October - November 2017

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THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

was amused to read a story that was reported in 'The Week' magazine. Apparently the poet, Simon Armitage was giving a poetry recital. Before reading one of his which contained poems. some rather bad language, he said, 'I'd like to just warn my Mum and Dad, who are in the audience, that my next poem features some words you've most likely never heard before.' His father stood up and said, 'Would those words be 'thank you', by any chance?'

Thank you. Two tiny, little words, which are incredibly important, and yet are so easy to forget. And it seems to me, as we hit the months of October and November we enter a season of thankfulness.

Firstly, we thank God for the harvest, and all the many wonderful things that he has given us to eat and to enjoy. I don't grow any vegetables in my garden and yet I have been on the receiving end of all sorts of good and tasty things: runner beans, marrows, courgettes, more

runner beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, and yet more runner beans and so on. Every single thing has been gratefully received and eaten. Thank you. And thank you to all the wonderful people who take the time and energy to grow such things and to those who work the land, especially here, in the Exe Valley.



Thank you also, to those in our Churches and Villages who keep the tradition of Harvest alive. Thank you to those who not only arrange Harvest Festivals, but also village games and Harvest Suppers. Thank you.

Then, as we come to November we enter another season of thankfulness, as we remember, those who have fought and died in conflict. It is worth stopping awhile (even if only for two minutes) to remember the

tremendous human cost and sacrifice of men and women in the last century or so, who have fought for our freedom. Another poet, (not Simon Armitage, but Siegfried Sassoon) who in his evocative 'Autumn' poem, imagines soldiers. the fighting in a wood, in October, during World War 1:

'Their lives are like the leaves Scattered in flocks of ruin, tossed and blown Along the westering furnace flaring red.'

And so let us say thank you – and be grateful that we have seasons and occasions that prompt us to do so, because:

'All good gifts around us (our food, our families, our friends, our freedom) Are sent from heaven above. Then thank the Lord, Oh thank the Lord, For all his love.'

Steph

Please read additional information from Steph on Pages 3, 10, 12, 17 & 18

Copy Deadline for December 2017 / January 2018 issue

Monday 13 November 2017

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Oakford, Rackenford,
Stoodleigh, Templeton,
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www.exevalleychurches.org

RECTOR

Rev'd Steph Jeffs
The Rectory, Withleigh,
Tiverton, EX16 8JQ
Tel: (01884) 250417
Email: Steph@
exevalleymissioncommunity.org

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

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Stephen Hirst C/O The Rectory Tel: 01884 250417

Email: office@ exevalleymissioncommunity.org

NON STIPENDIARY MINISTER Rev'd John Roberts East Sidborough, Loxbeare, Tiverton EX16 8DA. Tel: (01884) 256302 john@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk

READER
Mrs Anna Hansford
The Paddock,
2 Kensington Court,
Washfield, Tiverton, EX16 9QU
Tel: (01884) 253463
hansfordam@john-lewis.com

MAGAZINE EDITORS
Jenny & Geoff Parnell
Keepers Cottage,
Lower Washfield,
Tiverton, EX16 9PF
Tel: (01884) 254402
today@exevalleychurches.org

ADVERTISEMENTS Geoff Parnell

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CHURCHWARDEN CONTACT DETAILS

Calverleigh

Aubrey Goldsworthy 01884 255248 Jackie Herniman 01884 255814 jmherniman@talktalk.net

Cruwys Morchard

Diana Vincent 01363 860227 vindrv@hotmail.com Sarah Cruwys 01884 860287 wagscruwys@live.com

Loxbeare

Ron Tidball 01884 881362 margaret.n.tidball@gmail.com Jean Heard 01884 881400 jeanm.heard@googlemail.com

Oakford

Wendy Boynton 01398 351383 mboynton@btinternet.com Dawn Williams 01398 324035 williams.dawn@btinternet.com

Rackenford

Herbert Smith 01884 881375 ejsesqltdetc@btinternet.com Mary Cann 01884 881696 mary cann@outlook.com

Stoodleigh

Margaret Cuningham 01398 351252 margaret.cuningham@btinternet.com John Fewings 01398 351328 johnfewings@btinternet.com

Templeton

Jan Heptinstall 01884 255399 Jan.Heptinstall@BTOpenworld.com

Washfield

Jeanne Jones 01884 254306 jeannejones007@gmail.com

Withleigh

Brenda Tucker 01884 252431 e-mail: tucks@btconnect.com Paul Iliff 01884 253473 pe.iliff@tiv.eclipse.co.uk

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EDITORIAL

Autumn is here again - already ?? It's a wonderful season but it always arrives too soon. Where did the Summer go?

It's obvious how a great many people throughout the Exe Valley have been spending their Summer months ~ they have working tremendously hard to raise thousands of pounds to support their Churches, Village Halls or Charities.

Without this annual effort, none of our Villages would survive but, thankfully, it's rewarding work which brings a great deal of satisfaction and enjoyment.

I'm sure we all know people who say 'Why not cancel the Fete and we'll all chip in £20, to save all the effort" but that would kill off our traditional Summer activities ~ and long may they last !!

Oh well - it will soon be the Christmas Fayres!!

Jenny and Geoff

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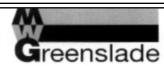
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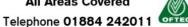
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STEPH REFLEXE ...

ast week's gospel reading has given me some food for thought. It goes like this:

'Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.' (Matthew 18:19-20)

When we meet together, in prayer, and in unity, it is a powerful thing. And I believe it is an important thing for us to do. Some of us met to do just that last weekend on the Exe Valley Mission Community Quiet Day. Please read Audrey's article about it - and watch out for next year's Quiet Day.

And this Autumn we are re-starting our Home Groups. At the moment there are three to choose from.

Each one meets fortnightly. Please see the Middle Pages for dates and times.

Monday Home Group at 6 Southfield Way Tiverton, Contact Paul liiff 01884 253473 Wednesday Evening Group at Church Cottage, Stoodleigh. Contact John Roberts 01884 256302

Wednesday Afternoon Women's Bible Study, at Churchill House, Loxbeare. Contact Marion Roberts 01884 256302

In addition to this, we will be holding a monthly Prayer Breakfast across the Exe Valley, on the last Saturday of the month. The first one will take place at The Rectory, Withleigh, EX16 8JQ on 30 September at 9.00 am. Please contact Steph for further details and look at the website or Church Notices for future venues.

As 'The Message' puts it:

'What you say to one another is eternal. I mean this. When two of you get together on anything at all on earth and make a prayer of it, my Father in heaven goes into action. And when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure I'll be there.'

Steph

Exe Valley Group Quiet Day held at Mill House Retreats.

hat a fascinating, magically attractive, centuries-old farmhouse complex confronted us as we arrived at this Retreat Centre. Internally it was equally fascinating, comfortable and warm, and all set in the heart of the Devon landscape at Westleigh.

Steph carefully planned and led the deeply thoughtful and stimulating day, with togetherness in prayer and Bible study in Mark. Then came a time of individual separateness for personal prayer and reflection, for which we had free use of the house and garden.

day culminated in a much appreciated informal Eucharist to the Kenyan Rite.

Of course, there was coffee to welcome us, lunch of delicious home-cooked, locally sourced food, and tea with enormous slices of cake before leaving. So we left replete; greatly nourished in body and spirit.

We are all looking forward to next Year's Quiet Day!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

'TODAY' 50 years ago October & November, 1967

he Editorials spoke strongly about the decline in morals, and the Church's failure to speak out on Biblical principles when faced with secular pressures, particularly in relation to the laws on homosexuality which came into force in 1967 and the suggestion that co-habiting before considering marriage was the way forward. I wonder how our Group Rector of the time would view the current outlook in relation to such matters?

In the Exe Valley, thoughts were very much concerned with Harvest, some Parishes reporting their festival activities, while others were yet to come. Autumn Fairs/Fayres were also being organised. The higher attendance levels at Harvest Festival Services in those days is highlighted by Rackenford's PCC asking parishioners to reserve seats! For its Autumn Fayre, Withleigh was hoping to boost the spending by providing a free bus from Tiverton.

Repairs to Church buildings were an issue - Stoodleigh embarking on work to the east wall, and Templeton to the tower, of which the top six feet was in need of rebuilding.

Sunday Schools were being held in six of our Parishes, with transport provided. Interestingly, only three of our parishes -Oakford, Rackenford and Templeton were holding Remembrance Services.

Paul Iliff

continued overleaf



Audrey Rigg



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NATURE NOTES

am in the habit of leaving my work boots outside the back door so that they might dry and de-fumigate !! You may think the shed would be a better place, but so do the mice that like "sole and tongue" on their evening menu.

Imagine my surprise one August morning when my left foot met a squidgy resistance whilst putting the boot on. With some trepidation I looked into the boot and found our back door toad [as opposed to the back of the garage toad] staring at me.

This was my third amphibian encounter of the year- my first being in Spring when my spade missed a frog that was resting or perhaps hibernating in mud at a surprising depth. With a little thought it is relatively easy to distinguish between a toad and a frog. In terms of the latter I often think - green, wetter and hopping with water usually in the visible if not immediate vicinity. Toads, and especially our back door toad, seem to be very phlegmatic characters and we spend much time staring at each other to see who will blink first. Their back legs are short and not equipped to hop but you get a feeling that they would consider this both undignified and too much effort.

My second encounter [in Midsummer] was much livelier, involving a plague of tiny frogs on the lawn. The dry spell had just broken and I wandered out in the evening to find they had left their water courses to frolic in the dew dropped grass. I was immediately transported to childhood visits to my grandmother. She lived in a terrace house, and the row was unusually blessed with tiny, walled front gardens. Necessarily the gardens had piped drains through the walls, such that

after Summer rainfall a cascade of small frogs would spill across the pavement. Imagine the effect on young children of seeing these streaks, alive with movement, across the pavement as far as the eye could see.

In case you are wondering, our back door toad is well, and despite putting it carefully in the field it immediately returned to sentry duty that very night. We can only conclude that they are territorial - and have no sense of smell!!

Thomas More



Holiday Club 2017 Dress Rehearsal

This year's Holiday Club was held in Calverleigh Hall, to enjoy a packed four days of fun and games. Around 40 children attended each day, learning from the Bible and taking part in sports and crafts. The weather was very kind to us so we managed to avoid the showers and the children were able to enjoy sports and games out on the grass during the afternoons. A favourite is the clown game and football, as always, is very popular with the children and adults.

In the mornings, we sang songs accompanied by live music, which proved

to be very popular. Steph's dramatised story telling was also very well received by children and adults. Children worked in their teams to fill in activity books relating to the day's story, finding out the answers through discussion and reading the Bible. Each day focussed on a different story, based around a costume. For the story of Noah, wet weather gear was required! Children learned about prayer in a different way each day. Writing their prayer on a paper boat they had made and then sailing it in water, was just one.

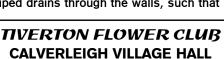
We all learned so much, not just the children. We got to know each other and make new friends during the week.

Lunchtimes were times for getting together to chat over lunch and the much loved tuck shop! In the afternoons children were able to take part in crafts, junk modelling being a favourite with many large and intricate models being made, as well as musical instruments, which formed a band as the week went on! They also took part in making mobiles and masks and creating all sorts of things out of playdough.

Without the support of helpers who are available during this week, the holiday could not run. I would like to say a big thank you to all the helpers who gave up their time to help - without your support, Holiday Club would not run.

We finished the week on Sunday with a Service, picnic and some games, which made a fitting end to the week.

Preparations are already underway for next year's Holiday Club. It will be held in Calverleigh Hall during the week beginning the 6 August 2018. If you would like to help, or would like to know more about what we do contact Cindy on 01363 866621



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CALVERLEIGH

he Potato Competition was held at the Rose and Crown on 21 July and the grand sum of £420 was raised for Church funds. Our very grateful thanks go to Gillian, Mary and Tim for all their hard work in arranging this well fought, annual contest to grow the heaviest stalks of potatoes and to all competitors and supporters of this enjoyable evening.

The Church welcomed the Webber family on 13 August on the occasion of Bertie's Baptism. Bertie is the son of Sophie and Adrian Webber and great-grandson of Myrtle, Rev'd Steph Jeffs officiated to a congregation full to overflowing, with many family, friends and supporters.

The Calverleigh Produce Show on 26 August was vet another roaring success. This was our fourth year and again the standard was very high, it is amazing to see such talent in a small village show. There was a real mix of prize winners. from large onions, beautiful flowers, photos, crafts and wonderful baking. Word is that two of our men are now auditioning for next year's 'Great British Bake Off' and all the exhibits were overlooked by rather a large owl made from fruit and vegetables. So well done to you all and a big thank you to everyone who helped to make it such a lovely day.

Harvest Thanksgiving celebrations took place over the weekend of 9/10 September starting with the Harvest Supper on the Saturday evening in the Village Hall. A sumptuous feast for nearly 60 people, was prepared by a band of willing helpers, with others helping to set up and pack away. A hymn and prayers started the evening and Mr Eric Shapland gave us an amusing tale, in Devonshire

dialect, of the antics of village "voke" on a day trip. Some well known villagers got up to "allzorts"! Thank you to all who helped make this a wonderful start to a lovely weekend of giving praise and thanks to God and to all our growers and farmers for all they provide for us. A lot of people came along to the Service on Sunday. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion with an abundance of flowers and fresh produce. Thank you to all who took the time to make it look and smell so lovely. We even had a family of mice sat on top of the harvest loaf, who were made by Nikki Burton. The produce will be given to a local charity and put to good use. Details of this will appear in the next magazine along with information about which charity will benefit from a donation of money, raised at the Harvest Supper.

Our thanks go to the very kind person who is helping, anonymously, to keep the supply of water flowing into the pond from the stream. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed as this is an ongoing battle to keep water levels up.

On Monday 21 August a Service of Thanksgiving took place in Calverleigh Church for the life of Gwendoline Large who lived at Pippins. Our condolences go to Andy, Amanda and all the family at this sad time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and also with anyone who has lost a loved one in recent times.

Many congratulations go to all who have celebrated or are about to celebrate a notable birthday and we all wish you many more 'Happy Birthdays' to come.

Our very best wishes go to all those who have been receiving treatment, are awaiting treatment or have been unwell in recent times. We pray that you will all be feeling much better soon. If you, or

someone you know, would like to be included in our prayers during our services, please let us know.

Coming Up

The Autumn Fayre takes place on 18 November in the Village Hall, All your favourite stalls and competitions will be taking place and there will be a delicious selection of refreshments, with cakes and produce to buy. Put the date in your diary!

The Annual General Meeting Calverleigh & District Village Hall will be held in the Hall on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 7.30pm. All local residents are welcome to attend.

Mowing Rota

18 / 30 Sep: The Webber Family 2 / 14 Oct: Mr A Goldsworthy

These are the last few dates for this year. A new rota will be available in the New Year. Aubrey can take a break!

Church Cleaning Rota

25 Sep / 7 Oct: Mrs M Herniman 9 / 21 Oct: Mrs M Furneaux 23 Oct / 4 Nov: Miss S Goldsworthy 6 / 18 Nov: Mrs N Burton 20 Nov / 2 Dec: Mrs A Webber

Altar Flower Rota

17 / 24 Sep: Mrs M L Ravnkilde 1 / 8 Oct: Mrs L Thomas 15 / 22 Oct: Mrs D Hopper 29 Oct / 5 Nov: Ms L Carrey 12 / 19 Oct: Mrs R Tapp 26 Nov / 3 Dec: Mrs M Furneaux

If you would like to volunteer on the Flower, Cleaning or Mowing Rotas, please contact Aubrey Goldsworthy on 01884 255248.

continued overleaf 🛶





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Have we missed anything? If there is something that you think we should have mentioned, or you have something for inclusion in the next magazine, please contact Dave Burton on 01884 561499 or by email:

calverleigh@exevalleychurches.org and get the latest on the website at: www.exevalleychurches.org/calverleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

ARVEST CELEBRATIONS are on SATURDAY 23 September, starting with a short Service in the Church at 2.15pm Please bring any Harvest Gifts to this Service, all gifts (non perishable if possible) will be given to CHAT (Church Housing Action Team). The Service will be followed by Sports, in a nearby field, and Tea in the Parish Hall. In the evening from 7-9.30pm there will be a Family Social in the Parish Hall, with disco. There are to be no door to door collections for Harvest this year, donations may be given at the Hall. The Service on Sunday 24 September is a Group Service at Templeton, at 10.30am.

SERVICES

It is important to look in the middle pages for the exact time table for the Services. On the whole we have three Services a month, with the last Sunday in the month being a Group Service at 10.30am. The Churches in the Group take turns to host these Services, in alphabetical order. In October we have four Services in our Church, with the Group Service in Washfield at 10.30am on the fourth Sunday. Cluster Services are usually when there are five Sundays in the month, except in November when it is on the first

Sunday at 11.15am at Templeton. We have two Services in Cruwys Morchard that month. Cluster Services are Holy Communion usually taken by Steph, times vary.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Cruwys Morchard Village Hall. Wednesday 18 October 12.30pm. A two course lunch for all ages. Great food and time to chat, free for everyone of all ages including Mums with toddlers and newcomers to the village. There will be soft drinks but do bring a bottle if you wish. Raffle. Transport available and high chairs. Please ring Sonia on 01363 866864 to book and with any dietary requirements necessary.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 11 November 10.30am-13.30pm, with a one minute silence at 11.00am. Lots of local craft stalls, cakes, teas and coffees, hot soups and rolls. See you there.

FLOWER and CLEANING Rota

Sept 25/Oct 2 - Marilyn Hill
Oct 9/16 - Sonia Notley and Claire Miller
Oct 23/30 - Sue and Pauline Guscott
Nov 7/14 - Denyse Standen and Jo Hilton
Nov 21/28 - Carole Chisholm and Jackie
Mitchell

Sarah Cruwys flowers Dec 4 - Lorna Warren

CHURCH YARD MOWERS, thank you to all mowers for this year. With all the rain we have had during the Summer it has not been easy to find time between the showers, but the churchyards are looking wonderful, thank you again.

CRUWYS MORCHARD GARDENERS

The Gardening Club met again at the Cruwys Arms on Wednesday 6 September. Eight members shared an enjoyable evening discussing vegetable

pests, splitting herbaceous plants and living sculptures. It was a great social evening! Join us next month on the first Wednesday at 8.00pm. We planned an Autumn visit to a garden near Helston in October, next month, and inviting a speaker perhaps in conjunction with a neighbouring club.

APPLE PRESSING DAY

Cruwvs Morchard will be holding its first ever Community Apple Pressing Day this Autumn, organised by Bob Cruwys. If you have an apple tree or two in your garden and never know what to do with all the surplus fruit, why not bring it along? We will press the fruit and you can take home the juice to drink, or make into your own cider. There will be plenty of fun for all the family with games and activities for children and you can tuck in to a feast of roast pork rolls and hot mulled cider while your apples are being pressed. Tea and home made apple cake will be served in the afternoon. This community event will be held on Sunday 15 October at Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall from 11am. All proceeds will go towards fund-raising for the annual Parish Flower Show. Please bring your own containers to take home your delicious, freshly-pressed apple juice.

THE 80th FLOWER SHOW

What an excellent Flower Show we had this year, the Hall looked magnificent with all the entries. The Committee would like to thank all those who entered exhibits, and also the judges who came and judged them all. Well done to everyone who helped make this a brilliant display of vegetables, flowers, cooking, crafts etc. We look forward to seeing you all again at the show next year on 11 August 2018.

Here is a copy of the winning poem/rhyme-entitled:



Donald & Mary Shere

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New Creation News

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Preparing for Advent! Advent - just a couple of months away!

We wonder - does everyone have a real understanding of the meaning of the season. Helping us to approach Christmas Day with a real understanding of the meaning of the season, we have the resources suitable for all ages to guide and teach us through the days leading up to Christmas. Come in to find special teaching books; Advent Calendars in various shapes and sizes, many including envelopes and some containing chocolates; Advent Candles – an interesting way of placing the Light of the World centre stage; and Nativity Sets to make a talking point, especially with children.

Our Christmas stock is coming in. Every year Val tries to provide as wide a variety of cards, books and gifts as she possibly can. Please come in, browse, and choose your Christmas Greetings. All our Christmas cards, calendars, diaries, books and gifts display the Christian message, making it easy to share your faith. And you will be helping other Charities, for she has ordered from Tear Fund, the Barnabus Fund, and other similar relief organisations. This may be your opportunity to make sure the Good News of Jesus is not packed away like a decoration but will last the whole year!

Have you thought about bringing your small group here for supper? New Creation is always available as a Supper Venue for groups of up to 14. Who knows, a change of surroundings may be a source of inspiration to your group. In years gone by the coffee house was a place to discuss and share - maybe we could be that place for you. So do get in touch on 255769 as we are now taking bookings for your Christmas or New Year Celebration.

Meanwhile Penny's Special for October – £3.50 Cheese Scone with Pickle, Cheese and Apple Slices, and a hot drink

Our Prayer Topics - Please join with us in prayer for:-

- Thanks to our Lord for all those who have supported this mission, donated, prayed and helped here over the last 29 years. We are so grateful.
 - 2. More volunteers, especially for Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- 3. The Landlords to carry out further repairs to the building quickly, especially to the outside walls and the front window, before the winter.

This year One World Week takes place from 22nd to the 29th October. The situation within many countries is desperate – please pray. More information may be had from www.oneworldweek.org and www.cte.org.uk/news (the latter is the Churches Together in England website).

We do thank you for all your prayers and support, enabling God's Word to be sent out into the community and beyond. By God's grace we look forward to continuing to serve Him and you, from 58 Bampton Street, in the days to come. Please look out for a special Message from the Trustees which we will be sending out very soon.

God bless you all.

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Celebrations:

One dog is never enough and two became company

the third was abandoned and left in the road

the fourth was in need of a home the fifth and sixth came together one day and now I have six

It's me and my dogs, they're really no trouble

We have dogs on the sofa and hair on the rugs

There's mud on the walls from the flick of their tails

The furniture needs dusting The lawn has turned brown

It's me and my dogs, they're really no trouble

Each one is a character with love in their eyes

A wet nose and slobber and the Waggiest of tails

They are faithful and true with love in their hearts

In celebration of my furry four-legged ones and

Honestly they REALLY are no trouble.

THE CRUWYS MORCHARD YOUNG FARMERS

The Club had huge successes at the Mid Devon Show. Layla Hill was Rally Secretary and together with a team of helpers worked extremely hard to produce an excellent rally. Although, very stressful during the week running up to the Show due to the bad weather, the marquee looked good. Out of the negative of all the rain came the positive - the marquee being awarded first prize in its Class and then being awarded best marguee in the Show. Two pieces of silverware were collected for this. Members entered many classes including the stock classes and were rewarded well for their efforts. Tom

continued overleaf



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Palmer won the Senior Boys Cup and the Club won the cup for the Club with the most points in relation to the size of the Club.

Good luck to Gracie Rice and Jess Parkhouse as they travel to Malvern to compete in the National Flower Arranging Competition.

THE PENNYMOOR FESTIVAL

Well done the Baker family for all your hard work, there was lots of beer, tea and music. We hope it will happen again.

YOGA continues on Thursday mornings at 10.00am-11.30am in the Parish Hall.

BURNS SUPPER AND NIGHT **DANCING** - date for your diaries to brighten the dark nights!

On Friday 26 January 2018 at Cruwys Morchard Village Hall 7.30pm

A night of Scottish food, fun and dancing with Dumbo's Feather. Profits in aid of a Cancer charity. If you have never tried a Burns Night or Scottish dancing this is a night to try it. No dancing skills required! More details to follow.

Friday 29th Soup and Rolls for MacMillan Cancer Care at The Caddyshack, Pennymoor.

PENNYMOOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Services on Sundays at 4.30pm followed by refreshments. Contact Ruth on 01363 83451.

There have been three weddings in our Church since the last Today Magazine. Congratulations to Christopher and Anna, Emily and Michael, and Jess and Peter.

Welcome to Ollie and Sarah on their move to Moor View.

Good Luck to Sheila, Ed, Alison and Mike on their move to Spain - and welcome to their tenants.

Best wishes to Martin Hodnett, we are so sorry to hear about your recent injury.

Our sympathy and prayers go to Shirley Grant upon the sad death of Rodney at the beginning of July.

We are sad to report the death of Christopher Lake who passed away at Torbay Hospital aged 67 years. He grew up at Edgeworthy and was a brother of Susan and Peter.

Our love and prayers go to Cindy as she continues her treatment.

Visit the website on www.cruwvsmorchardparish.co.uk

LOXBEARE

le send our Congratulations & best wishes to Rev Steph Jeffs & Rev Robert Gordon for their forthcoming Wedding on 21 October. We pray for God's blessing & much happiness on their special day & in their future lives toaether.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Harvest Celebrations taking place over the weekend 23-24 September with Rev Steph Jeffs taking the Services.

The Harvest Supper will be on 25th when Mrs Ruth Morley representing C.H.A.T will be the after supper speaker. We thank God for seed-time and harvest which again this year have not failed.

On 13 August we had a picnic Service led by Ron at Steve & Sue Troake's. A big thank you to them for their hospitality & for the lovely treats after!

The Exe Valley Woman's Bible Study Group will recommence in October meeting on alternate Wednesdays at Churchill House, Loxbeare from 2-4pm starting from 4 October. See Middle Pages for full details. All ladies welcome. Contact Marion on 01884 256302.

A PCC Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 31 October.

In November, date to be arranged, we will be visiting the New Creation Christian Bookshop for our annual supper and browse amongst the cards, books, CD's and many other items many suitable for Christmas gifts. Come and join us for a very enjoyable evening. Contact Margaret Tidball on 01884 881362 for more details and booking.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Steve Troake. Derrick McManus, Shirley Gibbons, Mya Partridge, Liz Barrow and all who are receiving treatment or feeling unwell.

Congratulations to all celebrating special occasions and Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in October/November.

Maurice and Marlene Taylor wish to thank all who helped & supported the coffee morning held at their home in August. Also thanks to those who gave donations. A wonderful total of £633 was raised for the Devon Air Ambulance.

We welcome Steve and Liz Barrow & family into Dawes Cottage. We hope you will soon settle and be very happy living in Loxbeare.



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There will be a Hall Meeting on 17 October at 7.30 and the Christmas Bingo in the Hall will be 11 December. Cream Teas will be on Saturday 7 October, not 14 October, and Saturday 11 November.

Loxbeare Ladies.

In August there was a Canal Walk followed by ploughman's in the tea rooms. On 6 September a flower arranging evening was held at the Hall. On 2 October Stephen Powles will be giving a talk on Otters - also in the Hall. There will be a charge according to how many attend. It will be a bring and share supper. If you wish to go, please ring Carol on 01884 881480.

27 October Bowling at Amory Park at 7.00. Contact Gerald Heywood on 01884 881279. 4 November A trip to Bridgwater Carnival. Contact Sue on 01884 259496 for details. 13 November Christmas Craft in the Hall at 7.00. Ideas for the Christmas Fayre which will be held on 2 December in the afternoon 2-4pm. Also making up shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child run by the Samaritans Purse. Anyone wishing to fill boxes themselves need to give them to Carol by 17 November.

7 December will be the annual Christmas Meal at Bickleigh Mill. Contact Sue for details

OAKFORD

Our thoughts are with all those displaced from their homes because of religious conflict or the aftermath of natural disasters. We pray that they will find the strength and courage needed to face the future.

On behalf of everyone in the Parish who enjoys a copy of 'Today' popping through their letterbox, we say a big "Thank you" to all those who sort, bundle and deliver

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the copies. Some 'parish postmen' have to drive miles on their 'rounds', so we want you all to know that you are much appreciated.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Rev'd Ian Johnson who supports St Peter's at many of our Services and our good wishes go with him, as he takes a well-deserved rest. We hope to welcome lan back early in 2018. Join us for tea & cake after lan's last Evensong on 15 October at 6.30pm, to say thank you.

Everyone will be welcome at the annual Remembrance gathering around the village War Memorial on Sunday 12 November at 10.50am. A short Service will follow in Church followed by coffee.

More thanks are due to Tony Holmes who has made a beautiful new tower door for St Peter's. It's proving very handy to have such a talented woodworker living next to the church!! Big thanks, Tony.

We say goodbye and good luck to Gill and Rob from The Schoolhouse, Oakford who are making a new life in France and welcome Richard & Theresa who have moved from Yorkshire. We hope you will soon settle and enjoy life in Oakford.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

At the end of September Jennie & Paul Chappell will be 'retiring' from running The Red Lion and new owners will move in. Thank you Jennie & Paul for all your hard work over the last 4 years or so and for enriching the life of the Village with so many social events and providing a 'home from home' for so many of us.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE. **AGM** Thursday 5 October. New members for the committee always welcome.

OAKFORD FÊTE.

Another great afternoon's entertainment was enjoyed by many. Thank you to Kelvin Holdom and all the people in the village who helped with and supported the event. £816 was raised and will go towards Bampton Dementia Group. Bampton Scout Group, the Village Hall and the purchase of a large pop-up marquee. On 2 June next year there is to be a French-themed jazz evening to set the mood for next year's internationalthemed fête. More details next Spring.

MOORLAND CLUB.

THE FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW - this colourful event gets bigger and more competitive each year. Thanks to Chris Holdom and team who organised this year's show in August and to all who took part.

12 October 7.30pm Village Hall. Trish Luxton & Carla Bancroft will give a talk on their recent fund-raising carriage- driving experience on Dartmoor. Everyone welcome. Open to non-members (£2).

9 November 7.30pm Village Hall. Setting up for the Christmas Favre.

Saturday 11 November: The Moorland Club Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall. 11am - 2pm. Christmas gifts, produce stalls, raffle, tombola & lots more. Coffee and delicious light lunches. Don't miss it!

OAKFORD PLAYERS. 'Anything but Christmas Variety Show'. 30 November and 1 / 2 December in the Village Hall. Tickets £12 each to include a 2-course supper. Licensed bar. Contact Dawn Williams 01398 324035.

Finally - our love and best wishes to Robert and Steph for a wonderful wedding day and long and happy life together.

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continued on Page 12 🗪

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EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S GROUP

Alternate WEDNESDAYS

Churchill House, Loxbeare, EX16 8BX - from 2pm - 4pm.

As this is the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, we shall be looking at the Five Solas of the Reformation, with the help of the Good Book Guide: These truths alone; Why the Reformation Solas are essential to our faith today". We shall be thinking about how this has impacted on the Church and our Society.

4 October Sola Scrptura: By Scripture alone
18 October Solus Christus: In Christ alone
1 November Solus Gratia: By Grace alone
15 November Sola Fide: Through Faith alone
29 November Soli Deo Gloria: Glory to God alone

13 December Preserving and passing on

For more information contact Marion on 01884 256302

E-mail: marion@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk

HOME GROUPS AND PRAYER BREAKFASTS FOR FULL DETAILS PLEASE SEE PAGE 17

HOME GROUPS

Will be meeting alternate WEDNESDAY evenings at 7.30pm from 13 September until Advent - normally at Church Cottage, Stoodleigh but not 27 September, which will be at The Rectory, Withleigh.

PRAYER BREAKFASTS

Will be monthly, from 9am - 11am on the last Saturday morning of the month, commencing on 30 September at The Rectory, Withleigh

1 OCTOBER

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service with Baptism

Steph Jeffs

CRUWYS MORCHARD

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

LOXBEARE

6.30 pm Evening Praise

OAKFORD

9.30 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

11 am Harvest Service

TEMPLETON

11.15 am Harvest Service

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Morning Prayer

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

8 OCTOBER CLUSTER SERVICES

ALL SERVICES TODAY ARE HOLY COMMUNION

TAKEN BY **Steph Jeffs**

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am CLUSTER

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am CLUSTER

LOXBEARE

11.15 am Calverleigh

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Rackenford

RACKENFORD

6.30 pm Harvest (CLUSTER)

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Rackenford

TEMPLETON

9.30 am Cruwys Morchard

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Calverleigh

WITHLEIGH

9.30 am Cruwys Morchard

Robert Gordon and Steph Jeffs cordially invite you to join them in celebrating their Marriage on

Saturday 21 October 2017

at **2.30pm** in the Church of the Holy Cross, **Cruwys Morchard**



Light refreshments will be served afterwards in Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall

To give us some idea of numbers, if you are able to come, please email the address below stephanie.jeffs@yahoo.co.uk and NOT the Exe Valley Office

To help with catering, Jo Hilton has very kindly agreed to co-ordinate a "Bring and Share" tea, after the Service. If you would like to contribute by providing some food, please contact Jo on joannahilton53@icloud.com

15 OCTOBER

CALVERLEIGH

6 pm Evening Worship

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11 am Family Service

LOXBEARE

11 am Family Service

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Evening Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

11 am Morning Prayer

WASHFIELD

11.15 am Family Service

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Morning Worship

22 OCTOBER

CALVERLEIGH

See Washfield

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Washfield

LOXBEARE

See Washfield

OAKFORD

See Washfield

RACKENFORD

See Washfield

STOODLEIGH

See Washfield

TEMPLETON

See Washfield

WASHFIELD

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

WITHLEIGH

See Washfield

29 OCTOBER

CALVERLEIGH

No Service -Informal Get-together

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am Holy Communion

LOXBEARE

No Service

OAKFORD

9.30 am Morning Praise

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Morning Worship

STOODLEIGH

11 am Morning Praise

TEMPLETON

11 am Read and Reflect

WASHFIELD

3 pm Evening Prayer

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Informal Service in Vestry

5 NOVEMBER

CLUSTER SERVICES

ALL SERVICES TODAY ARE HOLY COMMUNION

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 Loxbeare

CRUWYS MORCHARD

11.15 Templeton

LOXBEARE

11.15 CLUSTER John Roberts

OAKFORD

9.30 am CLUSTER John Roberts

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Oakford

STOODLEIGH

9.30 am Oakford

TEMPLETON

11.15 CLUSTER Keith Gale

WASHFIELD

11.15 Loxbeare

WITHLEIGH

11.15 Templeton

12 NOVEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

10.50 am Remembrance Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.50 am Remembrance Service

LOXBEARE

10.45 am Remembrance Service

OAKFORD

10.50 am Remembrance Service at War Memorial

RACKENFORD

10.55 am Remembrance Service at War Memorial

STOODLEIGH

10.50 am Remembrance Service

TEMPLETON

10.50 am Remembrance Service

Steph Jeffs

WASHFIELD

10.50 am Remembrance Service

WITHLEIGH

10.50 am Remembrance Service

19 NOVEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

11.15 am Family Service

CRUWYS MORCHARD

9.30 am Holy Communion **Steph Jeffs**

LOXBEARE

11 am Holy Communion

OAKFORD

6.30 pm Evening Praise **Steph Jeffs**

RACKENFORD

9.30 am Family Service

STOODLEIGH

6.30 pm Evensong

TEMPLETON

11 am Family Service

WASHFIELD

3 pm Evensong with St Peter's Singers

Steph Jeffs

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am Family Service

26 NOVEMBER

CALVERLEIGH

See Withleigh

CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Withleigh

LOXBEARE

See Withleigh

OAKFORD

See Withleigh

RACKENFORD

See Withleigh

STOODLEIGH

See Withleigh

TEMPLETON

See Withleigh

WASHFIELD

See Withleigh

WITHLEIGH

10.30 am GROUP SERVICE

Steph Jeffs



PRAYER DIARY

We pray for the people
who live, work and
worship in the
Exe Valley
Mission Community

1-7 October Calverleigh.

8-14 October Cruwys Morchard.

15-21 October Loxbeare.

22-28 October Oakford.

29-4 November Rackenford.

5-11 November Stoodleigh.

12-18 November Templeton.

19-25 November Washfield.

26- 2 December Withleigh.

"Thy Kingdom Come" Matthew 6:10

Sometimes we live as if things will never change. We act as though all power and authority is found in the world.

Here is some news:

Presidents and potentates, triumphalists and terrorists, dictators and despots, rulers and royalty none are truly sovereign.

There is a kingdom that lasts forever. It is the kingdom of God.

There is one sovereign, one king, and his name is Jesus.

May your kingdom come, Lord.

May you reign more fully in our hearts, in our lives, in our church, in our workplace and in our families.

Come - take your rightful place, King Jesus.

Amen

(John Roberts)

God of all truth and all integrity,

May those in the shadows of despair
be blessed with the light of hope;
May those in the shadows of exhaustion,
be blessed in the light of rest;
May those in the shadow of slavery
be blessed with the light of empowerment;
May those in the shadows of loneliness
be blessed with the light of
companionship;

May those in the shadows of grief be blessed with the light of comfort; and May all your people, tempted by the shadows of pride, be blessed with the light of humility.

Amen

(Steph)

RACKENFORD

PARISH ROUND-UP

Pelated congratulations to Steph & Robert on your engagement and every blessing for your wedding day and future.

Our Cream Teas raised £663 this year which was fantastic considering the weather was against us. Many thanks to David and Moy Scott, all helpers and to everyone who made the effort to join us and enjoy the stalls and the delicious cream teas.

Shakespeare Rocks' and it most certainly did as the children raised the roof and gave a wonderful performance at their end of term concert. The acting, singing and enthusiasm was constant throughout the two performances. Presentations were made to the school's Year 6 leavers and their assembly was attended by parents and families. Thanks and gifts were also given to members of staff who are moving on to new posts. Steph Jeffs spoke and Helen Hyland presented all the children with their bibles, to mark the end of their time at Rackenford School.

Congratulations to all students who have received and been happy with their exam results after a long anxious wait. We wish all children and students well, as they start the new term, new schools etc and also to the children beginning their school years here at Rackenford Church of England School. We hope you will all have happy days ahead.

Congratulations to Andrew and Cheryl Webber on the birth of Emily, a lovely sister for George. We hope you are all well. Congratulations also to Stephen & April Shore who were married on 29 July. We wish you a long and happy life together.

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Some local people will remember Jean Wordsworth who was Head Teacher at Rackenford School for several years. Jean was a great lover of animals, wildlife and the countryside and would often take eager children Letter Boxing on the moors whatever the weather. remained in contact with Rackenford and came back for Pam Lester's leaving party and met up with old friends. Jean died on 21 July and her funeral was held on 8 August at Holne Church, where we were given a warm welcome from her many friends.

Sadly we heard of the death of our friend Joan Clark on 26 July. Joan had lived for many years in Rackenford with her late husband Bill and was known to many. She spent her last years at Ashdowne House, Tiverton, Joan's cremation took place on 24 August in Taunton. We send our deepest sympathy to her daughter Debbie, Brahim, Sam and Karim.

Another sad loss was the death of Muriel Blinman on 12 August. Muriel has lived in Rackenford for many years and for the last 20 years, her brother John has lived with her. We send you, John, and your family our deepest sympathy at this difficult time. Muriel was a loyal and faithful member of our Church and also a member of the PCC, where she served as treasurer. She helped with all fund raising events, flower rota, Sunday School, choir member - the list is endless. Her other interests included U3A and Gardening Club etc. Over recent years she struggled with many health issues but still took an interest in all that was going on around her from her home. Muriel's Cremation Service took place in Taunton on 1 September. Family and friends gathered to remember the wonderful life she enjoyed, both at home and abroad.

We have also just heard of the death of Evelyn Chappel and her Service will have

held on 13 September internment with her late husband. We send our thoughts and prayers to her family and friends.

A generous donation of £1820 has been made to our Church fabric fund from the recent 25th Anniversary celebrations of the Tennis Club. We thank you so much for this gift.

The Gardening Club Autumn Show was held at West Backstone on 26 August. Many thanks to David & Sarah. There was beautiful weather in which to view the many categories and enjoy delicious cream teas etc. A draw and presentation of trophies concluded a most enjoyable afternoon.

We say a sad farewell to Brian and Helen Morrison who have moved from Colleton Hall to Exeter. Brian was a member of the Parish Council and Helen often taught at our School over the years. We wish them a happy future.

Welcome to anyone who has moved into our village or area.

Our continued best wishes to Jacque Cann, Mike Lane, Mary Paxton and Vera Sutton and to anyone who is not well or is recovering.

Congratulations to all who have celebrated special anniversaries and birthdays, especially thinking of Jean Cole who has recently celebrated her 90th birthday!

More dates for your diary:

Harvest Sunday Praise. This is a Cluster Service with Holy Communion - 8 October.

Harvest Supper Monday - 9 October at the venue of Jacque & Mary Cann. Many

thanks to them for having us again. Tickets are available from Herbert Smith 881375, Mary Cann 881696 and Helen Hyland 881386.

Bingos for Rackenford Church Funds are at Rackenford Club on 12 October and 9 November 7:30 eyes down.

If you have anything you think should be included in our "Round-up", the deadline to contact me for the next issue is 10 November please. Hilda 881248.

STOODLEIGH

August was a busy and enjoyable fund-raising month for Stoodleigh. The Family Dog Show has become a major local event and there was a big entry for the various classes this year. Lesley Thwaite's pointer James won the Best in Show Cup (full results are on the website). The afternoon was a great success and £932 was raised, shared between the Church and the Parish Hall. Our thanks to Pat and Fred Robinson for the use of their paddock, to Chris Coles for judging and to everyone who helped.

At the end of the month, Peter and Christine Broadbent hosted the annual Ploughman's Lunch, on what turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year. Some 40 people enjoyed a convivial time in a beautiful setting shaded by a selection of gazebos. It was good to have Steph and Robert with us and they were able to meet more people from the Parish. There is great enjoyment in getting together and everyone is very generous. The event raised £316 for the Church.

To continue with the social side, this year's Harvest Supper takes on a different style with no auction of produce (although

continued overleaf \rightarrow



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this will be available to purchase) and instead there will be the challenge of skittles. We hope that all those skittles aficionados will come to support us on Monday 2 October at 7pm in the Parish Hall and enjoy some competition after a good supper, supported by those who merely wish to spectate. To book for this event, please contact Margaret Cuningham (351252). Tickets are £7 with proceeds going to the Devon Air Ambulance.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Church is the day before, Sunday 1 October, at 11am.

There were over 55 people at the Group Service on Sunday 27 August despite it being a Bank Holiday weekend and it was good to have Steph with us for this Service. The congregation was further increased by the addition of a baby and a dog.

Some coming events

Tuesday 31 Oct: Coffee morning at Furzeclift, 10.30am.

Saturday 9 Dec: Christmas Fayre, 10am to 12noon, at the Parish Hall.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Phil and Pauline as they move away from Stoodleigh. Pauline took over the reins of the Garden Club and will be missed by them and we will also miss all those fantastic photographs that Phil takes - as well as his convivial company in the Inn. We welcome Alex and Fiona Hannis and their two sons Tom and Ed to Molesworth. It was good to see Alex and Fiona at the Ploughman's Lunch and we hope they find bell-ringing as addictive as the rest of the ringers.

Welcome also to Kim Grimston and John Gooding who have moved from Hampshire to Stoodleigh and are now residing at Finistere.

At the Parish Hall

The Autumn Market and Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 28 October, 10am to 12noon, at the Hall. See the posters and the website nearer the time for details. You can hire a table for selling your goods or promoting your business / hobby – ring Geraldine, 351391.

A film showing on "Rural Life" and Local History Exhibition, 1901-1981, at the Hall on Friday 24 November. Britain on Film on Tour is a new series of archive film programmes available to the public for the first time. Tickets will be available soon and will include supper; watch out for posters and see the website.

The Garden Club thanks all exhibitors in the Stoodleigh Open Flower and Produce Show on 2 September. The entries in no fewer than 42 classes were greatly admired, and cream teas were enjoyed. Thanks go to everyone who helped to put the show together. The overall champion was Shirley Cope with Laura Parkman runner-up; full results can be viewed on the Stoodleigh website. The Garden Club AGM will take place at 7.30pm on 8 November in the Parish Hall; old and new members are all welcome. There will be a visit to The Garden House, Buckland Monachorum, on 11 October.

Stoodleigh 100 Club: prizewinners for July - 1 John Lang, 2 Bryan Rigg, 3 Jean Winter, 4 Phil Bird; August - 1 Sheila Davis, 2 Diane Whitehead, 3 Jennifer Rowlandson, 4 Carol Radford.

Church Flower Rota

1 Oct Harvest flowers. All help please.
15/22 Oct Linda Hill
29 Oct Eileen Fewings
5/12 Nov Eileen Fewings
19/26 Nov Phyllis Hill

TEMPLETON

Our HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE will take place on Sunday 1 October at 11.00 am. We would welcome all your Harvest produce and also gifts of tins and packets on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning in the Church. These will be taken to the Day Centre for the elderly in Tiverton. They are always so grateful for your gifts. Thank you.

Tickets are still available for our HARVEST SUPPER on Saturday 30 September in the Village Hall 7.00 for 7.00pm. The bar will be open. For tickets see Bindy Linen, Gloria Woollacott or Jan Heptinstall; Adults £7.50 and £3 for children. It was a very enjoyable community event last year, so we hope to see you there.

We are pleased to welcome Debs and Justin Taylor and their children Archie, Teddy and Arabella to the Old Rectory. We hope they will be very happy living in Templeton.

Templeton Village Fete on Saturday 12 August was a great success. It was a really fun day, with many different outdoor events, in addition to the Fete stalls and refreshments. Outdoor and Pledge Auctions, Pony Rides, Bouncy Castle, Animal Corner, Archery, Wood Carving, live music from Rosie Hunter and Bicycle Repair Man, Blacksmith demonstration and real ales and cider - along with good weather - all induced visitors to stay into the evening. It was a lot of hard work but well worth it! The event raised a grand total of £2.647.25p for much-needed Village funds. Many thanks to everyone who took part in the day and to those who gave their time and money so generously.

What luck we had with the beautiful weather on Saturday 2 September!





Thanks to all who made the Duck Race at Templeton Bridge such a success. It was a great day. In all, 319 ducks "raced" down the Dart river from Great Esworthy Farm to Dartcombe Mill, in a little over 40 minutes. There were cream teas, pasties, bric-a-brac, book and plant sales, and a raffle. The 1st Duck prize went to Julie Dent, 2nd prize Jem and Marianne and third prize to Jim, Julie Woolacott's son, and the last Duck prize went to Mike Pancherz. Thank you to all who contributed so generously to the day. The event raised £564.40 for Village Funds.

Make a note of these future dates in your diary!

Saturday 4 Nov - Templeton Village Hall will be holding their popular bonfire and firework night. Gate opens at 6.30pm alight 7.30pm. Bar, hot dogs and hot drinks on sale.

Saturday 2 Dec - A family Christmas Event at Templeton Village Hall. The details are still to be finalised - but it is likely to be held in the afternoon, so that more families with children can also come and enjoy it.

Flower and Cleaning Rota

Phillida Strong (Harvest) 1/8 Oct Jan Heptinstall 15 / 22 Oct Gina Palmer 29 Oct / 5 Nov Gloria Woollacott (Remembrance Sunday) 12 / 19 Nov Teresa Pancherz (Advent - No flowers) 26 Nov / 3 Dec

WASHFIELD

Changing colours in the trees, wood smoke on the chilly breeze, Cosy coats brought out once more, fallen leaves outside your door.

What a mixed Summer of weather we have had this year! However we kept Harvest Festival in true fashion on 10 September, at a well attended Service in Church, with all the traditional hymns and thanksgiving. Farming families were well represented and the Church was beautifully decorated with flowers, some vegetables and fruit - garden harvests not being so good this year! Despite the kind offer of the Old Rectory lawn, especially mown for the occasion, torrential rain intervened, so indoor games were enjoyed in the Hall instead. Claire Webber kept all the children entertained and busy, having prepared for wet weather at the last moment, and we are very grateful to her for this. The usual tea party followed and Liz Arnold, Ann Boundy and Adrienne Pannifer kept the tea flowing. Our thanks to them too, and to the Ringers who rang a merry peal before hand.

Steph arranged a very worthwhile "Quiet Day" at Westleigh on Sept 9th - a welcome and restorative day away from the usual routine.

We look forward to welcoming all the Exe Valley Churches to Washfield on 22 October, when it is our turn to host the Group Service. These are always happy occasions when we can come together as a larger congregation and worship with our friends from the other parishes.

Remembrance Sunday will be upon us soon - another important day for the Community.

We wish Steph and Robert a very joyful day for their Marriage on 21 October and a long and happy life together.

Our ever-popular Lunch Club celebrated 10 successful years in August with a party style luncheon of salads, cold salmon and meats with Black Forest Gateaux birthday cake to follow. The first Lunch Club for the New Year is in February and we always welcome newcomers to these monthly lunches. Please let Anne know if you would like to come along.

Our sympathies go to Liam Edwards, on the death of his devoted wife. Marianne. Marianne was a President of our W.I., a regular Lunch Club goer and an honorary parishioner with a heart of gold. Our thoughts are with Liam and the family at this very sad time.

Our sympathies go too, to Anne Boundy and Terry Yeoman and their families as they mourn the death of their beloved mothers.

We send get well wishes to those amongst us who are unwell or recovering at home after a spell in hospital at this time and in particular Sylvia Cockram, Juliet Ellis and Robert Julier. You are all in our thoughts as you recover.

Don't forget the Annual Pumpkin Growing Competition culminates at the end of October. Whether its been a good or bad growing season for you, bring your pumpkin along to the Social Club for judging on Saturday 28 October. Don't forget too, that Social Club subscriptions are once again due so, to support your local community club, get your subs paid up and take advantage of the varied calendar of activities on offer during the coming year and the social inclusion they offer.

Dates for your diary

Friday 29 September Britain on Film presentation in Hall 7pm. Tickets (from Hall Committee) @ £7.50/£2.50 to include a Ploughman's supper and a drink. Raffle. To raise funds for Washfield Memorial Hall. See Village website and Facebook page for further details.

continued overleaf



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Tuesday 10 October teatime@thehall from 3pm

Saturday 28 October Pumpkin judging at Social Club. Proceeds to E.L.F.

Thursday 9 November W.I. in hall 7.30pm. Speaker: Mrs Hilary Richardson - True Colours (Wearing the right colour for you) Tuesday 14 November teatime@thehall from 2.30pm

Altar Flower Rota

October 1/8 October 15/22 October 29/Nov 5 November 12/19 November 26/Dec 3 Mrs Moore Miss J Lampard Mrs Trout Mrs Hansford Mrs Harding

Church Cleaning Rota

October 2/9 Mr & Mrs Parnell
October 16/23 Mr & Mrs Walton
Oct 30/Nov 6 Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones

November 13/20 Mrs Albery Nov 27/Dec 4th Mr & Mrs Ellis

WITHLEIGH

he weather was kind for our Church Fete on 15 July, which allowed us to go ahead with it. As we had no an alternative venue this year, due to the refurbishments of the Village Hall, it would have been cancelled. Paul and Elizabeth opened the proceedings; each was presented with a buttonhole and Elizabeth was also given flowers, by Tyler. Fred and Darren from Barracuda accompanied us during the afternoon, once again making it, in all, an enjoyable time. £1,043.20p was raised for Church Funds. Thank you, Henry and Shirley, for your hospitality, and to everyone who helped and donated in any way.

Congratulations to Tyson and Clare Shelley who were married in our Church on 22 July and also to William and Anna Bladen who were married in Tiverton on 5 August. We send our best wishes to you all for your future lives together.

Also congratulations to Tim and Sarah Headon on the birth of their twins, Oliver and Jessica - another two grandchildren for Ken and Shirley, and greatgrandchildren for Jim. Love and best wishes to you all.

The Garden and Produce Show was a great success, this year held in the Church. Many thanks to the P.C.C. for allowing this to happen. The Church was transformed with displays of vegetables, flowers, handicrafts and cookery, on staging placed over the pews. Brenda Tucker won the cups in the vegetable, flower and handicraft and cookery sections. Grace Sellick won the cup in the children's section. Well done Brenda and Grace!

The Garden and Produce Show Committee would like to thank all those who entered, especially the new ones, and the Judges who gave up their time to judge for us. We now look forward to next year's show back in the Village Hall, with more new people entering, together with those who, for various reasons, could not enter this year.

The Village Hall is looking much smarter now, with new paint inside and out, as well as the new roof, heating and lighting. With a few little extras to be done we hope that by the time you are reading this we will be moving everything back into the hall. We are holding the Grand Reopening on the evening of 27 October at 7.30pm, to which you are all invited. Entertainment will be provided by Fred and Darren from Barracuda. Withleigh parishioners will have their invitation with this magazine. Please do call or e-mail

Brenda to help out with the catering. Tel 01884 252431 or tucks@btconnect.com

A number of issues were picked up during the Church's quinquennial inspection last November. The minor work to the outside of the building has been completed, but the stonework on the east wall (the wall that caused all the problems back in the early 1960s) is in need of major repair and restoration. At the time of writing, we are awaiting Diocesan approval, but it is hoped that the work will be able to start around the end of September or beginning of October.

Our Harvest Festival, this year, was well attended, and took the form of a Songs of Praise Service which included the story of the weary and hungry traveller and his 'magic' stone. As a postscript, we all heard about, and received a card about the Christian Pumpkin. The guest speaker at our Harvest Supper was Kevin Balding who talked about the work of Devon Freewheelers and the proceeds of the auction, together with donations, realised the total of £280 for Devon Freewheelers.

Our skittles evening will this year be held on Friday 10 November at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Teams of five or six can be made up on the night, or bring your own team. Prizes will be awarded to the winners and runners up. Hot Dogs and drinks will be available.

Our Craft Fayre, in aid of Church Funds is on 25 November in the Village Hall, 10.30am - 3.30pm. Coffee, lunches and afternoon teas will be served. Come and find those Christmas presents you may be looking for, and enjoy some refreshments at the same time! We look forward to seeing you.

Looking further ahead, our Christingle Service on 3 December (4pm) will be a





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little different this year, our worship team (yes, we do have one - Brenda, Laura, Susie, Elizabeth and Paul) having decided to let all members of the congregation loose to make their own Christingles under guidance, of course! All children are very welcome.

Withleigh WI

meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, @ 7.15pm. Guest are always welcome to come along. For more information please ring Rosie 01884 257123.

Thurs 12 Oct 7.15 pm, joint meeting with Washfield W.I. at Withleigh Village Hall. With Jilly, of "Jilly, Tilly & Boo", on Annie Sloane's Shabby-Chic

Thurs 9 Nov 7.15 pm, with Jo Mortimer, Tiverton Artist, on My Interesting Work & **Exhibitions**

Thurs 14 Dec Christmas Party, details to be arranged.

We send get well wishes to all those receiving treatment, recovering from spells in hospital, or not well at this time. We also think of those who are bereaved, going through a difficult time, or lonely. Our love and prayers are with you all.

Forthcoming Events:

Thurs 12 Oct WI in the hall at 7.15pm Friday 27 Oct Grand Reopening of the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Thurs 9 Nov WI in the hall at 7.15 pm Friday 10 Nov Skittles Evening at 7.30pm

Flower Rota:

24 Sept, 1/8 Oct **Shirley Cruwys** 15/22/29 Oct **Christine Luxton** 5/12/19 Nov Sylvia Hann 26 Nov, 3/10 Dec **Margaret Gale**

Monthly Diary Dates:

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

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HOME GROUPS AND PRAYER BREAKFASTS

I am pleased to announce that Home Groups and Prayer Breakfasts will resume this Autumn. Details as follows:-

Home Groups.

We will be meeting on alternate Wednesday evenings from 13 September until Advent (when I will be running weekly Church based evenings somewhat similar to those we had in Lent). Home Group will normally meet at Bryan and Audrey Rigg's house, Church Cottage, Stoodleigh at 7.30pm but 27 September will be at the Rectory, Withleigh as Bryan and Audrey are away.

The dates are 13 and 27 September, 11 and 25 October, 8 and 22 November.

I would appreciate it if all Parishes would keep Wednesday evenings free of other activities such as PCCs etc. so that as many of us as possible can meet together in the Home Group. We will be introducing each session with a DVD entitled "Chatting around the Bible". The emphasis will then be discussion based

upon the Lectionary Readings for the previous Sunday. We will allow time for sharing and prayer and finish each evening between 9.00 and 9.30pm.

Prayer Breakfasts.

These will be monthly on the last Saturday of each month commencing on Saturday 30 September. This year I would like to hold these continental type breakfasts around the Parishes in turn and to this end we will be looking for a home in each Parish who would be prepared to host one breakfast. We will provide the necessary food etc. so that all the host would need to do, would be to make space (and cutlery etc.!) available in their home from 9.00am to, say, 11.00am on a Saturday morning. It would be good to hear from anyone who would be happy to act as hosts in this way. I would like to hold the first one on 30 September, at the Rectory.

I do trust that these events will increase our fellowship together.

Steph

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If you are interested in coming along to a Pilgrim course, beginning in the Autumn, and would like to find out more, please contact: office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org or ring the church office on 01884 250417.

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Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 14 October

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Laughter is infectious & gloomy moods suppress. Start an epidemic, spreading happiness.

Thoughts for Everyday by Patience Strong ~ for 21 November

Use your gifts! Don't let them rest or they will rust away.

Take the opportunities that come with every day.

By perseverance, self-reliance and self-discipline -

You can be what you desire. The Kingdom is within.

THEOLOGY QUEST AND QUESTIONS in TIVERTON 2017-2018



"Who tried Jesus, and why?" David Catchpole Thursdays 21 and 28 September; 5 October 2017

"The quest of the historical Mary" David Catchpole Thursdays 19 and 26 October; 2 November 2017

"Changing morality and the transformative gospel" David Hamer Thursdays 26 April; 3 and 10 May 2018

"Rain falling by the river" Christopher Southgate Thursdays 7, 14 and 21 June 2018

We meet in the Tiverton Baptist Church Hall, by kind permission of the Minister and Deacons. Sessions begin at 7 pm and end promptly at 9 pm. The aim of TQQT is partly, to quote a famous phrase, 'faith seeking understanding', but it also gives space to 'doubt seeking understanding'.

If you came before, we hope you will come again. If you didn't, come and give it a try. Anyone and everyone can come.

There are no entrance conditions – except an open mind and a spirit of exploration! Just £6.00 per session (£15.00 per trio). This will cover tea/coffee at half-time.

Further details from David Catchpole on 01884252100 or davidcatchpole538@gmail.com

Read the TODAY magazine, in colour, on-line at exevalleychurches.org/magazine/index.php

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LOXBEARE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

2pm - 4pm SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER

OAKFORD MOORLAND CLUB CHRISTMAS FAYRE

11am - 2pm SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER

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19 November
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