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Editorial

Issue 13 is the start of year 4 for Witheridge Voice. Most people now send their articles in after the 1st reminder, which makes my job a lot easier.

Advertising: Thank you advertisers, past and present. Several businesses have come in for the first time and the pages have been mixed up a good bit. The magazine continues to be funded solely by advertising.

‘The Dairy Industry’ is based on a book which was sent to me about the butter industry in Witheridge; Steph’s Blog tells of a romantic wedding in Sri Lanka and the 3rd ‘In Another Life’ is by Chris Kershaw who was a buyer for High Street fashion. What were YOU before we knew you? Do you have a story?

Jim Campbell is doing ‘The Pubs of Witheridge’ starting with the Hare and Hounds. Your memories of Witheridge pubs would be very much welcomed.

Welcome to the village is still a bit bit and miss. New families, couples, singles, new babies- just let us know.

Talented kids needed - any talent, any age.

FEATURES: Please come forward with your stories. Don’t wait to be asked. All ideas welcome although Its’ well past time we did another ‘Witheridge Born and Bred.’

Carole Campbell EDITOR

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS for EDITOR:
Articles to voiceeditor@outlook.com
Advertising to voicetreasurer@hotmail.co.uk

Phone 01884 860773
Editor Carole Campbell
Treasurer & Advertising Jim Campbell
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Secretary Jess Campbell
Advisor Carol Prynn

Website:
https://sites.google.com/site/witheridgevoice/home

Posters: ONE page of A4 in LARGE type or full size jpeg
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Cover photo: Trafalgar House by Carole Campbell

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Sat 24th August

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In Another Life: Choosing High Street Fashion
by Chris Kershaw

When I left school at 18, I started work as a Junior Assistant at Adnitts department store in Northampton, later to be taken over by Debenhams. I worked my way up to be the ‘Charles of the Ritz’ representative in the cosmetics department, a competitor of Elizabeth Arden. I would have had to go on the road as a rep for my career to progress and that didn’t appeal, so I asked for a transfer and was offered a position in the dress department.

I’ve been very lucky: all my life a door has opened. One day a buyer was ill and I had to do all the stock taking. It seems I made a good impression as several months later the General Manager knocked on my door on my day off- a separates buyer was leaving and would I like the position? Would I?

I wasn’t paid a proper buyer’s salary as I wasn’t a proper buyer but I went with a buyer to Scotland to look at knitwear in Howick and to buy from places like Pringle and Ballantyne. I did this for a number of years then purely by chance, I saw an M&S advert ‘Are you a buyer at a local store?’ YES, so I applied. The interview at Head Office in London was a bit daunting. I was disappointed to be offered a position in the skirt and trouser dept, for it seemed I didn’t have the technical knowledge needed for knitwear.

I couldn’t turn it down though, so I became a ‘selector.’ Even the senior buyers were called ‘selectors’ in those days. I found it all rather strange, sitting at a desk and going for lunch and coffee at set times, rather than being lucky to get lunch at all. It seems I was accepted as within a few months I was introduced to the ‘Lunch Club.’

It was very easy to say the wrong thing there and cause an upset and I wasn’t very happy, so when one of my suppliers told me of a vacancy for a buyer at Dorothy Perkins, it was time to move on. I saw the owners (Ian Falmer and his father) and was offered a position but now I had to give my notice at M&S.

My superior said perhaps I was leaving to be ‘a bigger fish in a smaller pond.’ No, I just wanted to be happy in my job! Then he pushed an envelope across the desk ‘We’re upgrading your salary...’
by £700’. In the 60’s that was a LOT of money! I said I couldn’t accept it and he said I could stay for lunch, then go. I just left!

So I went to Dorothy Perkins and was with them for 11 years. It was a wonderful position. I was based at Head office in Bracknell and bought a house in Maidenhead. In both companies, working as a buyer, I travelled the world at somebody else’s expense: Paris for the Pret-a-Porter (ready to wear) collection, the Interstoff fabric collection in Frankfurt and couture houses in Italy and New York. We worked a year in advance looking at fabrics and colours. Buyers from all over the world went to all of these events. We were ‘in the scene,’ so it wasn’t surprising that we picked out similar things. The difference was in the details. I loved to see what our suppliers in the West End did with what came out of the couture houses. One year, I bought a very expensive shirt, sent it off to Hong Kong and got 3 different versions to sell thousands not singles- Dorothy Perkins were placing in thousands.

In the 60’s, we dealt mostly with UK manufacturers. You selected from people’s ranges and had samples delivered to the office. Then we would get the model in and do the selection. It was done to my individual taste but I knew how many items I had to buy for next season within a budget to a set timetable. Imagine the panic if something didn’t turn up on time or there was a dock strike. I found that very rewarding and exciting when it worked, frustrating when it didn’t.

*Extract from DOT Dorothy Perkins House Magazine Winter 1971*

‘Separates buyer Chris, says trousers and tops will be very coordinated. Tunics will be ‘in’, shirt collars deeper, sleeves ballooning over cuffs, trousers bellbottomed with cowboy stitching or buttons on the side seams. Dungarees with super huge butterflies on the bib will be a feature. Colours for Autumn will be mellowed shades of the vibrant colours of last winter.’

By the early 70’s the Asian market took off and we would get businessmen offering us presents! The office was open plan so we could see but not hear what was on offer, much to everyone’s amusement. I’ve refused a few fridges and washing machines!
In 1978, I left Dorothy Perkins to marry one of my suppliers who owned factories near Stockport and supplied both M&S and DP. I brought a fresh pair of eyes to the business. The relationship lasted 7 years and in 1986 I was looking for work!

They say never go back in life but I needed to work and joined SNOB, (part of the Etams group) as a separates buyer and stayed there until the company closed.

At that time, I was living in Northampton and travelling daily on the 7am train to London- up at 6am to arrive at the office at 9. Sounds awful now, but it's amazing what you can do when you have to!

Then out of work again with a mortgage to pay on my small flat. I did 3 jobs at once to make ends meet - office work, bread roll delivery and for an Estate Agent at the weekend.

During that time I met Tony again (we had known each other in our 20’s) and another door opened. We took on the tenancy of the ‘Ferry Boat Inn’ in Dittisham on the River Dart. It didn’t have a car park and was tidal so not an easy choice. We really enjoyed serving and meeting some very nice people including the whole Dimbleby family who sailed and lived in the village too!

After 4 years of 16 hour days, we had had enough and didn’t renew the tenancy. Now we needed somewhere to live. We definitely couldn’t afford Dartmouth. We found Witheridge when looking for a property for a friend. That was 20 years ago and Trafalgar House is another story.

In your life as a buyer where did you enjoy travelling to the most? Hong Kong and San Francisco.

Is there anything you are proud of? Yes. Over several years I trebled the figures at Dorothy Perkins.

What did you enjoy the most? Working and dealing with many interesting people. It was my whole life and I enjoyed all of it. No regrets.
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Mary Samuels
John Williams
Keith Blissitt
Constance Hodgson
Edna Kelly
Loveday Venner
Joan Yeo

Congratulations on
The Birth of
Georgia Bailey

Congratulations on
The Baptism of
Lily Mae Veen
Lucy Pennick and Daniel Cook

The Marriage of
Kevin Cottrell
Anthony Curtis, Luke Daniels,
Naomi Hartford, Godfrey Kennard, Carron West.

The Confirmation of
Constance Hodgson
Edna Kelly
Mary Samuels
Loveday Venner
John Williams

Welcome to the village
Class 1: Alysha Folland
Preschool: Sasha Bailey
Class 2: Naseem Al-Qaq.
Alex Al-Qaq

Rest-a-While
The Rest a While continues to provide a service to the folk of the village but we would welcome new folk to pay us a visit.

We were sad to say our goodbyes to Loveday Venner and record our thanks for her support over many years. Kaye

Twiglets Outdoor Activity Club
every 2nd Saturday 10 till 12.
FUN outdoor activities, space to run around and messy play!
Bring your coat and wellies!

Baby Massage Courses
now in Witheridge.
No special skills are required.
Infant massage can improve sleep, relieve colic and crying and improve parent/baby communication.

Contact Oakmoor Children’s Centre:
01884 860247
Police NOTICE IMPORTANT

In reference to the issues in Cannington Road on Monday 29th April, there is a police investigation underway.

PCSO Rozputynski (Yorkie) understands how frustrated and let down the residents feel that this has not yet been resolved, but assures them that to the best of his knowledge, all agencies are aware of the current situation.

He is in the process of tackling the historic events within Cannington Road, but the area can’t be policed all the time.

He needs the help of all residents of the area and urges the community of Cannington Road to come forward so that we can tackle these issues together.

PCSO Rozputynski (Yorkie)

Witheridge has entered the Best Kept Village in Devon Competition

Is our village clean and well cared for, yet environmentally friendly, so that birds and wild flowers can flourish?

Witheridge: let’s make a big effort to keep garden frontages tidy, take litter home and pick up after our dogs!

Preliminary Judging: May, June & July
Final Judging: July and August

www.molevalleyfarmers.com  www.cpredevon.org
Frank Housam : Town Crier and a lot more

It’s difficult to imagine Witheridge without Frank. A colourful and memorable character in his town crier regalia, his presence at St John’s Fayre and other village events made them special and attracted people to Witheridge. Frank will be remembered for his good humour, generous spirit and his outstanding contribution to the community. Above all, he will be remembered with a smile.

Claire Goodwin

Memorial for Frank: If you would like to contribute to or make a suggestion, Brian is going to have a collection/suggestion box in the Newsagents for the next month.

St John’s Fayre

Plans are coming together. We originally thought this year’s Fayre was going to be on a smaller scale, but we are pleased to say it’s going to be as big as usual with our Grand Parade starting at 11am.

St John’s Fayre 2012: smiling, full of fun and proud of what he made of his life. Rest in Peace Frank.

Photo Carole Campbell

Anderton and Rowland’s Funfair open on Thursday 20th June. Witheridge Primary School will select a Fayre Prince and Princess and pupils will perform maypole dancing in The Square. We will have agricultural, steam and military vintage vehicles, Crediton Town Band, stilt walkers, Street Heat Samba, the Dog Show and lots more. (Dog show entry forms in the newsagent, vet and village shop.

This year’s evening entertainment in the hub will be the band ‘FIRE’ along with a licensed bar and a barbecue provided by The Hogfather.

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**Witheridge Parish Hall**
The Bootleg Swing Band performed in the Hall on the 30th March and the whole evening was fantastic. The audience were united in hugely enjoying themselves and the bar made a profit for the Hall. All in all it was a great success and we look forward to them coming back again in the Autumn.

**Oddsocks comes to Witheridge**
The next big event we are going to put on in August is the "Oddsocks" production of Shakespeare's play 'Comedy of Errors.' Oddsocks is a travelling theatre company which has achieved acclaim nationally and we are really delighted that the company is coming to Witheridge. Don't wait too long before booking tickets as they are limited and are going already. It should be a wonderful evening - fingers crossed for the weather.

Clare Spicer

---

**Oddsocks Productions**

is pleased to present an Open-air production of

**A Comedy of Errors**

By William Shakespeare

**Thursday 22nd August 2013**

**Witheridge Parish Hall**

Devon EX16 OAN

Theatre garden opens at 6:30pm: curtain up at 7:30pm
This is outdoors so bring a picnic, chairs, a rug, an umbrella and a torch!

**Tickets** £12.50 per adult, £10 per child, £35 family of 4
( May not appeal to children under 5 yrs)

**Box Office:** [www.oddsocks.co.uk](http://www.oddsocks.co.uk) Tel 01332 258 328

Further Information: Clare 01884 860 135

Ticket numbers are limited and sold on a strictly first come first served basis.

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Community News

REAL WINNERS SAVING REAL LIVES
A BIG THANK YOU!
Thanks to ALL the Devon Air Ambulance Lottery members at WITHERIDGE NEWSAGENTS. In 2012 £1626.00 was raised and since becoming an agent, Brian and his members have helped to raise over £10,000.00!
Our Lottery generates 33% of the funds to keep Devon’s 2 helicopters flying and every ticket bought makes a significant difference. See Brian to join and a chance to win the 1st prize of £1,350 and 12 more.

Sunday 14th July: Annual Motorbike Rideout. Starts at Log Cabin Diner, Knowstone, South Molton. £5 /bike. See website www.daat.org

The Seat in the Woods

**SECURITY ALERT**
Are your property, garden and outbuildings secure? Someone tried to gain access to our garden. The dogs were on alert and the gate was disturbed. BE AWARE: SECURE your property. Concerned Resident.

Witheridge School PTFA Easter Fayre raised £258 for school funds.

Frugal lunches for Lent raised £171 for church funds.

The Church Rooms Coffee Morning raised £231 for church funds.

North Devon Hospice Sponsored Knit

The final total for this Knit-in is £935.70. The generosity of people in this village is wonderful. Thank you to everyone concerned. The strips of knitting ranged from 13½ to 31½ inches with most people completing between 16 and 20 inches. They have now been sewn into blankets. The Hospice will inform us how much Gift-Aid they collected from some donations. A grand effort.
Family fun

Discover the glorious gothic house, rich in eccentric design, and encounter the delightful woodland garden, a nationally renowned hidden gem. Allow the children to let off steam in acres of wide open parkland and be amazed by the productive kitchen garden. Come rain or shine, there is always something new and exciting to explore.

Members and under 5s go free.

0 1 8 8 4 2 5 4 6 6 5
nationaltrust.org.uk/knightshayes

National Trust
Charity Knitting Group

Our group had its first meeting on 21st June last year and during this time, we have made 228 baby jumpers, 1 beanie hats, 34 baby blankets, 17 blankets, 21 Bliss baby sets, 62 premature baby items, 24 tunics, and Christine has made several pairs of gloves as requested by The Salvation Army. Christine is our expert glove maker!

Janet Spiers and I will be taking items to Barnstaple, (Amigos) to be taken to Uganda. Items given to The Salvation Army went to Kenya in March, and we have some more for them too.

Alternate Thursdays in the Rest-a-While 2:15-4pm

Eileen Haynes 860212

Bingo at The Firs: Bingo is held every other Tuesday at The Firs Care Home, which is next to the old Doctor’s Surgery. We have an assortment of prizes as well as a raffle. Everyone is welcome. Look for the Bingo information board outside the Firs which will give you the time of the next meeting. We look forward to seeing some new faces.

Alternate Tuesdays at The Firs Care Home 7:30pm

Ken 860 825

The Knights Of Witheridge

This year the Knights were pleased to assist 6 organisations within our parish with sums ranging from £100 to £500. Each April we advertise via posters around the village that we can fund in 3 categories: 1) Organisations 2) Individuals and 3) Community Projects. If you wish to be considered, email fhanbury@aol.com for an application form. Please remember that we can only continue to help if you support our activities. Please visit our paintball stand at the St. John’s Fayre this June or enter a team for our Tractor Push in July.

Fred Hanbury

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Drop-in Breakfast Club 8.30 – 9am – just £1 per day including breakfast.

After School Club 3.30-6pm open to ALL children aged 2-11 yrs.

Holiday Activity Club during the Easter and Summer holidays. Sessions from 8am – 6pm, three days a week.

Contact Paula Hallett on:
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wpssupervisor@hotmail.co.uk

Further details can be found at:
www.witheridgepreschool.btck.co.uk

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Walk and Talk

We now have a new walker called Mike. He came on the bus with us to Gidley Cross and we then walked back via Worlington. He was keen as it was new ground to him so we pointed out different parts as we walked along. Now that Spring is here, it is more interesting and everything is waking up, so perhaps we can now put our wellies and winter gear away. We have several walks in mind – long and short and we are looking forward to the next few weeks ahead.

Norah Mc Teague

Wednesdays. Meet at the Parish Hall at 10am

Witheridge Community Composting

Green garden waste is collected in the village on Thursday mornings from the beginning of March to the end of October. The cost of this service is £8.00 per year. We will collect trailer loads of garden waste £10.00 for members, £15.00 for non members. We also sell finished compost at £1.25 per bag delivered in the village, or you can collect at £1.00 per bag.

Contact Greg Henderson 01884 860819 to buy compost.

Allotments

We are all very grateful for the dry spell and that most of the allotments are getting well tended. The potatoes are in the broad beans are up and loving the sun. Bean sticks are springing up like magic on plots up and down the site with the hope that the frosts we had in early May will be a thing of the past and all the runner bean plants filling up most of our green houses can finally get planted. With the dry weather we hope to complete the new drainage ditch on the site: bet your bottom dollar that when it’s complete it will be dry for months.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HAVING AN ALLOTMENT?

We currently have a full plot for rent £52 per year. Phone for more information.

Greg Henderson 01884 860819
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From earliest times, animals were kept in long houses at one end of the dwelling. In Spring, when there was abundant grass, some cows would have milk surplus to the calf’s needs, which was a source of income for the farmer.

The cowshed was a primitive one storey building with a thatched or slate roof. As farmers became more prosperous, a second storey was added into the loft (tallet) space, providing accommodation for farm servants above the cattle. Around 1600 the milk house would have been floored with earth and the buttery with stone.

By the 1790’s farms produced a good deal of butter. Milk was scalded on a charcoal stove in tinned copper or brass pans or glazed earthen vessels until the cream rose to the surface. When cool, the dairy maid worked the cream without a churn in an earthenware container, turning it in a circular motion, in one direction, until the particles united - easier than churning. Cheese from scalded milk was sold to the poor at 2d/lb, butter in North Devon was 6d/lb. In summer, it fetched up to 18d/lb on account of the fleets and encampments.

Witheridge & District Dairy Company:
According to the S Molton gazette (18 Nov 1893), Mr H.J. Mansfield invited a number of farmers to meet in the Angel Hotel to start a central butter factory on the lines of the Culm Valley Dairy Company. There was support and capital in the room to utilise the produce of 150 to 200 cows and to proceed without delay.

Witheridge Historical Archive: The directors bore such local names as Elworthy, Maunder, Partridge, Selley, Smyth and Eastmond. Mr Maunder, of The Lawns, offered the site for the butter factory. The Directors and Hon. Secretary, all practical men, will give their services for the first year without remuneration.

The butter factory opened in April 1894, with machinery installed by Mr Stenner. It produced primarily...
butter and clotted cream but by 1896 it also had corn cracking and grinding machinery. In 1897, machinery was installed to make butter boxes from leather board. One man could make 600 butter boxes a day.

When it started 3,437 gallons of milk a month were processed into 1,375 lbs of butter but 4 years later, it had reached 1 ton per month. The business was extended with a site at Rackenford to process milk from 140 more cows. The cream went to Witheridge to make butter. Most of the farms would have been rearing Devons and only milk surplus to requirements would have been available. (T.R Gibson & John Usmar)

County Dairy Instructresses:
Between the wars, clean milk production and butter and cheese making, were taught by County Dairy Instructresses. Competitions began in Devon in 1893. There was a Dairy School at Meshaw and competitions at Tiverton Show.

Retail Milk 1950's- 1960s Until the early 1950’s people in rural areas of Devon could buy milk in hand cans direct from any farmer registered with the Milk Marketing Board, while farmers supplied villages or small towns using a horse drawn float in a 17 gallon (77 litre) churn with a polished brass lid and tap and a name plate.

Milk was drawn off into a 2 gallon (16 pint) can then measured on the doorstep into jugs using a ½ - 1pint dipper.

Lloyd Maunder delivering butter eggs and poultry about 1900

Towns were supplied by family businesses buying milk from the farms then bottled on their premises. A handcart with bicycle wheels on a wooden frame was used in Witheridge. Delivery was by purpose-made prams, horse-drawn floats, motor vans or battery driven floats depending on the distance. By early 1960’s larger dairies appeared with delivery to depots for retailing.

Witheridge Historical Archive:
For many years the Secretary was Mr W Greenslade, known as “Billy
Butterdabs"). After some years, the building became the property of Mr C Maire, the miller at Witheridge Mill. In its last years it belonged to the Tiverton Roller Mills and supplied stock feed.

**Gordy Pyne:** In the fifties and sixties deliveries to the door were commonplace. Milk and eggs were taken round by Toz Gibson, Stephen Selley, and Winston Maunder. Many drank scald milk as it was cheaper and said to be better for you. If these three let their cows out at the same time the Square became not only dirty but chaotic as well.

**Stan Selley:** I have no memories of the Witheridge Dairy Company but as a kid I remember Bill Greenslade ran the butter company and made some beautiful icecream. In the 1930’s there were 2 people selling milk – Winston Maunder and my father. Winston kept about 10 cows. He lived on North Street and had a shippon there a few doors up and below Mole Valley. He delivered milk around the village. My mother and father suddenly renamed the old butcher’s shop, The Dairy and we all worked for our parents doing the milk rounds – Rita, me and Freda. At first people fetched the milk at the door but then we started to deliver the milk before we went to school.

When Rita got married, me and Freda stepped in. People would bring down and dish for cream and we would deliver.

I remember riding my scooter with a basket going down to Ebrington’s row. I would have been quite small and can still remember breaking the dish!

**Bill Darch delivering for Selleys 1938**

**Bill Darch did Saturdays and Sundays.** He was about 14 in this photo. We delivered milk until about 1960. We were more interested in paying guests than the dairy, so I closed the shop.

In 1966 the Dairy was demolished as part of the scheme to widen Fore Street and give access to Chapple Road. Perry’s Dairy at Trafalgar Square continued until the 1980s under John and Millie Williams. There are memories of Millie delivering milk around the village in an old pram- another interesting story.


**Photos With. Historical Archive**
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WITHERIDGE & DISTRICT
GARDENING CLUB

Although the number of entries was down this year because of the appalling weather, we had a lot of people come to see the flowers on display and the atmosphere was lovely.

Jean Bryant

SPRING SHOW

Rose Bowl for Best in Show
Zoe Williams

Cup for Most Points in Show
Roz Knight

Shield for runner up
Sheila Manley

Best Exhibit: Flower Arranging
Classes 1-4 Ann Webber

Best Exhibit: Daffodils
Classes 6-20 Cyril Leat

Best Exhibit: Flowers
Classes 21-41 Ann Webber

Best Exhibit: Children’s classes
Zoe Williams

Best exhibit - Club bulbs
Millie Parkhouse

June 29th  Annual Outing: Barrington Court, Ilminster - a Jekyll inspired garden with a walled kitchen garden and a restaurant and Tudor Manor House. Everybody welcome.
Coach leaving The Square in the morning.

July 31st  ‘Perennials Throughout the Year’ Parish Hall 7:30pm

Aug. 10th  Annual Summer Show. Everybody is welcome to enter. Schedules from Margie 861695 /Jean 860753. Entries for vegetables, fruit, flowers, flower arranging, cake making, private gardens and allotments. Children’s classes. Phone Margie 861695
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.

South Coombe Farm
Witheridge
Tel: 01884 860302
Email: stay@southcoombe.co.uk
Web site: www.southcoombe.co.uk
**Steak and Potato Lasagne without Pasta**

For those who do not like pasta
This is of course Gluten free

**You need:**
- 8 oz of butty steak
- 4 good potatoes, chard or spinach
- onions, garlic, fresh tomatoes
- beef stock
- half a pint of milk
- cornflour
- tin of tomatoes
- cheese: Cheddar, Parmesan and Mozzarella
- basil, parsley, oregano, black pepper

**What to do:**
- Fry the garlic and onions in a little olive or rapeseed oil, when soft add the butty steak and fry until brown, remove from heat.
- Peel and slice potatoes, boil until just soft.
- In the pan you used to cook the steak, combine the stock and tinned tomatoes, reduce to a consistency of milk. Remove from heat.
- Gently heat the milk and add the cornflour, whisking as you go.
- Layer each ingredient as you would a normal Lasagne with the tomato sauce in the layers.
- Pour over the thickened milk and top with the cheese.

**Bake** at 175C until the top is golden and the cheese is bubbling

This is of course Gluten free.
Vegetarian option:- without the butty steak (though lacking taste).

---

**SKYDIVE JUMP for Hospiscare**

Do something AMAZING.
Raise funds to help care for local people with life-threatening illnesses.

**Saturday 13th July at Dunkeswell Airfield Honiton**

Email: c.wilkinson@hospiscare.co.uk or call 01392 688052
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West Middlewick Farm

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And new for 2012: log pods at West Middlewick. Try glamping in one of the brand new log pods.

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Nomansland

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email: stay@westmiddlewick.co.uk
**WITHart**

The WITHart group is looking forward to the summer and all the opportunities for painting that come with it. Here's hoping it's a good one.

About half of the group are trying their hand at portrait painting—some trying portraits of their families and others of their pets or wildlife.

It's always good to have a range of paintings on the go. We find it keeps us interested and inspired—just remember to keep your colours clean.

Our group has taken full advantage over the winter to produce some lovely water landscapes. Although small, our group has a good range of skills and we would love to share them. Just pop into the village hall: we will be happy to see you.

- **Monday afternoons 2-4pm Witheridge Parish Hall**

**Sheila Manley**

---

**Monday Club**

We had our first outing of the year in April and it was with a nearly full coach that we set off for St. John’s Nursery. What a wonderful variety of plants they had there, most of which seemed to be on our coach as we made our way to Atlantic Village for some shopping therapy—I think we all found the chocolate bargains.

We will be going to Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary, and Bridport & Weymouth in June and July and the Mystery trip in August so look out for posters. If you want a good day out and would like to join in the fun, you will be made very welcome.

See you soon. **Val**

---

**Witheridge & District Ploughing Association**

Our Annual Ploughing Match will be held on **Tuesday 25th September**, venue to be arranged. **Sheila Manley**

---

**Witheridge & District Ploughing Association**

**Sheila Manley**
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**Bell Ringers St John the Baptist Church Witheridge**

The group are in need of people willing to learn. If you would like to see what goes on, come along to a practice night one Friday. There is no commitment in just looking.

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

❖ **Friday evenings 7:15pm in the Belfry**  

**United Churches Luncheon Club**

We continue to serve about 35 freshly cooked meals on the first Tuesday of each month at the Parish Hall to people who live on their own in the Witheridge area. The meals are much appreciated – 3 courses for £3. A team of willing workers make this all possible. Transport is available for those unable to walk far.

Phone Annis 860398, Val 860709 or Yvonne 860012 for more information or to book your meal.

❖ **Friday evenings 7:15pm in the Belfry**

**Cancer Research UK**

It is with great sadness that we mourn the death of dear Frank. He fought a very brave battle with cancer. Frank was a staunch supporter of our charity and a former member of the committee. He arranged many concerts on our behalf and his book of poems raised a lot of money last year. He was immensely proud of his Flame of Hope Award and of becoming an Honorary member of Cancer Research UK. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We will have our usual stall at St Johns' Fayre (but no plant sale or open garden this year) and will be joined by Maggie & Bob Sheperd’s ‘Pink & Blue Supporting Cancer’ stall.

❖ **Friday evenings 7:15pm in the Belfry**

**The Little Dart Singers**

We are a Witheridge based singing group and we would like to invite you to join us. To be able to read music is not a requirement, just a love of singing.

Our main commitment is at Witheridge Parish Church on the 1st and 4th Sundays of the month, but we also sing with other local churches.

❖ **Practice Tuesdays  7:20pm Witheridge Parish Church**  

John Harris
**Good News**

I am delighted to announce that **Reverend Adrian Wells** has been appointed to be the Vicar of Witheridge and Team Vicar in the Little Dart Team Ministry.

Adrian has lived in Devon all of his life and understands the rural nature of our county well.

He is currently Associate Minister in the Newton Abbott team and brings with him knowledge of town ministry as well as experience as a priest who has been trained by ministry in this Diocese. He and his wife Sue have a 14 year old son, Benjamin.

I have got to know Adrian and his family a little during the last few months and I am really looking forward to their arrival. Please hold them all in your prayers as they prepare to leave Newton Abbott and move to North Devon in July.

Adrian's licensing service will be on **Saturday 27th July** at St. John the Baptist Church, Witheridge.

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**Easter Concert**

This year’s concert took its theme from a verse in Corinthians ‘I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.’

The brass element from Emerald Brass was complimented by the soprano voice of Holly Marie Bingham and the tinkling cymbals of percussionists George Barton and Craig Apps. The young musicians played to a capacity audience who, judging by the cheers and applause, certainly appreciated their talent.

During the second half Holly performed ‘Aria’, a work by American composer John Cage, who was described as the Picasso of his time. This is intended to amuse and we were treated to high and low notes, the spoken word and the sounds of cats, jazz, sheep, crying, laughing and even Gollum from Lord of the Rings. It was certainly a talking point.

The concert concluded with an arrangement by David Corkhill of William Walton’s ‘Façade.’ Thank you, Sarah and Graham for bringing such amazing young talent to Witheridge. We are very much looking forward to next year.

---

**Roderick**

**Jacky Bradford**
The Stuart Singers
Witheridge Church  29th June 7pm
Based in Minchinhampton in Gloucestershire, the Stuart Singers give about a dozen concerts a year raising money for local charities and causes. The choir comprises 60 voices who sing a wide repertoire without music. This should be a really good evening. Adults: £8, Children U13 £5 Tickets from Witheridge PCC

Methodist Chapel:
Minister Rev Jonathan Budd  01363 877281 or email thebudds@cantab.net
Sunday Services are at 11 am unless it is a ‘Churches Together’ service. Information for these will be on the Methodist Chapel / St John’s notice board.

Women’s Fellowship meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at 2.30pm from March to December at the Methodist Chapel for a variety of talks and a cup of tea. A warm welcome for all at any of our meetings.
❖ June 6th : Singalong with Warwick and Tony at the Women’s Fellowship. Margie Cosker

St John the Baptist Parish Church
Morning Worship and Communion Services start at 9:30am
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tu June 4</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club, Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Su June 23</td>
<td>Churches Together Open Air Service, The Square</td>
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<td>9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa June 29</td>
<td>St John the Baptist Patronal Festival, Parish Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu July 2</td>
<td>The Stuart Singers Concert, Parish Church</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa July 27</td>
<td>Licensing of Rev. Adrian Wells, Parish Church</td>
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<td>6.00pm</td>
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<td>Su July 28</td>
<td>5th Sunday Churches Together Service, Methodist Chapel</td>
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<td>11.00am</td>
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<td>Tu Aug 6</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club, Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa Aug 24</td>
<td>Witheridge Church Fete, Hope House</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tu Sept 3</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club, Parish Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Sept 22</td>
<td>Harvest Service, Parish Church 9.30am, Harvest Supper 1pm</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
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Note: All dates are subject to change, please check church notice board.
Pubs of Witheridge: ‘Hare and Hounds’

Today there is only one pub still open in the village, The Mitre Inn. What about all the others that have plied their trade over the years?

There seems to have been five others - The Black Dog, The Bell, The Commercial Inn, The Angel and the Hare and Hounds. Each has its own history to tell. We’ll start with the HARE AND HOUNDS

Today it is No. 6 Fore Street. The building goes back to the late 1700’s, though probably built on the site of an earlier 1500’s building. Whether it was built as a pub or converted at a later date is lost in the mist of time. The first mention of it I can find is from the Exeter Flying Post of February 1818, reporting an auction for the lease of Drayford Mill to be held at the Hare and Hounds.

The pub seems to have been a regular venue for auctions and sales throughout the 1800’s. The first landlord on record is Samuel Foxford in 1850. It’s possible the Foxfords had owned the place for some time as the family had been long established in the village and Samuel appears in the 1841 census as a Malster.

Trade must have been good as all the auctions would have brought in lots of thirsty bidders and a report from the North Devon Journal of 1834 states:

‘A labourer at Witheridge drinks 144 pints of cider over six days whilst mowing grass.’

The cider would have been provided by the farmer as part of the worker’s contract and not by the pub, but it shows just how thirsty you could get living in Witheridge.

In the early years it’s most likely that the pub brewed its own beer, but in the late 1800’s it was taken over by a Tiverton brewer Starkey, Knight and Ford.

After the First World War, the pub had a reputation as a warm and welcoming place. Many travelling salesmen stayed there and at times provided more business than the locals. It even had its own skittle alley and until the day it closed there were spitoons on the floor. There were very many landlords over the years, but a couple who remain in people’s memories are William Reed who ran the pub for 31 years until he
retired in 1936 and Jack Stone who had been a police sergeant. William Reed’s wife was very proud of the lime-ash floor in the Hare and Hounds and scalded milk was used daily to make it shine.

In the summer of 1940 when the 9th Battalion of the Manchester Regiment were billeted around the village, privates ate in the Angel, NCOs in Mitre House and officers in the Hare and Hounds.

The last landlord was Derek ‘Digger’ Ford, who ran the place together with his wife Pam. However in 1967, even though the pub was still doing good business, the brewery sold it and the Fords moved down the road to run the brewers other pub The Angel. The old pub was converted into a private house and in 1994 was badly damaged by fire, though the shell remained intact and the house was rebuilt.

Pam still remembers the pub with great fondness. One of Pam’s best memories was when Acker Bilk spent a merry afternoon supping cider with the locals. He was performing at the Parish Hall that night. Acker’s ‘Stranger on the Shore’ reached number 1 on both the UK and USA charts in 1962.

She had the feeling that the pub was haunted as she sometimes heard strange noises. She and her sister also thought that the size of the upstairs bedrooms were a bit small for the building and this turned out to be true. When the roof collapsed during the fire, firemen discovered part of a room had been boarded off, but why and by whom, is another story.

Jim Campbell

Pam with Charlie the deer

Photos courtesy of: Witheridge Historical Archive and Pam Ford
Witheridge Church of England Primary School

As one of the ‘3 Rs’, reading is a key focus for us all so we were delighted to welcome local story teller Rob Pudner into school. Rob delivered a fantastic assembly to the whole school and did workshops with each class.

Dads & other male volunteers needed: to help with reading sessions during the school day to further inspire boys to pick up books. Contact 860518

‘Cha Cha Slide’ for Comic Relief

This year the school, pre-school and staff all took part in a half hour long sponsored Cha Cha Slide. A total of just under £200 was raised and a great deal of fun had by all.

St. George’s Day:
The whole school had fun dressing up as either St George, princesses or in red and white. Pupils enjoyed a traditional roast beef and Yorkshire pudding dinner with parents, grandparents and governors, after which Classes 1 & 2 re-enacted St George slaying the dragon.

Open Day Thursday 13th June

- 12:15 Lunch in the School Hall
- 1:15-3:30 Open classroom sessions.
- 3:30-4:30pm to view the school, talk to the Head Teacher and Governors and see a range of after school clubs in action.

If you are unable to come but want to know more about Witheridge Primary School, contact Mr Duncan Headteacher 01884 860518.
Class 3 Poems: Senses
Our topic this Spring term is ‘Senses’. Class 3 have been writing poems about their senses. We have chosen our favourite lines to share with you. Mrs Halsey

Taste:
An orchard of sweet, ruby red apples. By William
I very much like crumbly hobnobs, well done pork scratchings and chocolate ice cream. By James
Winter tastes like tangerines, which are yummy and juicy, that Santa leaves. By Tristan
The warming taste of hot chocolate after a cold day. By Ed
Happiness tastes like yummy sweet chocolate bars that are crunching in my mouth. By Dylan

Seeing
Summer looks like the hot sun up in the blue sky. By Levi
I can see balls of snow hitting the ground and exploding everywhere. By Harriet

Hearing
Happiness sounds like my Mum singing in the bath. By Emma
I can hear Santa’s jingling bells when Santa comes at night to deliver me presents. By Aimee-Louise
I can hear robins in the sky gracefully flying by. By Ellie
I can hear by brother playing with Uncle Jack and Billy, Bubba giving Grace a cuddle and Grandad is playing with me. By Lily

When I’m happy I can hear black birds singing up in the big, brown trees. By Jamie
Terriers barking very loudly. By Tyler
Huge shiny red tractors roaring it’s engine. By Tom
I can hear tractors loudly shifting snow off the slippery road. By Bertie

Some sounds are not so nice like thunder and lightning, flashing,

Smell
Winter smells of steaming hot Christmas pudding on a plate. By Jacob
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Witheridge C of E Primary School PTFA

If you are new to the village and have children starting at Witheridge School, why not join the Parents, Teachers and Friends Association? We organise fun activities and fundraising events for the benefit of the children to encourage closer links between home and school and provide an opportunity for parents, staff, friends and pupils to get together.

If you would like to join the committee or find out more please contact Sonia Doughton 860357 or the school.

❖ St John’s Fayre Day: we will be providing food and refreshments this year in the Village Hall.

❖ Family Fun Day on Saturday, July 13th - details to follow.

Chulmleigh Community College


Year 11: Institute of Financial Services Three Year 11 girls took part buying and selling imaginary shares on the London Stock Exchange. At the regional final the team were 15th/1500 and 103rd/7500 teams nationwide.

New Head of Dart House is Nick Smith. Before turning to teaching, Mr Smith gained lots of experience working for Theo Paphitis (The Dragons’ Den) at the Royal Albert Hall and Derriford Hospital.

Torrington 1646: Year 8 learning about life in the C17th - dealing with witches, the barber’s trade, battle dress and a lot of blood and gore!

Millenium Cross Country at Kingsleigh School in Bideford. The Yr 7 & 8 Girls team came 4th. The Yr 7 & 8 Boys came 2nd Euan Kernahan in FIRST place!

New Buildings: The Official Opening will be Wed. 4th September 2013.

Dates: 5th Jul – Sports Day 23rd July School closes. 5th Sept Autumn term begins.

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**Witheridge Pre-School May 2013**

At the beginning of the spring term we enjoyed some warm weather and when we visited the school wildlife area on a ‘Listening Walk,’ we found the most frogs we have ever seen. The children were curious about the frog spawn but on recent visits we haven’t been able to find any at all.

A lot of parents joined us for the Easter egg hunt. Not wanting to miss an opportunity to extend their mathematics skills, the children were given cards detailing how many eggs, chicks and chocolate bunnies they had to find. They looked fantastic in their spring hats, but the windy weather soon put an end to that!

Whilst we are fortunate to have an all weather surface, we are struggling with the cold weather to get our planting underway, although the potatoes are now thriving, ready to enter the National Potato Growing competition. We are looking forward to hearing how the children’s marrow and runner bean plants get on at home and seeing photos of them.

*Paula Hallett*

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**East Worlington Pre-School**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter Bingo, we raised nearly **£460**.

It’s not long until our popular Duck Race, Dog Show, Gun Dog Scurry & Car Boot Sale on Saturday 29th June. See [www.worlingtonptfa.org](http://www.worlingtonptfa.org) for full details.

We are looking forward to taking part at St John’s Fayre and have a team entered in the Knights of Witheridge Tractor Push.

**The Toddler Group** is always pleased to welcome new faces. They meet at the pre-school every Tuesday in term time from 2-3.30pm. This term they will be hoping for nice weather so they can take advantage of the lovely garden setting.

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call on 01884 861563.
We also run a Parent & Toddler
Group on Tuesday afternoons
2pm to 3.30pm. For details call
Chanelle Busby 01884 861860.
www.eastworlingtonpreschool.co.uk
**Witheridge Art Group**  
We are a happy band of like minded people who enjoy an evening drawing or painting and sharing a hobby which many of us never seem to have time to do at home. We are self taught: some of us have had tuition way back and we all help each other when asked.  
We are always pleased to see new members. Membership is £5/year, £1.50/week.  
| Wednesday Parish Hall Comm. Room 7:30pm | Eileen Curtis |

**Witheridge Ladies’ Club**  
Our February speaker was Faye Ashton of Tiverton & District Community Transport Association and Shopmobility. We heard about their transport services taking people to medical appointments, shopping trips etc. Cost is per mile and very reasonable. Shopmobility provides mobility scooters for hire. Phone 01884 242099.  
In March, Peter from Wiltshire Farm Foods, told us about their meal delivery service providing balanced, nutritious food to the housebound or folk who don’t want to cook.  
April gave us the delightful George Williams with the next instalment of his walk around Britain in the 1980s. George always manages to lift our spirits! See our list of speakers in the Spring 2013 issue of Witheridge Voice.  
The Ladies’ Club also has a book club, craft club and luncheon club. Why not come along to see what we are up to! A warm welcome awaits you. **Coral Simmonds**  
| 2nd Tuesday in the month. Parish Hall 2 - 4 pm |
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It was better in Grandad’s day

Ever wondered what the village was like in 1900? There’s a book about Devon from that time called Furze the Cruel written by John Trevena. ‘Furze’ describes a Dartmoor landscape of granite and heather. In this extract, he describes Witheridge and its surrounds.

‘It is almost unexplored territory. There are no means of transit and the inhabitants are rough and primitive. ....

It is a sad land to wander through. It suggests a country at the end of its tether, which has almost abandoned its struggle for existence. A poverty stricken country which cannot face the strong-blooded flow of food from foreign lands. Even the goods sold in the village shops are of alien manufacture ....

It is a country of lanes, so narrow that only two persons can walk abreast together, so dirty and ill-kept as to be almost impassable in winter, so dark that it is sometimes difficult to see and so stuffy and filled with flies in hot weather, that any open space comes as a relief.

These lanes twist everywhere and out of them branch more lanes of the same dirtiness and width...... At the end of the lane may be seen a low white house with a gloomy orchard on each side and behind a wilderness of garden and in front, a court containing crumbling barns of cob and a foul pond.

On the other side of the house the lane goes on into more gloomy depths towards some other dull and lonely dwelling place in the rotten heart of Devon. ‘

Well at least now the lanes are a bit wider.                Jim Campbell
Steph’s blog: Sri Lanka
-saw, went, got married
by Stephanie Angell

Much discussion ensued where to celebrate my 50th birthday but after weeks of browsing we booked a holiday ‘special’ to Sri Lanka with £100pp off if you book TODAY!

Sri Lanka is one of the most important tea producers in the world. The vegetation is lush and green with rolling hills and tourism is well organised.

The 12 hour overnight flight to Colombo wasn’t too bad with free food and drink and good leg room.

Driving the 60km to our hotel, we were struck by the heat and humidity, rickety cars, gold Buddhas on roundabouts, elephants on the back of trucks, whole families on one moped, ox carts and machine gun toting soldiers in dug outs along the road. It was an eye opener.

We arrived around 8:30pm so dinner beckoned – curries, lots of veggy choices, salad, rice, dessert, and for some reason, Brown Windsor Soup! Non alcoholic ginger beer was popular and ‘plonk’ (in a country where the average wage is about £20 per month) £10 a bottle!

Next morning we walked round the extensive hotel grounds exclaiming often as we came across palm squirrels, monkeys and a hermit crab! We were right on the beach, white sand dazzled in the sunshine and bright patterned saris to tempt tourists flapped in the gentle sea breeze. It was early September, temperatures around 28C and a 5 minute rain shower some mornings.

We declined most touristy things as Les had secretly organised for us to be married whilst on holiday. We had people to see and papers to sign. Sigiriya is a must, an archaeological site surrounded by jungle where monkeys play on the
trails and there are crocodiles in its moat. The entry price is steep, as are the 1300 steps to the top. Another must - Adam's Peak where Adam first set foot on Earth when he was cast out from Heaven - a bit steep- no climbing gear needed.

So what did we do? A boat trip (we were the only passengers), past the bridge used for ‘Bridge on the River Kwai, to a remote village up an inlet choked with water lilies. A family offered us arrack from coconuts-like aniseed- and showed us their 2 roomed shack where they cooked over an open fire with a hole in the roof. Many had lost everything in the tsunami but 4 years on, despite masses of Aid cash, nothing much has changed although amazingly they had television which worked when there was power. Judging by the government officials’ houses and 4 by 4’s, corruption was rife. It seem the aid went to build a fancy airport.

Mr Malinki, the tailor, made my wedding sari plus 2 suits and shirts for Les and got change from £200! He took us to meet his family and to Kalutara to watch the Sri Lankan team playing cricket alongside a couple of oxen grazing! We visited the court and prison (interesting as it’s our line of work) and saw a house being built with pool, heliport, 4 bedrooms and servant’s quarters for a tempting £53,000!

In the midst of all this, with just the hotel guests and an elephant called Monica as my maid of honour, we were married on the hottest day of our holiday (35 C). Our wedding feast was shared by all and raised a smile when I peeled a banana for Monica. We were overwhelmed by the genuine friendliness and kindness of every Sri Lankan we met and plan to return for our 5th anniversary.
Witheridge Sports and Activities

Weekly opening times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7.00 – 11.00 (skittles at home)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>7.00 – 11.00</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
<td>12.00 – 7.00</td>
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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. **For safety reasons children are not allowed.**

Greg Henderson 860819

Witheridge Golf Society

The John Kemp Spring Trophy was held at Waterbridge on 13th March for an 18 hole Texas Scramble competition. On the winning team were Witheridge residents Graham Clarke and Keith Jenkins with the ‘Burrington Bandit’ Jeff Howell. The Ken Leneveu Memorial Wooden Spoon Trophy was won by his former team mates Dave Owen, Greg Henderson and Tony Curtis.

New members are always welcome. The format will be varied but the emphasis will still be on a team game. Contact 01884 860612 or astonguy@tring92.f2s.com

**Future meetings:** Wed. 10th July & 11th September

Andrew Clark

Table Tennis:

Need to get out more? Come and join our friendly small group of Table Tennisers for adults aged 16 or over. All equipment is supplied and we offer tea and coffee too. Come along and pass an enjoyable hour. All levels of ability from beginners to Olympic contenders, most welcome.

**Friday 11:00 - 12:00 in Parish Hall**
**Tennis Club**

We are delighted with the development of the club house: the partition is up thanks to John Couzens and the electric light has been installed, so we look forward to being able to use it during rain showers this summer. As the weather improves we will get back to maintenance of the court.

**Fees:** £2 pp/hr, children under 16 FREE.

**Annual subscriptions:** £30 per person or £50 per family, due in April, cheques payable to Witheridge Tennis Club to Lower Park Witheridge EX16 8PZ or hand in at Witheridge Newsagents. Contact Vine Spragg 01363 866033

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**Witheridge AFC Season 2013**

The football season has now drawn to a close and what a fantastic year it has been for the club.

The 1st team ended the season in 7th place out of 19 teams on 57 points, which is our highest league finish and points tally since the SWPL began back in 2007. The Reserves also ended the season in 7th place, which is a mid table finish for their division.

Facilities are now in place, so we look forward to next season when we will once again be eligible to enter the FA Vase. Thank you all for your support this season and we look forward to welcoming you all once again when we start pre-season friendlies in July. 

---

**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 £2.50 per session and a subscription of £20.00 per annum, is payable. This facility is available to residents of Witheridge and surrounding villages.

---

**Yoga**: Church Rooms Wed. 10.30am - 12.00

Small friendly group, progress at your own pace.

Some spaces available. Contact 01884 253229

---
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(weekdays between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm please)
**Witheridge Brownies**

On April 5th we took 17 girls to Clinton Hall in Merton, Okehampton. They enjoyed a variety of activities and even their duties. Duties included cooking, tidying the bedrooms and cleaning the loos!

In the Summer term Brownies will be out looking at wildlife for their ‘Rustle, Bustle and Squeak’ badge. They will also visit the Monkey Sanctuary in Looe.

Contact Jacqui Adcock 01884 251494 or www.girlguiding.org.uk Click JOIN US to add a girl’s name to our waiting list.

*Tues. Witheridge School 5.30 – 7pm*

**Witheridge Guides**

Last term Guides were busy doing their Confectioner badge. They used a variety of icings to decorate biscuits and learnt how to make and use a piping bag.

This term they are doing the Globalistic Go For It, a resource looking at art, culture and food from around the world, local paramedic, Matt Waters will be helping the Guides earn their First Aid badges and Zoe Williams is working towards her Baden Powell Challenge Award and has organised a fundraiser evening of Dance Fit for Brownies and Guides to raise money for Parkinsons UK.

**Rangers** follows on from Guides for girls aged 14 upwards. They meet in Tiverton twice a month on a Tuesday evening. For information on Rangers please call Ruth Hartley 01884 32211

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**Children’s Activities**

Brownies enjoying making crown biscuits at Pack Holiday.

Preparing Deserts for tea at Pack Holiday.

**Witheridge Explorers**

Explorers aim to help children make sense of the Bible through stories and activities. More helpers are always welcome. Please contact Heather 860744

*1st & 3rd Sunday*  
Church Rooms  9:30am

**Witheridge Taekwondo**: meets on Mondays and Fridays for ages 4-8 years and 9 years to adult. Contact Wayne Sibthorpe 07827 442524
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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.
Killing the Pig by Pam Charlton

For several years, we lived with our daughter on her smallholding in Portugal. We had kept various animals but then she decided they needed a pig to fill the empty pigsty.

The Portuguese have a great tradition in the countryside when they kill the pig. It’s usually a family affair and the animal is slaughtered in situ! So when the time came for our porker to be despatched, we asked a local café owner if he knew of anyone who could do the deed and he volunteered to do it together with a friend.

The morning came and the pig was quickly dealt with and then the fun started. We lived on a small track so they unloaded a rack made of reinforcing bars in the road in front of the house and proceeded to butcher it there and then.

This couldn’t be done without the help of plenty of the local ‘firewater’ and when that had all gone, with my husband’s best Scotch! They just got merrier and merrier as they blow torched the pig’s skin and then literally hacked it to pieces, the blood and gore soaking into our dusty lane.

They were delighted when we only wanted the meat, liver and kidneys, leaving them with all the offal, the head and bits and pieces as we had no way of using it. So off went 2 extremely happy and very drunk men to sleep off a fun morning, leaving us very large chunks of fresh pork to do something with. No more pigs for us - just chickens and pygmy goats but that’s another story!

Querença Sausage Festival.

Until recently, families kept pigs as their main source of food through the winter. Butchering the meat was hard work and families would share the work and eat drink and be merry afterwards. The festival is held in January with an exhibition of pig rearing, a feast of traditional pork dishes, especially Querença sausages, a church service asking Sao Luis for a long and healthy life for their pigs and finally an auction of sausages in Church Square.

The restaurant we frequented in Querença served a 6 course meal on Sundays- the food just kept on coming! Next to the church was a stall selling local fruit liqueurs and pottery - great for browsing and presents.

‘Killing the pig’ is about celebrating good food with family and friends so as traditions go, it’s a good one.
West Ridge Veterinary Practice

5 Chapple Road, Witheridge  EX16 8AS
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Fax: 01884 861266

Popes Lane Surgery, Lapford  EX17 6PU
Telephone 01363 83317
Fax: 01363 83455

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

Hillmans
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**Incomer’s Guide:**

**Mevagissey, Heligan, Trelissik**

**Distance:** A30 82 miles M5 A30 117 miles

**Time:** A30 1hr 57m M5 A30 2hr 12min

**Directions:**

**Across country to A30 (worth learning)**

On Tiverton road, bear right at Witheridge sign to Thelbridge Cross, LEFT to Morchard Bishop, LEFT down Polson Hill to Oldborough, slight right then follow Morchard Road to A377. LEFT to Copplesstone, sharp RIGHT in Copplesstone onto A3072. Keep on past Bow then LEFT onto B3125 to Okehampton. B3260 through Okehampton or follow signs A30 Launceston. A30 to just past Bodmin, A391 to St Austell, B3273 to Mevagissey.

**M5 & A30**

Witheridge to Tiverton, Tiverton to M5 south. Stay on M5 through Exeter to left exit signed A30/ A38. At roundabout take A30 Launceston, Bodmin, Cornwall. Stay on A30 to just past Bodmin then A391 St Austell, B3273 Mevagissey.

**Parking:** Main car park on the left as you enter Mevagissey. Walk to town - approx. 200m. One way system is VERY VERY narrow- better to walk.

**Getting Around** - Shops within metres of one another. Nothing is very far.

**Eating:** Several pubs. Pub on left of harbour does excellent fish and chips eat in/ takeaway. Fresh fish on the harbour side daily.

**SEE & DO - Mevagissey:** harbour, fishing boats in and out, coastal path either side of harbour - easy to find. Museum on left by the harbour (closed in winter).

**Lost Gardens of Heligan:** signs on the way into Mevagissey. Path from the town (3 miles?). Lovely subtropical plants in deep valley, woodland walk and sculptures, gardens, plant sales, nice cafe.

**Trelissick:** National trust gardens on the Fal River.

**Falmouth:** ferry to Fowey in the summer months. St. Austell, Eden Project, Looe and Polperro...LOTS!

---

Photos Carole Campbell
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“Oh do come on Teddy.” Teddy was lying on the bed, the present was wrapped in shiny red paper with a big blue ribbon, the card was written and Teddy had been no help at all.

“Gosh this is exciting. When did we last go to a party?” thought Dave. There was a toot from Michael’s Dad, who had come to take them to the party.

“Just you and Kirsty.”

“And Teddy!” whispered Dave. Michael rushed out to greet them “Wow, guys. Wow. Are those for me?” He ripped open Kirsty’s present and was just about to plunge into Dave and Teddy’s when there was a loud knock. Michael rushed off and threw open the door. The children gasped.

“Allow me to introduce myself,” the stranger said with a swirl of his black cape. “I am Caleb, the Greatest Magician in the Land, come to amaze you all.”

“Wow,” said Michael.

Would you like cup of tea?” said Michael’s Mum. “Caleb has no earthly requirements” pronounced the magician as a bunch of flowers appeared from his sleeve.

‘The Great Caleb’ did some juggling and plate spinning, made eggs disappear and a chicken popped out of his hat. Somehow Teddy slipped into Kirsty’s hands and when the Greatest Magician in the World needed a volunteer Kirsty shouted “Here, use Teddy.” He landed ‘kerplonk’ inside the magician’s enormous top hat. The children cheered!

Dave tried to protest. “Don’t worry, he’ll be alright,” said Kirsty. Dave certainly hoped so. He really didn’t like the look of that saw!

“What I am about to perform is not for the faint hearted,” Caleb said. “I shall now saw this bear in half”.

Dave screwed up his eyes and covered his ears and some of the children peeked out between their fingers. Then with a great cheer and much jostling, Teddy was held up without a scratch on him!

“Food’s ready!” “See, I told you he’d be alright,” said Kirsty.

Dave smiled weakly. He just wanted Teddy back safely in his pocket.

“Um, excuse me,” Dave said to the magician who was packing up already. “Have you seen my Teddy?” The magician pulled a wand out of his top hat with a flourish followed by hankies, flowers, a bottle and glass and a small saucepan - all very clever, but NO Teddy.

“Oh dear,” said the magician. “Perhaps you can try.” “I can’t do magic” Dave replied. “All shout, let’s see Teddy” said the magician. The children shouted at the top of their lungs......... NO Teddy.

Dave felt in his pocket... no Ted. He tried the other pocket (but Teddy NEVER sat in there) and there he was! Dave gave him the BIGGEST hug.

“Gosh Teddy, I’ll bet you’re hungry after all that excitement,” said Dave.

He knew how much Teddy liked his food! Michael’s Mum found them some cake. Dave smiled. After all, he and Teddy had been through quite an ordeal!
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PLACES TO GO QUIZ: CORNWALL

1. Garden brought back to glory. H............
2. S coast, estuary connected by bridge, beach. L..........
3. S coast harbour, houses packed into hillsides. P..........
4. S coast harbour and active fishing village. M....... ...
5. Furthest South. Cliff paths, family attraction. L..... E...
6. NW coast surfing beach. Quieter than Newquay. B..........
8. S coast, river mouth, Maritime Museum F..........
9. Across from Padstow. Quieter. SW path, beach. R........
11. Cables from across Atlantic, Telegraph Museum & WW2 defences. P..........
12. W coast, secluded beach S.of Newquay S............ C..........
13. Bikes & walkers trail starting Padstow C............ T..........
14. W coast, popular with youngsters N............
15. Close to Lands End. Ferry to Scillies P..........
16. W coast. Harbour. Tate Gallery S.... I........
17. S coast. Tidal island & causeway S..... M........M........
20. Open air theatre overlooking the sea. M............

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65
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Witheridge Parish Council  May 2013

**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](http://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.

**Contacting the Council**

Councillors and/or the Clerk are available by appointment. Please telephone to arrange a mutually agreeable time and venue. Contact details below.

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<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 FPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Martin (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>Grist Mill</td>
<td>861011 FPC HA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Bradford</td>
<td>Newland Lodge</td>
<td>860629 FPC PH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Hanbury</td>
<td>Rockhaye Cottage</td>
<td>860578</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Kershaw</td>
<td>Trafalgar House</td>
<td>860208 PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Stanbury</td>
<td>4 North Street</td>
<td>861375 FPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Yabsley</td>
<td>1 Pullens Row</td>
<td>861304 CP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol Prynn</td>
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**County & District Councillor**

Jeremy Yabsley 15A West Street 860605

**Public Rights of Way Liaison**

Mr & Mrs Hanbury

FPC Finance and Personnel  SJF St John’s Fayre HA Historical Archive
PH Parish Hall Committee  CP District Crime Prevention Panel
SFMC Sports Field Management Committee

**Clerk:** Peter Dunn  3 Drakes Meadow, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton, EX17 4HU
Tel: 01363 460046   Email: parishclerk@witheridgepc.org
Web:  [www.witheridgepc.org](http://www.witheridgepc.org)

**Scheduled Parish Council Meetings**

June 6, July 4, Aug Recess , Sept 5, Oct 3, Nov 7, Dec 5
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North Devon Council www.northdevon.gov.uk 01271 374 776
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June 14,28 July 5,19 Aug 2,16,30 Sept 13,27

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Tel: 01884 860266 : E-mail info@newhousecottages.com
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### Places to go Quiz Cornwall Answers

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### Around Devon

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### Recurring

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<tr>
<td>3 monthly last Sunday Car Boot Sale With Parish Hall</td>
<td>NEXT Aug 25th 860685 10-12</td>
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### National Samaritans Walk 8th June

- 2013 hosts are N. Devon Branch, Barnstaple
- 12 or 23 mile walks W Buckland, Tarka Trail, bit of Exmoor

The Samaritans listen in confidence to anyone in any type of emotional distress, without judging or telling people what to do. Phone 24 hrs /email / text / face to face. Phone 08457 90 90 90

See website [www.walk4sams-2013.co.uk](http://www.walk4sams-2013.co.uk)

### Local

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
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<td>Monday Club Trip (open to all) Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th</td>
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<td>Sa</td>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>St John’s Fayre Day 10am stalls 11am Parade Funfair Thursday 20 - Sat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>Duck Race &amp; Dog Show in East Worlington</td>
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<td>Monday Club Trip open to all Bridport + Weymouth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa</td>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>Family Bike Day Witheridge Primary School 2pm onwards</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Aug 10</td>
<td>Garden Club Summer Show</td>
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<td>Sa</td>
<td>Aug 24</td>
<td>Church Fete - The Rectory Witheridge</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
<td>Sept 24</td>
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### One off events

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The Bridge 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)

www.thelbridgexinn.co.uk
Witheridge Farm Shop
@ West Yeo Moor Farm
www.WitheridgeFarmShop.co.uk
EX16 8QA
01884860313
Open Wednesday to Saturday
9 am to 5.30pm

Award winning local food

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