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EDITORIAL
Thank you to all our advertisers and contributors to this magazine, and a very warm welcome to our new advertisers.

Our new website is running, although a lot still remains to be done to get it fully operational. Ed Eyles is the webmaster and we welcome him to our Committee, who were all re-elected at our AGM in May.

Cover photographs - if you have any photos of Witheridge you would like to see on the front cover, please do send them in to me.

We have a very full magazine this time and we have increased to 68 pages.

Deadline for the Autumn issue is 3rd October.
Jill Horwood, Editor

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Advertising in Witheridge Voice
Advertising rates, to include the next 4 quarterly issues of the magazine starting Winter 2017, are: Full page £102, ½ page £56 ¼ page strip £42, ⅛ page box £26.
Email: witheridgevoice@icloud.com

Editor v o i c e e d i t o r @ b t i n t e r n e t . c o m
Editor Jill Horwood
Treasurer Gill Manning Tel: 01884 860557
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Advertising witheridgevoice@icloud.com
Website www.witheridgevoice.org.uk
Webmaster webmaster@witheridgevoice.org.uk
Posters ONE page of A4, LARGE type/full size jpeg
Printed by Burridge Printers 01837 82386
Cover Photo: John Northam
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**Witheridge as it was**

Gordy Pyne grew up in Witheridge, and has a lot of memories of the village as it was during the 1930’s, 40’s and 50’s. He shared these memories with me in a recorded interview. The photographs, with the exception of the charabanc, gold box and Gordy and Queenie, are courtesy of Ivan Sperduti.

Staff at Hutchings building firm on their lunchbreak

Arthur Brent by the water pump at Merryside. The main water source was from Woodford, and Arthur Brent used to come and pump it into the tower down to Lakeland.
The water tower which supplied Witheridge was dismantled a few years ago.
Arthur lived in Bow Cottage and married Alice Kingdom. Their daughter Joan married Ivan Sperduti

Archie Nott had a threshing business, and employed a lot of labour. He lived at Westway farm. He was also a quarry owner and contractor.

Other outings were arranged and travel was in a charabanc (similar to this photo)

*Continued on page 6*
Club walk – so far as I know, all the business people got together, possibly after a service in Church, and parade to Flower Show field, where the School is now. Back then, we had a marquee, which was also used for the Flower Show.

Utility buses with slatted seats were used during the war, and were our means of travel – before that, we just walked.

Bill Gibbs worked for Crang at Upcott Farm and they took their sheep towards Somerset/Exmoor, taking water for the dog, and tie a hanky round their mouths because of the dust. Roads were not serviced then. Farmers would take bullocks to Tiverton Station to sell, and we youngsters would drive them, then the farmers would deliver them to whoever had bought them.

School Days were good days. In Seniors, we did bee keeping - the headmaster then was quite interesting. “Bee Way” - a course in bee keeping - was run by Mr and Mrs Burgess at Westway, and we were tested on how to keep bees. Our School won the cup several times for bee keeping. We also used to do carpentry at school.

Classroom seating was long cast iron benches, with inkwell holes in the top of the desks, and we would bring inkwells round. The Infants section was taken by Mrs. Alford, Mrs Joe Churchill was in another room with the Juniors, and the Headmaster, with another teacher, took the Seniors. Discipline was very good!

During the war, we would go out picking up spuds, and the farmers were supposed to supply us with lunch, but some of the farmers were very tight! War made the farmers!!

Everyone kept tame rabbits, including the school. We would show the rabbits, and take them to Tiverton market early in the morning. 2 of us to go and our fare was paid - very often we would come back with a prize. Some of the varieties we had were: Blue Bevran, Havana, Chinchilla, Flemish Giant, Dutch.

Bill Hutchings, who was a builder, kept them and also Jack Mills who was a farmer at the Mitre. We would clean them out Sunday mornings and they would give us mangolds and hay for our rabbits.
My dad was a sexton at the Church. He would cut the grass twice a year with a scythe. The hook was set at an angle so you wouldn’t hit the ground when you cut the grass.

We would carry the grass to the vicarage, then go and turn it a couple of times. Once it became hay, we would put steadling (faggot wood) in the bottom, pile hay on top, make the rick into the shape of a house, with a pitch roof, and straighten it up. We would thatch the roof with rushes which the Farmers taught us how to do. It’s very sad that all these skills and knowledge are dying out.

Most of the big farms used to employ at least 3 labourers, and most of them made cider. They would put down a layer of straw on a big platform, then layer of pulp apple, and continue till it was big enough - it was called a cheese. Then a big lump of timber was put over the lot and pressed right down - cor it was just like lemonade! But very potent – you could jump a gate! Farmers knew what would happen! We used to scrump apples, but we were not greedy and only took a few.

At Harvest time the countryside was alive with rabbits. We would say to farmers “don’t put the stitches up – leave them down, it makes it easier for us to catch the rabbits.” We would get there early and block up all rabbit holes. When the rabbits bolted, we boys would catch them. We all had a rabbit each. The farmer would pick up an old buck rabbit and try to give it to us, but we said “Don’t want he boss” because a buck rabbit was tough. The Doe is much more tender.

Gamekeepers would shoot the hawks, magpies, jays, squirrels because they knew they would take pheasant’s eggs. Pheasants were bred at Worlington and there was big money in a shoot.

My Dad started off as gamekeeper and times were hard. Sometimes we would come down in the morning, and see pheasants and salmon hanging in the larder. We used to live well. We had rabbits and fish. River used to be alive with fish spawning but pollution has now put an end to that.

Continued on page 9
South Coombe Country Cottages

Set in a beautiful location with an indoor swimming pool

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

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There was a wooden fish and chip shop in the village, set in a recess of the wall by the Angel. They had two cookers and did a terrific trade. Cost us 1d for chips. On Mondays they cleaned out the friers and would give us all the bits of fish and chips, full of grease!

A lady in the village called Aunt Glad had a son about same age as me, but he died and she looked on me as her son. Her brother, whose surname was Ford, was in 1914-18 war and all the soldiers were issued with a small gold coloured box for Christmas 1914. Some had cake, some had cigarettes. A few have been shown on Antiques Roadshow - one with the original piece of cake in. Aunt Glad give this box to me. She also gave me a miniature horseshoe – I always carry it and up to now have had darn good luck!

The Playing field up by Merryside before the war was a marvellous place. It had seating all around, was fenced in, and had gardens there with a sandpit. The schools had their Maypole dances there.
The field where the Parish Hall is now used to be owned by the Benson estate. Sam Way rented the field and had some store sheds there. He had a little pony and buggy which he used to go to work. We youngsters used to go in the field where there were fruit trees. Ammunition places were on the field during the war. Aluminium and tin were collected and stored there for the war effort. Maunders was a very popular butcher with a slaughterhouse; he would sell meat to London.

In 1947 a fire started in Tracey Green, destroying 3 dwellings; burning thatch blew across to Drayford Lane and set fire to about 5 dwellings there. West Street was also destroyed by the fire.
The Blacksmiths shop was owned by Sam Ward who later sold it to Stan Moore. The Pound House was a hive of industry where Joe Churchill lived, repairing harnesses. The Pound House also kept stray animals and charged for their owners to collect them.
Back then, we had the Black Dog pub, The Hare and Hounds, The Commercial, The Angel and they all made a living.
Most of the men were cider drinkers and were not satisfied with just a pint. Farmers had to supply the farm labourers with cider, and all the workers had a firkin on their belts, which would be filled with cider.

Continued on page 10
On threshing day, the cider would flow. Men would be OK up to dinner, then they would start dropping – some of them were found under sheaves of corn! A lot of them would drink it first thing in the morning before starting work! We had a good life -we had nothing, but we were content. We used to go down the dump and find an old bike frame. We would put a pram wheel in the back of the frame, and a cycle wheel in the front. We would go to the top of Mill Hill, and fly down – we had no brakes! The centre of Mill Hill was rough so the horses could get a footing when they came up with 2cwt sack on the cart. Very often, the horse would go down on its knees – that was a cob, not a heavy horse. At The Leat, the top gate, towards Yeo Farm, was closed and the bottom gate was opened up to let the water in to get the mill working. We boys used to open top and shut the bottom, the fish would come in, then we would open bottom let the water out and get the trout. The Leat was a good half mile long. We would spend a lot of time there. During the war in the wood, the home guard had a lot of secret places but we youngsters found out about one – the concealment of it was marvellous, it had bunk beds and everything in it. An escape hole, like a manhole was so well concealed in a bank – we would go down there and play and make sure we covered it up neat and tidy before we left. Further on was East Yeo and that burnt down in the 30’s – we youngsters would go down and look after the apples! There was a little bridge across the Leat, and a bigger foot bridge over the main river lead to Essebeare from where farm people and staff in the farmhouse, would come up to Witheridge, do a bit of shopping and the bridge was their way home.

Queenie and Gordy Pyne
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**In memory of**

26th May funeral of Colin Michael Bryant

**LITTER PICK.**

We were joined by a new person on the 10th June, 2017. Many thanks to her and, of course, our trusty band of volunteers. We all reported that there was a plethora of CIGARETTE ENDS. These are difficult and fiddly to pick up. Therefore, smokers, please help us out by disposing of them correctly. Don’t forget to look at the Parish Council notice board in the square for the date of our last litter pick of the year, which will be late October/early November.

To order ring Greg on 01884 860819
Harry Richardson Treasurer 860522

carol.northam1@pobroadband.co.uk. 01884 860817.

**WITHERIDGE COMMUNITY COMPOSTING**

Although we are no longer collecting green waste, we still have some compost left for sale which can be purchased at £1.00 per bag, delivered free in the village.

To order ring Greg on 01884 860819
Harry Richardson Treasurer 860522

**TUESDAY REST-A-WHILE BINGO.**

The dates for the following months are as follows:

- August Tuesdays 8th and 22nd
- September Tuesdays 5th and 19th
- October Tuesdays 3rd, 17th and 31st

Marion Crane. 01884 860530.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Clementine Smith on your Graduation from Southampton Solent University with a BA (Honours) Degree (2.1) in Magazine Journalism & Feature Writing. You have achieved so much and worked extremely hard. We are all hugely proud of you. Good luck in your future career. With Love from Mum, Alan, Hollie, Dad, Elliott, David and Grandma & Grandad Simmonds
Witheridge Parish Hall

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**MONDAY CLUB**

The sun shone as 46 people boarded the coach to go to Falmouth. In high spirits we set off, and the nattering started, we stopped for coffee, cheese scones and tea cakes, then travelled on, the sun shone brighter and cries of “are we nearly there Val” were heard. At last we arrived; some went looking for lunch, others went straight to the Quay to set off on a boat trip, a really lovely day to be on the water, or to sit and watch the people go by while enjoying ice cream. Lots of suntan lotion was used and shady hats were worn - it was beautiful to sit and watch the sea as it lazily ebbed and flowed. There were so many people enjoying the beach and laughter sounded all around them. All too soon we met up again and headed home, with everyone saying what a lovely relaxing day,

Our next meeting was for a High tea in the Rest-a -While, with homemade cakes baked by our members and lovely dainty sandwiches. The money raised - £221 - was split between Hospice Care and the Air Ambulance. Becky from the Hospice came and enjoyed the afternoon with us, we had a really lovely time and the Auction raised a lot of laughter as well as good money. My grateful thanks to those that came to support us and to those who helped to make the afternoon a success.

If you would like to enjoy these outings with us, just look out for the posters. For more information about the club itself please phone Val 01884860709. Thank you.
Val Dickinson,
Chair
See Hear on Wheels visits 2017

Equipment demonstrations, loans, information and advice for people who have hearing and/or sight loss. Fully accessible mobile service.

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For more information contact the See Hear Centre
Email: seehearn@livingoptions.org
Phone: 01271 373236
Mobile: 07831 515809

Registered charity No: 1102489
Welcome to Witheridge’s very own French restaurant! Since moving to the area from south east London in February, we have been welcomed in to this fantastic community with open arms. Thank you!

Dining at La Petite Bouchée is a unique experience – seating only 20 in our ‘hidden’ restaurant we create an environment that means we are not tied to time. When you book a table at La Petite Bouchée you book it for the whole evening. This means that you will have the time to relax and enjoy your food and the people you are spending time with. All we ask is that you book in advance, and pay a small deposit to secure your table.

The La Petite Bouchée experience is extra-special and we work hard to maintain this; all of our ingredients are second to none and sourced locally, even home grown, if possible. We work closely with our suppliers to ensure that quality is never compromised and that we are reducing our carbon footprint as much as we can.

The other thing we are really hot on is not wasting food. We never order more than we need, which is why we ask you to choose what you are going to eat from the menu in advance. When we confirm your booking we will ask you to let us know what you will be eating 72 hours before you join us. This means that our suppliers have plenty of time to ensure fresh deliveries arrive in time for service.

Our menu changes monthly, and we now offer a loyalty card. On your third visit, you’ll get a free glass of house wine. Come six times and a member of your party will eat for free.

To book a table, simply email us at hello@lapetiteboucheebrasserie.co.uk or give us a ring on 01884 860654.

We look forward to welcoming you to La Petite Bouchée very soon.
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**ALLOTMENTS**

Everything is planted and loving the sunny weather. Soft fruit picking is well underway with early potatoes and baby root veg coming in thick and fast. Fingers crossed for more good Summer Sun.
To be put on the waiting list please call Sam 07809404857 / 01884861527

**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

**BELL RINGERS**

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**Witheridge Ladies Group**

In **April** our speaker was Pippa Griffith of the Tiverton Museum who showed us projected photographs of some of the many exhibits held in the museum. Pippa related the history of the lace making factory of Heathcoat Fabrics and their contribution manufacturing artillery shells in WW1.

Whilst in **May** yoga teacher Jenny Kane gave us a talk and demonstration of Yoga in a Chair. She gave us tips about relaxation and took us through the exercises and meditative techniques.

In **June** we enjoyed a splendid cream tea provided by the Tiverton Hotel. We all enjoyed a good natter and had a relaxing afternoon. Dave from Devon Freewheelers gave a talk on the organisation and the proceeds of the raffle will be donated to them.

Our **July** speaker was Jane Howarth of the British Hen Welfare Trust, a national charity which she set up in 2005, to re-home commercial laying hens and educate the public on hen welfare. A very entertaining afternoon complete with two hens - Olive and Cassie!

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
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.

For further information and a membership form either:

- e-mail us at: wopecnet@aol.com
- go onto our web site at: www.wopec.net
- or telephone for a friendly chat: 01884 861186
**CHARITY KNITTING**

We were recently fortunate to receive substantial donations of wool, much of it has already been utilised for our various charities, with the rest intended for specific projects. For example, the baby blankets being made with the chunky yarn are for sale at The League of Friends stall in Tiverton Hospital.

Eileen Haynes 860212

**WITHERIDGE ROCKS YOUTH CLUB**

Witheridge Rocks have been busy, and noisy! with up to 30 young people attending some weeks. Games, tuck, craft, pool, table football, table tennis and plenty of chatting have been enjoyed, as well as a couple of inter-youth events. Recently a few of us attended an event at Morchard Bishop where we saw The Sense (a Christian band) and Stance (a Christian street dance group). They will both be at Spree, which is an exciting weekend for young people being held at Shoebrooke Park, Crediton in July.

We would like to say a big 'THANKYOU' to all the parents who have helped us during this last term.

Another huge 'THANKYOU' goes to the Knights of Witheridge, who have generously given us a grant enabling the purchase of some new sports equipment. When the weather is good you will see us using the new equipment on the field behind the Parish Hall

Andrea Court

**UNITED CHURCHES LUNCH CLUB**

This continues to function on the first Tuesday of every month at 12 noon for 12.30pm in the Parish Hall, for retired people who live on their own. If you enjoy good home-cooked food then why don’t you try us? Ring Yvonne Childs on 860012, Val Dickinson on 860709 or Annis Stone on 860398 to book your place.

The next meal is on Tuesday 1st August and then Tuesday 5th September

Yvonne Childs
The Mitre Inn, 2 The Square, Witheridge

Andy, Barbara and everyone at the Mitre would like to welcome you to our traditional village inn; or as stated more than once by customers - ‘The way pubs used to be.’

We serve an excellent selection of homemade food, sourcing local produce and fresh ingredients wherever possible, including Exmoor beef and steaks, Somerset free-range Wessex pork and Creedy Carver chicken from Crediton. We also stock a very good selection of bottled wines and Exmoor real ales.

We are extremely proud to have been awarded the Trip Advisor certificate of Excellence for 2016, for the second year running.

Our popular Sunday Roast Lunch is £8.95 for a choice of two meats or a vegetarian nut roast. You may add one of our delicious desserts for only £4.80.

We cater for weddings and buffets for many different occasions, from savoury or sweet buffets to a set two or three course menu in the restaurant, seating up to 34 people with additional seating in the bar. Please contact us to find out exactly what is available for you.

Takeaway meals are available, including beer battered cod and chips and homemade 1/2lb beefburgers. Please always pre-order in busy periods.

Bed and breakfast starts at £55.00 per night for a single room and £65.00 for a double.

Please call us on 01884 861263 or email the.mitreinn@mail.com

www.themitreinn-witheridge.co.uk

Like us on Facebook to take advantage of offers and events
Witheridge Village Panto ... Oh yes it is!!
Snow White and her many village helpers
A pantomime about Witheridge by the people of Witheridge. Organised by the Knight’s of Witheridge all profits to Children in Need and Local causes.

Loads of help needed.
We would like as many groups, businesses, clubs etc from the village represented
Cast members (must be over 18) ... Don’t worry no lines to learn, A narrator does all that!
Only three attendances required,
First rehearsal, Wednesday Nov 22nd
Dress rehearsal Tuesday Nov 28th
The performance Friday 1st Dec

Please Contact Mike on 01884 860720 now, if you are interested.

Pets As Therapy.
recognised by the Royal College of Nursing
Bailey and I arrived at school armed with treats for Bailey and stickers for the children which stated that they had read to Bailey! He listened to six children, one by one and everything was going very well until Bailey wandered off into the next classroom! That was his only lapse in concentration; the rest of the time he dozed! However, he was very pleased to get his treats from each of the children!
I do hope we made some difference to the children and we look forward to our next encounter.
Margie Cosker

Thank you
To everybody who bought my jams and chutneys at St John’s Fayre. I raised £50 for the donkeys in the Holy Land.
Margie Cosker
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LOOKING FORWARD AT THE REST-A-WHILE

We have been very busy in the Rest-A-While over the last few months. In addition to welcoming more people coming to see us (which is great) we have been getting on with the redecoration in preparation for our 25th anniversary in October. The walls have been painted and plans for new curtains and table covers are well underway.

We were open for business at St John’s Fayre. Although a gentle of trickle of rain fell on the day, business was brisk at the Rest-A-While where a warm welcome awaited along with filled rolls, salads, quiche and lots of delicious home made cakes all washed down with a warming cuppa. The sun may not have been shining outside but inside the building was filled with fun, conversations and laughter.

A grand total of £290.20 was taken and we would like to express our thanks to everyone who worked hard to make the day successful.

Lorna Hartrey won the prize of a large hamper, the second prize of the smaller hamper was won by Carol Prynn. Congratulations to both of you.

We are looking forward to our 25th Anniversary. Free tea, coffee and biscuits will be available for everyone for the week commencing 25th September. The week’s celebrations will be concluded on Saturday 30th September with a party from 1.00pm to 4.00pm which anyone who wishes to come to is invited. Please come in to see us and help us celebrate this milestone event.

The Rest-A-While is open from 10.00am to noon every day except Sundays and Christmas Day. Whilst we cannot promise cake every day you will receive a warm welcome and enjoy the best value tea and coffee anywhere. We look forward to seeing you.

We have a book swap in the Rest-a-while which is open to all at no charge. We have a wide selection of books which you can either borrow or feel free to swap with one of your own.

Don’t forget our Bring and Buy which we hold at 10.00am on the last Friday of every month.

June Turner
Secretary
OUR PLANET

I found this quote recently and wanted to share it with you. "This planet is not terra firma. It is a delicate flower and it must be cared for. It's lonely. It's small. It's isolated, and there is no resupply. And we are mistreating it. Clearly, the highest loyalty we should have is not to our own country or our own religion or our hometown or even to ourselves. It should be to, number two, the family of man, and number one, the planet at large. This is our home, and this is all we've got."
- Scott Carpenter, Astronaut.

Scott wrote this after one of his trips into space where the world is seen as whole, no countries, no boundaries, no individuals or groups of people. This quote really resonated with me especially in the light of President Trump’s withdrawal of the United States from the Paris climate accord. This has brought environmental issues and our responsibility for our world into sharp focus. If we have a loyalty to any of the three main religions in our country we are bound to look after our world.

Whether we believe in the story of creation or think of it as a means of simply explaining scientific facts we are clearly told in the Old Testament section of the bible that we do not own the world to live as we want but we hold stewardship of our planet to make sure that it survives for countless generations after us. The Koran says the same “that we are guardians of this world and all that inhabit it, plants and animals” as does the Jewish Torah. Our faiths do not need to separate us but can unify us as custodians.

The care of this beautiful blue planet is not only the responsibility of politicians it is ours as individuals. What are we doing to hand it down to not only our children but our grandchildren and their grandchildren?

Sue Wells
Methodist Chapel
Rev John Wiltshire 01363 877281
Sunday Services 11am
(Except Churches Together service -see noticeboards)

Women's Fellowship
❖ 1st Thurs in month from March - December 2:30pm

Events at The Chapel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 8th October</td>
<td>Harvest Service</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10th October</td>
<td>Harvest Supper</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 29th October</td>
<td>Churches Together</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Saturday of each month</td>
<td>Prayer Breakfast - everyone welcome</td>
<td>8.30am - 9.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1st August</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>12 for 12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 26th August</td>
<td>Summer Fete in the Church</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00-4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 5th September</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>12 for 12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 24th September</td>
<td>Witheridge Harvest Service</td>
<td>Parish Church</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 24th September</td>
<td>Witheridge Harvest Lunch</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>1.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 3rd October</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>12 for 12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 7th November</td>
<td>Fundraising function in the Church</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00am - 12 noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All dates are subject to change. Please check the church notice board.

Witheridge Church Rooms - small functions, classes or meetings. Kitchen and toilet. £10 per am/pm/evening. Contact Andrew Clark on 01884 860612
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A lot has been happening this year with the Knights... Steve Lea completed his year as chair and I have now taken up the reins. We have been busy with events such as an Easter Raffle which was very kindly supported by Andy in the Mitre, in April we had one of our usual enjoyable Puddings Quizzes in the Parish Hall and we had stalls at both the South Molton Vintage Show and the St John’s Fayre in June.

All our efforts enable us to support local organisations and Charities and this year we have supported Witheridge Rocks Youth Club, East Worlington Parish Hall, Witheridge Pre-School (Childcare @ the Hive) and Witheridge in Bloom.

Every penny we raise goes into our charity fund, so to help us support more local groups and individuals, we are now recruiting a new kind of Knight. ‘Associate’ Knights can join us without the need to attend our committee meetings etc and are only required to help if they can, when we have organised events. The more the merrier and if you are 18 or over, have some free time, are happy to help us and want to have a fun time, please email me at: knightschair@gmail.com

Laurie White

Some of our future events in the pipeline are:
Race Night – Date to be confirmed
10th September 2017 – Sponsored Vehicle / Tractor Push
11th November 2017 – Quiz Night in the Parish Hall
1st December 2017 – Pantomime in the Parish Hall
2018 – Clay Pigeon Shoots in May and September
Greenslade Taylor Hunt

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GARDEN CLUB

In April, Mervyn and Sheila Burd gave us a most interesting talk on textiles. Mervyn worked at Heathcotes for 34 years and told us how various textiles were made and their uses both at home and in industry. For example, the orange safety nets used on building sites, car seat fabric and washing machine belts. He showed us slides of the machinery used in textile production and how they had developed over the years.

Samples of some of the materials were passed round for us to see and handle.

Steven Smith, our Treasurer, talked to us in May about carnivorous plants. He had brought some plants with him, most recognisable were the Venus flytrap and the Pitcher plant. Steven also explained how best to keep these plants – either in peat, or sphagnum moss – not garden soil, and only use rainwater. If rainwater was not available, then deionised or battery water. If any flowers appeared on the plants, cut them off as they would weaken the plant.

Insects landing on a Venus Flytrap would trigger fine hairs – if 5 or more of these hairs were triggered within 20 seconds, the trap closed on the insect.

Butterwort was another plant Steven talked about – again fine hairs were in the plant, this time covered with a sticky substance – any insect landing on these was digested immediately.

On June 21st several of us went to John Greenslades’ Way Farm at Bickleigh, for a walk round the wild flower meadows. John has transformed his farm land into a huge conservation site planting hundreds of trees, creating ponds and wild flower meadows. We finished an interesting and informative evening with a very welcome ice cream!

The following week, we went to Dart Raffe for a visit to Gerald Mannings’ wild flower meadows. Unfortunately, the weather was not so kind as the previous week, but we still enjoyed the walk and talk, particularly the socialising afterwards – 18 of us around a huge kitchen table!

23rd September – Trip to RHS Malvern. Some seats still available, ring Kit James on 01884 860666. Leaving The Square at 7.00am. Cost £37.50.
25th October - Stephen Powles “Devon Wildlife”
29th November – AGM

Jill Horwood
GARDEN CLUB SUMMER SHOW

The annual Summer Show was held on 5th August. There was a wealth of exhibits on display, despite the recent wind and rain, ranging from sweet peas to dahlias, tomatoes to some of the largest onions I have seen, children’s exhibits, photographs and craft items. The award for the Best Exhibit in Show went to Ann Webber for her beautiful dark red ball dahlias - congratulations Ann!

Winners with their cups, shields and prizes.

VILLAGE GARDEN COMPETITION

Best Vegetable Garden - 1st Cyril Leat, 2nd Paul Kelly, 3rd Lucy Kelly.
Best Allotment - 1st David Williams, 2nd Sheila Burnham, 3rd Sally Butler.
Best Flower Garden - 1st Gill Knight, 2nd Ann Webber, 3rd Cyril Leat
Patio Garden - 1st Rachel Durbin, 2nd Amanda Williams, 3rd Barbara Coleman
Hanging Baskets, Pots & Containers - 1st Jenny James, 2nd Celia Leach, 3rd Carole P Bates

Craft items on display:
**ST JOHN’S FAYRE 2017**

Hope everyone enjoyed this year’s St John’s Fayre. What a full programme, kicking off with a tea dance in the Parish Hall, Friday afternoon. Lots of dancing and a delicious tea were on offer.

The Parade was magnificent – a big thank you to everyone in it, particularly all our Pre-School and Primary School children dressed in their Medieval costumes. All supported by our re-enactment society The Medieval Free Company. The Crediton Band and the Bideford Pipe Band brought the music to the Square. The Charter was read and the Fayre declared open with the Maypole dancers, Majorettes and Punch and Judy Show to entertain.

In the Parish Hall area, Liz Morris from Canine Company Camp in Nomansland, did us proud with yet another fun Dog Show and plenty of prizes for our four-legged friends. The ferret racing and Exmoor Zoo kept us in raptures, whilst further entertainment, abundant stalls and delicious food and drink were on offer all day. Sam Spurway’s photographic competition was a success – remember to take your photos (theme is Farming in Devon) for next year. Witheridge Primary School Choir impressed all, and the Children’s Art Competition coloured the Marquee – the venue for the evening’s entertainment.

Thank you to the Sports Club who provided a great bar, whilst Chulmleigh School’s Arc en Ciel opened with a magical musical performance – watch out for this group!

The fabulous Beaver Brothers took us in to the night – and what a night it was. Thank you to Ryan Chapman for your invaluable help with PA and music. Likewise, to Danny and Kayleigh Boyles for expert logistics.

As usual Funlands entertained at the Sports Club car park – they have become good sponsors to the Fayre.

On Sunday, Paul Zee entertained our youngsters during a teddy bear’s picnic. The grand finale was the Bake-Off – good enough to rival Mary Berry!

Please do come to our AGM on 26th September 2017. The committee is small and in desperate need of support and new ideas. Next Year’s St John’s Fayre will be held on Saturday 23rd June 2018, with a theme of “Farming in Devon”. Please come along and make it even better.

Lise Martin
ST JOHN’S FAYRE 2017 IN PICTURES
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website www.chulmeleighgolf.co.uk   Email chulmeleighgolfcourse@outlook.com
**CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taekwondo</td>
<td>Parish Hall</td>
<td>Wednesdays 6.00 - 8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fridays Family and Tigers 6.00 - 8.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Club</td>
<td>Church Rooms 1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays 7.00pm</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TAEKWONDO**

In *Tae Kwon Do* news- the big news first: a massive well done to Sam Spurway for her promotion to Black belt 1st Dan and passing her Assistant Instructors course! She worked incredibly hard to achieve this and we are all very proud of her. Her achievement has inspired lots of our parents to get up off the sidelines and start training with their children. You are never too old to start and family discounts are available!

In other grading news congratulations to Daisy-May Baxter and Ellie Prince for gaining their Yellow tag belts, to Lily Perera, Harry Shere, Finley Raybould, Joseph Phelan and Jessica Curtis for gaining their Yellow belts, and Millie Phelan for her Green tag belt. With special congratulations to Jessica Curtis for AGAIN achieving an A-pass and getting the grading award- keep up the good work!


Hope lots of you came along and saw our demo at St John’s Fayre. Everyone worked very hard in the preceding weeks getting ready and they did a fantastic job demonstrating patterns, self defence and breaking. Thank you all for your support.

Tigers of the month for the last quarter have been: Oscar Pennells, Jerome Mantle and our youngest tiger at 3 years old Isabella Mantle. Congratulations to you all.
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PARISH HALL

The rather thrilling news is that hopefully the Parish Hall will be getting broadband. This will make a big difference to some of the events that already take place in the hall and perhaps open the door to many different types of activity.

Macbeth is on the 25th August. This will be a fantastic evening out and many people who have a deep dislike of Shakespeare have seen him in a whole new light when viewed through the eyes of Oddsocks. No one who has come to one of these shows has regretted it even when it poured with rain so please give it a go.

Withyfest is happening as I write, it is the brainchild of Russell North who, I am happy to say, has joined the Parish Hall committee. So far it seems to have been a howling success with some really brilliant acts. Those of us who saw Corky last night will remember him for some time! Both the Parish Hall and Sports Club have been able to offer great facilities for festival goers, we are fortunate to live in a village with so much to offer.

DON'T FORGET MACBETH ON FRIDAY 25th AUGUST!

If past ODDSOCKS performances are anything to go by, it promises to be an hilarious evening for all age groups!

Clare Spicer
Chairman

ART GROUP

We had a very successful exhibition at St.John’s Fayre, sold several pictures and attracted some new members.

If you would like to join us, we meet in the parish hall committee room with wonderful lighting. We are a small group of people who have painting and drawing as a hobby and find meeting with friends a happy and productive experience.

We have facilities for disabled people, tea and coffee are available, and a cupboard full of materials if you would like to try us out without spending too much. The subscription is £1.50 per week and £5 annual membership. If you would like to join us ring 860564 or 860709
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**TANDEM ROWING**

Hannah Hawkins was in a team that broke the mixed tandem HW 40-49 100k world indoor rowing record. Her team mate was Danny Graham 41- RAF, who is in her indoor rowing club - Team Oarsome. Hannah only started indoor rowing because they were given a Concept 2 indoor rower to keep everyone fit at the Fire Station.

The record was conducted at RAF Benson in Oxfordshire.

They completed the session by changing over every 5 minutes, and their finishing time was 6 hours 17 minutes and 23.2 seconds. Overall average of 1:53.2 at 27spm.

**FIRE FIGHTERS NEWS**

We attended the Puddington Fete and will be at East Worlington Fete on August the 5th where we’ll be giving out safety advice.

We did attend a thatch roof fire at Cove Bridge on Sat 17th June. 12 pumps attended. We removed the owners property from the house and stripped the thatch from the roof. The fire started near the chimney. It’s a good time of year to clean chimneys and check that liners and flues are intact.

Hannah Hawkins

**WITHERIDGE IN BLOOM**

If you would like to help keep our village looking at its best, and can spare a couple of hours a week, Chris Kershaw would love to hear from you. Give her a ring on 01884 860208.
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We are delighted that Lydia Roberts will be joining our lovely preschool as Early Years Leader for East Worlington preschool from September. Lydia has enormous experience working with preschool children and is currently on maternity leave. Parents will have the opportunity to meet her when she visits later in the term.

As well as Lydia, we have welcomed Sandra McDermott as Preschool Assistant joining the team at East Worlington. Sandra has also got experience of working in preschools and has returned to work after having her children who are now at school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of staff from Lapford, Chulmleigh and East Worlington who have been so flexible and helpful while covering our Early Years Leader vacancy, as well as parents for their support and patience while we have been looking for exactly the right person. Parents at East Worlington Preschool are amazingly supportive and as I write, we are looking forward to the famous Duck Race in a couple of weeks.

The children’s green fingers have really worked their magic this term and a huge variety of vegetables and plants are sprouting up all over the garden. They have recently cleared another bed to make a special Sensory Garden which they will plant up soon.

Despite our rather wet start to this half of term, we are determined to be outside as much as possible and we have started our sessions of ‘Woody Wonders’ where the children can take part in appropriate bush-craft and environmental activities. This is very popular as it teaches the children a whole range of skills in an environment that is not classroom based. Inside sessions reflect this outdoor approach as much as possible and as part of a science week, the children will be designing their own ‘bug hotels’ while learning about the habitats and life cycles of a variety of ‘mini-beasts’.

Lully Newman
Assistant Head Teacher, EYFS/KS1 Lead
Chulmleigh Academy Trust
The Hilton

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Tues   7.00 - 11.00 pm
Wed    7.00 - 10.00 pm
Thurs  7.00 - 11.00 pm
Fri     7.00 - 12.00 midnight
Sat    12.00 - 9.30 pm
Sun    12.00 - 7.00 pm

**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**

We meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start.

Greg Henderson

**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

**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.

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**VIEWS FROM MY VILLAGE WINDOW**

It’s early in the morning  
Dark clouds are racing by.  
A plane from Devon’s airport  
Sets a trail across the sky.  
The blackbird’s song has ended  
Like me he’s eating breakfast.  
A crashing sound at nine suggests  
The dustman’s here at last.

On sunny days in summer  
All we hear are mowers.  
Cars are washed with hose or sponge  
Before the coming showers.  
The village hall hosts flower shows  
Hopeful people take their plants.  
Outside the weaving swallows  
Chase after flying ants.

Some old houses need repair  
Or maybe a new mast.  
The tradesmen’s vehicle come and go  
The range of work is vast.  
One neighbour must be hungry  
As a Tesco’s van stops near.  
I might call in for a chat  
If I see some beer.

The local cats head to the fields  
To chase whatever moves.  
Owners lead their dogs this way  
And sometimes I hear horses hooves.  
At night the sky is full of stars  
The street light is a magnet  
For hungry bats and lovers.

© R.E.Thorne

**PENNY FARTHING RACING**

The race went well  
at the weekend. I  
was riding in the  
Penny Farthing  
Race at the Rapha  
London Nocturne.  
The course was a  
circuit near  
Cheapside, which  
is close to St Pauls  
Cathedral. I was 10th out of 22 riders.  
Our race was 10 laps of the course  
which was about 8 miles. Racing is  
always great fun.

I took my bike up from Winchester to  
Waterloo on the train. It was good to  
be able to test the new segregated  
cycle lane along the Embankment. I  
only got a few funny looks.

Hannah Hawkins
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Here Come the Vikings!

It has been an action-packed summer term for us already at Witheridge, with lots of things still to look forward to. Our topic has been the Vikings and the children have really enjoyed learning about the Viking period and the impact it had on Britain. At the beginning of the term, the children travelled to Pilton Bluecoat Junior School in Barnstaple and took part in an interactive Viking day and even acted out their own Viking sagas! This term has also seen the launch of a new gardening club at school. The club is run by two fantastic parent volunteers who are working really hard to help our children make our outside environment even more beautiful!

Monkeying around

Last month, we had a visit from Image Theatre Group who performed their version of the Jungle Book. All of the children learnt songs and joined in with the performance, with some brave volunteers learning parts and getting up onto the stage to join in! The performance itself was fantastic and a great time was had by all.

St John’s Fayre

It was fantastic to see so many different members of the community pull together to ensure that St John’s Fayre was a huge success earlier this month. We were really proud of all of our children who participated in the parade, performed May Pole and country dancing, and sang beautifully in the school choir. The school would like to say a huge thank you to all staff and families who supported the children in participating in this event.

Fond farewells

As we come towards the end of this term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole community for the support given to our school this year and particularly since my arrival in February. Time has really flown by and we have had very positive feedback from the local authority regarding the progress we have made as a school.

Continued on page 50


Continued from page 49
This time of year inevitably brings changes to any school and at the end of term we will of course be saying fond farewells to our current year 6s. We would like to thank them all for the contributions they have made to the school community and wish them all the very best for the future – their presence in school will certainly missed.

As well as our year 6s leaving, we will also be saying goodbye to some valued members of staff. Firstly, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Suchacki. She is leaving to be closer to her family and has been appointed to a school in Somerset. Alongside, Miss Partridge is also leaving us after a year teaching in class 2. Both members of staff will be sorely missed and leave with our very best wishes. Finally, the school has now officially become part of TEAM Academy Trust and Mrs Parsons will be taking up a new role working across the whole of TEAM Academy Trust based at the new building in High Bickington. She has been school business manager here for a number of years and will continue to work very closely with the school in her new role.

Chris Holding

EAST WORLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA
What a glorious day for our Duck Race & Dog Show on 17th June, and after a lot of planning and hard work, the amazing sum of just under £4,600 was raised for the school and pre-school. Congratulations to our top prize winners who were:
Duck Race – Isabel Govier
Coloured Duck – Peter Hartrey
Dog Show: Best in Show – Charity and Angus
Reserve Best in Show – Jenny and Hebe

We will celebrate the end of another academic year with a whole school trip to RHS Garden Rosemoor in July and leavers’ gifts for our Year 5 and 6s, as they move on to the next chapter of their education.
Donna Webber
Chair PTFA
FAX & FILES
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Tiverton, Devon  EX16 5DQ

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**WITHERIDGE GOLF SOCIETY**

A good turnout of over 20 players on each occasion contested the Spring trophy in May and the Summer cup on 5th July. On the May winning team were local players Alistair Collinge, Rick Davidson and Mick Cole. The Summer Cup was won by Witheridge golfers Dave Owen and Greg Henderson with John Avens and Terry Hawkins. The wooden spoon trophy went to the all Witheridge team of Graham Clarke, Keith Jenkins, Alan Horwood and Ken Rowbotham.

The dates of future meetings at Waterbridge are the Autumn Trophy on Wednesday 6th September and the Winter Trophy on 6th December.

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**

**TENNS CLUB**

We changed our plans at the last minute as there were not enough children to have our hoped for ‘Adult/Junior’ competition (next year we must avoid Fathers Day!) – but had a very successful Club Afternoon instead.... it was the middle of the heatwave so, for once, there was no fear of rain and it was gloriously hot!

Our August event will be a members Club Afternoon on Saturday, 19th August from 2-6pm. We are hoping that Rachael will be running some coaching sessions during the summer holidays for the children – so keep an eye on the notice board near the court.

Vine Spragg
email: evelyn.spragg@btinternet.com
phone: 01363 866033
**BUMPS AND BEYOND**

Bumps and Beyond is a member led group for parents and carers of children under five and babies. We also welcome expectant mothers. Please do join our Facebook group if you are a local parent or carer of children under 5 to keep up to date with our upcoming events. We would love you to come and join us when you can.

Bumps and Beyond meet at the Parish Hall in Witheridge every Wednesday from 9:30-11:30am and costs £1.50 per session per family to include healthy snacks and drinks for children and hot drinks and biscuits for adults and sometimes cake!

We were grateful to receive a generous grant again this year from the Parish Council to help fund the costs of using the Parish Hall too.

The summer term started after our family event in the Easter holidays where we enjoyed making some Easter craft and sharing a picnic lunch followed by an egg hunt and lots of chocolate treats for everyone!

We also enjoyed our group visit to the preschool where we spent the morning playing with the toys in the “Bumbles” room and getting to know the setting better for those who are soon to start preschool.

It was also great to have the preschool join us in the parish hall one week too and we are looking forward to more combined activities in the autumn.

In June we made some lovely cards for Father’s Day and have really enjoyed welcoming the families who are visiting over the summer months.

During the school holidays we still meet on some Wednesdays and older siblings are always welcome to join in.

We plan to open on 9th, 16th and 23rd August during the summer holidays.

On the 23rd August we will be holding a special family event to round off the summer holidays with activities from the Children’s Centres. Do come along and join us at the usual time of 9:30-11:30am and bring a picnic to enjoy in the park after.

Please do contact Denise on 01884 861 365 or denisehenson@me.com for more information.
WITHERIDGE CHILDCARE @ THE HIVE

We have a lovely big outdoor area around the Setting with lots of potential for development, but unfortunately a lot of it is only usable in the dry months when the mud has dried and the slip hazard eliminated. Because of this we have been fund-raising hard to put into action our latest Improvement Plan. The PreSchool garden desperately needs levelling and an all-weather surface put down, and we have recently gained a large amount of rubber matting for free from another play park renovation in Sampford Peverell, which has been collected and is waiting to be laid as a safe and dry all-year-round play area in front of the Setting over the Summer Holidays. Both these projects will be hugely beneficial, offering significant advantages and allowing us to let the children out to play safely all year round.

We held our first official Engagement Event in May – these are free events organised by the Setting that are open to all parents, carers and children in the Community. We went on a ‘Mini Beast Hunt’ through the local woods finding all manner of critters both real and staged as part of the organised trail. The children and adults alike had a brilliant time so please look out for our next event and come along to join us.

We have also welcomed the Village Toddler Group to the Setting for a fun (and rather loud!) play session and they reciprocated by hosting us at the Parish Hall. The children enjoyed mingling and it was lovely to see them all playing together while building important links with families in the area. The children also ventured out to take part in the ‘Big Toddle’; a walk around the Village to raise funds for Barnardo’s Children’s Society, a cause we were very glad to support.

Continued on page 57
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There were ‘all eyes down’ for the Bingo in early June when we joined forces with the school PTFA in a fun evening of family Bingo which included special games for the children too! This was the first joint event held by us and the Primary School Fundraising Committee together, but it will be the start of many as our Membership recently voted to join with the school governance to become one big TEAM 😊. We are very excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to working with the teachers and staff of the Academy.

St John’s Fayre saw ‘Robin Hood’ and his band of ‘Merry Men (and girls!)’ marching down Fore Street with a spring in their step despite the drizzly weather. Everyone had worked very hard on their costumes and I’m sure you’ll agree that the children look great in their outfits!

Our stalls were very popular, with the raffle offering over 30 tempting prizes. Well done to all the winners (a list has been published on our FaceBook page) – we hope you enjoy your prizes. Between the Raffle and the Guess How Many Balloons in the Car we raised £470 on the day which is a tremendous total and we are so grateful to our wonderful community for the amazing support that you continue to give us.

There are still lots of events on the calendar - Sports Day on 13th July, and then we say a very fond farewell and good luck to the children leaving us for ‘Big School’ at our Leavers Presentation on 20th. Our traditional End-of-Year Setting Outing to the Waie Inn on 17th where all of our lovely children, parents and carers are invited to join us for a fun trip out.

Halloween Disco is on 21st Oct, on 24th Nov we are organising a Luxury Christmas Shopping Evening in the Parish Hall and on 9th Dec there will be a Christmas Family Craft Afternoon and meet Father Christmas at the Setting. Our traditional Sleigh Ride around the village is in the week leading up to Christmas. We encourage all parents/carers and their children in the village and the surrounding areas to join us for fun, entertainment and learning. Look out for our posters or pop into the Setting for more information.

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Withyfest ’17 was such fun! We had over 30 different artists perform over two days catering for a wide range of musical tastes. From Prog Rock to SKA through Hip Hop, Grime, Indie, Folk and Reggae there was something for everyone. The event took place over two sites, outside the Parish Hall and inside the Football Club. Live acts started at 7:30pm on Friday until 10pm with the social club at the sports field operating as a ‘Dance Bar’ from 10pm until late. Saturday started early with music from 10:45am and ran till midnight. It was a delight to see so many from the village and from surrounding areas in attendance. Young or old, all seemingly enjoyed the experience. Having good weather helped of course. Sitting in glorious sunshine in the beautiful setting of the parish hall, listening to some wonderful music and sipping something refreshing was just heavenly.

For me the experience of organising the event was very positive. At every step of the way, when I needed help and expertise, it was offered by someone from the village. Indeed, the asking and receiving of help combined with the goodwill and support of the village made the process of putting the event together heart-warming. I spent time with and got to know some lovely people. As I worked alongside people and heard their stories about the past and future I gained a deeper understanding of this village. These are moments that I will treasure. The sense of community and willingness to help one another makes Witheridge a great place to live. I feel truly blessed.

The event was broadcast live on Tiverton Community Radio (TCR) and will soon be available on TCR’s website much in the same way as Glastonbury was available on BBC iplayer, so if you were there and want to relive the moment you can, or maybe you weren’t there and are interested to have a taste of what you missed.

When asked if there would be a Withyfest ’18, it was like music to my ears! It was a fantastic experience and I would welcome the opportunity to do it again. In the meantime, I am planning a number of smaller scale live music evenings. Please go to www.somethingelse.news on which I will be posting more details. I welcome feedback, comments and sharing of suggestions and ideas.

The next event is planned for 30th September in the Parish Hall. The Ollie Dixon Trio, The Lodgers and Fin May plus DJ. Hope to see you there.

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MY EXPERIENCE OF BREAST CANCER

In January this year I had my usual three year mammogram. Unfortunately I was called back to the Exeter breast care in Marsh Barton. I was unfortunately diagnosed with breast cancer.
Fortunately this early diagnosis caught my cancer early. I was referred to a specialist consultant and arrangements were made for an operation to remove the cancer.
Following a holiday in Lanzarote, I had an operation to remove the 11mm cancer at the Royal Devon and Exeter hospital in late March. The operation was a day case so no long stay in hospital.
During May, George and I had a holiday in Madeira. The rest did a power of good for what was to follow.
A further six weeks later I had fifteen days of radiotherapy. This finished towards the end of June, and I completed the very tiring journeys to Exeter with great support from George!
Now I wait a further six weeks for another consultation at the beginning of August.

I want everyone to realise how important mammograms are - not only for those people over 70!! Yes it is possible to ring for these appointments at any time. I'm really glad I kept all my three year appointments! I wouldn't have known about my cancer otherwise! These things must be caught as early as possible.
I hope to have a positive result at the end of all this. I would also like to thank the many people of Witheridge for their support!

Angela Pearce
Highcross House.

STOP PRESS!!!

Angela has had the results of the radiotherapy and is free from cancer now. She needs to have regular mammograms from now on. Good luck Angela.
Witheridge Short Mat Bowls Club

We meet in the Parish Hall every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start.

Membership is open to all over 10 years of age who live within, or near, the Witheridge parish area. (Those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.)

Club woods available for those who wish to try this popular game.

Membership is £20.00 per year, plus £2.50 per evening, including refreshments.

For more information, ring Harry Richardson, Secretary, on 01884 860522

CAT Preschools is a director-led organisation incorporating Chulmleigh Preschool, East Worlington Preschool and Lapford Preschool.

Chulmleigh Preschool (PFSU)
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East Worlington Preschool (PFSU)
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  Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm
  Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm
  Please call Gina Randall on 01769 580535 or email grandall@chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk for further information and to arrange a visit

Lapford Preschool
- Care for 2-5 year olds
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  Please call Lorraine Kigongo on 01363 83162 or email lkigongo@catpreschools.co.uk for further information and to arrange a visit

We are registered to take 2yr old and 3 / 4 year old funded children at all of our settings.
We are open term time only.
Witheridge Football Club

1st Team

After Tiverton reserves decided to pull out of the league at the end of the season it helped the 1st Team fulfil their objective of not getting relegated as it meant only St Blazey would be. Since the end of last season there has been a change of management with Dave Griffiths taking the manager’s post so hopefully he will be able to steady the ship as they say and keep Witheridge where they belong.

2nd team

The 2nd team continues to improve and grow under Darren's leadership which resulted in the team getting promoted to the premier division of the league which by no means is an easy task so well done to everyone involved but as with all teams we are always looking to improve so any new or old players willing to pull the blue shirt on again then please get in contact with Darren on 07709452661.

3rd Team

As with the 2nds the 3rd Team also continued to improve and finished 2nd in their division which for only their 2nd season together is a huge achievement but I'm sure Daryl and the lads will want to continue that success this season.

So the quiet time is over and with 3 teams there's always pretty much a home game most weeks so come along and follow 3 very promising squads in what could be a year to remember.

Paul Rich
**Public Toilet Block Refurbishment**

Following an application for a borrowing approval to the Secretary of State the parish council has now received formal permission to proceed and exercise its powers to borrow the funding required to undertake the refurbishment. The funding will obtained from the Public Works Loan Board.

**O2 & Vodafone Coverage**

The works to install the new mobile mast/floodlight tower at the football club has now been completed, once commissioned the village and surrounding area will benefit from 2/3/4G coverage on O2 and Vodafone networks, including those VMOs that use those networks eg. Tesco Mobile, Giffgaff etc.

**2017 Grants**

The grants were awarded to local groups at the May Annual Council Meeting:-

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<td>Witheridge in Bloom</td>
<td>£250</td>
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<td>St John's Fair</td>
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**Parish Clock**

Following the Pendulum Regulator installation, one of the fly vanes was found to be damaged for which we are seeking quotations to repair hence the clock has not been striking the hour, in fact recently it has stopped altogether and we are awaiting engineers to investigate. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have it working again!

**Historical Archive**

For many years a group by volunteers led by David Taylor, Peter Tout, John Usmar have collated a substantial amount of history about the parish and following their retirement from the role for which we thank them on the parish’s behalf, we are now looking for the next generation of volunteers to continue this work. If you are interested please contact the council via 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 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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2017 Meeting Schedule</th>
<th>Chairman: Cllr J Harvey Tel: 860629</th>
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<td>Jan</td>
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