Witheridge Voice

Issue 5
Summer 2011

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Editorial

The 5th issue of the Voice comes at the start of our 2nd year. Thanks are much overdue to the Witheridge Scene who gave us a substantial donation. Their support is much appreciated.

Thank you to all our advertisers, (without whom this free magazine really would not be produced) and to our deliverers who go out in all weathers.

A year on and there are inevitable changes in the team. A huge thank you must go to David Taylor, who worked very hard over the last year to keep a village magazine going and to our Secretary, Helen Prince, who stepped down due to the needs of her young family.

Last, but by no means least, huge thanks to all of you who contributed in any way. I have thoroughly enjoyed trying to do justice to your stories.

Looking to the future, we still need your help with ‘In Memory of’ and ‘Welcome to the village’ and need contributions from young people and families.

From this issue, some features will have a regular place which I hope will make it more coherent.

Carole Campbell Editor

Articles to
editorwitheridgevoice@hotmail.co.uk or to the Newsagent

Advertising: voicetreasurer@hotmail.co.uk

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Cover photo courtesy of Carole Campbell

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I was born in 1939 in Exeter hospital as I was premature. I think my mother would have been taken there by taxi, but I don’t know.

We lived on North Bank - the light yellow house opposite where the Parish Hall is now, although it was all fields then. I remember the house was cold. We had just one coal fire in the sitting room. We had electricity as Witheridge had its own generator in the house next to the chapel. It had huge storage batteries, but you could still only use 3 light bulbs at a time. When Mum plugged the iron into a light socket, nothing else would work.

Dad worked for Mr Tidball from age 13, driving the horse-drawn bus to Exeter. The bus went via Thelbridge, Black Dog and Crediton on Monday, giving the passengers Tuesday to shop, then came back on Wednesday. Dad would sleep in the hay loft with the horses as he had to groom them. He drove steam lorries for Knott’s Quarry and the service bus for Witheridge transport. There were called Tilly buses (utility) because they had wooden seats.

Mum wasn’t well after I was born and Grannie Rice looked after me. She was a dear. She made most of my clothes and would make me paper accordions to play with.

Grannie lived in Ebrington Row – a row of houses very much like Pullen’s Row where Appletree Close is now.

Previously, Grannie and Grandad Rice lived in Anstey’s Court where they had a grocery shop. The photo shows Anstey’s Court with my mother sat in the trap. The pony was called Kitty and after Grandad died in 1934, Mrs Crang at Upcott Farm bought the pony.

The houses were very basic and were condemned sometime after a child was bitten by a rat.

At Christmas I would get a few sweets and Dad would make me a train or something.

I started at the Church School when I was 5 ½. You could get the cane for just looking at the teacher. The boys would jump across into the girl’s side of the playground for a bit of devilment. I sat with Alan Southcott. He used to tie the girls’ pigtails together and I’d get punished for it as well. I went home.
for dinner at midday (a sandwich and a cup of tea), then back to school for the afternoon. School dinners came from South Molton and were served in the Church Rooms, but we couldn’t afford them. Dad would have been earning about £2 a week.

We played in the fields where the Parish Hall is now and down in the woods. There were 2 Nissen huts where the Home Guard stored their guns. We made our own toys like bows and arrows out of pea sticks.

I don’t remember much about the war except Dad taking me out towards Rackenford to see a dogfight between a Spitfire and a German Messerschmitt.

The German was shot down and gave himself up to a farmer. We could see Exeter being bombed because the sky looked like it was on fire.

My Mum took in lodgers and one of them let me play his piano but I was always more interested in the piano accordion. Before I left school, I was already playing in my first band **The Bluebirds** with Derek Ford and Cyril Blackford. We played all over Somerset and Devon and we were paid about £2 a gig, although we would have done it for love.

I left school in 1954 aged 15 and was apprenticed as a carpenter and joiner at Ernie Hutchins’ building firm - 6 years training.

We made everything – staircases, windows and doors. The workshop was where Stoneman’s is now. Gordy Pyne was there as well but had been there a while when I started. I liked doing the windows. It was all done by hand. They had a big circular saw outside but I worked with cut wood. If you were on ‘fixing’, you cycled to where they were building unless they took a lorry. Hutchins was a big employer – 36 of us – carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers and painters.

I got my first car when I was 17 - an Austin 7- which I needed to get to the gigs but that all finished in 1959 when I was called up to the Royal Army Service Corps. Call up finished in 1960 and I went back into the building trade.

I started my band **The Hotspots** and had 2 or 3 bands after that. We played dance music at The Angel in Witheridge and all over Devon. Then it was marriage and adult life, but that’s another story. **John Bryant**
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The band will be celebrating 35 years in the business this year
We would like to thank all those who helped to raise £315.20p at our Coffee Morning on 2nd April at the Rest- A- While and to Frank Housam for his donation in his absence.

At St Johns' Fayre on 25th June we will open our garden, sell plants and run a raffle outside our garden gate. The Fayre has always been a wonderful fund raising event for us and George has lots of home grown plants to sell that he has brought through the harsh winter.

Our Area Volunteer Manager, Dawn Harrison will be on our stall, so come and chat with her. Our annual House To House collection will take place as usual in September.  

Angela Pearce

**Witheridge Golf Society**

The Society met at Waterbridge on 9th March, a fine sunny day, for the Spring Golf Trophy with an excellent turnout of 21 members. The winning team comprised of farmers Brian Burgess, Michael Pinchcombe and Rob Walker from the Umberleigh/Warkleigh area who birdied four and parred four out of the nine holes - a remarkable result which has resulted in amendment to their playing handicaps. Runners up were Graham Clarke from Witheridge and Chulmleigh residents Roy Dow and Phil Canning.

**Next match** : Summer Golf Trophy on Wednesday 13th July

We have a 9 hole Texas Scramble, a buffet lunch a 9 hole competition in the afternoon. New members are always welcome.  

astonguy@tring92.f2s.com.

Andrew Clark

**NEW Table Tennis Group**

Meeting on Fridays at the Parish Hall (10.30am ping pong off), we are a sociable adult group which is open to players aged 16 and over (no upper age limit). We play for fun and exercise with a bit of a competitive streak. We are able to meet thanks to 3 tables being on loan, but have applied for local funding to buy our own table.

**We welcome more players** : your first visit is free!  

Stephanie Angell

 европейский флаг

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Parish Hall Report

The Community Facilities Feasibility Study questionnaire was completed by 221 residents and 30 residents of the Parish. 60% felt that there is a need for a wider range of facilities within the village. Of the options presented, there was a strong desire for the rebuilding of the Parish Hall with almost six in ten people (57%) choosing this option.

So now the hard task begins to raise the funds. Clearly we will need everyone to work together if we are to have facilities for all ages.

A structural survey of the hall indicated that it should remain fit for purpose for around another 10 years. We now have a new cooker and larder fridge and the professionally cleaned floors has made a big difference. Repair of the crumbling tarmac in front of the hall awaits arrival of the contractors and we are looking into the possibility of widening the entrance from North Street to provide safer access and exit.

The Parish Hall goes from strength to strength with healthy bookings during the week, although weekend use is a little patchy. The car boot sales have proved very popular. We need people to take on responsibility on the Parish Hall committee - a Secretary now and a Treasurer in July.

David Taylor

Feasibility Study  Lorna Turner Business Consultant

More facilities: 60% agree, 35% would do nothing.
Facilities: Sports Hall 45%, Youth Room 41%, Fitness suite 35%
Rebuild Parish hall: 57% agree, 49% agreed strongly.
Sports field site: 57% agree to some sort of community centre on the Sports field site, including 35% of those who would also like the Parish Hall rebuilt.
Sports field site Option A: the smaller development was preferred (Sports Hall, preschool and youth focus, Parish Hall retained).
Sale of land: 49% felt sale of any land was too high a price to pay.
Sell for housing: 60% do not want land to be sold for housing.
Sale of assets to fund development (lower than expected):
Parish Hall £255,000, Adventure Playground after relocation costs £225,000
Estimated development cost: Enhanced Parish Hall £1.1m, Option A £ 1.9m

The funders, Community Builders, withdrew the remaining funds of £20,000, as neither rebuild of the Parish Hall nor option A on the Sports field site were considered sufficiently multi-purpose and the Charity Commission would not give permission for land to be sold without support from the community.
Way forward: Village groups will be contacted by the Task Group with a copy of the Task Group report and Executive summary. The Task Group remit needs updating and a new Task Group can be formed with new people stepping forward, if this is what the community wish. Support from Community Council of Devon will hopefully be secured. The full report is available on application to the Parish Council Clerk.
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**Witheridge Ladies’ Club**

What marvellous speakers we have had these past few months. Cyril Cole, our speaker on ‘Dowsing’, donated pairs of dowsing rods so we could try this ancient art for ourselves.

Louise Younger of the Order of St John told us about the many facets of the Order - sending equipment and personnel to disaster areas, the Eye hospital in Jerusalem and the Carers Support Programme which aims to improve the health of carers.

Our next speaker, George Williams, gave an amusing account of his walk around Britain – a tonic to us all. We look forward to talks about microwave cookery and the work of South West Water in the next couple of months. We also have a book club, craft club and luncheon club. Come long. You will be most welcome.

❖ 2nd Tuesday in month  2:00pm  Parish Hall

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**Luncheon Club**

The Luncheon Club has been running for over 2 years and is very well attended. Our updated equipment has been a great help and I am pleased to say that we all passed the Food Safety and Hygiene training at the beginning of the year. A very special thank you to everyone involved in making the lunches a success- good food and good company and you can’t go wrong!

Mavis Huckle

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**The Ringers**

We are still in need of more people willing to learn to ring, as we now have two ringers over 80, and really need more people in a younger age group who are willing to learn. Just come along one evening and see what we do.- no commitment in just looking.

❖ Friday in the Belfry 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Harry Richardson

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**Join the party!**

Zumba fever has arrived! Over 100 people have tried a class and have found their hips souls beating to a new drum. We had special costume nights in May - more to come this summer.

❖ Wed + Sun 8pm  Parish Hall

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20 QUESTIONS

1) Cinderella’s coach was made from a …………………..
2) Chocolate is made from …………………………………...
3) German leader World War 2 ……………………………
4) The President of the USA is ……………………………
5) Vampire bats eat ……………………………………………
6) Your tibia is in your ………………………………………
7) The closest planet to the Sun is …………………………
8) The fairy in Peter Pan was called ………………………
9) The highest mountain is Mt. ……………………………
10) The colour of a raven is …………………………………
11) What does PC stand for? ………………………………..
12) The largest bird is the …………………………………
13) What number is XXXXIX? ……………………………
14) What does an entymologist study? ……………………
15) Ra was the Egyptian god of the ………………………
16) He went round the world in 80 days? …………………
17) What kind of creature is Bilbo Baggins? ……………
18) A marsupial feeds its young in a ………………………
19) These dogs pull sledges for humans…………………..
20) Imaginary line round the earth ………………………

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There was a young man from Leeds
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Answers on page 60
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Many of you will have seen this plaque whilst walking along the river through Yeo Copse and wondered about it.

Simon Richardson was the son of Claude ‘Dickie’ Richardson, solicitor to John Benson who donated buildings and 29 acres of land to the village in 1946.

Simon was an adventurous type and enjoyed crewing ocean going yachts. In 1977 he was the skipper on a converted steel tug called ‘An Evant’ which took an expedition to the Antarctic. The expedition included Bill Tilman, aged 80, considered to be Britain’s greatest living explorer. (In 1938 Tilman led a team to Everest and got to within 500m of the summit without oxygen.) Simon’s expedition was sailing south to the Antarctic when they went missing and were presumed to have drowned. He was only 24. There is another plaque dedicated to Simon and the other members of the expedition on Smith Island just off the coast of Antarctica.

Simon enjoyed holidays at Bything Farm, just off the Rackenford Road and loved walking in the area, especially the copse.

The copse was donated by Mr J Martin of Essebeare Farm to the Woodland Trust in 1984.

You can comment on their website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. I know many of us enjoy walking there and the Trust would appreciate it.

Jim Campbell
Bill Warnett DMS MBA C,Chem MRSC MCIWEM C.WEM MIMgt

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Witheridge Brownies are working on the Seasons Summer badge, making bird baths, bird watching, a farm walk and playing picnic games. On March 25th – 27th we went with Chulmleigh Brownies and Guides to the Wembworthy Centre. The weather was wonderful and sunny – perfect for building dens and pond dipping. Our pack is thriving with 28 Brownies and a healthy waiting list. Brownies is for girls aged 7 -10 years. (Waiting list from age 5)

NEW Witheridge Guides
Girl Guides started up at the end of April 2011 and 10 girls have started already. Guides will be doing ‘Fitness Go for it’ and taking more responsibility for their own health and fitness, rounders, yoga, dance choreography, and making some healthy foods. We had a fun dance session with Pavanne Hawkes. Thanks Pavanne. We will also be teaming up with the Brownies for a farm walk and will be taking part in the St John’s Fayre parade. Guides is for girls aged 10 – 14 years and follows on from Brownies.

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St John’s Fayre: what it takes

I had seen only the end product – a glorious display of English country life in a medieval village, but didn’t realise how much work was involved in organising this 800 year old Fayre.

So, how do they do it? With a surprisingly small committee and a very, very long Action Plan- 3 pages, 119 lines of ‘actions’ with a name against each one.

Everyone takes on at least one job, but Debbie, the secretary, is the kingpin. She books the entertainers (of which I counted 30+). She and Gerald deal with the red tape of road closure, licenses for stallholders and the bar, health and safety, policing and insurance – (a headache in itself), while Mary and Desni book the stalls.

Local people are asked to bring their hounds, beagles, ponies, hawk, tractors etc to join in the parade, but the entertainers don’t do it for free so the committee have to decide on value for money.

When the bookings are finalised, the order of the parade is set and the programme written- my bit! Gerald sells advertising space and Gill starts on the publicity - posters, leaflets, entries in visitor websites, press statements and signs. The posters go up in a 10miles radius.

Into the home stretch ...... With the rota and compere scripts written, the marquee and rubbish bins delivered, what goes where is decided- bunting, tables, chairs, marquee and staging. The grass gets a final cut, electrics connected and road signs put out ready for the Grand Parade. Claire deals with taking money in and paying bills; Jackie does the dog show; Mary and Desni organise the stalls; Theresa organises the Play Zone and Gill, Vic, Eddie, Geoff and Angus act as Marshalls. The main day is non- stop then it all has to be cleared up ready for next year. Debbie writes 100+ thank you letters!

St John’s Fayre aims to pay for itself through fundraising. You can help by advertising your business, buying the programme (50p), coming to the Fayre and fundraising events or by offering your help.

Fundraising: Sun. June 19th Clay Pigeon Shoot Dart Raffe 12-5pm
Sat. Sept 24th Pig Racing Evening Parish Hall

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Badminton Club

The Badminton Club meets in the Parish Hall on Mondays from 2-3:30pm, cost £2.50 per session. We can provide rackets if needed. We welcome all ages and abilities and are looking for new members. For safety reasons children are not allowed.

Greg Henderson

Short Mat Bowls

So far 4 competitions have been held in 2011.

Odd Ball Competition: winner Anita Clark, runner up Tony Willis

Ladies Singles: won by Ivy Daniel, 2nd Sue Henderson

Gents Singles: won by David Dickinson, 2nd Noel McTeague

Pairs: won by Greg Henderson and David Dickinson, 2nd June Don and Frank Rookley

Club woods and shoes are available. The first 3 visits are free then a green fee of £2.00 per evening and a subscription of £15.00 per annum is payable. Children over 10 and under 16, must be accompanied by an adult. Available to residents of Witheridge and district.

Join us on: Tues and Thurs, Parish Hall 7:00pm

Harry Richardson

Community Composting

Garden waste is collected on THURSDAYS 9:00 - 12:00 Sacks can be provided. The cost is minimal: £6.00 pa covering March to the end of October.

Compost: we have compost left at £1.00 per bag.

Larger amounts of green waste: we collect trailer loads at £10.00 for members, £15.00 for non-members. We do not make a profit, just enough to cover our costs, in fact we help to reduce council tax which can’t be bad!

Contact Greg or Harry (Treasurer)
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To Witheridge Electoral Ward

I would like to thank all those who supported and voted for me in the recent District Council election. I would also like to assure all within our communities that I am more than happy to hear from you in relation to issues you may need to raise, regardless of your political persuasion and that I will work for the benefit of all. Many thanks.

Jeremy Yabsley

Neighbourhood Watch
From PCSO Rozputynski (Yorkie)

The first meeting was held on 3rd May 2011.
Together we can
✓ share information
✓ reduce the level of crime
✓ target local crime problems
✓ take action to prevent local crime
Contact: jerzy.rozputynski@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk.

NEW Oakmoor Children’s Centre Witheridge

On Saturday 7th May, the new Children’s Centre held an Open Day to show what it has to offer. There was a whole host of taster activities including face-painting and ‘Forest school’ demonstrated by a parent.
This state of the art building with reception, small meeting room, large main room for group activities, sensory area, kitchen, staff room and outdoor play area, shows just how much ‘mobiles’ have moved on.
Opening times will be built up gradually in response to local needs. The entrance is via the Sports Cub

Initial opening times:
✓ Tuesdays & Thursday 9.30am – 4.00pm Open to All
✓ Tues 10.00 -12.00 Stay and Play + Under 5’s Child Health Clinic
✓ Contact: Administrator Marion Bogen 01769 579615 (S. Molton office )
BEV & JOHN WILSON
Telephone: 01884 860678

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Allotment Society

With the fantastic weather over the last couple of months and the frantic work taking place at the site, all the allotments are in full swing. We have been fortunate not to have any late frosts to nip the tops of the early potatoes, so our stall at St John’s Fayre will be stocked with very locally grown produce from the allotment site. Please come see us there. As all 20 allotments are taken, we have a waiting list.

Contact Rachel Petch

Greg Henderson

Ted’s Farm recipes

Quick, easy dinner party ideas, costed with Farm Shop produce (excludes cost of wine).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournedos Rossi</th>
<th>£3.50pp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>You need</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sirloin/ Fillet Steak in 2 ½ “ rounds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>large Mushrooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bread,- cut slightly larger than steak pate,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>olive oil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red Wine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salt and pepper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What to do...</strong></td>
<td>Fry the steak in a little oil 3 minutes a side. Remove and season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fry the bread in the oil left. Remove. Add a little olive oil and a glass of wine to the pan,.Heat until reduced.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grill mushrooms brushed with oil.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spread pate on the fried bread then one steak with a mushroom on top</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garnish with watercress/rocket.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pour the wine sauce on the side.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Serve</strong> with new potatoes and salad.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer stir fry steak</th>
<th>£2.15pp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>You need</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100g of Butty steak per person,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>red onion, sweet peppers, green beans,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mushrooms all sliced</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>garlic -chopped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>olive oil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tsp ground coriander</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 glass of white wine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>double cream</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salt and pepper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What to do...</strong></td>
<td>Fry all the vegetables with the steak in olive oil over a high heat turning constantly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the veg is cooked but still firm add your white wine (if you can part with it!), salt and pepper and coriander.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring to the boil, add the cream.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Serve</strong> on a bed of Pasta or saute potatoes, with a dressed salad.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Bar On Sunday 12.00 noon to 10.30 pm
Food last orders 9.15 Monday to Saturday
and 8.45 pm on Sunday

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You can find us on the crossroads in the centre of the village on the B3137 Tiverton to South Molton road, two miles east of Witheridge.
Witheridge & District Gardening Club

Our very successful Flower Show was held in April. The judges and visitors were very complimentary of the quality of the exhibits.

Best in Show  Doreen Leat – stunning Royal Wedding flowers.

Floral section
Sheila Manley, Ros Knight (novice), Cyril Leat, Joan Troake, Audrey Clinkscales

Photographic Section
Doreen Parsons, Amanda Williams

Well done to everyone who contributed and sincere thanks to all who helped with refreshments. Special thanks to Audrey, Jean and Amanda.

In March David Manners gave an exciting illustrated talk on ‘The Yellowstone National Park’ which he had visited and in April, Ian and Teresa Moss came to talk on ‘Early Perennials’. 

Jean Bryant and Chris Kershaw

Best Kept Village in Devon 2011

Witheridge has entered this competition. Look around, is our village clean and well cared for yet environmentally friendly, so birds and wild flowers can flourish?

WHAT CAN WE DO?

PLEASE!

Preliminary Judging of the village: May, June and July.
Final Judging: July & August
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Fax: 01884 861266

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Telephone 01363 83317
Fax: 01363 83455

31 Park Hill, Tiverton EX16 6RW
Telephone 01884 255336
Fax: 01884 242116

Hillmans
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Fax: 01837 83804

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**Witheridge Preschool**

Our refurbished outside area is being getting excellent use with the good weather. The new playhouse allows us to have a ‘home corner’ and an area for imaginary play. This is currently ‘Where the Wild things are’ and the children love dressing up as ‘Wild Things’.

To show the children the growing cycle, we will be planting fast growing mung beans and cress, longer term runner beans and scented flowers. We hope these attract butterflies to become part of our topic on mini-beasts.

The pre-school now organise the Food and Craft Fayre. Thank you to all those who supported it recently. For further details about the pre-school and our Holiday Activity Club (age 3-11),

- see our website [www.witheridgepreschool.btck.co.uk](http://www.witheridgepreschool.btck.co.uk)

Paula Hallett

---

**WithArt**

We work in all mediums including watercolour, pencil and oils. All ages and abilities welcome. We are currently putting together our 2012 calendar featuring the group’s work. We also hold an exhibition each year at the St John’s Fayre. Come along for informal sessions where we learn from each other. Each one costs £1, there is no membership fee.

- **Mondays 2- 4pm Parish Hall**

Thomas Lea
Changes at the Parish Church

Summer has come early this year although by the time you read this, let’s hope the glorious April weather doesn’t feel like a distant memory. There was just a little part of me, though, that almost wished that summer could have waited as the church heating system was only completed at the end of March and we haven’t had a chance to see how well it works.

The cast iron radiators look very handsome and we will set the system so that it kicks in whenever the temperature drops below 11°C. This should ensure that the church never feels cold when you come in and should also protect the fabric of the building from damage caused by expansion and contraction. The temperature will be pushed up to around 16° for services and other events when necessary – hopefully not until the autumn.

All of the redundant radiators and piping were taken away before work started on the new system and as a result, the church looks much tidier and, we think, even more attractive. Do come and have a look around though and decide for yourself. The church is open every day.

Everyone is very welcome to come to any of our services, which now take place at 9.30am every Sunday. They are all in modern language and we continue to have Holy Communion on the first and third Sunday of every month.  

Reverend David Prescott  rev.david.prescott@btinternet.com

—

The Easter Concert

“Let Us Garlands Bring” was a joyous evening celebrating Shakespeare in words and music.

Kitty Whately, Louise Alder and Laura Mitchell sang with Jonathon Lemalu accompanied by pianist Christopher Gould. Three choristers also accompanied some of the songs on the violin and flute. The Girls’ choir (Linda’s Lovelies) sang under the direction of Linda Cole.

Each act began with text followed by music and perhaps my favourite was a soliloquy by Kitty Whately from Lady Macbeth, followed by Jonathon Lemalu, who made the rafters ring with his rendering of the Dunsinane Blues by Johnny Dankworth.

It was a world class performance and a superb programme. Thank you Sarah and Graham for bringing these amazing performers to Witheridge.  Jacky Bradford
In Memory of

Liz Chilcott
Elaine Wilson
Alan Wyatt
Greta Cumes  Jim Cumes
Mrs Barrell

Witheridge Methodist Church

The Women’s Fellowship meet fortnightly on Thursdays 2pm. All are invited to talks – see the church dates. In June Rev Peter Whatton will be talking about the Garden Tomb of Jerusalem and in July Natalie Hurst from The Leprosy Mission will talk about the Mission walk in India and her 630 mile sponsored walk. Items will be for sale, proceeds to the Leprosy Mission.

St John’s Fayre: we will be selling cakes, savouries, plants, jams and home-made produce.

❖ Sunday services 11am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun May 29</td>
<td>Churches Together</td>
<td>Methodist Church</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th June 2</td>
<td>Ascension Day Holy Communion</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 26</td>
<td>Churches Together Open Air Service</td>
<td>The Square</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 26</td>
<td>St John Patronal Festival</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td>4:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th June 30</td>
<td>Talk: The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem</td>
<td>Methodist Church</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th July 28</td>
<td>Talk: The Leprosy Mission</td>
<td>Methodist Church</td>
<td>2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun July 31</td>
<td>Churches Together</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun July 31</td>
<td>Churches Together BBQ</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Aug 20</td>
<td>Parish Church Fete</td>
<td>Hope House</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Sept 24</td>
<td>Harvest Service</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Sept 26</td>
<td>Harvest Supper</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu June 7th July 5</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>12:00</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Tales of Dart Raffe

After the winter of 1947, father was virtually bankrupt. We farmed at East Barton, West Anstey and by early March he was out of hay and corn and 40% of the sheep had died. I remember finding dead sheep 30 feet up with their heads stuck in the trees. They’d scampered over deep snow looking for ivy and fallen down onto the branches of trees below.

Father took out the lease for Dart Raffe farm in August 1946 and we had to get all the sheep and cattle we had left from East Barton to Dart Raffe by road. We walked the farm cattle here along deep cuts in the snow via Jubilee Inn and Roachill, Ashmore to Weedon Cross then to Dart Raffe.

The first lot didn’t get further than Ashmore. We left the cattle in the field and the Herniman family put us up for the night at their farm and gave us a meal, then at first light we went on from there.

Our phone number at Dart Raffe was 309. The farm at East Barton didn’t have a phone but PC Mudge did, so we phoned him and he told my mother not to worry and that we were walking back. We got back just as it was getting dark so that was 1 ½ days to get there with the cattle, ½ day to get back.

From Anstey to Dart Raffe
March 1947

I remember father shouting at the 3 of us children at every crossway to run ahead and we were not sure which roads he wanted us to go to. I would have been 8, my sister Josephine 7 and Valerie, who looked after us, was 19.

We drove the 20 or so cattle with us 3 kids and 3 farm workers (Mr Vellacott, Mr Mounce and Mr Chappell) and father.

It was towards Lady Day (a quarter day when rents are due) which was when people moved farms because it was the end of the winter season, all the fodder was used up, there were no crops to be valued and there was Spring and Summer ahead. There would have been a financial settlement of incomings and outgoings.
Dad went in the lorry but we went with mother in the old Ford 8, just as the temperature dropped and it came in with hard rain and sleet. The car was stacked to the roof and sliding around.

When we got there we couldn’t get in the house. We had the keys for the door which faced the cold east winds and the whole door and wall was frozen in a thick layer of ice. Father had to use a hammer and chisel to get the door open. There were tiles off the roof and I remember the wind howling through the house like a pig screaming. That night Josephine and I slept on a mattress on the floor covered in 2 army greatcoats.

The next morning the rain had turned to snow and the whole room was covered in a thin layer of snow. There was no heating, gaps under the doors, rats running through the house and the roof leaked badly. We had a triplex stove which we used to sit by trying to keep warm.

The first thing Dad did was ploughing. In those days there was only one crop a year- oats and barley mainly. The previous tenant hadn’t ploughed the land properly and father kept on breaking plough tips (cast iron in those days) so mother was forever off to South Molton to get them.

As a child I spent several weeks leading a cart horse round the edge of the field onto snow drifts so they melted and we could get the crop into the headlands of the field. At the end of April / early May we still had snow 2-3 feet deep.

Those early months and years were a tough time at Dart Raffe. We had plenty of food and firewood but there was no money. That was how it was. One of my mother’s favourite sayings was ‘We all know our place and what we had to do.’

By Gerald Manning
**Class 4**

**Bang**

BANG! From the top of the stormy mountain thousands of sharp boulders were soaring towards the terrified gladiators. The boulders crushed the poor barbaric gladiator’s bodies, spears and shields lay across the wasteland.

The few, oh so very few, gathered to their feet and carried on with the merciless journey. As they climbed the treacherous mountain most souls could not make the sad, sad journey to receive eternal life.

The souls fell into Hades awful hands of death. Their bodies would drift down the mountain and plummet to the fiery furnace of death. The gods has NO! mercy on their pitiful souls.

None of the thousands of men survived the life threatening quest and you can go there today and find their bones scattered on the gravel. The bones are a warning to other trespassers and the hawks are hovering above, waiting for their next prey.

*Greg Greenwood Year 6*

---

**Class 3**

**The Clue**

It’s night time and professor Mortimer was walking through the park. The city was quiet as a mouse, apart from an owl hooting from the trees. Professor Mortimer left the park and headed west.

He was walking past the bank, when there he saw, right in the middle of his eye, a £50.00 pound note, with a fingerprint on it.

“There must have been a crime,” he thought to himself.

Then he heard click of a machine gun...!

*Cameron Couzens aged 8*
Class 2

Ultimate Swampcheckwater-humungasaur

A long long time ago there was an alien called Ultimate Swampcheckwater-humungasaur. He spurts water out of holes that are in his arms. He opens his mouth and spurts spider monkey webs. He can fly with his wings like Jetray. He has chromosome eyes that shoot pink lights.

He has lots of powers and uses them to get rid of monsters. He fights monsters in the night with his great powers. He fights the monsters to stop them making trouble and makes the world safe.

Told by Levi Morris

Witheridge C of E Primary School

We are well into the last term of the school year and wondering at how quickly the year seems to have gone by. This academic year, 2010/11, has been a particularly good one for Witheridge C.ofE. Primary School with a great Ofsted and Church of England inspections in the autumn, the Children’s Centre opening on our site in the spring, and (fingers crossed at time of writing) very good SATs results in the summer. In the autumn term we look forward to having over 100 children in the school with our new intake of 4 and 5 year olds.

This success is important to the long-term future of the school and indirectly, to the Village. While other village schools are either closing or becoming satellites of large primary schools, or even secondary schools, Witheridge still has a thriving village school.

We know that many of you appreciate this and we thank you for your continuing support: particularly parents for sending their children here, but also those of you who help by coming into school, attending our events, supporting the Friends of Witheridge, or even by spreading good words about our school around the community.

We firmly believe that the village school is as fundamental to the health of a village community as the church, shop, pub, or village hall.

Thanks again and have a great summer. Steve Duncan
Kathie Gregory  
CAPBT Behaviourist & Trainer

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From the Firs:

**Summer Holidays**

**Nancy** We had a lovely holiday in Jersey a good 20 years ago. A whole crowd of us went from Washfield. My husband bought my 2nd wedding ring there because the first was wearing a bit thin. It was a very relaxing holiday and beautiful with all the flowers.

**Doris** My best holiday was when we came down to Devon looking for property. We came to Witheridge and looked round – what a lovely village. We spoke to one or two people and they were all so friendly. We were down here for a week but we decided that day we wanted to come here. That was the best, finding Witheridge.

**Pamela** We had some of our best holidays in Italy with the caravan. We got to know the people there quite well and picked up enough of the language to get by if we needed anything. It was fun and different - the atmosphere really. We went in the Spring before it was too hot but we could do different things because the weather was good.

**Barbara** We had a lovely holiday in Parr down in Cornwall a few years ago. I used to love swimming there although it had quite a shingly beach. Going right back to when I was at school, I would spend 4-5 weeks of the summer at Budleigh Salterton with my Aunt. Her house was in a cul-de-sac with a lovely forest area at the back. A steep hill led to the beach. I spent hours on that beach watching the rollers come in.

**East Worlington Parent & Toddler Group**

Calling all Toddlers! Bring your Mum or Dad to join in the fun and a friendly cuppa on Tuesday afternoons.

The Easter Egg Hunt was great fun judging by the chocolate smiles all round and the Toddler Leaver’s Tea Party was a nice send off for those children going on to Preschool.

We have a ‘Mum’s Night Out’ at least every 2 months to relax and chat and our first 'Dad's Night Out' was a huge success as was the Mum’s Chinese meal a few weeks earlier. We look forward to many more.

To know more about our group call: Donna Webber on 01884 860346.

❖ Tues 2:00 - 3.30pm East Worlington Primary School, £1/family
Travelogue: Three in a narrow boat

A good few years ago, after some persuasion, Aunt Jenny and Cousin Ronnie agreed to try a week on a narrowboat. Ronnie is a bit disabled but as she would only need her good arm to wind the .. why not?

We hired our 4 berth ‘Oyster Catcher ‘ from Fox’s in March, East Anglia. It was very clean, comfortable and with everything we needed.

We planned to do the River Cam to Cambridge at a slowish pace, 2 days in Cambridge, and back to March- all of 10 miles, so no rush.

With Aunt ensconced in the bedroom out of the way, Ronnie and I took the 2 singles in the day cabin. I could be up at my usual 5am, coffee in hand ready to watch the wildlife. Just right!

So after a bit of instruction, we were off down the river- Aunt watching the world go by, cousin reading a book and me ‘driving’. That evening we pulled into Mill Race and got permission to stay overnight.

Next morning was something special. At 5am, coffee in hand, I was sitting outside when a kingfisher flashed by.... then another and another until there were 6 of them fishing at various places across the pool. Magical is the only way to describe it. Ronnie and I sat there with cold cups of coffee, mesmerised by a sight I’ve not seen before or since.

Aunt doesn’t arise much before 9am, so we tidied up then started the engines. A head appeared through the skylight …we were ‘going without her’. Yes we were going, but clearly not without her.

We pootled along with the current, only stopping to look at a heronry of 10 or 12 herons in a field and up in the trees.

Would Aunt like to ‘drive’? She did and was surprised that she enjoyed it.

‘Coffees all round’- just as a family of swans (2 adults, 4 youngsters) appeared, clearly used to boat
people and very used to being fed. I don't like feeding wild animals but as they formed a semicircle in front of the boat, we clearly weren't getting rid of them, but after chucking bread down the side and out the back, we made a quick getaway.

We stopped at a very nice village pub but it was Jenny’s turn to cook, which she was determined to do, (sausages and pasta), after which we were off to the pub to wash it down. Of course they were doing a barbecue, and the smell of burgers was just too much... we ate again!

Next morning we moored in Cambridge for 2 days which were taken up visiting museums and churches as I am really interested in why churches are where they are and who built them.

Rather than return the same way, I bunged a left and we found ourselves on a bit of river like a secret garden. The trees were closing in and no sound other than birds and the gentle chug of the narrow boat. As the river narrowed it was clear we would have to turn round....

A good hour later, and after a few more than 3 turns – forward, back, chug, forward, back, chug, we finally headed back to the main river. ‘Coffees all round.’

We moored up at a windmill, and had a look round but no signs of life so we continued to the next set of locks.

Ronnie had taken winding locks as her job. This time she turned and turned - nothing was happening.... over to try the other side, again nothing. So people had gone through without closing the lock gates and all the levels were wrong.

We closed them and went to the pub! The landlord’s response was 'b...... tourists.' We were tourists but we let that one go.

We stopped at various riverside inns and pubs on the way back, talked Jenny out of cooking and ate at a pub every night- lovely. Soon we were back in March and away home.

By far the best thing about this holiday was the quiet, the peace and the wildlife. I would recommend a narrowboat to anybody – in fact I’m thinking about going again next year.

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Meadow View Farm Templeton Tiverton
Monday Club

Hello folks! I do hope our spell of sunshine has rejuvenated you all for our future outings. The trip to Sanders Garden World and Street was enjoyed by most. We have also enjoyed some talks especially Jan Thom – a laugh a minute. There are more interesting subjects to come.

Trips to look forward to are Newton Abbott/Torquay, Lynton/Lynmouth, the Mystery trip, Lyme Regis and Paignton Zoo/Paignton. Save some pennies for Cardiff shopping.

Non-members are welcome to come on our trips, subject to availability. Keep well. We are going to be real gadabouts.

June Don

Witheridge Rest-a-While

This is the last report from the Rest-a-While I shall write as Chairman. By the time you read this, the AGM will have taken place and there will be a new Chairman.

I would like to pay tribute to the whole group – the committee, the Trustees, the helpers and the users of the Rest-a-While. It has been a great pleasure to work with you all. As in life, people come and go and of course they are greatly missed, but we have been so fortunate that as a vacancy arrives, someone has always stepped up to fill it.

If I could wish for just one thing for the Rest-a-While, I would like even more people to use it. Why not give it a try? Have a tea or coffee- you will be made very welcome.

I feel I am leaving the Rest-a-While in good condition, both the building and the finances. Many thanks to all that have helped to achieve this. I am sure with the group of people we have, this will continue for many years. I shall still be calling in often to see you all.

Peter Tout

Witheridge Art Group (WAG)

WAG is still going strong. We are a non instruction group who learn from each other and enjoy our hobby.

£5 membership per year and just £1 per week.

Wed 7.30pm to 9.15pm P. Hall Committee Rooms.

Eileen Curtis
Chittlehamholt Nursery (formerly M & M Plants)

We are a family run Nursery which is carrying on the specialisation in Herbaceous Perennials but which also stock/supply grasses, ferns, shrubs, roses, trees, hedging, seasonal bedding, Xmas trees and wreaths & bulbs.  
We also make up seasonal hanging baskets, pots and tubs  
Wherever possible plants are British grown and/or raised from seeds or are our own cuttings.  
Monday & Thursday closed. Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday 10am to 4pm (later in the spring & summer) Saturday 3pm till late  
We can also be visited at South Molton Pannier Market on most Thursdays & Saturdays ‘til 1pm.

Jean & Martin can be reached on:  
Nursery – 07766323769, House – 01837 682990  
Email: chittlehamholt.nursery@hotmail.com

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A Day in the Life of Burridge Litho Printers

It’s 5:45 and it seems the phone has been ringing for some time. The early shift has just started and Kev (one of 2 highly skilled print operators), phones to say the trunker failed to make Exeter.

Trunkers are huge articulated lorries that carry goods to holding depots all across Britain and our 4 tonnes of paper (ordered the previous day), are now sitting in a warehouse in Solihull.

We need 2 pallets this morning. They are destined to become a million and a half glossy, full colour magazine inserts and will need to be printed, trimmed, boxed and shipped out by the end of the day – no problem normally, but without paper....

I call our merchant in Exeter who will send us ONE pallet of paper (destined for Plymouth but we can have it).

Next I call Pete Townsend-Green. He is in charge of the computer systems and doesn’t often do simple things like checking paper. He finds one pallet earmarked for another job. Result.

As I arrive, the lorry with the paper is just leaving and one press is in production, but we are 3 hours behind. I will have to sweet talk Paul known as ‘Doris’ and Pete W (‘Driver’). Both will need to work late- Doris to trim and box the inserts and Driver to take them to Swindon as we will miss the overnight pallet delivery service. ‘No problem’ they say! Coffee!

The day passes quickly- phone calls, elevenses, phone calls, lunch, emails, mid afternoon snack...

At 4.30pm a new client calls accepting my quote. Its for a national ‘hobby’ magazine with a run of 20,000 every 3 months and the artwork is on its way. It really lifts my day – a few more like that....

At 4.50pm, I sit back and reflect on the day. Kev, Sam and Pete have gone home; Doris has finished trimming and boxing; Driver is well on his way to Swindon and I’ve phoned the owner John Sparrow to tell him the day’s excitement. Sigh. I shut the computer down, set the alarm system and lock up. What a day! Russell Jupp
South Coombe Country Cottages

*Set in a beautiful location with an indoor swimming pool*

South Coombe is the perfect location for a quiet getaway. Its tranquil rural setting and country charm make it an idyllic place to stay. With its indoor swimming pool complex (comprising sauna, gym and games room as well as a 10m x 5m pool), guests can relax and take some healthy exercise inside or out.

South Coombe offers high quality cottages that sleep from two to six people with one cottage having wheelchair access. The cottages are less than a mile away from the pubs and shops in Witheridge village.

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**Witheridge**
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Web site: www.southcoombe.co.uk
Journey to the Centre of the Earth

It took 10 minutes and I didn’t know it was happening....... seven years in Templeton Bottom took their toll and I felt an itch to move. There were steep hills whichever way you went. One way you could easily run into the path of a milk tanker amidst the morass of mud and I’d been in the ditch several times. The dream cottage had become a nightmare, but now I’ve bought a stable mews in Witheridge on the edge of the pub car park and apart from being on the level, I think I’m at the centre of the Earth and here’s why......

The Mitre Inn sells a fair cup of tea with/without scones, jam and cream and a warm welcome awaits you. A racing fanatic like me needs the runners and riders early in the day, so in my check pajama bottoms its half a furlong to Brian for the Racing Post then yards to church ( to pray for the winners).

‘Elevenes’ calls for a Belgian bun from the Premier store at the heart of which is a post office with real people who will tax your car or post your post. No need for a computer which could really foul things up.

Every morning, me with my Racing Post and porridge oats, a proud cockerel weathervane on my neighbour’s roof settles into the prevailing wind showing me where to go on non-racing days when I explore the rest of the world.

So ..... with compass points:-

North to Dulverton - gateway to Exmoor, charming small shops and a Co-op.

West to South Molton - a Quasi-Victorian atmosphere and a Sainsbury’s.

South to Crediton - imposing small Cathedral and a choice for big list shopping of Morrisons or Tesco (there is a footpath).

East to Tiverton - the ‘Capital’, which has outlets for all purposes, and a 3 hour car park at Tesco and Morrison’s (2 hours).

Each just 10 miles away, so wherever the wind blows, I come back to the wonderful village of Witheridge, where everyone says “Hello”, there are no strangers, you feel safe. It’s a cosy feel you could snuggle up to.... truly the Centre of the Earth.

Michael Rose
**Witheridge and District Ploughing Association**
- Annual Ploughing Match
- Tuesday 27th September

**Walk and Talk**
Come rain or shine our friendly group continue to explore the Witheridge countryside and beyond. As leader for 5 years I am pleased that Annis Stone and her sister Norah McTeague have bravely taken over the leadership. Since we started, a lot of ground has certainly been covered and long lasting friendships have been made.
For a lover of the natural world, there is nothing better than the early morning walk in nature. If you would like to come along you would be very welcome. Albert would also like some male company for a change. Dogs are allowed.
Contact: Norah Jill Yendell
- Most Wednesdays 10am - 12 noon. Start from Parish Hall.

**Friends of Witheridge School**
A huge THANK YOU to everyone involved in our Auction of Pledges which raised an amazing £3,497 and to Kit James for his sterling work as Auctioneer. Also, a huge thank you goes to parent Nick Hawkins, who ran in the London Marathon raising almost £2,000 for the Friends. The outdoor classroom is being ordered and, with a kind donation from the Parish Council of £200, plants and shrubs will finish off the Wildlife area.
Look for us at St John’s Fayre and in July, when we collaborate with the Knights of Witheridge for the Fun Day. This was a big success last time and we hope to see even more teams taking part this year.
Please raise money for the school by doing your online shopping through easyfundraising.org.uk.

**Sat June 25th Tantalising Tombola Stall** St John’s Fayre
**Sun July 17th FUN Day** Friends & Knights of Witheridge P. Hall

Maria Greenwood

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46
News from Westridge vets

Spring and early Summer are busy times at the West Ridge Veterinary Practice. The sheep have lambed and many of the lambs and beef calves are out grazing the lush grass but hazards await them.

Parasites such as gut worms, lungworms, liver fluke, and ticks have overwintered in the ground and will now use the pastures to pass from animal to animal. Young cattle and lambs are particularly susceptible. Rotation of grazing and strategic worm treatment can control them but they are becoming resistant to many of our current medicines.

Ticks that attach to cattle and sheep will also feed on dogs, cats and humans. These tiny creatures cling to leaves and stems of plants where cattle or sheep have grazed, awaiting a passing animal. Then they latch their jaws into the skin and feed on the blood of their new host. Once they are well fed, they fall off and lay their eggs to produce the next generation. Ticks secrete a local anaesthetic while they feed to avoid any irritation but they carry some nasty diseases. If you see them on your animals, remove them carefully as bits left in the skin can lead to problems. Protection with medication is reasonably effective and the treatment can be combined with flea and worm treatment. Dick Sibley

East Worlington Pre-school

We are delighted to welcome four new children this term; Abraham, Esme, and twins Jamie and Jessica. Thank you to all who supported our Easter Bingo—we raised a brilliant total of £435.

In March we joined the school for a trip to Exmoor Zoo and celebrated the end of term with an Easter egg hunt in the school garden. The theme this term is “light and dark” so the role play area is a camp site and the play house will be a bear’s cave.

Sat. 2nd July Duck Race & Dog Show 12:00 Dog agility BBQ
See www.worlingtonptfa.org for details. Donna Webber
What would you like to do in the Parish Hall

THIS COULD BE:

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A WEDDING

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A MEETING

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Chris Kershaw on 01884 860208

(weekdays between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm please)
Jewelled Couscous

**Ingredients**
- 12oz couscous
- 1 pint vegetable /chicken stock
- 1 each red green yellow pepper seeded
- Spring onions
- Cucumber
- Sweet corn
- Cooked peas
- Fresh herbs eg mint, chives, parsley

**Method**
Bring the stock to the boil
pour onto the couscous,
stir, cover and let it stand
Chop all the above into small pieces and add to the couscous. Stir well. **Val**

Rice Salad

**Ingredients**
- 1½ cups ( mug) long grain/brown rice.
- 2 red apples unpeeled chopped
- 2-3 spring onions chopped
- Any crunchy stuff chopped
  - cucumber, celery, red, green, yellow pepper

**Dressing**
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 4 tablespoons oil
- 1 tsp curry powder

**Method:**
Cook the rice and leave to cool.
Shake the dressing to mix in a jam jar. Mix the rice, crunchy stuff and dressing.
Leave 30mins. **Carole**

Apple & Pineapple Coleslaw

**Ingredients**
- Small head of cabbage shredded
- 2 peeled eating apples diced
- 9oz fresh or canned pineapple chopped
- 1 stalk celery sliced
- 1/4pint mayonnaise/salad cream
- Lettuce bed + apple garnish

**Method**
Toss all ingredients except lettuce in the mayonnaise. Serve on a bed of lettuce with sliced apple dipped in lemon juice. **Kaye**
**Witheridge Pre-School**

We offer places for 2 1/2 - 5 year old children in a small 16 place friendly pre-school, 9-3.30, 5 days a week. Our highly qualified staff ensure children are receiving the best care whilst both having fun and meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

For more information or to arrange a visit please contact Paula Hallett, pre school manager, Tel: 01884 861784, wpssupervisor@hotmail.co.uk or look at our website www.witheridgepreschool.btck.co.uk

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Incomer’s Guide: where to go in Summer

Valley of the Rocks, Lynton, Lynmouth and Watersmeet

We have taken almost every visitor to Valley of the Rocks - the grandkids literally disappeared up the rocks, friends who love walking lapped it up and friends who couldn’t walk very far enjoyed the view.

Directions:
• S Molton to A39 to Lynton.
• LEFT at T junction, car park 400m
• Toilets on left just before car park
• Cafe – by car park

Headland path to Lynton - 20min walk along paved path close to cliff edge. 2nd half is flat. Wild goats in the bracken- dogs best on lead!
OR take the path behind the cricket ground - cuts out the up and down bit.

Lynton- shops, cafes.

Lynton to Lynmouth – bear left in Lynton. Signs to water cable car/ steps down or there is a path off the headland path down to Lynmouth through the rhododendrons.


Watersmeet: A39 Lynmouth. Look for NT car park on left, walk down through woods to Watersmeet cafe (National Trust). Lovely walks up and down river. OR from Lynmouth walk up river (2 miles) Nice cafe.
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Food for Thought

A recent article claimed that about a 1/3 adults and ½ of children suffer from allergies and that allergies were unknown a hundred years ago. One explanation is that people in developed countries have become too hygiene conscious and we need to prime our immune systems with dirt and bugs instead of keeping everything so sterile.

I am fit and well at the age of 85, but we had no fridge until I was 16 and there were no use-by dates until I was 50. We used stuff as long as it didn't smell or appear bad. I ignore use-by dates except to find the freshest on the shelf. Take milk: "Use within three days of opening." I buy it once a week and use every drop, sometimes well past its use-by date. Fresh foods like meat and poultry have very short use-by dates but I find them perfectly good a week after the date expires. Food producers are scared of being sued so they put these dates on food and drinks to protect themselves. It's claimed that we will be unable to produce enough food for the 8 billion population expected by 2020 (9 billion by 2050) and we’re told that a third of food produced in developed countries gets thrown away. Food for thought!

John Corfield

BEWARE unmarked car blue flashing light

-verified by Dorset police.

This actually happened .......

Lauren was driving to visit her friend just after lunch on a Saturday. An UNMARKED police car pulled in behind her and put its lights on. She knew never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road.

She phoned 112 from her mobile to tell the police dispatcher that she wouldn’t pull over for the unmarked car with a flashing blue light behind her, but would go to the next service station. The dispatcher checked - NO police car in her area! He told her to keep driving and keep calm- back-up was on the way. 10minutes later, 4 police cars surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her. They pulled the guy from the car - a convicted rapist and wanted for other crimes.

BE AWARE!

112

• mobile emergency no.
• connects to police
• works if no signal
• pinpoints your location
• Unmarked car flashing light
• DRIVE to a 'safe' place.
• SIGNAL you see them
• HAZARD lights on
• CALL 112
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Witheridge Parish Council May 2011 News

A New Council for Witheridge

Following the May election we have a newly elected council following a 52% turnout at the poll. 14 candidates contested 10 seats. The new council is detailed overleaf. We would like to thank all those who stood for election for their willingness to serve the Witheridge community.

Public Toilet

The Parish Council operated the public toilet following its transfer from the District Council. The District agreed to pay a grant for maintenance for 5 years. This period is now at an end and the grant will be replaced by competition for funding. From April 2010-April 2011, the public toilet received 1650 visits costing £3121 to operate - a subsidy of £1.69 for each visit paid for by the Witheridge Council Tax payers - YOU.

We would like your views. Do we keep it open or close it? Please let us know in writing if you are prepared to continue to pay this subsidy. We will take a low response rate as meaning little or no support for providing a public toilet, so please write or email ASAP if you want to save your public toilet!

Council Surgery

We have manned a surgery on Wednesday mornings at the Parish Hall Committee Room for several years. Due to to low take up, the Council have decided to discontinue this service. To contact or meet with a councillor or the clerk please ring or email.

Best Kept Village

Judging is underway with several visits from the judges over the coming months. Please do your bit to keep the village clean and tidy.

Public Rights of Way - Footpaths

We are still looking for volunteers to keep an eye on our rights of way. Contact the Clerk.

Did You Know...

Your parish council spent just under £42,000 in the year to April 2011. You may want to know where the money comes from and what we spent it on? The council is subject to an audit regime laid down in the Accounts & Audit (England) Regulations 2011. These require that we appoint an independent Internal Auditor in conjunction with the Audit Commission. They check that we have not stepped outside our legal powers. You as tax payers have rights to inspect the accounts and see the bills if you wish.

Please contact the clerk for more information.
West Middlewick Farm Log Cabins

West Middlewick Farm is a family run dairy farm and campsite beautifully located between Exmoor and Dartmoor. We have recently completed a new development and welcome you to come and relax and enjoy one of our two recently built log cabins for a relaxing holiday or break. The cabins can accommodate up to six people. Perfect for a family holiday or equally for friends. Each log cabin has an impressive double bedroom with en-suite facilities and two twin rooms with an additional family bathroom, fully fitted kitchen and lounge diner. The cabins have an extra large covered veranda for you to make the most of the fantastic views.

If you would like to come and stay on the farm, on our campsite, B&B, or in one of our two self catering log cabins you can e-mail us at: stay@westmiddlewick.co.uk, telephone us on 01884 861235, or visit our website at: www.westmiddlewick.co.uk
Witheridge Parish Council Contacts 2011

The Parish Council meet at the Parish Hall Committee Room, North Street, Witheridge. Un-scheduled meetings will be advertised separately to this notice. Representations can be made in writing to the Parish Council or in person verbally during the public session at the start of a meeting. Agendas (including planning applications to be considered) are published at least three days in advance on the Parish Council web site, with minutes of all meetings. www.witheridgepc.org Planning applications received after agenda publication will be dealt with at the meeting owing to a 21 day limit on the Parish Council responding to the consultation from the Planning Authority. The Parish Council is only a consultee, and does not determine applications. Paper copies are available on request.

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<tr>
<th>Your Councillors</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Goodwin (Chair)</td>
<td>Dart View</td>
<td>860711</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald Manning (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>Dart Raffe Farm</td>
<td>860577</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackie Bradford</td>
<td>Newland Lodge</td>
<td>860629</td>
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<td>Laurence Devonshire</td>
<td>Via Clerk</td>
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<td>Fred Hanbury</td>
<td>Via Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Kershaw</td>
<td>Trafalgar House</td>
<td>860208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vic Loose</td>
<td>23 Appletree Close</td>
<td>860871</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Martin</td>
<td>Grist Mill</td>
<td>861011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Stanbury</td>
<td>4 North Street</td>
<td>861375</td>
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<td>David Taylor</td>
<td>Via Clerk</td>
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<td>County &amp; District Councillor</td>
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<td>Jeremy Yabsley</td>
<td>15A West Street</td>
<td>860605</td>
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<td>Public Rights of Way Liaison</td>
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FPC Finance and personnel CTG Community task group
JF St John’s Fayre HA Historical Archive
PH Parish Hall Committee CP District Crime Prevention Panel

**Clerk:** Peter Dunn  3 Drakes Meadow, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton, EX17 4HU Tel: 01363 770099  Email: parishclerk@witheridgepc.org
Web: www.witheridgepc.org

**Scheduled Parish Council Meetings 2011:**
Jun 2nd  Jul 7th  Aug  Recess  Sept 1st  Oct 6th  Nov 3rd  Dec 1st
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The Knights of Witheridge

The Knights Of Witheridge are pleased to announce that in April we were able to contribute funding to 6 organisations within our Parish and 2 individuals. This is only possible if we have your support at our events.

Activities: contact as below or Fred Hanbury 860578

18th June Longest day bike ride: sponsored motor bike ride Lands End – Witheridge in aid of The Devon Air Ambulance finishing with a live band in the Parish Hall and small BBQ. 861714

17th July Fun Games Day with Friends of With. School. 861335

23rd July Mid Devon Show We will have a games tent. See us there.

28th August Tractor Push:– Nomansland to Witheridge. 6 teams running but would like 3 more. Cash prizes. 860629

ANSWERS SPRING 2011 CROSSWORD

S E M I N A R
O E E J A C K A L A
B D O E H F G
B E D A N D B R E A K F A S T
E L O R I O A
D O E W A Y S M D I
D H L C I D O L
J E S T E R E M A I L
A A A E L C E
C C V I L L A G E H A L L
K H E A A L K
B R A N E T W O R K I N G
O I A I Y L E I
O D E F R O S T E G
T I A R A S A B O R T
## Things I might go to if I could remember when they are on: June to September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Place &amp; Time</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun May 29</td>
<td>People for Ponies Open Day</td>
<td></td>
<td>860252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun May 29</td>
<td>Car Boot Sale</td>
<td>Parish Hall 10:00 - 2pm</td>
<td>860685</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun May 29</td>
<td>Jun 26 Car Boot Sale</td>
<td>Parish Hall 10:00 - 2pm</td>
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<td>Jun 26 Car Boot Sale</td>
<td>Parish Hall 10:00 - 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat June 18</td>
<td>Longest Day Bike ride + BBQ Knights of Witheridge</td>
<td>861714</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat June 18</td>
<td>Fun and Games Day</td>
<td>Witheridge School</td>
<td>861335</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun June 19</td>
<td>Clay Pigeon Shoot</td>
<td>Dart Raffe Lake 12:00 - 5pm</td>
<td>860 557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed June 22</td>
<td>Bingo</td>
<td>Thelbridge Parish Hall 8pm</td>
<td>86027</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th-Sat June 23-25</td>
<td>Funfair</td>
<td>Bell Close Field Witheridge</td>
<td>860557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat June 25</td>
<td>St John’s Fayre</td>
<td>Witheridge</td>
<td>860557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat June 25</td>
<td>Garden Open Cancer Res. Highcross House</td>
<td>10am 860898</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed June 29</td>
<td>Sports Day</td>
<td>Witheridge School</td>
<td>860518</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat July 2nd</td>
<td>Duck Race&amp;Dog Show</td>
<td>East Worlington 12:00 - 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat July 9</td>
<td>Family Bingo With. School Hall For Preschool</td>
<td>6:30pm 860557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun July 17</td>
<td>FUN Day Friends of Witheridge School</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat July 23</td>
<td>Mid Devon Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Aug 28</td>
<td>Tractor Push Knights of With. Nomansland to Witheridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Jul 20</td>
<td>Bingo For the Football Club Thelbridge Parish Hall 8pm</td>
<td>860351</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues Sept 27</td>
<td>Witheridge &amp; District Ploughing Assoc. Annual Match</td>
<td>860227</td>
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### Kid’s Quiz answers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KID’S CORNER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) pumpkin</td>
<td>2) cocoa beans</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) Adolf Hitler</td>
<td>4) Barack Obama</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) blood</td>
<td>6) leg</td>
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<tr>
<td>7) Mercury</td>
<td>7) Tinkerbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>9) Everest</td>
<td>10) black</td>
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<td>11) personal computer</td>
<td>12) ostrich</td>
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<tr>
<td>13) 49</td>
<td>14) insects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15) sun</td>
<td>16) Phineas Fogg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17) Hobbit</td>
<td>18) pouch</td>
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<tr>
<td>19) Huskies</td>
<td>20) Equator</td>
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<th>6</th>
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### Jokes

1) wonkey

2) sundae school

3) penguin rolling down the hill

4) the penguin that pushed him.
GARDENING CLUB
CROSSWORD

ACROSS:
5 Mound high.
6 Tall flower foliage at the bottom
13 Grows well from cuttings.
14 Spring flower beloved of a poet.
15 Growing in the wrong place.
16 Turn soil over.
17 Eats everything.
18 From Amsterdam
19 Separate runners from plant.

DOWN:
1 Peg down to see its face.
2 Removes weeds.
3 Watch your fingers.
4 Fills the greenhouse.
7 Easier to eat than a peach.
8 Plant by waxing/waning.
9 Natural slug defence
10 Grow for the Show.
11 Force it, eat it, mutter it.
12 A right sucker.
15 Study flight, find the nest.
Food Served 7 days a week

- English breakfasts
- Morning coffee
- Lunches
- Bar snacks
- Real Ales
- Afternoon teas
- Cream Teas
- Evening meals
- Sunday lunches
- Functions
- Wedding receptions
- Birthday parties
- Buffets
- Discos

A warm welcome awaits you
Tel: (01884 860316)
www.thelbridgexinn.co.uk
Witheridge Farm Shop
@ West Yeo Moor Farm
www.WitheridgeFarmShop.co.uk

Open Wednesday to Saturday
9 am to 5.30pm

2 miles from Witheridge heading towards South Molton, take the right hand turn towards Rose Ash we are 200yards up the road on the left

New Summer opening hours
Afternoons just became more fun!!!

The Delicatessen in the Middle of Nowhere

Champion product 2010