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Editorial: We would like to wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and New Year.

PHOTO COMPETITION

Have YOUR photo on the FRONT COVER

‘Scenes In and Around the Parish of Witheridge’

Send photos: from NOW until end of April 2012
4 categories: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter
We need: your name, category, description, contact email/phone.
By: email attachment or printed photo
Judging: May 2012
Prize: YOUR PHOTO on the front page

Thank you to our volunteers who deliver to the village, to those who sent the Voice website link to family and friends and to all who contributed to this issue, especially the features. It isn’t easy to write a feature or to talk while I write. There are 2 NEWS pages in this issue because you are sending so much in. THANKYOU.

Ongoing Plea- new babies, newcomers, In memory
Please send in. Don’t assume I know!

Witheridge Voice Online: 1000+ page views since Sept.
https://sites.google.com/site/witheridgevoice/

Thank you to all who have contributed to the website.
Adverts: We are very grateful for the support of all those who placed adverts. We rotate adverts by 10 pages per issue and sell space from March onwards for 4 issues. Please send new adverts in and we will put them in as soon as we have space.

Carole Campbell

NEXT Issue Deadline:
Wed Feb 15th

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Cover photo: Lin Buckingham
Evacuated
To Devon

In 1944 we lived in London near Woolwich Arsenal where guns, bombs and ammunition made a prime target for German bombers. I was 5 years old, My sister Gillian 3 and Roger was 1. Every night we slept in the Morrison shelter, a big iron indoor cage, in the dining room. Roger was in his cot upstairs and as soon as the siren went (which it did every night), Mum would grab the baby and climb into the shelter with us. It had a double mattress with pillows and blankets. My father was 6'2” and Mum had a stiff leg, so it was crowded.

One night there were huge bangs, crashes and a tinkling of glass. Mother said ‘Oh dear, that’s our poor old house gone West’- they trained themselves not to show fear in front of us. The bomb had fallen 2 doors down and killed everyone inside and we were lucky to be alive.

We weren’t allowed up until my father had swept up all the broken glass, then we ran around very excited by all the changes. Everything was smashed and the floor was covered in rubble and broken china. The front door was blown off its hinges and ended up against the kitchen door.

We were taken to safety in a Rest Centre which was mostly church halls turned into dormitories. I remember a little girl walking up and down, up and down, crying with a doll in her arms. I later learned she was the only survivor from her family.

We stayed there for a few weeks until Aunty Ida (a nurse running a hostel for evacuees from East
London down in Bideford), found us a farm cottage in Devon. We travelled with my mother by train to Bideford and then car to the cottage. I remember arriving at a tiny cottage. It had cob walls, a thatched roof, very few windows, no running water, no gas and no electricity. There were 2 bedrooms and 2 rooms downstairs but one was full of the farmer’s potatoes. We lived in the other room with a range and an oven - no sink, no tap – a shock after our 1930’s semi in London. The water was heated on the range but first Mum had to carry water inside. The well and outside toilet were a good walk away past the next cottage and across the allotment. At night we all had potties under the bed.

Once we were settled in, life was idyllic for us children. We were safe and well fed as we had a lot of farm food especially eggs even though they were on ration. Mother saved eggs to send to my father. He was a probation officer in London (and now homeless) so he moved into his office for the rest of the war. He sent his dirty washing to mother by post once a week in a brown paper parcel! She washed it by hand, then parcelled it up and sent it back with ½ dozen eggs -they always arrived unbroken.

Our favourite game was to go into the next field where there was a sheep shelter and jump off the roof or play houses inside despite it and us smelling very strongly of sheep. The farm had a teenage son but he was an adult to us. There weren’t any other children to play with.

I had just started school in London but it was a mile down the lane to the bus stop, then a bus journey each way, and Mum couldn’t do it with 2 other children, so she taught me at home.

We stayed there for 14 months until the war ended in 1945.

Many years later we were exploring country lanes near Bideford when I saw the sign to Tennacott Farm. I just had to look for the cottage which was covered in brambles, but I managed to find the well.

Then in 2008 my brother came over from Canada and we took him there. The cottage was completely gone but we walked to the top of the hill and recognition dawned on him. This was part of our childhood and not forgotten. Jane Moakes
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Bar On Sunday 12.00 noon to 10.30 pm
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if the weather is fine, in our large sunny garden. Alternatively you can have
a cosy meal for two, a dinner party with friends, or a family celebration in
the Forge Restaurant.

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.
The feasibility survey results show that ‘there is life in the old dog yet’, so our dear Parish Hall lives to fight another day! However, to safeguard the future of the Hall the committee have opened a ‘rebuild’ account into which donations and other funds are paid. The proceeds from the Boot Sale go into this account, so please support this event 10am-12pm on the last Sunday of every month.

The Hall is well used during the week, but under-used at weekends. To make more of the Hall’s potential, we hope to replace two large windows overlooking the beautiful view at the back with equally large bi-fold doors leading onto a veranda, with steps down to the field. We feel that this will make the Hall a stunning venue for weddings, parties and regular users, particularly during the Summer.

Several fund raising events are planned, which we hope everyone will support. First will be an auction of promises in the Spring, promises to me please clarespicer@talktalk.net.

We have a lovely Hall in an enviable position. We must all make the most of it. So come on Witheridge, this is what we wanted. Let's make it happen!

Clare Spicer

We welcome a new Police Community Support Officer to the rural sector of our local policing team. PCSO Rick Napier will be joining us in early January. Rick has been with the force for many years and will be a valuable acquisition.

We are still suffering burglaries of quad bikes and from outbuildings in rural areas. We need your help with information and making sure property and buildings are kept secure. There is a new non-emergency number to contact the police. **Dial 101** to connect to our force control room.

15p from landlines and mobiles regardless of duration.

PC 6798 Adrian Micallef, PCSO 30418 Jerzy Rozputynski (Yorkie)
e-mail: southmolton@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

NON EMERGENCY NUMBER 101     EMERGENCIES 999.

Parish Hall Report

The Late Notice **Safari Supper & Auction*** Sat 3rd Dec.

In aid of Devon Air Ambulance 4 course meal £20 3 start times.

Auction & bar start Black Dog/Puddington finish With.ParishHall

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Fax: 01363 83455

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Fax: 01884 242116

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Welcome to the village

New babies: Jese Turagabeci Polyanna Hunt
New to the school: Ben Pfefferle Alex and Sophie
We welcome: Judith Slater Terry and Pam Attwood
Hilda & Eric Leaman Suzanne & David Greening
Joe & Mary Ribaudo

The Rest-a-While

We have had a lot of visitors during the last months and it is interesting to see where they come from as they all sign the visitor’s book.

We are still getting new folk to the village coming in, but there is room for many more. Why not come and see for yourselves?

Soon the Christmas draw will commence with many good prizes. The book is open from mid November to just before Christmas. This is not just for the older folk of the village, mums and little ones are just as welcome. Whatever your age come and enjoy some company and chat. See you soon.

Bring & Buy Sale and Raffle: 4th Friday each month 10 am-12noon
Open: Mon - Sat 10am-12noon including Christmas Eve and Boxing Day

Oakmoor Children’s Centre: ‘Tums to One’

Are you a new parent or a parent to be?

- FREE parent led drop in group. Meet friends, share ideas and advice.
- Play activities - water play, exploring paint and sensory equipment.
- Breast-feeding support.
- Staff on hand to give help and information.
- Music sessions and visiting experts from time to time

This is a friendly group where babies can get messy and interact with other children. Come along and see for yourself. Contact Lucy on 01769 579615

- Fridays 1.30pm to 3.30pm Oakmoor Children Centre

Forest School Eggesford Forest 2nd Sat in month 10-12

- FREE group for age 2-5 (siblings up to age 8 welcome)
- Craft - printing, forest crowns, puppets. Warm clothing and footwear.
- Explore the woods and its inhabitants.

Contact Oakmoor Children’s Centre on 01884 860247 or Lucy 01769 579615
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We wish to thank the villagers for their generous support for our House to House collection during September in which £859.26p was raised. Thank you to all our volunteers for your time & effort. It is incredible how so much money is raised in a community like Witheridge.

Thank you to Moore & Moore who ran a Pirate Fancy Dress event and to Sophie Evans for her day of silence. They raised £130.30 Thanks also to the Knights of Witheridge who passed on £50 following the "Tractor Push" in August. (photo)

Season’s Greetings to everyone and a prosperous 2012.  

Angela Pearce

---

**Witheridge Walk and Talk**

We are still going strong, with 5 regular walkers making good use of our bus passes to get us to the starting point.

One walk we all enjoyed was walking along Tiverton Canal on a glorious autumn day. At the end of the walk we enjoyed a cup of coffee at the Tea Pot restaurant. We also had 2 more walkers that day – Jill and Lillian. We are hoping for a better winter.

**Wednesdays Meet at the Parish Hall 10am**

Norah McTeague

---

**Witheridge & District Gardening Club**

Since the Autumn edition of the Voice, the club has enjoyed visits from two new speakers. In September, Deborah Hartings talked about ‘Medieval Gardens’, explaining how gardening has evolved over the years.

Then in October, Dinah Linden-Critchley, a most entertaining and enthusiastic speaker, talked about ‘Building a Border for a Modern Garden’, using traditional plants. Her nursery near Shepton Mallett is worth a visit. (By appointment)

As our AGM is now being held at the November meeting, that report will be in the next issue.

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.  

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1. Who wrote the song ‘Forget You’?
2. Which actor plays Harry Potter?
3. Matt Smith plays Dr. Who but what number is he?
4. How do you say ‘Goodbye’ in German?
5. Which cartoon is the longest running TV program?
6. Which country made the original Statue of Liberty?
7. Which book is the best selling of all time?
8. Which Star Wars episode was made first?
9. Which games console is the best selling of all time?
10. Which games console was ‘Mario Kart: Double Dash!!’ made for?
11. Is a green pepper a vegetable or a fruit?
12. Which mountain is higher: K2 or Mount Everest?
13. Which god is the planet ‘Mars’ named after?
14. Who was the tallest person in the world?
15. Is anything smaller than an atom?
16. Which pharaoh’s tomb was first discovered by Howard Carter?
17. Which is the highest roller coaster in the world?
18. How do you write the number 87 in Roman numerals?
19. Who is ‘Sonic the Hedgehog’s best friend?
20. How do you say ‘Spanish’ in Spanish?

1. I am always hungry, I must always be fed. The finger I lick will soon turn red. What am I?
2. What is it the more you take, the more you leave behind?
3. What has no beginning, middle or end?

Kidz Corner
By Ethan and Hannah Mitchell

Britain’s Top Roller Coasters
Stealth
Thorpe Park
80mph in 1.8 s
62.5m high 5G

PepsiMax
Big One
Blackpool
74 mph drop 65m high

Oblivion
Alton Towers
68pmh , 55mdrop, 4.5 G
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Our new season Roses, Fruit bushes, Fruit & Ornamental Trees and Hedging should arrive in November. We will also be supplying Xmas Wreaths and Norway Spruce Xmas Trees.

Winter opening times: Monday, Thursday & Saturday closed.

Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday 10am to 4pm. We can also be visited at South Molton Pannier Market on most Thursdays & Saturdays till 1pm.

Note: The Nursery will be closed, and we will not be at the Market, between Monday 19th December and Tuesday 7th February 2012.

Jean & Martin can be reached on:
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Email: chittlehamholt.nursery@hotmail.com

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Witheridge News

Tractor Push – Knights of Witheridge

Six teams took part, raising money for their chosen charity- Fergie's Follies for Cancer Research, Bucknell Beauties and The Tractor Boys for Witheridge Preschool.
A lot of people had a lot of fun.
1st Tractor Boys - 25 mins. (photos on Voice website)

Dartmoor Challenge

On the 9th October, Carol and Pat walked the Dartmoor Challenge and raised £670 for Marie Curie Cancer Care. The weather was typical Dartmoor - rain, fog, sun and more rain, but we made it with no aches and pains. Thank you to all who sponsored us. Carol Prynn and Pat Benn (More photos on Voice website)

Moonlight Walk 28th Oct

A 5km walk in aid of Cancer Research, sounded a great idea except there was no moon and we forgot the torches! Maggie Sheppard, Val Dickinson and Amanda and Zoe Williams set off from Dawlish Leisure Centre on a clear, cold evening, walking over sand dunes and bridges, along the sea wall and back to the Leisure Centre. Thank you to all who sponsored us. Total raised: £452

Zumba for the Firefighters

Our hen-themed Zumba evening raised a few eyebrows, some spirits and £100 for The Firefighters’ Charity. Thank you to Witheridge Firefighters for their unbeatable performance and to Charlie, Angus and Henry for their time and talents. Pavanne Hawkes
South Coombe Country Cottages

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Email: stay@southcoombe.co.uk  
Web site: www.southcoombe.co.uk
Last week an elderly lady was cutting down a tree to enable her to place her bins at the kerbside of her property. This was hard work and neighbours lent a hand and removed the trees, but this left her with two bins full of rubbish. The dustbin men came and helped her and emptied the two bins for her. Who says that the bin men are not helpful? Not me!

A few months ago, some young people in the village came asking for help to get valuable experience in theatre production. It was Jack Lea’s idea, as he wanted to get experience in directing before starting a BA in Drama at Lancaster University. Using local history books and Witheridge Historical Archive, he wrote the play and directed us on Monday evenings, until he started university.

We are a group of 5 young people and 4 adults who tell the stories of several historical Witheridge people via a narrator. You might see several of us reappear in different guises. Please come and support Witheridge youngsters. No ticket needed - a donation to the church appreciated.
Witheridge Parish Hall

What would you like to do in the Parish Hall

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Chris Kershaw on 01884 860208

(weekdays between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm please)
Monday Club by June Don

Well, members, we enjoyed our outings in spite of the weather. Our mystery trip was enjoyed, as was our outing to Paignton and Paignton Zoo- a highlight as people love seeing animals in their own habitat.

We had a great day to Salisbury to do a bit of Christmas shopping- a fair way to go but we had good weather to enjoy looking around the shops and nice places to have lunch. The next big event to look forward to is our Christmas lunch, always a great atmosphere at this event.

Keep warm, keep well and a good Christmas to all and a Happy New Year.
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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Kisses on a Postcard:  
by Sam Cole

I go to Willow Tree Drama Club in Tiverton on Friday evenings with Oscar and Greg. At my audition I had to sing and read out some lines. ‘Kisses on a Postcard’ was performed at the Queen’s Theatre in Barnstaple from Fri 23rd Sept to Sun 25th and Fri 30th to Sun 2nd October. It’s about 2 evacuees in World War 2 who go to live in Devon. They have a code. The code is 3 kisses is good, 2 okay and one means no.

I played Jimmy Peters and Alan Backham. They were both mischievous. Alan was a vacky and Jimmy was a villager. I didn’t share my parts with another boy. I had 10 lines which I learned by reading them aloud.

Rehearsals started on Fri 26th August, until the play began. We practised dancing, singing and acting. The first night was scary as I had butterflies, but it was exciting. The scene I enjoyed best was ‘Give me a 5, Clive’. I didn’t enjoy the church scene where I had to sing high, which was hard to do. I would do it again because it’s nice to entertain.

I would like to say thank you to Terrence Frisby for giving me the chance to perform his play. Hopefully I will now get parts in other plays. Thank you Terry.
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The 104th ploughing match took place on 27th September in Park Field, Puddington, by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Gooding and Mrs F Berry. The hedges were covered in spider webs- a sure sign of the hot and sunny days which followed. 40 ploughmen did their very best work in a field which had only been harvested a few days before.

It was quite damp in places following the heavy rain. They came from as far afield as the Isle of Wight, Bridgewater and Launceston, with the largest number of entries from the vintage mounted class and classic pre 1976.

John Greenslade judged the farm produce, Peter Cole the veg and flowers and 3 lady judges had a difficult task judging the domestic and children’s classes. Mrs Freda Berry presented the trophies and prizes.

Sheila Manley

Ploughing trophys: Best

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work of the day</th>
<th>J Jacobs</th>
<th>3 or more furrows</th>
<th>Ian Bickley</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With a reversing plough</td>
<td>Gary Bulled</td>
<td>Ploughman under 25</td>
<td>Sam Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in class 4</td>
<td>Author Heywood</td>
<td>Work class 1-7</td>
<td>M Smale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local ploughman</td>
<td>Raymond Govier</td>
<td>Work Classic tractor</td>
<td>J Jacobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using a Ford tractor</td>
<td>Ricky Atrill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ploughing Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open Digger</th>
<th>Ricky Atrill</th>
<th>K Phillips</th>
<th>R A Hill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open 3 or more furrows</td>
<td>Arthur Heywood</td>
<td>Alan Bickley</td>
<td>Paul Pincombe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Reversible</td>
<td>Gary Bulled</td>
<td>Colin Reed</td>
<td>Sam Reed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classic Pre 1976</td>
<td>J Jacobs</td>
<td>M Williams</td>
<td>R Govier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor &amp; trailer pre 1960</td>
<td>M Smale</td>
<td>D Harvey</td>
<td>R Heaman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vintage mounted pre 1960</td>
<td>L.G Hill</td>
<td>C Heard</td>
<td>L Vanstone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domestic classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm produce : Most points &amp; Best exhibit ( 2 awards)</th>
<th>Paul Gillbard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hay and silage</td>
<td>Alan Bickley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children most points</td>
<td>Linda Govier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veg &amp; flowers &amp; All Domestic most points ( 2 awards)</td>
<td>Ken Webber</td>
</tr>
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WITHERIDGE NEWSAGENTS

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Twenty-Four Hours
To feed 2 people you need:
2 medium turkey OR 4 chicken thighs
Filling see below.

Fillings - choose one variation, add salt and pepper to taste and mix
1. sausage meat+ hard cheese cubes+ red peppers
2. bread crumbs + sun-dried tomato+onion+basil+red wine/stock
3. bread crumb,+onion+butter+rosemary+black pepper
4. lean mince+cayenne pepper+cumin+ sultanas
5. sausage or pork mince, chunks of chorizo and peppercorns
6. bread, bacon & brie.
7. leeks + cheddar + a little cayenne pepper. Blend in foodprocessor
8. cranberry jelly with sausage and chestnut stuffing
9. bread crumbs + chocolate and chilli
10. apricots,figs, dates + bread crumbs or sausage

What to do........ Oven 180-200C
✓ remove the bone from the thigh
✓ use one of the following fillings to fill the space left,
✓ roll and tie,
✓ wrap in foil
✓ cook for 20 minutes, remove foil , put back to allow to brown.
Serve
✓ slice the meat about a quarter of an inch thick
✓ serve with salad and/or Pink Fir Apple potatoes.
Equally good hot or cold.
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 Community Composting

Green garden waste is collected in the village on Thursday mornings from the beginning of March until the end of October.

The cost of this service as from March 2012 is £8.00. We collect trailer loads of green garden waste—£10.00 for members, £15.00 for non-members. We also sell finished compost that is £1.00 per bag at the present which will be £1.25 from 1/1/2012, delivered free in the village.
If you require more information please contact 860819

Witheridge United Churches Lunch Club

The lunch club meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Everyone can enjoy a home cooked meal and a chat in good company. A pre-Christmas meal with all the trimmings, plus a raffle, will be held on Tuesday 6th December at 12 for 12.30 at the Parish Hall. Admission is by invitation.

For an invitation slip and details please phone any of the following numbers: 860408, 860575, 860709, 860012

Witheridge Art Group

We are a happy band of like minded people who find it enjoyable to spend an evening drawing or painting, sharing a hobby which many of us never seem to have time to do at home. We are mostly self taught and all help each other when asked.

Last month we had an interesting and instructive visit from local artist, Iain Walker, who showed us photos of some of his wonderful pictures. Next month he will show us how to tone our work.

We charge just enough to cover expenses: £5 pa membership, £1 a week subs. We have facilities for the disabled. We give all new members a warm welcome.

Wednesday evening 7:30pm Parish Hall Committee Room    Eileen Curtis
Ford Footcare
Regular Nail Cutting Service

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Mary I’m thinking of the ‘20s. Mother made Christmas a special time for us. We hung stockings on the end of the bed. She put in the same things each year - sweets, chocolate, a handkerchief, a book and socks or stockings and we had a Christmas tree with real lighted candles and little presents hanging on it. Both my grandfathers were parsons, so we went to Morning Service wherever we were staying, but children were taken home before the sermon. We always had a turkey and Christmas pudding. After dinner we would dance round the tree, open the presents on it, and listen to the King’s Christmas message.

Joan: This was in the ‘20s and I was living with my grandparents. We always had a good Christmas. We made paper chains from strips of paper which we glued together. It was good fun, but not sophisticated. We had a turkey and a Christmas pudding with threepenny bits in it which we all had to stir and make a wish. We all did our share. I helped Granma pluck the turkey - a tedious job. Our stockings had loose sweets at the bottom, oranges and nuts but we also hung a pillowcase on the bedpost. I always got an Annual – usually Tiger Tim. Grandfather made us some wonderful things. He made a big fort with Indians and horses for my brother and a big doll’s cot for me. I liked the fort best.

Anon My memories are of the war years. We were a large family and I remember waking up early, trying not to make too much noise. We got a few small things in a stocking and bigger presents were put at the bottom of the bed. We always had books, a box of paints and a drawing book with crayons. When I was very small, I got a very large teddy which we wheeled round in an old pram. We didn’t have a Christmas tree as the ceiling was a bit low for lighted candles. We had a goose, or a lovely joint of beef and homemade Christmas pudding. We would go for a walk before the King’s message, then play family games like ludo and cards.

We are most grateful to Gary Bold who comes on a Friday twice a month to entertain us. It livens us up no end and we all join in. We are looking forward to seeing Gary at Christmas. Thank you also to our Church singers who continue to provide us with a much valued service once a month.
Our vicar Rev. David Prestcott has been advised to continue his recovery until the New Year. We are very pleased to say that his wife, Susan, is making good progress.

Advent is when we prepare for the celebration of the coming of Christ and during this time there are a number of special services.

On December 11th, Tiverton Town Band is performing at the Carol Service; the Christingle is to be celebrated on the 18th December (all children and parents most welcome), and Carol Singing round the village is on 19th December. Christmas Eve Communion starts at 11pm and Christmas Day service will be at 11am with the Methodist Church.

This has been an encouraging year with a growing congregation and flourishing fellowship with Churches Together. St John the Baptist Church wishes all parishioners a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year. God bless you all.

**Pastoral Care Team** The PCT continues to visit the sick and needy in hospital, hospice, care & nursing homes and private homes. We try to see people once a week until such times as we are no longer needed. Sharing and prayer is a major part of our visits. We are not intent on disrupting the marvellous work organised by the Surgery, just to add Christian support and love to those who find themselves unable to follow their usual lifestyle and to help while away the hours in a cheerful manner. We appreciate the warm welcome we receive from those we visit, feeling very blessed and privileged in so doing.

We have an Emergency Prayer Chain for those people who would like prayer support whilst undergoing treatment, operations, illness or difficult times generally. Anyone wishing to receive prayer for themselves or another should contact me on 860012. All information is treated in confidence. **Yvonne Childs**

**Jigsaw Puzzle and Story Tape Library** Large selection of different sizes & subjects of puzzles available - great for during the Winter months. We have some good regular puzzlers. We have lots of story tapes to borrow too.

❖ **Saturday mornings, Hope House, 6 The Square, 9.30 – 11am**
Or 860012 to arrange a date and time  

**Yvonne Childs**
In Memory of
Charlie Cosker
Gladys Bristow

Congratulations on
The Baptism of
Annabella Busby, Kaden Chapple,
Mason Areignton-Eyres Caitlin Boyles

Methodist Chapel

Sunday services: 11.00am
Special Services: see church dates p 31

The Harvest Festival weekend was a great success. Thank you to all who helped us raise a total of £356.

Women's Fellowship: Tuesdays 2.30pm fortnightly until December then from March 2nd, Women's World Day of Prayer.

Our Minister: Rev Jonathan Budd 01363 877281 or thebudds@cantab.net

We wish everyone a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Church Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Dec 3</th>
<th>Christmas Tree Lights and Carols</th>
<th>Parish Church 5.00pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club, Parish Hall</td>
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<td>Sat</td>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td>Farmer's Market Parish Hall Methodist Church stall 10-1pm</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>Dec 11</td>
<td>Witheridge Carol Service with Tiverton Town Band, 6pm</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>Christingle Service Parish Church 4pm</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>Dec 19</td>
<td>Churches Together Carols Around Witheridge, 7pm The Square</td>
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<td>Sat</td>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service, Parish Church 11.00pm</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>Dec 25</td>
<td>Churches Together Family Service, Methodist Church at 10.00am</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club, Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Jan 29</td>
<td>5th Sunday Churches Together, Parish Church 9.30am.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Plough Sunday Service, Parish Church</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Feb 22</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Service</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>Mar 2</td>
<td>Churches Together Women’s Day of Prayer Parish Church</td>
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Grandfather took over the butchery at Cannington in about 1880. All 6 of his sons went to war. When my father, (the youngest), was called up, the business was closed. When father came back from the war, he reopened it as a dairy. He had 8 cows, 7 acres behind Cannington (all built on now) and land between Drayford Lane and New Bridge.

**Life in the 30s:** Witheridge was a thriving farming village. People came from miles around as they could get everything they needed here. Most walked in but some had a pony or a bicycle. The butcher, baker and grocery shops all delivered to the farms. I often went with Mr Kerslake delivering as his grocery was next door to us.

The farmers came in on Saturday night, mostly to The Angel, to drink cider and play table skittles and darts. There was no TV. Nobody had much money: wages were £2 a week at best. You would see women picking up sticks for the fire. Nothing was wasted in those days.

We didn’t have a Parish Hall, so The Angel was the centre of the village. School concerts, dances, children’s games, whist drives and church socials were all in The Angel. Chapel folk had their own entertainment in the school room. Most publicans had a day job. Bill Baker kept the Angel and was a blacksmith by day. Jack Stone kept the Hare and Hounds. He was a retired policeman.

Many people are unaware that Witheridge had a thriving outdoor Bowling Club where Appletree Close is now. There was no class distinction, everybody played. It’s a huge pity we lost this.

I remember the tramps going through the village. There’d be up to 5 of them in our shed half way down New Bridge Hill. They were given a meal at the workhouse in Tiverton then sent on to the next town. Some employers had to cut wages in The Depression, but people helped one another. Most winters there would be cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever and TB.

We were fitter and stronger than people are now though.
**Me as a boy**

I was born in Cannington House in 1925, the 2nd of 5 children. (Photo: I'm in front on the horse). We had wood fires downstairs and a black leaded stove in the kitchen with a well and hand pump. We washed in cold water. People who didn’t have a well used the taps around the village. There’s a tap near Stoneman’s now.

We kept chickens. Milk, cream, butter and meat came from our animals and we grew our own veg. We picked soft fruit in the summer for mother to sell in the shop with our cream. We were all expected to help with the business. We were better fed than people in the towns and even the poor people had good gardens. Most farm workers kept a pig. We were more self sufficient in those days.

I was 6 when I started helping my father with lambing and rabbiting with a ferret. I was hand milking cows when I was 10 and delivering milk before I went to school. We drove our cows across The Square to the Glebe lands beside the church and to our fields down Drayford Lane.

We were never in rags, but we all wore hand-me-downs. We played a lot of football in The Square. There were no cars then and nobody stopped us.

A big part of our lives was Sunday School. At Christmas we had a tree in the school and Rev. Castlehow made sure every child got a present. I think he paid for them. The more you went to Sunday school, the better your present. The Church and Chapel had Sunday school outings to the seaside. For many children it was the only time they left the village. We went on Tidball’s transport - a long bus with little doors down the side.

Rev. Castlehow also ran the Scouts. We would cycle to Anstey station with him, 2 or 3 boys at a time to go and watch cricket. He took Scouts away on camp every year. He did a huge amount for the youth of the village.

**Looking back**

We respected our elders and we knew what was expected of us. We were happy and lucky to grow up here.
At the end of September Class 2 were treated to an amazing performance of Deep Down Cowboy by Theatre Alibi, a travelling theatre company.

Somewhere a hundred fathoms deep a Russian submarine chugs through the ocean. It’s hard living on a submarine. You’re cooped up night and day for months on end in a 300 foot long, 30 foot wide, 3 storey tin can. So when Nikolai moseys onboard, quiet mind, the boss hates all things American...But in with his secret stash of westerns, the crew are enthralled - wide open prairies, cowboys, ten gallon hats and horses called Trigger. They have to keep it the dead of night-those Russians wear Stetsons, drawl like John Wayne and stage rodeos - yeehaw! And when there’s big trouble onboard, Nikolai and his friends, The Magnificent Three, are there to save the day!

A cracking tale of riding into the sunset and finding freedom.

We had our own Cowboy Day, where we learnt about the job of a cowboy and made model wagons. These are some of the things we learnt:

- Cowboys wear wide brimmed hats to keep the sun out of their eyes
- They sleep under the stars near a campfire
- They wear bandannas to keep the mud and dirt out of their mouths.
- They use rope to lasso the cattle
- If someone stole a cowboy’s horse, the cowboy would shoot the thief.
- Cowboys think it is rude to ask others their name.
- Cowboys are away from home for many months at a time.
Headmaster’s Report by Steve Duncan

Witheridge continues to go from strength to strength and has recently welcomed two new pupils from Wales, bringing our numbers up to 103. One of the challenges we face is making sure that people in our community know what a very good school we are and what we offer here. For example, last year began with an excellent report from Ofsted, and ended with our Y5 and Y6 cricket teams becoming N. Devon Champions while classmates won first prize in the Devon Digital Awards for animation.

This year we have on-site child-care for working parents through the pre-school, which is running a breakfast club, 8.00 – 9.00, and an after-school club, 3.30 – 6.00, for children aged 3 to 11. We have increased our teaching capacity by running five classes in the mornings, and beyond the formal curriculum, we run a variety of diverse and exciting clubs. We recently had a ten year old girl from France spend a day with us– at the end it was gratifying to be told by her that it was the best day she had ever had at school.

Over the coming year we are looking forward to: developing collaboration with other local primary schools, enhancing our school uniform, celebrating the 2012 Olympics and, of course, the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.
Art On The Hoof
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The band will be celebrating 35 years in the business this year
**Year 7 History visit to Dunster Castle Sept**

"It was very interesting because we learnt what food they ate and how they fought their enemy in the civil war. “I liked the bit with the gun where we learnt how to load a musket and also about the civil war. “ In one of the bedrooms there was a door that looked like a wardrobe but it was a very small escape route.”

**Year 8 on Dartmoor Sept**

Over 2 days all of year 8 descended on to the wilds of Dartmoor starting at Meldon reservoir. “Dartmoor was a really fun trip. We walked to the top of Black Tor and saw how the land is used. My favourite bit was scrambling around on the rocks”. “My favourite part was seeing the mosses in the woody place”.

**Chulmleigh Community College**

www.chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk

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**Flybe**

Year 11 maths students visited FLYBE engineering to look at potential career paths in aeronautics. They observed aircraft maintenance, flew in a professional simulator and used a wind tunnel for an investigation.

**Netball National Schools Tournament**

Drawn with Holsworthy, Bideford, Ilfracombe and Park, we defended and attacked well, finishing 3rd overall.

**Torrington Cross Country Race Oct 16th:**

19 students took part. We had our best results ever with 6 students in the top 10.

**Rugby N. & E Devon Tournament Year 9**

WIN the CUP 30:15

**Friends of Witheridge**

At our AGM in October, Maria Greenwood and Sarah Charlton stepped down after many years of fundraising for the school. Thank you to them both for their efforts. Our Chairman is now Sonia Doughton, Treasurer Colette Frost, Secretary Julie-Ann Foster.

We welcome fresh ideas for fundraising and suggestions of how best to utilise the money, as long as it benefits the children of Witheridge School.

We need volunteers to help with fundraising events. Please email if you can help or would like a stall at one of our fundraising events.

**Pamper Day at Newhouse Farm Cottages** - massage/reflexology lunch and relaxation in the hot tub and pool. £832 was raised towards the children’s trip to the Pantomime.

*Sonia Doughton*
Sweeping The Square  I wrote to the Parish Council concerning the litter around the Square and received a swift reply that NDC are responsible for this using a mechanical sweeper. As we had not seen this machine for some time, I called the council and discovered that the mechanical sweeper schedule includes The Square, but that on various attempts, the machine was unable to clean due to parked cars. NDC welcomed the idea to put out signs asking people "To consider their parking, as road sweeping was in progress."

Even though I was abroad at the time, with the wonders of email, I contacted fellow residents, who put out the notices that morning and ‘Hey presto,’ we have swept and cleaned gutters and roads around the Square.

The schedule is every 2 weeks, so if you see our signs, please work with us so that we all benefit from the litter and leaves being cleared from the centre of the village.

Robert Brown
Sweeping Dates : Fridays Dec 2, 16, 23 Jan 13, 27  Feb 10, 24  Mar 9, 23

Allotments.  This first year has been quite an eye opener as the amount of produce we’ve grown has surprised many of us and vegetables are still being harvested. We’ve been learning about storage and preservation of the bulges.

Devon County Council gave us a grant towards the cost of the new shed which will make a huge difference. We were optimistic about planning a building project in a field in October, but there was a break in the weather and it only took a day to construct. The site’s position means we have to be self-contained, which the shed facilitates and we collect roof water to help us in the dry spells.

So the prospects for next year looks rosy. If we can match this year we’ll be a happy bunch.

To join our waiting list contact Rachel Petch

Hospiscare 7th Annual Open Gardens 2012

We are now looking for new gardens for our 2012 programme to raise much needed funds to help us provide our service to Hospiscare patients and their families all over Devon. Last year the gardens raised £20,000. To take part, contact 01392 688063
I’m Sandy Sowden, the Witheridge Postie. I’ve been a postie for 22 years, of which 11 years has been at Witheridge. It was my Dad’s fault - he was the one who saw an advert in the local paper all those years ago.

My day starts with the alarm at 4:30am. I feed my 3 cats (none of them are black and white or called Jess), then it’s into work for 6am to prep the mail.

There are 60 staff sorting the whole of the office. I pick up my boxes labelled Witheridge and the presorted mail from Exeter. We each have our own frame with a slot for each house. Sorting can take up to 1 ¾ hours. Sometimes there’s only a box and a half, but at the end of the week I could have 5 boxes.

Once the letters are sorted into house slots, it’s time to pick up all the small packets and larger parcels and put them into delivery order. As well as addressed mail, you may have noticed we deliver a lot of un-addressed items. We have a week to deliver these. I start at Nomansland and do the village as far as Coombe Barn Cottage. I don’t usually finish my delivery until 3pm, so it’s quite a long day on your feet.

The best part of my job is the people I meet and being out in the fresh air. Hazards: Dogs - I’ve been bitten 5 times. We have to report incidents, but more than that is up to the postie. I could contact the dog warden if it was a serious attack.

Weather: I carry leggings and a coat in my rucksack and another coat in the van. After the torrential rain we had yesterday, I was soaked through to my socks and every coat I had went into the dryer. In winter you will see me roaming the village with a moose or a lion hat on to keep my ears warm.

Christmas is very busy and hard work. In the deep snow we had last year, I kept slipping on my bottom, which luckily for me is well padded. Addresses can be a bit strange at Christmas, sometime just the name. I usually know who it’s for but not always.

The most unusual item I’ve delivered: horse semen to a local farm. Sandy
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<th>Emma Ashelford</th>
<th>Charlesworth Nicholl &amp; Co</th>
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<td>SOLICITORS</td>
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<td>Cuts from £9</td>
<td>Residential Leases</td>
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<td>Blow-dry or Sets £12</td>
<td>Commercial Probate and Wills</td>
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<td>Perm &amp; Dry Starting From £35</td>
<td>Family Matters Accountancy &amp; Tax</td>
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<td>Colours &amp; Dry Starting From £40</td>
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<td>All from the comfort of your own home.</td>
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<td>Hellinghayes, Witheridge</td>
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**Music group**

The music group recently took part in a festival service to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible and Bob and I went along to Exeter Cathedral to support friends and neighbours. There were many groups taking part from all across Devon. How proud we were.

Under the directorship of Paul Trepte from Ely Cathedral, the singing was ‘spine tinglingly’ glorious. A lot of practice in the village and an evening rehearsal in Exeter, preceded a full day in the Cathedral under the no nonsense baton of the director. Thank you all for a magnificent performance.

**WithArt**

The Withart group continues to go from strength to strength and has welcomed 2 new members within the last year. Our 2012 calendar sold well with the profits going to the Heart Foundation. We have about 10 copies left if anyone wants a nice local calendar. Most of our members work in watercolour, but other mediums are used. Autumn is a beautiful time of year for artists and watercolour lends itself very well to capturing the wonderful colours that are all around us.

Anyone is welcome to pop in to see if our group is for them.  

**Mondays ( excl. Bank Holidays) Parish Hall 2-4pm**  

**St John’s Fayre**

At the St John’s Fayre AGM Gerald Manning retired as Chairman after a 4 year stint. Our thanks go to him for all his hard work, enthusiasm and forward thinking, which has enabled the Fayre to grow so successfully over the years. He retires in the knowledge that the Fayre is now in a sound financial position for the future. Maria Greenwood also left the committee and our thanks go to her for all her help. We look forward to welcoming a new member from the Friends of the School in due course.

We were delighted that Laurence Devonshire has taken over the Chairmanship and we wish him every success. There were no other changes to the officers and committee.

Plans are in progress for next year’s Fayre – Saturday 23rd June 2012. We have been in touch with Anderton & Rowland who expressed an interest in joining us again next year and we’ll keep you up to date with developments.

**Children’s Christmas Party & JUNGLE JIM Sat. 10 Dec.**

Parish Hall 3.30pm, Lighting of the Christmas Tree 5pm.

£2.50/child including food  

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Witheridge Preschool

7 children - Courtney, Joe, Rebecca, Findlay, Eleanor, Jemima and Cameron joined us this year. We have been very busy. Paramedic Matt, and Mr Sherry of Devon Air Ambulance Trust, visited us as part of ‘People who Help Us’, (so our playhouse is now a hospital), and we will visit the fire station soon.

We picked our crops and made vegetable soup. We will be face painting for Children in Need, then thinking about the meaning of Christmas.

Fundraising: Tractor Push - our men’s team won and the ladies team provided some entertainment. The Halloween party was much enjoyed by all.

Recycling: please bring us mobile phones (any condition), ink cartridges and electric cable to be recycled. (Collection box also at the Food & Craft Fayre)

✵ 10th Dec   Food and Craft Fayre  

Paula Hallett

East Worlington Pre-school

We were delighted to welcome four new children at the beginning of this term: Kerry Gillbard, Chloe Southwood, Thomas Slade and Zachary Grey.

The themes this term are “How We Communicate” and “Transport”. We will be visiting Tiverton Museum to see the Tivvy Bumper and their role play area has been turned into an airport!

Our Christmas celebrations include the Christmas Craft Fair, Nativity play, party with Hat McKool and Father Christmas and for parents and staff, a meal and disco at the Thelbridge Cross Inn.

Parent and Toddler Group

It’s been lovely to have lots of new faces this term. We very much enjoyed an afternoon at the Waie Inn at half-term.

Next diary dates: Tues Dec 13, Tues Jan 10

We wish you all a very special Christmas and a Happy New Year.

www.eastworlingtonpreschool.co.uk  

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We are not open Monday lunchtimes.

10% reduction on Takeaway menu

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Sunday Roast lunch

Bed and Breakfast

Buffets

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Holidays with kids: Michael’s First Taste of Camping by Mrs Halsey

It was a packing masterpiece with no crevice unfilled, when Michael, in his car seat and engulfed by camping equipment, embarked with Mum and Grandma on his first camping trip to Watchet, where a site with glorious sea views awaited. The 7 days of sunshine he had ordered were spent mostly on the beautiful Minehead sands.

His waterproof was good for playing on the damp grass in the morning and from his travel cot he oversaw the erection of his accommodation and all cooking.

Michael is a swimming pool enthusiast, but the sea was a different kettle of fish and quite fearsome initially, but he soon joined Mum and Grandma happily splashing about in the water.

The tide recedes a long way at Minehead, exposing a muddy, sandy stretch of beach. One day, Michael bum-shuffled, (gaining mud), all the way back from the sea to the beach tent. He built lots of sand castles and was tricked into sitting in a hole long enough to be buried up to his chest by Uncle Paul. Lunchtime was interesting as SANDwiches took on a new meaning.

He took to tent living after an exhausting day on the beach and slept well, although he could be found most mornings outside his sleeping bag, head to one side of the tent and feet in his clothes bag.

For a change of scenery, we visited Tropic Aquaria Animal and Bird Park where Michael was fascinated by the amazing variety of tropical birds, loved the shadow puppets and is now a great fan of meerkats.

He certainly enjoyed this first taste of camping (as did Mum and Grandma) and we plan to go again, although the vision of a 2 year old ‘helping’ with a mallet in one hand and tent pegs in the other, is a little worrying.

We would recommend camping to anyone. As a relatively cheap, enormously fun filled holiday, you can't beat it.
Witheridge Football Club 1st Team 2011

Back row: Shane Kalloway (physio), Matt Beveridge, Jack Langford, Dave Rowe, Jon Dawe, Joe Pryse, Andre Pike (chairman), Jamie Dirrane, Sam Box, Chris Ibbeson, Tony Radford, Jordan Charran, Mike Taylor (manager), Ray Charran (coach)
Front row: Liam Thomas, Dean Jones, Josh Pearse, John Wannel, Aidan Harper Penman, Steve Ebdy, Richard Blake

Football Focus
The first team are coming into some form and now sitting mid table. We are looking forward to the home game with Cullompton to avenge our defeat at our last meeting. Hopefully we will get back our bragging rights.
The second team continue to play well and are only a couple of places below the promotion places. However, there is still a long way to go in the season. Let’s wish them the best of luck. The new covered stand is still in the planning stages and we hope to have it completed for next season.

Greg Henderson

Weekly opening times
( special event times may vary)
Mon 7.00 – 11.00 (skittles at home )
Tues 7.00 – 11.00
Wed 7.00 – 10.00
Thurs 7.00 – 11.00
Fri 7.00 – 12.00
Sat 12.00 – 9.30
Sun 12.00 – 7.00

New Year’s Eve Celebration with music from Jason Toft

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Greg Henderson
**Witheridge Golf Society**

We met at Waterbridge on 14th September, for the Autumn Golf Trophy. An excellent turnout of 21 members was present, and we welcomed new member Tony Harris from Ash Mill. The winning team comprised Witheridge residents Dave Chapman and Keith Jenkins together with Terry Hawkins. They birdied two and parred five out of the nine holes. The current format is to have a 9 hole Texas Scramble followed by a buffet lunch, but some changes will be made next year. New members are always welcome.

- CHRISTMAS TROPHY Wed. 7th Dec.
- SPRING TROPHY Wed. 14th March

Contact 01884 860612

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**Witheridge Table Tennis Group**

A drop in numbers has forced us to reduce the time we play to one hour on Friday mornings. We are a small, friendly group of various playing levels and would like to become a medium sized friendly group! So pop along and join us. All equipment supplied.

We suggested an adult/parent might like to run an evening junior group. Sadly no takers as yet, but the offer is still open.

- Fridays Parish Hall 11:00-12:00

Contact 861668

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**Badminton Club**

The Badminton Club meets in the Parish Hall on **Mondays from 2-3 pm**, 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.

Contact 860819

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**Short Mat Bowls**

We meet in the Parish Hall on Tuesday and Thursday evenings each week throughout the year at 7.00pm for a 7.15pm start.

Club shoes and woods are available for those who have not played before. **Children over ten and under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.**

The first three evenings are free, then a green fee of £2.00 per session and a subscription of £20.00 per annum, is payable. This facility is available to residents of Witheridge and surrounding villages.

Contact 860819

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**Witheridge Tennis Club**

Please book and pay court fees at Witheridge Newsagents, 16A The Square, Witheridge. Many thanks to Andy at the Mitre Inn, for having taken on this role in recent years.
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<tr>
<th><strong>George Bainborough</strong> Chimney Sweeping.</th>
<th><strong>Alan Thomas</strong> Painter &amp; Decorator</th>
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<tr>
<td>Free phone 08081972636 <a href="mailto:gbainborough@yahoo.co.uk">gbainborough@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>Interior/Exterior Domestic &amp; Commercial 13 Butts Close, Witheridge EX16 8AJ</td>
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<td>Association of Professional Independent Chimney Sweeps</td>
<td>Tel NO 01884 861092 Mobile 07713545772Email: <a href="mailto:alanthomas.decorator@yahoo.co.uk">alanthomas.decorator@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Call: 01884-861737</td>
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<th><strong>37 West Street Witheridge Tel:</strong> 01884 861232</th>
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Witheridge Brownies were busy during the autumn term. They have worked together to gain their Brownie Skills badge. They had a great evening with our friend in guiding, Lin Buckingham, showing them how to use all different types of knots. They have made puppets, heart mobiles, learned all about a healthy lifestyle and made a fashion outfit out of a bin bag.  

Jacqui Adcock

What had a fantastic day at The Big Gig Concert, Wembley Arena with Olly Murs, The Wanted, Pixie Lott, Rizzle Kicks, Ed Sheeran—very exciting.

‘Space Go for it’: we had a visit from Tiverton Astronomy Society, made box aliens, ice cream comets and cooking in a cardboard box oven.

Guides and Brownies will be baking and selling cakes in the RestaWhile for Children in Need on Sat. 3rd Dec. 10-12 noon. Please support us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Witheridge Guides and Brownies

Jacqui Adcock

Taekwondo

October: Those students who attended the sparring seminar in Exeter learnt some good tips to improve their sparring.

November: We had the coloured belt area grading for the main class and the British Championships. We also took part in the Children In Need Sparathon, following the N.&E. Devon Route from South Molton to Newton Abbot.

December: We have the Tigers’ assessment, Christmas function and awards.

Mon. 8pm & Fri. 6pm Parish Hall

860928

Witheridge Wargamers

Each month since April, a growing band of wargamers has been gathering in the primary school hall, to play the table top games of Warhammer and 40K. There is a range of experience between us, from absolute beginners to battle-scarred veterans, so there’s always plenty of friendly support to help get the rules under our belts.  

Henry Hawkes

☀ 1st Friday each month  School Hall 6:30pm
Bill Warnett DMS MBA C,Chem MRSC  MCIWEM  C.WEM  MIMgt

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**Westeridge Vet News**

from Dick Sibley

Sheep and cows are ruminants using their big stomachs to ferment plants into digestible proteins, carbohydrates and organic acids to convert to meat and milk. Grass is a pretty useless food for most mammals as they do not have the enzymes or digestive system to make use of it, but cows and sheep do. The quality of grass varies throughout the year.

This has been an exceptionally good year for grass growth in the Witheridge area (allowing cows to stay out longer), but Autumn grass is noted for high levels of potassium and low magnesium.

When cows are calving, there is a huge change in the balance of these nutrients and these mineral levels have to be right to avoid milk fever: a dangerous condition in which cows can go comatose due to lack of calcium (needed to work muscles), or hyper-excitiable due to lack of magnesium for brain function. There have been lots of cases of milk fever this year. If we can treat as soon as the signs appear, these cows can be saved, but they are true emergencies.

Until the cause of milk fever was known, it was treated by inflating the udder. We still have an udder inflator at the veterinary surgery, now only a curiosity.

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**Witheridge Grandmaster**

In 1972, Comins Mansfield became the first Briton to be awarded the title of Grandmaster for Chess Composition.

He was born in Witheridge on 14th June 1896. His father ran a village grocer and draper’s shop as well as a branch of the bank Fox Fowler & Co. In 1977 his sister Margaret donated money towards purchase of the land for the children’s adventure playground. Comins attended Blundell’s School in Tiverton, where he won two Mathematics prizes. He served in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and it was during his time in the trenches that he composed many of his famous chess problems.

In 1976 he was awarded the MBE for his services to chess. He died in 1984 and for most of his life was universally recognized as one of the world’s three best chess problem composers of all time. To find out about his chess career, go to www.keverelchess.com  

Photo Chess Pie W. H. Watts 1922
Megan E J Findon

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Quick and Easy Christmas recipes

Old fashioned Cranberry Sauce
The simple & simply delicious sauce that not only makes the dinner, but also makes the greatest turkey sandwiches the day after.

You need: heavy pan
Ingredients
12oz (350g) cranberries
8fl oz (250ml) water
6oz (170g) sugar

Method
Put the sugar and water in a heavy pan & bring to the boil. Add the cranberries and bring to the boil with the lid on. Simmer 10 minutes until all the berries have popped. Place in a bowl. Refrigerate until cool before serving.

Baking Tips for the festive season ahead Jill Yendell
For a rich, tasty fruit cake- use cold coffee instead of milk

Improve the flavour and texture of cakes and reduce fat content : substitute 1/3 of the butter with mashed banana

Keep cakes fresh in a tin: throw in ½ apple

To refresh dried out mincement for mince pies : add brandy or sherry.

Make fluffier, lighter cakes: whip the egg whites separately before adding to the recipe.

And, have a couple of small freezer bags ready - so you can pop them over your floury hands if the phone rings!

Thick Turkey Soup … Christmas in a bowl
Taking the turkey apart on Boxing Day to make thick turkey soup from the leftovers, is a tradition I inherited from my mother. The secret is to make MORE leftovers than you need, specially for the soup! The SMELL is just wonderful.

You need: VERY large pan
Ingredients: Make more than you need for Christmas day of:
1. stuffing, bread sauce, roast potatoes, parsnips, sprouts and ‘Jamie Oliver’ roast veg (carrots, sweet potato, butternut squash, little bit of oil, salt and pepper, sliced with ½ lemon, baked in foil 20mins), so you have LOTS of leftovers.
2. Christmas Day keep back as much of the meat juices/ gravy as you can spare.
3. Boxing Day strip the carcass, cover in water and boil 15 mins → stock
4. The Soup: To the stock (minus bones) add 2 large onions, 3-4 carrots, 3 large potatoes (all chopped), LOTS of soft turkey meat off the bones, lots of stuffing, bread sauce, leftover veg chopped and meat juice/gravy.
5. Salt and pepper to taste. Boil until the soup is THICK.
Serve as a meal in itself with /without hot rolls.
Carole Campbell
The Hilton

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Witheridge Parish Council News Nov. 2011

Public Toilet – Money Down the Pan? You said NO!

Thank you to the few who responded. We also received a petition with 235 signatories supporting the statement:- “We the undersigned want the public toilets to be retained in the Square”. All your councillors agreed with the question, but we asked should we fund the toilet, is it a priority, what did you think of the current 20p charge, were you happy paying a £1.69 subsidy for each person using the loo?

Thanks to Cllr Yabsley the funding shortfall of £2000 for 2012/13 will be covered by a discretionary grant. We will re-visit funding for 2013/14.

Public Rights of Way – Footpaths

We are still looking for volunteers to keep an eye on our rights of way. The annual paths survey is due. If you are interested in helping, contact the clerk.

Devon Active Villages is a countywide programme, supporting rural communities to develop long-term sports opportunities for all ages and build a life-long love of being active and healthy. It aims to increase sports participation in rural communities by:

- Identifying what opportunities each local community wants.
- Providing support to “kick start” activities.
- Supporting people within their communities to sustain the opportunities.

Interested? Contact the Council or www.activevillages.co.uk

Parish Council Budget 2012/13 is being finalised as I write. The budget will result in the parish council element of your council tax bill next year.

Services provided include:- public toilet, playgrounds, parish clock, community representation, litter bins, dog waste bins, Rights of Way, grants, local events support.

It’s nearly winter

The Parish Council will not adopt DCC’s Snow Warden Scheme due to:

- The Insurer requires a clearance programme, with documented risk assessment, which must be maintained for the duration of the snow and/or ice event.
- Requirements for personal vehicles used in grit distribution.
- No personal insurance for volunteers unless adequate training provided by organising body to include manual handling.
- No volunteers coming forward.

www.devon.gov.uk/snow-wardens.pdf

For full transcript go to www.witheridgepc.org
Newhouse Farm Cottages
Quality self-catering accommodation in Devon’s Heartland

Open all year for long or short-breaks

Nine beautifully converted, well equipped Grade 2 listed stone barns with a choice of accommodation ranging from a one bedroom cottage with a four poster bed through to our spacious five bedroom barn sleeping ten.

Take a stroll through 30 acres of flower-filled meadows, heated indoor swimming pool, games room and ‘Hayloft’ private function/dining room.

Newhouse Farm, Witheridge, Tiverton, Devon EX16 8QB
Tel: 01884 860266 : E-mail info@newhousecottages.com
or visit our website at www.newhousecottages.com

Steve King
Plumbing and Heating Engineer

All Aspects of Plumbing and Heat Work Undertaken

Natural Gas - LPG - Oil
Installation - Maintenance - Repair

35 Years’ Experience

Phone: 01884 798607
Council & Committee Meetings

The Parish Council meet at the Parish Hall Committee Room, North Street, Witheridge. Un-Scheduled meetings will be advertised separately to this notice. Parishioners can make representations 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 at www.witheridgepc.org together with minutes of all meetings. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Councillors</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claire Goodwin (Chair)</td>
<td>Dart View</td>
<td>860711</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurence Devonshire</td>
<td>Post Office</td>
<td>861684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Hanbury</td>
<td></td>
<td>860578</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Martin</td>
<td>Grist Mill</td>
<td>861011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Stanbury</td>
<td>4 North Street</td>
<td>861375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Taylor</td>
<td>Appletree Close</td>
<td>861151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

County & District Councillor

Jeremy Yabsley

Public Rights of Way Liaison

Vacancy

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
SPMC Sports Field Management Committee

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 2012 : Jan 5   Feb 2   Mar 1   April 5
                                      May 3   Jun 7   Jul 5   Aug Recess   Sept 6   Oct 4   Nov 1   Dec 6
BEV & JOHN WILSON
Telephone: 01884 860678

TURN UNWANTED ITEMS INTO CASH

We Buy
Glass - Jewellery - Watches - Medals
Gold – Silver - Old Books etc

ANYTHING INTERESTING
CALL US FOR A FREE QUOTE

NEED A
CHILDMINDER

Contact Julia
01884-861557
Nomansland
Registered Childminder

Clean Sweep
Chimney and Flue Cleaning
Brush and Vacuum service
Clean Friendly Reliable

Tel: 01884 - 821297 or Mobile: 07773 - 618524

Need to rejuvenate old metal?
We provide a variety of services ranging from powder coating to hot zinc spray and shot blasting. We keep a range of about 100 colours in stock, and most are exterior polyesters, which provide excellent durability and colour retention on gates, railings and garden furniture.

Telephone 01884 34506
Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 8 am to 5 pm or Friday 7 am to 1 pm
Email: coatingsupplies@aol.com
www.industrialcoatingsupplies.co.uk
Units 1 + 2 Simmons Place, Kingsmill Industrial Estate Cullompton EX15 1BH
## Help and Advice

**Police**  
Incident: 101  
Emergency **999**

**Citizen’s Advice Bureau**  
Town Hall Tiverton  
01884 234926

**Women’s Support Services:**  
01271 370079

**Men’s Support & Parentline:**  
0808 801 0327

**NSPCC:** concerned about a child  
0808 800 5000

**Victim support (adults):**  
0845 030 30 900

**Childline:** for children  
0800 1111 or [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**Money management:** South West Pound  
0800 316 9296

(Independent advice- see Devon CC website)

**Oakfield Children’s Centre** Witheridge  
01884 860247

## Library: Alternate MONDAYS Dec – Mar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan 9 23</th>
<th>Feb 6 20</th>
<th>Mar 5 19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E.Worlington:</td>
<td>Village Hall 11:50-12:10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drayford:</td>
<td>Drayford Cross 12:15-12:35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witheridge:</td>
<td>Square 14:00-15:00 School 15:05 – 15:50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**E.Worlington:**  
Village Hall 11:50-12:10

**Drayford:**  
Drayford Cross 12:15-12:35

**Witheridge:**  
Square 14:00-15:00 School 15:05 – 15:50

**Contact 01392 384315** for details of WRVS Home Library Service. This is run by volunteers for anyone confined to home or physically unable to reach a library.

### Historical society answers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THOMASANDTIDBALL</th>
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**DOMESDAYBOOK**
## Things I might go to: Dec to mid March 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Jan 29</td>
<td>Parish Hall Car Boot Sales</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>860685</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 3</td>
<td>Safari Supper &amp; Auction for Devon Air Ambulance</td>
<td>861302</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 3</td>
<td>Childhood Cancer Awareness Big Bucket Collection</td>
<td>Tesco Tiv.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Dec 7</td>
<td>Golf Winter Trophy</td>
<td>Waterbridge</td>
<td>860612</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 10</td>
<td>Food &amp; Craft Fayre P. Hall in aid of the Pre School</td>
<td>10-1 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 10</td>
<td>Children’s Christmas Party Parish Hall 3.30-5pm by SJF</td>
<td>Village Square 5.15pm</td>
<td>860557</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat Dec 17</td>
<td>Witheridge City Moochers Production</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Around Devon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wherecanwego.com">www.wherecanwego.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 13- Jan 2</td>
<td>Snow White Queens Theatre Barnstaple</td>
<td>01271324242</td>
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<td>Dec 17- Jan 8</td>
<td>Dick Whittington Corn Exchange Exeter</td>
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<td>Dec 28 – Jan 2</td>
<td>Mince pie Specials S Devon Railway Buckfastleigh</td>
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<td>Knighthayes</td>
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<td>Dec 4, 10,17-20</td>
<td>Meet Father Christmas</td>
<td>Child £3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 4, 11,17,18</td>
<td>Christmas Lunch 12-2pm</td>
<td>Adult £22.50, Child £10.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 8 - 10</td>
<td>Concert and Supper 5:45-10:30pm (supper 7:30)</td>
<td>£24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 11</td>
<td>Concert Matinee 20-4:30 pm</td>
<td>Adult £12, Child £10.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td>Steam Up Coldharbour Mill Uffculme Cullompton</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 7, 8</td>
<td>RSPB Winter cruise Starcross 3-4 hours, Topsham 1 ½ hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 1, 8, 15</td>
<td>Lecture Lunches Killerton</td>
<td>£17.50 inc lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td>Snowdrop Sunday Hartland Abbey</td>
<td>11-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 17 – 19</td>
<td>Dancing weekend Langston Cliff Hotel Dawlish Warren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 14- 19</td>
<td>Holiday on Ice Westpoint Arena</td>
<td>Clyst St Mary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 18</td>
<td>Daffodil Sunday Hartland Abbey</td>
<td>11-4pm</td>
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Riddles
1. Fire (turns things red, ‘eats’ things quickly)
2. Footsteps (you take footsteps and you leave them behind in the ground)
3. A doughnut (it doesn’t have a starting or ending point, and the middle is replaced by a hole)
ANOTHER EASY CROSSWORD
BY RAY THORNE

ACROSS
1. 60’s Duo ……brothers (6)
4. A pouch (3)
8. Naughty boy (6)
11. French for green (4)
12. Boat park (7)
13. Skin condition (4)
14. Song music and ……… (6)
18. Noel’s rock band (5)
19. Stern of a vessel (3)
21. Abandon (6)
23. City in Colorado (6)
24. Star sign (6)

DOWN
2. Church room (6)
3. Much laughter (3)
5. Drawn every day (8)
6. Part of Australia (6,4)
7. In a week (5,4)
9. Plant with bitter juice (4)
10. Drink measure (4)
15. Tropical countries ……… season (5)
16. Desert survivor (5)
17. W.Coast city shortened (2)
20. American bank (2)
22. Fish eggs (3)
Thelbridge Cross Inn

Hotel & Restaurant

Near Witheridge, N Devon

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)
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With Christmas nearly here again we would like to wish all our customers a very Happy Christmas.

This ad is made up in April—but I am confident that we will still have Turkey, Beef, Pork and all the trimmings to make your Christmas a great tasting holiday and help the New Year be a happy one!!!

The Delicatessen in the Middle of Nowhere

For our Bronze Turkey