

**MAY / JUNE 2025**

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## ONCE UPON A TIME

Once upon a time, in a world that doesn't seem so very far away, I knew exactly what everyone was saying and exactly what everyone meant. I didn't have a problem. It was easy.

I knew that if someone said that something was 'far out' then that thing was very cool in a weird and exciting kind of way. I also knew that if something was 'groovy' it was cool in a hip sort of way. Robert referred to himself as groovy until the day he died – and he was!

I think most of us were sympathetic if someone said something was a 'bummer' and we all knew what 'jeepers creepers' meant. It was obvs!

But sadly, the adults I knew and mixed with – the ones looking after me – the ones trying to influence me, were 'out to lunch'(1) with such terminology. They just looked blank. They didn't have a clue. And that was wicked! It was hilarious! And I was never ever going to be like that. I was always going to know what was being said and what things meant. Defo.

But a strange thing has happened, and a whole new vocabulary has appeared and, between ourselves, (nod, nod, wink wink) I haven't got a clue what any of it means. I find myself acquiring that 'out to lunch' look of my mother, and desperately trying to erase it before someone I'm related to notices it and comments – or even worse, sniggers!



Here's an example: I think I know what 'Biblically accurate' means. I'm a vicar! But I certainly didn't know what it means to this generation. And as for 'delulu' I thought I'd have a guess. 'Before I go, I need to nip to the delulu...?' Not a bit of it! It means delusional. And 'drip' refers to a really cool outfit!

How easy to put one's foot well and truly in it and confirm to the yooof that I am an Okay Boomer –

and apparently that's not something I want to be!

Things move on. Words acquire or lose meaning. Who for example knows what Mothering Sunday is? What does it mean? What is Holy Week or Maundy Thursday or Agape, or Pentecost? Christian Easter is being cancelled. Who or what is a vicar? When I tell people I am a Christian does anyone have a clue what I mean?

In the course that we have been doing 'Practicing the Way' we have been encouraged to describe ourselves as apprentices to Jesus, being with him, following his teaching, adopting his lifestyle. It's how it was for a few people 2000 years ago. It caught on. No new vocabulary required. Try it. Trust me it 'slaps' (2)

1. Confused; clueless    2. Something that's really great.

*With my love and prayers,  
Steph*

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## Parish Diary

### MAY

- 3 Calverleigh Prayer Day 9.00am-9.00pm (see page 6)
- 3/4 Loxbeare Prayer Weekend
- 3 Stoodleigh Village Hall Coffee Morning 10.30am
- 4 Templeton Village Hall Roast Beef Dinner 1.00pm
- 7 St Peter's Oakford Books, Coffee & Chat 10.30am
- 8 Moorland Ladies Plant sale & afternoon tea at Oakford Village Hall 2.30pm
- 8 Exe Valley Community Lunch visit to Fursdon House 2.00pm
- 9 Coffee & chat with Steph in Banburys from 10.15am
- 10 Coffee Morning at Calverleigh Village Hall 10am-12pm
- 10 Big Breakfast at Cruwys Morchard Village Hall 8.00am-11.00am
- 10 Ploughman's Lunch at Loxbeare Village Hall 12.30pm-2.00pm
- 11 Templeton Tractor Run 11.00am Templeton Village Hall
- 13 Loxbeare PCC meeting 7.30pm at Barton View
- 13 Teatime@thehall Washfield 3.00pm-4.30pm
- 14 Virtual Horse Racing and afternoon tea at Oakford Village Hall 12.00pm
- 18 Red Lion Oakford Quiz 8.00pm

### JUNE

- 4 St Peter's Oakford Books, Coffee & Chat 10.30am
- 7/8 Loxbeare Prayer Weekend
- 7 Stoodleigh Village Hall Coffee Morning 10.30am
- 10 Teatime@thehall Washfield 3.00pm-4.30pm
- 12 EVMC Lunch at Stoodleigh Village Hall 12.30pm
- 12 Moorland Ladies Car Treasure Hunt 6.00pm
- 14 Cruwys Morchard Fete 12pm-3.00pm (BBQ 12-2.00pm)
- 14 Cream Tea at Loxbeare Village Hall 3.00pm-4.30pm
- 15 Red Lion Oakford Quiz 8.00pm



## Exe Valley Lunches



2.00pm - 4.00pm

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May - A trip to Fursdon House for a look around the gardens followed by a cream team. Please let the church office know if you will be joining us and if you need transport.



12.30pm - 2.30pm

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June - Stoodleigh Village Hall  
Contact the church office to book  
01884 250417





## WHAT'S ON ....

### Prayer Breakfasts

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

31 May and  
28 June at 9.00am.  
at The Rectory Withleigh  
Everyone welcome



### CHECK OUT THE ALL NEW EXE VALLEY WEBSITE

[www.exevalleychurches.org](http://www.exevalleychurches.org)

It's the best place to go for  
updates about what's on  
and what we do.



### Bible Study Group

Looking at Isaiah

The next meeting will be  
held at Myrtle Cottage,  
Oakford EX16 9ES

Monday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm

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

Many thanks.

Tim Gorrington

[t.j.gorrington@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:t.j.gorrington@exeter.ac.uk)

### CHAT WITH STEPH

If you are in Tiverton on a Friday, catch up with  
Steph in Banburys  
for coffee and a chat  
from 10.15am on May 9<sup>th</sup> and  
June 20<sup>th</sup> 2025



### Baptism and Confirmation

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

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

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



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### Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement that unites more than a million Christians in prayer in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions, so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church is encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

It is our hope and prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.

Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the globe to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of five people who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in with Thy Kingdom Come before or not, we invite you to take part from 29 May - 8 June 2025.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### NATURE NOTES

#### Who's That Singing Their Heart Out?

One of the many delights offered up by the natural world is the symphony of song that fills our gardens and churchyards as the birds busy themselves with establishing their territories and attracting a mate. For many of us, simply listening to the rich orchestra of coos, chirps, cascades, trills and warbles on a sun-drenched spring day is reward enough. However, tuning into and identifying the individuals can elevate the experience to another level. There is no better place and time to start deciphering bird song than our gardens and churchyards in April and May. At first, it may seem a daunting task to fathom out who is saying what, but there's help on offer.

An excellent way to make this deeper connection with nature and your surroundings is to simply stop and listen. Having taken in the whole, try focusing in on the individual songs before attempting to identify who it is that's making their presence known. With luck and patience, you will have made the connection between the singer and their song. Then, with experience and practice, a bird singing its heart out but hidden from prying eyes can often be identified from its song alone. Admittedly, if you are anything like me, come the following spring, a little 'revision' may be required!

Another tip is to memorize the mnemonics associated with certain birds. The great tit is a case in point as it broadcasts its aptly described two-syllable trademark song, delivered on

repeat: 'teacher-teacher .... teacher-teacher .... teacher-teacher ....'

Often heard clattering from its nest, wood pigeons too have a mnemonic for their monotonous, cooing song. Whilst the great tit's mnemonic is a near-perfect rendition, that of a wood pigeon requires a little more interpretation: "two cows Teddy, take two cows Teddy, take two cows Teddy, take." They really do sound as if they are finishing mid-sentence. Distinguishing a wood pigeon from the similar-sounding but smaller and less flamboyant collared dove is made a little easier when you know the chant of the collared dove: 'un-it-ed, un-it-ed, un-it-ed' (are all collared doves football supporters!?).

Despite not being entirely accurate, my favourite mnemonic has to be that of a bird not of our gardens but of the open countryside. Perched on a weathered fence post or a swaying telephone wire, you may be fortunate to happen across a yellowhammer broadcasting a melodic request for "a little bit of bread and no cheeeese". Having made quite an impression on me, I can still picture the scene when, 50 or so years ago, I stood transfixed and enchanted by my first ever sighting of one of these lemon yellow and brown-streaked buntings in full song.

Occasionally appearing in our gardens, one bird 'says it on the tin', taking its name directly from its song: "chiffchaff .... chiffchaff .... chiffchaff." However, a word of caution. The two syllables of the chiffchaff could easily be confused with those of the "teacher-teacher" of a great tit.

Sadly, not as common as it once was, the song thrush lives up to its name as it screams out its repetitive, yet varied song, from a high perch. The song has,

with good reason, been compared to punk rock – very loud and very repetitive! Several short phrases are repeated before moving onto another series, as if attempting to improve on the previous version.

Then there's the wren, very common and widespread it is one of our smallest birds but one that packs a huge punch for its size as it blasts out its unmistakable high-pitched and machine-gun-like trill from a low tree or shrub.

Mention must be made of one of our most melodious of garden birds, the male blackbird. Easy to both see and identify as it sings from atop a tall tree, TV aerial or chimney pot, our spring gardens are often bathed with his prolific, varied and glorious repertoire: "A mindless old bloke down the bottom of the garden just whistling" I suggest it doesn't do justice to it.

If you are struggling to get your head (and ears) around bird song, for those with the internet, I recommend using the RSPB website where it has the option to both identify and listen to most bird species. However, for those of you with a smartphone and keen to learn more, the Merlin app is a must.

Stephen Powles



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CALVERLEIGH

As this report is written we have been enjoying lovely sunny days with March "going out like a lamb" Spring has sprung, the hedgerows are coming alive, the dawn chorus lifts the heart, the days are lengthening and the build up to Easter has been enlightening, thanks to the Lenten course.

We were pleased to welcome six children to our Explore service in March which was led by Nik. Three of the children took part in the service by each reading parts of the lesson. Well done to you all! The all-age activity after the service was to plant sunflower seeds in pots to take home and hopefully, successfully nurture them to a fully grown plant later in the summer.

Our Mothering Sunday service was led by Jackie who gave a touching talk on the role of a mother and the unconditional love they have given over the years asking for nothing in return. It is a time when we can show our appreciation of what they mean to us and this was done by the giving out of posies to Mums, Grandmothers, Great-grandmothers, Aunties etc as well as to all those in the congregation, with plenty of flowers to lay on the graves of those family members who are no longer with us but remain in our hearts. Thank you to all who made up the posies for many to enjoy.

As this goes to print we will have had our APCM, held after the service on 13 April and a report on church officers and PCC members will appear in the next edition.

Unfortunately, there is an area of flooring in the church that has become unstable and at this time is being investigated as to the cause and what

can be done to rectify and repair it. With this in mind, we will be holding a coffee morning at the village hall on 10 May from 10am – 12pm to begin fundraising efforts. There will be a bring-and-buy stall, a draw and some competitions.

Welcome to those readers who have moved into the village in recent weeks. We hope you will be very happy in your new surroundings and look forward to meeting you at village/church functions in the future.

Congratulations to anyone celebrating a birthday/anniversary/birth of a baby. Happy Birthday to Elijah, who will be 3 in May.

For those of you who are going through tough times with health issues, we hope that you will be feeling much better soon.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost a loved one either recently or longer ago.

#### Forthcoming Events

Our Day of Prayer will take place on Saturday 3 May from 9am – 9pm, split into 30 minute time slots. People are free to pray wherever they feel most comfortable. Prayer suggestions will be available closer to the day. Please contact Aubrey or Jackie for more details.

On 10 May we will be holding a coffee morning in the village hall in aid of church funds, from 10am – 12 noon. There will be a bring and buy table, draw and competitions.

The annual Calverleigh Produce Show will take place on Saturday 23 August. Schedules are out now and if you have not received by e-mail already can be downloaded from the church website. If you would prefer a printed copy

please contact Paul and Maureen (07967 989724).

Our Open-air service takes place on Sunday 6 July at 3pm in the churchyard (inside church if wet).

#### Church cleaning rota:

21 Apr - 3 May:	Mrs A Webber
5 May - 17 May:	Mrs J Goldsworthy
19 May - 31 May:	Mrs S Greenslade
2 May - 14 Jun:	Mrs R Tapp
16 Jun - 28 Jun:	Miss J Herniman
30 Jun - 12 Jul:	Mrs M Furneaux

#### Flower rota

4 May - 11 May:	Mr M Ravnkilde
18 May - 25 May:	Mrs R Tapp
1 Jun - 8 Jun:	Mrs G Tucker
15 Jun - 22 Jun:	Mrs T Amory
30 Jun - 6 Jul:	Mrs M Furnaux

#### Mowing rota

21 Apr - 3 May:	Mr D White
5 May - 17 May:	Mr K & Mrs C Hayes
19 May - 31 May:	Mr C Durnan
2 Jun - 14 Jun:	Mr A Hancock
16 Jun - 28 Jun:	The Webber Family
30 Jun - 12 Jul:	The Heathcoat-Amory Family

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



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### CRUWYS MORCHARD

#### Church of the Holy Cross

It is the beginning of April as I write up the parish news. We have had stunning weather, the hour has sprung forward, and we have been rewarded with lovely evenings in which to enjoy our gardens. Easter is approaching, and with that in mind I would like to thank everyone for their involvement in our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services, and to those who got "stuck in" to our Community Easter Fun Coffee Morning. I am sure that we will have had a great deal of fun!

Many thanks for those who provided the beautiful posies for our Mothering Sunday service and to Steph for her warm and thought provoking sermon.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are unwell at this time and to those who have suffered a bereavement.

#### Flower and Cleaning Rota

May 5 & 12	Cindy Trick
May 19 & 26	Diana Vincent and Val Randerson
June 2 & 9	Marian Kingdom
June 10 & 17	Sarah Cruwys
June 16 & 23	Claire Miller
June 30 & July 7	Marilyn Hill

For upcoming services in our church please see the central pages of this magazine.

#### Big Breakfast

Come and join us to start your day in a traditional way! Big Breakfast at Cruwys Morchard Parish hall on Saturday 10 May, 8- 11 am. If you would like to book in, please contact Ali Vincent on 07801 480806/ alisonpvincent@hotmail.co.uk

#### Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall

The Easter Bingo held on Saturday 5 April raised £345.65 for parish hall funds. Thank you to Viv for calling and to all that attended, helped and donated raffle prizes.

#### Cruwys Morchard Fete

This year our fete is on Saturday 14 June, 12-3pm (BBQ 12-2pm), at the Parish Hall. Please come and join us for fun and games, stalls, BBQ and refreshments. Donations of cakes, raffle and Tombola prizes would be much appreciated. We do need help to run stalls, if you are able to lend a hand please contact Diana Vincent, 01363 860227.

#### Yoga at the Parish Hall

General Hatha Yoga Class at Cruwys Morchard Hall, Thursdays 10am – 11.15am. All abilities and ages welcome. Call Hilary on 01363 866245.

#### Cruwys Morchard Flower Show

The annual flower show takes place this year on Saturday 9 August 2025. Schedules are now available, with many new classes. Children's buckets and seed potatoes are available from the secretary or chairman. The "Grow-on plug plant" will be available soon. For more information, please contact Tracey Gillbard on 07871 300783 or traceygillbard@gmail.com

#### Cruwys Morchard YFC

Members have been competing in Pub Sports, Crealy Challenge and Call my Bluff competitions. They also found time to attend a Junior Tug-of-War training day, and complete a Skills 4 Life day in survival skills.

Looking ahead to the coming months we are busy with Devon County Show entries and then then Mid Devon Show. Please keep an eye out for our future Tractor Run!!

We are continuing to raise money by collecting aluminium drinks cans. So please let us have yours! If you have cans that we can collect please contact Ali Vincent, 07801 480806.

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

#### Cruwys Social Evening

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

#### Congregational Churches

Please join us for:

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

#### Sunday services

2.30pm Nomansland chapel \*

4.30pm Pennymoor chapel \*

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

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

#### Magazine Contact

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

### LOXBEARE

What a fabulous March we have had with the weather, the sun shone and the birds singing and with the clocks altering and having over 12 hours of daylight.

On Mothering Sunday, we had an English Breakfast cooked by Richard followed by a service led by Linda. Thank you to all who prepared and helped with the breakfast and those that took part in the service.

Loxbeare P.C.C. would like to thank all those who attended the Parishioners meeting on 11th March. Loxbeare APCM was held on 6th April, after the Morning Praise service. Thank you to those who work quietly behind the scenes to serve others and their commitment to make a positive difference to our Church community so well throughout the year.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### OAKFORD

Steph thanked everyone for their help in keeping Loxbeare church working together. Loxbeare PCC next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th May at 7.30pm, at Barton View.

Loxbeare church are continuing to send 2 boxes a month to Barnabas Aid, to feed Christians in need of aid.

Our services for May/June will all be at 10.45am on 4, 11 & 18 May Morning Praise. The 11 May will be cluster service with Washfield and Calverleigh joining us for Holy Communion. In June 1 and 15, Morning Praise.

The monthly prayer weekends will be 3/4 May and 7/8 June. Anyone wanting prayers or prayer pointers please contact Jean on 07835300233 or Carol 01884881480.

Happy birthday to all with birthdays in May/June and congratulations to all celebrating special occasions. Our best wishes to Dawn and Michael on their wedding in June. We pray every blessing and happiness for their future lives together.

We pray for Margaret after her fall. Our thoughts and prayers are with our organist Jean and her husband Richard at this difficult time. Also, to those who have had operations and all who are unwell or waiting for treatments or operations.

#### Village dates:

May 10 there will be a Ploughman's lunch 12.30pm to 2pm in aid of British Heart Foundation and June 14 cream tea 3pm-4.30pm in aid of Marie Curie. There will be a bring and buy at both events including plants. In March, the soup Lunch made £8 for Alzheimer Society, thanks to all who made the soup and the mouthwatering puddings.

When we switch on our televisions we are bombarded with shocking, horrifying news. An earthquake in Myanmar, wars endlessly raging on, stabbings of children often by children, rubbish and rats on the streets of Birmingham. But if we open our windows, the sun is shining, birds are singing, flowers in the hedgerows are blooming in various shades of yellow and the air is perfumed with the scent cut grass as people start to mow their lawns. We are so very fortunate to live where we do.

The Mothering Sunday service at St Peter's was well supported. Readings by Amelia and Daniel and a lovely talk given by Carol was followed by a special song lead by Dawn who was helped by her granddaughter Cerys. Posies for the Mums, Grans and Great-grans and then coffee and cake.

There will be a service at St Peter's on Easter Sunday led by Rev. Tim Gorringe.

Work has begun on the bell tower, with the bells due to come down after Easter. A photographic and video record will be kept of the work as it progresses.

There have been several successful events held in the Village Hall.

Two very enjoyable afternoons showing the Six Nations rugby. Thanks to Debra for supplying delicious refreshments on request, to Jennie for opening the bar and to Paul for making sure everything worked.

The Great Oakford Taste Off was a success once again.

The Oakford Players presented a Quiztastic evening with supper and an ice-cream interval which was well supported.

The Moorland Club enjoyed their annual February Fish and Chip night, this year at the Exmoor/ Dulverton chippy. Followed in March with the AGM and a demonstration of Gelli printing given by Tracey. April's meeting will be a visit to Quince Honey Farm in South Molton.

The March monthly Books and Chat coffee morning, held at the back of St Peter's, also included a short talk on Greggs Riding School, started and run by Amelia and members of her family, 1946 – 2023, with a copy of her beautifully written and illustrated book. At the April get together Theresa offered to tell us about her most favourite book ever, The Snow Child. Thank you Theresa. The next meetings will be on May 7 and June 4.

Countryside mottos for May and June. Change not a clout, till May be out. Shear your sheep in May and shear them all away. Mist in May and heat in June do bring all things into tune.

Dates for your diaries.

The Poppy Crafting group meet every Tuesday at Bluehayes and are knitting and crocheting flowers for their next project. Watch this space or if you would like to join them contact Julia email: bluehayes@yahoo.co.uk

Moorland Club.

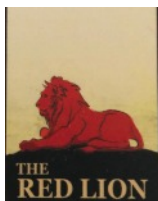
8 May at 2.30pm in the Village Hall Plant sale and afternoon tea.

12 June at 6.00pm Car Treasure Hunt

Village Hall

Saturday 14 June. 12.00pm - 5.00pm. Virtual Racing. All the fun of the races on the big screen and a luxury

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## 4 MAY

3rd Sunday of Easter  
(White)

### A change of perspective

Acts 9: 1-6  
John 21: 1-19

### 9.30am Zoom Service

**CALVERLEIGH**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**  
No Service

**LOXBEARE**  
10.45am Morning Praise

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

**RACKENFORD**  
See Oakford

**STOODLEIGH**  
See Oakford

**TEMPLETON**  
10.45am Morning Praise  
with Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**WASHFIELD**  
6.00pm Evening Prayer

**WITHLEIGH**  
10.45am Family Service

## 11 MAY

4th Sunday of Easter  
(White)

### Called to live

Acts 9: 36-43  
John 10: 22-30

### 9.30am Zoom Service

**CALVERLEIGH**  
See Loxbeare

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**  
10.45am Family Service

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

**OAKFORD**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**RACKENFORD**  
9.15am 'Explore'  
with Nik, Tash & Dave Burton

**STOODLEIGH**  
10.45am Reflective Service  
with coffee and cake

**TEMPLETON**  
No Service

**WASHFIELD**  
See Loxbeare

**WITHLEIGH**  
10.45am Morning Praise  
*Tim Gorringe*

## 18 MAY

5th Sunday of Easter  
(White)

### Making all things new

Acts 11: 1-18  
John 13: 31-35

### 9.30am Zoom Service

**CALVERLEIGH**  
9.15am 'Explore'  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**  
10.45am Holy Communion  
*Tim Gorringe*

**LOXBEARE**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**OAKFORD**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**RACKENFORD**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**STOODLEIGH**  
10.45am Morning Praise

**TEMPLETON**  
See Cruwys Morchard

**WASHFIELD**  
10.45am Morning Praise  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

**WITHLEIGH**  
See Cruwys Morchard

## 25 MAY

6th Sunday of Easter  
(White)

### Not all plain sailing

Acts 16: 9-15  
John 5: 1-9

### 9.30am Zoom Service

**OUR MISSION  
COMMUNITY  
HOLY COMMUNION  
GROUP SERVICE**  
is at  
**10.45am in  
TEMPLETON  
with  
Tim Gorringe**

## THURSDAY 29 MAY

### ASCENSION DAY SERVICE



**6.00pm**  
**Holy Communion**  
at  
**Stoodleigh**  
**Steph Gordon-Jeffs**  
and  
**David Edwards**

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



## 1 JUNE

7th Sunday of Easter  
(White)

### Freeing captives

Acts 16: 16-34  
John 17: 20-26

### 9.30am Zoom Service

#### CALVERLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise  
with Baptism  
Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

#### CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Morning Praise

#### LOXBEARE

10.45am Morning Praise

#### OAKFORD

See Rackenford

#### RACKENFORD

10.45am Holy Communion  
*Christopher Rowley*

#### STOODLEIGH

See Rackenford

#### TEMPLETON

10.45am Morning Praise

#### WASHFIELD

6.00pm Evening Prayer

#### WITHLEIGH

10.45am Family Service

## 8 JUNE

### PENTECOST

(Red)

### Unity in diversity

Acts 2: 1-21  
John 14: 8-17,(25-27)

### 9.30am Zoom Service

#### CALVERLEIGH

See Washfield

#### CRUWYS MORCHARD

10.45am Family Service

#### LOXBEARE

See Washfield

#### OAKFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

#### RACKENFORD

No Service

#### STOODLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise

#### TEMPLETON

No service

#### WASHFIELD

10.45am Holy Communion  
*Tim Gorringe*

#### WITHLEIGH

10.45am Morning Praise



## 15 JUNE

### TRINITY SUNDAY

(White)

### God invites us in

Romans 5: 1-5  
John 16: 12-15

### 9.30am Zoom Service

#### CALVERLEIGH

9.15am 'Explore'  
with Nik, Tash & Dave Burton

#### CRUWYS MORCHARD

See Templeton

#### LOXBEARE

10.45am Morning Praise

#### OAKFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

#### RACKENFORD

10.45am Morning Praise

#### STOODLEIGH

10.00am Reflective service  
with breakfast

#### TEMPLETON

10.45am Holy Communion  
*Tim Gorringe*

#### WASHFIELD

10.45am Morning Praise

#### WITHLEIGH

See Templeton

## 22 JUNE

1st Sunday after Trinity  
(Green)

### Change for the better

Galatians 3: 23-29  
Luke 8: 26-29

### 9.30am Zoom Service

**OUR MISSION  
COMMUNITY  
HOLY COMMUNION  
GROUP SERVICE**

is at

**10.45am in  
WASHFIELD  
with**

**GUEST SPEAKER  
GENERAL SYNOD REP.  
SIMON FRIEND**

Steph Gordon-Jeffs  
and David Edwards

## 29 JUNE

2nd Sunday after Trinity

### Our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Service

is in  
**Withleigh Village Hall  
at**

**9.30am  
a service of  
'Poems, prayer and  
praise'**

**Everyone is welcome**

### PRAYER CHAIN

The Exe Valley Mission Community  
are starting a telephone prayer chain.  
If you like to be included for prayer  
or know someone who would like to be  
included, please contact Steph at the  
church office. Only first initials will  
be used to ensure total  
confidentiality



## PARISH ROUND-UP

afternoon tea. Licensed bar. Tickets £15.00 from Jennie 07595 617845 or Dawn 07733949295

Saturday 6 July. 12 – 4 pm The British Grand Prix showing on the big screen. Licensed bar.

Red Lion Pub Quiz

18 May at 8.00pm & 15 June at 8.00pm

The Village Fete

Saturday 12 July 2pm – 5 pm on the Community Area. Tiverton Majorettes will be performing with all the fun of a traditional village fete.

Pilates Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays in the village hall. [nancy@edgemoorpilates.co.uk](mailto:nancy@edgemoorpilates.co.uk)

Best wishes to all with anniversaries and birthdays in May and June.

Congratulations and love to Laura and Geoffrey on their Golden wedding anniversary in May.

Thoughts and prayers go to all who have lost loved ones and those who are ill at home or in hospital. We remember especially the family and friends of Sue Vigus and Shirley Hutter.

If any of the village organisations have news of events that they would like to share in the Today magazine, which reaches everyone in the Parish, please send copy to [patsyphili@aol.com](mailto:patsyphili@aol.com) or tel: 01398 674094

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

## RACKENFORD

What a lovely start to Spring we have been enjoying, which has enabled us to enjoy the great outdoors, gardening, walking, or just seeing the sunny days through our windows, can lift our spirits.

We didn't have a Mothering Sunday service here at Rackenford this year.

However the Church Council put together a selection of bunched flowers with a welcoming 'help yourself' message to take to your mums or a loved one and put a smile on someones face with your kind gift. We hope you all enjoyed your special day.

The Gardening Club held their Spring Show on Saturday April 5 at Rackenford Church. No doubt fine produce of 'green fingered' gardeners were a delight to see. Refreshments were available to enjoy and at the end of the day the awaited prize giving completed the day. A very successful day

Our Easter Sunday service will have taken place on April 20 which would have been Lay Led. The church will have been beautifully decorated by our kind ladies. The children will have been running around enjoying the Easter Egg hunt on the common searching for those delicious little treats.

Thank you so much to Glen who regularly keeps our clock ticking, putting it forward this time. Not only that, but noticing debris brought in some how by the birds and quietly removing it all for us, not an easy task. We so much appreciate all you do for us.

Sad news reached us of the death of Olive Blackford on March 13 aged 91. Olive was born and brought up at Rackenford. Spending her life at Leat, Queen Dart, Malson and Barns Close. She was a great supporter of Rackenford Church for many years quietly behind the scenes doing all she could to be of assistance. Her funeral will have taken place on April 11 where she will have been laid to rest with her

late husband George. Our deepest sympathy and love to Anne, Tom and Emma and Joe at this difficult time.

To all our dear friends who have poor health or are struggling, whatever the reason you are remembered in our prayers.

Happy birthday and anniversaries to all those celebrating .

Our continued thanks to David who once again is cutting areas of our church yard voluntarily, we are most grateful to you. A reminder to keep the mowers etc safe, no artificial flowers or glass please.

If you have anything you feel should be included in this magazine, please make a member of the PCC aware.

We continue to pray for our troubled world and PEACE .

## STOODLEIGH

Report from St Margaret's

What a wonderful start to spring with the lovely sunshine we've all been enjoying through the early part of Lent. By the time you read this, of course it may well be raining.

We've had a quiet start to the year at St Margaret's, but now Easter is over we are starting to run events again. We hope to start off with a stall at Chudleigh Salvage Fair and continue with our usual stall in South Molton market. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who either donates or helps with these.

There is also a prospective event which will involve all the organisations in the village and people who don't belong to any of the clubs. It would be a lovely

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

event to look forward to and we must all give it our best support and effort.

Recently at St Margaret's we have been holding 9.30am Breakfast 'Reflective' Services, with coffee & croissants (or toast if the croissants run out!) as well as a noon Soup Service. These are proving popular by those attending and it has been wonderful to get together with people who probably don't regularly come to Church but have enjoyed a catch up with friends, or meeting new faces, in the relaxed and peaceful atmosphere of our Church. Do come along if you would like to join in, you will be most welcome.

St Margaret's churchyard was looking stunning for our Mothering Sunday service on 30th March. The first grass cut of the year has been carried out, and the primroses and daffodils were out in full force in the sunshine.

Our thanks to the team of Bell Ringers who were up mighty early with the hour change....to Yvonne for the hot tea and coffee after all our singing, and to Phyllis for providing each Mother and Grandmother with a primrose posy on this special day, enabling us to think of all the mothers and carers, both past and present, with gratitude and love.

We will have had the APCM by the time you read this, so we would like to welcome John and Torri Griffiths and Linda Brice to our Church Electoral roll. It's lovely to have different people coming forward to support the church, and we're always glad to welcome them. We are looking into a new heating system as our old one, using oil, is past its best. We are hoping to go for a more environmentally friendly system, so we'll keep you posted as to our progress.

Stoodleigh Church Flower Rota  
 10 / 17 May Mandy Widdowson  
 24 / 31 May Yvonne Lang  
 7 / 14 June Geraldine Talbot  
 21 / 28 June Wedding Flowers

### Garden Club

Following a day of Willow Weaving to make garden accessories, a visit to Killerton for the spring flowers was much enjoyed at the beginning of March. The gardens looked splendid in the much appreciated sunshine and everyone enjoyed convivial refreshments in the cafe.

During April, spring flower arranging will have taken place in the Parish Hall and plans are underway for some 'guerilla gardening' - planting of snowdrops in the children's play area.

Plans for Stoodleigh Annual Show on 23rd August are finalised. Open to everyone, information is available on the Stoodleigh website. If you live in the Stoodleigh area, please look out for the schedule and entry form in the next edition of this magazine.

### Stoodleigh 100 Club

Thank you to members of the 100 Club for your support over the last year. If you're not already a member, would you like to join and be in with a monthly chance of winning? It's an opportunity for everyone to have some fun and all profits are split between the Parish Hall and St Margaret's Church.

The new 2025/26 year will start on May 1, so to renew or sign up for new membership, please contact Geraldine Talbot via [geraldinetalbot@live.com](mailto:geraldinetalbot@live.com) or 01398 351391 as soon as possible to be in with a chance of winning.

Membership is £5 a year;

Twelve Draws in the year;  
 Prize money

- o 1st £20 \* 2nd £10 \* 3rd £5 \* 4th £5
- o Extra prizes at Christmas Draw;  
 Pay by cash, cheque made payable to Stoodleigh 100 Club or BACS;

All profits to St Margaret's Church and the Parish Hall.

Recent winners are:

February: Julian Earl, Janet Russell, Steve James and Yvonne Lang

March: Katie Ayre, Carol Radford, Heather Burmeister and Viv Crowland

For the complete 2024/25 results, please see the Magazine insert for Stoodleigh parishioners.

Welcome to Mette and Tim who have recently moved into Court Gardens Cottage. We hope you're settling in well and will be very happy in Stoodleigh.

### Stoodleigh Cricket Club News

Thank you to Stoodleigh villagers for a successful Cricket Club Quiz

On behalf of the entire cricket club, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the wonderful people of Stoodleigh village. Your enthusiastic turnout and spirited participation made the cricket club quiz night a success. We are deeply thankful for your support, and we look forward to more events in the future.

We are always looking for new players, if you are interested, please contact Martyn on 07818068608.

And finally on a sad note, January and March saw our village lose 2 valued members of our community....

Alistair Morison: We would like to pay tribute to Alistair Morison, who died recently. He contributed to many village activities with practical help and enthusiasm. Alistair was a gentleman, always kind and caring, with a great



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by his family and his many Stoodleigh friends.

**Valerie Drew:** Sadly Valerie Drew passed away on Monday 24th March. She was born in 1939 in Holcombe Rogus and moved to Champles Farm in 1961 when she married Tom. The farm was mainly a dairy farm, but also had sheep and pigs. They had two daughters - Toni & Christine. Valerie played a big part in the village, where she helped organise lots of village events. Valerie was also in the Stoodleigh netball and skittles teams. Due to Tom's ill health they moved into Champles Lodge in 1990. Valerie liked nothing more than being able to help people. She will always be remembered for her catering, especially her sponges and pasties.

### Stoodleigh Parish Hall

Our monthly coffee mornings on the 1st Saturday of the month seem to be going from strength to strength. Tea, coffee and cake being the order of the day accompanied by a chance to see and talk to friends. In our March coffee meeting the 100 club winners were also drawn. Congratulations to the winners. Anyone is welcome.

Our supper and skittles evening was held on the 22nd of March. This was a very enjoyable evening. We were a small group but this made it a great opportunity to chat to everyone. The village hall ladies did us proud with supper. Jacket potatoes and chilli with other alternatives followed by a amazing choice of desserts from chocolate mousse, pineapple cheesecake or strawberry meringues. Three rounds of skittles were played which was brilliant fun.

It was also wonderful to meet Tim and Metta who have only recently moved in Court Gardens. A huge welcome to them.

### Dates for your diary

3 May Coffee morning 10:30 to 12:00  
Stoodleigh Village Hall

7 June Coffee morning 10.30 to 12.00  
Stoodleigh Village Hall

5 July Coffee morning 10:30 to 12:00  
Stoodleigh Village Hall

We are trying to arrange an event for the summer so any suggestions and/or help please contact Linda, email [linda.brice21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:linda.brice21@yahoo.co.uk)

Our committee is a little light and the village hall needs to be maintained to provide the social space for the village residents so if you are able to commit some of your valuable time to join us please contact Linda on [linda.brice21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:linda.brice21@yahoo.co.uk)

If you have news within Stoodleigh village that you would like to share in the Today magazine, please email Mandy Widdowson on [mandy@exevalleyeggs.co.uk](mailto:mandy@exevalleyeggs.co.uk) or telephone/text 07729 406646.

followed by the APCM), 25 May (Group Service with Holy Communion with Tim Gorringer), 1 June (Lay-led Morning Service), and 15 June (Holy Communion Cluster Service with Tim Gorringer). If you or your family have any favourite hymns that you'd like to sing at one of the services, just let our churchwardens Reg or William know.

### The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Templeton's Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 4 May following the Sunday Service with Steph and Dave. The first part of the meeting is open to everyone in the village and the second part of the meeting is for those on the church electoral roll and the parochial church council (PCC). Do come along and have your say about ways that the church can move forward and support the community.

### The Churchyard

You may have noticed that a huge yew tree has been cut back in the churchyard. This left some branches and debris which needed clearing! Thank you everyone who gave up their valuable time to help clear the branches and tidy up the churchyard and give it all a spring clean!

### Past Activities

On Saturday 1 March there was a fun Bingo Night at Templeton Village Hall. The doors opened at 7pm and eyes were down at 7.30pm, with the bar open and delicious snacks sold at the interval. There were plenty of laughs and lots of great prizes. The money raised will go towards supporting our lovely St Margaret's Church. Thank you so much Richard and Val for making it such an entertaining and successful evening.

## TEMPLETON

**G**reetings from sunny Templeton. Long may it last so we can all enjoy some beautiful Easter weather.

### Services

The Sunday services for May and June are published in the centre pages of this magazine. The Sunday services at St Margaret's Church, Templeton will all be at 10.45am during the next two months and these will be on 4 May (Morning Service with Steph and Dave



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## PARISH ROUND-UP

On Sunday 23 March there was the annual Charity Templeton Run starting from and finishing at Templeton Village Hall, organised by the South West Road Runners and Exe Valley Rotary Club. Over 200 runners took part in the run which raised over £,500 for the suicide prevention charity Andy's Man Club. The route took the runners through the beautiful countryside around Templeton. The weather was dry and sunny and refreshments were plentiful for all at the village hall. Thank you to everyone in Templeton for being so patient with the extra traffic in the area on the day.

There are some events that have not yet happened, but will have happened by the time this issue reaches you:

Friday 11 and Saturday 12 April - the Templeton Variety Show. As we write this, preparations are in place for rehearsals for the show, which will we know provide laughter and entertainment for all. Well done Sue for all her energy and enthusiasm in organising the event and thanks to Sonia and Bob for their talent and expertise with the karaoke.

On Easter Sunday 20 April - Easter Egg Hunt at St Margaret's Church, Templeton, straight after the Easter Sunday Service!

On Saturday 26 April - the ever popular Safari Supper. This is a fun way to get together for a meal with starters and drinks served for everyone in the church, and then the main meal and dessert is hosted by people in different homes around Templeton.

Future activities in Templeton:

On Thursday 1 May, Templeton Village Hall will be the Polling Station for the election of Devon County Councillors. Do make sure you go and vote for the person who most represents your

community, and vote for what's important in your local area.

Sunday Roast Beef Dinner at Templeton Village Hall on Sunday 4 May from 1pm: Shaun and Sue have kindly decided to restart their popular Sunday Roast Dinners at Templeton Village Hall. Of course, they will need to know definite numbers, so hopefully you will have already contacted Sue to secure a place and avoid disappointment (The cost is £10 a head and £5 for children). The bar will be open. There may be some places left, so do contact Sue on 07722 163594 if you'd like to come.

Remembrance service on 10 May for John McNerney who lived at The Old Rectory Templeton from 1984 for a very happy 34 years, after which he and Audrey moved to Nailsworth in Gloucestershire in 2018. Anyone who remembers John is warmly invited to a Service at Church of the Holy Cross, Cruwys Morchard on Saturday May 10th at 12.00 midday. We were all very saddened to learn of John's death on 5 March. John and Audrey took part in practically all the activities in the village, including their beautiful bluebell walks, the musical shows, the fete, preparing the best quiz nights ever, and sitting on the village hall committee for years. John had a delightful wit, and a warm friendship with so many of us, and modesty despite his amazing academic achievements: he was an Emeritus Professor of Agricultural Economics in Exeter, received an OBE, was former President of the Agricultural Economics Society (1996-1997) and received the Society's Award for Excellence for outstanding contribution to the profession.

Templeton Tractor Run. Sunday May 11. Over the past few years Roland and

Reg have organised a Tractor Run at Templeton Village Hall. They aim to continue this tradition this year on Sunday May 11th. This fund-raising event involves inviting classic and vintage tractors to take part, and the owners drive their tractors along a planned local route. This year there will also be a barbecue. Tractors arrive at Templeton Village Hall from 10am and they all set off on the Tractor Run around 11.00am, returning around 2pm to enjoy the barbecue meal and a pint. Cost: £12.00 per tractor owner (which includes a beef burger or hot-dog and a pint for tractor drivers on their return). There will also be a draw and the bar will be open. Come and enjoy this fun event and take a look at these amazing classic tractors.

Dog walkers

Dog walkers are being urged to keep their dogs under control, especially during lambing season. Devon & Cornwall Police wants to remind local communities that livestock worrying is a criminal offence and you do not have to be the person walking the dog to face sanctions such as a prison sentence and/or fine. The Force has received several reports of livestock worrying in the Mid Devon area this year. Livestock worrying is a highly emotive subject with the farming community, they not only suffer the financial implications of these attacks but the emotional impact too. The police ask dog owners to keep their dogs on a lead and preferably choose fenced off dog exercise parks to let their dogs off the lead. We live in a great area of the country but people need to both enjoy and respect our rural communities.

Regular Gatherings

Art Group: Have you seen the wonderful displays of the art groups paintings in the village hall? Do come and join the

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

group – it's every second Tuesday 10am-12 midday Templeton Village Hall. No charge. Just come along. Coffee and cake provided.

Book Group: Templeton Village Hall. Second Wednesday of every month at 3pm. Although the group is at full capacity at the moment, please contact Julie 01884 233507 if you would like to be contacted when there's a vacancy.

Knit and Natter: At St Margaret's Church on the last Friday of each month 10.30am to 12 midday. Bring any repair work, embroidery, crochet, knitting, or just come along for a cuppa and biscuits and a chat!

Templeton Village Hall and Social Club: Come up on a club night for a drink and a chat or maybe you would like to have a game of darts, pool, table tennis or skittles? - Club nights are held on Monday and Saturday evenings from 8.00pm to 11pm. Club membership is £ and the drinks are very reasonably priced. If you would like to book the village hall for a birthday party, meeting, or any other event, contact Bindy 01884 860655.

Gardening Club. Now that spring is here, the garden group is a chance for people to get together and talk gardens, help problem solve, suggest places to visit, share any other questions, eat cake and have a coffee. If you want to know more and would like to join in next time, just email Ginah at [ginahpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:ginahpalmer@gmail.com)

Thoughts and prayers

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes are with all those who are unwell, who are receiving or awaiting treatment, who have been in hospital, recovering from surgery, or going through a tough time.

## WASHFIELD

*May the flowers remind us why the rain is so necessary because... all the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today*

**S**pring greetings to everyone! Many more smiling faces to be seen everywhere now that Spring is really here and all the flowers are blooming again!

We are looking forward to Easter and celebrating it together in the church, as we did at Christmas at Services all over the valley and on Christmas Eve, when the church was filled with singing and thanksgiving at the beginning of Jesus' life with us on earth. Now we are remembering the end of his earthly life and his glorious rising again.

The Lent course is proving very thought provoking and next week we shall be remembering the Last Supper and marking Good Friday all around the Parishes. All this will have taken place when you read this and will be reported on, together with the traditional Egg rolling and decorating on Easter Saturday- a very popular event for our children and visiting families.

Mothering Sunday was celebrated in the traditional way with a Family Service to give thanks for Mary, the mother of Jesus and to give posies of primroses and daffodils to all the Mums to thank them for all they do or have done for us.

We send our thoughts and prayers to those of our village who cannot get out and about any more, and those who are, or have been recently, in hospital, and we wish them well.

Please note the date of St. Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting when you can join us in the church on May 18th at 11.45am and hear about the plans for the future - perhaps suggest what the church can do for you?

Please see the centre pages for all Services and the front pages for other events in the Exe Valley.

Enjoy the Summer!

The St Patrick's night in March was well attended with Irish-themed meal and talented guitarist to while away the evening with friends and neighbours. Thanks to the Social Club committee for organising this.

We also had two film nights before the nights get too light to put these on. One of these was 'LIVING' starring Bill Nighy and the delightful Aimee Lou Wood. Although, at times a dour film, to get across the salutary lesson of how 'not to waste 'what life you have left' and DO something with your life. Once he learns he is dying, Mr Williams (Nighy) gets a 'long bogged-down in paperwork' playground approved, built and enjoyed by all in the area. A thoughtful, well-presented film.

Events like these are only possible because the committee work hard to put them on and because we pay our annual subscription. Call in to pay yours or see a committee member to make sure this is paid. The continued 2025 programme of the club depends on it.

Don't forget also, [teatime@thehall](mailto:teatime@thehall) is still as popular as ever. Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month (now, in British summertime) between 3.00-4.30pm. All ages are welcome to these friendly,

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

chatty afternoons. Come along, you'd be most welcome.

We wish all those taking GCSEs or other exams, good luck at this time of the year. You've done all the revision and had the mocks so this is your chance to shine brightly.

To those who are not enjoying good health at the time of writing, we hope you will soon feel better, we send loving wishes for a speedy recovery if you are convalescing.

We have the pleasure of welcoming new families to live in Washfield recently. George, Beth, soon-to-be baby and Cadair the dog have come to live in Fernbank and John and Alex and the boys have come to live at Pilemoor. Welcome to you all, we hope you will be very happy living in our beautiful village. We sadly say good bye to Zak, Catherine and Zoe as they leave for pastures new.

### Church Flower Rota

20/27 April	Mrs Tobey
4/11 May	Mrs Arnold
18/25 May	Mrs May
1 June	Mrs Jones

## WITHLEIGH

**A**s we enter May and June, I thought we would give you a few facts of those months.

May is likely named after the Roman Goddess Maia who oversaw the growth of plants.

May 1st called May Day is a celebration of labourers and working class and May is a month of spring.

May's birthstone is Emerald, its flower is Lily of the Valley, and colour is bright green, the meaning is love and success.

June is named after the Roman Goddess Juno who was the Goddess of marriage and childbirth and who was the wife of Jupiter. Midsummer happens in June (summer solstice) which is the day with most daylight hours.

June is also the start of summer.

June's birthstone is a pearl, its flower is a rose, and colour is cream, and meaning is health.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place in church, following our 10.45am family service on Sunday 9th March, chaired by Steph, and attended by eleven members of our congregation, with ten apologies. Reports were considered in connection with the new electoral roll, Parochial Church Council, Deanery Synod, Churchwarden's report, worship team, church fabric, safeguarding and finances. Brenda was re-elected as churchwarden, and our outgoing PCC members – Christine, Daphne, Ken, Margaret, Marianne, Sara, Elizabeth and Paul- were also re-elected. Christine and Sara are also our Deanery synod reps. The PCC meet next on Tuesday 20th May.

Our Mothering Sunday service on 30th March was led by Susie, assisted by Janet, Pauline B and Elizabeth. During the last hymn, pots of polyanthus were distributed to all present. Our grateful thanks to those who provided the plants. Our church organ is now back into full working order, and it is hoped that we will be able to celebrate with a 'Songs of Praise' service during May or June, but the date has yet to be decided. There is now a 'black hole' in the finances to be filled!

St Catherine's will be hosting the Group 5th Sunday service on 29th June, with our 'Poems, Prayers and Praise' service, led as usual by Susie.

### WOW

WOW has been independent from WI for some time now. Happily, we still come up with ideas for our meetings. What we like most is being together and being able to chat, so we are never at a complete loss!

Last month we had a most enjoyable lunch at the Old Well restaurant where we all had delicious lunches and were waited on efficiently and cheerfully.

April will be a chance to chat over a coffee and also "how and Tell"

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Susie on 258492

We send our sympathy to Brenda and Nigel and family on the death of Brenda's mother, Sylvia. Our love and prayers are with you all.

Our good wishes to those of our village who have had health issues during the last month and are now recovering after time in hospital.

We say farewell to Andy and Fiona who have moved from The Old Post Office. We wish them well and hope they are settling into their new home in Ash Thomas and they are hoping to remain friends of Withleigh. Welcome to the new occupants of The Old Post Office and look forward to seeing you at future events in the village.

We held a village lunch on 8th April attended by a good number of people. Our thanks to everyone who prepared the hall, cooked the delicious lasagna and fish pie and all those who provided the mouthwatering desserts. The raffle raised £33 which has been donated to the League of Friends of Tiverton Hospital. We are lucky to have such a good local hospital.



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We have a quarterly newsletter which you can read online at [www.unitecarers.org.uk](http://www.unitecarers.org.uk) or catch up on all the latest news on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/unitecarers>

If you are an unpaid carer, or if you know someone who is. We would love to meet you. Please contact us for more information on 01884 257551 or [info@unitemd.org.uk](mailto:info@unitemd.org.uk).

Our main office is on Bridge Street Tiverton.

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9.40	Stoodleigh Hill Crest	12.58	£6.50	£4.00
9.42	Stoodleigh Parish Hall	12.56	£6.50	£4.00
9.46	Pylemoor Cross	12.54	£6.00	£3.50
9.48	Courtney Cottages	12.50	£6.00	£3.50
9.52	Washfield Village Hall	12.46	£6.00	£3.50
9.54	Cotleigh Corner	12.44	£6.00	£3.50
By Request	10.05	Loxbeare Church	£6.00	£3.50
	10.07	Loxbeare Garage	£6.00	£3.50
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	10.13	Calverleigh Post Office	£6.00	£3.50
	10.20	Farleigh Meadows	£5.00	£3.00
10.05 <sup>^</sup>	Morrisons – Kennedy Way, Tiverton	12.35	Drop off inward – pick up return only	
10.10 <sup>^</sup>	<b>TIVERTON MARKET</b>	12.30		

<sup>^</sup> Times may be delayed by up to 20 minutes if the bus has been to Calverleigh, Loxbeare, etc.

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