there were helpful instructions written on the loo seat. The only trouble was, I couldn't read them. How was I to know that the seat would automatically spring upwards, if you didn't sit on it quickly enough, and then squirt you with antibacterial spray?

Apart from being able to laugh about it with Lovely Husband (who of course, can read Italian, and thought it was hilarious) it does make one feel rather stupid and a tiny bit vulnerable.

And I expect a lot of people feel exactly the same about church. After all, how are most of us supposed to know what to do, which book to use, which page to turn to, how the tune goes, what the words mean, what the offertory is, when to sit, kneel or stand, and why's she dressed like that? So much of what we do is a complete mystery to so many. Yet I believe that every one of us was made to love God and to worship him, and my hope and prayer is that all our churches will welcome and enable everyone to do just that.

Enjoy the warmer weather and the lighter evenings – and seek out the presence of God who made you and loves you,

Steph

Please read additional information from Steph on Pages 3, 4, 10 & 19

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(EDITORIAL) We are devoid of any editorial comments of interest, for this issue, so we thought we'd share three verses from this 'ditty', called "The Alto's Lament" found among Jenny's Mum's papers. It was written by "Bob the Organist" and discovered behind the vestry door of All Saints Church, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield.

It's tough to be an alto,
when you're singing in the choir.
The sopranos get the twiddly bits
that people all admire.

The basses boom like loud trombones,
the tenors shout with glee
but the altos part is on two notes
(or, if you're lucky, three).

When we sing an anthem,
we lift our hearts in praises:
the men get all the juicy bits
and telling little phrases.

Of course, the trebles sing the tune,
they always come off best:
the Altos only get three notes -
and twenty-two bars rest.

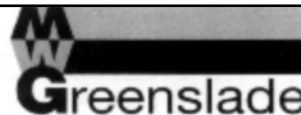
So when the final trumpet sounds
and we are wuffed higher,
Sopranos, basses, tenors -
they'll be in the Heavenly choir.
While they sing "Alleluia!!"
to celestial flats and sharps,
the altos will be occupied
with polishing the harps.

Jenny and Geoff

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Holiday Club 2019 Who Am I?



This year's holiday club will take place at Calverleigh Hall from **Tuesday 5th of August 10.30 to 3.30 pm for children aged 5-11**. This year our bible teaching will be learning about the Story of David through activities which will include talks, drama, singing, prayer, crafts, games and more.

Prayer with a Bear' from 10.30 to 11.30 for those with under 5's. You are also welcome to stay and join in as we start our activities with songs and fun.

We will also be holding a Family Barbecue to complete the week. Please contact Cindy for application forms and if you would like more information.

If you have any time to spare and would like to help please contact Cindy on 01363 866621. All volunteers over 16 need a DBS check. Please do not be put off by this, it is a simple process, which I can do with you, and lasts 5 years.

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17 June Loxbeare

18 July Cruwys Morchard



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Will you join the
global wave of prayer
this year?



Thy Kingdom Come
2019

#PLEDGE2PRAY

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting Christians to join another amazing wave of prayer across the UK and around the world - praying that people you know, might come to know Jesus. It's happening between Ascension and Pentecost from 30 May – 9 June

Vision – In response to Archbishop Justin's 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer focus, we want to encourage a wide variety and expression of prayer activities and gatherings across every mission community / parish in the diocese, and with other denominations during the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost 2019.

Impact from 2018 – A survey following Thy Kingdom Come 2018 showed the impact that the movement is making. An amazing 91% prayed for friends and family to come to know Jesus; 85% felt motivated to pray more often; and 42% of people felt more motivated to talk to others about Jesus. There was a big increase across our diocese in churches engaging with Thy Kingdom Come - with events both in church and in local parks, cafés, schools, homes, shop spaces and markets. Summary clip: - <https://youtu.be/iVUWQPYBjwA>

In a recent interview Archbishop Justin said – “When the Archbishop of York and I launched it, we hoisted a small sail rather nervously, and there was a howling gale of the Spirit which seemed to carry this whole thing forward in the most beautiful way”

Thy Kingdom Come invites us to grow in prayer – praying as individuals, in families, with friends, with Christian brothers and sisters across the wider church in Devon and for those who do not yet know Jesus.

The shared hope for this wave of prayer is that as Christians pray together we will:

- be transformed through prayer
- be given new confidence and encouragement by the Holy Spirit
- be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ

Diocesan Theme for Thy Kingdom Come 2019 - 'Fields of Gold' Matthew 13.44-46

In each of our churches there will be a prayer space for you to use over the 9 day period. Not only are we invited to pray for five friends or neighbours, but also to pray for five things or places in our communities: the pub, a row of houses, a farm, the village hall etc.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago

June and July, 1969

The lead article in June criticised the permissive attitudes of the day, and their effect on society with the watering-down of morals. The July article focussed on what constituted the 'Point of Death', considering the ability to then keep somebody technically alive, though 'brain-dead'.

Being two minibuses short this year, the cost of transport to 'Holidays at Home' was going to be more expensive than previously, and parents were to be asked to, if possible, pay their children's fares.

The Bishop of Crediton was to open the Group Fête at Easterlands, Stoodleigh, in July.

Members of Oakford's W.I. were planning a 21st anniversary celebration at The Green Headland Hotel in Sampford Peverell.

Rackenfords W.I. members, along with their husbands, celebrated the branch's 21st anniversary with dinner at The Ruffwell, followed by singing and dancing.

Rackenfords School marked the centenary year of "Lorna Doone" with a visit to Oare church and the Doone Valley, with time on the beach at Minehead. The Sunday School and choir were planning an outing to Teignmouth in July.

Stoodleigh had held a sheep sale at Tiverton market, which had raised £50 for church funds. A country market had raised £29.3.1d for Group funds.

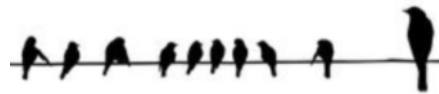
Under the heading "Isolated Places", Templeton was described as "an isolated parish with no village". At the time of the Black death (1349-50), the dead were collected by cart loads from surrounding farms, and taken by night to the mother church of Witheridge for burial. It was some time later that burials took place at Templeton – and then only after a duel between the Rector of Witheridge and the priest at Templeton!

The re-building of Templeton's church tower was now essentially complete.

Washfield PCC had decided to hold a country market in Tiverton instead of a fête.

The young people of Witleigh completed a sponsored walk of fifteen miles to raise money towards a new mini-bus for the Group. In the process, they had set foot in eight of the parishes, Morebath being the exception.

Paul Iliff



NATURE NOTES

Springtime departs, regretfully and all too quickly, but with perhaps relief from cricket watchers who may feel hypothermia will become less of a threat. The emergence of new life and colour never ceases to amaze, even though it happens every year. I also find that I will experience at some time during the season, an event view or display that indelibly imprints itself on my mind, thus rendering each Spring unique and special.

This year my abiding memory will be of an invisible trigger that inspired the whole animal kingdom into a surge of activity. It started with deer roaming in fields by the house every evening such that the visits became predictable and thus ignored by all but visitors. These shy animals, and similarly badgers, then decided to think nothing of being seen in the lane at odd hours.

The song birds spent a time when they were too busy to come to the feeding stations but their song was ever present during all daylight hours and sometimes beyond. Many remark on the dawn chorus but much of this is the replacement of silence by a lovely and increasing sound – however it is just as charming during the day but because it is incessant we do not hear it – so I made myself stop and listen. It is remarkable how much we take for granted – the colours of the male pheasant, the corkscrew flight of the buzzard, the greater spotted woodpeckers hammering out their Morse Code.

Well this year they came all at once and were not to be ignored - the male pheasants decided to claim their territory by acting like cockerels in our garden at ungodly hours, the buzzards issued reminder calls as they soared, and the drumming of woodpeckers along the valley indicated either we are infested with them or we have a serious number of dead trees all with their own peculiar note.

I totally accept we have a global biodiversity crisis and I list much of the above not as a rejection but as a self reminder to never take any of everyday Devon scenes for granted, whatever the season.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

CALVERLEIGH

Hallelujah! Christ has risen and what a gloriously sunny weekend we had to celebrate it with.

On 7 April at the Cluster Service, Clementine was welcomed into the church family at her Baptism. She was supported by family, friends and big sister Jemima. Andrew Herniman kindly offered to play the organ for the Service. Congratulations to Clementine, may God bless you all your life.

Our congratulations and very best wishes go to all who have celebrated a special event recently – whether a birth, a marriage, a special birthday, we want to hear your family news so please do get in touch with Dave and let us know what's being celebrated.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Mrs Hilda Forward on 21 March. Many people knew Hilda and her late husband Wilfred from their days of running the Royal Oak Cash and Carry at Gibbet. They also ran the Sunday School for many years in the Chapel at Loxbeare, where lots of local children went along and came to know their love of Jesus and to pass that love on. Hilda was a very talented organ player who learnt to play at the tender age of four years old and continued to do so for close on 90 years. She played at many of the Services at Calverleigh in the past few years, as well as at the Baptist Church. Her funeral was held at Calverleigh on 12 April with a packed congregation. Lovely tributes were given by both Jackie and Hilda's nephew David. Our thoughts and prayers go to all the family and her very dear friends at this sad time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you if you have lost a loved one, been unwell,

are awaiting or undergoing treatment at this time. We hope and pray that you are all feel much better soon. We also think at this time of those who now live in residential or nursing homes and are unable to be a part of village and church life as they once were.

We said a fond farewell to the Lineham family who moved to Swindon in March. Nick had been a PCC member and organist here at St. Mary's for many years. We wish him and Juliet well on their move and hope that they settle into their new surroundings quickly. We look forward to meeting the new residents of Manitoba in the near future.

Fund-raising for the restoration of the Church windows has got off to a good start. A coffee morning was held on 30 March at the home of Diana Hopper. It was a beautiful sunny morning where those present could sit out and enjoy the garden as well as the weather. Our thanks go to Diana and family for hosting a wonderful social occasion along with raising over £500 towards the window fund.

In the run-up to Easter Nikki and David Burton ran a draw for an Easter Egg-stravaganza with the chance to win either an Easter Hamper or one of the many other prizes on offer. The winning tickets were drawn at the home of Derek and Mary Herniman with the first prize going to Cedric Gibbons (Doreen's brother). Our thanks go to Nik and Dave for arranging this and to everyone who bought a ticket. A total of £320 was raised for the Window Restoration Fund.

Our Mothering Sunday Service was led by Jackie Herniman. An abundance of posies had been made for all the ladies in the congregation with more than enough to be taken home to loved ones. Thank you to all who provided flowers to

give thanks for all that our mother's do or have done for us over the years. At this special Service we tried out our alternative to organ music for the very first time, with the introduction of music played through a laptop. There have been a few hiccups, which were quite entertaining but the congregation has been very patient while we come to grips with this new necessity.

Needless to say, though, that if there is anyone who is able to play an organ (or guitar, or another instrument etc...) and would like the opportunity to play at our Services we would be very pleased to hear from you. Contact numbers for the Churchwardens are available on Page 2 of this magazine.

At the APCM held on 11 April Aubrey Goldsworthy and Jackie Herniman were voted back on to continue as our Churchwardens, Jackie as Treasurer and Julie Goldsworthy as PCC Secretary. David Burton, Shirley Goldsworthy, Sheila Greenslade, Rita Tapp and Lorna Thomas make up the PCC. Thanks were given to the PCC and everyone on various rotas for all their hard work in keeping the church and churchyard looking so good for parishioners and visitors alike and for all the fund-raising that is essential to help us keep up with our financial commitments.

Our annual Spring Clean took place on 13 April with a merry band of helpers (including a very eager one year old) turning their hand to dusting, polishing, sweeping etc. to make our little church look her best, inside and out, from top to bottom. Thank you to all who came along to clean and enjoy a time of fellowship over a well earned drink and cake or biscuits.

Many of you came along to our Easter Services with Tasha Gerolimatos leading on Palm Sunday and Rev'd Keith Gale

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NEW CREATION NEWS

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O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever. (Psalm 136 Amplified Bible)

Welcome to Penny, our new manager!

Penny has been our cook for a number of years and has served us all with delicious food. She has supported Val faithfully and, after prayer, has now offered to serve the Lord even further as our manager. Obviously, until we appoint paid help, she will be relying on our dear volunteers to help her. This means she will not be providing main meals any more. However, snacks, soup, filled rolls, drinks and cakes will be available – please see the new menu.

WELCOME, dear PENNY! ...and goodbye to Val

Dear Val has retired after serving our Lord in New Creation for, amazingly, over 30 years! We shall miss her so much – she knows the business inside out and has worked tirelessly to serve Jesus in the shop and by arranging bookstalls and preaching (she is a registered Methodist local preacher) at churches and chapels throughout the local area. On Saturday 4th May we held an open day for her in New Creation and were able to present her with a monetary gift lovingly donated by customers, friends, volunteers, staff and trustees. She was quite overwhelmed by the number who came to wish her a happy retirement and with other gifts of cards, flowers and chocolates. We prayed with her and for her, asking the Lord to look after her and perhaps giving her fresh work for Him in the future. We haven't said goodbye completely though as she has promised to come back on Wednesdays for our weekly prayer meeting and as a volunteer.

Otherwise, GOODBYE, dear VAL!

How may we serve you?

It seems, from talking to many of you, that you do appreciate having a Christian shop in Tiverton, and we also get visitors here from many different places. They make the journey to the town just to use us because their Christian shop has closed. We are here to serve them and you and long to see this place used to its full potential. So, how can we help you? What do you need? In the Lord's name we are here to serve you – please tell us how we can help.

May the Lord bless you and keep you throughout the coming summer.

With love from us all

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PARISH ROUND-UP

kindly taking our Easter Sunday Service. The Church appeared and smelled lovely with beautiful flowers everywhere, so thank you to everyone who decorated their own little area. Rita had been busy knitting little yellow chicks since January and handed them out with a small chocolate egg inside.

Our Day of Prayer took place on Saturday 11 May with 36 people taking part. This has become a very important part of the church year and we are extremely grateful to all who join us in this spiritual time.

Visitors to Calverleigh Village Hall will notice that low heat electric heaters are now installed in the toilets and lobby. This should remove the chill in these areas in the Winter months. The committee is grateful for a legacy received from the late John Greenslade and in memoriam gifts received from the family and friends of the late Susan Luffman which funded the project.

Dates for Your Diary:

The Open Air Service is on 30 June in the churchyard, when hopefully the weather will continue to be kind.

We are holding a Fund-Raising event in aid of the Church Window Repair Fund, on Saturday 17 August.

A local walk followed by a light lunch in the Village Hall. You can start the walk any time between 10.30 and 12.30, the route (by kind permission of Sir Ian and Lady Louise Amory) will be marked and will take approximately 1 hour. Please note: dogs on leads are welcome, and it may be muddy!). Lunch available from 12 noon to 3pm (non-walkers welcome). Cost £5 per head. Donations of draw prizes would be greatly appreciated. Please book a place, for catering purposes, on 01884 258770, or text 07967 989724, or e-mail mo.furneaux@hotmail.co.uk. Come and join us for a 'mooch & munch'.

Schedules for the **Produce and Flower Show**, which this year will be held on 31 August, are now available. If you would like to take part in this fun, but highly competitive event (especially with the

continued overleaf →



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PARISH ROUND-UP

baking section) please contact Sheila or Rita. We would like to encourage entrants in the vegetable classes, so even if you're new to growing veg, do have a go!

On Saturday 5 October 2019 at Calverleigh Village Hall we are holding a **Quiz Night** as a part of our fund-raising for repairs to the Church windows. We're looking for teams of between 4 - 6 players, so get swotting up on your general knowledge! More details to follow in the August edition of the magazine.

Cleaning Rota

27 May / 8 Jun: Miss S Goldsworthy
 10 / 22 Jun: Mrs A Webber
 24 Jun / 6 Jul: Mrs R Tapp
 8 / 20 Jul: Mrs N Burton
 22 Jul / 3 Aug: Mrs S Greenslade

Altar Flower Rota

19 / 26 May: Mrs N Burton
 2 / 9 Jun: Mrs R Tapp
 16 / 23 Jun: Ms L Carrey
 30 Jun / 7 Jul: Mrs A Webber
 14 / 21 Jul: Mrs T Pugsley
 28 Jul / 4 Aug: Mrs M Furneaux

Church Mowing Rota

27 May / 8 Jun: Mr C Durnan
 10 / 22 Jun: Mr A Hancock
 24 Jun / 6 Jul: The Heathcoat-Amory Family
 8 / 20 Jul: Mr A Goldsworthy
 22 Jul / 3 Aug: Mr D White

Have we missed anything? If there is something that you think we should have mentioned, or you have something for inclusion in the next Magazine, please contact Dave Burton 01884 561499 or calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org and get the latest on the website at: www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

Summer is here, everything is growing, are you planning your entries for the **CRUWYS MORCHARD FLOWER SHOW** to be held at The Parish Hall on Saturday 10th August at 2.30pm? If you have not already had a list of classes and an entry form please contact the secretary, Pauline Guscott at 5 Moor View, Pennymoor. Potatoes and buckets now available from the Secretary or Chairman (Keith Westcott).

THE PARISH SUMMER FETE is on Saturday 13 July at the Parish Hall, from 12noon - 3.00pm, including a Family Dog Show, Classic Car Display, Ice Creams, BBQ, Refreshments, Fun and Games and importantly a Children's Fancy Dress Competition, with the theme of 1969, to celebrate 50 years of PENNYMOOR TIMBER. Look out for the posters.

YOGA Due to increased numbers the Cruwys Morchard Yoga class has now been split into two groups. Both on a Thursday:- 9.30 - 10.55am. A general Hatha yoga class. 11.05am - 12.30pm A similar class but set at a slower more gentle pace. Contact Hilary for further information 01363 866245 hil.tosdevin@btinternet.com

The Cleaning and flower Rota

June 3/10 Marian Kingdom
 June 17/24 Sarah Cruwys
 July 1/8th Wendy Lake
 July 15/22 Jo Townsend
 July 29/ Aug 5 Cindy Trick
 If you find that you are unable to do the cleaning and or flowers in your weeks, please let Cindy know.

Mowing Rota

June Steve and Sue Guscott
 July The Berries

Table Top Sale

The table top sale held at the Parish Hall offered a large variety of stalls, including plants, handicrafts, clothes, books and bric a brac. Refreshments were provided by the ladies. The event Raised £116.00.

Parish Hall News

The Parish Hall will be hosting our annual Breakfast & Brunch on Saturday 3 August for Hall funds. Please contact Mary or Tania if you can help for an hour or more if possible. Please visit the Parish website What's On page for details of this event and other parish events <http://cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk>
 The Parish Hall will also have a Bingo at the end of August.

CRUWYS MORCHARD YOUNG FARMERS

Over the past six months, the Club have held monthly Bingos which have proved very popular. Thank you to everyone who has attended and supported the Club with these. The last Bingo held in April was in aid of The Guide Dogs for the Blind. The members are busy getting their entries ready for Devon County Show, on 16-18 May and the Mid Devon Show on 27 July.

The next event being held is a must for all tractor enthusiasts; our Annual Tractor Run on Sunday 7 July, starting at the Parish Hall at 10.00 am. The Club members are then helping out at the Church Fete, on Saturday 13 July; running the ice cream stall - do come along and buy one! As well as the Welly Wanging in the field.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

CRUWYS ARMS GARDENERS met on Wednesday 3 April and ten members discussed control of garden pests, passing on gems of information on the control of Aphid and Blackfly with a mixture of mint, garlic and cayenne pepper boiled together and sprayed onto affected plants. (any surplus can be used for a chilli !!) White rot spores can survive for up to 18 years, until they respond to the volatile chemicals produced by onion, producing mycelium. A garlic drench encourages the spores to react, producing mycelium, thereby exhausting the dormant spores. Vine weevil can be controlled with nematodes in the Spring. Pigeons can be deterred by netting or sudden noises, releasing dogs and young children always works! Carrot fly is a low flying insect, so high beds or a low fence around them helps. Also planting between rows of "smelly" plants masks the odour of the carrots and confuses the invading flies.

Wednesday 8 May, when we discussed club root in brassicas, lime helps. A garden safari around Puddington, the Pennymoor Gardens will follow later. And an away day at Shepcott Barton on the afternoon of 12 July.

FUTURE EVENTS

Sunday 2 June Plant Sale with cream teas at Wringsland House, 2.30pm – 5.00pm
 Sunday 7 July Young Farmers Annual Tractor Run from the Parish Hall at 10.00am
 Saturday 13 July Church Fete at the Parish Hall, with Dog Show and Children's Fancy Dress. 12- 3pm
 Saturday 3 August Breakfast & Brunch in the Parish Hall.
 Saturday 14 September Devon Historic Churches Day. National Ride and Stride Event. For further information, please contact Sonia on 01363 866864.
 28/29 September Harvest
 Wednesday 16 October Community Lunch with Raffle
 Saturday 10 November Christmas Fayre

We were very happy to welcome into the Church Jacob Ronald Poxon at his Baptism on 14 April and we have another Baptism on 19 May.

Congratulations to Matt and Amanda Berry upon the birth of Tyler on 1 April, Grandson for Dave and Shani.

It is with great regret that we said "Good Bye" to Paul Isaacs who died on 19 March and to Gary Lancelles who passed away on Sunday 31 May. We send all their families and friends our love, sympathy and prayers.

Pennymoor Congregational Church
 Sunday services 4.30pm – 5.30pm followed by tea.

LOXBEBARE

Our Mothering Sunday Service was held in the Village Hall and was taken by Linda. It was a lovely Service and the children participated and also distributed the flowers. It was preceded by a full English Breakfast cooked by the men. Thank you to all who helped.

Palm Sunday Service was taken by Steph, Jean & Carol. There was a procession around Loxbeare House & back to the Church following a pony, kindly provided by Bob Weatherley, to represent the donkey Jesus rode on into Jerusalem and by throwing coats for the pony to walk on. Many thanks to Andrew & Donna.

On Good Friday, John led the Meditation Service remembering Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for us all. Our Easter Sunday Service was also taken by John with Family Communion celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hallelujah! He is risen. Thank you to all who decorated the Church so beautifully.

On 5 May we welcomed Washfield & Calverleigh, joining us for the Cluster Service with Holy Communion. It was lovely to see so many. The Service was taken by Rev. Jane Wilson.

The Woman's Bible Study continue to meet fortnightly at Jean's, Barton View. Details on middle pages or contact Marion on 01884 256302.

There will be a PCC meeting on 2 July in the Village Hall. BBQ Service this year will be in the Hall on 14 July. The BBQ will be at 12.30pm followed by the Service.

We were sad to hear that Mrs Hilda Forward has passed away. Hilda lived in Loxbeare for most of her life, moving to Tiverton on retirement. With Wilfred her husband, they ran the Royal Oak Cash & Carry at Gibbet. They did tremendous work with the children in the area, ferrying many every Sunday to Loxbeare Gospel Hall for Sunday School & teaching them about the Bible & Christian faith for many years. She was a wonderful organist and piano player, using her talents in Church and later years Senior Citizens. She will be remembered with such fondness and it was a great tribute to her that so many attended her funeral at Calverleigh.

We also send our thoughts & prayers to Mike Allso's family & friends. Mike passed away in April after a long illness. He and his family lived at East Sidborough many years ago after Dave Arney (whose death was reported in the last magazine) and family moved away.

Mike was involved in Church and Village life, and later was ordained in the Church of England.

continued on Page 12 →

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SEE 30 JUNE PAGE 11

Everyone welcome

Tiverton Street Pastors are in their 9th year of providing assistance to the night economy of our town. They have 29 Street Pastors, 19 Prayer Pastors and 6 Home Prayers. They go out every Saturday from 10pm to around 3.30am - as well as for special events.

Come and hear about the work of this inter-denominational charity in our town, run by Christians in local Churches like ours !

PRAYER BREAKFASTS

Come and meet to pray over a croissant and coffee on 29 June and 27 July at 9am in The Rectory, Witleigh



Everyone is welcome !

EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We meet on alternate WEDNESDAYS, at Barton View, Loxbeare, EX16 9RH from 2.00-4.00 p.m.

This Spring/Summer term, with the help of the Good Book Guide, "Hosea - God's love song" we shall be looking at the Old Testament book of Hosea, a prophet who gave God's message to His people 750 years before Christ; his message still speaks to us today of God's amazing love for His people. The early weeks of this Course will have gone but the details are here for home study.

February 27 "Unfaithful"
Hosea 1 v. 1 - 2 v.1

May 1 "Reap the wild wind"
Hosea 8 - 9

March 13 "If you leave me now"
Hosea 2 v.2 - 3 v.5

May 15 "Never going to give you up"
Hosea 11

March 27 "D.I.V.O.R.C.E."
Hosea 4 - 5

June 12 "History repeating"
Hosea 12 - 13

April 10 "Sorry seems to be the hardest word"
Hosea 6 - 7

June 26 "Return to me"
Hosea 14

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

BEACON EVENT PENTECOST SUNDAY 9 JUNE 6.30pm

On Pentecost Sunday, Exeter Cathedral will be hosting our Diocesan Beacon Celebration and Prayer Event. It will be an amazing gathering of hundreds of people, of all ages, from across Devon - and we are all invited to be part of it.

2 JUNE Easter 7

CALVERLEIGH
See Washfield

CRUWYS MORCHARD
11 am Morning Prayer

LOXBEARE
See Washfield

OAKFORD
6.30 pm Evening Praise

RACKENFORD
9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH
11 am Morning Prayer

TEMPLETON
11 am Family Service

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

WITHLEIGH
10.30 am Informal Service
in Vestry

9 JUNE

Pentecost

GROUP SERVICE

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

with

Holy Communion

ALL PARISHES

10.30am

at

WITHLEIGH

16 JUNE Trinity Sunday

CALVERLEIGH
11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD
See Witleigh

LOXBEARE
11.15 am Family Service

OAKFORD
10 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD
9.30 am Morning Praise
with Steph

STOODLEIGH
11 am Morning Prayer

TEMPLETON
See Witleigh

WASHFIELD
11.15 am Songs of Praise

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

23 JUNE Trinity 1

CALVERLEIGH
10 am Informal Get-together

CRUWYS MORCHARD
9.30 am Family Service

LOXBEARE
6.30 pm Evening Praise

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

RACKENFORD
See Oakford

STOODLEIGH
See Oakford *and*
6.30 pm Songs of Praise
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

TEMPLETON
11 am Morning Service

WASHFIELD
11.15 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH
10.30 am Morning Worship

30 JUNE Trinity 2

GROUP SERVICE
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

ALL PARISHES

10.30am

**at CRUWYS
MORCHARD**

**with Tiverton Street
Pastors**

CALVERLEIGH
Open Air Service
3pm
with Steph

7 JULY Trinity 3

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

CRUWYS MORCHARD
9.30 am Morning Prayer

LOXBEARE
See Calverleigh

OAKFORD
6.30 pm Songs of Praise
with Refreshments

RACKENFORD
9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH
11 am Morning Prayer

TEMPLETON
11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD
See Calverleigh

WITHLEIGH
.30 am Family Service
with Steph

14 JULY Trinity 4

CALVERLEIGH
9.30 am Morning Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD
11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE
12.30 pm Barbecue Service

OAKFORD
See Rackenford

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

STOODLEIGH
See Rackenford

TEMPLETON
No Service

WASHFIELD
9.30 am Family Service
with Baptism

Steph Gordon-Jeffs

WITHLEIGH
10.30 am Morning Worship

21 JULY Trinity 5

CALVERLEIGH
11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD
See Templeton

LOXBEARE
11.15 am Family Service

OAKFORD
10 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD
9.30 am Morning Praise

STOODLEIGH
6.30 pm Evensong

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

WASHFIELD
6.30 pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH
See Templeton

28 JULY Trinity 6

GROUP SERVICE
Steph Gordon-Jeffs

ALL PARISHES

10.30am

at

LOXBEARE

PARISH ROUND-UP

OAKFORD

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob Weatherley, Derek McManus, Leslie Tidball, Liz Barrow, Malcolm Jowitt of Great Haydon and all who are feeling unwell at this time.

A belated welcome to Rob and Frankie Easterbrooke who have moved into The Orchard. We hope you will soon settle in and feel at home in Loxbeare.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in June/July and congratulations to those celebrating special occasions.

Congratulations & best wishes to Antonia Heard and Ben Guscott on their forthcoming Wedding on 15 June. May you have a lovely day and a long, happy life together.

Congratulations also to Scott and Pippa, Daws Cottage, on their engagement, over Easter.

Congratulations also to Richard and Kate Holland on the birth of their son Brandon on 12 March. Best wishes to you all on your happy and special events.

Loxbeare Ladies Dates:

Contact Sue on 01884 259496 for dates & activities – usually the first Monday in the month.

There will be a **Cream Tea on 8 June and 13 July** in the Village Hall between 3-5pm.

Loxbeare Social Night Dates:

29 June there will be a walk followed by a picnic with hot dogs. Starting 7pm at the Village Hall.

20 July to be arranged. Contact Carol on 01884 881480.

On 27 March St Peter's resounded with the voices of family and friends of Dick Spurway at his Funeral Service. The Rev'd Steph Gordon-Jeffs officiated. Dick's grandson's shared the eulogy, recounting their memories of a much loved and respected grandfather who had experienced many adventures and seen the world change in so many ways during his long life. Dick will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The Mothering Sunday and Easter Day Services were enjoyed by all those who attended. Thanks to the members of the Church who provided catering on these occasions and the ladies who decorated the Church so beautifully for Easter.

Everyone is invited to Songs of Praise at St Peter's Oakford on Sunday 7 July at 6.30pm. Come along for a Service of poems, prose and popular songs followed by Pimms and canapés.

Warm wishes are sent to Mrs Lorraine Stevens who is recovering well, following major heart surgery and a long stay in hospital in Bristol. Our thoughts and prayers are for all who are feeling unwell and for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

The Bell Tower Fund-raising Appeal

Do you want to be a Racing Driver? Well here is your chance. Sign up and enter 'The Oakford Soap Box Derby' on Saturday 3 August at 2.30pm. A great fun day with drinks, entertainment and BBQ at the Village Hall. For more details and entry forms contact Andy Burton 01398 351436 or Dawn Williams 01398 324035.

All proceeds to St Peter's Church Tower Fund.

'Royal Oakford Race Night' at the Village Hall on Saturday 29 June. Doors open 7pm with the first race at 7.30pm. Prize for Best Ladies Hat, complimentary canapés and a glass of Fizz. Licensed Bar. Tickets £10.00. A fun evening for all ages. Come and try your luck on the Tote! Proceeds to Oakford Village Hall Funds. Contact Dawn Williams 01398 324035.

The Moorland Club

Wednesday 12 June – Visit to Cothay Manor & Gardens near to Wellington. Meet at 12.30pm at the Village Hall to car share. Cost - £11.50 to include guided tour of the Manor and garden entry. Teas available to buy. Contact Jenny Benians 01398 351 345 if you haven't already booked.

Thursday 11 July – **BBQ at The Coach House, Oakford** by kind permission of Tony and Tracey Holmes. Starts at 6pm. Bring your own crockery and cutlery, a folding chair and something to drink. More details from Jennie Chappell 01398 351666.

Oakford Flower & Produce Show

Schedules and entry forms for this year's show are now available from Brenda Burrows, 3 Manor Cottages, Oakford and Patsy Phillips, Chapel Cottage, Oakford or Chris Holdom, 3 Ashleigh Park, Bampton (332039).

Please note this year's show is on **Saturday 14 September**. Entries to the secretary by 12 September at the latest. It's great fun if you enter and you never know, you may get a coveted 1st prize card or even a cup! In any case, come along and see the show between 2-4pm and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea.

Oakford Village Fête

This year the annual Oakford Fête is on Saturday 8 June from 2-5pm on the

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Oakford Playground as usual. Lots of games and activities to engage visitors plus a demonstration of Indian Dancing from 'Avatar' and ... your chance to dance along too! With a beer tent, BBQ, teas & cakes to keep you going, what's not to enjoy? Free entry and car parking. It's only a week away so see you there!

And finally, it has been a truly amazing Spring with early flowers and abundant blossom (sympathies with hay fever sufferers!) but now summer is here. There's lots to enjoy locally in the next month or two including the annual opening of Hutswell Farm Garden, Oakford on Sunday 23 June, 1.30-5pm in aid of the National Gardens Scheme. Follow the yellow signs and wander around a constantly evolving garden with the bonus of afternoon tea.

Whatever you are doing this Summer don't forget there's always a welcome at St Peter's Church. Why not choose some holiday reading from the small lending library at the back of the Church.

RACKENFORD

This message is from Bob Coleman.

The Coleman family would like to convey to friends in the village how much their kind messages and attendance at Beryl's funeral has comforted them all. Rackenford holds so many wonderful memories and will always hold a very special place in our hearts. Thank you from Bob, Michelle and Suzanne.

Our thoughts are with Sara and Mike at Acres Wild on the death of Sara's father. Calverleigh Church was full for Hilda Forward's funeral, who died on 21 March. Memories for some, will include her

serving us so well, along with her beloved late husband Wilfred, at Tapp and Forward Store. Fitting tributes were for a lady who always looked on the bright side of life, always willing to help anyone and led a full Christian life, to a great age. Our deepest sympathy to her family and Jackie.

Our Mother's Day Service was a time to reflect on our appreciation and love for our mothers or mother figures including remembering the ones no longer with us. Posies were distributed as a thank you, along with our own personal memories and thoughts.

A wide variety of arrangements greeted us as we entered the door of our Church to enjoy the Gardening Club Spring show on 6 April, delicious refreshments were available while we viewed the talents of those who contributed.

Steph guided us through a short Service during Holy Week for Easter Reflections and Meditation on 15 April. It was a pleasure to welcome friends from other Parishes.

Easter Sunday, our Family Communion was taken by Steph. So good to have a larger than normal congregation to share in this joyful time together, to reflect and look forward.

Our Common continues to be monitored for future work, it's a pleasure to view the progress being made. Also many thanks to our young boys seen cutting grass near the Trinity Well. We really appreciate your help in keeping our village tidier for us all to enjoy.

It may be of interest to know our Church organ was installed by Bevington of London in September 1870 and in 2016 was fully restored by Andrew Fearn. The work was supported by a grant from

Rackenford Community Shop and Private Donations.

Important to mention. Our heating system is currently not working so please wrap up well when you attend and bring a blanket if you wish. Why not ?

Rackenford PCC would like to make a small recipe and 'top-tip' book, that can be sold in aid of Church funds. We are in urgent need of funds for a new boiler for a replacement heating system. Consideration is being given to the possibility of toilet facilities and maybe an on-site kitchen. These additions would also widen the potential for our Church to be used much more as a community hub and for other village and school activities. Please supply your favourite recipes, tips, short poems and reflections etc to Fi Maddocks. You can email Fi on fammaddocks@gmail.com or put pen to paper and pop your great ideas through her letter box at Noby's Cottage, opposite the school.

A Bumps, Babes and Toddler group is a new initiative between Little Angel's Nursery and Rackenford School on Thursdays in school between 9am and 11am and is proving to be very popular. Just go to reception and sign in.

Our love and prayers to all who are not well, had operations or generally feeling a bit down, especially thinking of those we know about Pearl Stone, Philippa Fraser, Paula Hallet, Brian Peace and Jacque Cann.

Some dates for you.

Church Bingos will be on 13 June and 11 July at 7.30pm at The Stag Hall.

Church Cream Teas and Strawberries on Saturday 6 July, 3pm at Rackenford Manor. Gardening Club Autumn Show on 24 August from 2.30pm at West Backstone, refreshments available.

continued overleaf →

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PARISH ROUND-UP

STOODLEIGH

The Auction of Promises on 23 March was brilliantly successful and raised £2,240 for St Margaret's Church and Parish Hall funds. Thanks go to the community who contributed the Promises – your great ideas and wonderful variety of offers were much appreciated. Thanks also to those who came along to the Auction, filled the Parish Hall with laughter and bid so generously for the huge array of Lots on offer. A special thanks to Peter Broadbent and Roger Hill, our auctioneers, who kept us entertained throughout the evening and encouraged the bids, many of which came from the younger generation. Thanks too to everyone who contributed their promises and to those who bid so generously.

On Easter morning, we were delighted to welcome Ian Johnson from Tiverton to take our Communion Service. The Church looked magnificent and the flower arrangers put on a splendid show.

The Church will hold a Festival of Flowers and Music at the weekend of 21 – 23 June. Already a collection of instruments has been offered for display which will complement the flower arrangements. There was to have been a Concert by the Barle Singers, under the baton of Steven Pugsley, on Friday 21 June in the Church but this has been postponed to 28 July, with the date still to be confirmed. The Festival will conclude with Songs of Praise on Sunday 23 June at 6.30pm. The Church will be open throughout the Festival from 10.30am to 4.30pm each day and light refreshments will be available.

Prayers and best wishes go to our villagers who are unwell or injured at this time and we sincerely hope that they will feel better soon.

The wonderful sunshine for our Easter Market and Coffee Morning on 20 April brought the community out to the Parish Hall, where local businesses, craftspeople and stallholders showcased their goods for sale. An Easter egg extravaganza raffle, egg rolling competition and delicious refreshments added to a sociable village occasion. Thanks to all who supported this event where £360 was raised for Parish Hall funds.

The annual Village Fun Day will take place on the cricket field on Saturday 8 June starting at 3pm. This event is entirely free and is supported by SWAG. Janet Russell (351401) and Sheila Davis (351756) are the organisers and they would be delighted to hear from anyone who could volunteer to help with setting up in the morning, baking a cake or helping with the races in the afternoon. There will be cakes, cream teas and competitions for all ages and a great chance for villagers to meet together. Please contact Janet or Sheila for more details.

Stoodleigh welcomes Viv Menear and Trevor Crowland who have moved in to Church Cottage and to the families who have recently moved into the Cowhaus and Dutch Barn at Aldridge Mill and West Close in Stoodleigh. We hope they will be happy in their new homes.

Congratulations go to Gabbie and Jake Chant at Dryhill Farm on the birth of Jesse Andrew in March.

Stoodleigh Working Action Group (SWAG) have organised several interesting outings for the next two months. On Thursday 6 June there will be a visit to the Starpoint Lighthouse with an outside and inside tour of the lighthouse, followed by a coastal walk to Mattiscombe Sands and lunch at the Cricket Inn at Beesands. If time permits

you can visit Hallsands, a village in ruins since 1917. Parking £3.50 per car. Tour £5.00 per head. Meet at the Parish Hall at 9am to arrange transport. Please let Pat Robinson (351460) or Margaret Cuninghame (351252) know by 31 May if you would like to come.

Thursday 4 July: Exmoor Jaunt. We will be exploring some back roads of Exmoor, taking in Wheddon Cross, Porlock, Oare, Malsmead and have a picnic lunch. There is an optional 1.5 hour guided farm tractor tour at £10 per person organised by Ruby Red Devon Beef and Exmoor Ewes (the meat is farmed, butchered and available for sale). The day ends with a cream tea at the Valley of Rocks. Please meet at the Parish Hall at 10am and let Pat or Margaret know if you would like to come.

Thursday 18 July is SWAG's annual trip to the Turf Inn, Topsham. Meet in Topsham for coffee ready for the boat trip leaving at 11.30am. Please let Margaret know by 11 July if you would like to join this trip.

Valerie Drew would like to thank everyone for making her birthday so special and for the Donations, which came to £510, for the Beacon Centre at Musgrove Hospital.





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PARISH ROUND-UP

The annual **Stoodleigh Family Dog Show** takes place on Saturday 10 August in the paddock at Orchard View, by kind permission of Pat and Fred Robinson. In addition to the Dog Show there will be cream teas, a Pimm's tent, cakes, tombola, competitions, a raffle and much more. The Show Classes and full details will be available on the Stoodleigh website soon. Volunteers for this event are always welcome so please let Geraldine Talbot (351391) know if you would like to be involved. This is a joint event to raise funds for St Margaret's Church and the Parish Hall.

Flower Rota

2/9/16 June Yvonne Lang
21/28 June Festival Flowers
7 July Phyllis Hill
3/21 July Betty Wotton
28 Jul/4 Aug Mandy Widdowson

Stoodleigh 100 Club to congratulate the winners:

March - 1st prize Carol Radford, 2nd Penny Norman, 3rd Lesley Ayre, 4th Jennifer Ayre
April - 1st prize Jeannie Morrissey; 2nd Margaret Cuninghame 3rd Betty Wotton, 4th Linda Brice, 5th Alistair Morison

This was an opportunity to review and reflect on all that had been achieved over the year within the Parish and in the Exe Valley Community as well. Steph discussed the successful introduction of the Cluster and Group Services across the nine Parishes and thanked everyone for their support and encouragement throughout the year. PCC officers were elected, and Reg Coffin and William Withers were elected as Churchwardens. They will be officially admitted to their office by the Archdeacon at the annual Visitation Service at St Andrew's Church on 15 May. The other PCC members are Martin Strong, Lynda Newnes, Sarah Coffin and Bindy Linden.

More work is needed on the Church Fabric and the tower at St Margaret's over the next few months. Regular Church Services continue twice monthly so do come and join a service – if you have a young family, there will be books and colouring for them during the service.

The Village Hall and Social Club held their Annual General Meeting on 24 April, electing officers, discussing past events and planning future events for our village (some of these are mentioned below). If you have any suggestions or ideas for the hall or any village activities, please get in touch with Reg – Chairman of Templeton Village Hall Committee (860246) or Teresa – Chairman of Templeton Social Club Committee (255030).

The Exe Valley Rotary Club held their annual Templeton Trail on Sunday 8 April, in aid of Marie Curie. There was an enthusiastic turnout for the day, despite the cold weather, and a great time was had by all for this most worthy cause. The event was well organised as always and refreshments were provided by Templeton Village Hall for all the runners and marshals. Thank you to all those who supported this event.

Future Templeton Activities

Saturday 25 May Scrap Metal Challenge at Templeton Village Hall! Calling all old car batteries, old pans, old washing machines, old caravans etc! (no barbed wire or fencing please). Call Julie 233507, Cathy 256098, Matthew 861207, Bindy 860655, or Reg 860246. Tractors and trailers will be out and about on Friday and Saturday to help with scrap collection, or you can deliver on Saturday morning! Bacon baps, tea and coffee available from 8.30 am to 12 noon. All proceeds to support Templeton Village Funds.

Thursday 6 June at 7.00pm for 7.30pm at St Paul's Church, Tiverton and Cullompton Deanery Synod Meeting. The Rev'd Simon Talbot, the Rural Dean, will lead the meeting with the title 'Thy Kingdom Come' - as a time of prayer where we can pray for the life of our community. 'Thy Kingdom Come' is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray during the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost (30 May – 9 June).

Saturday 8 June at 10am. Clay Pigeon Shoot at Town Farm, Templeton
Come and take part, watch or just enjoy the refreshments at Templeton Clay Pigeon Shoot! Entry is £10 for 50 clays, Teams of 4 or individuals are welcome. Prizes to be won! There will be great food, teas and coffees.

For more information contact: William (250513) or Reg (860246)

All proceeds to St Margaret's Church, Templeton

Saturday 6 July is Race Night!

This is a fun way to raise money and works in the same way as a visit to the races; the only difference is that the races are at Templeton Village Hall! Race Night consists of eight races with eight

continued overleaf ➔

TEMPLETON

St Margaret's Church looked beautiful for our Easter Sunday Service. Many thanks to all those who contributed flowers for every window. Thank you too, Gloria and Ron, for making sure that the Church is always warm and welcoming for all our Services and for having refreshments ready afterwards.

Templeton's Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 4 April at St Margaret's Church.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

horses per race. The race goes place bets on their chosen horse/jockey and receive tickets. The races are projected onto a big screen. More details to be confirmed but put the date in your diary. Proceeds to Templeton Village Funds.

On Saturday 10 August it's Templeton's Annual Fete! Plenty of fun, food, drink and entertainment for all the family. Planned events include face painting, archery, Grand Auction and Auction of Pledges, bouncy castle and so much more! Start collecting the books you've read, DVDs, unwanted gifts, clothes, or bric-a-brac etc. if you'd like anything collected please call 860655.

Other events planned this year include a Quiz Night (September/October - to be confirmed), **Harvest Supper** combined with a Musical Evening (Saturday October 5th), Bonfire Night (Saturday 2nd November) and a Christmas Event (date to be confirmed).

Our thoughts and best wishes are with those who are unwell, receiving treatment, waiting for, or recovering from, surgery.

St Margaret's Church Flowers and Cleaning Rota

Ginah Palmer 26 May/2 June
 Bindy Linden 9/16 June
 Gloria Woollacott 23/30 June
 Teresa Pancherz 7/14 July
 Gill Rose 21/28 July

WASHFIELD

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
 the song of the bird for mirth
 One is nearer to God in a garden,
 than anywhere else on earth

Eastertide in Washfield brought many families together for this special Festival. We welcomed the The Rev. Ken Blyth and his family back to take our Service and the Church was full of people, and of beautiful flowers. Decorated eggs filled the Church porch on Saturday with many original and artistic entries. Oliver Tobey ably hosted the event and there was keen competition for the egg rolling, cheered on by a large crowd of spectators. Well deserved

refreshments were served in the Hall, with plant and produce stalls all organized by the Arnold family and helpers. The splendid total of £330 was raised for church funds.

We send our deepest sympathy to Joy Smith and family at the loss of Frank, whose funeral, which was led by the Rev. Keith Gale, took place on 30 April. A full Church heard many wonderful tributes to Frank from family and friends. Frank was a remarkable person of many talents and interests. His wood-carvings in the Church are a worthy memorial to him for all to see and his water-colour paintings are famous. He was awarded the MBE for his long faithful service in the RAF. He and Joy were Churchwardens of St.Mary's for thirteen years and oversaw major improvements to the church. Frank will be missed very much by his family and many friends.

We say goodbye soon to Steve and Janet Dickman who are moving to be nearer their family. We thank them for their involvement in the Church, both as lay-leaders and as members of House-Groups. They will be missed very much and we wish them a very happy new life in Herefordshire. We welcome the new people moving in, and hope that they will be very happy in Washfield.

Please come if you can to a **Fete planning meeting in the Church on 10**

June at 6pm. We need new games etc. for children. If you are unable to come to the meeting please send ideas! (**Church Fete - July 6th at 2.30pm**)

Prayers and kind wishes go to anyone who is unwell at this time and we hope that you will soon feel better.

We were sad to hear that Margaret and Joe Elston had to postpone their 65th Wedding Anniversary celebrations due to ill health. We hope that soon you can revisit your plans to celebrate this momentous achievement.

To those with special birthdays or events we send all good wishes.

It is great to see Adam Cotter back in the village again after eight months working in New Zealand. Hope you are settling back in to village life again, Adam.

We hope all the children taking part in the Exmoor Challenge or Ten Tors events have achieved what they set out to do (and are free of blisters now!)

Despite the cool weather, the Party on the Green on Bank Holiday Monday to celebrate May Day was a great success with more than 60 people, including lots of children, enjoying the music, Maypole Dancing, fun and games. The tea, cakes, barbecue and beer went down well. Many thanks to all involved.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 8 June Car Treasure Hunt and Cream Teas from 4.00 pm at the Hall
 Tuesday 11 June teatime@thehall from 3pm All welcome for a get-together for tea and cake
 Thursday 13 June W.I. Open evening with a talk 'Memories of Washfield' by Ruby Tristram, who grew up in the village 7.30pm in hall. ALL WELCOME

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PARISH ROUND-UP

Thursday 20 June Lunch Club 12 for 12.30 lunch

Saturday 6 July Church Fete 2.30pm with all usual stalls, sideshows, games and a scrummy tea. Judging of

Hanging Basket competition

Tuesday 9 July teatime@thehall from 3pm. Come and socialise over tea and cake

Thursday 11 July W.I. in hall from 7.30pm. Member's evening

Saturday 13 July Tractorfest around the village. Look out for further details

Thursday 25 July Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30 lunch

Church Altar Flowers Rota

June 2/9 Mrs Smith
June 16/23 Mrs Tobey
June 30/July 7 Mrs Harding
July 14/21 Linda Carey
July 28/August 4 Rachel Lampard

Church Cleaning Rota

June 3/10 Mrs French
June 17/24 Mr & Mrs Walton
July 1/8 Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
July 15/22 Mrs Albery
July 29/August 5 Mr & Mrs Ellis

prayer held a red rose as a symbol of love and affection. Pots of daffodils were presented to the ladies; our thanks to Christine for organising these flowers. Refreshments followed the Service, including sharing a Simnel Cake.

Our Spring Community Lunch was really well supported, with diners sitting down to a Roast Turkey meal, with a Vegetarian Lasagne option, all served with Roast Potatoes and four vegetables. A choice of home-made desserts followed, with tea and coffee to wash it all down. Many thanks to those who laid out the tables, prepared veggies, cooked the main meal and/or supplied the desserts. A profit of £177 went to the Village Hall funds.

This year's Easter Beetle Drive was held on Saturday 13 April. A great family event, which was enjoyed by all those who played. The lucky winners of each complete Beetle, took home a small boxed Easter Egg. Well done to Daphne for gaining the highest number of overall points and winning the large Easter Egg! I hope nobody ate their egg before Easter!

Since Holy Week is never observed by most people, our Palm Sunday service focussed on the last week of Jesus' earthly life, with readings and visual aids to represent the various events which took place. Beginning with six candles alight, one was extinguished 'each day' of Holy Week, with the last extinguished on Good Friday. A single large candle was finally lit representing the light which cannot be extinguished, anticipating Easter Day.

An encouraging number attended the Informal Service in the Village Hall on Good Friday – hymns, readings and reflections. The Service being preceded by tea / coffee and hot-cross buns.

Our Easter morning Holy Communion, led by Steph, was again well attended. This year, it had been decided to have just the one Service, rather than two with breakfast in between, but refreshments were served at the end.

Our PCC dinner has been renamed "Friends of Withleigh Church dinner", which better reflects that it is open to all Church members and family. For the second year, this was held at the Tiverton Golf Club, on the evening of 26 April. An enjoyable time was had by all, and our thanks to Sara for, once again, making the necessary arrangements.

Our Patronal Service on 5 May was well attended, and the theme of the Service was that, as believers, we are all saints. Refreshments served afterwards in the vestry included some delicious shortbread and chocolate 'Catherine wheels'. Thank you, Brenda.

On Pentecost Sunday, 9 June, St Catherine's will be hosting the Group Service, beginning at 10.30am.

This year's Summer Fête will be on **Saturday 20 July** and, for several reasons, will take place in the Village Hall and car park. There will be the usual stalls, side-shows and refreshments. All offers of help, especially in the setting-up and clearing away will be gratefully received.

A further planning meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 June, 7.30pm at Topfield. Please come along and support the Fête, which is a social, as well as fund-raising event.

Yoga classes are now being held in the Village Hall every Tuesday evening from 7pm until 8.30pm. All welcome. Contact pat_bell@hotmail.co.uk, or phone 01884 253229

continued overleaf →

WITHLEIGH

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place on 28 March, chaired by Steph. Brenda and Paul were re-elected as Churchwardens, and thanks were expressed to all those who play a part in the life of St Catherine's and care of the building.

Our Mothering Sunday Service was well attended, the triple theme being Mother Church – nurture, care and education. Mother Mary – for bringing our saviour Jesus to birth, and our own mothers for giving us life. Each person who read a

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PARISH ROUND-UP

The Garden & Produce Show schedules will be attached to the front of this magazine for all Withleigh residents. If yours is not attached, or you would like any further information, please call Brenda 01884 252431.

The show is on **Saturday 17 August** in the Village Hall. All entries to be staged by 5.30pm, when judging will begin. The doors open at 7.30pm, everyone is welcome to come and see the exhibits and the prize winners.

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

Thursday 13 June, Julian Sydnam and Andrea Watton speaking on the work of the Street Pastors, in the Village Hall

Thursday 11 July, Helen Mackintosh speaking on the Talking Newspaper for the Visibly Impaired, in the Village Hall
Thursday 8 August, A Trip on the Grand Western Canal.

We send our sympathy to Julian, Sharon, Mayla and Kata Lee on the death of Julian's father. Our love and thoughts are with you all.

We are sorry to learn of the death of Ellen Rogers who died recently at The Firs, Witheridge after living many years in Withleigh. She was a member of Withleigh Women's Institute and supported village events before ill health prevailed.

Congratulations to all those celebrating special birthdays or anniversaries.

Get well wishes go to all those known to us who are receiving treatment, recovering from operations, or who are not well at the moment. Our prayers and love are with you all.

Garden produce exchange – when your beans run rampant and your courgettes fail!

Exchange your excess garden produce for someone else's. If you have nothing to exchange, then please leave a donation in the honesty box. Last year's donations

were for St Catherine's Church, Withleigh. This year's donations will be in aid of Unite Carers, Tiverton. The Market Garden Stand will be at The Old Post Office Cottage, Withleigh.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunday 9 June – Group Pentecost Service in Church at 10.30am.
Thursday 13 June - WI in the hall at 7.15pm.
Thursday 11 July - WI in the hall at 7.15pm.

Flower Rota:

May 26 / June 2 - Linda Taylor
June 9 / 16 - Rosie Edmonston-Low
July 7 / 14 - Val Kingston
July 21 / 28 - Susie Wade
August 4 - Daphne Chown

Weekly Events;

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

Monthly Diary Dates:

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

Thoughts for Everyday

by Patience Strong ~
for 21 June

We'd like to bid this moment stay -
With meadows green and gardens gay.
Roses bloom at sill and door.
Midsummer Day is here once more.
The beauty of the Spring has fled
And Autumn's glory lies ahead.
How lovely is the golden time -
When the year is at its prime.

Thoughts for Everyday

by Patience Strong ~
for 22 July

Seek your happiness in things
On which you depend.
Nature offers to her children
Pleasures without end.
Rosy dawns and golden sunsets
Fields and forest bowers,
Hills and mountains, streams and meadows,
Gardens, birds and flowers.

Read the **TODAY** magazine, in colour, on-line at
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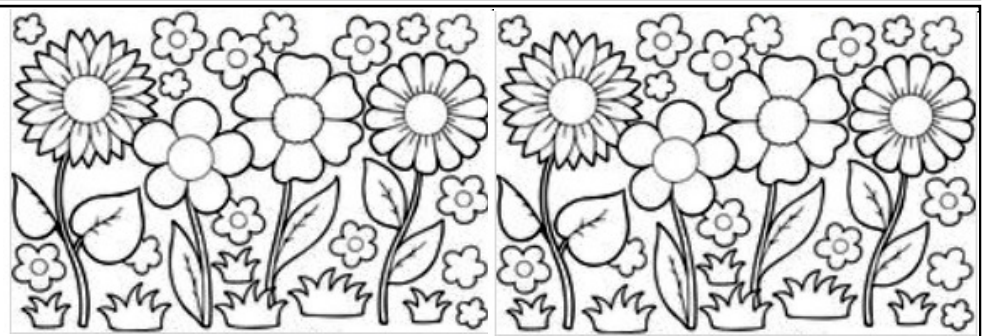
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Home Group meets on alternate Wednesday evenings at East Sidborough Loxbeare at 7.30pm.

We meet fortnightly until 3 July; our next meeting is 22 May. These informal evenings will include a video, followed by chat around the evening's subject over a cup of tea/coffee. We will be looking at the Bible from a different angle from that which we took in the Bible Course, more on themes within the Bible story, than along the "Time Line" approach, which so many of us enjoyed with the Bible Course.

As always, we would stress that there is no pressure for you to say anything or to pray – just come and enjoy the video and listen to others, if that is more your scene. We would love to welcome you on these evenings – if you have never been to anything like this before please come and have a taste, you would be very welcome!



St Margaret's Church, Stoodleigh Festival of Flowers and Music

21-23 June 2019

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Sunday 23 June 6.30pm

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