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Editorial
In this issue, we welcome some new advertisers - thank you to them and to our current advertisers for supporting us.
We have held back the publishing date to put in the photos and results of the Summer Show - congratulations to all the winners, and thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it such a success.
The Autumn Issue will be going out at the end of October and the deadline for articles and information is 2nd October, so if you have any Christmas events, then please send details to me for inclusion in the Autumn issue. The Winter issue will be going out at the end of January.
Jill Horwood, Editor

Advertising in Witheridge Voice
We have space at the moment for a few more advertisements.
Advertising rates, to include the next 4 quarterly issues of the magazine starting autumn 2016, are:
Full page £102, ½ page £56 ⅓ page strip £42, ⅙ page box £26.
Email: witheridgevoice@icloud.com

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Devon Freewheelers

In May, Daniel Lavery came to talk to the Witheridge Ladies Group about the Devon Freewheelers – a charity he set up to deliver urgent medical supplies to hospitals across Devon. His talk was very informative and entertaining, but harrowing and emotional at the same time. I have been given permission to reprint the following from the Devon Freewheelers website. This charity receives no outside funding at all and relies 100% on donations and their fundraising volunteers. If you would like to help in whatever way you can, visit their website – www.devonfreewheelers.org.uk

What the Devon Freewheelers do:

The Devon Freewheelers are a team of 50 volunteer Emergency Vehicle drivers who are dedicated to providing a weekday out of hours service (17.00 – 06.00) and 24/7 weekend service supporting the NHS in delivering essential Blood, Samples, Medication and Donor Breast Milk to hospitals throughout Devon.

Occasionally they are obliged to go out of county to Bristol and further afield to support the NHS. More recently, they even had two riders despatched to Great Ormond Street Hospital to complete a mission. Two riders? To ensure safe delivery they like to cover long trips with an additional rider in case of accident or unforeseen circumstances.

This team is ably supported by a network of 30 volunteers providing call centre and essential fundraising support. Their annual budget is £150,000 which is essential in maintaining the fleet of 11 bikes and two Emergency All Terrain vehicles to the highest possible standards together with their modest HQ costs.

Consequently, the Fundraising Volunteers are an essential part of the team.

Continued on pages 6 and 7
“We are extremely proud to announce that Daniel Lavery, Devon Blood Bikes Founder & Chief Executive, has been awarded the “Points of Light” award by the Prime Minister, David Cameron. Every weekday the Prime Minister recognises an inspirational volunteer with this award which recognises outstanding individual volunteers and people who are making a change in their community. 

Daniel received the award on 1st February 2016.

Daniel is the first Devonian resident to be honoured in this way for almost a year. The award has been developed in partnership with the hugely successful ‘Points of Light Programme’ in the USA and was first established by President George H. W. Bush. The UK Points of Light award was developed in partnership with the US programme and launched in the Cabinet Room at 10 Downing Street back in April 2014.

Daniel has been singled-out due to the unique way in which he established the charity. Back in 2005, his wife Shelly suffered an extremely difficult and traumatic delivery while pregnant with their youngest child and was rushed to hospital whilst on a visit to Northern Ireland. It was a delivery of blood by a bike volunteer that saved both of their lives and it was this that inspired Daniel to set up Devon Freewheelers.

Once back home in Devon with a fit and healthy family, Daniel decided he had to take some kind of action when he discovered that Devon was one of the few counties that didn’t have a voluntary blood bike service. Four previous attempts had been made to start a similar service in Devon over the course of two decades and all had failed due to a lack of funding. So he sold his home and used the proceeds to fund and run the charity.

Neil Parish, Member of Parliament for Tiverton and Honiton said, “I am delighted that Daniel Lavery’s work across Devon and the West Country has been recognised with the ‘Points of Light Award’. Daniel has worked tirelessly to set up and run Devon Freewheelers and over the last five years he and his professional team of motorbike riders have saved hundreds of lives across Devon and the West Country”.

Devon Freewheelers now has a team of 50 volunteer riders across the county. Back when the charity was first established, the Freewheelers used to receive one or two jobs a week. Now, they deal with 16 calls a day on average and
during the last bank holiday, they responded to over 100 calls.

The fundraising target to support this work is £150,000 a year which is essential for maintaining the fleet of 19 motorcycles, three rapid response cars and two emergency all-terrain vehicles to the highest possible standards. Devon Freewheelers are also the only charity in the country to have achieved the significant ‘working in partnership agreement’ with an NHS Ambulance Service and are recognised as ‘Co-Responders’ similar to that of the police and fire service. Working with the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust, bikers are trained to respond to emergencies and answer 999 calls.

Daniel says, “I am truly honoured to be given this award and to be recognised by the Prime Minster David Cameron. The Devon Freewheelers are a team of volunteers who fill me with the pride and passion I need to continually push forward with the charity’s objectives. Recognition of the lifesaving services we provide by the Prime Minister is most gracious.

I often refer to Devon Freewheelers as ‘hidden heroes’, and from the bottom of my heart, I thank David Cameron for pointing his Light on us”

If you’re interested in finding out more of how the Devon Freewheelers are funded or to become a volunteer fundraiser or rider, please contact us today; we can’t do this without you. Thank you.”

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Community News

In memory of
Diana Milton          Betty Tucker
Vera Pincombe         Jean Bryant

Congratulations on their Marriage
Sarah and Paul Bragg
Lisa and Jake Vanstone
Shane and Phoenix Griffiths

Welcome to the Village
David and Debbie McMurdo
Julian Robinson-Porter

Litter Pick
The sun came out for our Parish Council litter pick at 9am on 18th June, 2016. Thank goodness! Our small band of volunteers tackled the task with gusto. By 11 am we had all gathered back at base and were enjoying tea/coffee and sandwiches. All reported having to pick up cigarette ends, which seemed to be the majority of litter found (please remember that dropping cigarette ends is littering and you could end up with a fixed penalty notice.) We found some areas that were incredibly free of litter, so well done and thank you to those residents for looking after their environment. Lastly, thank you to our band of volunteers who, without them, our litter picks would not take place.
Please feel free to join the team by e-mailing: carol.northam1@pobroadband.co.uk.

Witheridge Medical Centre - Dispensary
Please note the revised dispensary opening times:

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 6.00pm</td>
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While the dispensary is closed, they are unable to hand out repeat medications.
Fun in the Sun at Lighthouse Holiday Club!
As the sun increased in strength in mid-Devon during the May Half term break, so did the excitement at Morchard Bishop Playing Fields. Around 75 primary school children ‘welcomed the sun’ and endorsed the beach themed three days; filled with fun, craft and action songs. The marquee was transformed with decorative beach huts and surf boards, with the children being welcomed each morning to the theme tune: ‘Here comes the sun’ by the Beatles!
The two teams - buckets and spades - competed against each other, with the help of their leaders, in games such as ‘surfs up’ where valuable points could be earned. Points were also given for ‘wish you were here’ mail (jokes and prayers) as well as bringing along a friend. At the end of each day, a leader from the losing team was gunged in the gunge tank - so the stakes were high!
Popeye the sailor visited daily, delivering a ‘message in a bottle’ which helped everyone explore the day’s memory verse from the Bible. These also appeared on the craft each day, when the children enjoyed making and decorating their own beach huts, journals and a local map - it was fun to work out and find different locations on a hand-drawn map!
Once again the ladies in the Lighthouse Café served delicious homemade cakes and welcome refreshments enabling coffee, cake and conversation to be shared amongst parents and friends. Many parents attended the family ‘show time’ at 4:00pm on Friday when the children shared some of the games and songs that they had taken part in over the three days, which was followed by hot dogs and ice cream for all.
On Thursday evening, 45 secondary school teenagers from across the area joined in the Lighthouse Youth event: an ‘Evening with Jozzy’. Jozzy Mudzingwa (a Christian rapper from Plymouth) performed and he also judged a dance off-inspiring many with his exuberant joy!
The Lighthouse Club Team, made up of volunteers from churches of different denominations around the area, would like to thank Morchard Bishop Sports and Social Club for allowing their premises to be used. Thanks go to Devon Christian Youth Camps once again for the use of their marquee and equipment and of course, to our fantastic Pulse Ministries Team - it was a privilege to partner with you.
Zoe Lane
Look out for future Lighthouse events in the Autumn. Keep up to date via the Facebook Page, and for more information and photos visit:
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Thursday – 9.00-12.00  
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If you would like to know more, please contact  
Dani on 01884 861722 or  
Email debdy@chulmeigh.devon.sch.uk  
We also have a toddler group on Tuesdays 2.00-3.30  
Contact Angela 01884 861371
Where can you get a lovely cup of coffee or tea, a smile and a very warm welcome for £1 or less? I’ll tell you where: Witheridge’s own Rest-a–While Day Centre, open from 10.00 am till noon six mornings a week from Monday to Saturday.

Situated immediately opposite the Mitre pub it’s there for you all, please come in and give it a try. We’ve had a number of people do this over the last few months, many of them new to the village which has helped them settle in and make new friends here.

We have a fantastic band of volunteers willing to help serve teas and coffees but don’t feel you have to volunteer to get a coffee! We also have a core of people in the background who help with the running of the Centre. A huge thank you to them as we could not run without them. We have recently welcomed Peter from the newsagents onto our committee.

As an ongoing fund-raiser we hold a Bring and Buy sale on the last Friday of every month.

The Centre has recently received a generous gift of £1000 from the proceeds of the Easter concert held in the church; we hope to buy some new tables from this. We enjoyed a busy time serving refreshments at St John’s Fayre and made over £200 on the day. Many thanks to everyone who helped make the day run so smoothly and to all of you who came in and enjoyed the food and refreshments on offer.

On a sadder note we recently said goodbye to Vera Pincombe who was one of our long time members. Vera so enjoyed her visits to the Rest-a–While and she will be sadly missed. Vera has made a very generous donation to the Centre, for which we thank her and her family.

Next year the Rest-a-While will have been open for 25 years and we hope to celebrate this event in October 2017. If you have any old photos of the Rest-a–While or anything else we could display either to keep or to borrow, I would be most grateful if you could let me have them, either by bringing them to the Centre or call me and I’ll pick them up.

Many thanks
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Sun 7.30 am-1.00 pm
Peter: 01884 860815
16a The Square

Thank you for your continuing support
Charity walk for MacMillan Cancer Support

My name is Gabby Waters and I live in Chapple Road. A few weeks ago I had an idea about doing a Charity walk along the whole length of the Grand Western Canal for Macmillan Cancer Support, as my family, and recently one of my close friends, have needed the services of this wonderful Charity. I only expected myself and a couple of friends to walk with me but the wonderful people of Witheridge had other ideas.

On Saturday May 7th (the day of the walk) over 40 people from Witheridge came to walk with me - including 8 children from Witheridge School (where I work), some local children and teenagers, and 9 very well behaved dogs, as well as a lot of adults. We started the walk at 10am at the Tiverton Basin and finished the walk at Lowdwells which is as far along the canal as you can go (12 miles) at about 3pm - The Globe Inn at Sampford Peverell very kindly laid on a lovely lunch for us all and let us rest in their pub garden for half an hour, which was very welcome. Everyone had a brilliant day and despite a small shower in the morning, the sun came out for the rest of the walk and everyone was in very good spirits.

I have been overwhelmed with the support of everyone in Witheridge and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sponsored us, dropped donations off to the school, and supported us on the day, and a very special well done to all the children and teenagers who came on the walk with us and completed the 12 miles still with a smile on their faces. The original fundraising target was £150, but the final total, once all the money has been paid in, is going to be over £1000 which is amazing. Thank you very much Witheridge for helping me raise so much money for this fantastic charity.

I have attached a couple of photos from the day - a whole group photo and a photo of myself and some of the local children and teenagers who walked.

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Witheridge Childcare @The Hive

It is now 12 months since we started our new venture as Witheridge Childcare @The Hive, offering childcare for young babies to 11 years of age, and we are pleased to say we have now had our Ofsted inspection in our new establishment and been deemed as ‘Good’ across the whole setting. It has been a pleasure to be in our new building and we would like to thank everyone for their continued support for all the fundraising events we run as this enables us to purchase new resources for the premises.

We would especially like to say a big Thank You to the Knights of Witheridge for their kind donation which has enabled us to remodel the Bumbles (baby room) outdoor space. The children have enjoyed being able to play in a bigger outside space with a lot more open ended play with pipes and logs. We have also developed a woodworking area where children are able to explore working with real tools, this again has been funded through our continued fund raising efforts.

We took part in the Barnardo’s Big Toddle despite the appalling weather and went on a ‘Safari Hunt’ around the village, but we did succumb to not having an outdoor picnic and had an indoor one instead!

Paula Hallett

Witheridge In Bloom

After the request in the last Voice for helpers, 6 people came forward: Gail Rose agreed to plant and care for the 3 planters at the entrance to the Mews, beside the Mitre Inn. Joyce Parknett is looking after the planters near Mole Valley. Alan Horwood and Mike Turner have dug and replanted the bed outside The Angel and the 2 stone troughs by the Vicarage. June Turner volunteered to plant up the upright baskets and the Mangers around the toilet block. These are fantastic after a slow start, and Carol Northam has also done an amazing job watering them. I have been in the happy position of just looking after the 5 boxes in the Square.

Many, many thanks to you all for your efforts and your precious time, too. We must thank both the Parish Council and the Knights for their grants which went a long way to helping us pay for the plants and compost.

Chris Kershaw
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Chris Kershaw on 01884 860208
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**Charity Knitting**

We received a lovely thank you note from Jan Rayless in response to all the items we have been able to make for the Christian Response to Eastern Europe. Many blankets and jumpers have gone to Moldova. Also, we have contributed a total of 62 Baby Bear Sets which have been sent to St. Mary's Hospital, Durban. A big thank you for all the wool donated that helps keep our needles busy for these and other projects.

Eileen Haynes 860212

**Allotments**

After a cold and late spring the plots are looking full and are growing well. It’s now late June, although the weather seems to think it’s more like late October, and already we have had crops of Strawberries, Sugar Snap Peas and young Broad Beans - let us hope that the proper summer weather isn't going to wait too long before getting here.

To be put on the plot waiting list call Sam 01884 861527

**Little Dart Singers**

We are a singing group based in Witheridge. We need members who enjoy singing and can commit to one evening a week and to the 3rd Sunday each month. We occasionally sing with other local churches.

*John Harris.*

**Practice Tuesdays 7.20pm Witheridge Parish Church**

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C366
OFTEC
Witheridge Ladies’ Club

In March we enjoyed a visit from Peter and Jeanie from Wiltshire Farm Foods who cooked some sample dishes for us to try. In April Judi Binks gave an illustrated talk of Devon in WWI. Our May meeting involved a poignant and amusing talk by Dan Lavery the founder of Devon Freewheelers, a vital medical courier service.

Our meeting in June was our summer outing and we enjoyed a visit to Lower Ash Moor Farm, home of Cyril Cole’s wild flower meadows. We enjoyed a delicious tea provided by Yorkie.

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. 2nd Tuesday in the month. Parish Hall 2 - 4 pm.

Coral Simmonds

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

May I through The Voice thank three wonderful ladies who helped me when my little dog was hit and killed by a van on Rackenford Lane. They drove me, mostly in reverse (the road was too narrow to turn) back to Witheridge to the vets. One lady was called Sophie or Sonia, and they said they were carers. Thank you all so much, I really can’t thank you enough.

Sophie/Sonia - I do have your cardigan washed and ready for you, you may not want it back but please contact me

Sincerely,

Gillian Knight.

If you are one of these kind people, please contact Gillian through me at The Voice (details on page 3) Editor.
Would you like to reduce the price you pay for your heating oil? Then join us and receive your discounted oil through your local oil buying co-operative when we order in bulk on behalf of our membership every month of the year.

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- e-mail us at: wopecnet@aol.com
- go onto our web site at: www.wopec.net
- or telephone for a friendly chat: 01884 861186
A day in the life of a Vicar's wife

I haven't always been a vicar's wife, I married a banker and during the first few years of our marriage the banking industry and Adrian's ethics diverged more and more and the call to put himself forward for selection became ever stronger. I became a vicar's wife following Adrian's ordination to the priesthood in 2000.

The change in attitude by those around us made me chuckle, one friend in particular imagined that I had stopped drinking alcohol, that somehow it wasn't allowed anymore, as if I had put on a mantle of goodness or my halo had become super shiny!

The role of vicar's wife in the Church of England was traditionally as the unpaid curate or assistant, going back a century or so, my days would have been spent doing good works, visiting the sick, voicing the vicar’s thoughts and opinions. How times have changed. With the ordination of women and changes in society as a whole the "vicar's wife" may now be the 'vicar's husband" and there is no longer a belief that the vicar's vocation has to be shared by their spouse.

However there can, even today, be a tendency to put the vicarage family on a pedestal, to hold them up as an example for how to live a good life. Assumptions are made that the Vicarage family is somehow more holy or perfect in a way that other families can only dream of, that God will protect them from the sad and difficult times. I can tell you now that nothing could be further from the truth. We argue, we shout - sometimes, we laugh at all kinds of humour, we have held murder mystery dinners and we have had a fair share of sorrow too. Through all the good and bad times we love and support each other, just like every other family or group of friends in the village.

So a day in my life is pretty much like any other working Mum's. Some days I'm up before everyone else and off to work, deciding before I go what we will be having for tea tonight, whether I need to shop on the way home. Who is going out in the evening and when they'll be leaving so that the mealtime can be adjusted accordingly.

If I'm not working, then it's get everyone up, sort out breakfasts-including the dog's. Might go to the gym, do some chores around the house, not my forte or my pleasure. Yes, if I'm home then I can be the unpaid telephone receptionist but for anyone whose partner runs their own business from home it is the same. I can be asked to make cakes and sometimes I say yes and sometimes no. My priority
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is my family and their needs. Life will be changing again from September with the arrival of Revd Tony Rockey reducing Adrian's workload and our son starting his gap year reducing my maternal role.

I joined The Little Dart Singers because I enjoy singing, I am a governor at the school because I am passionate about children and the belief that they deserve the best education possible to allow them to reach their potential. I help with St John's Fayre because working as part of a community is important to me, not part of my "role" more part of me.

So the Vicar's wife is not a separate species, neither is the Vicar, both just loving humans with a desire to make a difference in this community by being with you, working, talking, playing in communion with all.

Sue Wells

---

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With prizes to be won.

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Monday Club

We have really enjoyed our coach trips this year. Our first was to Blackdown Nursery and Taunton, to stock up on our bedding plants and to start thinking about the gardening year to come.

On our second trip, we had a beautiful journey through our glorious countryside when we went to St Fagan’s, a country museum near Cardiff, when we were blessed with a lovely summers day to investigate the old houses and the castle in the lovely grounds. We also enjoyed a picnic, there were some lovely walks and the site plan showed you all the many places of interest you could visit or you could just sit and watch the world go by - the ice creams were delicious!

On July 25th we went to Buckfast Abbey and Dartmoor - two more places well worth a visit. On 22nd August we are in Jimmy’s hands as we set off for a mystery trip, going to ????.

On 19th September we are going to Dawlish and Teignmouth. You are very welcome to join us on our outings, just phone Sheila 860227 or Val 860709. £10 for non members - you will be made very welcome. Keep a lookout for our posters. Hope to see you soon - for more information about our young at heart Monday Club just give me a ring, Val Dickinson 860709.

United Churches Luncheon Club

A lunch club for people who live on their own in the Witheridge area providing a dinner, pudding and tea or coffee in a friendly atmosphere for a small charge of £4. Transport is available to those who need it.

The June meal was roast pork with apple sauce, vegetables and gravy, in July we had quiche and salad, and the August meal will be cottage pie. Usually three delicious puddings are available to choose from. All are home cooked by local volunteers. The United Churches of Witheridge warmly invite you to join us on the first Tuesday of each month at 12 noon for 12.30. Ring Annis Stone 860398 or Yvonne Childs 860012 to book a place. We look forward to meeting new people. Yvonne Childs, Chairman.
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One day a man saw an old lady, stranded on the side of the road, but even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her. Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He didn’t look safe; he looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened, standing out there in the cold. He knew how she felt. It was that chill which only fear can put in you. He said, “I’m here to help you, ma’am. Why don’t you wait in the car where it’s warm? By the way, my name is Bryan Anderson.” Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough.

Continued on page 28
Bryan crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt. As he was tightening up the lug nuts, she rolled down the window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn’t thank him enough for coming to her aid. Bryan just smiled as he closed her trunk. The lady asked how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Bryan never thought twice about being paid. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty, who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance they needed, and Bryan added, “And think of me.” He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight.

A few miles down the road the lady saw a small cafe. She went in to grab a bite to eat, and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant. Outside were two old gas pumps. The whole scene was unfamiliar to her. The waitress came over and brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn’t erase. The lady noticed the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger. Then she remembered Bryan. After the lady finished her meal, she paid with a hundred dollar bill. The waitress quickly went to get change for her hundred dollar bill, but the old lady had slipped right out the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back. The waitress wondered where the lady could be. Then she noticed something written on the napkin.

Continued on page 29
There were tears in her eyes when she read what the lady wrote: “You don’t owe me anything. I have been there too. Somebody once helped me out, the way I’m helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here is what you do: Do not let this chain of love end with you.”

Under the napkin were four more $100 bills.

Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through another day. That night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could the lady have known how much she and her husband needed it? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard....

She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a soft kiss and whispered soft and low, “Everything’s going to be all right. I love you, Bryan Anderson.”

**Witheridge Music Season**

**Sea Fever**, Sunday 18th September at 2.30pm.

Rosamund Harpur - Flute  
Sandie Middleton - Piano  
Eric Wolfe-Gordon - Oboe  
Emma Nelson - Voice

A selection of music evocative of the sea, its sounds and its stories!

For more information and ticket enquiries please email: [harpur.tickets@gmail.com](mailto:harpur.tickets@gmail.com)

**The Two Moors Festival**

We are hosting one of their concerts on Thursday 27th October at mid-day.

A Harp Ensemble with the Pelléas Ensemble. For more information and tickets: [www.thetwomoorsfestival.co.uk](http://www.thetwomoorsfestival.co.uk)  
Box Office: 01392 665885

**Organ Concert**

Wednesday 9th November, David Halls, Musical Director, Salisbury Cathedral playing a selection of suitable pieces to show the organs musical range. Something to suit everyone’s taste. Possibly including a Handel overture, some Nigel Ogden, Dubois, Bach and the Boellmann Gothic Suite. Further details to follow.

**A service of Christmas Carols** Sunday 11th December, with The Tiverton Town Band - evening performance.

John Harris
Summer Show Results 2016

Gold Cup and Pat Housam Memorial Cup - Mrs P Burnhams

Ralph Tarr Cup - Sheila Manley

Heathcote Jones Cup and Ruby Piercy Memorial Shield - Doreen Leat

Children’s Challenge Cup - Lucy and Catherine Kelly

Arthur Leat Memorial Shield, Top Tray and Top Vase - Elaine Kelly

Edward Sweeting Memorial Cup - Ann Webber

Millie Williams Memorial Shield (Best in Show - Hanging Basket) Pat Benn

Peter Jones Cup - Lyn Buckingham

Margaret Leat Memorial Shield - Joan Troake

2nd in Top Vase - Jill Horwood
Summer Show Results 2016

Best in Show
On June 25th and 26th, Witheridge celebrated its annual Charter Fayre, with locals turning out in force and visitors from further afield. Whilst the fayre is woven with tradition and its heritage an important part of the celebration, Witheridge once again came together to celebrate our fun and friendly Mid Devon village that has fields of crops and livestock in all directions, and the Two Moors Way through the centre. Witheridge’s medieval charm was shown off at its best all weekend!

This year’s fayre was opened by the Prince (Oscar Pennells) and Princess (Courtney Aldis) accompanied by Rev Adrian Wells. The Grand Parade through the village was led by the sounds of Crediton Town Band and followed by army vehicles, vintage tractors and Witheridge fire crew. Minnie and Mickey Mouse were with us once again, accompanied by the beats and rhythms of Tarka Pipe Band and Street Heat Samba. The village children, stilt walker, a penny farthing bicycle, birds of prey and staghounds took their traditional positions in the parade, followed by Tiverton Town Majorettes and Winkleigh Morris Dancers. On Sunday, the village came together to celebrate the Queen’s 90th Birthday with a Teddy Bear’s Picnic and Car Boot Sale. Many congratulations to Liz Chapple who won a £25 Mole Valley voucher in the ‘Witheridge Bake Off’ competition for her very British entry; and to Mason Bragg for winning a £25 Build A Bear Voucher in the ‘Best Dressed Ted’ competition for his very fashionable ted! We had lots of cakes, drinks and activities to toast Her Majesty’s birthday, all generously supported by local businesses. The Grand Raffle was drawn, which saw hampers, dinners, family days out and luxury experiences handed to the winners!

St John’s Fayre Committee Chair, Naomi Pacey, said “A fantastic weekend was had by all. A big ‘thank you’ to all those who attended and supported the event”.

St John’s Fayre is organised and run by village volunteers who warmly invite you to do it all again on June 24th 2017! Follow us on Facebook for updates throughout the year: www.facebook.com/stjohnsfayre or email witheridgesjf@gmail.com

Our AGM is on 19th September, 7.30pm in the Committee Room. Everyone is invited and new members are welcome.
Photos:
Emma Wilson, Val Dickinson and Jill Horwood
Witheridge Art Group

"Magnificent - every piece of work is a demonstration of hard work and inspiration", "Inspiring work", "Very good, gets better every year" - just some of the comments from our visitors book after this year's St. John's Fayre Exhibition.

If you would like to join us, you will find us in the parish hall committee room every Wednesday evening from 7.30 to 9.00. A group of people who have painting and drawing as a hobby and find a class with friends a happy and productive experience. We have facilities for disabled people, and a cupboard full of materials if you would like to try us out.

The subscription is merely £1.50 per week and £5 annual membership.

Please contact Eileen on 860564 or just come along and see us.

“Sunset” by June Turner - just one of the pieces sold during the Exhibition.

“Are we nearly there yet, Mum?”

Dave Dickinson

Witheridge Young Farmers

Witheridge YFC raised £780 at their Charity Clay shoot which was held on 22nd May. Thank you to all the members who helped and for those who supported the club on the day.

We also raised £111 at our bingo.

One of our next events is a race night on 20th August to be held at Witheridge sports club. The time is yet to be confirmed.

Emma Gilbard
Witheridge Community Composting

Green garden waste will be collected again from March to October. The cost of this service is £8 per year. We collect trailer loads of garden waste, £10 for members, £15 for non-members. We also sell finished compost at £1.25/bag delivered in the village, or collect at £1 per bag. **Volunteers still needed.** We meet on Mondays and Thursdays 9.00am - 12.00. You need to be fairly fit, but most of us are in our late 60s, some in their 80s and still going. Tools and training provided plus coffee and sometimes cake!
To order compost phone **Greg Henderson 860819**
Green garden waste collected **Thurs mornings from March 2016**

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**Summer Celebration**

St John the Baptist Church

*Saturday 27th August*

in Church and the Church Grounds

2.00pm—4.00pm

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Hello.
My name is Kim and I will be the new Brownie/Guide leader from September. I have been volunteering with Girlguiding for the past term to get to know the ropes. I have previously been a Rainbow, Brownie and Guide myself and worked at a Girl Scout camp in America so I already know a thing or two!

This term the Brownies have been working towards their Friends to Animals badge. They have been to Pets At Home in Tiverton to have a talk about how to look after animals. They made posters about the animals and made insect/ bird houses. The Brownies have also been busy playing rounders, making their own skittles game and getting their skates on for the roller disco!

The Guides have been working on their GFI badges, playing football rounders and showing off their dance moves on the Wii just dance! They also tried a new activity called Night Line at which they were all fantastic. The Guides joined the Brownies for the yearly St John’s Parade.

I am thoroughly enjoying my time with the Brownies and Guides and looking forward to September.

The Brownies will meet every other Tuesday starting 6th September from 6pm- 7.30pm
The Guides will meet every other Tuesday starting 13th September from 6.45pm - 8.15pm

If there is anyone interested in joining Brownies or Guides please contact me for further details or register on line at girlguiding.org.uk

Kim Howard. 01884 860311.
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We cater for weddings, various celebrations and buffets with restaurant seating for up to 34 and with additional places in the bar area.

Please contact us to find out what we can offer you for your function.

We offer a take-away menu for collection which includes our popular beer battered cod, chips and pea puree, and home-made 1/2lb beef burgers.

Pre-orders always advisable especially during busy periods.

Our bed and breakfast rooms are clean and comfortable and are available from £50 per night for a single room and £60 for a double.

To book either a table or a room or for any other enquiries please telephone 01884 861263 or email us at: the.mitreinn@mail.com www.themitreinn-witheridge.co.uk

Like us on Facebook to catch us early when we post offers and events.
The Parish Hall committee commissioned a full survey of the Hall in April. We did this because the last survey that was commissioned said that the Hall had a life of “at least 10 years”, and that was about five years ago. However, we were aware that the survey had only looked at the building from the outside and we wanted to know what was actually going on. So we commissioned a full survey which involved, among other things, lifting areas of the floor and inserting a camera. The result of the survey was, that with good maintenance, the hall should have a life of “at least 30 years.” This is great news, although we still need to be putting funds aside for a future re-build - but thankfully we have more time than we thought.

We have suspended the bi-monthly boot sales as there was just not enough support to justify the work involved.

The Oddsocks production of *Much Ado About Nothing* is on 25th August. Gates open at 6.00pm.

**Clare Spicer**

---

“It’s Shakespeare, but not as you know it!”

Firm favourites **Oddsocks Productions** are back in town with an exciting new look at one of Shakespeare’s classics. *Much Ado About Nothing* will take to the stage in Witheridge with a hearty dosage of Oddsocks inimitable comedy. This year, *Much Ado About Nothing* is returning after its success touring the country during summer 2015. Acclaimed as ‘hugely funny’ and receiving 4 stars from The Stage, Oddsocks are bringing the Italian summer closer to home. Retelling the story of Beatrice and Benedick and their trials and tribulations in love to a soundtrack of foot-tapping and well-loved anthems.

Much Ado About Nothing is one of Shakespeare’s most popular comedies. A classic story of love, mistaken identity, jealously, plans and parties and (not that we want to spoil it) but might all end happily ever after!

Want to see what all the fuss is about? *Much Ado About Nothing* plays at Witheridge Parish Hall on August 25th - doors open at 6.00pm. Tickets from [www.wegottickets.com](http://www.wegottickets.com), Witheridge Newsagents or tel: 01884860135

Ticket Prices in advance – Adult £10.00, Child £5.00, Family £25.00 (they will cost more on the night)
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On 25th May 2016 a concert of music for the trumpet and organ brought a fitting end to the season of concerts which had been held in our church. As the final notes of the encore died away and the audience clapped enthusiastically until their hands ached, the performers smiled at one another and back at the audience. As they basked in the well-deserved appreciation of their wonderful musicianship, they seemed to be as delighted to be with us as we were to listen to them.

The season of concerts had begun in the autumn with the Stuart Singers, followed by a concert celebrating the restoration of the church organ. A variety of concerts followed on a monthly basis. Christmas was celebrated firstly with a visit from the Exmoor Carolers, a group of very talented folk musicians playing carols linked to the Exmoor area dating back a hundred years or more which were completely unknown to the majority of the audience. This was followed by a Carol Concert lead by the Tiverton Town Band exuberantly playing the familiar and well loved carols we so enjoy singing.

January saw a Sunday afternoon service in the style of the Taize Community. We went to the concert out of interest, not knowing quite what to expect. The Taize believe that “He who sings, prays twice”. This was a calming, reflective concert in which the audience were encouraged to join in as they became more familiar with the style of music. A very different experience but one we enjoyed.

In February we had “a blast from the past”. Jonathan Weeks, dressed in medieval garb, played tunes on instruments which dated back a thousand years or more. As well as being a talented musician, Jonathan’s wit and humour put many so-called professional comedians to shame.

In March the service of Evensong was led by members of the Exeter Cathedral Choir. The variety of the voices and the quality of the singing were excellent.

Unfortunately we missed the Easter concert which amongst others featured a Shakespearean actor and an organist who had to rush straight back to London as he was playing for The Queen on the following day! The concert was a great success and £1000 from the proceeds were donated to the “Rest-a-while” to help it continue Continued on page 42
Continued from page 41

the work it does on behalf of the village community. Then finally it was over for another season. Without wanting to wish the summer away the good news is that we only have to wait until September for the new season of concerts to begin, starting with “Sea Fever”, a selection of music evocative of the sea. Sounds interesting – we are looking forward to it already!

On reflection, we are amazed that such talented musicians are willing to travel to Witheridge, described to us more than once as a village in the middle of nowhere, and share their considerable talents with us. We consider ourselves extremely lucky to have the opportunity to have such wonderful music brought right to our doorstep.

If you have enjoyed listening to the concerts yourself please tell your friends and encourage them to come too. If you have not been before, come along and give them a try, such is the variety of music on offer there will be something there to please everybody.

Please don’t be put off by the idea that “classical music” is boring highbrow stuff, the concerts are entertaining, fun and thoroughly enjoyable. Give them a try, we are sure you will love it!

June & Mike Turner
Continued from page 41

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June & Mike Turner

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**Adventure Playground**

The Parish Council, having been prudent with finances in previous years, have now installed new play equipment in the Parish Hall playground. There is a funrun fitness trail, designed for different ages and ability. The double width slide is wide enough for a child to be accompanied by either a friend or adult. Access to the slide is either via the climbing wall or step logs. The whizzy roundabout rocks and spins on its dual axis, enabling multi-directional play for both agile and not so agile children. They can sit, stand, kneel or lay to feel a great experience. The zig-zag twister also helps with balance and upper strength.

The outside gym equipment installed within the Adventure Playground can be used from teens to adults of all ages - so no excuses now! Using the latest Smartphone technology you can simply scan the QR code on each piece of equipment to view video footage demonstrating the multiple exercises that can be performed; or just read the written instruction signs.

**Carol Northam**

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www.witheridgeprimaryschool.btck.co.uk
Situated on the primary school site
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01884 861784
**Witheridge Sports Club**

<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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<td>Tues</td>
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<td>Sun</td>
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**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**

**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.

**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.

**Friday 11.00am - 12.00 in Parish Hall**

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**Tennis**

This year we had more entrants for our One-day Open Tournament than ever before, many of them younger players, and were able to use two nearby courts for the morning matches. We shall be having another one-day tournament on Saturday 16th July from 10.00am – 4.00pm with lunch and tea provided and non-members are very welcome. We are always looking for more people to join in the fun.

My phone number is 01363 866033  
email: evelyn.spragg@btinternet.com.

Rachael will be coaching the children during the holidays as usual – so keep an eye on the notice board.

Vine Spragg

**Bingo**

The Bingo is going very well - it would be lovely to see some new faces. Bingo at The Rest-a-While Centre is not just for the Oldies, it is welcoming to a wide age group, whether for a game of Bingo or a mug of Coffee or Tea and Biscuits, made by friendly volunteers.

Dates for your Diary – alternate Tuesdays at 7.30pm at The Rest-a-While:
August 9th & 23th; September 6th & 20th; October 4th & 18th.

Marion Crane  01884 860530

---

**Famine (1985)**  
by Eileen Haynes

I saw you on the TV screen,  
A sorrier sight I’ve never seen,  
The help I give is small I know  
But joined with others it will grow.  
We both have children, you and I,  
Mine are healthy and seldom cry  
And what you suffer, I cannot say  
For I’m the one who’ll eat today.
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.

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Witheridge Football Club

1st Team
The 1st managed to finish a respectable 7th in the league after a stop start season which concluded with them playing 4 games in 7 days in the last week. A good cup run in the St Luke’s bowl finished in a penalty shoot-out loss to Plymouth Argyle in the final which is a huge achievement for the club.

2nd Team
A bit of a tough season for the 2nd team with the bad weather and other problems which resulted in them needing points to avoid relegation 2/3rds of the way through the season but Darren kept faith and the lads managed to pull away from the bottom to confirm their position in the division this season.

3rd Team
What a great first season of football for Witheridge 3rd team, with 4 players from the under 16 team making the step up to mens’ football, along with mostly players who live in Witheridge and very close by. Our 7th place finish in the league was a big achievement for our first season, and hopefully this coming season we can finish in a higher position. Thanks to all the players and people who have helped in one way or another through the season. (Written by Daryl Hancock 3rd team manager).

So overall a good season for Witheridge FC, but no sooner does the season end planning starts for the next one with friendlies beginning in mid-July, so come and watch a game!

Paul Rich

Witheridge Golf Society
Two excellent days of golf in May and July resulted in wins for the teams of Andrew Clark, Norman James and Colin Gunn in May with Dave Owen, Greg Henderson and Al Collinge receiving the wooden spoon trophy; Graham Clark, Alan Horwood, Terry Rowland and Mike Williamson won the July trophy with the wooden spoon going to John Avens, Jim Steele and Terry Hawkins.
The next meeting will be held at Waterbridge for the Autumn Trophy on Wednesday the 7th September.

New members are always welcome. The emphasis will be on enjoyment through a team game. Contact Andrew Clark on 01884 860612 or e-mail at astonguy@tring92.f2s.com.

Andrew Clark
Our speaker for April was Julian Wilford, bee keeper and producer of Exmoor Honey, who spoke about “Bees Abroad” – a small charity which helps to alleviate poverty in African countries by providing practical hands-on training for new bee-keepers. The hives used are unlike our conventional ones, being made from logs or banana leaves and suspended from trees. The women are shown how to make candles, soap, face cream and handcream out of the remaining wax – nothing is wasted.

Nothing to do with gardening, but a very interesting speaker came to us in May. Vanessa Glover spoke of her experience when she was rescued from the floods in Umberleigh in December 2012. The River Taw had burst its banks, Vanessa, her husband and their son were travelling home late at night when disaster struck – their car was rapidly filling with water, her husband and son managed to get out and onto the car roof, but Vanessa was swept away by the rushing water finally managing to cling onto a small sapling. The helicopter was unable to winch her up because of power cables directly above her. A group from the RNLI Flood Rescue Team launched a rubber dinghy into the fast flowing water in the darkness, located Vanessa, got her into the dinghy and back onto dry land. Vanessa is now a fund raiser for the RNLI and received a donation of £109 from the Garden Club.

In June, Sarah Chester of RHS Rosemoor provided us with a very entertaining account of her career – starting in Fashion and currently working in Horticulture. Not a normal career path, but one which has been full of challenges and experiences. Her entry to horticulture was through the Chelsea Physic gardens, where she initially joined as a volunteer, and then worked an apprenticeship. Sarah became responsible for Events at RHS Rosemoor and has also spent 6½ years with Radio Devon on their Garden phone-in programme.

This most enjoyable evening ended with supper and a raffle.

All meetings start at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month.

Contact Kit James, Chairman, for more information    01884 860666
Garden Club Programme

Wednesday 28th September  The Effect of World War 1 in mid-Devon - Judi Binks
Wednesday 26th October  Farming and Conservation - John Greenslade
Wednesday 30th November  Annual General Meeting

Interested in Gardening?
Want to know how to grow the best in plants and vegetables? We have lots of interesting speakers throughout the year, not just on Gardening - come along and spend an evening with us. We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.
Ring our chairman, Kit James, on 01884 860666 to find out more.
Come free to first meeting, then either pay £10 all year or £2.50 a meeting
My Passion for Rescue.

It all started many moons ago, but I have taken in Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Cats and Birds, through no fault of their own - just that humans did not want them anymore, but I was lucky enough to give them their forever homes. I have always had Rescued Dogs - Border Collies were my passion, and along the way I had a couple of Mongrels, but just before Christmas some twenty years ago I lost my Dad and my Dog had to be put to sleep. My other dog and I were bereft - she was lonely and lost. I had a phone call from our youngest son who said “Go on Mother get a Greyhound”, my mind went into overdrive, never ever thought of having a Sighthound, but to cut a long story short we passed all the checks, and went to get a fifteen week old Greyhound pup, called Lily. I know a lot of you will remember her as the birthday girl at St Johns Fayre when our Lily gave away Birthday Cake for humans and dogs.

Some twenty years later the Girls and I have raised a lot of money for the Sighthound Charities with the Lurcher and Greyhound I have at the moment. It is great to do what we do, meeting lots of people along the way, who now know what a Sighthound is all about.

The Girls and I are always available for visits, talks etc.
The next fundraising event for us is The Bacon Roll Coffee Morning at 10.30am on 22\textsuperscript{nd} October at 1 Woodlands, East Worlington, EX17 4TS. Thank you to everybody for their support. See you all soon.

Marion Crane, Betty-Boo and Little Rose
Tel: 01884 860530
We’ve been busy fundraising again to provide some lovely curriculum enrichment activities for the children including a KS2 residential at Rock and Rapid and a KS1 trip to Powderham Castle, plus increasing the number of computers we have for the children to use. We were also very lucky to receive a grant from the Knights of Witheridge for the purchase of a further laptop. The jumble and plant sale in May raised a super £676 with an extra £76 coming from the Bag2School collection.

Our Duck Race on 18th June was a fantastic success raising over £4,700 for the PTFA and pre-school to share. Best in Show at the Dog Show was won by Scott with his Collie-cross, Milo; and Reserve Best In Show went to Louise with Wilbur, a Springer Spaniel. Please enjoy the slideshow of the day at www.worlingtonptfa.org

We have just booked our next Jumble Sale for Saturday 17th September, Witheridge Parish Hall at 2pm, hope to see you there!

Donna Webber, Chair PTFA

Working together in the foundation unit, during this term we have been learning about castles and homes, we have learnt about knights and princesses and enjoyed a medieval banquet, making hobby horses and jousting. We have looked at and made models of different kinds of homes castles. The foundation unit have enjoyed having a hen and cockerel at school and have watched with delight the newly hatched chicks, playing and growing.

We welcome Dani Ebdy as our new pre-school leader in September.

Thank you to all who supported our very successful Easter Bingo and duck race.

East Worlington Tums 2 Toddlers for children aged 0-5 is a parent run group which meets on Tuesdays in term time in the Acorn Room from 2-3.30. Contact Angela Lunn 01884 861371.

Further information about the pre-school can be found on the Chulmleigh Academy Trust website or telephone: 01884 861722
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Summer Term Report
Once again a very busy term at Witheridge Primary School with lots of wonderful activities taking place combined with great learning by the pupils. Let’s Get Cooking has been a big activity this term with Mrs Waters and Miss Saunders leading each Class in a week of afternoon cooking sessions which included parents being invited in to cook alongside their children. The final session was fantastic with some of the Year 6 pupils cooking and eating a 3 course meal.

In May we were delighted when 8 of our pupils, together with 3 from our Federation School, High Bickington and Harriet who left us last year, joined together to complete the Exmoor Challenge. The Challenge involves teams of 4 navigating on their own over 16 miles of Exmoor. As you can imagine a lot of training and dedication goes into achieving this and we are immensely proud of those who completed it.

All children from Reception to Y6 have been doing a wide variety of sports and dance. Sporting events have included multiskills, football, kwik cricket and athletics. Children in KS2 have performed dances brilliantly at St John's Fair and at a local schools' festival. All children in KS1 and 2 swam this term and Year Six children have had the added enjoyment of learning archery skills. All in all a very packed term of sports!

We are sorry to say goodbye to Miss Bull and Mr Radley from our teaching staff and Mr Manning from learning support. All are going off to start new and exciting ventures and we wish them all well. On the plus side, we are delighted to be welcoming Katie Partridge to our teaching staff and I am sure you will all get to know her quickly.

The sad loss to cancer of one of our parents earlier this year inspired a "Walk for Hope". It was lovely to see so many pupils, past and present, parents and staff walking together. Around £1,000 was raised for Macmillan and a big thank you goes to Mrs Waters who organised the day.

Continued on page 57
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.

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
For all enquiries call
01884 860271
www.mpli.ltd.uk
Witheridge PTFA

Witheridge PTFA have had a busy academic year, funding Panto, Theatre and Beach trips for all the children, along with smaller donations to the school. Money was raised by Fetes, Fayres, clothes collections and other fun events. For the Autumn, we have planned a Jumble Sale and Band Evening. Look out for posters in the Village!
The Jumble Sale is on 16th October, 2-4pm in Witheridge Parish Hall.
All money raised goes towards funding “extras” for the children, so please come and support our events.
Helen Johnson

Bumps and Beyond

We have had a lot of fun during the summer term and enjoyed welcoming some new families as well as some new babies!
The Children’s Centre continue to support us and have brought some messy play and painting along.
Over the summer holidays we will be glad to see older siblings join us too on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30am.
Please follow our Facebook page for details of our summer sessions and picnic lunches including Wednesday 31st August when we will be "bringing the beach to Witheridge" with a bouncy castle, sand and water play.
Denise Henson
On The Street Where You Live

Ever wondered where your street name comes from? When it comes to the original village, although in the past individual buildings may have been named, street names weren’t really needed until the penny post was introduced in 1840.

No street names were used on the Witheridge 1841 and 1851 censuses. They first appear in 1861 when Fore St went all the way up to 65a. It seems to have included both Fore St plus West St as we know it today.

Fore St is an old name meaning ‘leading to or parallel to the main st.’ In Witheridge’s case, the main street being The Square.

North Street was originally Northernhay Row (a road leading to an enclosure north of the settlement).

West Street was previously Queen Street, but about 1892/3, the part between Fore Street and The Square became South Street and the part between The Square and down to Drayford Lane (then called Coombe Rd), became West Street. It wasn’t until the 1930’s that it all became West Street.

It’s possible the Queen Street name was reused as some older villagers remember calling the road by the Mitre ‘Queen Street.’

Pullen’s Row is named after Witheridge business man George Pullen who had it built as workers’ cottages and Church Street…. I’ll let you guess for yourself!

Some names (Venbridge Hill and Ebrington’s Row) disappeared when the houses were lost to fire or pulled down.

Other old names which haven’t gone, but you may not be familiar with, are Ford’s Folly (I wonder what Mr Ford did wrong), Tracey Green, Barton Lane and The Drang (which means an alleyway). Though still known as The Drang by some people, it is now officially part of West Street.

Butt’s Close is named after the meadow on which it was built. Butt’s is a common Devon street name and seems to come from ‘on the edge of’ or ‘butts onto’ or possibly where the old archery butts were.

As for the newer parts of the village, it may surprise you to learn that Apple Tree Close is so named because there was an apple tree growing there and Lakelands Close is named after Lakelands Farm.

Brooke Rd and the streets leading off it were all named after notable Witheridge folk who were benefactors of the village, except Wiriga Way, which is just an old name for Witheridge.

Broomhouse Park was named after a long gone farm and Cannington Rd after the next door farm.

Jim Campbell
Witheridge Parish Council
Council News

News in Brief (Full details on the website www.witheridgepc.org)

**Fitness Legacy Zone** - Outdoor fitness equipment for ages 14 - Adult. The council is pleased to report the new installations are complete. Why not take a jog to the Adventure Playground and try out the new outdoor fitness training equipment – Cycle / Space Walker / Step Box Multi-Gym / Surfer?

**Audit 2016** – The Internal Audited Accounts are now available on the website for your review. Any queries please contact the clerk.

**Public Toilet Block** – Those following the council will have picked up on the efforts to refurbish the building in the Square. Plans are well advanced and the council will shortly submit a planning application. The proposals include a new uni-sex facility at one end, a meeting room and small store.

**Keeping Witheridge Clean** – Some of you will have already got involved in the council’s efforts led by Cllr Carol Northam. We have now purchased our own equipment to continue this, if anyone else would like to help please let us know.

**Councillor Vacancy** – If you are interested in co-option please contact the clerk.

**Council & Committee Meetings**

**Meetings** are held at the Parish Hall Committee Room, North Street, Witheridge. Unscheduled 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 website at [www.witheridgepc.org](http://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.

**Contacting the Council** – Tel: 01363 460046 Email: parishclerk@witheridgepc.org

Please telephone or email to arrange a mutually agreeable time and venue. Contact details below, a full list of councillors and their responsibilities can be found on the website.

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<td>Jul 7</td>
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Community Information N Devon

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Witheridge Week 3

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Witheridge School  15:05 - 15:50
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Oct-Mar Thur 9-4:30 Sat & Sun 10-4:30

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Apr - Sep M-F 9- 5 Sat & Sun 10-6
Oct - Mar M-Fr 9- 4:30 Sat & Sun 10- 4:30

News from South Molton and District Children’s Centre

Under 5’s stay and Play and Child Health Clinics

Witheridge Clinic - runs on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month 9.30am – 11.30am at the Parish Hall. This group is for all under 5’s and their carers. There will be a range of fun activities for you and your children to explore together. There will be health visitors in attendance to weigh your babies and for you to discuss any concerns you may have.

If you would like information on this or any of the groups that Children’s Centres deliver please contact Northern Devon Children’s Centres on 03300415493 or 01769 579615.
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