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Editorial
This issue is later than usual as we move the magazine so Spring 2015 comes out with the Spring flowers.
I am always actively seeking people willing to talk while I scribble. Thank you Kaye for describing what life was like at Blackerton Hall, East Anstey and Jane for showing us round her apple orchards at Lewdon Farm – Devon countryside at its very best.
We very much welcome Dr. Owens’ first ‘View from the Surgery’ and thank you to West Ridge Vets who have 2 pieces in this issue about lambing and monitoring mammals on the canal. The Parish Council have 2 pages so no space for a quiz but the Incomer’s Guide will take you to Tintagel and the view is well worth all the steps.
Community News seems to fill itself. I make NO apology for a whole column on Dog Poo. There are NO excuses for watching a dog poo then leaving it.
Advertising: Thank you to all who advertised with us in 2014/15 without whom this magazine would not be produced. A special thank you to those local businesses who advertise purely to support us. If you advertise in the church magazine and not in Witheridge Voice please consider supporting us. We print 800 copies, available free of charge and they go very quickly.
We sell advertising space for 4 issues from Summer 2015 (early July) to Spring 2016 (early April). We still have some spaces. Adverts can be changed to suit the seasons.
Carole Campbell

Contents

Features
Blackerton House 5
Apple Juice- Lewdon Farm 17
On The Buses 29
A year in Pictures 2014 32,33
A Sign of the Times 39
History of the Tennis Club 42
Monitoring Mammals 51

Regular
Welcome to the village 9
Parish Hall & Police 9
Community News 11
Letters To The Editor 13
A View from the Surgery 21
Churches 30,31
Schools & 0-5yr 34,35,37
Craft Ideas 41
Children’s activities 45
Sports 47,49
Vet News 51
Incomers’ Guide 53
Parish Council 55 & 57
Things I Could Go To 59
Library & Community Info 61
What’s happening 62

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In Another Life: Blackerton House by Kaye Saunders

I was there for 24 years and volunteered before that. I went there when they needed a cook at short notice. My sister Lorna was already there and said I could cook as I was cooking at home for 7.

I stood in for 3 months then another 2 months while the new cook settled in but she didn’t stay long and I became Head Cook, cooking for nearly 100.

The first CARE village was set up by Peter Forbes at Blackerton House, East Anstey in 1966. He believed that people with learning disabilities could live full lives rather than being locked away in institutions. It was his dream.

The village started with just the main house and his bungalow in the grounds but ended up with about 4 bungalows for residents, the main house with 2 wings and staff bungalows. Alan Reay (my ex), built the bungalows and the swimming pool. There was a laundry, a farm, market garden, pottery, weaving, printing, a cafe and a shop. It was like a village in the end and the residents were called villagers.

We had 50 adults aged 16 to 60, all with learning difficulties, autism and Down’s syndrome. A lot were there a long time and a good few were local. They lived 10 to a bungalow, 5 boys and 5 girls with a flat at each end. They had a 2 week assessment to see if they would fit in as they had to be able to mix.

We didn’t put too many autistic residents together. It wasn’t the right place for people with severe behaviour problems although we had 1:1 support for existing residents.

Self sufficiency The residents milked the cows and tended the market garden. The woodworking shop made all the units for the cottages. The weaving shop was run by a fantastic lady called Ann Dyer who taught them how to make quilts, cushions, scarves, skirts, bags and screen printed Christmas cards. They also went to college in Tiverton for Maths, English and Photography.
The Shop & Cafe They sold pottery, knitted stuff and dried flowers. The Link Room Cafe sold cream teas in the afternoon and was run by the residents.

Care workers Day and night workers lived in. There were 8 residents with 2 care assistants in each cottage, so when one was on the other was off. Lunch was supervised by the day staff. The night assistants worked from 5pm until 10pm then the sleep-in staff were on call. There were 2 flats, a man at the boy’s end and a lady at the other end. Elaine did cooking, laundry and dried flowers. My sister Lorna was in the laundry, as was Norman Carter’s wife and I was the Head Cook.

My job In the beginning we did normal stuff like liver and onions but as we got different matrons, we got fancier – curries, ratatouille, cannelloni. When I first went there we did a cooked breakfast, a main meal and pudding at lunchtime and tea.

I could have 5 - 9 residents training with me. Everyone that worked with me could stand and walk. I would teach them how to cook cakes and roll out pastry, lay tables and food hygiene. I got attached to them all. Down’s children are lovely. They used to call me Mum Saunders.

Food wasn’t a problem as it was the highlight of the day but it went better when there wasn’t a choice. They would get confused and we would get behaviour problems. When we served from large serving dishes at a big table, we could see what people were eating, it was calmer and you could tell if anyone was coming in late eg if they had gone horse riding or to the doctor. I’d prepare tea for them all then I took over supervision of baths and showers. They would try to do it themselves but some needed help.

Evenings On Wednesdays we did handicrafts or we went to the Gateway Club in Tiverton for a disco, games and Bingo. George Copper’s boy Adam was with us. He loved going to Gateway.
We took them out a lot. Everyone who drove had to do a minibus test. I got 2 days off if I worked the weekend but I would often drive the bus. I drove to Bampton Fair and the County Show and went with them to horse trap and pony riding. Norman Carter, the farm manager, once lost someone at the County Show but he was one who was pretty good and we found him again.

**Holidays:** Reg and I used to take them on holiday to Butlins: 7-9 residents and 3 adults. The number was dependent on their ability to cope on the trip. Reg went as a volunteer.

**Sports Day and Fete Day**
Parents got involved especially at the fete where we would raise thousands of pounds. We had races like jumping over bales. Fete days were a really big thing. I was cooking for months beforehand – scones, cream cakes, cream, cream and more cream. Most of the parents lived near but people came from all over and Pierce Bennett’s father would land his helicopter in the grounds. Everyone got involved.

**Pantomimes**
The residents did one that we came to see, then the staff did one. We did some really gory stuff (pretend) and the kids loved it. The families and local people all came to watch.

**Working there**
We had some hair-raising moments at times. It was usually something that happened, something very simple that you would understand if you knew them. We were taught restraint and we did need to use it occasionally for everybody’s safety.

Thinking back, I loved it, especially working with the residents and seeing them happy. You got really attached to them. They were like my own family.

As long as the whole community was working well with the farm and plenty for them to do, it was a really good place to live.

Peter Forbes died a good 20 years ago.

Adult care became ‘Care in the Community’ in 2007 and Blackerton Hall closed in 2011.

*Kaye Saunders*
EMMA ASHELFORD
HAIRDRESSER

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

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Paul & Chriss Clark        Barbara Colman
Pat Grant    Emily Gilbert , John Hedley, Isaac and Seth
June & Tony Hardy            Barbara Newton

The Children’s Centre has moved back to South Molton Pip Centre. The Stay & Play/ Health Clinic will continue in Witheridge Parish Hall and we will need volunteers to help. You can still contact the Children’s Centre team in South Molton on 01769 579615. Thank you all for your support.

Stay & Play / Health Clinic 2nd & 4th Tues. 9:30-11:30 am  P. Hall

Community Policing Overnight on Thurs 12th-Fri 13th February 2015, the Post Office and Village Store was broken into. The offenders broke into the premises causing some damage and stock was taken. Within hours 3 males were arrested in Exeter appearing in Court on Monday 16th February. They were all from outside the area and are also wanted by a number of other forces for offences around the country.

Inspector Bartlett said “We are very pleased with this positive step in the enquiry after some excellent work by local officers and those in Exeter. I hope these arrests will reassure the community of our commitment to bring offenders to justice and to protect communities from the harm they cause.”

Parish Hall The new planting behind the Parish Hall has vastly improved its appearance. It is rapidly becoming a building we can be proud of. Another fantastic addition to our facilities is the play wall. It will be brilliant for practicing scoring goals at football and also for perfecting your forehands at tennis. The Parish Hall committee will continue to try and put on events that will appeal to everyone in the area. However, it would be wonderful to have some ideas from people not on the committee. If anyone knows of good bands, please let me know, also anything else that might benefit the community. clarespicer@talktalk.net

Regards Yorkie
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**Community News**

**Witheridge Pre-School** raised £317 at the Christmas Fayre and £112 on Santa’s practice trip around the village. Paula is hoping to buy some musical instruments with the money raised.

St John’s Fair - Lighting the Tree & Ferret Racing fundraiser. The Ferret racing was great fun and raised £450 towards the cost of next year’s fair.

**Witheridge Parish Church** Christmas craft market in the church raised £600 and the Mad March sale raised £254.

**Thelbridge Church** – Bingo raised £173 for church funds.

**New Year Fundraiser in The Mitre**

The Old Pound House donated a hamper and Rob Brown and Andy Collidge donated signed copies of their books to raise funds for the Parish Hall rebuilding fund. The raffle prize was later auctioned which raised £482 altogether. Thank you to all. **Rob Brown**

**Witheridge Young Farmers** at the County AGM won the Kelloggs Shield for the most points in the Exe Valley Group. Bingo in January raised £250. The Charity Dung Sale in March raised £138 for the Devon Air Ambulance.

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NOT putting up with this!
A man who stood on the corner of Chapple Rd and Brooke Road was seen by a resident standing beside his dog as it left several large poos on the pavement. His wife then joined him. They both saw it and walked away. The resident was so incensed he offered to PAY to put something in the magazine. Another couple came by and said they’ve seen a young person, dog on long lead, totally oblivious to what her dog is doing. I walked towards the Parish Hall up Chapple Road- more faeces (same dog?) and 3 patches from a smaller dog, all in the space of 50 metres.

Email: I have just witnessed a man allow his dog to foul on the corner of Brooke Rd and walk away. Our children are put at risk every day by dog poo being abandoned by irresponsible dog owners. It is an offence to leave your dog mess behind yet our village is riddled with it.

Do we really need to keep watch and report people who do this to the police?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
A new venture in response to requests. Letters of a political or defamatory nature will not be printed. Max 80 words.

Ted’s Farm Shop
Missing you already!
On behalf of your customers, thank you. Editor

The Hetherington Women part 2
Catherine Anderson’s second novel has just been published. Coral

Serving Witheridge News
After 32 years of providing us with news, Edna is enjoying retirement. She also worked in Tout’s Butchery when it was The Spar and in The Angel. Emma

Our last need: Bill Rowcliffe
In mid February Bill directed his last funeral for the family of Raymond Reed the Baker, before retiring. Bill has been involved with funerals since he was a lad and has done the best for Witheridge families over a lifetime. Thank you Bill. It is important that our community recognise, with appreciation, the service Bill offered. Rev Adrian Wells
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Throughout the day we have Mr Showers, a fantastic children’s entertainer, who is sure to put a smile on your face. Show off your pet at the family dog show, take the children to Anderton and Rowland’s Funfair (Thursday and Friday evenings and all day Saturday) or wander round the stalls and exhibitions in The Square and the Parish Hall.

Some of the other attractions include Bideford Youth Pipe Band, Crediton Town Band, face painting, a steam engine, a half track tank, majorettes, duck herding, family races, stalls and games. There will be a wide variety of food available on the day, all supplied by local vendors.

**Contact** Naomi Pacey 860394  **To book stalls:** Lise 860625  
**New Website:** [https://sites.google.com/site/witheridgestjohnsfaironline](https://sites.google.com/site/witheridgestjohnsfaironline)

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Lewdon Farm
We have been here 24 years now. We were both living in Devon but neither house was right for us so we decided to combine. We spent ages looking and almost didn’t look here as it had too many acres. I was looking at another in the parish and though I might as well. Just the view from the house was enough: the place was lovely.
I was worried about splitting up a farm but the neighbours were keen to buy land, so we kept 18 acres out of 200. We were looking for interesting landscape with wild flowers so we included the steep valley which is agriculturally useless but ecologically fabulous. I am really proud that we have the orchids back and the area going down to the river was granted Devon Wildlife status 8 years ago.
The house hadn’t been lived in for 20 years so was all in a bit of a state. The removal van could only get part way down the lane so they decanted all our stuff including a piano into smaller vans and it all came across the field. The first thing was to lay the concrete lane so we can get in and out in all weathers, then gates and heating. We have a 30 year plan and we’re still working on it.
The Orchard
We were fascinated to find that we had 25 old trees that were the remnant of an orchard. I had never dealt with trees on that scale and I didn’t know the varieties or what they did. Two things helped hugely: being put in touch with Mrs Troake and joining ‘Save our Orchards.’ Joan Troake told me absolutely everything she knows about apples, all about the old varieties and what each was used for. It was all really valuable especially knowing the variety of each of our trees.
The ‘Save our Orchards’ group was only a year old but they ran courses. I started with ‘Cider & Juice Making’ and ‘Pruning’ ie all the things you need to know about orchard management.
I was young, enthusiastic and totally smitten by the whole orchard thing and as they were collecting information about varieties that were dying out, I was really pleased to pass on what Joan knew. The group became ‘Orchards Live’ and I’ve been secretary ever since.
Orchards, Ponies and Ecology
There’s more to orchards than I thought - a traditional orchard, properly managed, is an amazing wildlife resource and orchards are now recognised by DEFRA as such. They have their own ecosystem in living trees, rotting fallen trees and on the ground–insects, birds, bats, foxes and badgers.
Little owls prefer orchards to anything else.
The ponies are all rescue animals from the Mare & Foal Sanctuary. Small ones are best as they can’t reach into the trees but we have to protect the trunks. They are taken out just for 3 months when the fruit is getting ready. They keep the grass down and fertilise to some extent. They are not as damaging as sheep or cattle. We have tried everything!

**Grafting and Budding** I did this course to be able to propagate existing trees including some of the fallen. Now we have about 80-100 trees in at least 60 varieties. I do remember the names of most of them. They are mostly old Devon varieties, cider, dessert, cooking and some multipurpose. About 70 are ones we have put in or grown ourselves.

A graft of my own, put in small, seems to adapt to our soil better than nursery bought trees. They suffer a bit of shock going from the nursery to our harsher, frostier and poorer soil.

**Cider and Apple Juice** After the first 2 courses, I could start to make cider and juice. In the early days we drank it ourselves and gave it to family and friends then when Hugh retired from the National Trust, we treated ourselves to a hydraulic press and upped the production a bit.

**The process** It takes 20 apples to make 1 bottle of juice and I worked out each apple is moved 13 times: ground – sack- wheelbarrow- barn- washing – mill – press - decant – bottles – pasteuriser- bottles out- boxed- labels .

**Pressing** The press has a stainless steel tray and a 'cheese' of apple pulp is built up about 2 feet high in layers wrapped in cloths, between slatted wooden racks made of acacia. After pressing, the cheese is only about 6 inches high, and the squeezed-dry pomace is composted (with the animals getting some as a treat).

We press from October to December but not every day. Pressing takes 2 of us one day and bottling and pasteurising is
two days after that. Apple juice is a pain though. If you get any juice on anything, it will go black so we have newspaper everywhere.

The only thing we add is ½ teaspoon of ascorbic acid to 25 litres of juice to keep the colour and stop it going brown.

**Blending**

As we pick the apples I need to know what is in each sack and I taste the pulp and juice all the time. We have lots of kinds but I am trying to make one that isn’t too sweet. Nearly everybody who tries it likes the less sweet one, even the children. It’s sweeter if you get a hot summer. I make one for myself which I call OLD SOURPUSS. Its sharp and I like it.

**Making a living**

Thankfully it’s not my main job as it’s not a money spinner. By the time you have picked up the apples, brought them in, washed, milled, pressed, bottled, pasteurised and labelled them, there’s not much profit left. I do it because it’s nice that the land makes something. It has to pay its way.

**How much juice?** In a good year we make 100 gallons of cider and 300-400 bottles of juice. Some years we get awful crops and other years we have loads. If we get frost when the trees are flowering, the bees are put off and we get a reduced crop. We are in a frost pocket so we have late flowering varieties.

We also make cider. I’ve got one or two varieties that don’t press well that the birds like. You don’t know which ones will do well until you try, its on ongoing experiment.

**The Next Generation**

Now I teach the Orchards Live course, would you believe? If you would like to know more go to [www.orchardslive.org.uk](http://www.orchardslive.org.uk)

**Facebook:** Orchards Live.

*Jane Schofield*
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Hello,
Some of you will have met me already, but as a new Partner, I thought this a great opportunity to introduce myself and share a few thoughts.
I hope to contribute a regular section and vary the content to include key NHS changes affecting General Practice, initiatives we are putting in place and focus on one or two medical areas that might be of interest.

So, who am I?
I live in Exeter and have two boys in their teens. I worked as a hospital pharmacist before training as a doctor at Peninsula Medical School and did my GP training in Crediton.
I am sure my desire to deal with one problem per appointment has been noted so I thought it helpful to explain why.
We have a 10 minute slot per patient but if a problem is complex or a patient becomes unwell, we might have to spend much longer, and that is often the reason we can run behind.
Each 10 minutes covers the patient coming in and going out, hearing the patient’s story and asking more questions, examining them, discussing the diagnosis or plan and documenting that in the notes.
Dealing with two problems means you only have 5 minutes for each. Sometimes this is possible, but often isn’t and it is far safer for the patient to come back and devote longer to the second problem. Please don’t be offended by this. In the end, we spend as long as is needed and that may be 5, 10, 20 minutes or longer.
We will never ignore a serious condition because of time. The skill is identifying what needs to be done in that 10 minute appointment and being as fair with time to each and everyone as possible.

**Coughs** Coughs are common and often self-limiting- they are a reflex action to clear your airways of mucus and irritants. It is important to know when to speak to a doctor however, as a cough can indicate more significant illness, I would advise seeing us if:

- A cough carries on for more than 3 weeks, even if you think you have had a viral infection.
- A cough is associated with shortness of breath, chest pain or you cough any blood up.
- You feel confused or increasingly unwell or you are otherwise concerned.

Patients taking drugs that suppress their immune system, who have existing lung conditions or those prone to infections eg after having their spleen removed, should also seek advice from us early.

Dr Thomas Owens
South Coombe Country Cottages

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Witheridge Ladies’ Club

- Mar 10 Hugo Steere: ‘My life as a poet’
- April 14 Judi Binks: Healthwatch Devon
- May 12 Harry Monson: The Club
- June 9 Summer Outing TBA
- July 14 Val Pounds: My life with Animals
- Aug 11 Annual Cream Tea Stalls
- Sept. 8 Jeremy Savage: ‘Thine Eyes’
- Oct 13 G. Williams: Broadmoor Hospital
- Nov 10 Pat Benn: Floral Decorations
- Dec 8 Christmas Lunch

Coral Simmonds

Witheridge & District Garden Club

- Mar 25 Hilary Loder- Herbal Gardening
- April 11 Spring Show 2:30pm
- April 29 David Loder- Vegetable Gardens
- May 9 Plant Sale 2:30pm
- June 24 Social & Johnny Kingdom
- July 6 Vegetable Garden Judging
- July 29 Flower Garden Judging
- Aug 8 Summer Show 2:30pm
- Sept 30 Alan Leaman- Cuttings
- Oct 28 David Manners – Garden Wildlife
- Nov 27 AGM

Garden Club

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- Nov 27 AGM

Meetings: Last Wed in the month Witheridge P. Hall NEW TIME 7pm

Dates: *Sat April 4th Spring Show 2:30pm *Sat May 9th Plant Sale 2:30pm P. Hall
*Wed May 27th Bingo Fundraiser Thelbridge Parish Hall 7:30pm
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Telephone: 01884 860578
**United Churches Luncheon Club**
We continue to serve a 3 course meal for £4 for people who live on their own. It is a time of fellowship and those who attend really enjoy coming. New members are always welcome. We often need to transport people to and from the Parish Hall and would appreciate some more volunteers as drivers. You would need to check your insurance to see if you are covered. Contact Yvonne Childs 01884 860 012

- **1st Tuesday** in the month Parish Hall 12 noon  
  April 7, May 4, June 2

**Charity Knitting**
Pam introduced us to Twiddlemuffs- thick warm muffs with items sewn to the top eg buttons, ribbon, anything that can be twiddled with! They help the elderly in nursing homes to keep agitated hands busy.

The Petroc Centre for the homeless has also received hats and scarves and up until next autumn we hope to have a good few blankets to donate as well. Our other projects are ongoing. It’s good to know that our work is making a difference.

- Alt. Thurs in the Rest-a-While 2:30-4pm  April 9,23  May 7,21 June 4,18  Eileen

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**The Little Dart Singers**
We are singing group based in Witheridge. Our main commitment is to Witheridge Parish Church on the 1st Sunday of the month. We occasionally sing with other local churches. We need members who enjoy singing and can commit to one evening a week and to the first Sunday each month.

- **Practice Tuesdays** 7:20pm Witheridge Parish Church  
  John Harris

**The Rest-a-While**
**HELLO Witheridge**
We want everyone to feel that this centre belongs to us all, young and old, singles and couples, adults and children. It’s not just for ‘old people.’ We offer a friendly face and someone to talk to, even if just for a couple of hours.

Let’s revitalise Witheridge with a community centre used by all of us.
Since November we have welcomed several new faces but there’s room for MORE! Come in and make some friends. More helpers needed. **Eirene Allinson 860163**

- **Open Monday – Saturday 10-12**  (Closed only Christmas Day!)
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Culm & Exe Valleys National Trust Centre
Many of you will not be familiar with us and what we do. If you are a member of the National Trust, you can extend your experience and participation by meeting with over 400 others at our illustrated talks in St Andrew’s Hall, Tiverton.
We also run coach trips, an annual dinner, afternoon tea and music at Killerton House, an informal pub lunch and an annual holiday where you will meet other members. For me the highlight of our programme is the two coffee mornings in the new Heathcoat Cricket Pavilion at Knightshayes where we are brought up to date by the members of their house and estate teams.
As well as being great fun, the events raise funds for projects at Knightshayes and Killerton House. Membership is £5 a year. Please contact Mrs Mary Lewis, Arundel, Uffculme Road, Craddock, Cullompton EX15 3NX or speak to Witheridge members Mike and June Turner, 5 Shortridge Close.  

Revd John Bolton, Chairman

Witheridge Community Composting
Green garden waste is now being collected in the village. The cost of this service is £8 per year. We will collect trailer loads of garden waste, £10 for members, £15 for non members. We also sell finished compost at £1.25 per bag delivered in the village, or collect at £1 per bag. Volunteers still needed. We meet on Mondays and Thursdays 9:00 -12:00.
You need to be fairly fit, but most of us are in our late 60's, some in their 80's and still going. Tools and training provided plus coffee and sometimes cake!
To order compost phone Greg Henderson 860819
Tip: Green garden waste collected Thurs mornings starting 19th March- 29th Oct.

Allotments
Spring is just round the corner and everything is starting to come to life. This is where the hard work begins! For available plots, of which we have plenty call Sam 861 527

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On The Buses

When I was a student, I spent the long summer holidays working as a bus conductor. That was in the days before OMO (One Man Operated). For those of you old enough to remember, you didn’t pay the driver. We were the people who came to your seat and sold you the ticket for your journey. I had 3 days training and one of the regulations I was given was that you should only allow 2 greyhounds per deck. A strangely worded rule I thought, but being shy said nothing. Northumberland was a mining area and many of the pitmen enjoyed racing their whippets.

One Sunday I was on a run which passed one of the race fields. At each stop were a few miners each with their whippets. Try telling that lot that they couldn’t bring their dogs aboard. I had almost a full load when an inspector got on. A quick look round and he called me over. ‘Don’t you know the rule about dogs?’ he asked. ‘Yes’ I replied, but pointed out that it said greyhounds and didn’t mention whippets. He was not amused and I was given an official reprimand. However when he got off I received a round of applause from the passengers.

Jim Campbell

Witheridge Trivia by Jim Campbell

How many?

It may seem strange, but did you know that the population density of the village is about 2600 people per square kilometre, whilst Beijing is only 760. According to the Domesday Book of 1086, the population of Witheridge was 11. At the last census it was 1158.

Retirement village?

In 1891 the average age of the villagers was 31 and there were only 24 people 65 or older. Today the average age is nearly 47 and the 65+ seem to be thick on the ground!

Nothing stays the same

The church used to have a wooden spire, which dated from 1568. However over time it deteriorated and was taken down in about 1840. The tower was then heightened by 40 ft.
Bill Gates wrote about 5 aspects of life that I thought I would share.

1. Success seduces smart people into thinking they can’t lose.
   It’s important to stay humble. Success is as fleeting as life itself. It can all be taken away at a moment’s notice. Success should never change who you are inside. Be respectful to everyone you encounter and give back to the world around you. We learn more from failures than triumphs.

2. Don’t compare yourself with anyone.
   Measure your success by how well you live up to your own values. We all have to take our own paths in life. We can take the wrong path multiple times before we find the right one.

3. Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning.
   If a lot of customers are unhappy about the same thing, change is necessary. The same is true in your personal life. We learn from the people who are unhappy with us, especially those who are close. We should take heed when we upset people close to us. Life is about cultivating relationships and building connections.

Address the problem by communicating.

4. Be nice to nerds. Chances are you’ll end up working for one.
   Popularity changes with age but all people deserve respect because you never know where they might end up. Plant the seeds of kindness and build relationships from a young age and you will never walk alone.

5. Life is not fair. Get used to it!
   There will be struggles and much of what happens to you will be out of your control. Accept it, take the good with the bad. The greatest moments of your life only feel that way in contrast to your most painful experiences. Don’t seek out pain or failure. They are a natural part of life. We evolve through struggle.

Adrian BRENDA STEWART & STEVE BINGHAM
Acoustic & Electric – yes, ELECTRIC - Violins!

Wednesday 1st April at 7.00 pm
St John the Baptist Church, Witheridge

In support of
FRIENDS OF WITHERIDGE SURGERY

Tickets: £15 reserved  £12 unreserved
e-mail grallum@networksong.com or telephone 01884 860132
Methodist Chapel
Rev John Wiltshire 01363 877281
Sunday Services 11am
(Except Churches Together service - see noticeboards at the Chapel & Parish Church)

Women's Fellowship
❖ 1st Thurs in month from March - December 2:30pm
Fri April 3rd Good Friday Concert in the Chapel, Stow Meadow Singers 7:30pm

St John the Baptist Parish Church  Rev Adrian Wells
Morning Worship and Communion Services start at 9:30am

- Sun March 29  Ecumenical Palm Sunday Service  Parish Church  9:30am
- Wed April 1  Easter Concert Parish Church  7:00pm
- Th April 2  Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service Parish Church  7:00pm
- Fri April 3  Ecumenical Good Friday Walk of Witness from the Parish Church  9:30am
- Fri April 3  Meditation on the Cross Parish Church  2-3pm
- Sun April 5  Easter Day Services (times TBC via Church notice board)
- Tues April 7  United Churches Luncheon Club Parish Hall  12 noon
- Mon April 13  PCC Annual General Meeting Church Rooms  7.30pm
- Sat May 2  May Coffee Morning in the Church  10-12
- Tues May 5  United Churches Luncheon Club Parish Hall  12 noon
- Sun May 31  Churches Together Ecumenical Service, Methodist Chapel  11:00am

Note: All dates are subject to change, please check church notice board

Witheridge Church Rooms
available to hire for small functions, classes or meetings. There is a kitchen and toilet. £10 per morning, afternoon or evening session.
Contact Mike Childs 860012.

Explorers
Ages 3 -12 2nd & 4th Sunday Church rooms 9:30 –10:45
Bible based activities and games.
The group has recently undergone some changes as Becky Mills and Heather Westcott have both decided to take a well earned break from being leaders.
We started the journey into Lent with a wonderful Pancake party organised by Jean Bryant. The children all enjoyed playing games, cooking pancakes and of course eating them.
I look forward to working with old members and new.

Sue Wells

The Bell Ringers
St John the Baptist Church Witheridge
The Bell Ringers meet every Friday evening at 7:15pm for 7:30pm in the Belfry.
A Year in Pictures 2014
A Year in Pictures 2014
Federation - a step forward

We are very pleased to announce that Witheridge Primary and High Bickington Primary schools will be federated from 13th April this year. Following an extensive consultation process, both governing bodies voted to federate on Monday 2nd March. This will enable both schools to carry on the development work that was started in the Management Partnership.

We expect to see big benefits for the children through shared academic activities, trips and sporting events. The federation will also enable staff across the two schools to work closely together to develop their teaching practice, share ideas and moderate assessments. Federation will mean that one governing body will be responsible for monitoring standards in both schools. This is a very exciting opportunity and one that everyone involved is embarking on with great enthusiasm and positivity.

Rob Norton  Headmaster

Witheridge PTFA Christmas Fayre raised £582 and Christmas Jumper Day shared with the Preschool raised £65 for Children in Need. Class 3 had great fun serving tea and cakes at their Community Tea Party with invited people from the village. ‘Wear it Red in February raised £44 for the British Heart Foundation .

World Book Day Class 3 & 4

Witheridge School PTFA JUMBLE SALE
Sun April 19th 2-4pm Parish Hall
**Clothes, books, toys and bric a brac.
ALL 25p / item**
Term 2 Theme: Lumps Bumps and Bones in the Ground

Class 4 Griffins  Stonehenge - Alice’s clay model and Anna’s painting.

We looked at how important fire was to Ice Age people and wrote fire poetry using onomatopoeia and rhymes. We gathered together wood for our fire, bringing it inside to dry out and then built our campfire, in our outside area.

We tried to light it using the techniques that Ice Age people would have used but these failed us and, after many attempts, we decided to cheat and use matches and firelighters to get our fire burning brightly! We then enjoyed toasted marshmallows and sang campfire songs.

Class 2 Brilliant Bees

As part of our theme we became archaeologists and discovered lots of interesting things about the Ice Age.

We have researched the animals that were alive then, like the sabre-toothed tiger and short-faced bear.

We looked at how Ice Age people made stone tools and weapons and made our own bows and arrows.

We then became hunters and used our subtraction skills to keep track of how many animals were still alive for us to hunt next time. We are making posters of all the interesting facts we have found.
What would you like to do in the Parish Hall

THIS COULD BE:
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To make a booking or for further information telephone

Chris Kershaw on 01884 860208
(weekdays between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm please)
Year 7 Rugby reached the semi-final in the North Devon Rugby Tournament.

**Chulmleigh Scholar Award** - the top 10 students in each year group based on effort grades awarded each ½ term.

- **Y9** Robert Stone 9th, Jess Walters 10th
- **Y10** Samantha Bedwell 10th
- **Y11** Lee Cole 7th.


**Chulmleigh Farm** has 4 new Berkshire piglets to rear. Year 10 will keep 2 outside and 2 inside while feeding them the same amounts, to provide data for our GCSE coursework.

---

**Witheridge Pre-School**

There are great changes ahead for Witheridge Pre-School. We will be re-locating into the Oakmoor Children Centre premises in the foreseeable future and offering a wider range of services.

While we will be pleased to have improved facilities for the wide age range of children we cater for, we will miss seeing all the regular users of the Children’s Centre and the staff. We look forward to continuing our close working relationship with them and thank them for all their support over the last few years.

This half term, in our partnership with Class 1, we learned about dinosaurs and how they moved. We re-created their habitats and hunted for them in the wildlife area. We also used the dark evenings to learn about nocturnal creatures, created a frieze and encouraged the children to stay up to look at the stars! **Paula Hallett**

---

**East Worlington Pre-School**

The Pre-School is part of the foundation unit at East Worlington School. We joined to perform the Christmas Nativity ‘Born in a Barn’ then visited Brightfire Pottery where we painted our own pots and had our Christmas party.

This term we very much enjoyed making rockets, planets and a giant lunar landscape for our Space Theme and had great fun racing with our pancakes on Pancake Day. Thank you to all who supported this year’s Easter Bingo and to the parents and local community who raise funds to keep the pre-school open. Please go to our website or phone 01884 861722

**E. Worlington Tums-2-Toddlers**

**Tuesdays (term time)** 2-2:30pm Angela 861371

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**Sat 27th June, Duck Race & Dog Show**: fundraiser for the school & preschool.
A Sign of the Times

We’re all familiar with the signs hanging outside pubs, but how did they come about?

The first ‘pubs’ appeared with the Romans. These ‘Tabernae’ were primarily to provide travellers with food and accommodation.

In Rome they used a bunch of vine leaves hanging outside, but in Roman Britain there were few vine plants so any green foliage was used. Holly being a favourite.

After the collapse of the Romano-British kingdoms, the ‘Tabernae’ evolved into alehouses, which eventually became so commonplace and a source of troubles (and you thought that binge drinking was a modern problem) that in 965 King Edgar decreed that there should be no more than one per village. Despite this, the local community began using them as meeting places where gossip or goods could be exchanged.

The modern pub was beginning to take shape. As alehouses developed, local lords of the manor and gentry began running them as inns, using aristocratic names for their establishments.

In Norman times travel again became more common with pilgrims and soldiers going off to the crusades. To meet this need monasteries would provide accommodation and meals. These evolved into inns serving mostly wine and mead and used signs with religious symbols, such as an angel, mitre or cross keys, the symbol for St Peter, to show their monastic connections.

At this time most of the common people drank ale as it was much safer than water so brewing ale was part of the basic, weekly routine for housewives. Those who made extra for sale would put an "alestick", often just a branch, (echoes of Roman times) up outside their house to indicate that ale was for sale there that day.

A law was introduced that an alestick must be shown when the ale was ready to sell and that it must first be tested by the ‘ale taster’ to make sure it was safe to drink. Failure to comply resulted in the ale being confiscated. Jim Campbell
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**The Witheridge Art Group**  We are a group of like minded people who enjoy an evening of drawing or painting and sharing our hobby. Some of us have had tuition and we all help each other when asked.

We charge just enough to cover expenses: £5 per year membership, and £1.50 a week subs. Please come along. We have room for new people and welcome new input.

**Wednesdays P. Hall Committee Room 7:30pm Eileen Curtis 860564**

**Withart Ends**  With the loss of many members due to various circumstances, sad, the remaining few have decided with regret to discontinue the WithArt group.

**History**  When the original Further Education sessions ceased some 6 years ago, our tutor John suggested we carry on independently as we had enough expertise within the group of 10 to help each other. Hence Withart was formed, even producing its own annual calendar for a few years.

Monday afternoons have been a relaxing and inexpensive way of enjoying sketching and painting with kindred spirits each contributing encouragement, advice and friendship. It is a shame that there has been so little interest in this venture, despite appeals. With thanks for the support we did have over the years, Jean Wiltsher

---

**Art Makery**

*How to make the softest, prettiest Giant fluffy pom pom ever*

**You Need**
- 100g of Merino wool tops (used for felting or spinning),
- scissors,
- large pompom maker,
- string for twine for hanging.

**What to do**
- Cut off about 1 metre of merino wool tops and split in half.
- Wrap ½ around the left side of the pom pom maker
- Wrap the other ½ around the right side.
- Tuck in the ends.
- Snip all the way round.
- Tie through the gap in the pom pom maker very tightly with string.
- Leave the ends for hanging or sewing onto.
- Finally give your pom pom a haircut

**What next?**  I used pink, lilac and soft grey to create two pompoms as ears for a children’s hat. There are endless possibilities!  *Louise & Sarah*
History of Witheridge
Sports Clubs: Tennis

The courts and Manse wall 1920s
The Lawn Tennis Club was formed on June 25th 1898. They played on 3 grass courts on rented ground behind The Manse where the Congregational Minister lived. Apparently one court was a bit unpredictable but the other two had a good surface, well kept with the help of the original pony roller. Members replaced the pony but the pony boots remained in the shed for years.

John Usmar (1950s onwards)
There were 3 grass courts, one good, one fairly good and one dreadful. The land was owned by the Methodists so we weren’t allowed to play on Sundays. You turned right off the road just before the Congregational Church and the 3 courts were in a line down the side of the Manse. There was a shed beside the Manse where they kept the horse that pulled the roller to keep the grass rolled. I’m not sure if it lived there all the time. One of the strongest supporters was Rev Castlehow. When 4 people had just come off and 4 more were getting ready to go on and it was getting so dark it was almost impossible to see across the net, without fail he would say “Don’t waste the light”.

Peter Tout 1960s onwards
The tennis club was really at its height before the war when Rev Castlehow was involved, which was before my time. They played matches then probably against Morchard Bishop and Crediton. We played mostly mixed doubles. We would hit the wall of the Manse and Mr Taylor would complain. The bad court was just full of daisies and you never knew where the ball was going to go. When the pony pulled the roller across the courts they would put leather boots on its feet so it didn’t damage the court.
Freda was the secretary at one time, in fact that’s how I met her, on the tennis court the first night I was here. The land the tennis courts occupied was between the bowling green and the Manse and was sold at the same time as the land housing the bowling club. The ground is now part of Appletree Close and The Manse is South Park, the house behind the Congregational Chapel graveyard.

**Hard courts at the new Parish Hall**
The present Parish Hall was opened in 1964. The hard tennis court we use today was an early addition together with the storage hut, kids play area and car park.

**Paul Reed** I know the club used to play matches in the early 70's against other village clubs. The large green umpire chair which was used for matches, I believe is still kept in what was known as the play group hut next to the Parish Hall.

When the new tennis court was built at the Parish Hall grounds, on the opening day I am sure a club came up from Torquay to play and there was a young girl there called Sue Barker who later went on to play at Wimbledon.

In the 1990's Steve Powles introduced The Rackenford and All England Tennis Tournament. This was where we would all travel around to different grounds but the final always had to be played at Brian Peace’s house near Rackenford. The club only charged £1 an hour and family subscriptions were about £30 a year. We managed with the help of a few jumble sales to accumulate enough money to have the court resurfaced in 1980. After 25 years the court needs rejuvenating.

Now in 2015 we have embarked on a complete face-lift by replacing the patched and rusty surround netting of the court; strengthening the foundation & completely resurfacing it. **Vine Spragg**
EAST WORLINGTON
PRE-SCHOOL
We welcome all children aged 2 to 5, Monday to Friday from 9 -12 noon with an optional lunch club until 1pm. If you would like to know more give us a call on
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www.eastworlingtonpreschool.co.uk

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WHEELWRIGHT’S TEA ROOM
is currently closed for refurbishment.
Thank you to all my customers for their support.
A mobile unit will continue trading
in The Square from St John’s Fair Day.
Opening times TBA.
We will still be serving our delicious West Country Produce and Cream Teas.
Contact Mary 01884 861704

WHEELS
Children's Activities

Youth Football
Both youth teams have played only a couple of games which means that once the better weather arrives it will be all hands on deck to catch up these games before the summer tournaments start.

The u16s sit 5th in the table and could catch the teams above them if they win the games in hand whereas the u12s are still currently sit bottom but in the last game drew 1-1 with Braunton who previously beat them 21-0 so definitely an improvement.

Paul Rich
Youth Club
From year 6 - Table tennis, pool, table football, refreshments, crafts, games nights - very informal, a safe place for friends to meet.

The Youth Club is going strong. We had a fantastic Christmas party attended by 24 young people who had a great time. We need a Treasurer. Contact Jean Bryant 860753 if you can help.

1st and 3rd Thursday in the month
Church Rooms 7:00-8:30pm

Guides
On February 17th the Guides took a lovely train journey down to Plymouth to the Pavilions’ Ice Rink to try skating. After much slipping, sliding and clinging for our lives, we were getting the hang of it. ‘Dancing on Ice’ it definitely wasn’t but a great time was had by all!

If you like to have fun, challenge yourself, make new friends and are aged between 10 – 14 come and find out about Guides.

World Thinking Day on 22nd February, is when Guides and Girl Scouts everywhere think of each other and of their commitment to international friendship and understanding.

So this term, Witheridge Brownies have been doing activities towards their World Cultures Badge - global food tasting, fun craft, making didgery doos (which we got a sound out of), acting stories from around the world, Russian spoon painting and St Patrick’s evening.

Brownies is for girls aged 7 – 10
To join go to www.girlguiding.org.uk

Taekwondo
The last few months have been really successful for the Club.

Emma Bird gained her black belt at the Bristol Academy and we very did very well at the South West Championships: Emma won a silver medal in the girl’s Blackbelt tag team; Joe Webber silver in sparring tag; Joe Webber, Ed Whitwell and Jake Curtis silver in the team sparring tag and club instructor Wayne Sibthorpe won Gold in the Blackbelt sparring tag team and Bronze in the Blackbelt middleweight sparring.

At the recent grading, Joe, Ed and Jake gained green belts, Louisa Jones passed 5th Kup Blue Stripe, Katie Jones 4th Kup Blue Belt and Sam Spurway 2nd Kup red belt. All ages and beginners welcome.

First 2 lessons free.

Monday 8pm Friday 6:30pm P Hall
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Helping you love your pets
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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

Witheridge AFC
1st Team- currently 10th in the league after only playing 5 games in 3 months. We need to start picking up points from the games in hand to qualify for next seasons FA cup and FA vase.

2nd Team The reserves have played a few more games including a semi final against Ashburton in which they were very unlucky to lose 2-0 having been by far the better team. They sit 6th in the table in a very competitive league this year.

Defib Machine We are pleased to announce the purchase of a defib machine, in partnership with the British Heart Foundation. It was presented to Chris Cole by local firefighter Steve Summerhayes who is one of the people trained to use it.

Fixtures & teams: go to www.witheridgefc.co.uk or Facebook & Twitter

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

Table Tennis
Come and join our friendly small group 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, are most welcome.
Greg Henderson
❖ Friday 11:00 - 12:00 in Parish Hall

Walk & Talk Will start again in the summer. Seeking new members.
Please contact Norah McTeague 861033
West Middlewick Farm

We have five spacious log cabins, with fantastic views available all year round.

We welcome visitors for a week booking or short breaks subject to availability.

Each log cabin sleeps six people, including a double room with en-suite and all the home from home comforts. Warm and cosy with central heating and an added log burner.

Pets welcome in three of the cabins with enclosed gardens.

Also available: B&B, camping, caravans, log pods

West Middlewick Farm
Nomansland

web: www.farmholidaysdevon.co.uk
e-mail: hello@farmholidaysdevon.co.uk
Tel: 01884 861235
**Tennis: New fencing and Surface**

The new fencing is now complete and the new surface due to be done in April when the weather is warmer. This is thanks to grants from the NDDC, Witheridge Parish Council and the Amory Trust and in large part to members of the club who have arranged a loan. The loan has to be repaid over 6 years so we have to start fundraising in earnest, starting with a celebratory coffee morning as soon as the court is finished. The date will be publicised as soon as we know it.

**Easter Holiday Coaching:**

Rachael will be running coaching for children on 2 days each week of the Easter Holidays. The dates will also be publicised as soon as they are definite.

**Short Mat Bowls**

We meet in the Parish Hall twice a week throughout the year. Club shoes and woods are available for those who have not played before. The first three evenings are free, then a green fee of £2.50 per session and a subscription of £20.00 per year.

Short mat bowls is open to residents of Witheridge and surrounding villages. Children over 10 and under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**ACTIVELY SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

- Tuesday & Thursday 7pm for 7:15pm start

Greg Henderson

**Witheridge Golf Society**

The Christmas Trophy was contested at Waterbridge on 3rd December for an 18 hole Texas Scramble competition. On the winning team were Witheridge players Dave Chapman, Alastair Collinge and Frank Gallagher. The wooden spoon trophy was won by Graham Clarke, Jacky Bradford and Keith Jenkins.

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

Andrew Clark

**Future Meetings:** 18 hole Texas Scramble competitions

- Wed May 13 May Trophy
- Wed July 8 Summer Trophy
West Ridge Veterinary Practice
5 Chapple Road 31 Park Hill Hillmans
Witheridge Tiverton Winkleigh
EX16 8AS EX16 6RW EX19 8HJ
01884 860236 01884 255336 01837 83240

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www.fdfootcare.co.uk | fdbrice@fdfootcare.co.uk
West Ridge VET NEWS
Lambing time in Chapple Road

In the spring our surgery back yard gets turned into a temporary delivery room and maternity ward for sheep. Most afternoons, you will see trucks and trailers parked outside bringing ewes that are having difficulty giving birth. As skilled shepherds can correct most problems, the ones that come to us are difficult or complicated by other problems. Lambing cases are one of the most popular calls for the vets as it’s always a special moment to deliver new life, despite the fact that it can be typical Witheridge weather at this time of year.

The most common problem we see is incomplete dilation of the cervix or ‘ringwomb’ where the birth canal doesn’t dilate enough to allow the passage of the lambs. Many of these sheep require a Caesarean section which we perform under local anaesthetic. Our experienced vets can complete the procedure in less than half an hour, often with the sheep walking away with two healthy lambs at the end of it. There have been occasions when there have been three ewes having Caesareans at the same time making life busy for us in peak lambing season.

Christmas – Easter Lambing Deal We offer a special deal for lambing cases brought to the surgery between 2pm and 6pm on a weekday to encourage farmers to use the service at an economically attractive price.

Dick Sibley

Monitoring Mammals along the Canal by Stephen Powles

If you walk the canal towpath you will have noticed several mammal rafts distributed along the canal from Warnicombe to Lowdwells. Nine were installed in 2009 as part of a project to aid recovery of water vole populations in East Devon, but two were damaged when the canal was breached in 2012. Each raft is 1.2m long and 60cm wide with a raised tunnel at the centre and a clay tracking cartridge protected by a tunnel. Wildlife walking through the tunnel leaves a 'footprint' as it does so. Each raft is checked once a month by a volunteer.

Otters have visited the rafts regularly, most frequently towards the eastern end of the canal. Otter spraint is often left on top of the raft. Rodents are ubiquitous and common while there are very occasional signs of mink. There has been no evidence of water voles, which have been absent from the Canal since the 1990s. Monitoring gives the Canal Ranger Service a better picture of where water mammals are active and the data is also passed on to the Devon Biodiversity Records Office in Exeter.

www.middevonnaturalhistorysociety.co.uk
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Mob: 07894080143
**Incomer's Guide: Tintagel**

**Distance** 67 miles  **Time** 2 hours  
**Directions**: Witheridge-Tintagel via A30.
From Fore Street on Tiverton road, bear right onto A3042 Thelbridge, following the signs to Lapford (8 miles). At Lapford Cross, LEFT onto A377 towards Exeter. Continue approx 4 miles to Copplestone. Bear left (one way) then RIGHT onto A377 Okehampton, then A3072 Okehampton. Keep going approx 12 miles to A386 signposted Okehampton then Tavistock. Join the A30 Launceston. After Launceston, take exit A395 Hallworthy& Camelford. Keep on A395 approx 10miles. At A39 junction turn left towards Wadebridge then look for RIGHT onto B3314 signposted Boscastle,Tintagel. Keep going into Tintagel.

**Tintagel Castle - English Heritage**
1230 Tintagel Castle built by Richard, younger brother of Henry III but a community was here from 5th century AD. Information across the site tells the story of the Dark Age rulers of Cornwall and how medieval legends of King Arthur inspired noblemen to build a castle at Tintagel.

**Parking** : Pay & Display in the village. None on site. Landrover to site April-Oct, extra charge.

**Toilets**: on site next to the shop

**Food**: cafes in the village and beach cafe. Picnics allowed on grassed areas.

**Shop + exhibition**: newly refurbished

**Dogs** on leads only.

**Entry** English Heritage Adult £6.10, child £3.70, Concession - students & over 60 £5.50
Family(2A 3ch) £17.50.

**Opening**: improvement works to March 30th
See website for opening times
www.english-heritage.org.uk - Tintagel

**Be aware** The site is on steep cliffs on a rocky headland. Access to castle over 100 steep steps.
*Interesting place, superb views, lots of steps*
Andy, Barbara and all at the Mitre Inn welcome you to our traditional village inn, serving an excellent selection of good quality home-made dishes to suit everyone’s taste.

**Sunday Roast Lunch** £7.25 pp includes a choice of Exmoor beef and another west country meat, pork, turkey or lamb, plus a large selection of vegetables and roasties. Treat yourself to a dessert from our board for an additional £3.75.

We also cater for **weddings, celebrations and buffets** with seating for up to 34 in our restaurant and additional places in the bar area. Please contact us if you would like to find out what we can offer you.

**Take-away Menu** also available.

Have you tried our beer battered cod chips and pea puree yet? Available to eat in or take away seven nights a week, lunchtimes too.

**Bed and Breakfast** rooms are available from £50 for a single room and from £60.00 for a double room.

To book a table or a room or for any other queries

**Telephone** 01884 861263  **Email** the.mitreinn@mail.com  
**www.themitreinn-witheridge.co.uk**
Meetings are held at the Parish Hall Committee Room, North Street, Witheridge. Un-Scheduled meetings are advertised separate to this notice. Residents can make representations in writing to the clerk or in person verbally during the public session at the start of a meeting. Agendas (with planning applications for consideration) are published at least three days in advance on the council web site at www.witheridgepc.org together with minutes of all meetings. Planning applications received after agenda publication will be dealt with owing to a 21 day limit on the council responding to consultations from the Planning Authority. The parish council is only a consultee, and does not determine applications. Paper copies are available on request.

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

Your Councillors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Tel</th>
<th>Appointment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claire Goodwin (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>Dart View</td>
<td>860711</td>
<td>FPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Martin</td>
<td>Grist Mill</td>
<td>861011</td>
<td>FPC HA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackie Bradford</td>
<td>Newland Lodge</td>
<td>860629</td>
<td>FPC PH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Eastman</td>
<td>Cannington Rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Hanbury</td>
<td>Rockhaye Cottage</td>
<td>860578</td>
<td>PRoW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Kershaw</td>
<td>Trafalgar House</td>
<td>860208</td>
<td>PH JF WiB</td>
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<td>Carol Prynn</td>
<td>Pullens Row</td>
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<td>Mary Roberts</td>
<td>The Square</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Stanbury</td>
<td>North Street</td>
<td>861375</td>
<td>FPC</td>
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<td>Vacancy</td>
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County & District Councillor

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<tr>
<th>Councillor</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Yabsley</td>
<td>15A West Street</td>
<td>860605</td>
<td>FPC - Finance &amp; Personnel</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>JF - St Johns Fair</td>
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<td>HA - Historical Archive</td>
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</table>
| Public Rights of Way Liaison
| Mr & Mrs Hanbury | Rockhaye Cottage | 860578| PH - Parish Hall Committee |
|             |                          |      | CP - District Crime Prevention Panel |
|             |                          |      | WiB - Witheridge in Bloom |
|             |                          |      | Prow - Public Rights of Way |

2015 Meeting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
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<td>July</td>
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Peter Dunn - Clerk to the Parish Council.
THE MOUNT PLEASANT INN
Nomansland Tiverton Devon EX16 8NN

The Mount Pleasant Inn has been a popular meeting place since the 1700’s when the weary traveller would stop for a rest. The pub was once an ostler’s house and the restaurant was a blacksmith’s forge. Anne and her family have been opening the doors at The Mount Pleasant for 28 years this year. So if you are travelling by foot, car, bike, tractor, horse or steam engine you are all welcome to rest and refuel as many have always done.

Food is served all day every day
From 12 noon to 9pm

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www.mpli.ltd.uk
2015 ELECTIONS

Election Year, 10 seats to fill, are you up for the challenge? The parish council meets 1st Thursday monthly, 7:30pm at the parish hall. It has a budget of £40,500 for 2015/16 to provide local services. Could you help decide how to spend this money for the parish’s benefit?

Annoyed at a planning decision? Could you help make a recommendation on whether the District Council should approve or reject a planning application?

What about lobbying to get a better deal for Witheridge? Should we refurbish the Adventure Playground? How much should we spend on it?

Is the public toilet money down the pan OR a much needed facility–should we close them?

Can YOU fill a seat – INTERESTED?

These are just a few matters your parish council deals with. Some of your current councillors are retiring, all seats are up for election, if you think you could bring something to the table and want to know more, contact the clerk asap for nomination forms. The deadline for submission of forms for the election is Thursday 9th April 4pm.

Drayford Green

Many of you will know the parish council is responsible for the upkeep of Drayford Green by the Little Dart, which is available for all to enjoy. During 2014 the council commissioned a tree survey report. In addition to crown reductions to the Horse Chestnut, the large Poplar is reaching an age where we have been told for safety reasons it should come down. The council are in the process of arranging these works which will entail a road closure for safety reasons during the felling.

2015 Grass Cutting & Cleaning

This year we have retained KJ Thulborn as grounds maintenance contractor to cut the grass at it’s properties in addition to the highway verges in the village. The cutting programme can be viewed on the website and will commence in March. 2014 also saw the first year we engaged commercial cleaners to undertake cleaning village nameplates, bus shelters, noticeboards etc. We hope this service is one that contributes to Witheridge being a cleaner / nicer place to live in.

How We Spend Your Money

The parish council is subject to government regulations requiring an annual audit. The results are published annually on the website for anyone interested – if you require a paper copy please contact the clerk. At the March meeting council will consider grant applications from local groups.

In 2014 the council made the following grants:-

- Pre-School £750
- St Johns Fair £500
- Tiverton Community Transport £50
- Victim Support £50
- Witheridge in Bloom £250
- Parish Hall £400
- St Johns Cemetery £50
- World War 1 Centenary Presentation £150
After 10 years producing and selling our Award winning food the shop closed its doors for the last time at the end of December.

We would like to thank everyone who shared our love of good food and hope you have had as much enjoyment and fun as we have had!

In the last 10 years we have met many wonderful people, lots of whom we can count as friends, we have eaten some fantastic food (and sometimes some not so good stuff!), learnt vast amounts about growing, making and sourcing great tasting foods and been lucky to win a wall full of awards, none of this would have been possible without the support of you, our customers!

We are intending to carry on living on West Yeo Moor so I am sure we will see you all from time to time. For now always remember Good food can be shared with anyone at any time --and should be!

The Delicatessen in the middle of nowhere

If you haven’t been--You’ve missed it!!
Things I might Go To

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local</th>
<th>One off events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed April 1</td>
<td>Easter Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat April 4</td>
<td>Garden Club Spring Show</td>
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<td>Sa April 19</td>
<td>Witheridge PTFA Jumble Sale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa April 25</td>
<td>Rotary Club Credinton Charity Concert</td>
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<td>Sa May 2</td>
<td>Coffee Morning, Jumble &amp; Books</td>
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<td>Wed May 6</td>
<td>BINGO Witheridge Garden Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat May 9</td>
<td>Garden Club Plant Sale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th May 14</td>
<td>Art Makery Art &amp; Craft Workshop Mosaic on Slate Materials &amp; lunch inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa May 16</td>
<td>Jumble &amp; Plant Sale E. Worlington PTFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa June 20</td>
<td>Witheridge St John’s Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed June 24</td>
<td>Johnny Kingdom With. Garden Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa June 27</td>
<td>Duck race and Dog Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sa Aug 8</td>
<td>Garden Club Summer Show</td>
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<td>Tu Aug 11</td>
<td>Ladies Club Cream Tea stalls</td>
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<td>Sa Aug 29</td>
<td>Witheridge Church Fete</td>
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<td>Car Boot Sale Witheridge Parish Hall Last Sunday in March, May, July</td>
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Knighthayes: [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/knighthayes](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/knighthayes)
Where can we go: [www.wherecanwego.com](http://www.wherecanwego.com)
Devon in Focus: [www.devoninfocus.co.uk](http://www.devoninfocus.co.uk)
Heart of Devon: [www.heartofdevon.com](http://www.heartofdevon.com)

**ARTMAKERY FUN WORKSHOPS**

**Th. March 26** Felted Easter Rabbit & Friends

**Th. May 14** Bloomin Mosaic Flower design relief

36 North Street, Witheridge 10-4pm Tel: 01884 861225

Refreshments, lunch and materials included.

**Coming to Witheridge**

**Rock & Roll band**

‘The Taun-Tones’

Witheridge Parish Hall

**Saturday 30th May**

Entrance £5 Licensed bar.

Contact Wayne 01884 861 634

**Tiverton Art Society**

**Spring Exhibition**

Castle Primary, Tiverton

EX16 6QR

April 4th – 11th

10.30am – 6pm
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**Community Information N Devon**

**Library 2015** Monday 4 weekly Witheridge Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Stop</th>
<th>Arrive</th>
<th>Depart</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Witheridge</td>
<td>Square</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>15:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witheridge</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>15:05</td>
<td>15:50</td>
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**01392 384315** WRVS Home Library Service. For anyone physically unable to reach a library

**Citizens Advice Bureau** Town Hall Tiverton 01884 234926

**North Devon Council** www.northdevon.gov.uk 01271 374 776

**RECYCLING**

**South Molton Recycling** Right at T junction coming into S Molton, 1st left (Station Rd)
- Apr- Sept Th 9-5, Sat& Sun 10-6
- Oct-Mar Th 9-4:30 Sat&Sun 10-4:30

**Tiverton Recycling** Approx 2 miles from Tiverton on A396 Bickleigh on RHS.
- Apr - Sep M-F 9- 5 Sat&Su 10-6
- Oct - Mar M-Fr 9- 4:30 Sa&Sun 10- 4:30

**FREE Childcare**

**2gether** funding entitles some 2 year olds to 15 hours of free childcare and early learning each week.
Your child is eligible if you receive certain benefits, have a household income under £16,190 or if your child has special educational needs.
Go to [www.devon.gov.uk/2gether](http://www.devon.gov.uk/2gether) Phone 0345 155 1013

**REGISTER TO VOTE**

Each individual in a household must now register to vote. Many residents have been automatically moved onto the new electoral register but some will need to register themselves to remain on the role or join it. REGISTER ONLINE
[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)
PHONE 01271 388 277
EMAIL elections@northdevon.gov.uk

**CosyDevon**

Available to homeowners or if you rent privately from a landlord.
- Free loft insulation
- Free cavity wall insulation
- Free or subsidised loft topups
- Subsidised external wall insulation

**Boilers**: you could be eligible for help towards a replacement boiler.
Phone 0800 0511 548 or [www.cosydevon.com](http://www.cosydevon.com)

**Community Road Wardens**

We are looking to enlist Community Road Wardens. Volunteers will be trained to carry out work ranging from weed clearance and sign cleaning to grass and hedge cutting and small road repairs.

**Interested?** Contact the Parish Council.

To report problems on Devon’s roads: [www.devon.gov.uk/roadtransport](http://www.devon.gov.uk/roadtransport)
Newhouse Farm Cottages
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or visit our website at www.newhousecottages.com

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e: admin@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk
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