October / November, 2011

Price 40p

# FOR WHAT WE ARE ABOUT TO RECEIVE....

I have recently become the owner of two small goats. They are charming animals on the whole, but they do have some bad habits. When they are hungry (most of the time), they are very friendly and affectionate, bleating and jumping up at me in search of food. As soon as they have been fed, they completely ignore me: I may as well not exist.

But are we any different from my goats? We tend to be much better at saying 'Please' to God, than 'Thank you'. In our moments of crisis, we cry out to God, perhaps promising to pay him more attention in the future. When the crisis has passed, we forget all about him (and about our rash promises).

The Lord Jesus once healed ten lepers, who had cried out to him to have pity on them. But only one of the ten men returned to Jesus to thank him for what he had done. An amazing and life-changing miracle was not enough to make them grateful. Jesus was clearly unimpressed by their reluctance to say 'Thank you' (Luke 17v11-19).

At this time of year we traditionally hold our harvest services and suppers, to give thanks to the Lord for all that that he has provided for us. It's a great thing to do, but once a year is not nearly enough.

For followers of Jesus Christ, gratitude to God should be a daily discipline. We thank him for the roofs over our heads and for the food on our tables. We thank him for our families and our friends. We thank him above all for sending his only Son to be our Saviour, and to die on the cross in our place, so that we can be at peace with God.

Even when life is far from easy, we have so much for which we should be 'truly thankful'.

# SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING

osing a loved one is always an immensely painful experience. Whether they are young or old, whether the loss is expected or unexpected, whether they are friend or family, the grief and sadness that we feel can be deeply distressing, and it can last for many years.

On Sunday 13th November, we will be holding a special service of remembrance and thanksgiving for those who have lost loved ones, whether recently or longer ago. It will be a simple service of hymns and readings, with the opportunity to remember those we have lost, and to give thanks to the Lord for all that they mean to us.

The service will be in the church at Calverleigh at 3pm. All are very welcome to join us.

#### **SETTLING IN**

Alison and I would like to thank you for your warm welcome to the Exe Valley. Shame the weather didn't match! It's been great to get to know people as we've travelled around the churches. Since we moved in June we've been settling into our house, getting to know the area well and meeting people in each of the parishes. We also spent a week in Sussex teaching students on a summer camp. We had a great time and it was encouraging to see the students learning from the Bible.

As many of you will know, I preached my first sermon here in September at the Breakfast Service in Oakford. We saw good numbers, and people were encouraged to perhaps repeat this kind of thing in the future. Also in September was my ordination at Exeter Cathedral. It was a good time to reflect on the task I have as a minister; to proclaim and teach the gospel – a task we all share.

As we look to the future, Alison and I are excited about the time we'll be spending here with you. There will be challenges ahead as we deal with new experiences and situations. However, we can be thankful that God is always the same and his mercy is unchanging. So as we enter this new phase of our lives and join with you in gospel ministry, we remember Paul's words to Timothy "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word."

ROB

# OAKFORD BREAKFAST SERVICE

About 80 people attended the breakfast service on the 4th September in Oakford. The village hall made an ideal venue, light, bright and airy, with plenty of parking. Tables for 8 had been set up with colourful tablecloths and garden flowers.

From 9.30 am we arrived to enjoy a plentiful breakfast, which included cereals, fruit salad, platters of melon, nectarine,

Steve

#### THE EXE VALLEY **MISSION COMMUNITY**

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

#### **RECTOR** The Rev'd Steve Goodbody

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#### **CURATE Rev'd Robert Brewis**

The Vicarage, 3 Court Gardens, Stoodleigh, Tiverton, EX16 9PL. Tel: (01398) 351552

#### **NON STIPENDIARY MINISTER** The 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 amhansford@cumulusnine.net

#### ADMINISTRATORS & MAGAZINE Paul & Elizabeth Iliff

6, Southfield Way, Tiverton, EX16 5AJ. Tel: (01884) 253473 pe.iliff@tiv.eclipse.co.uk black cherries, grapes and strawberries, warm croissants, toast, jams, cold meats and cheese. These were accompanied by fruit juices, tea and coffee.

John introduced the service. We sang hymns, including the favourite "Praise my soul the king of heaven" and a new one to me this year "In Christ alone my hope is found". Steve interviewed Alison, our new curate's wife, so we could learn more about her life before coming to Stoodleigh. Rob, himself, gave the talk, based on Luke 18, v 9 - 14 and asking the guestion "Who are God's people?" It is great we now have such a youthful and enthusiastic clergy team

John led the prayers, for the needs of the world and for those closer to home. We also prayed that the service would achieve its purpose of encouraging more people to explore the Christian faith. The service finished with a shortened Communion.

It's the first breakfast service I have been to, and I enjoyed the chance to catch up with friends in a warm and relaxed atmosphere. The delicious breakfast was definitely a bonus. I would love to see this repeated around the parishes and a chance for us to repay Oakford for their hospitality.

Liz Paxton

## **MISSION RESCUE HOLIDAY CLUB**

n August, the annual Exe Valley Holiday club was held at Calverleigh Village Hall. The Theme for this year was Mission Rescue; during the week we learned how

> God rescues his people, starting with Moses being rescued from the bulrushes. We also learned that we too can be rescued through Jesus who died to save us.

> Each day, 70-80 children. aged 5-12. enjoyed watching the stories on DVD, and told by puppets; they joined in with singing, workouts, took part in quizzes, and worksheets. Each morning the children listened and took part in a talk by the Reverend Steve Goodbody. During the afternoons children split into age groups to take part in sport and games and crafts. Thank you to Ron Tidball and his group of helpers who gave

the children an action

### **EXE VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY** invites YOU to

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# CHORAL EVENSONG at ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, TEMPLETON

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20th November at 5pm

Collection in aid of tower repair fund

packed afternoon of sports and games.

Thank you to Alison Webber who made sure children enjoyed the craft activities. Once again the most popular craft was modelling from recycled materials; this year the creations just got bigger and bigger!

Thank you to you all the willing volunteers; without you we couldn't run the Holiday club; we had a great band of young, eager, willing helpers. We were very grateful to Freya, Bronwyn, Alice and Annabelle who operated the puppets for us, carefully taught by Anna Hansford using scripts adapted by Martin Hansford. Thank you to Shirley Goldsworthy who made sure the hall was ready each day and for running the tuck shop - always popular with the children. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

It was great to see so many familiar faces, and also good to welcome new children and helpers. We hope you all had a good time and that we shall see you all again next year.

We finished the week with a special service in Calverleigh Hall, which was well attended. This service also included prize giving for the children that attend Fish Club during the year. Fish Club continues to meet on Friday evenings; if there are any children who would like to join us, contact Cindy Trick: Tel. 01363 866621.

We would hope that as well as having fun and making friends, the children have learned a little more about the work of God, and will take this home to their families.

In addition to the activities that were going on during the day, there were two evenings of games and activities held at Calverleigh for the teenagers. These were very successful and next year we hope that there will be more evenings. Thank you to Ron Tidball for organising these evenings.

Cindy Trick

#### **ANN'S NATURE NOTES**

This is the time of all change. The leaves on the trees turn golden as they absorb most of their nutrients, and leave the waste, like Tannin, to fall to the ground. The colours vary from year to year according to the weather. They shed their leaves to conserve water, as, with the increased surface area and cold weather, they would lose too much as there is less available water around. A lot of their lovely colours are made from partially decomposed glucose and anthocyanin.

The birds also move around. The summer visitors, like Swallows, Cuckoos and Warblers have left for warmer climes, and the Waders, Geese and Ducks reappear having spent the summer further north in Iceland and Scandinavia. Even the common garden birds move, and many of our winter Long Tailed Tits and Blackbirds, for example, have migrated from the north. The northern Long Tailed Tits are often paler that our usual ones.

The late Butterflies may be seen still on Michaelmas daisies, that is to say the Red Admirals and Peacocks. Most spend the winter as caterpillars or pupae; however some, like Painted Ladies migrate, and a few, like Tortoiseshells, spend the winter hibernating in trees, holes and cracks.

For a walk this month, why not go to Exminster marshes. You can either do a 'there and back' along the track and then the tow path beside the canal to Turf, of if you can do the circular route but, if you do that, take your wellies as the fields can be very wet. The hedges have been well planted with berried trees and bushes to encourage the birds, so there are many birds around.

Ann

#### THANK YOU....

"Pam Barnes would like to thank everyone in the village who visited her in hospital and at home, and have been so kind to her in so many different ways."

"I would like to thank all those who have supported Paul and myself in prayer over the past few "trying" and "frustrating" months – not just my friends in Withleigh, but across the wider Exe Valley community.

My operation at last took place at the end of August, and after two and a half days in hospital I was back home. Everything was straightforward, and by the time you read this I should be well on the road to recovery.

Thank you all for the many get well wishes and cards, flowers and gifts. We greatly appreciate all the many acts of kindness shown to us."

Elizabeth (Iliff)

#### **SSAFA FORCES HELP**

The Soldiers, Sailors and Airman Families Association - Forces Help (SSAFA FH) is the National Charity helping and supporting those who serve in the armed forces, those who used to serve and the families of both.

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the Reserve Forces and anyone who did National Service, or who served on a merchant vessel assisting the forces during a conflict as well as close relatives, widows and widowers.

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Pat Whittlesey TD Divisional Secretary Mid Devon SSAFA FH

LOOTERS: THEM OR US?

Mike Ovey

spoke on the phone yesterday with a south London vicar whose parish had been hit by rioters. Actually, "rioters" is not quite the word. The disorders straight after the death of Mark Duggan may have been riots with the associations of protest that brings, but by now a better word than rioters is looters, because the focus seems so strongly on violent theft.

Reading round the web, this is widely felt. You do get different analyses of why people are looting, and what should be done about it. So for some, this is the disadvantaged youth underclass levelling the score a bit, and the real fault lies with the parents, police, schools, racists, politicians – take your pick – who have alienated them. For others, this is urban feral youth who are enemies of civilised society, and should be treated as such. For some, the remedy is high cost investment creating jobs, while

others think the best remedy is live ammunition on the streets.

But there are four things I find quite revealing about the responses to the looters. First, by and large, whether the columnist is a bleeding-heart liberal or a flog-'em diehard, there's a sense that the looters are profoundly "other", different, alien. So the liberal chat turns on words such as alienated or disaffected. The diehards use words such as enemy, feral or savages. But the liberal and the diehard both seem to see the looters as profoundly other, patronisingly in the one case, demonisingly in the other. The thought is that the looters are not like us.

Secondly, the vehemence of the responses and the strength of the blame game ("where's the PM?", "Boris should do something", "lock up the parents"), often seem to speak of real anger. I would guess many Christians feel that too. I do.

Thirdly, the responses are not just anger, but also bewilderment and incredulity. The looting is something people can't get their heads round. I've just listened to one BBC reporter who simply doesn't get why a small business in Croydon is being ripped off before her eyes.

Fourthly, it is clear that Christians are not being looked to for answers. I've come across accounts of godly ministers working to calm, soothe and persuade. All credit to them, but I think Christian truth has even more to offer here, by way of explanation as well as by way of picking up the pieces.

A Christian explanation could begin with one of the more sensible secular comments. These are "consumer society riots", says Dr Paul Bagguley, who is a sociologist at Leeds. This is very perceptive. It points clearly to the consumerist, acquisitive nature of the looting, and it hints that these are the kind of riots that a consumer society (and let's not forget, that's all of us) has. It hints that this is the kind of riot you expect from members of a consumer society, not from those who refuse to be part of it. That does not allow me to say the looters are totally alien or other, or even "enemies of society" in a straightforward way. The looters are committed to the consumer society. They're "us", not simply "them".

After all, the unspoken but powerful message of a consumer society is "the one with the most toys wins", and possessing stuff is what someone is measured on rather than the way they acquire it. Further, the public face of acquiring wealth doesn't

stress that wealth should be acquired in socially responsible ways: think of the bonuses and pay-offs for bankers. They don't look as though they're sharing the pain of recession. As for honouring positions of trust, think of the MPs' expenses scandal. The smart-phones and trainers that a looter snatches aren't in the same league financially as some of the MPs.

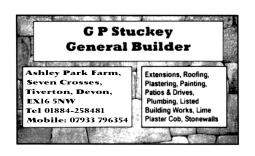
A Christian response to that needs to touch on four themes.

First, we must recall what the Bible teaches about wealth. Luke's gospel in particular highlights the dangers of wealth. Wealth, not God, is the real love of the Pharisees (Luke 16:14) and Jesus goes on immediately to comment that the Pharisees are those who justify themselves in the sight of others (Luke 16:15). But then, deep down, isn't that what a consumer society believes? Justification by wealth alone? That wealth sets you right before others, as you impress them with your new yacht (if you're a banker), or your new smart-phone (if you're a looter). Wealth is seductive because it lets you think you don't need God but are your own master.

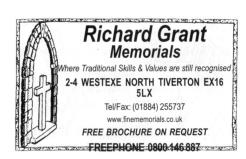
One girl answered the question of "Why riot?" in terms of showing the police and the rich that "we can do what we want", which takes us straight back to the sinful autonomy that wealth promises. That's why Agur's prayer of Proverbs 30:8 is not to have wealth. He's not just refusing to pray for wealth, he's praying not to have a wealth that could lead him to deny God. He prays not to be led into temptation in this area.

Don't misunderstand me. Having wealth is not sinful in itself. But being wealthy brings profound temptations, and while I'm delighted that we hear about the need to love our neighbours in practical ways (see for example James 2:16), I wonder how much we hear the questions in our churches: "Are we too wealthy?" "How much wealth can we safely handle spiritually?" A consumer society can't ask that question, because it rewards excess.

The second theme is envy. One response to what the Bible says about wealth is that the looters are not wealthy in the bankerbonus sense. I suspect another would be that the discussion about wealth just puts the looter on the same footing as the junkbond banker. Not quite. Because another consumer society factor is at work here:







the resentment and envy one feels towards those who have more toys. Put another way, the looting is not just defying the commandment "Do not steal"; just as importantly, it breaks the commandment "Do not covet".

Envy is a very cruel sin, because ultimately it is not content with raising itself up. Others must also be cast down. Is that why shops are burned and destroyed once they've been looted? Hence the Pharisees are not content with their own selfjustification, there are also those whom they despise (e.g. Luke 18:9). And envy lies close to the sins of pride that Adam and Eve commit in Genesis 3, while the antithesis of envy is the way Jesus, the eternal Son, does not grasp after equality with God, but humbles himself (Philippians 2:6). In this way, perhaps, envy is the most important sin to name here, as well as something that a consumer society finds hardest to name. For how can envy be a sin in a consumer society?

The third theme, naturally, comes from Romans 13:1-7, which is about civil disobedience. Quite rightly, commentators have pointed to the looters' crimes (I would say sins) against shopkeepers and businessmen. But I haven't heard much which acknowledges that the police have been wronged and sinned against. The logic of Romans 13 is not confined only to Christians: civil disobedience of this kind is sinful. But a consumer society operating justification by wealth has no ground for saying that, I fear.

The fourth theme is the great biblical theme running from Genesis 3, through the Exile along to Judas' suicide: sin doesn't work. Consumer societies love the bottom line, and I wonder if some of the intensity the looting has provoked doesn't betray an unease just there. The consumer society has bought the lie of justification by wealth: and it's about time it heard the truth.

Mike Ovey is the Principal of Oak Hill College.

# **PARISH ROUND-UP**

# Calverleigh

Congratulations to Barbara Hill on becoming a Great grandma for the first time. Baby Ethan was born on July 13th - a beautiful little boy.

The funeral service took place in church of Mr Stanley Wyatt, and he was buried in the Churchyard. Mr Wyatt was the brother-inlaw of John, Mary and Aubrey Greenslade.

The Annual "It's a Knockout" contest was held at Stoodleigh Club on August 13th. It was a great afternoon with well thought out games, and it was good to see so many spectators turning up to support their teams. It was a shame that the day clashed with Templeton Fete, as they were unable to enter a team. Withleigh entered a team to make up the four teams AND they won!! They beat Calverleigh by one point. Thank you Stoodleigh for being such good hosts, your hard work and good refreshments. We look forward to Withleigh being our hosts next year. That is their honour for being the winners!

August 13th was the wedding day of Jason Mark Duke and Erica-Jane Hollwood. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion with blue and white flowers. We wish them a long and happy life together here in Calverleigh.

Our new Curate Rob Brewis was ordained in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 11th September with some members of The Exe Valley Mission Community attending. We hope that you will be very happy here with us.

Rev. Steve Goodbody and Sarah have now been with us for a year. Thank you Steve for all your good work amongst us this past year. Where has the year gone?

Many of you will remember David Burnett who lived and farmed at Leigh farm for

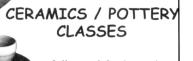
many years. David is now living in Cullompton and has reached that good age of 80.

Another good friend of us all, Myrtle Webber reached that good age of 80 on September 9th. From that Friday morning until late Sunday night Myrtle's feet never touched the ground, from attending the Ploughing match dinner, plus all the many callers, then Calverleigh Harvest Supper, where Ashley and Adam presented her with an orchid and card from all her friends at Calverleigh Church, playing the organ at Calverleigh's Harvest Service where the organ had been decorated with flowers and a large balloon by her granddaughter Jessica who had to return to London before the service. Prior to the service Myrtle's family had organised an open tea party for her at Calverleigh Village hall. We do not know the exact number of people that attended between 2.30 and 5.30, but the hall and surrounding areas were full of people all of the time.



Harvest Supper at Calverleigh Village Hall

We had our first Harvest Supper on Saturday 10th September. Fifty people sat down to a Hot 3 course meal which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Our Speaker was "Farmer" John Greenslade, Broadcaster and Author from Bickleigh who spoke on farming in the past and present. Virtually every farming family in



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the area was represented, young and old. This was not a fundraising event but, due to so many donations of food and money. we did make a profit. The starters were donated, and many people made delicious desserts. We wish to thank these people and the Village Hall Committee for their kindness. We must also thank all those behind the scenes who worked so hard to make this event such a success. My daughters Vanessa and Mandy helped me organise the kitchen, serving the meals and keeping it hot and washing all the dishes with the help of Ashley and Adam. Many thanks. At the end of the night we were able to give £155.00 to our Church.

Our Harvest service, led by Steve, was attended by over 80 people, many of Myrtle's family joined us. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and all the produce was taken to the Salvation Army for their use.

By the time you read this, we will have witnessed the wedding of David Burton and Nicola Goldsworthy, in our Church on September 17th.

Don't forget our Annual Autumn Fayre on Saturday 12th November 10.30 - 2.30pm - many stalls and hot and cold meals and snacks

# Cruwys Morchard

As autumn approaches, we must say a big thank you to all who have given up their time to keep the churchyard looking good throughout the summer. We also thank those who help to keep the church clean, arrange flowers, and keep it well maintained.

We send our prayers and good wishes to those who have had operations or are undergoing treatment for illness, we hope you will soon be well.

Just a reminder that this year, we will, once again, be collecting non perishable food items and toiletries for CHAT at the Christingle Service (with carols) on 18th of December.

A successful day was had at the Cruwys Morchard Clay Pigeon Shoot, with the weather clearing later in the day. Many thanks to Lord and Lady DeClifford and the Palmer family for allowing the shoot to be held in the field next to Hill Farm, and to all who helped during the day. Also thank you to Jeremy Grant and Mark Keitch for running the shoot.

Some of the bell ringers went on a bell ringing trip on 7th September to three churches, being Mariansleigh, West Worlington and Chawleigh. It was a lovely day out for us and we had lunch at The Mount Pleasant at Nomansland. We are continuing to practice on Monday evenings and we ring before Sunday services. We think we are continuing to improve and are continuing to work on both Call Change ringing and the least complicated of the Method Ringing which is called Plain Hunting. There is a mix of standards in the ringing group and newcomers are welcome to come along and learn.

Our annual Christmas Craft Fayre, will be held on Saturday 19th November at the Parish Hall - 10.30am to 1.30pm. A chance to buy quality Christmas presents. Stalls for church funds will include a Christmas stall, cake stall and raffle. Craft stalls will include handmade textiles, wooden furniture, cards, pork sausages, household ornaments etc. Refreshments will include cakes, mince pies, soup and roll.

If you would like to book a table, please contact Teresa Grant on 01363 860124.

A note from Judith Taylor and Jenni Edmonds - Ladies who Lunch

Ladies who Lunch will be meeting on Monday 21st November 12.30 to 2.30pm at Hollowmoor Farm. Again the cost is £5.00 for a two course lunch with coffee. If you would like to come or contribute some food, please let us know, or if you have an idea for a local charity to support, please also let us know.

We had a lovely letter back from Bryony Byrom at Voluntary Support Scheme for our £50 donation from the last lunch, so thank you to Sue Harman for that suggestion.

Future lunch date - Thursday 12th January. Hope you can join us for fun and chat, and best wishes to you all. Please contact Jenny and Judith, if you would like further information on 01363 860056

On Tuesday 15th November at 7.30 pm - the Ladies Committee will be meeting at Wringsland House.

#### Parish Hall Events:

COFFEE MORNING - Saturday 1st October 10.00 - 12.00 at Pennymoor Congregational Church.

THEATRE NIGHT - On Friday 14th October - Travels With My Aunt by author Graham Greene. If you are interested - tickets £8.00 - £7.00 for seniors/over 12's. Bar, draw and nibbles. Please contact Mary 07773 362305 - 01363 83030 to reserve tickets.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE - Saturday 19th November at the Parish Hall from 10.30 - 1.30 pm.

BINGO DATES: Saturday 1st October, Saturday 29th October, Saturday 12th November and Saturday 26th November at the hall 7.30pm, eyes down at 8pm.

CHRISTMAS BINGO - Thursday 22nd December. 200 club draw at 7.45pm

DI AND DAVE'S ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Bar opens at 7pm and the quiz starts at 7.30pm at the Parish Hall. Please contact Mary, if you wish to book your table for your team - £5.00 per person, to include a light supper.

#### Flower and Cleaning Rota

October 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> - Marilyn Hill
October 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> - Sue and
Pauline Guscott

# Loxbeare

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Harvest Services on Saturday 17th September at 2pm, to be taken by Rob, followed by sports and tea - this year at Ron & Margaret's due to work being carried out at the Village Hall.

The Sunday Service will be taken at 11am by John, and our Harvest Supper will be on Thursday 22nd when David Ursell will be giving a short talk. He is a farmer and also an ordained minister.

The Picnic Service, led by Marion, was held on August 14th at Cecil & Ruth's, having been postponed because of the weather in July.

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#### **NEW CREATION NEWS**

#### We need your prayers, please, and your patience.

As you know from our previous newsletters we are going through a very challenging time. Our main supplier had to call in the Administrators about 12 months ago, and several departments were sold off. They are still getting rid of staff and scaling down their stock. This means that we have to source our stock from many different wholesalers and, if the order is small, pay postage and packing. It also takes much longer to find suppliers, and orders cannot be obtained as quickly as before. So far, in most cases, we have absorbed the extra cost and are doing our very best to supply our customers quickly.

Some of our staff, too, are going through challenging times. Please pray, as we know our dear Lord will honour the prayers of His people. If you would like to help in any other way, please speak to Val. Thank you.

May we remind you 'BAGS OF DELIGHT' Story Club, for Pre-school children, is on MONDAY, 3RD OCTOBER at the new time of 11.00a.m. – 12 noon. Rita and Jan are all ready to bring another story to life - do come and join them.

#### YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED

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SATURDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2 – 4 p.m.

#### **CHRISTMAS PREVIEW**

the café will also be open for drinks and cakes.

October, November and December are the three months of the year that really keep New Creation as a viable Christian Book and Coffee Shop. The above preview is a way of making us available to those who work all week, and Saturday afternoon may be a convenient time. We are very happy to arrange evening openings if this would be of value, or any other suggestions to help you to shop with us this Christmas will be very welcome.

We would not want to encourage anyone to spend more, as we know times are hard for everyone, but if you are looking for cards or gifts, please give us a look first. Diaries and calendars are always needed, and we have plenty in stock. If you order through catalogues for Christian Charities e.g. Leprosy Mission, Create – previously Tearfund, Traidcraft, etc. - we can process them. This helps us and saves you postage: we can even deliver in and around the Tiverton area.

Our free magazine 'The Christian Market Place' is a good place to browse. Just 3 DVD's from the current issue:- 'Wesley, A Heart Transformed Can Change the World' £14.99; 'KJV The Making of the King James Bible' £13.99 and, for the young, 'Soul Survivor Live' (relive those moments) for only £9.99. Go to our link on the website to check out the full contents.

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# **PARISH ROUND-UP**

It was good to share together with the rest of the group at the breakfast service at Oakford Village Hall in September.

We look forward to the All Ages Services to be held at Calverleigh Village Hall on the first Sunday of the month at 3pm except October when it will be on the 9th. This is a follow up to Holiday Club with crafts, games and stories etc followed by light refreshments. Do come along and share in this special time together.

On August 20th we enjoyed a lovely village BBQ at Ron & Margaret's. Thank you to them and all who helped in any way.

Viv Abbott wishes to thank everyone who donated to Help for Heroes at the July Loxbeare Ladies evening where Julie Dent gave a talk on the 7/7 London Bombings. A total of £65 was raised.

On the 30th July, Jean held a coffee morning and raised £276 for Cancer in Teenagers. Thank you to all who supported and helped in any way. Also Colin & Margaret Radford wish to thank everyone who helped and supported the cream tea held in their garden at the end of July - a lovely afternoon which raised a wonderful total of £705, also for Cancer in Teenagers.

At the August Loxbeare Ladies, Marlene put on a lovely evening meal which raised £305. Half went to the Air Ambulance and half to Cancer. Marlene is also holding a coffee morning on the 8th October 10am-12.30pm for Village Hall Funds, with cakes, bric-a-brac, bring and buy and a draw.

In September, the Loxbeare Ladies did a walk following the Tiverton Merchants Trail, which was very interesting, followed by a lunch.

The Village day out to Woolacombe in August was cancelled because of the weather.

The Loxbeare Woman's Bible Study Group has started again after the summer break, with a series on contentment - Healing the Hunger of our Hearts. All ladies are welcome to come and join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Marion's - East Sidborough, and the 4th Tuesday at Pauline's - Highgate Cottage, both at 2pm. Contact Marion on 01884 256302.

Continued on Page 10 ⇒



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10am - 12 noon

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Every Friday during term time
3.30-5.15pm
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LEADER Cindy Trick (01363 866621)

#### **YOUTH GROUP**

Wednesdays at 6.30 pm.

For more information phone Nicki (01884-255248)

#### **HOME GROUPS**

#### PRAISE AND PRAYER

2nd Sunday in month At 8.00pm. (Tel.01884-881362 for venues)

#### **COFFEE PLUS**

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

#### LOXBEARE PRAYER MEETING

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

#### LOXBEARE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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

#### **WALK THE TALK**

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

# MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sunday 30th October

Group Family Service

at

Stoodleigh

Sunday 27th November

Group Advent Service

at

Cruwys Morchard

Sundays 9th October, and 6th November Sunday Club Service

at Calverleigh Village Hall

#### **OAKFORD**

#### 2nd October

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 9th October

9.30 am Morning Prayer

#### 16th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 23rd October

9.30 am Family Service

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### 20th November

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### **27th November**

See Cruwys Morchard

#### **RACKENFORD**

#### 2nd October

11.15 am Morning Prayer

#### 9th October

6.30 pm Harvest Praise

#### 16th October

11.15 am Morning Prayer

#### 23rd October

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

11.15 am Holy Communion

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service at War Memorial

#### **20th November**

11.15 am Family Service

#### **27th November**

See Cruwvs Morchard

#### **STOODLEIGH**

#### **2nd October**

11 am Harvest Festival

#### 9th October

9.30 am Holy Communion by Extension

#### 16th October

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### 23rd October

11 am Holy Communion

#### 30th October

10.30 am Group Family Service with baptism

#### **6th November**

11 am Family Service and Holy Communion

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### **20th November**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### **27th November**

See Cruwvs Morchard

#### **CALVERLEIGH**

#### 2nd October

11.15 am Morning Worship

#### 9th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 16th October

11.15 am Songs of Praise

#### 23rd October

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

11.15 am Morning Worship

#### 13th November

9.30 am Holy Communion3 pm Service of Thanksgiving

#### **20th November**

11.15 am Family Service

#### **27th November**

See Cruwys Morchard

#### **CRUWYS MORCHARD**

#### 2nd October

11 am Morning Prayer

#### 9th October

11 am Family Service

#### 16th October

9.30 am Family Service with Baptism

#### 23rd October

6.30 pm Holy Communion

#### 30th October

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

11 am Morning Prayer

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### **20th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### **27th November**

10.30 am Group Advent Service

#### **LOXBEARE**

#### 2nd October

9.30 am Family Communion

#### 9th October

11 am Family Service

#### 16th October

6.30 pm Evening Praise

#### 23rd October

11 am Family Service

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

9.30 am Family Communion

#### 13th November

10.50 am Family Service

#### **20th November**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

#### **27th November**

See Cruwys Morchard

#### **TEMPLETON**

#### 2nd October

11 am Harvest Festival

#### 9th October

No Service

#### 16th October

11 am Holy Communion

#### 23rd October

11 am Family Service

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### **13th November**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### 20th November

5 pm Choral Evensong

#### 27th November

See Cruwys Morchard

#### WASHFIELD

#### 2nd October

6 pm Evening Prayer

#### 9th October

11 am Family Service

#### 16th October

11 am Morning Prayer

#### 23rd October

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

3 pm Evening Prayer

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### **20th November**

11 am Family Service

#### 27th November

See Cruwys Morchard

#### **WITHLEIGH**

#### 2nd October

11 am Family Service

#### 9th October

11 am Holy Communion

#### 16th October

7 pm Songs of Praise in Village Hall

#### 23rd October

9.30 am Morning Worship

#### **30th October**

See Stoodleigh

#### **6th November**

11 am Family Service

#### 13th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

#### 20th November

11 am Holy Communion

#### **27th November**

See Cruwys Morchard

The time has come around again for supporting Operation Christmas Child, which is organised by Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organisation. Filled shoe boxes are sent to boys and girls who are underprivileged. Anyone wishing to donate a shoe box, please see enclosed leaflet for more details or contact Carol on 01884 881480. Filled shoe boxes need to be either left in the church or given to Carol by November 13th.

Congratulations to Maurice and Marlene Taylor on the birth of their new great-grand-daughter Isabel. This is their 11th great-grandchild and John and Pam's 6th grandchild. They also wish to thank all who have kindly enquired after Marie, who at the moment is getting on quite well, but we will still remember her in our thoughts and prayers.

It is good to hear that many who have been unwell and or/recovering from operations are making good progress, but for all who are still feeling poorly we send our love and prayers.

Belated congratulations to those who have celebrated their 70th Birthday's recently, and best wishes to all who have birthdays or special occasions during October and November.

November 28th Loxbeare Village Hall Christmas Bingo. Doors open at 7pm. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Contact Carol Radford on 01884 881480.

#### Loxbeare Ladies Dates:

October 3rd - a combined night of quiz and food. Cost £3.50 in aid of the Village Hall. 7-7.30pm. Please contact Viv Abbott on 01884 881209 for more details.

November 7th - A Christmas Shopping Trip to Plymouth on the village bus. Tickets £12. Please contact Sue on 01884 259496 for more details.

December 5th - Christmas Dinner at the Quarryman's, Bampton. Again, please contact Sue for details.

### **Oakford**

A very successful Group 'Breakfast' service took place in Oakford Village Hall on September 4th. With about eighty people coming from all the villages, everyone enjoyed a breakfast of croissants, toast, cereals, meat and cheese, tea and coffee, before taking part in an informal service. Afterwards a short Holy Communion service was held for those who wished to partake. Everyone enjoyed the morning and we thank all the people who helped and supported it.

October is a 'quiet' month with normal services taking place each Sunday.

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday November 13th. We meet at the War Memorial at 10.50 am for the laying of the wreath, and remembering those who died in the two World wars and other conflicts since. This will be followed by a service in the church.

Looking towards Christmas, the Carol service will be held on December 18th at 5.00 p.m.

As we do not have a village shop anymore, it is difficult to know of any newcomers, or events that happen in the village except through the 'grapevine'. If there is something that you would like to be included in the magazine, please contact Wendy on 351383.

#### The Moorland Club Flower Show

A lovely display of flowers, veg., floral arrangements, not to mention cakes, jams and pickles was enjoyed by many people on August 13th. This was arranged by the Moorland Club,and open to any villagers and those in surrounding areas. After looking around, everyone enjoyed a welcome cup of tea, cakes and scones. Many congratulations to the cup winners, and thanks to all who took part, helped and supported it.

#### Diary Dates:

Moorland Club October 13th 'A brim full of nonsense'- an amusing talk by Rosemary Chanin

November 10<sup>th</sup> Cake Decorating Demonstration by Susan Maier

December 8th Christmas Dinner 7p.m. at the Ruffwell Inn, Thorverton

Children's Hospice South-West: October 8th 7.30p.m. 'All American Evening' Supper - Sausage and Mash, apple pie and popcorn. Tickets £7.50 – phone Dawn on 351525. Fancy dress optional.

#### Oakford Celebrations: 2012

The Queens Golden Jubilee. Country-wide celebrations are planned over the weekend of June 2nd to the 5th, and there will be many local events too. Oakford has always celebrated these occasions in a big way, so what can we do for this one? There are lots of possibilities, from just having an enjoyable day - or days! - to something more lasting to commemorate the Queens 60 years! We have a small number of representatives from village organisations involved, but to make it *really* happen, we need lots ideas and lots of enthusiasm. Please watch out for details about doing something really special in Oakford.

Oakford Summer Fete. From the proceeds of the 2011 Show we presented cheques for £600 to the Teenage Cancer Trust, in support of Trish Luxton who will be doing a mammoth pony and carriage drive from John O'Groats to Lands End next Easter, and £200 to the newly opened HospisCare Day Centre in Tiverton.

Improving the village appearance. At the Parish Assembly in May, the possibility of making some of the village areas look more attractive was raised, particularly where residents and visitors come into the village. One of these areas is the entrance to the Village Hall, and now the recycling hut has gone, the area lends itself to something eye catching. The Hall committee support this suggestion, so *another* call for ideas - and some help! - to put something nice in the area, perhaps as a project for the Jubilee!





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# **EXE VALLEY MARKET AND COMMUNITY BUS**

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NEW VOLUNTEER DRIVERS ALWAYS WELCOME

With such a lot of opportunities for the future, perhaps we need a village meeting - with coffee and biscuits - to put all these exciting things together. Watch out for details!

Oakford Players Christmas Show. Players have performed a Christmas Pantomime for at least the last twenty-two years, and donated nearly £20,000 to local charities. Unfortunately, this year will be a bit different, as many of the members can't find the considerable time for rehearsals for a full production. However, we couldn't let the festive season pass without some entertainment, so this year we will be producing a seasonal variety show, 'Christmas Crackers', for all the family, on Friday and Saturday, December 2nd and 3rd, in the Village Hall. As usual for Oakford Players productions, there will be some seasonal food provided too! More details nearer the time!

# Rackenford

"We'll Meet Again" was performed by the children of Rackenford Primary School as their end of year concert, and told the story of the evacuation at the start of the Second World War. It was acted brilliantly, and the songs also told a story. The children looked every inch the part in their costumes, and were very enthusiastic. Well done everyone.

Once again it was goodbye time to Year 6. Eve Neusinger, Bethan Hookins, Maddie Blake, Skye Sibthorpe, Christopher Dart, Frank Charles, Lewis Carter and Jay Lodge were presented with various gifts, and wished well in their new schools. The school also received gifts from the leavers. We give a warm welcome to all the new children.

Hilda Nott would like to say a big thank you to the teachers, staff, children, parents and school governors of Rackenford School for the lovely gifts, cards, photograph and kind words she was given and with which she was presented at the concert, and has very much enjoyed her 14½ years at Rackenford School.

Congratulations to Arabella Scott, from Rackenford Manor, and William Barrie who were married at St Peter's Church, Tiverton on August 6th. Also to Sarah Pearson and Andrew Wilkinson, who were married at our church on 3rd September.

Our very best wishes go to Mary Cann, Derek Berry and Bob Mogridge, who have had operations. We hope you are all making good progress.

A warm welcome to Mark & Tracey Howlett, Sam & Charlotte to Lower Meadown Farmhouse, and also to the family who have moved into Oak Tree Cottage in the village. It will be lovely to have Vera Sutton living in our village. We hope you will enjoy being with us.

The Village Ball and Village Day have been held during August. Not perfect weather (!!!) but hope everyone had a really good time and made lots of money for various good causes.

Congratulations to our musical children. Connie Isaac passed her Grade Six flute exam with distinction and Megan Isaac passed her Grade Six piano and Grade Three saxophone with merit. Nell Baillie passed her Grade Four Theory of Music with merit, and Thomas Hagley passed Grade Five cornet. Wonderful!! We'll soon have our own Village Band!

Sadly we hear of the death of Bessie Chapple, a very dear friend to many, and a great supporter of village activities. She will be greatly missed. Bessie's funeral service and internment were held at our church on September 5th, when a full church gathered to pay their respects. Donations in her memory were for Rackenford Churchyard Fund and The British Heart Foundation. The ashes of Gwen Stone were interred in Rackenford Churchyard with her family.

Our deepest sympathy to Mr Stone and family.

Our best wishes to Tom Blackford (Olive's Grandson) who suffered burns to his face and hands in an accident at work.

Two dates for your diary – Bingo at Rackenford School on 14th October and 11th November.

Once again Harvest isn't far away. Harvest Songs of Praise will be on Sunday 9th October at 6:30pm, which will include children playing on their wind instruments, and the singing group 'In Harmony' from Tiverton will also be taking part. All are most welcome. Monday 10th October will be the Harvest Supper in the Stag Hall at 7pm PROMPT, followed by the Auction of Produce. We are very grateful to Kate Palmer and Sophie for the use of the hall. Supper tickets are available from Jane Phillips (881512) or Herbert Smith (881375).

As always we remember in our prayers Percy Stone, Bill & Joan Clark, Ken Blackford, Mrs Arscott and Gwendoline and all those who are unwell, lonely or depressed.

# Stoodleigh

Early in August a cream tea was held at The Old Stable, to welcome Rob and Alison Brewis and baby son Nicholas, into our parish. They are finding the size of the Vicarage garden rather daunting but are settling in happily. We are sure that they will experience and enjoy the kindness and thoughtfulness of the people of Stoodleigh.

In incredible summer sunshine, the Ploughman's Lunch and Walk from Parkhouse Water on Bank Holiday Monday, was greatly enjoyed by the 50 people who took part. This very happy event raised £300 for Church funds. Thank you, Margaret, for hosting and

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organising this, and thanks to all who gave their support and helped in so many ways.

Future events to look forward to:

Sunday 2nd October – Harvest Thanksgiving Service, led by our new curate Rev. Rob Brewis, 11am.

Monday 3rd October – Harvest Supper in the Village Hall at 7pm.

Sunday 6th November – A simple form of Family Worship, 11-11.30am, when we hope families with young children will join us and relax! A shortened form of said Holy Communion will follow for those who wish to stay.

Saturday 10th December – Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall. Further details of this exciting event will follow nearer the date.

Flower Rota: October 1st Harvest decorating; 23rd & 30th Linda Hill; November 6th & 13th Eileen Fewings; 20th & 27th Phyllis Hill.

#### Church roof and bells

Now that the days are shortening and the weather is distinctly autumnal, it has been decided to delay the conservation project on the 15th century bosses and foliate wall plates until April/May next year.

As residents of Stoodleigh will have heard, there have been quite a few visiting teams ringing the bells. Most ring for about half an hour but occasionally it can be longer. Advance warning, therefore, that at 3pm on Saturday 22nd October, Colin Turner and a team from the Oxford Diocese Guild hope to ring a full peal which will take about 2 hours 40 minutes. Colin Turner and his wife, who live just outside Abingdon, have stayed many times at Quoit-at-Cross. He first rang the Stoodleigh bells 30 years ago, and they rang a quarter peal about six years ago.

With the darker evenings, why not come and have a go at ringing. Everyone is very welcome and for an individual introduction to this fascinating pastime, contact either Jennifer Rowlandson (01398 351402) or Gerald Palfrey (01398 351271).

#### Parish Hall

Saturday 29th October – Market and Coffee Morning, 10am-12 noon. Buy your veg., plants, eggs, cakes, art and crafts, book a table to sell your specialities and come and enjoy the coffee and refreshments.

Tuesday 22nd November – Parish Hall AGM, 7.30pm. Support our local facility. All residents are invited to attend this meeting to elect your Management Committee.

Don't forget the Hall is provided, maintained and made available to you and your organisation to use. You can also hire the equipment – tables, chairs and crockery – for outside events. To book, contact Geraldine 01398 351391.

#### Stoodleigh Club

Lizzie writes: "All of us at the club were saddened to hear of "Cheffie's" death. He was a regular and very active member here, always had the club's interests at heart, and for the last four years donated a fantastic buffet to the members on New Year's Eve. He will be missed by us all.

Thank you to the Wotton family for entrusting the club with your bar requirements for Emily and John's wedding. Because it was such a success, we are now proud to offer outside bar services.

It's a Knockout was a wonderful afternoon. Thank you to all who helped or supported it. Well done to Withleigh on your victory!

Again thank you to the few who supported the table top sale and duck race (sadly it was only a few!). The Auction of Promises had an absolutely fantastic result, raising over £1,000, thanks to everybody's generous support and to Stafford Sampson's skills as auctioneer."

Winter hours from 1st October: Wed. 5.30-10pm; Thurs. 5.30-10pm; Fri. 5.30-11pm; Sat.

7.30-11pm; Sun. 12-2pm and 7.30-10.30pm. Hot food on sale Wed., Thurs., Fri. nights. *Stop Press*: Extraordinary General Meeting (follow-up to the AGM), Friday 30th September, 7.30pm, to report on progress.

#### Garden Club Annual Show

Despite the difficult growing conditions, the exhibitors managed to put on a great display of produce, flowers, craft and cookery at the Village Hall on 9th September. It was lovely to have entries from surrounding villages and further afield and also that many people won recognition for the first time.

Best in section for produce went to Elaine Morison for her box of mixed vegetables; the best flower arranging exhibit was Pat Aplin's stunning architectural arrangement; Jennifer Fraser won the best floral exhibit for her vase of mixed flowers; Pat Pennington took best in the cookery section for her mint jelly; a strong craft section saw Pauline Bohanna's fungi photograph take the honours and Jack Klinkenberg won the best Under 12 for his striking picture.

The overall points champion was Elaine Morison, and Dorothy Ayre was the runner-up.

#### Stoodleigh 100 Club

Prizewinners: July – 1 Heather Burmeister, 2 Jo Shepherd, 3 Christine Palfrey; August – 1 Lesley Ayre, 2 David Wotton snr, 3 Sheila Blake. Anyone wishing to join, contact Christine Palfrey 01398 351271.

# **Templeton**

Our Harvest Festival will held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11. 00am.

We hope to have a Toddlers Service just before Christmas.

The fund raising for the repairs to the church continues. It is proving a wonderful





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way of bringing the community of Templeton together and, in spite a lot of hard work, we all seem to be enjoying it. A Safari Supper was held on St. Margaret's Feast Day, 20th July. We began with starters in the church, the main course at Holmead and then to Higher Way for dessert and coffee. Many thanks to all those who provided such delicious food and drink, and to those who kindly hosted this event. The rain held off, it was well attended , very enjoyable and we raised £690.00

Peter Withers held his second Clay Pigeon Shoot since we started our appeal, and made another £150.00. A sale of pledges at the village fete brought in £599. A dog show held at Calverleigh, to support our church, raised a further £194.05: thanks to Sally Ellison of Loxbeare. The Hundred Club winner for August was Barbara Pincombe.

We are also very grateful to have received two cheques, each of £100, from the Exe Valley Rotary, courtesy of Bruce Pearson, who *twice* won their monthly charitable lottery and nominated our appeal to be the recipient.

So far we have raised £9,000 in total - £5,500 through events, and £3,500 from charitable donations. There will be more fund raising events during the coming year - see the notice boards and the magazine for dates and details. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Our annual fete was a great success again this year. The grand total of £1,600 was raised. Thank you to all who helped in any way, and to all who came on the day.

The annual village bonfire and firework display has become a highly popular and successful event over the years, and we hope for strong support again this year. It will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 5th November, with the theme of the bonfire being Peter Pan & Captain Hook's Ship. Do come along and bring the family - it is always a great event.

We hope to open Templeton Library in our church in the near future, so we are asking for books - fiction and non-fiction, contemporary and in excellent condition. They could be on temporary loan or given to the library. If you can help, please take your books to Gloria Woollacott at Church Farm, or Jan Heptinstall at The Wolery. Thank you. The library will be open one afternoon a month between 3.00pm and 6.30pm. Refreshments will be available while you browse. This is a free service, but any donations towards the church tower appeal will be appreciated. Look for the starting date in a future magazine and on the village notice boards.

Congratulations to Peter and Jackie Withers who were married in our church on August 27th. We hope you will have a long and happy life together in our village.

#### **Church Flowers and Cleaning Rota:**

Audrey McInerney - 25th September

- 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Philida Strong - 9th - 16th October

Jan Heptinstall - 23rd - 30th October

Gloria Woollacott - 6th - 13th November

Teresa Panchez (no flowers) -

20th - 27th November

## Washfield

No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace As I have seen in one Autumnal face.

Thoughts and prayers for God's blessing are with Rob Brewis as he is ordained a curate in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 11th September. Also to Alison and baby Nicholas who are now all settled into Stoodleigh vicarage. Rob will be at St Mary's to take the Family service at 11am on November 20th, so please come along and meet him. Coffee and biscuits will be served after this service.

Our Harvest Festival Thanksgiving took place on Sunday September 11th to a large congregation, and taken by Anna. Tabitha Vause and Sebastian Albery ably read the lessons. The church was beautifully adorned with autumnal flowers and an abundance of produce. The rain abated long enough to hold the sports, capably organised by Sarah and Oliver Tobey on the lawn of The Old Rectory. This was followed

by a delicious tea. Thank you Bronson and Camilla Albery for once again loaning us your lawns; also to the church decorators, and to Mike and Kay who once again took the produce to Charlton Lodge.

The village was devastated to hear of the untimely death of Paul Jolliffe. Words cannot properly express the heartfelt sympathy that goes out to his wife Kerry and children Olivia, Edward, Rosie and baby Hetty as this very sad time. Our love, thoughts and prayers are continually with vou.

We also send our sympathies to Jessica Lampard and her family on the recent death of her mother, Pam. A memorial service took place on August 22nd to remember and pay respects to John and Marlene Shrewsbury. Marlene was Joe Ayre's sister. Our love and thoughts are with their immediate family and the Ayres.

Eileen Connor would like to thank you for your attendance at Brian's Requiem Mass, for the many letters and cards of condolence, for the kind words and the generous donations given in Brian's memory. Thank you.

The Social Club's annual Garden Club Show was, as always is the case, a resounding success. There were a few less entries but it was praised by the judges for its very high standards, saving it was the best they had judged this year! The Top Tray and Top Vase prizes were taken by husband and wife team. David and Bett Bowden. Congratulations to you both. Rosie Jolliffe won the Arnold Family shield, and her brother, Edward, won the Sylvia Goodacre Cup with their excellent entries. Sylvia Cockram won the much coveted 'potato in a bucket' competition with 4lbs 7oz. The committee thank everyone for their support, and a big thank you to those who did all the 'behind the scenes' work and helped make it such a success.

We are pleased to say that Frank Smith is at home, and slowly making good progress after his prolonged hospital stay. It's also great to see Allison out and about, and we wish you both well. Get well wishes to





anyone else who is not enjoying good health at present.

We send warm congratulations to Stephen and Sandra Payne on the arrival of your new family, Joe and Ruby. May God bless you all. Congratulation too, go to Paul and Allison Trout as they became grandparents again with the birth of Kieran, a welcome son for Julian and Dawn, and brother for Grace.

Congratulations to Richard Raynes and his new bride Kim, with best wishes for your future happiness together.

Social Club activities play a big part in the village, providing social and leisure opportunities for all its members, and you are reminded that your support in keeping this important meeting place successful is valued, especially at this time when the annual subscriptions become due. For just £5 you can help the committee to maintain this hub of activity, and so help keep the village alive. Recently the Social Club held a Treasure Hunt and barbecue, which attracted lots of people and proved very enjoyable. Thanks to Mike and Martin for the planning of this event, and to Paul and Ann Crease for organising the barbecue. A team from the Social Club took part in the inter-village 'It's a Knockout' competition at Stoodleigh Club in August but, despite being reigning champions, they came third this year, with Withleigh being on the top spot and Calverleigh second. Well done to all those who took part in the fun and games of the day. Upcoming Social Club events planned include A Murder Mystery evening on Saturday 8th October with a 1941 wartime wedding theme. Tickets will be limited so hurry and snap yours up! The price will include a light supper. The annual Pumpkin weigh-in will take place on Saturday 22nd October with the proceeds going to E.L.F. as usual. Come along and enjoy the evening.

Thanks to all who took part in the working party that tidied up around the Memorial Hall. It looks great. Also looking great was Ali and Liz Fathi's wildflower meadow. It

was a credit to you and admired by all who passed.

#### **Dates for your Diary:**

Saturday 8th October Murder Mystery evening at Social Club. Come to celebrate the 1941 wartime wedding of a local girl, and see if you can work out who dunnit! Tickets (Limited number) from Social Club committee. Price to include light supper. Saturday 22nd October Pumpkin weigh-in at Social Club. All welcome. Proceeds to E.L.F.

Church Flower Rota

October 9th/16th Mrs Jones
October 23rd/30th Mrs H Arnold
November 6th/13th Mrs Bassano
November 20th/27th Mrs Voysey
December 4th/11th Mrs McCahon

#### Church Cleaning Rota

October 9th Mrs Horsey
October 16th/23rd Mr and Mrs McCahon

October 30th

November 6th ) Mrs French November 13th/20th Mrs Arnold &

Mrs Bicknell

November 27th ) Mrs Harding & December 4th ) Mrs Jones

Sylvia Hann opened the proceedings and were presented with flowers by their grandson, Harry. A grand total of £987 was raised, so a big thank you to all those who helped or gave in any way.

We send our congratulations to Katherine (Giles and Rosie's daughter) and Robert Specht, who were married in Stoodleigh Church on 16th July. Best wishes to you both for your future life together.

Congratulations to Withleigh Women's Institute on gaining 3rd place at Mid Devon Show in the Devon Federation of Women's Institute's competition to depict a nursery rhyme. Withleigh members depicted 'Oranges and Lemons'. Members have now entered the skittles and darts competitions, so the Women's Institute is not all 'Jam and Jerusalem!'. Meetings are held in the Village Hall on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm, and new members are always welcome.

The coffee morning held at Topfield was a great success, with £545 being distributed between FORCE and Riding for the Disabled. Christine would like to say 'thank you' to all who attended, helped and gave.

Our Garden & Produce show was again well supported, and it was really good to see

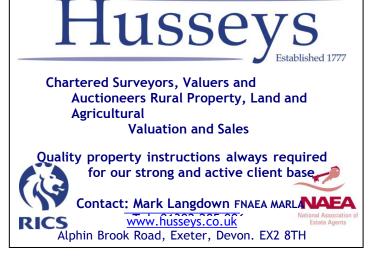
# Withleigh

The weather was not kind to us for our Church Fete, and the decision was taken to hold it in the Village Hall instead of in Henry and Shirley's garden at Bona Vista. Nevertheless, gazebos were erected in the car park, and a fete atmosphere was created. The Tiverton Concert Band played superb renditions in one of the gazebos, giving a pleasant entrance to the hall, We now look forward to hearing the Concert Band next year at our Fete at Bona Vista (weather permitting!!). Harry and



Withleigh W.I. Entry





more children's entries this year, all of which were of an excellent standard. This year we were all asked to sample various desserts that people had made, and to mark each one. The dessert with the highest score won a special prize; the winner of this class was Janet Sellick. The Trophy for the most points in the Vegetable and Flower section was won by Henry Cruwys, the Children's Trophy was won by Alexandra Mobbs, and the Cookery winner was Brenda Tucker. Well done to everyone who took part, and we look forward to next year's show. Many thanks to our show secretaries, Michael & Gill Williams, for all of their hard work, and to the committee members who help with various tasks.

Congratulation's to our It's a Knockout team! On Saturday 13th August we took part in the inter-village It's a Knockout; it was a last minute scramble to get together a team, but thanks to Colin Tucker who took on the job of rounding-up our team of eight, and ensuring we arrived on time. It was all down to the last game where our team played their Joker, and were fortunate to come out on top. Well done to all of the team.

Congratulations to Rob on his ordination at Exeter Cathedral on 11th September. We enjoyed having Rob, Alison and Nicholas with us at our service on 28th August.

The different format for our Harvest celebrations this year was well received, with the Sunday afternoon service being well attended with the congregation enjoying a delicious tea in the village hall afterwards. Thank you to those who prepared the tea. Thank you, also, to all who decorated the church so beautifully; if you missed it, you

should be able to find photos on the website. The Harvest supper on the Monday night was also well supported and everyone enjoyed, once again, a lovely meal prepared and served by Tom and Valerie Drew and their helpers. Produce from the Church, together with items brought on the night, were auctioned, raising a total of £208.65 to be given to FORCE. Thank you, Henry, for being our auctioneer.

On Saturday 1st October there will be a social evening in the Village Hall, which will take the form of a get together, with the opportunity to have a game of Pool or Table Tennis, or to just sit and chat over a drink. (Please bring your own drink).

There is a PCC meeting on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October at Topfield at 7.30pm.

A Safari supper is being held on Saturday, 15th October, proceeds of which are to be shared between the village hall and the church. If anyone would like to host a starter or main meal, or make a dessert for when we congregate in the village hall to end the evening, please ring Brenda, 252431 or Janet, 254851. The same telephone numbers apply if you would like to attend this fun, social evening.

Our next Songs of Praise will be on 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm – in the Village Hall. We will be welcoming back David and June Muir for the evening. Last time, some of us struggled with a couple of unfamiliar hymns; this time there will be no excuse as tea and cake will be served from 5.30pm onwards, with the chance to learn any unfamiliar hymns as a prelude to the service itself.

Friday 28th October we are holding our Annual Team Skittles Competition. Teams of

6 people will compete for the coveted trophy (or perhaps it's the chocolate that goes with the trophy). We will make up teams on the night, so just come along and enjoy yourselves. Refreshments - tea, coffee and squash will be served. Beginning at 7.30pm.

Our Christmas and Craft Fayre in aid of

Church funds is on Saturday, 26th November in the Village Hall, 10.00am - 2.00pm Coffee and mince pies, and a bowl of soup will be available lunchtime. If anyone would like to book a table to sell their crafts, please ring Brenda, 252431 or Janet, 254851. There will also be a cake stall, draw, etc.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Dan Westmacott, who lived at Green Hollows with his wife, Mary. Dan was buried in the Green Cemetery at Great Bradley, Withleigh, after a service in our Church.

We say farewell to David and Carol Hitt who have moved from Cedarwood to temporarily live at Budleigh Salterton whilst a new property is being built for them in Exmouth. Best wishes to you in your new abode when it is completed.

Welcome to the new occupants of Cedarwood and also Hylands. We hope you are settling in, and look forward to seeing you at events in the village.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are feeling sad at the moment, not well, or are in hospital or recovering from stays in hospital.

Social Evening 7.30pm

#### Future events:

1st October

28th October		Team Skittles Competition, 7.30pm
Flower rot	ta:	
Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup>	)	Rosie Edmondson-Low
Oct 16 <sup>th</sup> 23 <sup>rd</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	) )	Sara Kittow
Nov 6 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> 20 <sup>th</sup>	) )	Sylvia Hann
Nov 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec 4 <sup>th</sup>	)	Christine Luxton

#### Monthly Diary dates:

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



Harvest Tea



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