

# TODAY

The Parish  
Magazine  
for the  
Exe Valley  
Mission  
Community

December, 2013 / January, 2014

Price 40p

## GOD IS FOR LIFE - NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas is one of the few times of year when our churches can be confident of attracting a good sized congregation. We are always pleased to welcome the many occasional visitors who join us to celebrate God's gift to us of the Lord Jesus Christ. It's great to see full churches and to hear hearty singing over the festive period.

However, I confess that I do sometimes wonder about what goes through the minds of those who attend church services on such an irregular basis. After all, if we believe that the Christmas message is true – that God really did send his only Son into the world to save us from our sins – then attending church just once or twice a year seems a rather feeble response to God's amazing generosity.

Some people even seem to treat God a bit like an elderly relative of whom they are not very fond.

They go and visit him for an hour or two at Christmas and perhaps at Easter, but they feel at liberty to ignore him for the rest of the year (unless they want something from him, of course). An elderly relative would not be very impressed by this level of devotion, and nor is God. He surely deserves better than this.



On the other hand, if we think that the message of Christmas is untrue – that it is just a myth or a fairy story – then why do we bother going to church at all? It is a bit of a sham to go through the motions if deep down we think that it is a load of nonsense. We

may enjoy the sentimental feelings that the carol service generates, but if it is all based on a falsehood or a delusion, then we are simply indulging a fantasy.

Someone has written that the message of Christmas cannot be moderately important to us. If it is true, then it must surely be the most important thing in our lives. If it is false, then it must be abandoned or ignored. With Jesus Christ, it really is a case of all or nothing.

Christians continue to believe the ancient announcement of the angels that Christmas is "Good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2v10). The message of peace with God and forgiveness of sins is such good news that it needs to be celebrated every day of our lives, not just once a year.

*Steve*

**Copy Deadline for the February / March issue - Friday 10th January**

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## EDITORIAL

## AND IT'S GOODBYE FROM HIM....

As far as the editorship of this magazine is concerned! This is the 27th issue for which Elizabeth and I have been responsible, and the 26th to be actually put together 'in house'. This time there is a difference, in that Jenny Parnell has also been involved, prior to her and Geoff taking over fully from the next issue.

Producing Today every other month has been an interesting exercise, and during the course of the past four-and-a-half years it has grown from twelve pages to sixteen, but it is all too easy to become stale in approach, so somebody new taking over the editorship can only be a good thing.

Thank you to all who have passed comment on the magazine itself, and to all those who have contributed to its content, including our advertisers. Please send future contributions to Geoff and Jenny at the address in the grey column on the left of this page.

Thank you also to Peter and Andrew at Impact Print & Wear, who turn our computer files into the printed document, for the help received and for the way our deadlines have been accommodated.

As Elizabeth and I relinquish our roles as administrators, may we also thank our clergy, reader and churchwardens for their support over the years. But we are all part of a team.

Thank you also to those other clergy and readers who have enabled us to maintain the number of services in our churches Sunday by Sunday; without you things would have been very difficult, especially during the vacancy. However, I have to tell you that you have not heard the last from

us, as we have agreed to continue to help Steve with the service rotas for the time being!

Otherwise, time to pass on the baton.

*Paul*

## NATIVITY SERVICE

You're all warmly invited to a Nativity Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December at Templeton Village Hall. This will be a service for all the family, starting with a breakfast from 9.30am and a service from 11.00. The service will include carols and a nativity. Children, please feel free to come dressed as a shepherd, Wise Man, or other nativity character! There'll be plenty for kids to do, and enough to keep adults entertained as well!



If you haven't been to Exe Valley Central since the first one in September, why not come along again? Or if you haven't been at all, now's your chance to find out what we do. Perhaps you could think of inviting some families from your village – Christmas is a great time to share the good news of Jesus with all our neighbours.

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## WOMEN'S CRAFT EVENT

The Exe Valley Women's Bible Study group are holding a Christmas event on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Come and join us to make Christmas decorations. There'll be craft, nibbles and drinks, chat and a short talk about the true meaning of Christmas. It's 2-4pm at East Sidborough, Loxbeare EX16 8DA. Please phone Marion on 01884 256302 for more information.

## ANN'S NATURE NOTES

The winter storms have now started and winter is upon us. It has been a very unusual autumn, with warm weather, southerly and westerly winds, with the result it has been warm and wet. The

leaves stayed on the trees for longer than usual.

Ivy is now flowering, and attracts insects, which in turn attract birds. Ivy also gives cover for insects and birds from the cold winds and snow. The butterflies have migrated or are hibernating, the plants have retreated underground. It is a quiet time of year for wildlife in general, but it is fun to see the tracks in the snow, if there is any. When looking for the paw prints, there are often tail prints too.

At this time of the year, when the trees are bare, it is easier to see the birds. In the early spring their colours get brighter, as they go into breeding mode. Recently there have reports of deformed birds. I hear that in Cruwys Morchard there is a Blackbird with a white head, and the owner of the house where it visited is always happy to see him when he returns. This is partially leucistic, and may be caused by poor nutrition, environmental pollution or genetics. There are a lot of birds, particularly tits, that have very deformed beaks, but no one is quite sure why, but maybe because of a viral infection. The keratin layer overgrows especially on the lower mandible, which may also be crossed with the upper one. Birds with unusual colouring, that live in flocks, can be vulnerable to being picked off by raptors, as they are different from the other birds. When birds are flying round in a flock it would seem that the raptor can get muddled and find it difficult to latch onto a single bird. If one is different they can latch on to it more easily. Recently on Portland Bill there was a mixed flock, with one Short Toed Lark in it, and the Peregrin went for the rarity.

The winter Thrushes are here now, in flocks. They willingly finish off the windfalls. The Redwings prefer

the holly berries and have quite voracious appetites. Fieldfares are the largest and are rather grey, and have a rattle-like alarm call; the Redwings are smaller, neater with an attractive eye-stripe.

Ann

## DEANERY SYNOD. OCTOBER 2013.

The main speaker was the Rev Nigel Freathy who is chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (D.A.C.). He said that his priority was the mission need in the parish. They act as an advisory body, with other bodies such as English Heritage, the Medieval Society, Victorian Society and the like. The Chancellor, who is a Judge, makes the decision as to whether to allow the Faculty application. It is up to the D.A.C. to produce as positive a report with their certificate as possible. Applications should include a clear statement of significance and need for the changes.

He is very keen to try to speed up the process. They now meet every 3 weeks. They get about 160 applications for Faculties a year, and about 70% are agreed at the first meeting, and then sent forward. This should take 6-8 weeks. Delays can be caused by inadequate information given. Minor works do not require a faculty.

He realised that the busier and more active the church is, the more likely the building is to survive. Therefore it is important that the church building reflects what is wanted in the parish.

On the first January there will be new faculty guidelines, with more minor repairs not needing a faculty, extending the list for the Archdeacon.

East Devon Choral Society

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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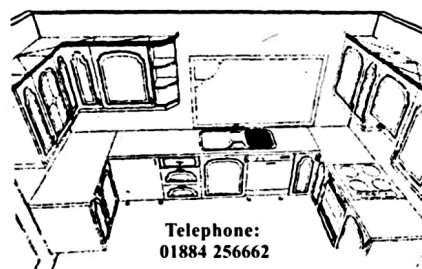
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We were told that Health and Safety Policies and Safeguarding Policy should be discussed annually and the discussion minuted. The ecclesiastical web site is very helpful on this.

The Archdeacon was asked whether members of the PCC are liable for any expenses. He said no, so long as they had acted honestly and reasonably. Should anything untoward happen, the well written minute will be used for evidence to show that decisions were reached reasonably, and intelligently.

There will be a short General Synod. There are three main subjects for discussion which are really a hangover from the last synod. 1. There will be a reordering of the Diocese round Leeds. 2. There will be a discussion on the working of the synod, maybe making it more convenient for working people, and 3. on the electorate - should it be wider or narrower.

Simon Friend was elected the new lay chairman.

*Ann Crawford*

## C.H.A.T.

Tiverton Concert Band's Autumn Concert in St Paul's Church Tiverton, Saturday 16 November 7.30pm, is raising money for CHAT. If you're planning to go, why not buy tickets in advance from CHAT and we'll get the money for them? We have 20 tickets to sell - £5 adult, £1.50 under 16s - and could raise £100 from this. Tickets also available on the door, but that money goes to TCB. Hope to see you there!



## "WE FEAR OUR CHURCH BECOMING LIKE YOURS!"

Yes, that was the reaction of some African delegates to their western church colleagues at the recent conference of Anglican leaders in Nairobi. 331 Bishops amongst the 1358 delegates from 38 countries met to consider the future of the Anglican Church in the light of the incessant revisionist teaching in both church and state in western countries.

Many of the delegates were from churches who knew the reality of bombings, assassinations and killings as they faced persecution on a daily basis. However, the prospect of finding themselves or their families victims of such violence was not their chief concern. One Archbishop told a delegate that killings in his "patch" had decreased (yes decreased) to about 50 a week but that was not their main fear. Delegates like him went on to state that we in the west are at much greater risk! This, not from physical danger maybe, but from the much greater danger of a diluted Christianity. One delegate wrote in the Church of England Newspaper "More than loss of life or property, they feared that their people would be lost to a "Christianity" like much of ours. Lost ... to a faith that has no need for the substitutionary death of the Lord Jesus because it has done away with a God of principled anger or because it has re-categorised that which is sinful, as good. They saw the extreme physical risks they continue to endure as substantially outweighed by the spiritual risks to which we have already succumbed".

The conference concluded with the "Nairobi Commitment", 9 commitments of which some are as follows:-

Commitment to Mission, including towards other faiths.

Commitment to the defence of essential truths of the Biblical faith - which might make it necessary to provide alternative oversight in "cases where provinces and dioceses compromise Biblical faith"

Commitment to those who, in standing for apostolic truth, are being marginalized within their parishes or diocese, including the recognition of the Anglican Mission to England (AMIE).

Commitment to teach God's good purposes in marriage and in singleness, marriage as being understood as a lifelong exclusive union between a man and a woman.

Commitment to the continuation of the Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans, putting membership, staffing and financing onto a new basis. To continue to work within the Anglican Communion for its renewal and reform.

The statement concludes with this well known quote from Ephesians 3 : 20 - 21. *"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."*

*John Roberts*

## PARISH ROUND-UP

### Calverleigh

Over 70 people sat down to our Harvest Supper on Saturday 14th September. Ladies from the Church prepared and served this lovely meal. Thank you Rita for being our co-ordinator making sure we all had a job to do. Rev Steve Goodbody led us in the Grace, and then the tasty homemade soup or orange and grapefruit cocktail was served.. We then went on to the salad meal with home-cooked gammon, potatoes and all the trimmings. The desserts had been donated by families in the Parish and what a mouth-watering selection it was. We must thank everyone who was involved in any way, especially Doreen Venn and Geoffrey Thomas for doing the bulk of the washing up. We were then entertained by the duo "Ad Lib" with their very appropriate music and songs which everyone could join in. Derek Herniman then auctioned all the goodies that had been tastefully displayed on the shelves around the hall and stage, raising another £120 for our Church Funds.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service was very well attended. The Church was seasonally decorated. Thank you ladies for your marvellous fruit, vegetables and flower displays, which were then taken to Charlton Lodge for the use of the residents. The service was led by Julie and this was followed by coffee and biscuits.

We offer our congratulations to Mr and Mrs Lewis Leightown on becoming Grandparents again. Their little

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Granddaughter was born on 8th September.

We hope that you have managed to keep away from the coughs and colds and other ailments that seem to be going around at the moment. Robert Webber had a short stay in hospital but are pleased to say he is now fit and well. We hope that Betty Slade is feeling a little better.

At our PCC meeting on 24th September, we were told that the roof is now completely finished. The next job to be done will be the lime washing of the interior walls.

Our Songs of Praise on October 20th was led by Natasha Goldsworthy. We had a very large congregation. All the hymns had been chosen by members of the congregation and everyone sang out well, doing justice to the well known and not so well known tunes. Aubrey, Julie and Tash had worked hard putting the programme together as it also included some lovely poems read by different members of the congregation. Once again coffee/tea and biscuits were served after the service.

Congratulations to Brian and Anne Longbottom who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 24th October. May you have many more years of happiness together.

It is nice to see the lights on in the Rose and Crown, and cars in the car park again. The Mayor of Tiverton Councillor Janet Rendle and her consort, husband John Rendle, opened the pub on November 1st. We wish the Landlord, Tim Browning and Family, every happiness in their new home, and we give you a warm welcome. It is good to have some more children in the village; even with these four new ones it will be a little time before we have a football team in the village!

Benjamin Furneaux has now successfully completed his training and is now a

Special Constable with the Metropolitan Police in London. He is now in his second year at Greenwich University. Ben's Mum and Dad, Paul and Maureen, attended his Attesting Ceremony with proud Grandmother Myrtle Webber in September, she even tried on his helmet for size!!



The Loxbeare and Calverleigh Carol singers will be doing their usual visits on 19th, 21st and 24th December.

Our Christingle service this year is on December 8th at 3pm, the Carol Service is on December 22nd at 3pm. Our Christmas Day Communion is at 9.30am. Please join us for these services if you can, you will be made very welcome.



## Cruwys Morchard

This year's Harvest Festival was a little different from usual, as the new hall was in the process of being built. We had our usual service; thank you to the Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers, for helping lead the service by providing the prayers. Thank you to all who helped decorate the church. We followed this with sports in the field in the rain and unfortunately it was too wet to picnic outside, so there was a picnic in the church. Next year we look forward to resuming our normal tradition of tea in the new hall.

Charlton Lodge have written a thank you for the produce that was brought to the church over the harvest weekend and was delivered to them after Sunday's service.

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11am we shall be holding a Service of Readings and Carols. On Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11 am we shall be holding our Christingle and Carol service. If anyone would like to help with the service, please contact Cindy - 01363 866621 or Diana - 01363 860227.

We would like to be able to have a nativity play again this year, please let us know if your children would like to take part, so we can arrange a time to practise. We will also be making Christingles at Cindy's house, Valley View, Pennymoor, and we welcome anyone who would like to come and help. Coffee and mince pies will be served at the end of the service.

We will again be collecting foodstuffs for the charity CHAT, who distribute foods to those in need locally. The food we provide, will help to boost their store cupboard for distribution throughout the year - please no fresh food. Long life milk, cereals,

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

dried food, tins (with ring pulls); they also require tooth brushes, toothpastes, soaps, shower gels and cleaning products. We will be collecting these at church at the Christingle service.

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of December, the service will start at 10pm and it will be Holy Communion with Carols

A warm welcome to all who have recently moved into the parish. We hope to meet you at our parish events. We send our prayers and good wishes to all who are unwell at this time.

If anyone would like to take over the job of gathering the parish news and submitting it for the Today magazine, please can they contact Teresa Grant on 01363 860124 or email [Tesstranscripts@aol.com](mailto:Tesstranscripts@aol.com) or Cindy on 01363 866621.

### Forthcoming Events :

Di & Dave's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS QUIZ - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December for Parish hall funds. Teams of 4 to 6 people. Bar and draw £5.00 per person, to include nibbles and a light supper. Please book your team in CONTACT US or text Surname, post code and how many in team to 07773 36 23 05 start with QUIZ. Pay at the door on the night

Christmas Bingo - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Bigger and better prizes than usual for hall funds.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lorna Warren

December 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Decorators for Christmas

December 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> – Diana Vincent & Val Randerson

January 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> – Cindy Trick & Pat Cross

January 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> – Judith Taylor & Anne Gillbard

### Stove Rota

December - Mr J. Carter

January - Mr M. Trick

February - Mr G. Cruwys

March - Mr J. Lake

Please light the church stove on Saturday (Morning if possible). If you are unable to,

please contact: Cindy Tel: 01363 866621 or Diana Tel: 01363 860227

## **Loxbeare**

As a parish we wish to acknowledge all the hard work Paul & Elizabeth Iliff have put into faithfully producing the TODAY Magazine. Thank-you and may God bless you both. We wish Geoff & Jenny Parnell all the best and God's blessing as they take on this very important work.

It was good to see many attend our Harvest Festival celebrations, including several children, which were held on the weekend of September 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> with the Saturday afternoon service followed by sports and tea which was enjoyed by all. Our Sunday morning service included many from the parish taking part. Many thanks to all who decorated the Church and helped in any way. The Harvest Supper was held on the following Thursday with a sale of produce.

We held a special service on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at which we celebrated the reality of Christian hope as opposed to the darkness of evil. We had two DVD's, one on the Tear Fund work and one on the support given by Barnabas to the persecuted Christian Church as this was also a special day for prayer for them. The offering & donations at the time of writing amount to £141.50, to be given to Tear Fund.

At the time of writing these notes we are planning an evening at New Creation Christian Bookshop on November 21<sup>st</sup> with a supper and browse amongst the well stocked shelves for cards, books, CD's, etc. Well worth a visit.

Christmas will soon be upon us, with many services and celebrations of Christ's birth. Our Christingle Service will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> December at 3.00pm in the Village Hall followed by a tea. The Carol Service will be on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6.30pm, with the offering being

donated to Children's Hospice South West. The Christmas Day Service will be at 10.30am. Carol Singing will be on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> meeting at Loxbeare Garage at 6.30pm for the first two nights, and Calverleigh Village Hall at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve. The collection will be for Cancer Research and Barnabas.

The Woman's Bible Study Group meet every other Tuesday afternoon from 2-4pm at Pauline's - Highgate Cottage. Dates - December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & January 7<sup>th</sup> when we will continue our studies on Beatitudes. All are welcome from all parishes.

We send congratulations to Richard Vickery on becoming a Grandad for the second time this year with a little boy, Nicholas Richard, born to Jonathan and Regina who live in Munich.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays, and best wishes to those with special occasions to celebrate in December / January.

We welcome Ken & Brenda Cole who have moved into the bungalow at Gibbett Farm not far away at Hill Farm Calverleigh.

We are pleased to hear all those who have been poorly are now feeling much better. Our thoughts and prayers are still with those who are still feeling unwell and receiving treatment.

Thoughts are with Martin and Michelle Vickery following the tragic death of their close friend Charlotte (Buffy) Furness-Smith who drowned on the Dorset coast 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Many thanks and appreciation to the Radford family for cutting the grass in the churchyard during the past year. With Dawn now at college and work, she now feels unable to commit to helping with the churchyard and so next year we will be looking for volunteers to share the grass cutting. We also thank all those who have helped in any way with the



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## NEW CREATION NEWS

Spreading the Good News for 25 years.

December is here once again, and the wonderful season of Christmas is almost upon us! How quickly this year has gone! (We seem to say that every year!) The nation had the arrival of a new future king, Prince George, to look forward to while we at New Creation had our 25<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in October. We have also seen the departure of one of our Trustees, as Philip Porter has decided to step down. We thank him for his support and help during his time with us.

January brings a New Year, and we pray that, by God's grace, we will continue to serve the people of Tiverton and Mid-Devon for another year.

I am sure you have already purchased the majority of your cards and gifts by now, but we will be here to help you, right up to the last minute. There are always a few extra cards that are needed, and if you are still looking for a gift, diaries and calendars are still available. In this electronic age a good book is still a great gift and we have all sorts, both factual and fiction. If you are looking for that last minute stocking filler, we have a wide range of books and other small items suitable for children of *all* ages. Remember, nearly all our stock carries a Christian text, message or symbol.

While browsing the shop for those last minute items, why not pop into the café for a drink and bite to eat. December's SPECIAL OFFER is a seasonal FREE MINCE PIE with any hot drink.

### SPECIAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

There is still time to book a place at our Festive Lunches - but hurry. They are served on Wednesdays, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. Two Courses for only £10.25 per head. Roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, Christmas pudding or alternative sweet, cup of tea and a mint to finish. Please note that these meals *must* be pre-booked.

**SO BOOK NOW.**

### CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

New Creation will be open right up to Christmas Eve. But on 24<sup>th</sup> December, the café will only be serving drinks, cake and biscuits, and both the shop and café will close at 1.00 pm.

After the holiday the shop will re-open on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 9.30 am.

Remember, that if you pick up Bible Reading Notes from the shop, to collect your January notes before the Christmas holiday.

May each and every one of you receive blessings this Christmas and may the Spirit remain with you throughout the New Year giving you a heart full of joy and thankfulness.

### HAPPY CHRISTMAS

**New Creation, 58 Bampton Street, Tiverton, EX16 4BP Tel: 01884 255769  
e.mail: [shop@newcreationtiverton.org.uk](mailto:shop@newcreationtiverton.org.uk)**

## PARISH ROUND-UP

December 9th: The Village Christmas meal will be at the Tiverton Hotel. 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Sue on 01884 259496.

13th January: meeting will be at Sue's to discuss 2014 monthly activities at 7.00pm. December 3rd Carol is organising the Christmas Bingo in the Hall - 7 for 7.30pm. Contact Carol on 01884 881480. On the 18th January we will be having the Village Party in the Village Hall starting at 7pm. Contact Ron on 01884 881362.

Anyone interested in learning to ring the Church bells please contact Carol by the end of the year on 01884 881480, who will be organising someone to come and teach.

## Oakford

The Harvest celebration at Oakford was an enjoyable occasion. The church was beautifully decorated for the Harvest service with plenty of flowers and produce, reflecting the better summer we had this year. After the service everyone enjoyed tea at the back of the church. The harvest supper on the Monday evening was a great success with a lively auction. Many thanks to Mike for auctioning and also to Steve (the auctioneer's little helper!) Many thanks to Dawn, Brenda, Connie, Jean, Joy and Wendy who organized the food, made cakes and apple pies and to those who decorated the church and all those who supported and helped in so many ways. A net profit of £522.60 enabled us to send half to Tearfund and half to the church.

general maintenance of the Church and Churchyard. Also to all who helped, support and contributed to the smooth running of the Church during the past year.

Thank-you to Chris and Jan Bardes-Payne and family who organised and hosted the bonfire and fireworks evening on November 2nd. A very enjoyable evening. Donations were for the Village Hall funds.

Our thanks again go to the Radford family for holding three evenings at Buttermoor, giving those interested a tour of their recently installed robot milking system. We wish them well in their new venture.

Loxbeare Ladies: will be involved in running the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall on November 30th for Village Hall funds. From 10.30 - 12.30pm.

The Remembrance Service took place on November 10<sup>th</sup>, first at the War Memorial when we remembered the men from the village who died serving our country. This was followed by a service in the church. The collection for this service will be sent to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Christmas will soon be upon us, and the start of the celebration will take place on

Continued on Page 10 ➡

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## CHILDREN'S GROUPS

### TODDLERS GROUP

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Every Friday during term time  
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For information phone  
Alison Brewis on (01398) 351552

## MISSION COMMUNITY HOME-GROUPS

(Alternate Wednesdays)  
See fliers for details

## HOME GROUPS

### COFFEE PLUS

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

### LOXBEARE PRAISE AND PRAYER MEETING

3rd Tuesday in month  
At 7.30pm.  
(Tel.01884-881362 for venues)

### EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays 2-4pm at  
Highgate Cottage, Loxbeare  
Contact Marion 01884 256302,  
or Alison 01398 351552 for  
details.

### WALK THE TALK

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

## MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES, etc

### Exe Valley Central

Each Sunday  
in

**Templeton Village Hall**  
At 11 am

**On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December,  
EVC will be a Breakfast  
Service, beginning at 10 am  
Followed by a Nativity**

**On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December,  
EVC will be the only service  
in the Mission Community**

*When there is no service in  
Parish churches, all are  
encouraged to attend  
Exe Valley Central*

## OAKFORD

### 1st December

9.30 am Family Service

### 8th December

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 15th December

9.30 am Morning Prayer

### 22nd December

5.30 pm Carol Service

### Christmas Eve

11.30 pm Holy Communion

### Christmas Day

10 am Family Service

### 29th December

No Service

### 5th January

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 12th January

9.30 am Morning Prayer

### 19th January

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 26th January

9.30 am Family Service

## RACKENFORD

### 1st December

No Service

### 8th December

9.30 am Morning Worship

### 15th December

3 pm Christingle Service

### 22nd December

No Service

### Christmas Eve

7 pm Carols & Holy Communion

### 29th December

No Service

### 5th January

No Service

### 12th January

9.30 am Morning Worship

### 19th January

9.30 am Family Service

### 26th January

9.30 am Holy Communion

## STOODLEIGH

### 1st December

11 am Family Service

### 8th December

11 am Morning Prayer

### 15th December

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 22nd December

6 pm Carol Service

### Christmas Day

11 am Holy Communion

### 29th December

No Service

### 5th January

11 am Family Service

### 12th January

11 am Morning Prayer

### 19th January

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 26th January

2.30 pm Evening Prayer  
with Baptism

## CALVERLEIGH

**1st December**

No Service

**8th December**

3 pm Christingle Service

**15th December**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**22nd December**

3 pm Carol Service

**Christmas Day**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

No Service

**12th January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**19th January**

11.15 am Morning Worship

**26th January**

3 pm Evening Worship

## CRUWYS MORCHARD

**1st December**

No Service

**8th December**

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**15th December**

11 am Carol Service

**22nd December**

11 am Carols & Christingle

**Christmas Eve**

10 pm Holy Communion  
with Carols

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

No Service

**12th January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**19th January**

11 am Family Service

**26th January**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

## LOXBEARE

**1st December**

3 pm Christingle Service

**8th December**

No Service

**15th December**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**22nd December**

6.30 pm Carol Service

**Christmas Day**

10.30 am Family Communion

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

9.30 am Family Communion

**12th January**

No Service

**19th January**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**26th January**

No Service

## TEMPLETON

**1st December**

No Service

**8th December**

11 am Family Service

**15th December**

No Service

**22nd December**

No Service

**Christmas Eve**

7 pm Carol Service  
& Holy Communion

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

9.30 am Morning Prayer  
& Holy Communion by Extension

**12th January**

No Service

**19th January**

No Service

**26th January**

No Service

## WASHFIELD

**1st December**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**8th December**

11 am Morning Prayer

**15th December**

11 am Christingle Service

**22nd December**

3 pm Evening Prayer

**Christmas Eve**

6 pm Carol Service

**Christmas Day**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

3 pm Evening Prayer

**12th January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**19th January**

11 am Family Service

**26th January**

No Service

## WITHLEIGH

**1st December**

No Service

**8th December**

4 pm Christingle Service

**15th December**

9.30 am Morning Worship

**22nd December**

7.30 pm Carol Service

**Christmas Eve**

11.30 pm Holy Communion

**29th December**

No Service

**5th January**

No Service

**12th January**

11 am Family Service

**19th January**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**26th January**

11 am Morning Worship



## PARISH ROUND-UP

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm when we will be decorating the Christmas tree in the church. If you would like to bring any children along to help decorate the tree, they will be very welcome. Afterwards at 6p.m. the Christmas tree in the village will be lit up and carols sung around the tree. All are welcome. Our thanks to Bun and Brenda for the Christmas trees.

There will be a **Candlelit Carol Service** on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5.30pm**. This will be a service of readings and carols with mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. We hope you will be able to join us. Christmas Eve at 11.30pm. Holy

Communion  
Christmas Day 10am. Family service of readings and carols.

We hope you all have a joyous Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

### Other events

Moorland Club:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner.

Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup> Fish and Chip supper in the Village hall at 7.15pm.  
Panto: Oakford Players present 'Aladdin' on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. with a matinee on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. Adults £6.00 Children £3.00 Please telephone 01398 324035.

The Christmas Quiz will be at The Red Lion on December 18<sup>th</sup>. The Raffle will be for the Devon Air Ambulance.

## ***Rackenf*ord**

**F**irst of all, sincere apologies to the families concerned for getting a name

wrong in the last issue. Both families were contacted on this matter.

Our very best wishes to Vera Sutton who continues to recover from a spell in hospital, our prayers are with you and we wish you well.

Belated congratulations to Rob and Beryl Coleman who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September.

Hilda Nott, Lucy and Vicki would like to thank everyone who supported their fund raising quiz evening for the Fire Fighters Charity in memory of their dear son/brother. This year £960.24p was raised. We have been so touched and grateful for all the kindness, help, donations and support over the past 10 years.

Our deepest sympathy to David and Alison Trazies, James and Emily on the death of Alison's father. Also our thoughts and prayers to Tim & Liz Paxton, James & Richard on the death of Liz's mum. The funeral service took place at our church where Aileen Davy, Liz's mum, was also laid to rest. Our prayers are with you all at this very difficult time.

Many thanks once again to Fred and Joan Phillips, Brian, Mervyn and Jenny for cutting the church hedge and all the hard work clearing up. It looks really neat and tidy. Very much appreciated.

Thank you to all helpers at Rackenf

ord have a coffee and a chat. Transport available if you need it.

Many thanks to everyone who has had any part in the care of our church during the year, and give their time, it's always very much appreciated and very important.

A warm welcome to anyone who has moved into our village or surrounding area. Hope you will enjoy being with us and enjoy village life.

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October Rackenf

ord school children kindly brought their harvest gifts into the church; later that day several adults continued to decorate with beautiful flowers and produce. Thank you everyone, also to people who could not help but brought various items.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October our village school children welcomed us all to their harvest service. Lovely songs were sung and many took part in readings. This was a most enjoyable service with lots of children in special costumes. The collection taken by the children was given to The Guide Dog Association. Everyone was welcome to return to the school for refreshments. Rob Brewis was involved in the children's service.

Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup> our Harvest Praise service was led by Rev Steve Goodbody, where a large congregation gathered to give thanks for the good harvest we had this year. Thanks to the choir/musicians and everyone who took part. Also thanks to Marjorie for the choir practices. Good to hear the bells being run.

We were very lucky indeed to be welcomed to the home of Jacque and Mary Cann for the Harvest supper and

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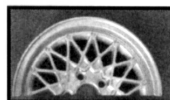


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## PARISH ROUND-UP

auction. Without them we would not have been able to have this valued and traditional evening. Thank you to them for all the hard work in preparing the shed !!!!! which was more like a hall. Jacques's hoover was working overtime. Thank you to all who helped setting up tables, chairs, fetching and carrying, preparing and making puddings, giving draw prizes, etc., and to all helpers. Many enjoyed the tasty supper, and taking part in the auction for which we thank Stafford Sampson, not forgetting all those helping him. A profit of £1,334.17 was made. What wonderful bidders you were, great fun. Thank you.

Rackenford PCC would like to add the following:

Once more we would like to thank all who filled in the questionnaire regarding changes to our Sunday Church services. We were pleased to see how many of you would like to join in the services by either reading the prayers or bible, or singing etc..

Sadly no space was allocated for your names or addresses, so will you please contact Herbert Smith on 01884 881375 or Mary Cann on 01884 881696. Thanking you, and looking forward to hearing from you with lots of suggestions and ideas. So pleased you would like to take part.

Our love and prayers to all who are not well, especially thinking of Bob Mogridge who has spent time in hospital.

We continue to remember our friends Percy Stone, Ken Blackford, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Arscott, Gwendoline and Bill Dart.

We hope the children had fun and enjoyed themselves collecting goodies on Halloween and didn't scare too many

people in their amazing costumes and enjoyed the treats they had been given. Bonfire night took place on November 2<sup>nd</sup> on the common. It was a wet and windy evening, but some ventured out to enjoy the fun. The judging of pumpkins and fireworks also took place. The sky lit up with some amazing fireworks. Some gave donations and were able to enjoy refreshments at The Stag (many thanks to them for their help and support). The Stag also gave toffee free at the bar, which had to be the best sticky treacle toffee ever. It was capable (so we have been told) of keeping people quiet for several minutes before they were able to unstick their teeth and talk again!!!!!! Many thanks to The Village Shop for all their hard work in keeping this tradition going for the village.

On Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup> our Remembrance Service was held at the War Memorial at Crossway. Many thanks to Derek Herniman for taking this very special service, which was well attended. Also thank you to Jackie Herniman for her assistance, and Cyril Blackford for the music. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year that Derek has taken the service for us and, as always, we are most grateful to be able to stand together to remember everyone who lost their lives in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> world wars and the wars that still continue to sadden us. Thank you also to Rick Aldridge for laying the wreath. The collection of £182 was given to The Royal British Legion.

Rackenford School has said a fond farewell to Pam Lester who has retired as secretary after 28 years. At a surprise get together, Pam was presented with an iPad portrait of her and her husband Pat, and flowers, along with kind words from staff past and present and many friends. Pam will be greatly missed but we hope

you will enjoy your retirement doing things you want to do, Pam, and thank you for everything.

It seems early, but this is the last opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas with our prayers and best wishes for the new year.

## Stoodleigh

The annual Christmas Fayre in aid of St Margaret's takes place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30 to 12.30. Father Christmas will be in the Hall from 11.15 to 11.30am with surprises for young children, and there will be a children's activity corner. For adults, mulled wine and mince pies or sausage rolls will help things along, and there will be some valuable raffle prizes which have been donated locally. In addition, there will be stalls with many items "mostly made in Stoodleigh", including preserves, pickles, cakes, cards, wreaths, second-hand tools... Do come and support the Fayre and stock up on things for Christmas!

Carol singing around the village will be on the evening of Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December and posters will be put up with further details.

The Carol Service in church is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6pm and it is hoped this is not too late for young families to come and join in the traditional carols, see the children in Audrey Rigg's Nativity Play, and hear what Jennifer Rowlandson's Christmas Choir has in store this year.



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

The church was once again imaginatively decorated with autumn flowers and greenery for the Harvest weekend, and we thank all who gave so much of their time and skill. The Harvest Thanksgiving service was very well attended and we thank the Rev Keith Gale for leading it. The Harvest Supper was enjoyed by many, although the numbers were slightly lower than usual. Due to the great generosity of those present, the auction raised £200 - shared equally between the church and Devon Air Ambulance. Thank you to all who made the evening so enjoyable.

### Dates in December

Sat. 7th - Christmas Fayre, 10.30 - 12.30.

Sun. 22nd - Carol Service, 6pm.

Christmas Day - Holy Communion, 11am.

After 18 months of concern over the quotations for replacing the church's leaking mains water pipe, the PCC are delighted to report that the water supply has now been fully re-instated at a very reasonable cost. We are immensely grateful to Dave and Matt Berry, who keep the churchyard so immaculately, and who undertook the excavations. Also to John Holland who did all the pipe-work and plumbing so efficiently.

A very warm welcome to the new residents who have come to live in our beautiful parish - Catherine and Ian and their two young sons at Barton House, Nigel and Lynn at Little Haydon Farm, and Kate at 1 Sawyard Cottages. We hope you all enjoy Stoodleigh life.

Parish Hall: The hall has been much used during the early autumn and the regular

users as well as those attending events such as the Harvest Supper and Autumn Market have given many positive comments and compliments about the new internal decoration of the main Hall. The hall committee is delighted with the feedback!

Thanks to everyone who supported the Autumn Market and Coffee Morning. Lots of you came along to take advantage of the local goods for sale, to enjoy coffee, tea and cakes - and to catch up with news in the village. We welcomed local businesses with their goods and also our local Children's Hospice South West (CHSW) volunteers. It was a good community event and just over £360 was generated for hall funds, and CHSW raised almost £200.

The hall is running its usual Christmas Grand Draw and if you haven't got your tickets yet, remember to get them soon from any of the hall committee. Prizes include a fantastic Christmas hamper, spirits, chocolates and much more. The draw will take place at the Christmas Bingo - another lively evening you should not miss - on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm.

### Children's Hospice SW:

A Coffee and Breakfast Brunch Morning is being held at Down Farm, Stoodleigh, in aid of CHSW, on Saturday 14th December, 10am-1pm, with all sorts of Christmas goodies for sale.

### Stoodleigh 100 Club:

Prizewinners for September - 1 Katherine Mead, 2 David Wotton Snr, 3 Hazel Kelland; October - 1 Mandy Widdowson, 2 Iris Wotton, 3 Paula Hullett, 4 John Shepherd.

### Flower Rota

Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th - Trish Fish

Dec. 22nd - Christmas (please all help)

Jan. 12th, 19th - Phyllis Hill

Jan. 26th - Betty Wotton

## Templeton

Our Harvest Festival was well attended and was led by Dr Douglas Fishlock. Your gifts for harvest were given to Charlton Lodge and we have since received a thank you letter from them.

THE CAROL SERVICE will be held on DECEMBER 24th at 7.00pm. This will be followed by a shortened version of Holy Communion.

A sincere thank you to all the ladies who clean the church, and for the lovely flower arrangements. The church looked especially beautiful for our harvest service.

Thanks to Peter Whitehart for mowing the churchyard and to everyone who contributes to his payment. We are grateful to Peter, and it is appreciated by us all.

Our thanks also go to Ron Woollacott for painting the church gate.

William Withers has purchased 10 sheep for the church which will be kept until they have lambed and then they will be sold. The profit from the sale will go towards church funds. Anyone interested in keeping them for a while can ring William on 01884 253030.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Apologies to anyone who came to the car boot sale. It had to be cancelled. The Duck Race held on September 10<sup>th</sup> was very successful, the weather was good and the event raised £620.00. The winner was Matthew Palmer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Rowcliffe and 3<sup>rd</sup> Naomi Dineen.

The marrow contest was also a success as many people entered their marrows. Martin Saunders won the shield for his prize marrow which weighed 23 pounds. The event raised more than £350 for Children's Hospice S.W., Little Bridge House. Thank you to all who supported a very worthy cause.

Our Bonfire and Firework display held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November was enjoyed by all. The weather was quite good although we did have some rain but it didn't spoil the event. Thanks to Mark Stone and his willing helpers for putting it all together and to Matt and his ladies in the kitchen for the hot dogs.

A Christmas party will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December for ages up to 9 years. There will be games, tea and a visit from Father Christmas. Tony Loosemore and his helpers are hosting this event, so if you want your children to attend please contact Sara Stone on 01884 251002.

The annual tournaments of darts, pool, skittles and table tennis begin in December so don't forget to put your names down at the club if you wish to be involved.

There will be a Quiz Night on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Your Quiz Master will be John McInerney.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

Teresa Sanchez - cleaning only.

(Advent) 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December

Gloria Woollacott cleaning

15<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Jan Heptinstall Flowers and

Cleaning 29<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> January

Teresa Sanchez - Flowers & Cleaning

12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> January

Gill Rose - Flowers and Cleaning

26<sup>th</sup> January - 2<sup>nd</sup> February

## Washfield

*Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand, and a talk beside the fire. It is the time for home*

December is now fast approaching and winter will soon be upon us, but let us first appreciate the wonderful autumnal colours; making the countryside look so spectacular.

On Remembrance Sunday a large congregation paid their respects to the fallen of past and recent conflicts. Mr Maurice Balment laid a wreath and read the names of men of the parish who gave their lives in the two world wars. A very reverent service was taken by Mr Martin Hansford. How nice to see the St George's flag flying for this occasion and the church clock face showing up so clearly now that it has been re-gilded.

On Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our Christingle service at 11am which will be taken by Anna. We hope that families with young children will once again take part in this Children's Society service.

The Christmas tree and Christingles will be decorated on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 and all are welcome to help. Christmas church flowers can also be put in the church on that day or before 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The traditional Carol service will be held on Christmas Eve at 6pm followed by coffee and mince pies.

It was a great pleasure to have Sandy and Drena Worth from North Carolina with us for a few days recently. They very much enjoyed meeting old friends, and making new whilst they were in Washfield. They were with us for a Sunday service, when Sandy read a lesson, following in his father's footsteps. Later, in the village hall, there was a chance to socialise with them over coffee. Their links with Washfield are very strong and it was a great pleasure to welcome them back and entertain them after several years. The Worth Trust is of great benefit to the parish, and we too, value their loyal friendship.

Condolences are sent to Jenny and Peter Bond on the death of Jenny's father, Ronald Littlechild. Ronald, and his late wife, Doris, were great supporters of events in the village when in good health. Our thoughts and sympathies are with you on the loss of a great and inspirational Dad.

Sympathy is also sent to Hilary Quick, Jean, John and Edward Mock on the sad death of Hilary and Jean's mother, Mrs Daisy Quick. Mr and Mrs Quick farmed at Emmerford (now being farmed by John, Jean and Edward) for many years, bringing up their daughters there and attending Washfield church. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time.

Best wishes are sent to those who are not well at this time. Mrs Sylvia Cockram has been in hospital and is now back at home. We hope your recovery is going well Sylvia, as we are missing you. Everyone



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

who is struggling with poor health is very much in our thoughts and prayers.

The Arnold and Webber families would like to thank everyone for the support, gifts and cards sent to them over the time of Liz and Will's operations. They are both recovering well. Your best wishes and thoughts have been much appreciated.

Congratulations are sent to everyone who has, or is about to, celebrate a special occasion or birthday. Best wishes are especially sent to Mrs Alice Balment and Mrs Grace Bicknell who celebrate their 90th birthdays in December and January respectively. Alice and Grace both served in the Women's Land Army during the war, a couple of remarkable, stalwart ladies. We are proud of you both!

This year's more seasonable weather meant much larger than normal pumpkins were brought to the Social Club's annual competition. The winner of the heaviest pumpkin was Paul Crease with a 143lb specimen. The best shaped pumpkin was won by Vince Webber. Well done Paul, Vince and all who took part in this good humoured event as £170 was raised for E.L.F. by their efforts. Thanks too, to Sylvia Balment and David Bowden for this event's continued success.

Jeanne and Garth Jones will once again host a Christmas coffee morning at The Cottage on Saturday 7th December from 10am. Lots of Christmas gifts, cakes and produce and a raffle will be available. All are welcome and the proceeds will go to church funds.

The Women's Institute's annual party will be held on Friday 13th December, 7pm for 7.30pm. You are cordially invited to attend the three course meal (@ £16.95) which will be followed by local

entertainment. Please contact Jean French 01884 257703 to book and choose from the menu.

The Carol singers will sing around the village on Tuesday 17th December. Singers (newcomers welcome) please meet at the Hall at 6pm. A bring and share supper will be enjoyed at the Social Club after.

The Social Club will, as is usual, be holding a New Years Eve celebration with local entertainers being showcased. Washfield really has got talent!

The Parochial Church Council would like to extend its sincere thanks to everyone who has given time and helped in any way to keep our church clean, warm and welcoming. We thank all the volunteers who quietly make this happen. We have good congregations which, without the dedication of our Lay readers and organists, would not happen. We thank you all for the time you give to our lovely church.

We wish all our readers, near and far, a very blessed Christmas and a healthy, happy and peaceful New Year.

### Dates for your diary:

Saturday 7th December  
Christmas Coffee Morning at The Cottage from 10am

Friday 13th December  
W.I. annual Christmas party 7pm for 7.30pm. Three course hot meal and entertainment £16.95. Ring Jean on 257703 to book

Saturday 14th December  
Decorating of the church and Christingles for Christmas 10.30am

Sunday 15th December  
Christingle service 11am

Tuesday 17th December  
Carol singing around village (Meet at Hall at 6pm)

Tuesday 24th December  
Traditional Christmas Eve service of Carols & Lessons 6pm followed by coffee, mince pies and biscuits.

Tuesday 31st December  
Social Club's New Years Eve celebration with "home-grown" entertainment

### Flower Rota:

Dec 1st Mrs Jones  
Dec 8th/15th Mrs Voysey  
Dec 22nd/29th Mrs May  
Jan 5th/12th Mrs French  
Jan 19th/26th Mrs Harding

### Cleaning Rota:

Dec 1st/8th Mr & Mrs McCahon  
Dec 15th/22nd Mrs French  
Dec 29th/Jan 5th Mrs Arnold  
Jan 12th/19th Mr & Mrs Parnell  
Jan 26th/Feb 2nd Mrs Harding and Mrs Jones

## Withleigh

The Safari Supper held on the 28th September was a very enjoyable evening, we moved around the village enjoying starters and main courses in different people's homes, after which we all met up in the village hall for our desserts and coffee. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way, from providing a course in your home to making a dessert or helping in the village

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

hall, Thank you one and all. The final tally came to £823 which was shared equally between St Catherine's Church and Witleigh Village Hall.

We had five teams take part in this year's Team Skittles competition. It was good to welcome a Young Farmers' Team, who played really well, going through to the final. But Sheila Sampson's team were victorious taking home the trophy. Also playing in Sheila's team were Tanya Sampson, Janet & Ron Stacey and Duncan Kittow. Thank you to all who helped to organise the evening.

It was really lovely to have so many of the Young Farmers and their families join us for our Bonfire and Fireworks, on what turned out to be a really wet evening. The bonfire took some getting burning, so the Teddy Bear on the top had his toes warmed for much of the evening. The fireworks were successfully lit, even with all the rain, and enjoyed by everyone. Finally, when we were all leaving the field for refreshments in the hall, the bonfire decided to burn really well! Many thanks to those who provided wood for the fire, Duncan and Sara for building the bonfire, Duncan, Nigel and Colin for lighting the fireworks, and Christine, Sara, Brenda and YFC members who provided the food.

If you get and read this magazine before 30<sup>th</sup> November, please do not forget the Christmas Craft Fayre in the Village Hall, 10.00am - 4.00pm in aid of Church Funds. There will be many interesting stalls including our own cake and preserve stalls, together with coffee and homemade biscuits, soup at lunchtime and afternoon cream teas and cakes. You may even find that some of your Christmas shopping will be solved!

We would like to thank Paul and Elizabeth for all their work during the past few years with the Today magazine especially as this has been longer than the intended two years. We know they will still be on hand for a couple of months for Geoff and Jenny Parnell, whom we also thank for taking on this task, and we wish them well for their future with the Today magazine.

Our thanks, also, to David Sellick for sorting out the new support for the oil storage tank, and to Simon and Harry for their help with the work.

The Children's Christmas Party is on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 3.00pm - 5.00pm in the Village Hall. Please ring Sara Kittow, 252949, for further details.

Our Christingle Service is on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00pm. This is a special service, especially when all the Christingles are lit and all other lights in our Church are turned off as we sing the Christingle hymn. The collection will be going to The Children's Society.

On Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, we are going to be carol singing around the village. If you would like to join us, please be at the Village Hall at 6.30pm armed with your torch! We will be collecting for Children's Hospice South West. We hope to have a drier evening this year so please keep an ear out for us!!

Our Carol Service is on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm. Gifts (tins of food, cleaning products, toiletries etc., but no perishable items) can be placed under the Christmas tree during the service and these will be given to CHAT to be distributed to those in need. CHAT are

always very appreciative of these gifts. Mulled wine, orange juice, mince pies and shortbread will be served after the service.

On Christmas Eve, our Service of Holy Communion is at 11.30pm. We hope you can join us at one or all of our Christmas services.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those feeling not well at the moment especially those having to spend time in hospital or recovering from spells in hospital. Get well wishes are sent to you all.

We would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas together with a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

### Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Christmas Craft Fayre 10am – 4pm.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December,  
Christmas Whist Drive at 7.30pm.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December,  
Christmas Bingo at 7.30pm.

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December,  
Children's Christmas Party at 3pm.

### Flower Rota:

Dec 1st )  
8th ) Sara Kittow  
15th )

Dec 22nd ) CHRISTMAS  
29th ) Cathy Luxton, Tree.



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## 2014

Jan 5th )  
12th ) Margaret Gale  
19th )

Jan 26th ) Brenda Tucker  
Feb 2nd )

### Monthly Diary dates:

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

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