



# TODAY

The Parish  
Magazine  
for the  
Exe Valley  
Mission  
Community

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2024

Price £1.00

## A TIME AND A SEASON

I have been out of teaching for several years now. I know this because my body clock no longer responds automatically to the rhythm of the school year. Just as well really!

I used to get 9 weeks summer holiday! Nine weeks! However, it was all excitement at my house yesterday, when a large parcel arrived full of school uniform. The youngest two grandchildren (not the babies!) were thrilled. They couldn't wait to try things on! Even the dog had a go!

My grandson (just about to start school for the first time) was introduced to 'The Wearing of School Uniform' by his young cousin, who, having been to school for a whole year, is an expert! Grey shorts, grey socks, grey tights. He was slightly flummoxed about the grey tights and why there were no grey pants. Everyone laughed at the idea! Whereas I was thinking about those large navy-blue knickers and found myself not laughing at all!

Life is about continued changes and new seasons. Hopefully we greet them with a sense of excitement and adventure.

But it's not always like that and we pray for people on the cusp of unwelcome change. We pray for our children and young people as they start another school year, and I am praying particularly for Tiverton High School, that it will get the funding it needs to improve its buildings.



Claire completed her curacy training at the end of July and was duly signed off! Congratulations Claire! This means that Claire's time with us has ended. We are extremely grateful for all that Claire has done during her training with us. Claire is

taking time off to discern her future ministry, and we will have the opportunity to mark her time with us after she has done this.

As you know, Steve is also retiring, and will finish work with us at the end of September. He has been with us for the past 8 years and has been a faithful worker and I am so grateful to him.

I am taking half a sabbatical during October and November. Dawn has miraculously managed to find clergy cover for all the Sundays I am away. Hopefully, this time will give me the opportunity to pause, pray and seek God's guidance for the future.

As the writer of Ecclesiastes says: For everything there is a season, and a time for every activity under heaven.

It is so comforting to know that our times and seasons are in God's hands.

*With my love and prayers*  
*Steph*

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## PARISH DIARY

## SEPTEMBER

- 3 Templeton Art Group - Village Hall - 10am
- 4 St Peter's Oakford Coffee and Chat 10am
- 5 St Peter's Oakford - Exe Valley Mission Community Choir practice - 7.30pm
- 5 Withleigh Bingo - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 7 Calverleigh Monthly Prayer Time - 9-11.00am
- 7/8 Loxbeare Prayer Weekend
- 8 Templeton Duck Race - 2.00pm
- 9 Withleigh Harvest Supper and Auction 7.30pm
- 10 Cruwys Morchard Social Evening inc Quiz - Village Hall 6-10pm
- 11 Rackenford Sponsored Walk
- 11 Templeton Book Club - 3.00pm
- 12 Oakford Moorland Ladies - Sweet making demonstration - 7.30pm
- 12 All Saints Rackenford - Choir practice - 7.30pm
- 12 Exe Valley Lunch - Oakford Village Hall - 12.30-2.30pm
- 14 Loxbeare Ploughman's Lunch - Village Hall 12.30pm
- 14 Calverleigh Bring and Share Harvest Supper - Village Hall
- 15 Oakford Harvest Supper - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 17 Templeton Art Group - Village Hall - 10am
- 19 St Peter's Oakford - Choir practice - 7.30pm
- 20 Oakford Virtual Race Night - Village Hall - 7.00pm
- 22 Red Lion Oakford Quiz 8pm
- 23 Bible Study - Myrtle Cottage Oakford - 2.30pm
- 24 Cruwys Morchard Social Evening inc Quiz - Village Hall 6-10pm
- 28 Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory 9am
- 27 Templeton Knit and Natter - St Margaret's Church - 10.30am
- 29 Group Harvest Festival with choir - Loxbeare - 10.45am
- 30 Calverleigh - Deanery Synod meeting with Farming Crisis Network Talk - 7.30pm

## OCTOBER

- 1 Templeton Art Group - Village Hall - 10.00am
- 1 Loxbeare Harvest Supper - Village Hall - 7.00pm
- 2 St Peter's Oakford Coffee and chat - 10.00am
- 3 Withleigh Bingo Eyes down 7.30pm
- 5 Templeton Harvest Supper - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 4 Cruwys Morchard - Beer & Boogie - Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 5 Calverleigh Monthly Prayer Time - 9-11.00am
- 5/6 Loxbeare Prayer Weekend
- 7 St Peter's Oakford Coffee and Chat 10am
- 9 Templeton Book Club - 3.00pm
- 12 Withleigh Big Breakfast - Village Hall - 9.30-11.30am
- 12 Loxbeare Cream Teas - 3.00pm
- 12 Exe Valley Lunch - Oakford Village Hall - 12.30pm
- 14 Cruwys Morchard Social Evening inc Quiz - Village Hall 6-10pm
- 15 Templeton Art Group - Village Hall - 10am
- 16 Rackenford Harvest Supper - Rackenford Club - 7.00pm
- 19 Loxbeare Blythwood Shoe Box Coffee Morning - Barton View- 10.30am
- 19 Oakford Moorland Autumn Fayre - Village Hall - 11am-2.00pm
- 20 Red Lion Oakford Quiz 8pm
- 25 Templeton Knit and Natter - St Margaret's Church - 10.30am
- 26 Cruwys Morchard Bingo - Village Hall - 7.00pm
- 26 Stoodleigh Autumn Market
- 28 Cruwys Morchard Social Evening inc Quiz - Village Hall 6-10pm
- 29 Withleigh Community Lunch - Village Hall - 12.30pm

## WHAT'S ON ....

### NATURE NOTES

#### "Swifties"

**B**y the time that you read these notes

our swifts will be back in central Africa and Taylor Swift's Eras Tour will have ended. Did you see or hear either of them?!

For some "swifties" the enjoyment of watching a tight formation of our fastest bird (in level flight) scything through the air and listening to their unmistakeable "screaming parties" (as their flypasts are known) is about as good as it gets for summertime entertainment. However, these "swifties" are in the minority.

Thought to number 500 million, the remaining "swifties" (the name given to Taylor Swift's fan base) seek an altogether different, and costly, experience as they pack themselves into vast arenas to watch their megastar idol perform live on stage. In contrast, if one is fortunate enough to have swifts nesting nearby, these swifts can be experienced for free and by simply stepping outside one's front door.

For both "swifties" alike, the time spent in the UK by the focus of their admiration will have been all too fleeting. The swifts that grace our skies arrive in early May and most have departed by early August. Faithful to their previous nest sites, they have a three-month window in which to pair up, raise a brood of two or three chicks then feed up before heading back south.

It's hard to believe, but, having left their

unlikely to land again until it resumes breeding the following year or, in the case of recent fledglings, up to four years later when they themselves start breeding. Feeding, drinking, sleeping and mating are all done on the wing.

With mouths gaping wide open, each swift is estimated to Hoover up 20,000 insects every day. A large proportion of their diet consists of aphids, mosquitos and small spiders that have become airborne.

When bad weather local to the nest site is not conducive to feeding, swifts can fly several hundred miles to avoid a soaking and to find food. By dropping their body temperature, the chicks are specially adapted to survive several days without food.

The older ones amongst us will remember the summers when our car windscreens were splattered with numerous small insects that had met an untimely end in a high-speed collision. This is seldom the case now. Insect numbers are thought to have declined by 50% since the 1970s. Whilst car windscreens have benefited from the lack of insect life, birds that depend on them for food and to rear their young have struggled.

Surveys indicate that swift populations have plummeted to one third of what they were in 1995. The reasons behind the decline are unknown but a loss of insects is likely to be a contributing factor. Swifts nest primarily in buildings, often under roofs and in walls.

The loss of suitable nest sites is thought to be a key driver of falling swift numbers. The modernisation of old buildings has seen many of their

nesting opportunities disappear and new builds rarely have the necessary nooks and crannies that offer suitable nest sites.

By using fewer chemicals in our gardens and the wider countryside, we can help swifts and the ecosystems on which they and we are all ultimately dependant. As regards nest sites, we are urged not to block up, disturb or remove established nest sites and to create new ones by installing swift nest boxes on our homes, swift bricks in new builds and nest boxes in or on our churches.

"Swifties" have recently installed over 50 boxes behind the louvres in the tower of St Michael and All Angels Church in Bampton.

Are you a "swiftie"? If not, how about it?

Stephen Powles

#### Bible Study Group

#### Looking at Isaiah

The next meeting will be held at Myrtle Cottage, Oakford EX16 9ES  
Monday September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2.30pm

If you would like to come please let me know so that there are the right number of handouts. Many thanks.

Tim Gorringe  
t.j.gorringe@exeter.ac.uk

#### WITHLEIGH AUTHOR AND POET - GROUP AND CLUB TALKS

Formerly of Withleigh, where her family have been for several generations, Carole Britton has written a book about the newly created Athelstan Pilgrim Way, which covers an around her home near historic Malmesbury, in north Wiltshire.

This Pilgrim Way was inspired by a friend of Carole's, a self-titled part-time hermit, Hilary Peters. One of the churches entries was inspired by Rev Steph, based an article she wrote in this magazine which Carole saw when visiting her mum, Margaret. Carole would love to share the story of Hilary's life (which can be read in the online obituaries for The Guardian and The Times) and how the Athelstan Pilgrim Way came about. If any group or club would like an informal and entertaining talk, please get in touch.

The book is called Past Present Presence, and really is not a conventional church guide! It is about people, places, churches, communities, and the countryside. It includes poems written specially for the APW.

Hilary was an extraordinary person, passionate about animals (she was outraged by the Foot and Mouth cull in 2002), lived in an ambulance and on a barge for 20 years, and started the first city farm in London. Oh, and had a pet fox.

Please contact Carole by email [crb231221@gmail.com](mailto:crb231221@gmail.com) to order the book, or discuss a group/club meeting. And do see the Athelstan Pilgrim Way website and facebook pages.

## WHAT'S ON .....

### EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY CHOIR

Sarah Milne has kindly agreed to be Choir Master for us again, so the choir will be singing for the Group Harvest Festival on 29<sup>th</sup> September at 10.45am in Loxbeare.



All rehearsals start at 7.30pm and the dates are;  
 5 September - St Peter's Oakford  
 12 September - All Saints Rackenford  
 19 September - St Peter's Oakford  
 26 September - St Michael & All Angels Loxbeare  
 29<sup>th</sup> September at 10.45am for Harvest in Loxbeare Church.



Everyone is welcome to join the choir, so please come along. Contact Sarah Milne on 07790 790249 for further details.

Please note that car parking will be in the field opposite the church and toilet facilities will be available in the village hall. Tea and coffee will be served in the hall following the service.



### Prayer Breakfasts at The Rectory

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month.

28 September at 9.00am.  
Everyone welcome



Coffee and Croissants

### Exe Valley Lunches

12.30pm - 2.30pm

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> September - Oakford Village Hall

Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> October - Calverleigh Court

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## HOLIDAY CLUB ROUND-UP

### Holiday Club - Explore Outdoors-2024

Esther The Exe -treme Queen

Yet another very successful Holiday Club, we were once again able to use the facilities at Bradleigh House and we thank Claire and Andrew Curtis and their family for the generous use of their home. Without the help of volunteers from our communities we would not be able to provide the wonderful opportunity for children to explore, play and learn about the Bible. I would like to thank all who gave up their time to help, those of you who have been helping before and those that joined us this year for the first time, I would also like to thank the younger people who came along to help.

This year our Bible story was Esther, and we learnt that Esther was a courageous woman who sought to do the best for her people, Steph with her talent for storytelling had all the children gripped by the story, children were asking for more stories. We found out how Esther had to be pampered and receive beauty treatment before she could be chosen by the king to be Queen. Claire introduced the children to the animals and they were able to pamper them, this included grooming and plaiting the horses' manes and feeding the alpacas. Outdoor activities included making a large out door mosaic of stones that each child had put their names on. Horse riding was included this year, which was very popular. Great fun was had by all in the swimming pool, we are so fortunate to use this facility. Crafts this year included, making jewellery, mosaics, we decorated biscuits and made mocktails, the story of Esther involves a lot of banqueting. Cardboard box modelling was popular, with very elaborate palaces being made. Lego was also made into palaces.

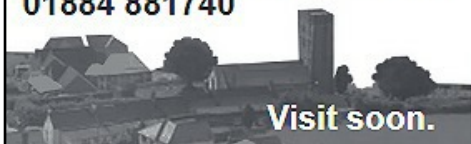
We had a change in the way the games and sports were arranged, the older children enjoyed a game of catch the flag organised by our very able young helpers. Whilst the younger children enjoyed parachute games. We finished on Wednesday with a coming together and celebration of all we had been doing, we heard the end of the story, sang songs and children showed off what they had made, giving very comprehensive explanations. I think all the helpers would agree it was a joy to be with the children, to watch their enjoyment, getting to know each other, having chats over lunch and making new friends. We hope that we shall see you all again next year.

Cindy Trick

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CALVERLEIGH

**A**s this edition goes to print the school

holidays are drawing to an end, our young people will have been receiving their exam results and will hopefully gain what is needed for the next stage of their education, or for their future careers. The next school year will begin with the new intake of little ones to nurture and educate. The new year 7s begin their tentative steps settling into secondary education and older children moving on to college, or even university. We wish you all well in a new environment and hope it is both an enjoyable and informative time.

Times moves along so quickly, even with the absence of long hot summer days, but we trust that everyone has had a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer break. Thankfully, there is still plenty of time for us to enjoy some sunshine before the nights really begin to draw in and day breaks later each day.

Now, cast your mind back to the height of summer when our Fathers' Day family service was led by Nik. As a part of this service we were handed two playing cards with each suit representing a different area of prayer (heart = love, diamond = wealth, club = conflict, spade = work) to take home and use as daily prayer. A birthday cake accompanied the tea/coffee after the service to celebrate a 40th birthday within the congregation.

Our family services are open to all ages and we would love to welcome you, your kids or your grandchildren. It is a service aimed at our young members (and those young at heart) with children's worship songs, a craft or colouring activity plus traditional hymns

followed by a time of fellowship with tea, coffee, squash and often a very generous selection of biscuits. Whether you've recently moved into Calverleigh or the surrounding area, or simply haven't found a convenient time to pop in yet, please feel free to come along and meet us. The family service is held at 9.30am, usually held on the third Sunday each month, and lasts for about 40 - 45 mins. Please see the middle of this magazine or the website for more service information.

The potato growing competition took place at the village hall and our thanks go to Gillian and Mary for arranging this fun event with support from Irene, Louise and Tim. Instead of 'buying back' our wares this time, Tim suggested that donations were given. Together with the draw, a grand total of £500 was raised, with £400 going to St. Mary's Church and a donation of £100 to Devon Air Ambulance. Growing conditions were not as favourable this year with weight totals down on previous years, but the winners are: Men: 1st Geoffrey T (7lb 15oz), 2nd Kipper H (6lb 13oz), 3rd Richard W (1lb 14½oz), Lowest weight: Eric W; Women: 1st Brenda T (7lb 15oz), 2nd Lorna T (6lb 9oz), 3rd Diana H (5lb 6oz), Lowest weight: Alex F (14oz). Thank you to all who took part with growing their potatoes and to those who provided food for the bring and share supper. Everything is greatly appreciated.

On 6 July the marriage of Emily and Marcus took place. The service was conducted by Emily's cousin Rev'd Judith Swan. Some family and friends travelled from Australia to join the happy couple on their special day and even the church's resident bat decided it wanted to join in. An overcast and windy day didn't quell the love and happiness that could be felt all around

the church, which was full to capacity. Emily grew up in Calverleigh on her parents' farm where the celebrations continued. We wish them a long and happy marriage.

The very next day the weather brightened to enable us to actually have our Open-air service in the open air. The sun shone and the birds were singing as we enjoyed the lovely surroundings of our church praising God with songs, reflective music and a poem.

Our congratulations to go all who have celebrated a significant birthday, birth of a child or an anniversary over the past two months.

To those who have been unwell over the summer months with these nasty viruses that have been doing the rounds, we hope that by now you are feeling better. Our prayers are with you if you're not, of course. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost a loved one, whether recently or longer ago and pray that God may place people around you to comfort in your grief.

If you would like to be prayed for as part of our monthly prayer time (first Saturday of each month) or during a service please contact Julie by email at [thegoldsworthys@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thegoldsworthys@yahoo.co.uk) or on 01884 255248. Dave is always ready to receive any news under Calverleigh whether it be a celebration, an upcoming event or news of interest to the community. Email [Calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org](mailto:Calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org).

#### Forthcoming Events

Harvest weekend: On Saturday 14 Sept we're having a bring and share harvest supper in the village hall (please bring your own drink) with some fun quizzes and possibly a speaker. Please contact Aubrey or Jackie if you would like to attend.

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# PARISH ROUND-UP

## CRUWYS MORCHARD

On Sunday 15 Sept at 9.30am we're having our Family service with Harvest Thanksgiving, which will be followed by a family picnic lunch (please bring your own) and some simple games on the village green, weather permitting, if wet in the village hall. Tea, coffee and squash will be available in the hall.

Donations of tinned/dried goods and toiletries will be collected for CHAT in church.

Autumn Fayre: Saturday 16 November from 10.30am - 2pm. Competitions, local crafts, Chinese Auction, Books, children's craft table, refreshments and much, much more. Advertising posters will be available nearer the time.

Dates for your diary:

24 Aug: Produce and Flower Show

7 Sep: Monthly Time of Prayer (9-11am)

14 Sep: Harvest Supper

15 Sep: Harvest Service & Picnic Lunch with Games

5 Oct: Monthly Time of Prayer (9-11am)

16 Nov: Autumn Fayre

Church cleaning rota:

26 Aug - 7 Sep: Mrs S Greenslade

9 Sep - 21 Sep: Mrs R Tapp

23 Sep - 5 Oct: Miss J Herniman

7 Oct - 19 Oct: Mrs M Furneaux

21 Oct - 2 Nov: Mrs A Balsdon

4 Nov - 16 Nov: Miss S Goldsworthy

Mowing rota:

2 Sep - 14 Sep: Mr C Durnan

16 Sep - 28 Sep: The Webber Family

30 Sep - 12 Oct: Mr A Goldsworthy

Flower rota

1 Sep - 8 Sep: Ms L Carrey

16 Sep - 22 Sep: Mrs M Radford

29 Sep - 6 Oct: Mrs L Thomas

13 Oct - 20 Oct: Mrs D Hopper

27 Oct - 3 Nov: Mrs T Pugsley

It is Back to School time of year, where

new school shoes and fresh pencil cases await to be inducted into the New School Year. Autumn has begun and Harvest, the most abundant time of year in the English countryside, is on our doorstep.

Come and join in with our Community Harvest Festival celebrations on Saturday 28th September. We shall have a community tea at the Parish Hall after the sports races in a field yet to be decided. It all begins at 2.15pm at the Church with a short Harvest service, there will be a collection for CHAT of gifts of non-perishable foods. We look forward to celebrating Harvest with you.

Many congratulations to Beth Powell and Dominic Perrott who were married on Saturday 3 August, and to Beth Baker and Andy Trowbridge, married on Friday 9 August. We wish them every happiness in their lives together.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Sept 2 & 9

Marilyn Hill

Sept 16

Sarah Cruwys

Sept 23

Decorators for Harvest

Sept 30 & Oct 7

Cindy Trick

Oct 14 & 21

Marilyn Hill

Oct 28 & Nov 4

Claire Miller

We remember all those who are unwell at this time and wish you a speedy recovery. We send our condolences to the family of Betty Mitchell and our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Please see the central pages of this magazine for details of upcoming

Parish Hall Afternoon Tea

Thank you to all who attended, there was a lovely atmosphere with lots of chatting and laughter. £334 was raised for Parish Hall funds.

Beer and Boogie

Come and join us for an evening of fun live music at Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall with the Black Dog Boogie Band on Friday 4 October, 7.30pm to 11pm, cash bar available. Tickets £5, under 16's free. For more information and to get a ticket contact Diana Vincent on 01363 860227.

Apple Day

Saturday 12 October, 12 - 3pm. Come along and get your apples pressed and enjoy a bacon bap, tea and cake whilst you wait. Please remember to bring a container for your Apple Juice.

Bingo

Saturday 26 October, Bingo at the Parish Hall. Doors open 7pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 9 November this year at the Parish Hall. If you are interested in having a stall, please contact Ali Vincent, 07801 480806.

Upcoming events

Dave & Di's Christmas quiz, Saturday 7 December. Parish Hall Christmas Bingo, Saturday 14 December.

Cruwys Social Evening

On the second and fourth Wednesday of every month there is a social evening at the Parish Hall from 6pm to 10pm. Come and join your neighbours for a chat and a drink and perhaps partake of the quiz that runs between 7.30pm and 9pm. All welcome! For more information, please contact Ali Vincent, 07801 480806.



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

**Cruwys Morchard YFC**  
**Aluminium Can Recycling!**

We are currently raising money by collecting aluminium drinks cans. Can you help! If you have cans that we can collect please contact Ali Vincent, 07801 480806.

Our Disco Dancing members made it to Nationals as did our Group Show Choir, many congratulations to all involved for coming 8th and runners up respectively.

Our members had great success at the Mid Devon Show this year. Well done to all, the tent was awash with your fabulous entries. A big well done to Nicholas Penney and Evie Rice for winning the Junior Boy and Junior Girl Cups, and to Harry and Luke Cole for their 2nd and 3rd places after Nicholas.

This is only a snapshot of what we've been doing and there is so much more to come! If any of this sounds tempting, please come along, and join us. We hold our monthly meetings at Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm. Club email, [cruwysm.yfc@gmail.com](mailto:cruwysm.yfc@gmail.com)

**Cruwys Morchard and Puddington Gardeners**

In July our meeting was held at Clare's house, we discussed many aspects of landscape design, and the necessary compromises required to fit around pets. In August we met at Chapple and discussed our month bird count, several of us noted the arrival of a heron; its appearance closely associated with the disappearance of several goldfish! There was further discussion about the Cruwys Morchard Flower show; sharing advice on the correct presentation of vegetable varieties.

Our September meeting, courtesy of Steve and Diney Dyer, will be centered around their new water feature project.

We look forward to seeing Clare Penney following her celebrating a big birthday last month.

**Congregational Churches**  
**PRESIDENTIAL HARVEST**

We are excited to announce that this year's Harvest Celebration will be led by our President Elizabeth Sweeney-Smith and a Harvest Supper will follow. Pennymoor chapel from 4pm & 5.30pm on 13th October.

Please join us for:

Tea and Cake at Nomansland Chapel, 3-4pm every Friday.

Sunday services

2.30pm Nomansland chapel \*

4.30pm Pennymoor chapel \*

\* Except for 3rd Sunday of the month, all join Way Village chapel 3pm.

Please check Facebook or Notice Board for advertising. Alternatively contact Ruth on 01363 530013.

**Magazine Contact**

If you would like something included in the Cruwys Morchard parish round-up, please contact Ali Vincent on 07801 480806 or [alisonpvincent@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonpvincent@hotmail.co.uk)

you have achieved the grades you need as you move onto college education, university or finding employment/apprenticeship.

Our Harvest Festival will be on 29 September at 10.45am in the church, when we will be hosting the Group Service. Come and join us as once again we give God thanks for our food and many blessings. Decorating the church will take place on the Saturday 28 September. All gifts of flowers, produce and help will be gratefully received.

The Harvest Supper will be on Tuesday 1 October 7pm for 7.30pm. Bring your own drink. This will be followed by an auction of flowers and produce and the money raised donated to CHAT. Book your place with Carol on 01884 881480 or Jean 07835300233, by the 29 September, Charge £6. We will have a preparation meeting on 24 September in the church at 7.30pm

Our services here at Loxbeare for September/October will all be at 10.45am. 1st and 15th September. September 29th Group Harvest Festival. October 6th Morning Praise, 13th will be cluster service with Washfield and Calverleigh joining us. 20th again Morning Praise.

There will be a PCC meeting on 8 October at 7.30pm. Our monthly prayer weekends will be on 7 & 8 September and 5 & 6 October. Contact Jean on 07835300233 or Carol 01884881480 if prayer requests or prayer pointers needed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are feeling unwell and to any who have lost loved ones.

Our best wishes to Josiah and Isabel on their wedding in September. We

## LOXBEARE

**T**he summer holidays will almost be over by the time these notes are read. A better summer weather wise than last year. We hope you have been able to enjoy the sunny days, we have had and been able to have sometime relaxing from the normal day to day work.

We pray for the children and young people, those starting primary school, others facing the challenges of High

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## 1 SEPTEMBER

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Actions speak louder than words**

James 1: 17-27  
Mark 7: 1-8,14-15,21-23

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**CALVERLEIGH**

10.45am Morning Praise

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

10.45am Morning Prayer  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**LOXBEARE**

10.45am Morning Praise

**OAKFORD**

See Rackenford

**RACKENFORD**

**10.45am Holy Communion**  
*Tim Gorringe*

**STOODLEIGH**

See Rackenford

**TEMPLETON**

No Service

**WASHFIELD**

6.00pm Evening Prayer

**WITHLEIGH**

10.45am Family Service

## 8 SEPTEMBER

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Favouritism forbidden**

James 2: 1-10,(11-13),14-17  
Mark 7: 24-37

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**CALVERLEIGH**

**10.45am Holy Communion**  
*Tim Gorringe*

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

10.45am Family Service

**LOXBEARE**

See Calverleigh

**OAKFORD**

10.45am Morning Praise  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**RACKENFORD**

9.15am Explore  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**STOODLEIGH**

9.30am A reflective service  
with breakfast

**TEMPLETON**

10.45am Morning Praise

**WASHFIELD**

See Calverleigh

**WITHLEIGH**

3.00pm Harvest Festival followed  
by tea in the village hall

## 15 SEPTEMBER

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**What comes out when you  
are squeezed?**

James 3: 1-12  
Mark 8: 27-38

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**CALVERLEIGH**

9.30am Family Service  
with Harvest Thanksgiving

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

See Templeton

**LOXBEARE**

10.45am Morning Praise

**OAKFORD**

6.00pm Harvest Festival  
followed by supper in village hall

**RACKENFORD**

10.45am Morning Praise

**STOODLEIGH**

10.45am Morning Praise  
Tim Gorringe

**TEMPLETON**

**10.45am Holy Communion**  
*Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards*

**WASHFIELD**

10.45am Family Service

**WITHLEIGH**

See Templeton

## 22 SEPTEMBER

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Choosing God, choosing  
wisdom**

James 3: 13; 4: 3,7-8a  
Mark 9: 30-37

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**OUR MISSION  
COMMUNITY**

**HOLY COMMUNION  
GROUP SERVICE**

is at

**10.45am in  
WASHFIELD**

**Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards**

## 28 SEPTEMBER

2.15 **Cruwys Morchard**  
Harvest Festival followed  
by sports and tea.

## 29 SEPTEMBER

9.30am **Withleigh**  
'Poems, prayer and  
praise'

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

## 29 SEPTEMBER

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Right person, right place,  
right time**

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10; 9: 20-22

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**OUR FIFTH SUNDAY  
GROUP HARVEST  
FESTIVAL WITH EXE  
VALLEY COMMUNITY  
CHOIR**

is at **10.45am in  
LOXBEARE**

**Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards**

## 6 OCTOBER

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**When you don't understand**

Job 1: 1; 2: 1-10  
Mark 10: 2-16

**9.30am Zoom Service**

### **CALVERLEIGH**

10.45am Morning Praise  
David Edwards

### **CRUWYS MORCHARD**

10.45am Morning Prayer  
Tim Gorringe

### **LOXBEARE**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **OAKFORD**

See Stoodleigh

### **RACKENFORD**

See Stoodleigh

### **STOODLEIGH**

**10.45am Holy Communion  
with Harvest Festival  
*Georgie Bell***

### **TEMPLETON**

10.45am Harvest Festival

### **WASHFIELD**

6.00pm Evening Prayer

### **WITHLEIGH**

10.45am Family Service  
Guest Speaker 'Singing to  
Remember'

## 13 OCTOBER

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Where are you God?**

Job 23: 1-9, 16-17  
Mark 10: 17-31

**9.30am Zoom Service**

### **CALVERLEIGH**

See Loxbeare

### **CRUWYS MORCHARD**

10.45am Family Service

### **LOXBEARE**

**10.45am Holy Communion  
*Tim Gorringe***

### **OAKFORD**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **RACKENFORD**

9.15am Explore  
David, Tash, Marc, Nik & Dave  
6.00pm Harvest Festival

### **STOODLEIGH**

9.30am Reflective Service  
with breakfast

### **TEMPLETON**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **WASHFIELD**

See Loxbeare

### **WITHLEIGH**

10.45am Service of the Word

## 20 OCTOBER

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**Do you know who I am?**

Job 38: 1-7, (34-41)  
Mark 10: 35-45

**9.30am Zoom Service**

### **CALVERLEIGH**

9.30 Family Service  
Songs of Praise

### **CRUWYS MORCHARD**

See Withleigh

### **LOXBEARE**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **OAKFORD**

10.45am Morning Praise  
David Edwards

### **RACKENFORD**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **STOODLEIGH**

10.45am Morning Praise

### **TEMPLETON**

See Cruwys Morchard

### **WASHFIELD**

See Withleigh

### **WITHLEIGH**

**10.45am Holy Communion  
*Tim Gorringe***

## Baptism and Confirmation

We have had a wonderful number of Baptisms booked in this year. What a joy it is to welcome so many families into our churches.

Do please get in touch, if you or your child, would like to be baptised.

Maybe you have been baptised but never confirmed. If you are interested in being confirmed and would like to find out more, do please contact the church office and speak to Steph.



## 27 OCTOBER

Last Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

**I heard, but now I see**

Job 42: 1-6, 10-17  
Mark 10: 46-52

**9.30am Zoom Service**

**OUR  
MISSION COMMUNITY  
HOLY COMMUNION  
GROUP SERVICE**

**is at**

**10.45am in  
WITHLEIGH  
with**

**Jane Taylor  
Everyone welcome**

## PARISH ROUND-UP

pray every blessing and happiness for their future lives together.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in September and October and congratulations to all celebrating special occasions.

On the 19 October there will be a Coffee Morning at Barton View, the bungalow opposite the church from 10.30am till 12, in aid of the Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal. This is run by a Christian organisation to donate gifts at Christmastime to all ages who otherwise have nothing or very little to celebrate or presents to open at this special time of the year when we celebrate Jesus' birth. Come along and support this worthwhile work and make someone's Christmas very special as they receive appropriate items in their gift shoe boxes.

Our Ploughman's Lunch in July raised £135 for Hospiscare and the Cream Tea in August £95 for Force. The dates for September will be the 14th with Ploughman's Lunch 12.30pm till 2.00pm, donations will be given to CHAT. The Cream Tea will be on 12 October 3pm till 4.30pm in aid of Tear Fund. Come and join in for food and a "natter". Thank you to all who help in any way and donate.

## OAKFORD

**W**eatherwise it has been a challenging summer but hopefully families have managed some relaxing breaks together. Now we are looking towards autumn and harvest time one of the busiest times of the farming year, fingers crossed for better weather and maybe an Indian summer for all to enjoy. Regardless of the weather it has been

St Peters Church.

In July the 9.30am zoom service had a European following with ladies and gents from both Lanzarote and Tenerife joining the zoom congregation.

St Peter's looked like a summer garden for the Songs of Praise service in July thanks to the efforts of the flower ladies. The service was well supported even though the Wimbledon finals and the football finals challenged people to stay at home.

We welcomed Rev'd Jerry Bird to St Peter's on August 4 for a Holy Communion service which was enjoyed by all. We hope to welcome him back in the near future. All our services are on the centre pages and we welcome Steph and David Edwards to Oakford for Morning Praise on 8 September at 10.45am and David will join us again on October 20.

Choir practices will be starting again in September. See page 5 for details.

Our Harvest Festival is on September 15 at 6.00pm followed by supper and auction in the village hall at 7.30pm.

There will be a Group Harvest Festival on 29 September at 10.45am in Loxbeare Church and the Exe Valley Mission Community Choir will be singing. Do join us if you are free.

In November on Sunday 10, for the Remembrance Service, we will meet at the War Memorial at 10.50am as usual but instead of a service in church afterwards we will move on to the village hall for a hot-pot lunch and maybe a movie! Please come along and support this traditional event.

The Poppy Craft Group who meet in the community area of St Peter's on Tuesday evenings are going to take a break during August and will meet again on Tuesday 3 September.

The Books and Chat Group meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month 10.00 – 11.00am in the community area of St Peter's. A happy hour enjoying coffee, cakes and biscuits whilst discussing favourite books and chatting with friends from the village. Next meeting will be Wednesday 4 September at 10.00am.

The banns have been read for Leigh and Toby who will be married in St Peter's on 24 August. We wish them every happiness in their married life together.

The Village Fete.

The village fete was blessed with fine weather and a wonderful afternoon was had by all who came along to the community area to join in and enjoy, games, dancing, races, stalls and refreshments. Many thanks to Kelvin and his crew for their hard work in organising it and to all who supported the afternoon. The fete committee presented a very generous donation of £700 to the Tower Captain for the bell restoration fund. Thank you.

The Oakford Soap Box Derby.

The event went ahead on a very wet afternoon. 14 amazing vehicles of all shapes and sizes arrived, and after being passed by a scrutineer were presented by teams of colourful/unusual characters before setting off one at a time down Rookery Hill to the delight of the large crowds lining the route. Brollies and macs were the dress code for the day but the rain was hardly noticed in the excitement. The winning team was 'Cooked Wild Pigeon' from Spurway Mill. Many thanks to Georgina and her team for their hard work organising the event. Thanks also to the stewards, the competitors, the refreshment crew and the crowd. Well done Oakford. A total of £398.00 was raised for the village hall and the bell tower restoration.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

In contrast to the weather for the Soap Box Derby, the sun shone giving a beautiful summer day for the Croquet at Oakford Manor on 3rd August. Held in the tranquil setting of The Manor garden it was an afternoon of fun, friendly rivalry, fizz with cream teas and later a BBQ. The winner of the Croquet Cup and a Magnum of Champagne was Tim Hagon and £1026 was raised for the bell restoration fund.

Thanks to Nadia, Patrick and Sam Barrett for hosting the event, John and Janet Rendle for the scones and the ladies who baked cakes. Thanks also to all who helped set up and pack away afterwards, the loyal helpers who served teas, drinks and burgers and hotdogs. Not forgetting Wendy and Sue at the entrance who welcomed everyone to the afternoon of fun. Last but not least a huge thank you to all who came along to support the event.

The Moorland Club Flower and Produce Show was the next village event. Held in the village hall on 10th August. This annual event is always well supported by village folk who come along with their entries of veg, flowers, craft and cookery. Thanks to Chris and her team and the Moorland ladies (and their husbands) who organise and set up the show. Thanks also to all the judges.

The winners of cups this year were –

Cut flower class - Jo Holdom

Floral Art - Laura Parkman

Cookery – Joint winners - Louise

Wilder and Laura Parkman

Preserves – Julie Cridland

Handicraft – Joint winners –Anne

Boldry and Laura Parkman

Photography – Jane Lillis

Men's cookery - Sean Mayer

Winner of the cup for the Moorland lady with most points was Louise Wilder.

August 17 and the event - Bubbly & Boules with strawberries and cream in the beautiful garden of Greenslades House. By kind invitation of Marjorie and Geoff Bayliss. Hopefully the weather will be kind and people will come along to enjoy the garden and the Boules. There will be a full report on this event in the next issue of the magazine as we will have gone to print before this event takes place.

Dates for your diaries:

Quiz at the Red Lion 22 September and 20 October at 8.00pm

Village Hall - Virtual Race Night - In the village hall on Friday 20 September at 7.00pm. Look out for posters. Come dressed for Ascot.

Moorland Club

Thursday 12 September 7.30pm - Sweet making demonstration/ participation

Thursday October 17 set up Autumn Fayre

Saturday October 19, 11am – 2pm Autumn Fayre in the Village Hall

Best wishes to everyone in the parish celebrating a birthday or an anniversary. Thoughts and prayers go to anyone who is ill at home or in hospital and also to those who are caring for their loved ones.

If any of the village organisations have news of events that they would like to share in the Today magazine, which reaches everyone in the Parish, please send copy to [patsyphili@aol.com](mailto:patsyphili@aol.com) or tel: 01398 351648

Check out the [oakford.community](http://oakford.community) website for all local events.

## RACKENFORD

As these notes are prepared for printing our school children and staff are enjoying a long summer break. However not every day feels like summer.

We wish all the children well as they return to education in September. Some will be starting school for the first time and others returning to college and university or starting higher education. Also remembering the tiny tots off to nursery. Many will have received exam results and we hope they are everything you have worked so hard for.

Our prayers and praise for all those who have attended, helped and enjoyed Holiday Club – Explore Outdoors at Bradleigh House. I expect you all had a fun time together.

On the second Sunday of each month we look forward to our Explore Service with the children. We start at 9.15am with refreshments tea / coffee/ squash and biscuits before our Explore Service begins at 9.30am. We always enjoy this service and enjoy the activities and the children's input. Our last Explore saw us singing our hearts out with Dave on guitar, children using musical instruments and waving flags. We joined together with cheering and praise. What a happy, joyful "Extravagant Worship"

On the third Sunday of each month Liz and Mary lead our Lay Led Service which is a shorter service but most enjoyable. We would love you to join us in song and prayer.

It's always good to visit other parishes



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

and Cluster services, also to enjoy a coffee and have a chat afterwards with our friends.

At long last we have been able to proceed with the huge job of cutting the yew trees. We think it must have been about 15/20 years ago it was last attended to. We are extremely grateful to the generosity of four people who have come forward and sponsored the cutting back of four of the 9 trees. Such a great help to us, thank you so much. The cutting back has also made it much lighter and brighter inside church.

We were too late to thank Abdulah for the first cut of the church hedge at the main entrance (The Stag end) but never too late to say thank you, so many thanks Abdulah. Also our ongoing thanks continue to David for regularly cutting paths and flat areas of the church yard. This is very much appreciated by us all and makes a difference.

Some areas are unable to be mown due to graves that have mounds and stone surroundings of course. If anyone is willing to level off a loved ones grave they may be able to be incorporated in the cutting when the grass has grown depending in what area of the churchyard they are in. A paid full cut of the churchyard will not take place till late October.

Ruth and Helen have kindly laid flat some of the headstones that are deemed unsafe (old age). This needed to be done for the safety of anyone walking amongst them.

The church team look forward to providing cakes and bakes, teas and coffee and squash when we all join together on the common on August 31 for the Village Day and Autumn Show. Come along and enjoy the day.

If all goes according to plan Liz will attend the Rackenford & All English Tennis Tournament Final on Sunday September 1 at Rackenford Manor. What a wonderful event. Enjoy your matches.

It will soon be time for our fund raising Sponsored Walk, once again planned by Liz for Saturday September 11, which will begin at Tiverton and conclude at Bickleigh Mill.

Posters will be out and sponsor forms will be available. If you need more details now please contact Liz.

Donations in memory of Joan Phillips at her funeral service were shared between our church, All Saints and The Devon Air Ambulance Trust. We are most grateful for the £550 we have received and thank Fred and family for this generous gift. We are discussing with Fred and family a fitting tribute to keep in church in Joan's memory. Joan was a regular worshipper and flower arranger until poor health prevented her from doing so.

Our get well wishes and prayers to all those who are not enjoying good health, we think of Jacques and Mary. Mary is due to have an operation as we go to print and pray it has not been cancelled again. We wish you a good recovery and anyone who is in the same position who we haven't heard of.

On a much happier note we think by the time you receive this Graham and Ruth will have celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary, many congratulations to you and also to Jean who will soon be celebrating her 97th birthday. Anyone else celebrating a special event we wish you a happy day.

The banns have been called for the wedding of Thomas and Katie. We wish you a very happy wedding day at

Rackenford Church on September 7 and hope the sun shines on you.

Lastly, but certainly not least we pray for the war torn countries who are suffering in the most terrible ways, the scenes we see and the devastation caused to everyone is heartbreaking. We pray for peace for all those effected and peace in our own country as we hear of terrible news daily. We feel very blessed to have happy times in our community to enjoy together.

A coming date for your diary  
Harvest Service 13 at 6.30 pm, lay led.  
We look forward to welcoming you all.

Harvest Supper at Rackenford Club, October 16. **LIMITED TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE** (Call Ruth for any further information please) 01884 881488..

We hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer whatever you are doing.

## STOODLEIGH

St Margarets Church

**T**he flower arrangers of Stoodleigh

produced a wonderful Flower Festival to celebrate St Margaret's day in July. Everyone who attended enjoyed the cream teas and a good look around the lovely displays. Our thanks must go to Phyllis and Angela for organising the event and a particular thanks must go to Geraldine who stepped in, due to illness among the organisers, and did a wonderful job on the refreshments with the lovely Mandy who worked so hard.

We've also had a lovely baptism in Stoodleigh and we welcomed Costanza into our church family along with all her family and friends. Steph and Georgie

**LOGS**

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Looking forward, we are, once again, off to Mary and Richard's for afternoon tea in September, which was a great success last year and everyone loved the glorious venue. We also have another stall in South Molton market in September, and our "superwoman seller" Yvonne will, once again, be selling all sorts including the boxes we brought the bargains in if I'm not quick enough to stop her!

On the first weekend in October we will be having our Harvest celebrations, starting with our Harvest supper and skittles evening in the Village Hall where we have skittles competitions for both adults and children (with children's skittles). There will even be a few prizes for the children. On Sunday Georgie Bell will be leading our Cluster Harvest Festival service at Stoodleigh. The church will be decorated by the flower arrangers and is well worth a visit. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

### Flower Rota

7-14 Sept	Penny Norman
21-28 Sept	Christine Palfrey
5-12 Oct	Harvest Everyone
19-26 Oct	Linda Hill

### 100 Club Draw Winners

July: Alison Palfrey, Elaine Morison, Rosey James and Jeannie Knowles

### Stoodleigh Garden Club

The Club celebrated its 20th Anniversary this year, with a garden party held at The Brambles, at the end of June. Many past members were invited to join us for a light lunch provided by members. There was food a-plenty, Pimm's and wine and a celebratory cake to cut. The weather was fine and the day enjoyed by all.

In July the Club held a flower arranging demonstration and activity in the Parish Hall, which sparked an interest in the

use of natural wild and garden flowers. In that month we also paid a visit to Burrow Farm Gardens, near Axminster and had a pre-arranged Garden tour. It was a very warm day, but the gardens were beautiful and well worth a visit, being open to the public at any time of year. August is a busy time preparing for the Stoodleigh Annual Show, the results of which will be in the next issue of the 'Today' magazine.

Further information about the Club and its activities can be found online, at the Garden Club page of the Stoodleigh website.

### Parish Hall

The coffee mornings each month continue to be well supported, and thank you to all those who turn up and enjoy the chat, as well as our committee stalwarts who make and bake on the day. Our next major event is the Autumn Market on 26th October where we will have the usual stalls and activities before the Christmas Lights event on 7th December. Our Annual General Meeting will be on 13 November. We will re-instating our grand Christmas draw this year, so watch out for our ticket sellers in the months to come.

## TEMPLETON

### Greetings from Templeton

What a busy Summer it has been. The football, the Olympics, the rain, the heat. September is often a time to return to a 'normal' routine or to reset and start again. Many of us, who now have to return to work, school or college, could probably do with another holiday! But let's not forget that there are those who are always on duty or who work throughout the Summer so

### St Margaret's Church – Update

As you will be aware, thanks to the ongoing work at our church and churchyard, St Margaret's Church is being well maintained for future generations to enjoy. This year we have been rewarded with an abundance of wild flowers, especially the beautiful orange Hawkweed. This plant has many nicknames including 'Fox-and-cubs' and even, strangely enough, the 'Devil's paintbrush.' A big thank you to Peter who regularly cuts the grass in the churchyard and maintains it so well. The interior walls of the church still need expert attention and special paint. Adrian and his team have done a lovely job to expose the stonework surrounding the windows. It looks stunning. Because of the costs incurred, the work is being carried out in stages.

Every five years the church has to undergo a Quinquennial Review which involves a qualified chartered surveyor conducting a visual inspection of the building and its state of repair. This has just been carried out and the findings were positive, although more work on the church is needed to maintain the building in good order.

### Services

The Sunday Services at St Margaret's Church are usually held twice a month, with a mix of lay-led services, and group or cluster services led by Steph or other clergy, rotating between all the parishes. The centre pages in this magazine cover the many services that will be held over the next two months across the nine parishes in the Exe Valley Mission Community.

The services in Templeton over September and October will be held on: September 8 Lay-led Morning Service at 10.45am, September 15 Cluster Communion Service with Steph and Dave Edwards, October 6 Lay-Led

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Harvest Festival at 10.45am, and October 13 Morning Service at 10.45am. We are very grateful to Eleri and Marjorie who play the organ for many of our services.

We also extend our very best wishes and congratulations to Claire whose ministry has recently been in Silverton, Bickleigh, Butterleigh and Cadeleigh. Claire has successfully been "signed off" by the Bishop and is now ready to continue her ministry.

### Remembering Jem

We were saddened, late last year, to hear of the passing of Jem Dineen. Jem was an absolute cornerstone of our community and a true gentleman, who gave generously of his time without ever seeking the spotlight. Jem made a significant contribution to many village issues, such as liaising with the insurers to get the village hall roof repaired. This was no small feat. We were delighted to see Marianne and her daughter Emma at the village hall just before the fete, and surprised them both with a bench dedicated to Jem. See photo.



### Euro 2024 Football.

What a tournament that was! We came so close. Templeton Village Hall was open for members to enjoy (if that is the word,) watching England play during the UEFA Euro 2024 Football between Friday 14 June and Saturday 14 July. The bar was open for members and on

the day of the final between England and Spain on Saturday July 14 there was an impromptu bring and share barbecue for everyone to celebrate or commiserate! Thanks to Val and Don for organising this.

### Templeton Village Fete

Saturday August 10 was the annual Templeton Summer Fete and Grand Auction. The weather was kind to us and it was a great success. Thank you to everyone who took part in making the day such fun and who gave so generously! Thank you to all those who took part in preparing the ground, cutting the grass, strimming the banks, setting up the Marquee, baking, contributing gifts, food, produce and many other items as well as helping with the stalls and games. Events like this really do take a whole village and we are so grateful to have such tremendous support.

### Future Events

Sunday 8 September - Duck Race at Templeton Bridge from 2pm.

This popular event will start from 2pm. The ducks have been training hard and will make their way from Great Esworthy Farm down the River Dart, finishing at Dartcoombe Mill. There will also be cream teas, pasties, a book sale, plant sale and bric-a-brac. Ducks will be on sale (£1 each) during the fete, and at club nights, by contacting Roger and Bindy at 01884 860655 or emailing templetonvh@gmail.com and on the day. Money prizes! Proceeds in aid of Village Funds.

On Monday 30 September at 7.30pm the Deanery Synod is meeting at Calverleigh Village Hall.

Colin Smallacombe from the Farming Community Network (FCN - a charity that supports farmers and families through difficult times), will be talking

about the many difficult issues facing farmers today and sharing information about the support available in their areas so that the Deanery Synod representatives can take something back to help support their rural communities. This is an open meeting for anyone in the parishes who would like to find out more about support for farmers.

Saturday 5 October - Harvest Supper at 7.30pm at Templeton Village Hall.

This is the first event of the Harvest Festival weekend. The bar will be open from 7pm and the supper will be ready at 7.30pm. Do come along and enjoy this annual, delicious and plentiful supper to celebrate the harvest. Once again, the talented Templeton Art Group will be displaying their paintings and also selling their 2025 Art Group's Calendar. Come and enjoy the evening along with the entertainment. Tickets for the Harvest Supper will be £10.00 each (and £5 for 14-year-olds and under). All proceeds in aid of St Margaret's Church.

Sunday 6 October 10.45am - Templeton Harvest Festival Service at St Margaret's Church.

We would be grateful if you could please bring any fresh fruit, vegetables, packaged or canned produce, as long as it is in date, to the porch of St Margaret's Church during the week before the service so that it can all be displayed in the church on the Sunday. All the produce will be donated to the Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT). They have asked us to pass on their grateful thanks and appreciation

Saturday 12 October - Scrap Metal Day.

We are organising another scrap metal day on 12 October to raise funds for the village. Please start collecting cables, saucepans, copper pipe and wire,

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

copper cylinders, aluminium, stainless steel, brass, old taps, old cookers, metal troughs, and car batteries. Please note no fridges or freezers or small electrical appliances. We will organise tractors and trailers to collect big items on the day and people will be able to bring things to the village hall on the Saturday morning. More information to follow.

**Saturday 2 November - Bonfire and Firework display** – entry from 6.30pm. This very popular annual event will take place at Templeton Village Hall. People really do come from far and wide to see it and the display is always spectacular! The bar will be open, there will be delicious hot dogs and hot drinks for sale, and a Guy Competition so book the date now! Entry from 6.30pm - alight 7.30pm. Adults - £6, Children 5-15yrs - £3 (tickets on the gate – cash only please). The bar has a card reader as well as accepting cash. No personal fireworks or sparklers please – this contravenes our insurance.

### Regular groups

#### Art Group

The Art Group meets at Templeton Village Hall fortnightly on Tuesdays 9.45 to start at 10am until 12 midday. During September and October, the Art Group will meet on September 3 and 17 and October 1 and 15. Everyone is invited. No charge. Just bring yourselves with whatever art work you are doing or want to have a go at, with Lynda there to help if needed. Coffee and cake provided. Look forward to seeing you there. If you want to know more, please contact Lynda at newnes7@mail.com

#### Book Group

The Templeton Book Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 3pm at Templeton Village Hall with coffee, tea and cake. Please contact Julie on 01884 233507 or email

Julie.dent@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to know more. The September/October dates for the book group will be Wednesday September 11 and Wednesday October 9.

#### Garden Club

Gosh, the time goes on, and we are heading into the Autumn! Our garden club meets every month and this summer we have been delighted to visit fellow gardeners' gardens which has been a great treat. Much discussion and input occurs on a multitude of problems and solutions, and we are always learning from each other. If anyone would like to join our group, please give Ginah Palmer a ring on 01884 253552. We'd love to see you.

#### Knit and Natter

Templeton Knit and Natter is on the last Friday of each month from 10.30am to 12 midday, in St Margaret's Church, Templeton. Why not bring any of your repair work, knitting or embroidery with you, or just come along for coffee, biscuits and a chat? The next dates for Knit and Natter are Friday, September 27 and Friday October 25.

**Templeton Village Hall and Social Club**  
Would you like to use Templeton Village Hall for any games of table tennis, darts, pool or skittles? – they are all there for you to enjoy – or for a family get-together or a barbecue, all set up and ready to use! The village hall has recently invested in a commercial dishwasher and a new glass washer which will make the clearing up after events so much easier. Just call Bindy on 01884 860655 if you'd like the hall opened up, and to check first that there is not already a booking on that day. The Social Club is open every Monday and Saturday evening from 8pm to 11pm – with a wide range of drinks available at very reasonable prices. Membership is only £2 a year so why not join up now!

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes  
We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Sonia and Bob who renewed their wedding vows in July and celebrated the day with friends and family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are in hospital, undergoing treatment, or recovering from illness, and our thoughts are also with their families who support them. We do hope that you will be feeling better soon.

### Church Flowers and Cleaning Rota – September to October 2024

25 Aug – 1 Sept	Sue Coffin
8 Sept – 15 Sept	Lynda Newnes
22 Sept – 29 Sept	Laurel O'Brien
6 Oct – 13 Oct	Phillida Strong
20 Oct – 27 Oct	Julie Dent

## WASHFIELD

*By all these lovely tokens, September days are here.*

*With Summer's best of weather and Autumn's best of cheer.*

Looking back at a Summer of mixed weather, memories of old friends, celebrations and special events, it is clear that it has been a season of sunshine and showers in more ways than one. Enid's family and many friends came to 'Enid's Tea Party' in the Village Hall on June 15 for a very thoughtful and moving celebration of her life, arranged by Mark and Kate, whose tributes to their Mum were wonderful to hear. We then enjoyed tea and cakes and shared memories of our good friend in the traditional way and saw a series of lovely photographs of Enid when young and throughout her long and very active life, which was a



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

One of the highlights of the Year - the Church Fete, brought with it some consternation about the high and very chilly wind blowing! In the end we reluctantly decided to miss out on the lovely garden at the Old Rectory garden and use the hall for stalls and the more sheltered car park for the Tiverton Concert Band and various games, ice cream etc. It was very fitting that the Fete was opened by Kate Harding, who brought with her a newspaper cutting of herself when five years old presenting the bouquet to the Opener of Washfield fete that year!

In the event a large crowd enjoyed being in the shelter and stayed longer having the delicious Teas and spending more money on patronising the stalls! The amazing sum of nearly £1,200 was realized, before expenses. Very warm thanks are due to all those who came to support us and were so generous, and to ALL the willing organisers, helpers, contributors to stalls, the raffle etc. and to the very hard-working Tea Ladies, who slaved away in the kitchen all the afternoon. Special thanks are due to Anne Moore who took part in the planning of the Fete as well being in charges of the teas, laying the tables and doing many other tasks! Willing hands before and after dealt with the stalls, the road signs and the car parking and we thank Denise very much for allowing her field to be used.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August, St Mary's hosted the baptism of Martha, the daughter of villagers Richard and Lydia. The bells rang out and a very full church was present during the service hosted by Steph. Lydia's father added to the personal feel of the event by playing the organ and some rousing singing of old favourite hymns provided fitting accompaniment as we welcomed Martha into the church and the village.

As we go into Autumn please look in the 'Today' Magazine for all Services in the

Exe Valley - there are many - and for any special events coming in the church and village, and if you would like a visit from Steph please do ask the Office.

The Centenary Celebration of the hall in July was an amazing evening and a very apt party to mark 100 years since the hall was built. One hundred people came on a beautiful evening (after the heavy rain of the day) to join in. Our guest of honour was Kevin de las Casas and his wife Elisabeth who travelled to Washfield to be our guests of honour. As well as attending the party, they had a guided tour of the church and churchyard (thank you Maurice) and were thrilled to find out more about the history of their family in the village. Thanks to all who made this evening great including the ladies who made the 100 miniature woollen dolls (in costumes from the intervening century) that were displayed around the village green, the bunting guys, the bar staff and all the hall committee. A job, well done. Here's to the next 100 years of the hall's presence in the village.

Please don't forget that (as well the constant of the hall) the Social Club is of such a notable benefit to the village. It's committee and volunteers strive to offer events and opportunities for all villagers to come together and participate in, throughout the year. Without it, the village would not be as relevant and inclusive so please make sure you pay your membership (and attend events) to enable this work; and the benefits it brings, to continue. New committee members and bar volunteers are always welcome to bring new impetus (and lighten the load) for those currently working on your behalf.

Don't forget also, teatime@thehall is still as popular as ever. Held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month between 3.00-4.30pm, all ages are welcome to these friendly, chatty afternoons, regardless of age (well, everybody likes cake!)

To those who are not enjoying good health at the time of writing, we hope you will soon feel better, we send loving wishes for a speedy recovery if you are convalescing. Our best wishes go to Louise, recovering after her accident. We hope your recovery continues apace.

We say goodbye to Alastair and Rachel as they leave to go to live (in an even smaller hamlet) in Shropshire. Good luck and best wishes in your new home. We welcome the new residents and hope to meet you soon.

Church Flower Rota

Sept 1/8

Sept 15/22

Sept 29/Oct 6

Oct 13/20

Oct 27

Mrs Moore

Mrs French

Mrs Trout

Mrs Jones

Mrs French

## WITHLEIGH

Summer did arrive and we have celebrated some lovely weather but now our thoughts turn to the produce in the garden and with harvest festivals looming made me think of a poem I learnt as a child at school which I thought was simple and appropriate for the coming season. Hope you like it.

A little old woman,  
As old as could be  
Picked the ripe berries  
From bush and tree.

Then in a clearing,  
She made a fire,  
Piling the dry sticks  
Higher and higher

And at the top  
Of the crackling pile,  
She put her big pot  
On to boil.

Sugar and fruit,  
She boiled for hours,  
Till the juice set red

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

And all the next morning  
The little folks ran,  
With purse full of money  
To buy pots of jam.

Despite the atrocious weather on the day, our Summer Fete was a great success, raising the sum of £1,409 being raised for church funds. As ever, our grateful thanks to all who worked so hard for the event, and to all who came along to support it.

Our 'Friends of St Catherine's Church' meal took place again this year as Sunday Lunch on 4th August at the Mount Pleasant at Nomansland. It was another enjoyable occasion, and our thanks once again to Sara for making the necessary arrangements.

Harvest will be celebrated with our festival service on Sunday 8th September at 3pm. This will be followed by tea in the Village Hall.

Our next 'Poems, Prayer and Praise' service will see us return to the vestry and will be on Sunday 29th September at 9.30am, led by Susie.

At our Family Service on 6th October, we will be welcoming a guest speaker from 'Singing to Remember', our church's chosen charity for this year. There will be a retiring collection in support of their work.

### WOW

July and August's meetings were both celebrations of Summer. In July a garden picnic hosted by a member, with strawberries and cream. For August fun and a cream tea prettily arranged in the village hall. Next month September we have a "Beetle Drive", 7.15 p.m. in the village hall, and in October we have a talk from the Rotary Club of Tiverton. Contact Susie 258492.

### VILLAGE HALL NOTES AUGUST 2024

It was really unfortunate that for the second year in a row that we had to take St. Catherine's Church Fete in doors, but the rain that we had that afternoon justified the decision. Many thanks to everyone who put in a wonderful effort, either manning the stalls, making or giving things to sell or as prizes, and to those to laboured away in the kitchen providing lunches, teas and countless cups of tea or coffee. And thank you so much Sara for organising us all!!

Now that the Election season has come to an end the Bingo's are back on course, on the first Thursday of the month. Bingo with be on the 5th September, and the next 3rd October, both in the Village Hall, eyes down at 7.30 pm.

Harvest Festival's are upon us already! We celebrate our Harvest on Sunday 8th September with a service in church at 3 p.m., followed by our traditional tea in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

On Monday 9th September we have our Harvest Supper in the Village Hall, followed by the auction of produce, which this year the proceeds will be donated to Hospice in Exeter. Time 7 for 7.30 pm. Tickets for the Supper are £12 per person, call either Christine 01884 257571 or Brenda 01884 252431 to book your ticket. Please bring your own drinks.

As the Autumn starts, and the days are getting shorter we thought that you may be ready for a Big Breakfast! We will be serving Breakfast on Saturday 12th October in the Village Hall, 9.30 am to 11.30am being last orders.

Please just come along, but if you are coming with a large party, it may be an

idea to give us some advance warning so that you won't have to wait to long, please call Brenda 01884 252431 or Sara 01884 252949.

We are resuming our Community lunches again, the first being on Tuesday 29th October, 12.30 for 1 p.m. It will be the normal format, £6 each and a Draw for a local Charity. Please call Christine 01884 257571 to book your ticket.

Advance notice we are holding a Quiz Night in the Village hall on Friday 22nd November. We will have more details in the next Today magazine.

### Flower Rota;

Sept 8	Harvest
Sept 15	Janet Sellick
Sept 22, 29 and Oct 6	Shirley Cruwys
Oct 13, 20 and 27	Pauline Rooks.

### Future Dates;

Thursday 5th September. Bingo in the Hall, eyes down 7.30 pm.

Sunday 8th Sept. Harvest service @ 3 pm followed by Tea in the Hall.

Monday 9th Sept. Harvest Supper followed by Auction of produce 7 for 7.30 pm.

Thursday 3rd Oct. Bingo in the Hall, eyes down 7.30 pm.

Saturday 12th Oct. Big Breakfast in the Hall, 9.30 am to 11.30 pm.

Tuesday 29th Oct. Community Lunch in the Hall, 12.30 for 1 pm.

Friday 22nd Nov. Quiz Night in the Hall.

As Autumn approaches we can look forward to the many and varied events taking place in our village. Please come and support them.



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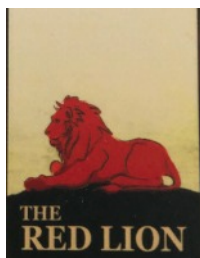
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