

TODAY

The Parish
Magazine
for the
Exe Valley
Mission
Community

June / July, 2011

Price 40p

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

On one occasion, Jesus Christ was travelling along a hot and dusty track with some of his closest followers. As they walked, he turned to his disciples and asked them a question: "Who do people say I am?" (Mark 8v27).

It was a safe question to ask. It did not require any great personal commitment from the disciples. So they reported the kind of things that people were saying about Jesus: "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets".

If you ask the same question today, you get a very different set of answers: "Some say a great teacher; others say a political revolutionary; and still others, a visitor from another planet". There are many different ideas about the identity of Jesus Christ, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. Most of us enjoy a good discussion about which theory makes the most sense.

But as they walked along that dusty track, Jesus then asked his followers a second question. This time it was a far more personal question and a far greater challenge: "But what about you? Who do you say I am?"

It is one thing to enjoy a lively debate about the various possible explanations of the identity of Jesus, but it is a very different thing to come to a conclusion and to nail your colours to the mast. Yet, sooner or later, we must all do so. We must make our decision about who we say Jesus is, and we must also live with the consequences of our decision.

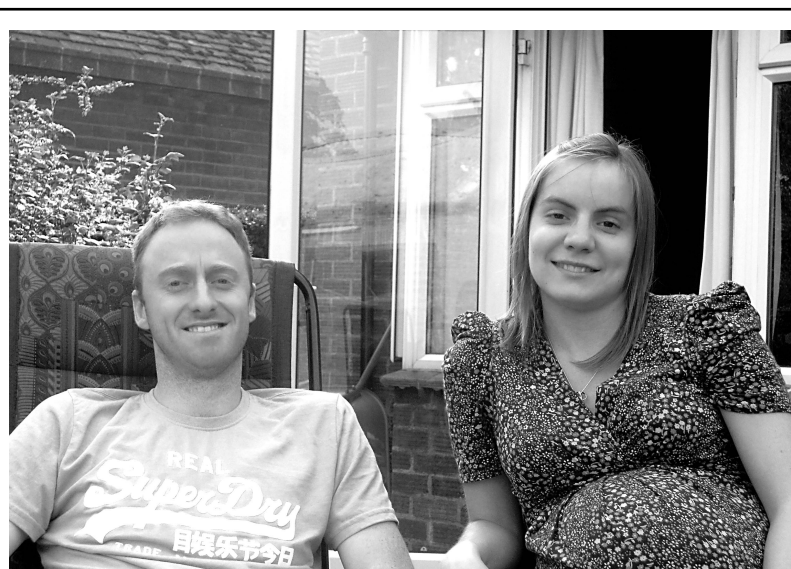
If we decide that Jesus was anything less than the person he claimed to be, then we are effectively saying that he was a liar, or perhaps that he was deluded. In either case, he would clearly not be someone we should trust, follow or worship, and so we had better give up on the Christian faith.

But if we conclude that Jesus is indeed

who he claimed to be - Lord, God, King and Saviour - then we will want to give him our unwavering loyalty, our full devotion and our whole-hearted obedience. If we believe that he speaks the truth, then we must trust him, follow him and worship him.

No-one can remain neutral towards Jesus Christ; he is either everything to us or nothing to us. That is why we each need to answer his question: "But what about you? Who do you say I am?"

Steve



Rob and Alison Brewis (see page 2)

Copy Deadline for the August / September issue - Monday 11th July

THE EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

Calverleigh, Cruwys Morchard,
Loxbeare, Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton, Washfield
and Withleigh

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UP AND COMING.....

Rob Brewis, our new Curate, and his wife, Alison, (see photo on front page) are due to be moving into Stoodleigh Vicarage in Mid-June, along with their first baby who, at the time of writing, is due any time now. Rob has penned the following introduction:

"I am coming to serve my curacy in the Exe Valley, having just finished four years of study at Oak Hill College, London, to complete the MTh in Theological and Pastoral Studies. Alison and I have been married four years, and, at the time of writing, are expecting our first child (in May).

I come from Chester-le-Street, near Durham, and Alison was born in Warrington, but spent most of her life in Thame (Oxfordshire) and then Great Chisell (near Cambridge); however she likes to think she's a Mancunian!

After leaving university, I spent two years working for a city centre church in Liverpool, before spending a year working for Expanding Horizons - an urban and social development agency. During that time I learned how to pretend to look busy at my desk, and advised people how to get money out of Brussels and into their development schemes. After that I spent a year as a

pastoral assistant at Christ Church, Chadderton, Manchester, working for my father-in-law (not quite working for Laban, but almost!). At the end of that year Alison and I married in July 2007. Alison spent the time up to getting married studying Maths, and has since gone on to be a secondary school Maths teacher and tutor.

We've both really enjoyed studying at Oak Hill, and are really looking forward to getting to know you, learning from you, and partnering in the work of the gospel.

Robert and Alison Brewis."

We wish them all a safe and uneventful move to Stoodleigh, and look forward to having them living and ministering among us. Rob is due to be ordained Curate in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 1st September.

UP AND RUNNING.....

Those of you who have internet access may be interested to know that, by the time you read this, our brand new website should have gone live. At www.exevalleymissioncommunity.org you will find a mine of information about our Mission Community. Representatives from each of our Parishes will be keeping the information on the various pages up to date; if you have any matters of note relating to your community, please contact your representative.

UP THE CREEK.....

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My apologies to Andrew Sydenham for omitting his telephone numbers from his advert in the last two issues, and to those who were trying to contact him. I only spotted it when wanting the phone number myself!

Paul

THE STRONGEST TREE

You may be interested to learn that Jenny Rose has written an autobiographical book about the circumstances leading up to, and events during her first marriage, and the

time afterwards, concluding with her and Andrew's move to the Exe Valley. The book makes compulsive reading - even I managed to read it cover-to-cover in two days, and I'm no bookworm!

'The Strongest Tree' is a story of God's triumph over adversity in Jenny's life, and can be obtained, price £7.99, from New Creation in Tiverton

Paul Iliff

St Margaret's Church, Stoodleigh

**Service of Thanksgiving and Rededication of the Bells
Sunday 26th June, 2011 at 6.30 p.m.**

Members of the Exe Valley Group are warmly invited to a service at St Margaret's to celebrate the completion of the project to renovate the bell-frame and bells. The clock has also received a face-lift, and its newly



gilded face looks out brightly over the churchyard. The 15th century roof bosses and foliate wall plates, which are of great interest and due for conservation, are well illuminated by the new lighting, installed in 2010.

We are delighted that the Bishop of Crediton, the Right Reverend Robert Evens, will be with us. There will be celebratory refreshments after the service.



**Exe Valley Mision community Holiday club
Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th August
at Calverleigh Village Hall
11.15am-3.30pm (bring a packed lunch)**

**For all children aged 5-11, limited spaces,
for registration forms:**

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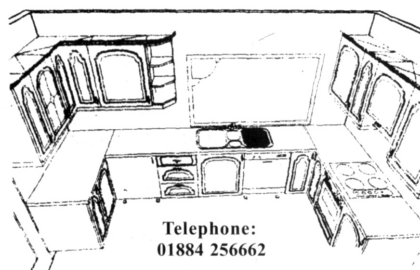
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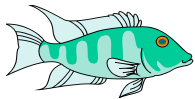
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FISH CLUB REPORT

The Fish Club continues to have good attendances each week as we learn through games, singing and watching videos about the wonderful things that Jesus did. We meet each Friday during school term, after school, until 5.15.

At the end of this term we shall say goodbye to Anna, as she steps down from helping with Fish Club. Anna has been helping us for quite a while now, and has been a great help to us. If you know of anyone who can spare a couple of hours on a Friday afternoon during term time to help us, please let me know.

If you have children who would like to join us at Fish club to play games, take part in crafts, singing and learning about what the Bible tells us, please Contact; Cindy Trick – Tel: 01363 866621. We are always happy to welcome new children.

Holiday Club will be held at Calverleigh Hall, Tuesday 2nd to Friday 5th of August, The title will be 'Mission Rescue' and promises to be an action packed four days of fun activities to help us learn more about Jesus. During the mornings we shall discover how God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, and how God continues to rescue people today through Jesus. In the afternoons there will be sports and craft activities for the children.

The theme is very much based around a spy theme, with secret agents and code cracking, secret writing and gadget-making, to name but a few of the activities in which we shall be involved.

The holiday club is open to all children 5-11, and we will be pre-registering children again this year. Application forms will be available nearer the time.

If you would like to join us this year as a helper, please contact me: Cindy Trick on 01363 866621

ANN'S NATURE NOTES

It is now approaching high summer, the migrant birds are all here, and the spring bulbs have given way to Rhododendrons and Granny's Bonnets. The banks are verdant with lush grass and Queen Anne's Lace (Cow Parsley) drooping into the verges and, if you look very carefully, there are Spotted Orchids too.

Swallows are flying overhead in the warm evenings, catching insects, and busy with their nests. They are the ones with the long streamers to their tails, and the House Martins are busy in the eaves of houses, making a terrible mess below their nest; they are white underneath. The Swifts are the ones that scream overhead as they hunt for insects. They are interesting birds as they only land when nesting, the rest of their life being spent on the wing. My children, when told this, had visions of them turning their heads and using their wing as a plate! They sleep on the wing too, using the thermals to keep them high.

Butterflies are cleverer than one might think. Some of the larger ones hibernate over the winter, and it is believed that wood mice eat them. They have several lines of defence. The first is camouflage and, in their hidey-hole, they look just like a leaf. If they are found, apparently, the latest research shows that they start flicking their wings which makes a hissing sound and a series of ultra sonic clicks, which the mice do not like and leave them alone. The eye of the Peacock also deters them. The caterpil-

lars are an important part of the food chain, so please continue to plant Violets, Lavender, Thyme and Buddleia, and leave some Nettles and Wild Garlic for them to eat.

For a walk this month why not go to Thurlbear Common, on the right beyond Henlade; turn down a lane beside the Nag's Head. It is, I think, the nearest place to hear Nightingales. They are drab little birds, like a Robin without a red breast, and prefer to sing from within a thicket, so are difficult to see, but the song is magnifi-

PARISH ROUND-UP

cent.

Ann

Calverleigh

Congratulations to Helen and Sid who were married on April 16th. Helen is the daughter of Nick and Alex Fitzhugh of the Old Post Office Calverleigh. We wish the young couple every happiness in their future life together.

We wish all those who are not so well at the present time a good speedy recovery. Rita Tapp has recently been admitted to hospital on two occasions, but she is now progressing well. Many of you will remember Mrs Kennedy who lived at Lurley for many years before moving to Tiverton. She recently fell and fractured her hip, and was taken to Exeter hospital, but has since moved back to Tiverton hospital. We hope that she is making a good recovery.

Our Mothering Sunday service was very well attended. Thank you to all who made posies for the Mums, and thank you, Jackie, for leading the service for us.

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PARISH ROUND-UP

The Church Annual general meeting was held on Tuesday 5th April. Aubrey Goldsworthy and Jackie Herniman were both re-elected as Churchwardens, Julie Goldsworthy re-elected as Secretary and Jackie Herniman re-elected as Treasurer. Seven Church Council members were re-elected. It would be very nice if more people would attend this meeting as it seems that it is always the same people who get elected as no one else attends. The meeting is always well advertised, and anyone is welcome to attend.

At the moment we have to rely on a good percentage of people from outside our Parish attending our services to keep our little Church going.

On Palm Sunday we had a full Church for our Family Service, when we welcomed Jack and Maggie Balsdon into the Church for their baptisms by Steve Goodbody. They are the children of Mark and Amy Balsdon. Amy is the daughter of Keith Hayes and the late Carole Ann.

We had a very good congregation for our communion service on Easter Day. Steve led the service in a very well decorated Church. Thank you, ladies, for all your hard work in making the Church look so welcoming.

William Amory and Tatiana Sloane were married on May 7th in St Mary the Virgin Church at Bishops Lydeard. We wish them every happiness in their new life together.

Derek and Mary Herniman's Grandson, Simon Veysey, is marrying Louise Dearing in Scotland on May 9th. Our love and best wishes go to the happy couple.

Our Flower Festival theme is Stories from the Bible. This takes place on Saturday July 2nd, 10am - 4.30pm and Sunday July 3rd 10am - 2.30pm. This will be followed at 3pm by an Open Air service in the Church grounds (If wet in Church). Refreshments will be served all day Saturday and Sunday, at reasonable cost, in the village hall. Displays of old photos and not so old photos of Calverleigh will also be in the village hall, along with displays by The Fish Club and Toddler group.

On 30th April, Withleigh Young Farmers pulled a tractor from South Molton to Tiverton, they covered 28 miles. Three lads from Calverleigh were in the team. They were Joe Clarke, William and Robert Webber. Congratulations to you all, what a marvellous effort. Hospiscare will benefit from this event.

On 7th May, Daniel Webber once again made the news. He was in the Withleigh Young Farmers Jazz Dancing Team that went to Blackpool to represent the South West in the National Finals. Eight teams took part, and our local team achieved third place, so they have to be congratulated. The team originally devised the routine with the help of Rose Chanin and Dave Waller. We are so proud of all our young folk who do

so much for the community. No doubt Dan Webber and Co will be receiving a call from the BBC Come Dancing Programme, and Simon Cowell. Keep it up, you great Ambassadors.

Cruwys Morchard

It was lovely to see so many young families at our Mothering Sunday service; thank you to all who provided posies of flowers, which were handed out during the service.

The church looked lovely for the Easter service; thank you to all who arranged flowers in the church. Thank you to Anna Hansford for leading us in communion by extension, and helping us to share in the joy that Jesus has risen, by providing yellow balloons and mini eggs for the children.

Everyone had a lovely time celebrating the royal wedding. The winners of the fancy dress were Faith Marshall and Oscar Gibbs. Photographs can be seen on the parish website, kindly provided by Mary.

We are holding the Breakfast and Brunch, to be held on Saturday 6th August 2.30 - 4.30pm, at the hall. If you can spare half an hour or more, please come and lend a hand. Your reward will be a cup of tea and a



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PARISH ROUND-UP

chocolate biscuit, and a lot of job satisfaction. Rubber gloves may be useful.

The schedules for Cruwys Morchard Flower Show, to be held on Saturday 13th August, have now been delivered with the last parish magazine. If you would like to enter, please return the schedule to Pauline Guscott. All participants are warmly welcomed on the day and, if you would like to see photographs from last year's flower show, please go to the parish website.

We are holding our annual Clay Pigeon Shoot - Saturday 20th August 10am to 4pm, for new hall funds. It will be held in the field next to Hill Farm, Pennymoor, by kind permission of Lord DeClifford and the Palmer family. The event will be organised by Jeremy and Mark.

If anyone is interested in having a stall at our Christmas Craft Fayre, please contact Teresa on 01363 860124.

There are many people in our parish who have had operations or are undergoing treatment for illness; we send get well wishes to all who are suffering in any way.

Parish Hall events:-

All events to be held at the parish hall unless stated otherwise

Sat 25th June - Bingo & 200 Club Draw for hall funds. Dinners and other good prizes, Cash Flyer, Children's games. Good Draw.

Sat 30th July - Hall Cleaning Afternoon, 2.30 – 4.30pm, at the hall, to prepare for the Breakfast & Brunch.

Sat 30th July - BINGO and 200 Club Draw, for Hall funds. Dinners for full

house, Cash Flyer and Children's games. Good draw.

Sat 6th Aug Breakfast & Brunch 7am-2pm, for new hall funds. Last year was a great success, raising just over £400 – can we beat it? Help needed please! Please contact Mary or Marilyn or use the Contact Us module on the parish website:

www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

All coming event details can be found on the parish website

www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk

Flower and Cleaning Rota:-

June 6th & 13th June - Marian Kingdom

June 20th & 27th - Sarah Cruwys

July 4th & July 11th - Wendy Lake

July 18th & July 25th - Mrs J Townsend

Mowing Rota

June - Steve Guscott

July - Dave Berry

August - Dave and Diana Vincent

Loxbeare

He is risen - Hallelujah.

It was good to have so many at our Easter Sunday Service, including young families who joined us. It was a lovely service taken by Steve, rejoicing together in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you to all who decorated the Church so beautifully.

The Agape Meal held on the previous Thursday was hosted by Loxbeare at Calverleigh Hall, and was well attended. It was a very meaningful time as we shared together and

reflected on the death of our Lord, and what that meant to each one of us.

We give a warm welcome to the new Curate and his wife, Rob and Alison Brewis, who will soon be joining the Exe Valley Team, and we pray you will soon settle in and be very happy here.

Thank you to all who helped spring clean the Church and to the men for tidying up around the village hall.

The Mothering Sunday service was held in the village hall, led by Marion, with John speaking. It was good to have you back after your illness, John. The service was preceded by a full English Breakfast, very ably cooked and served by the men, and enjoyed by all! Flowers were distributed to all the Ladies. The offering of £100 was given to the Children's Hospice.

On April 10th Natalie Husk from the Leprosy Mission came to speak at the Family Service. She gave a very encouraging and interesting talk. The collection and donations amounted to £220, and have been sent to the Leprosy Mission to help with their work.

On May 8th Helen Williams gave a very interesting presentation of her three month visit to Rwanda with Tear Fund last year. It was good to hear of the wonderful ongoing work that Tear Fund are doing, and evidence of the appreciation by the families receiving the filled shoeboxes given each Christmas for 'Operation Christmas Child'. The offering for the Tear Fund Work amounted to £189.50.

We extend our love, prayers and deepest sympathy to Gill, Peter and family on the loss of Gill's father, and to anyone else who has lost loved ones. We send our love and prayers to all who are unwell and / or recovering

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'As you have been blessed so you should bless others'

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We are grateful to all who support us financially with love gifts, some on a regular basis and others just when possible. It is heart warming to know the shop is loved and cherished in this way as part of God's Christian Community here in Tiverton.

We are therefore especially thankful when Churches feel they will purchase through us, and some do it regularly. It benefits us, and we can often provide a discount on larger orders. We have recently supplied an Exeter Church with a large number of Hymn Books, and a village church with a smaller, but substantial, order.

What a lot to be truly grateful for; and the 19th June is a chance for families to show their appreciation and thanks to that head of the household, who is always loved, but sometimes it just doesn't feel like that!! YES, it's FATHER'S DAY. We have cards and gifts to encourage them in their walk with God, negotiating a path for their loved ones through a very secular world.

May we remind you "BAGS OF DELIGHT" our pre-school story club is on Monday 6th June and 4th July, all welcome.

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from operations, and hope you will all soon be back to good health again. We specially remember Jean, Bob Berry, Maurice Taylor, Viv Abbott, Steve Troake and Geoff Hensman. Jean would like to thank everyone for their love and concern shown to her, and to all the Ladies for their practical help and care given during her recovery.

Belated congratulations to Colin and Margaret Radford, who have celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in May, and to all who have birthdays or special occasions to celebrate in June / July.

We say a fond goodbye to Mary

PARISH ROUND-UP

Roberts who has been living at Great Haydon for about the past 12 months. She has moved to be near her daughter and family, and we wish her well in her future plans. We welcome Mr & Mrs Gibbons into Great Haydon, and we hope you will be very happy during your stay here.

The Loxbeare walking group have enjoyed lovely walks in April / May around the area, including Bickleigh, Culmstock and the Buzzards to see the bluebells. Anyone interested in joining the group contact Ron Tidball on 01884 881362.

We are having a BBQ on 12th June at 6.30pm at Ron and Margaret's, followed by Pentecost Praise.

On 17th July there will be a picnic service at 11am at Loxbeare House, by kind invitation of Andrew and Donna Hibbard.

Loxbeare Woman's Bible Study Group continue to meet twice a month at 2pm, second Tuesday at Highgate and the fourth Tuesday at East Sidborough. We have started a new study on the subject of 'Contentment'.

Loxbeare Ladies. On 9th May Ann Ackland held a Charity two course supper, which was enjoyed by all, and the £155 raised was given to the New Tiverton Hospice. On 6th June there will be a BBQ at Sue Troake's. Please contact Sue on 01884 259496 by 27th May if you wish to go. Tickets are £5 per person.

On July 4th Julie Dent, who lives at Higher Way, Templeton, will be giving a talk on the 7/7 London Bombings, in Loxbeare Village Hall, 7 for 7.30pm. There will be a charge of £3.50 to include tea and biscuits. Julie was

Continued on Page 10 ➡

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In Calverleigh Village Hall

LEADER

Cindy Trick (01363 866621)

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At Church Cottage, Stoodleigh
(Tel. 01398-351364)

LOXBEARE PRAYER MEETING

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

LOXBEARE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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

WALK THE TALK

Withleigh Home Group
(Tel. 01884-253473)

MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES

On the **31st July** (5th Sunday), instead of a group service, there will be three services taking place. Those who do not have a service at their own church are encouraged to attend one of the other services:

9.30 am Family Communion at
Loxbeare

11 am Holy Communion at
Stoodleigh

6.30 pm Evening Worship at
Withleigh

**Sunday 7th August
Holiday Club Service**
in Calverleigh Village Hall
at 11 am

OAKFORD

5th June

9.30 am Holy Communion

12th June - Pentecost

9.30 am Morning Prayer

19th June - Trinity

9.30 am Holy Communion

26th June

9.30 am Family Service

3rd July

9.30 am Holy Communion

10th July

9.30 am Morning Prayer

17th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

24th July

9.30 am Family Service

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

RACKENFORD

5th June

11.15 am Morning Prayer

12th June - Pentecost

11.15 am Holy Communion

19th June - Trinity

Join with Loxbeare

26th June

9.30 am Morning Prayer

3rd July

11.15 am Morning Prayer

10th July

11.15 am Holy Communion

17th July

11.15 am Family Service

24th July

9.30 am Morning Prayer

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

STOODLEIGH

5th June

11 am Family Service
+ Holy Communion

12th June - Pentecost

11 am Morning Prayer

19th June - Trinity

9.30 am Holy Communion

26th June

6.30 pm Service of
Re-dedication of Bells

3rd July

11 am Family Service
+ Holy Communion by extension

10th July

11 am Morning Prayer

17th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

24th July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

31st July

11 am Holy Communion

CALVERLEIGH

5th June

11.15 am Morning Worship

12th June - Pentecost

9.30 am Holy Communion

19th June - Trinity

11.15 am Family Service

26th June

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

3rd July

3 pm Outdoor Service

10th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

17th July

11.15 am Family Service

24th July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

5th June

11 am Morning Prayer

12th June - Pentecost

11 am Family Service

19th June - Trinity

9.30 am Holy Communion

26th June

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

3rd July

11 am Family Service with
Baptism

10th July

11 am Morning Prayer

17th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

24th July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

LOXBEARE

5th June

9.30 am Family Communion

12th June - Pentecost

6.30 pm Barbecue & Outreach
Ron's Barn

19th June - Trinity

11 am Family Service

26th June

11 am Family Service

3rd July

Join with Rackenford

10th July

11 am Family Service

17th July

11 am Picnic Service

24th July

11 am Family Service

31st July

9.30 am Family Communion

TEMPLETON

5th June

9.30 am Holy Communion

12th June - Pentecost

5 pm Open Air Service

19th June - Trinity

No Service

26th June

11 am Morning Prayer

3rd July

9.30 am Holy Communion

10th July

No Service

17th July

11 am Toddler Service

24th July

11 am Morning Prayer

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

WASHFIELD

5th June

11 am Family Service
with Baptism

12th June - Pentecost

11 am Morning Prayer

19th June - Trinity

11 am Family Service

26th June

9.30 am Holy Communion

3rd July

9.30 am Morning Prayer

10th July

11 am Morning Prayer

17th July

11 am Family Service

24th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

31st July

Join with either Loxbeare,
Stoodleigh or Withleigh

WITHLEIGH

5th June

11 am Family Service

12th June - Pentecost

7 pm Songs of Praise

19th June - Trinity

11 am Holy Communion

26th June

9.30 am Morning Worship

3rd July

11 am Family Service

10th July

9.30 am Morning Worship

17th July

11 am Holy Communion

24th July

11 am Morning Worship

31st July

6.30 pm Evening Worship

PARISH ROUND-UP

the NHS Co-ordinator at the time of the bombings and she will be giving us an insight into the chaotic aftermath. Please contact Viv Abbott on 881209. The proceeds will go to the charity HELP FOR HEROES.

Village Hall News The Easter Bingo made a profit of £116 for the Village Hall Funds. Carol would like to thank all who donated prizes for the draw. A Cheese and Wine evening was held on the 29th April in the hall to Celebrate the Royal Wedding. A total of £188 was raised for the Village Hall Funds.

The progressive Meal will be on July 1st, with two sittings, 7.30pm and 8.15pm. Parishioners please book by 21st June if you wish to go, as places are limited. Please contact Pat Dalby on 881332 for tickets, which are £10 each.

Forward Date The Loxbeare Parish BBQ will be on 20th August at Lower Ingrams from 7pm.

Oakford

Oakford Church entered into the spirit of wedding fever, with a weekend of 'Wedding Belles and Flower Festival' starting on Saturday 30th April until Monday 2nd May. It was a wonderful but exhausting weekend. There were wedding dresses displayed, dating from 1936 to 2009, Victorian christening robes and baby clothes. The 'themed' floral arrangements from the lych-gate and porch, from the wedding to baptisms,

from silver to gold, mother of the bride, music, bells, wedding breakfast and honeymoon, all added to the overall picture magnificently. We had many visitors and, after looking around, they were able to enjoy refreshments throughout the day.

We thank all the people who helped in so many ways – through sponsorship – Pancake day proceeds, Moorland Club, C.H.S.W, loan of tables etc. from the Village Hall Committee, loan of dresses etc., flower arrangements, cakes, not forgetting those who helped with the refreshments, the 'Bring and Buy' stall and those who acted as stewards. The support and generosity was overwhelming and £1,100 was raised.

The 'Songs of Praise' on the Sunday, with Biblical readings interspersed with humorous poems, a thanksgiving of 50 years of marriage with everyone humming 'here comes the bride', proved a most enjoyable occasion.

From Julia Mayer:

Also in the village on the Royal wedding day a lovely time was had by all with Sean, Mike and Piers getting up ladders to put up bunting to get everyone in the mood. Gazebos were kindly borrowed from Anne and Derek Boldry, and the space by Sylvia and Steve at the Red Lion. The celebration got underway with a bring and share lunch, and then party games with some very competitive moves by James Howe and Shirley Bannister, especially in the musical chairs! Raffle, Bring and Buy and the waxing of Derek Boldry's fine legs resulted in

a grand sum of £270 to be donated to the New Devon Air Ambulance.

The chilly day kept some in front of the T.V. for the full day's viewing, but the Kings and Queens that did attend were in full fancy dress and in the spirit of the day; thank you for the kind donations.

Future Events

Moorland Club:

June 9th "Things you didn't know about jewellery" with Jenni Parnell

June 11th Trip to 'Oakham Treasures' - a museum of retail and farming memorabilia from the last century. Anyone who would like to come, please phone Brenda on 01398 351331 for more details.

July 14th BBQ by kind invitation of Jean Marcus at Hutswell Farm, 6 p.m. start

Oakford Village Fete Saturday July 2nd

2 p.m. at the playing fields. Tombola, White Elephant, Coconut Shy, Teas, Ices, human fruit machine.

Races, tug of war, hoop-la and much more. All the fun of a traditional village fete.

Rackenford

Good to have had some warmth and sunshine over the past couple



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PARISH ROUND-UP

of months, and to see the beauty of spring around us!

Belated thanks to Barry for making us a new church notice board, lots of space for displaying details of church news and activities; so very kind of you.

Thanks to Euan Baillie for keeping our churchyard tidy once again; very much appreciated.

Many congratulations to Nell Baillie on passing her Grade Four piano exam.

Our deepest sympathy to Mrs Mary Cann and family on the death of her mother.

Our church was overflowing for the funeral service of David Blackford in April, when family and friends gathered to pay their respects. Our very deepest sympathy to his daughter Jasmine, Wendy & Rodney Langdon, Ken Blackford & Linda, and to all who mourn; a very sad day. The service was followed by a cremation. Donations in memory of Dave amounted to £850, which was divided between The British Heart Foundation and British Diabetic Association.

The donations received from John Blackford's funeral came to £1,120. £560 was given to Rackenford Church Yard Fund and £560 to Devon Air Ambulance. Many thanks to John's family for this generous gift.

We continue to remember and pray for Joan & Bill Clark, Percy Stone and Ken Blackford. Also our best wishes

to Jean Cole for a speedy recover from her operation.

Thank you to the children of Rackenford School who made posies for Mother's Day, and delivered them throughout the village; a lovely 9.5

Stoodleigh

It was a delight to have young families in church for a simple Family Service on Mothering Sunday, when the children received posies to give to their mothers.

This was also an encouragement to hold another simple Family Service on the 1st May, and it is hoped that we can continue these services at 11am on the first Sunday of each month. These services will be clergy-led, so enabling a shortened said Holy Communion Service to follow, after refreshments, for any who wish to stay. We look forward to your support.

The church was, as always, beautifully decorated for Easter; and greatly appreciated by the many people who attended the Easter Sunday Holy Communion service. Many thanks to all the flower arrangers who generously gave of their time and talents.

As everyone must now be aware, the Bishop of Crediton (Bishop Bob) is coming to Stoodleigh on Sunday 26th June at 6.30pm for a service of thanksgiving for the new lighting and

to rededicate the bells. It would be lovely to see many people from the village at this service, which will be followed by celebratory refreshments.

It was hoped that, by the end of June, the conservation project on the 15th century roof bosses and foliate wall plates would have taken place. Unfortunately there has been a delay in completing the necessary formalities so this will happen later in the year.

Church Flower Rota: 5th & 12th June – B Wotton; 19th June – D Ayre; Saturday 25th June – all help will be greatly appreciated in decorating the church for the special service to rededicate the bells.

For your diary

Friday 1st July – A walk at 5.30pm from Champles Roundhouse Barn, followed by a BBQ at Champles at 6.30pm. Cost £7.50 (to include a glass of wine), to raise funds for the church.

The walking part is not obligatory, although it could improve your appetite! We hope for good weather and lots of people.

On the same evening, Friday 1st July, from 6pm to 9pm, Catherine Thorpe of Stoodleigh, and five other visiting bellringers, are going to attempt a full peal to celebrate the rededication of the bells at St Margaret's. A full peal is 5,040 changes of ringing order to the bells. On the six bells at



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PARISH ROUND-UP

Stoodleigh 720 different changes are possible so there have to be repeats to make up the full 5,040.

Village Fun Day

Saturday June 11th is the date of this year's Stoodleigh Village Fun Day. This is a lovely event, warmly appreciated by many people. It is a proper old-fashioned village day out!

There are races and events (some silly) for children and adults. The egg throwing and catching competition and the tug-of-war were highlights last year and will be on again; also welly-whanging, skittles, etc. Young children are asked to bring a teddy bear or other cuddly toy for a competition with prizes (adults can enter too!).

The afternoon is completely free, with free cream teas and cakes (baked by the best in Stoodleigh) and free ice creams. Those whose egg-throwing days are over, or not yet begun, can just sit and soak up the atmosphere.

All this is made possible by a generous donation from SWAG (see below).

Afternoon events are on the cricket field, starting at 2.30pm. The festivities continue from 7pm at Stoodleigh Club, open to non-members for the evening, and there will be hot food (pork/beef roast in a bap).

SWAG tenth anniversary

Once the Millennium Project was

completed and the Kissing-gate Triangle dedicated, SWAG (Stoodleigh Working Action Group) was formed "to promote and facilitate social activities which would not otherwise be provided by other groups in the village...". SWAG uses any surplus funds (it is not a profit-making organisation) to benefit the Stoodleigh community – for example, donations to finance the Village Day.

The first event promoted by SWAG was a Balloon Debate in the Village Hall on 24th October 2000. Since then it has organised quizzes, visits, concerts and a variety of presentations in association with "Villages in Action".

On 15th June there will be a visit to Greenway, Agatha Christie's house. Numbers are limited. Names please to Margaret Cuninghame as soon as possible.

Parish Hall

Thanks to everyone for the support for the Stoodleigh Easter Market and Coffee Morning. The weather was wonderful as was the variety of items for sale. Good company, coffee, tea and cakes were enjoyed outside in the sunshine. In addition to our markets and coffee mornings becoming regular social occasions, £271 profit was made towards the Hall funds.

Our next market and coffee morning is on Saturday 9th July, 10am until noon. Contact Geraldine Talbot, 01398 351391.

Stoodleigh 100 Club

Membership for the next 12 months is now due; it is £15, payable to 'Stoodleigh 100 Club', via Christine Palfrey, Knightwood. Prizewinners for April: 1 Malcolm Jones, 2 Margaret Mills, 3 Phil Talbot.

Templeton

Our Good Friday Garden Service was well attended with the children placing flowers on the Easter garden. The church was beautifully decorated for the service on Easter Day, so thanks to the ladies for their flower arranging and cleaning. We had a wedding at St Margaret's on Easter Saturday, and we would like to send our congratulations to Emma Wood and Robert Clow, and wish them every happiness in their life together.

By the time you read this, the Rogation Service will have taken place at Templeton village hall at the end of May, followed by a Bring and Share lunch. We will be holding an Open Air Service around the village pump on June 12th at 5.0pm, followed by tea in the church. It will be a Songs of Praise service and so, if you have a favourite hymn you would like sung, please contact Martin Strong on 253220 or Peter Coffin on 860246. The Deanery Synod will meet at Templeton village hall on Wednesday 20th July. We would like to thank all

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PARISH ROUND-UP

those who do the grass cutting and keep the trees and shrubs neat and tidy in our churchyard.

The money being raised for our church repair fund has now risen to £5,176 following two recent very successful and well-supported fund-raising events. £386 was raised at an enjoyable Quiz Night held in the Village Hall in early March, thanks to the organisation of John McNerney. Then, Templeton's equivalent of a street party on Royal Wedding Day was a splendid 'Barn Party lunch' held at the Pearsons' Holmead Ranch. Conceived, organised and catered for by Lynda and Chris Newnes, and Bruce and Christine Pearson, it created a great social occasion for the village community, and raised £500 in donations from those who attended and from those who couldn't. We are most grateful for the widespread support everyone is giving to this important project – a long way to go, but the road seems less daunting by the encouragement we are given. By the time you read this, the Bluebell Walk through the Old Rectory woods will have also taken place; the bluebells were remarkably early this year, but nevertheless we have been hoping for a good attendance and favourable results to report in the next issue.

On Saturday 18th June there will be a Ploughman's Lunch at Martin and Phillida Strong's between 12.30pm and 2.30pm, also to raise funds for church repairs. Refer to the flyer in the magazine for details.

On Saturday 9th July, there is to be a Dog Show for all breeds (pedigree and non-pedigree) at Calverleigh Village Hall, in aid of Templeton Church

Tower Appeal. The show opens at 11am, with judging from 12.30pm.

For a future diary dateDID YOU KNOW.....there are over 250 churches in England dedicated to St Margaret, Templeton being one of them. The Feast of St Margaret was always held on July 20th and so, in accordance with this tradition, the parishioners of St Margaret's, Templeton will be holding a modern Feast Day in aid of the church repair funds on Wednesday 20th July. Do join us. Tickets and further information will be available at the beginning of July from either Jan Heptinstall (01884 255399), Alison Withers (01884 253030) or Phillida Strong (01884 253220).

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Lynda Newnes	5 th - 12 th June
Sally Greenslade	19 th - 26 th June
Teresa Panherz	3 rd - 10 th July
Bindy Linden	17 th - 24 th July

Washfield

Remember: A person's true wealth is the good he or she does in the world.

The PCC's annual meeting took place in March at which Mrs Jeanne Jones and Mrs Joan McCahon agreed to continue as Church wardens. Thanks were recorded to everyone who has given time and help to upkeep the church and churchyard. On 15th March the village clock in the Church tower suddenly died! The cable holding the drive weight snapped and the weight fell dramatically down its protective chute


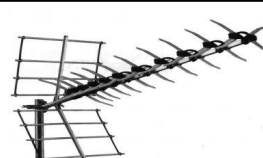
to the floor beside our bell-ringers at their weekly practice. No-one was hurt. Thanks to local experts, and a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous, the cable was repaired and the clock brought back to life very soon. The cable for the separate chiming mechanism has also been replaced for safety's sake. The thanks of the entire village go to those who have restored our clock to health.

Our Mothering Sunday service is always special; it's a delight to watch the children distributing the many posies to the congregation. The Easter services began with Anna taking a Meditation service on Good Friday which was followed by tea and hot-cross buns.

Twelve children took part in the Egg Decorating and Rolling competitions and all were rewarded for their hard work with a chocolate egg. Thank you, Oliver, for organising this event and to Caroline for judging the entries.

It was lovely to welcome back The Rev. Steven Knight who celebrated our Easter Day service of Holy Communion to a large congregation. As usual the church looked beautiful with arrangements of spring flowers, thank you to everyone who made this so.

Our annual Fete is to be held on Saturday July 2nd at 2.30pm in the grounds of The Old Rectory. This is our church's main event and we could not make it the success it normally is without your help and presence. Can we once again ask for contributions to fill the array of stalls including cakes, bottles, books, produce, white elephant and, of course, the tea-time food? We thank you in anticipation for your continued generosity. There will

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PARISH ROUND-UP

be a Children's competition too, and many side-shows. Please come along on the day and enjoy this quintessential summer event.

A meeting to discuss and plan the Fete will be held in the church on Monday June 6th at 7.30pm. All welcome, come along with your ideas.

We send many happy congratulations and best wishes to Raymond Trout and Claire Green who married on Saturday 23rd April at Barnstaple Civic Centre followed by a reception at The Park Hotel. Also to Laura Greenslade and Adam Burnell who have become engaged. Good wishes aplenty to both happy couples. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who has been unwell or in hospital of late. We are glad to see Allison out and about in the village recently, we wish her well.

Congratulations to all the young people who completed the Exmoor Challenge and Ten Tors expeditions and good luck to all those facing exams this summer.

The Social Club's Annual Flower and Vegetable show will be held on Saturday August 20th. We hope you are sowing and growing!

John Burton has started an initiative for recycling reading books, DVDs and the like by setting up a bookcase in the Hall. From here you can buy good, clean books etc very cheaply (books can be donated for sale too). All proceeds will go to Memorial Hall funds.

The Social Club held a very enjoyable event to mark the Royal Wedding and many villagers came to celebrate with street party food and a Royal-themed Quiz. Thanks to all who put up bunting in the village, decorated the hall and made it an evening to remember.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th June - Meeting to discuss Fete in church 7.30pm. All welcome.

Tuesday 7th June - Garden Club visit to Bernaville Nurseries. Meet 2pm at hall.

Thursday 23rd June Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30pm

Saturday 2nd July Church Fete in Old Rectory 2.30pm

Thursday 28th July Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30pm

Church Flower Rota

June 5 th /12 th	Mrs Hansford
June 19 th /26 th	Mrs Trout
July 3 rd /10 th	Mrs Bicknell
July 17 th /24 th	Mrs S Balment
July 31 st /August 7 th	Mrs Horsey

Church Cleaning Rota

June 5 th	Mrs Horsey
June 12 th /19 th	Mr and Mrs McCahon
June 26 th /July 3 rd	Mrs French
July 10 th /17 th	Mrs Arnold / Mrs Bicknell
July 24 th /31 st	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones

Withleigh

Our Mothering Sunday service was well attended, with potted polyanthus being distributed to members of the congregation for themselves or to take home to their loved ones. Thank you, Paul and Elizabeth, for taking the service.

The Good Friday service in the Village Hall brought forth a good number of attendees who enjoyed coffee and hot cross buns before singing hymns and discussing readings relating to the day. The Easter Sunday services were also well attended, and once again with an enjoyable village breakfast held in the village hall. We thank everyone who contributed towards the breakfast, and to all who decorated the church so beautifully.

The Horse Show in aid of church funds and other charities, held by kind permission of Chris and Jane Brake at Heazle Farm, Clayhidon on 17th April, proved to be a success with a profit of around £500. Thank you, in particular, to Chris and Jane, Eda Gooding, Christine Luxton and other helpers for all their help. We also thank all those who gave in any way to this event.

Great fun was had by all who attended the Easter Egg Beetle Drive; congratulations to Christine who had the top score for the evening, and Giles, who received the prize for the best drawn beetle.



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PARISH ROUND-UP

Our celebration, to mark 125 years of being a Parish, was indeed a service and lunch to be remembered. Thank you, Paul, for putting all your thoughts together in preparing this special service. Bishop Bob attended, and gave us a wonderful sermon after being 'put on the spot' by being questioned by Steve, one question being 'What does a Bishop do?' This certainly gave us an insight into his life as a Bishop. The three course lunch in the Village Hall was enjoyed by 57 people. Bishop Bob, Steve and two of Giles & Rosie's grandchildren cut a delicious celebratory cake for

There is now a short updated history of the Church commemorating 125 years as a Parish, which has been written by Paul Iliff, available in the Church, costing £1, proceeds from which will go towards the upkeep of the Church. Thank you, Paul, for your work in compiling this new edition.

We send our congratulations to Harry and Sylvia Hann who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 13th May. Our love and best wishes to you both.

The Village Hall AGM is to be held on

Saturday 4th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be followed with Wine & Cheese at 8pm. Please come along and support the village hall committee. Everyone is welcomed to join us for both the AGM and the Wine & Cheese.

Our Church Fete is on Saturday, 16th July at Bona Vista. Contributions would be gratefully received for the cake stall, tombola, bric-a-brac, garden plants and vegetable stall or a draw prize. These can be left at Bona Vista on the evening of Friday, 15th July, or ring Janet,

254851, to collect them from you beforehand. There is another planning meeting at Bona Vista on Monday 27th June at 8.00pm, so please come along if you can help in any way, or contact Janet.

Our Garden and Produce Show is taking place again on Saturday, 30th July after such a good response last

year. You will find a schedule attached to your Withleigh magazine, giving you all the information regarding this. If you have any queries, please ring Gill and Mike Williams, 242977 or Henry 252172. Let's make it another good show!

The Women's Institute and the Young Farmers Club have done well in competitions. The Women's Institute were runners up in the County skittles competition and the Young Farmers were third nationally at Blackpool, with Richard Tucker in the team, in a jazz dancing competition. An excellent achievement for both groups!

Our thoughts are with those awaiting or recovering from operations, together with those who are not well at the moment. We send get well wishes to you all. We also remember those who have been bereaved, and our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Forthcoming events:

4th June Village Hall AGM at 7.30pm followed by Wine & Cheese at 8pm.

Flower Rota:

June 5 th)	Wedding
12 th)	
June 19 th)	Janet Stacey
26 th)	
July 3 rd)	Val Kingston
10 th)	
July 17 th)	Susie Wade
24 th)	
July 31 st)	Linda Taylor
Aug 7 th)	

Monthly Diary dates:

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



which we thank Sylvia Hann. A big thank you to all the people, led by Brenda, who helped prepare and serve the meal, and, of course, clear up afterwards. It was so good to have this occasion to welcome parishioners as well as old friends returning to Withleigh.



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