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**EDITORIAL**

Many thanks to our advertisers - old and new - and to all of you who have contributed to this magazine. It is jam-packed with stories, articles and pictures - something for everyone.

St John’s Fayre took place in brilliant sunshine - see Lise Martin’s report in the middle pages. A wonderful parade and great to see so many happy people taking part.

We have Part 2 of Anne Macfarlaine’s “Childhood Memories of Witheridge” - so fascinating to read accounts of Witheridge in bygone years. Thank you Anne.

If you have any memories and/or photos of Witheridge you would like to share, please do get in touch with me.

Deadline for articles etc., for the Autumn issue is 5th October.

Jill Horwood
Editor

**ANGELS**

Have you ever met a “real life angel?”
I have! In fact, I have met TWO right here in Witheridge! They both work in our Medical Practice. One of them is Sonia, in the Pharmacy and Reception areas; the other is Lynsey, a District Nurse. Two “real life angels” indeed.

Sad to say, my husband is terminally ill, and has been for several months. You would not believe how these two beautiful girls have taken care of him, as well as me, during that time. They have gone over and above the call of duty, and I cannot thank them enough for what they have done. Words could never describe what their kindness and consideration has meant to us.

Unfortunately, there are many in the medical profession who do not carry the burden of responsibility in a kindly, humane way. But I thank God that there are those like Sonia and Lynsey who do their utmost to help patients through the most heart-breaking and traumatic times.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the unbelievable support you have given us two “old Wrinklies” over the past months. You could never imagine what your kindness and care has meant to us. Our lives would certainly be poorer without you.

Catherine Andersen
CHILDHOOD MEMORIES OF WITHERIDGE. 1937-1947. PART 2

My family and I were friendly with some of the local farmers and it gives me great pleasure to recall those lovely old farm kitchens. They were the hub of farm life with well-worn flagstone floors, and very long well-scrubbed wooden tables with wooden forms on either side. At night, oil lamps created flickering shadows but welcoming warmth and brightness came from the fires burning in huge open fireplaces over which hung large blackened cooking utensils. At the Woollacotts’ farm, we were warmly greeted by old Mr and Mrs Woollacott.

Hard-working Mrs Woollacott usually wore her apron. Old Mr Woollacott always had an entertaining story to tell. He had had an accident with a pitchfork in earlier years which had left him with a damaged eye. I was terrified of cows but was assured by kindly Mr Woollacott that cow’s eyes magnified, so we appeared to cows as giants and had no need to fear them!

On the opposite side of the village on the Tiverton road was a farm belonging to the Selley family. Their farm kitchen had a delightful inglenook fireplace, so that one could sit cosily on a stool at the side of the fire but within the fireplace itself. On the farm lived Georgie, the pet ram who had been raised by bottle. Georgie’s favourite occupation was chasing people, especially visitors.

The Selley family enjoyed playing cards as did many people in those days, whist being a great favourite. My grandmother and I had a somewhat hazardous walk back from their farm after a card game one dark winter night. Our torch failed, and because of the black-out and the overcast sky, we were in complete darkness. Unable to see a hand in front of us, we stumbled precariously along, in danger of falling into the ditch which ran alongside the narrow main road.

My school friend, Joan Ayre lived on a farm. I visited one day just after a pig had been slaughtered. All was clean and spotless, but every part of the pig had been used and was either hanging from a wooden beam or lay on the floor in buckets of clean water. Thrift was essential in wartime.

Across the Square from the terrace of houses where we lived, Mrs Mary Selley served customers with fresh milk and cream with a rich golden crust. Not for me
strawberries and cream, rather cream spread thickly on a chunk of fresh bread topped with golden syrup, known to Devon folk as ‘Thunder and Lightning’. And close to the dairy, was the grocery shop where shopping was often a leisurely experience watching Mrs Culhene cutting a carefully measured piece of cheese from the round block with the wire cutter or weighing out various food stuffs and neatly packeting each one.

At night-time, planes droned overhead, often German planes, I was given to believe, whose pilots used our church tower as a ‘marker’ on their flight towards targets such as Bristol. But while the mayhem of war raged in the cities, Witheridge proved a safe place to live. How fortunate we were! And safety too resided in the village police station in the Square under the authority of Sergeant Palmer who once spoke in a very stern but kindly manner warning us of the danger of riding two on a bike. The attention of Sergeant Palmer was a serious matter, so we quickly dismounted.

There were nine of us living in our house during part of the war including two evacuees. But on one memorable evening, the numbers swelled to fourteen. The unexpected guests were five children from one family, victims of one of the relentless bombing raids that ravaged Bristol during the period 1941-1942. The children were a pitiful sight. Having been ushered into the house, they stood in a small huddled group snivelling in misery, traumatised and bewildered by the events of the past few nights. No words sufficed to comfort and ease their distress. Not only were they undernourished, but, as my mother was later to discover, their bodies were plagued with body and head lice. They came from one of the most deprived areas of Bristol, and it was the poverty and ill-health of these children and others like them that galvanised those in authority to act, resulting in the inauguration of our National Health System on 5 July 1948 by Aneurin Bevan.

Our stay in Witheridge was brief, compared with those whose families have lived there for several generations. Now, it is some seventy years since the Dryer family left Witheridge with their daughter, Anne, who so missed Witheridge and the happiness that friends and village life had brought her.

Anne MacFarlaine (nee Dryer)
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25th May Leanna Reay and Richard Reed.

100 YEARS OF REMEMBERING

11th November 2018 is the Centenary of the end of hostilities of World War I. All organisations in the village have been asked to knit red poppies using a very easy pattern. White or purple poppies would also be very welcome. Knitting patterns are available at the Rest-A-While, shops and the Church. Just collect yours, free of charge. If you would like to join in with a knitting group and have a chat and a cuppa then pop into the Rest-A-While. Over 3,700 poppies have now been sown onto a green background and the numbers grow every week. This huge display of poppies will be displayed at our Remembrance Service on the 11-11-2018. Please pop into the Rest-A-While for more details.

The outside poppy display is being organised by friends of the Church - 2,000 poppies will be fixed to wires running down from the top of the church tower, and it is hoped that the Press and TV will be coming along to record this occasion.

The special Service of Remembrance will be held at 10.00am in the Parish Church on Sunday 11th November.
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The Young Farmers Club have helped reset one of the stone beds by the Parish Council notice board.

Our thanks go to both Robert & Michael of The Pound House, who so kindly offered to replace the rotten timber around the flower bed adjacent to their cottage. It looks splendid and should give us many years of service. Also, thanks to Dave who gave his time to fit the new surround.

Thank you to the WIB Team for your commitment and efforts in what has been a year of change – moving and resetting of planters to Chapple Corner and the planting around the stump (which, in time, we hope to cover in colour) and filling of the new planters down at the old school (Mole Valley), not to mention the efforts to produce the hanging baskets in tip-top condition. Without you this just would not happen and it is most appreciated.

We, as a team, sincerely trust that our blooms will instil joy and happiness in you whilst going about your daily tasks. As the saying goes – ‘many hands make light work’ – so please come and join us. You would be most welcome.

Carol Northam(01884 860817) carol.northam1@pobroadband.co.uk

**FILM NIGHT**

There will be a showing of Mama Mia on Saturday 13th October in the Parish Hall.

Watch out for posters!

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This year the Parish Hall was the main venue for St Johns Fair, it was wonderful to see the facilities so well used and so much fun being had and in such fantastic weather. It was a very good day, congratulations to the St John’s Fair committee.

We put on another film event with two films being shown, “Ferdinand” for the children in the afternoon and “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri” in the evening. Many people said how wonderful it was to be able to see a film on a big screen in the village, so once again thanks to Margie and Paul who put it on.

We are putting on a fabulous band all the way from New Orleans on August 18th so put on your dancing shoes and come along to The Dirty Bourbon River Show. We acquired three new planters for the front of the Parish Hall at the beginning of the summer and while they were waiting to be planted up one of them was stolen overnight, so that was a sad reflection on humanity, and very demoralizing after all the work we do to fundraise for the hall.

Nik Skorecki, who was responsible for the wonderful basketball hoop and many other contributions to the Parish Hall, very sadly died last month after a short illness. He will be missed by us all.

Clare Spicer

Doreen Leat would like to thank everyone for their support given on the Sing-a-Long afternoon with Ad-Lib, followed by a cream tea.

An enjoyable afternoon was had by all and we raised the grand total of £250 for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.
CAT Preschools is a director-led organisation incorporating Chulmleigh Preschool, East Worlington Preschool and Lapford Preschool.

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We are registered to take 2yr old and 3 / 4 year old funded children at all of our settings.
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**Monday Club**

On 2nd July, Witheridge square began to fill up, as it was the day the Monday Club had their outing to Wells and Bath. The morning started with the sun shining down on us, and people cheerfully greeting each other as we waited for our coach.

Once boarded we shared birthday greetings with three of our guests. We sang happy birthday to them and gave out birthday cards, including one from Sean Connery!!!, then we were off. We were driven through the most splendid country side, and soon arrived in Wells, where we had one and a half hours to spend as we wished, some went to the Cathedral while others went in search of a coffee in the town. We found a very nice restaurant and enjoyed our coffee along with a cheese scone. We had plenty of time left so we wandered around the different shops, often meeting up with others from our coach, then it was on to Bath - what a beautiful city and what a hot day it was. We went to the river so that we could have a cooling river boat cruise - we found that others from our group were already there so we sat together and thoroughly enjoyed our trip, it was so relaxing and the scenery was beautiful.

We had taken a picnic with us so we found a shady seat in the park overlooking the river and enjoyed our food, after which we decided to find a pub and have a pint of cold shandy. We were lucky, the pub we found was very old with interesting furnishings and the added bonus of air conditioning. Bliss!

After our refreshing and cooling break we went into the Abbey and enjoyed a quiet look around, before we went in search of Sally Lunns, a restaurant famous for the Sally Lunn Bun, then we explored the busy streets and quiet footpaths. All too soon it was time to return to the coach, and surprise, surprise we each had a double ice-cream cone, before boarding the coach. Everyone was nattering away, saying what a lovely day it had been.

I must say it was a birthday I shall remember for a long time, A lovely happy day out with Dave, shared with 47 Monday Club friends.” Thank you” to everyone for making it such a special day.

If you would like details of The Monday Club just give me a call, 01884 860709. Hopefully on our next outing, you will be sitting on the coach with us - you will be made very welcome.

Val Dickinson
Eight members of the gardening club went off to the bluebell woods near Bickleigh. Our hosts were Jan and John Greenslade. They have acres of woodland they have planted themselves and several large ponds around which have been seen otters and herons. The woods are mostly native trees and shrubs such as Oak, Sorbus, Guelder Rose, Crab Apples, Birch Cherries and Beech. Sadly the Ash trees are all being removed because of Ash dieback.

It was quite a climb up to the bluebell wood so I confess, I went up in John`s car and he gave me more of a tour around his land. I walked through the bluebell wood with the other members, now just right for viewing, and the smell of the flowers in the evening air was lovely.

We saw a few wild flowers along the way, Stitchwort, Campion, Herb Robert, Celandines and the yellow of Dead Nettle. The best of the wild flowers and orchids is yet to come.

Many thanks to Jan and John for showing us their wonderful wild flower and tree haven. We have given John a donation of £25 for the Children’s Hospice (South West).

Barbie Colman

At the end of May, 16 of us visited Gerald Manning’s wild flower meadows at Dart Raffe. The meadows were looking lovely, and the area around the lake was very attractive with yellow flag irises blooming round the edge. As last year, we had an excellent social time in Gill and Gerald’s kitchen sat around their enormous kitchen table. As a thank you to Gerald for hosting the evening, we gave him a donation of £25 for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.

On June 9th, we held a fund raising evening with Steven Powles as our guest speaker. The hall was almost full; Steven entertained us with his films and slides of local wildlife in and around his house and local area, there was food for
everyone during the interval plus a raffle, and we will be giving £150 each to Devon Air Ambulance Trust and the League of Friends of Tiverton Hospital. Later in June, we had a visit from a representative of The British Hen Welfare Trust based in Rose Ash, complete with Willow – her pet hen. The Trust was founded in 2005, and to date they have rehomed 640,000 battery hens. Most farmers are very supportive of the Trust and give them their battery hens when they have reached the end of their egg-laying life. Volunteers visit the farms early in the morning, collect their quota of hens, return to their base and rehome the hens, all within a few hours, so minimising the distress to the hens. There are Hen Welfare bases across the UK. If you are interested in rehoming hens, contact them either via their website: www.bhwt.org.uk, or by telephone – 01884 860084.

Jill Horwood

**SUMMER SHOW**

An excellent display of fruit, flowers and vegetables was on show, despite the very difficult growing conditions this year. There was also a very good display of crafts, baking and produce. Before the presentation of cups and prizes, Kit James, club Chairman, presented cheques for £150 each to Roger Rottenbury, on behalf of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust, and Arthur Govier, Chairman of Tiverton Hospital League of Friends. The money had been raised at our Social Evening on 9th June - see report on page 16.

Roger had suffered a heart attack in January 2011 and his life was saved by the Devon Air Ambulance. He is now a volunteer and collects cheques raised for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. Arthur is a retired policeman from Chulmleigh. £1.5 million has been raised for equipment which the hospital would otherwise not have had.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN RESULTS**

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Gold Cup - most points in classes 1-30  Lucy Kelly
Ralph Tarr Cup - most points in classes 31-54  Elaine Kelly
Margaret Leat Memorial Shield - most points in classes 43-49  Elaine Kelly
Heathcote Jones Cup - most points in classes 55-70  Doreen Leat
Children’s Challenge Cup- most points in children’s classes  Catherine and Meg Kelly

Ruby Piercy Memorial Shield - best Sweet Pea exhibit  David Williams
Arthur Leat Memorial Shield - best Potato exhibit  Cyril Leat
Pat Housam Memorial Cup - best exhibit in classes 1-30  Sheila Burnham
Edward Sweeting Memorial Cup - best exhibit in classes 31-54  Jill Horwood
Peter Jones Cup - best exhibit in classes 57-68  Eirene Allinson
Millie Williams Memorial Shield - best exhibit in show  Eirene Allinson

Top Tray - tray of vegetables  Cyril Leat
Top Vase  Elaine Kelly

Under 16 Colouring exhibit  Emma Manley
Over 16 Colouring exhibit  Elaine Kelly

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or telephone for a friendly chat: 01884 861186
**CHARITY KNITTING**

No new projects to report, but we have been able to donate 35 blankets to the Linus Project, with more in the pipeline. Our other projects have been worked on, and not neglected. As always, thanks go to those who have kindly donated wool for our use.

Eileen Haynes
860212

**LOOKING FORWARD AT THE REST-A-WHILE**

What weather we had for St John’s Fayre this year and how good it was to see people out and about in the village to enjoy all that was on offer.

The Rest-A-While opened its doors for longer than usual to provide a wide variety of rolls, cakes, teas and coffees as well as our ever popular bric-a-brac stall which did a roaring trade.

It was good to see so many friends, old and new, and we look forward to welcoming them back whenever they wish to drop in for company, conversation and a cup of tea or coffee.

We are delighted to say that the number of poppies knitted for the display to commemorate one hundred years since the end of the First World War just keeps on growing. We now have over 3,700, a magnificent effort for which we thank everyone who has contributed to this memorial tribute.

June Turner
Secretary
The Mount Pleasant Inn
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**WITHERIDGE LADIES CLUB**

In **April** we enjoyed a visit from Tony and Tracy from the Tiverton Beekeepers. They are passionate about bees. They showed us beautiful slides about these wonderful little creatures; the design of their hives; the 3 types of bees in a hive: queen, drones and workers and much more about their lives. Bees, not just honey bees, are so important for pollinating our countryside flora.

In **May** we there was a substitute to our published programme and we welcomed Rose Chanin who entertained us with her monologues and other amusing ditties.

In **June** we visited the Eggesford Garden Centre for a cream tea and wander through the many plants and items for sale. Time also for a good natter amongst friends.

The Ladies’ Club also has a book 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

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**ART GROUP**

We had another successful St. John’s Fair exhibition and hopefully gained some new members. We sold many pictures, and collected £45 for Devon Air Ambulance. If you would like to join us please come along any Wednesday evening at 7.30 to 9.00. The membership is just £5 per year with a £1.50 weekly subscription, and we meet in the committee rooms at the end of the Parish Hall. If you would like more information please call 860564 or 860709
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Senior belts 7-8pm
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OFF TO THE FAYRE!

Two members of the Mid Devon Tractor, Engine and Machinery Group, Steven Williams and Michael Coleman, were invited by the committee to participate with their vintage tractors in the Parade and Fayre on 23 June. Leaving Coleford (near Crediton), we made our way via Newbuildings and Cann's Mill to Thelbridge and then on to Butts Close to meet the other mechanised entrants in the parade. These included two vintage tractors from South Molton and two local ones, plus an enormous new, state-of-the-art New Holland from Witheridge Garage (compared to which all the vintage tractors look like toys - even though, in their day, they had also been 'the bee's knees'!).

Parading slowly through the town in what by then was searing heat gave us the opportunity to wave to all the spectators and to appreciate how fortunate we were to be taking part in an event that began in 1248, hundreds of years before tractors were invented. Thence to the Parish Hall, where we parked for the afternoon, and were visited and the tractors inspected by lots of friendly people including local friends. At the end of the afternoon, we set off for home having thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of being part of such a wonderful event. Thank you Witheridge!

Michael Coleman

Footnote.

Steven and Michael are members of the Mid Devon Tractor, Engine and Machinery Group, which is based at Morchard Bishop. With over one hundred members who have a shared interest in vintage agricultural equipment, it is an extremely active club that organises and participates in many vintage events throughout the year. New members are always welcome. No previous knowledge or equipment necessary!

https://www.mdtemg.org/18623.html
On Easter Monday I flew out to Livingstone, Zambia, to join a team of about fourteen volunteers from Australia, Belgium, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and USA. I was the only British person at that time. During our summer, their dry season, the numbers increase to fifty.

I was involved with the home based care every morning, visiting people in their own homes, homes built of mud with a straw roof or when they have the resources a home built of concrete blocks with a tin roof. We cleaned cuts, bites and ulcers, offered multivitamins and pain killers. We encouraged people to drink more water, which is available from standpipes in their outside space and is clean drinkable water. We would refer people to clinics - though if they could not afford the taxi fare they had a long hot walk. If the clinics don’t have the prescribed medication then it needs to be purchased from the pharmacy. For my second week we were joined by an eighteen year old from the Netherlands, who was off to medical school later this year - a great experience for him.

We returned to base for a two hour lunch break! Unheard of for me normally! We were given a hot meal - BBQ, Pizza, Macaroni cheese with salad, and spent time planning the afternoon activities which included visiting an old peoples home to paint their finger nails, read to them, talk with them, offering a maths club to young teenagers, an art club, kicking a ball around, adult literacy and CV writing.

Education is very important to Zambians and the children are encouraged to pass on what they have learnt to family, friends and neighbours. Not least is HIV Education where the infection rate is 1 in 4 because it is a tourist area and a border town. I spent some time reading about the disease and its five stages, also about the way to protect against being infected before I travelled and as a team we delivered the information they needed to know.
We did everything as a team and these teams had many cross overs. Different people in the home base care or girl empowerment or building and then in the afternoon the teams are mixed up to form new teams to deliver teaching or play.

The evening and weekends were mainly our time to enjoy the sunsets, sailing on the Zambezi river drinking a cocktail or two, eating Italian ice-cream. I was fortunate enough to do two safaris, one a walking safari to see rhinos. I saw two young brothers about twenty feet ahead of us. The other safari was an overnight stay in Chobe National Park, Botswana. I saw hippos, crocodiles, zebra, giraffes, elephants by the hundreds, warthogs, three lions, one unusually in a tree about fifteen feet from me, impalas, baboons and wildebeest. One Sunday I managed to get to an Anglican Church (Church of England is part of the Anglican Communion). The service was very familiar in English except some of the songs, there are three local languages in Livingstone and 72 in Zambia as a whole!

I also went to one of the ‘wonders of the world’ - Victoria Falls. 1.7 km wide, with 200 million gallons going over them every minute, producing half of Zambia’s electricity. Even in the dry season 10 million gallons goes over. I got drowned by the spray. The sense of power was tremendous. Up river is calm and I was able to take a cruise to see the sunset.

There are many wows, awe and wonder moments such as seeing communities and meeting people in their own homes, to learn about HIV, gaining knowledge to pass it on, working with young volunteers in teams and seeing God’s wonderful creation.

A great experience. The two and half weeks flew by. Benjamin was there a year before me and we would endorse African Impact’s tourism volunteering projects working with five of the 17 UN sustainable development goals 2015-2030 and their foundation work in sponsoring children through education. I am available to give a talk of just over the hour and helpfully raise additional funds to sponsor a young person through university.
As many of you may already know, a new family has taken over Thelbridge Cross Inn. We’ve given the front a bit of a re-vamp, which we feel is light and fresh yet also very welcoming.

We’ve got a new chef in as well, Sukh, who is classically French trained with a background in many London restaurants, but don’t fear! We’ve still got the classics on our specials board, but if you fancy something a bit different and daring, then a meal off the A La Carte menu is the choice for you.

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Sunday Services 11am  
(Except Churches Together service -see noticeboards)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events at The Chapel</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 30th September</td>
<td>Churches Together at the Chapel 11.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 14th October</td>
<td>Harvest Service 11.00am</td>
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<td>Tuesday 16th October</td>
<td>Coffee Morning and sale of Harvest produce 10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 11th November</td>
<td>Service of Remembrance Parish Church 10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th December</td>
<td>Sing-a-long with Ad Lib 2.30pm</td>
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| St John the Baptist Parish Church | Rev Adrian Wells  
Morning Worship and Communion Services start at 9:30am |
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<tr>
<td>Tues 4th Sept</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club Parish Hall 12 for 12.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 29th Sept</td>
<td>Safari Supper in aid of Church Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 30th Sept</td>
<td>Churches Together at The Methodist Chapel 11.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 2nd October</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club Parish Hall 12 for 12.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 6th Nov</td>
<td>United Churches Luncheon Club Parish Hall 12 for 12.30</td>
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</table>
| Sun 11th Nov                     | Remembrance Sunday Parish Church 10.00am           
Special Commemoration Service for 100 years since the end of World War 1 |
| Sat 1st December                 | Christmas Craft Fair Parish Church 10 - 12 noon      |

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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Thanks go to Laurie White for leading the Knights for the past year. As a founding member I thought it was about time I should take on the role as Chair. 2018 has been a successful year so far with our Spring quiz and St John’s Fair being well attended. Thank you for all your support with our various functions, we look forward to seeing you over the next few months. Following on from this year’s applications we have given funds to Witheridge in Bloom. Witheridge Sports and Social Club, East Worlington School and Witheridge Cricket Club.

We’re trying something new this year by holding a Charity Clay Pigeon Shoot at Eastway Farm. For more details, see our website.

The Panto was such a (surprising!!) success we’re doing it all over again this year. (Oh no we’re not, Oh yes, we are!)

Dates for your diary:
16th September – Charity Clay Pigeon Shoot
24th November – Puddings Quiz
1st December – Panto

Keith Greenwood
Chairman

UNITED CHURCHES OF WITHERIDGE LUNCHEON CLUB

We are a very happy little group of helpers and guests who all enjoy a home cooked meal in the company of others. If you live on your own, or are on your own during the day, why not come along and give us a try? We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 12 noon for 12.30 pm. If you would like to book a place please ring Annis Stone on 860398 or Val Dickinson on 860709

Sue Henderson Hon Sec.
**WITHERIDGE BROWNIES AND GUIDES**

This term we have been able to be outside a lot, which has included games evenings, painting glass, making clay models and many other fun things.

We have been to Tiverton Canal and went pond dipping. 3 Guides and 3 Brownies and a young leader all made their Guiding promise and were presented with badges and a certificate.

The Girls took part in the parade for St John’s Fayre.

Carole Chapple

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**WEMBWSORTHY CHURCH**

An autumn offering of relaxing music performed by the Two Rivers Wind Ensemble of North Devon on 19th October at 7.30 pm in aid of Wembworthy Church roof funds to be held at:

Chulmleigh Pavilions, Leigh Road, Chulmleigh

Tickets £7.00 to include a Ploughman’s plate, bar and raffle tickets from Eggesford Country Garden Centre, or phone Diane Perry 01837 680125 or on the door
Witheridge Tae Kwon Do

Witheridge Tae Kwon Do have had another busy quarter and despite the heatwave we are all continuing to train hard.

Congratulations to everyone who competed at the Welsh championships. Special congratulations to Rob Curtis for winning silver in men’s patterns and to club instructor Ven Perera for winning gold in foot power.

St John’s Fair was a wonderful day with glorious sunshine and fantastic tae kwon do on display! Thank you to all the club members and family who came along to support the club. We hope everyone enjoyed seeing what we can do. Thank you to the organisers for all their hard work making the day possible.

In gradings news, Joe Phelan has been promoted to blue belt; Jessica Curtis to blue stripe; Rob Curtis, Angela Lunn, Nicola Perera, Lily Perera and Harry Shere to green belt; James Reid to green stripe; Kieran Crump, Cooper Williamson, Oscar Pennells and Jennifer de Rochefort to yellow stripe. Special congratulations to Jennifer de Rochefort for winning the grading award.

Congratulations to Samantha Spurway for getting her safeguarding qualification and she now takes over the role as safeguarding officer for the club.

As this issue goes to press three members of our club will be travelling to Birmingham to compete at Taekwondo International World Championships: good luck to Rob Curtis, Jake Curtis and club instructor Ven Perera.
What a gloriously sunny St. John’s Fair we had last month. A wonderful parade set off the fun and activities of the day and in to the night.

We have plenty of amazing people to thank for giving us yet another unforgettable day.

A super array of tractors lead the parade through our village to celebrate this year’s theme: Farming in Witheridge. Children from our local schools dressed as farm animals, and Witheridge school performed brilliantly in the Square once our princess and prince opened the Fair together with Seth Conway. The same super children decorated the marquee with beautiful artwork for the annual Art Competition, so ably judged by Val, thank you.

Thank you to all who took part in the parade. With donkeys, horses and hounds, Crediton Band, the Pipe Band, Majorettes and so much more, we brought colour to the village. Thank you to Edward and William for compèring the event, to Mia and Paul for marshalling as well as the immaculate cadets without whom we could not have managed.

A big thank you must go to Lizzie and Eileen for another popular dog show.

Thank you to Anita-Clare from La Petite Bouchée for judging the delicious baked goodies at the bake off.
Gerald did us proud quizzing us on utensils from ‘farming from the past’, what an impressive array. We had some added help from another enthusiast - Michael from Crediton, a keen collector of farming implements. All Gerald’s books sold on the day have provided more funds for the Air Ambulance.

Vital for St John’s is Richard from Dart Electrics providing, free of charge, all our electrical requirements for the running of a smooth Fair. Also, thank you Ryan - our sound engineer and multi-tasking expert, no problem seemed too big for him.

Second year running and our photography competition has grown in popularity. We had an impressive array of photos of memories and of current farming around our beautiful Devon, all entries are so appreciated. Listen out for next year’s theme and getting snapping.

Thank you to all our stall holders, so much choice be it for the garden, the hobbies or just to tuck in to and enjoy on the day. Our entertainers kept all busy and amused both in the Parish Hall area and at the Sports Club grounds where our older youngsters could have a thrill or two.

The Mangled Worzels took us in to the night - with some hilarious lyrics on great songs. Fun was had by all. Perhaps we should book them again next year? Let us know.

The lucky winner of the programme raffle £50 was Sylvia Passmore - congratulations.

Finally, a big thank you to all who came - you made the day. We could not do it without you and hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. If you are keen to join the committee come along to our AGM in November, the date will be advertised nearer the time at the newsagents. If you have some new ideas or recommendations for June 22nd 2019 let us know. Hopefully we can make next year’s event even better with your help.

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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**

St John The Baptist Church, Witheridge  
New ringers always welcome, we meet in the belfry at 8.30 am on Sunday mornings.

**WITHERIDGE GOLF SOCIETY**

A good turnout of over 20 players on each occasion contested the Spring trophy in May and the Summer cup on 4th July. On the May winning team were Chulmleigh players John Ingram and Paul Scales with Tony Harris and Terry Hawkins. The Summer Cup was won by Witheridge golfers Graham Clarke and Keith Jenkins with Derek Ellis and Rob Peck. The wooden spoon trophy went to the Witheridge players Andrew Clark, Paul Brooke and Norman James with Colin Gunn.

The dates of future meetings at Waterbridge are the Autumn Trophy on Wednesday 5th September and the Winter Trophy on 5th 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.

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On July the 7th I took part in a really well organised fun event. Dartmoor Prison Break is a fundraising event for Dartmoor Search and Rescue. The concept is a really simple one. The aim is to achieve the furthest distance (as the crow flies) from HM Prison in Princetown. Entrants determine their own route from the start point. The only catch being that the “escape“ had to be on foot and using public rights of way. You could race for 12 or 24 hours. My idea was just to try to walk back home to Nomansland, and I managed to persuade a friend to join me on the adventure.

We opted for the 24 hour “Felon” entry to allow us plenty of time to get home. The mandatory kit list was extensive and included waterproofs, spare base layers, hat, gloves, head torch, whistle, first aid kit, foil blanket, compass, maps, mobile phone and food and water.

July 7th was a lovely day. The race started at 12:00 midday. After registration and a check that we had our bags packed with all the required items we were both fitted with GPS trackers. They had an SOS device built in and meant that the race organisers and friends and family could keep tabs on our location. The race was started with a quick siren and we were off. The first part of our journey took us across Dartmoor, from Princetown to Mortonhampstead. It was an exposed bit of road to be walking on during the warmest part of the day. We were leaving footprints in the tarmac. Every single tree had a sheep sheltering under it. We couldn’t believe our luck when we spotted a pub. We went into the Warren House Inn expecting it to be nice and cool. Couldn’t believe that they had a roaring fire going. When we asked about the fire they said it had been burning since 1845. No wonder it was so hot in there!

We made it to Mortonhampstead at about 18:00. There was a lovely atmosphere as England had just beaten Sweden at football. Everyone was so happy. We stopped for a sandwich and then continued on to our next destination which was Tedburn St Mary. On the map it didn’t look far but it was quite a walk. Beautiful countryside though.

continued on page 41
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We went over some serious hills and crossed the river Teign at Clifford Bridge. We got into Tedburn at about 22:00 and went into The Kings Arms for refreshments. Everyone was still very happy about the football result. From Tedburn we told ourselves that it wasn’t far to Crediton, but it felt like a long old way though. By now it was dark and we were walking with our head torches on. This was where the walk started to get tough. Our feet were getting sore. Stops to adjust and change socks were getting more frequent. The amazing night sky made up for the discomfort. We got to Crediton at 12:00 and sat on a patch of grass for a refreshment break.

Crediton to Black Dog seemed a very long way. We both started to get blisters. There do seem to be a lot of hills on that road. The drag through the woods to Kennerleigh seemed to go on forever. We didn’t get to Black Dog until roughly 03:30. So pleased to see the pub where we could turn right for Nomansland.

One of the nicest things was watching the light gathering on the horizon and realising that we’d been walking all night. Seeing the Mount Pleasant pub at about 05:00 was a fantastic feeling. We’d made it all the way back. My friend is already talking about next year’s Prison Break and where we might escape to. I would thoroughly recommend this event to anyone who fancies a challenge. As the crow flies we’d covered 29.6 miles but about 40 miles of walking to get that distance from the prison. Good fun and well organised event.

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It is very hard to believe that we have almost reached the end of another academic year. This Summer term has been very busy, with lots of fantastic learning taking place. Our topic this term has been ‘Explorers’ and each class has studied a different explorer. We all had a brilliant time on our Big Event trip to Exmoor during the first half term. The children used their map reading skills to guide themselves through an 'Explorer’s Trail' created by the Exmoor Rangers, where they took part in variety of different team challenges. Please see the school website for photos.

**St John’s Fayre**
We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in St John’s Fayre at the end of June. It was great to see the whole school community come together and celebrate this lovely event. The whole school took part in a Farmer-themed parade before performing a country dance and singing a song to a large audience in the village square.

**Year 6 Residential**
Before half term, the Year 6’s enjoyed a brilliant week away on residential at the Ultimate Adventure Centre with 4 other schools from across the trust. The children were fantastically well behaved all week and displayed a very high level of maturity and independence. It was particularly pleasing to see the way that the children from all four schools mixed together, with many new friendships developed. The children all participated in a range of exciting and adventurous activities and were a real credit to both the school and their families.
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**WITHERIDGE WINNERS!**

I had the pleasure of taking a team made up of children from Years 2, 3 and 4 to a Year 4 football tournament at South Molton Community College a few weeks ago. In very hot conditions, and against 6 other teams from larger schools, they played fantastically well and managed to win the tournament! A huge well done to all the players!

As always, if you would like any more information about any of the things we do here at Witheridge Primary Academy or have any ideas you would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best Wishes,
Mr. C. Holding
Head of school

**WITHERIDGE CHILDCARE @ THE HIVE - SUMMER TERM**

What a busy term we have had. We have been looking at people who help us and their roles. The children liked having the role play area set up as different occupations and have enjoyed acting out different roles with their peers.

We have also been looking at a range of books from Julia Donaldson and have done lots of focused activities linked to them.

The children have loved being able to spend lots of time outside in the beautiful weather. We have linked this into looking after ourselves and healthy eating.

We had a fantastic sports day and we based it around the book Super Tato. The children had a great time and it was lovely to see so many parents join us for this lovely event.

On Thursday 19th July we are off to “Waie 2 play” for our end of term trip. We say bye to 8 of our preschool children who will be moving up to school in September and wish them well with their future.

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Bumps and Beyond

The summer term has been lots of fun for our toddler group in Witheridge and we have welcomed a number of new members to our Facebook group too. If you have recently moved to the area or become a parent or had a new addition to your family we would really like to welcome you to join us. This term the group have visited the preschool for a couple of mornings which has given everyone a chance to meet up at a different local venue and get to know the preschool setting in the village.

To enjoy the sunshine together we went to Tiverton Park for a visit. We had a lovely morning there and the children all enjoyed the outdoor paddling pool. We are also looking forward to a visit from Tiverton Children’s Centre later in July.

During the summer holidays we will continue to meet up and plan to be closed only on 22nd and 29th August.

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. You can find us listed as “Witheridge parent and toddler group”.

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

Our new contact for the group is Sarah Bragg on 07891431618 or saitchison1@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

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This term at East Worlington preschool we are learning all about the seaside and the underwater world. The first half term we read ‘The lighthouse keeper’ series. The children have been busy cooking up lunches in Mrs Grinling’s kitchen and building their own lighthouses. We have also had an ice cream playdough roleplay where the children explored many smells and colours, mint, vanilla, strawberry, chocolate and lemon flavours!

After half term we have been learning about mini beasts, reading ‘The hungry caterpillar, What the ladybird heard and Spinderella’. The children have been on many bug hunts, we built our own bug hotel and even had our own caterpillars to watch transform into big beautiful butterflies.

Our sessions currently run all day Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am – 3.30pm

On Tuesday afternoons the toddler group meet in the PFSU classroom from 2pm-3.30pm with self-weighing for babies, a lovely safe area for your children to explore with an undercover outdoor area. The toddler parents provide a welcoming and proactive environment for you and your children to come along for a chat, cuppa and cake!

Please do give Chanelle Busby a call on 01884 861680 for more information.

Further information about the preschool can be found on the Chulmleigh Academy website, Or search for East Worlington primary school on Facebook or call Lydia Roberts on 01884 861722.
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**GREYHOUNDS**

Updates on the houndies: Rehoming is down a little bit for the last six months, but the dogs are coming in, some still need extra care, like Zebo, a beautiful fawn male, who has an auto immune problem which causes his nails to drop out - he is such a happy boy who takes dressing changes in his stride and never once showed any aggression, and has found a home with a Veterinary nurse.

Another two who came into the Kennels were Zante and River, from up country. What a pathetic pair of lovelies, full of fleas, worms and a great deal of hair loss. However with good feeding, t.l.c. and treatments, they will soon be on the road to their forever homes.

My personal fund raising events have gone well - the plant sale was such a lovely day, with folk coming from quite a wide area, appreciation of the plants and Coffee and Biscuits. We were also lucky with the Great Greyhound Bingo which over 60 people attended, and all the prizes were donated, a very big thank you to those who have donated prizes for any of the above events, and for your continued support.

Love from Marion, Betty Boo and Little Little Rose.

PS: If you have any towels or dog treats to spare, the Houndies would love to hear from you.
Thank you. Marion 01884 860530.

**CHARITY BINGO**

Dates for the next five months:
- August 7th, 21st
- September 4th, 11th
- October 2nd, 16th and 30th
- November 13th, 27th
- December 11th Christmas Bingo on 18th

May we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
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Witheridge Tennis Club

The Club held a really successful Coffee Morning in April, increasing the awareness of the Club and raising much needed funds in order to maintain the high standard of court that we are now enjoying. There were some wonderful stalls and a really friendly atmosphere. On 3rd June we also held our first Open Day to attract new members and the afternoon drew quite a few people who came along to either try tennis for the first time or to re-kindle their love for a sport which they had abandoned some years before. As a consequence, our membership has continued to grow steadily. We have already held three very successful Open Tournaments this year and the next one will be on Saturday 15th September.

We are really excited to see the Witheridge Primary School taking full advantage of this wonderful facility on their doorstep by introducing a regular afternoon of tennis during the Summer Term. Rachael will be running coaching sessions for ALL children throughout August on Wednesday mornings – look out for the posters and information on our website: www.witheridgetennisclub.co.uk

Nigel Little is running our coaching sessions for adults – both non-members and members – every Monday at 11.30 and 12.30 – details are also on our website.

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**WITHERIDGE CAFÉ CHURCH, 29 APRIL 2018**

This was a special event held at the Parish Hall, organised by Witheridge Methodist Church with support from Hele Lane Methodist (just up the road in Black Dog). It was wonderful to have the support from members of St John’s Church too.

We enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea with a great variety of delicious cakes and were served really well by a team from our local youth group “Witheridge Rocks” (thanks Heather and Andrea and all who helped out).

Zoe Lane (Family and Community Worker) brought an encouraging message about when Jesus turned water into wine – his first miracle at the Wedding in Cana and what that really signified (you can read about it in the Bible in the gospel of John, chapter 2). It was a really appropriate theme considering a royal baby had been born that same week and we had the royal wedding to look forward to!

Over 100 people attended and enjoyed the great atmosphere. We would like to thank everyone who helped, whether they made cakes, provided music, served the tables, organised craft for the children to take home or helped in the kitchen.

*A number of people have said how much they enjoyed the event and others have asked when we will be holding another Café Church so do look out for posters about the next event!!*

If you would like more information about regular events and services please do see the dedicated Church pages in the Witheridge Voice for more details.

**LITTER PICK**

To those volunteers who so kindly turn out to help each time and to those new ones that came along this June, many, many thanks. It is so good to have people in this village that care enough about our environment to help keep it clean and tidy. Please see the Parish Council report for further news.

Carol Northam

carol.northam1@pobroadband.co.uk.

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**HIGH SUMMER – JULY TO SEPTEMBER**

Do you remember the magnificent Red Deer stags of last Autumn, all dressed to kill, with that bold shaggy mane and big branching antlers? Perhaps. In the mean time the girls have been busy. Delayed implantation by the Stags last October culminate in giving birth to a calf around May/June. The males take no part in this, they will have wintered alone or in bachelor groups, feeding and biding their time until it all begins again. However, the males have not been idle. Apart from just staying alive all Winter they are preparing quietly for next Autumn. By now they will have put on an impressive amount of weight and a handsome reddish-brown coat. From mid-Summer a miracle begins – the investment in a fine pair of antlers. The majority of ruminants on this earth grow horns. These are permanent, not shed, a bony core with a sheath of keratin. Antlers are apparent in males even as young as 3 months to a year old. Two bony bumps called pedicles appear just behind the eyes. From this the Antlers develop at an amazing rate, over an inch per day, the fastest tissue growth in the animal kingdom. The growing antlers are soft and covered in skin and fine hair. In this condition they are referred to as being ‘in velvet’. When the antlers harden up this is all thrashed off. Of course, young males will only produce little spikes for the first year or two but a big stag in his prime can boast a Royal Crown of 28 to 30lbs. These announce to all contenders the power of the testosterone that he has produced to grow such a wicked looking weapon, ready for any challenger, and impress the ladies. Apparently a stag’s age is better estimated by the height and spread of his antlers, rather than the number of points. Maybe that’s arguable!

The revolving wheel of our natural world is never still. Feeding, growing, developing; breeding, nurturing, dying; hibernating, changing form, migrating. The only thing in life that is certain is change. Our Cuckoos, for example, that boldly heralded Spring are now leaving our shores to travel south down through either Spain or Italy. They will cross the Sahara or follow Africa’s western coast to spend the Winter in Central Africa. The Swift is one of the last to arrive here to breed, and is almost the first to depart, often in early August. The British Trust for Ornithology has selected adult Cuckoos, attaching minute transmitters to their backs. With one transmission per day, of simple data like daylight length, we can place their location. From that we can track progress and find their destination. Further transmissions tell us their movements and when they are returning to our shores.  

*Continued on page*
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The gradual rise in global temperature means that we can expect to see the larger Butterflies well into November, such as Red Admiral, Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell. These 3 will over-Winter as adults here in Britain. Some Red Admiral will migrate to the warmer Mediterranean lands. Virtually all our other native Butterfly species will hibernate either as eggs or as a chrysalis, all attached to grass stems, stuck on under leaves of selected plants, dangling on threads or buried in the leaf litter. In their millions – clever isn’t it.

By the end of July the trees will have reached their zenith in growth for this year. The sap will gently subside, the fruit will fall, to germinate or be eaten by somebody else! In this drought you can see the signs of their great stress, the outer leaves of many are withered and blackened. They do say that when the Beech tree produces the vast amount of Beech Mast, (their seed cases), evident this year, then that is a sign of stress.

This has been a plentiful year for Field Voles and other small rodents, and although like everything else they got off to a bad start in the breeding season, (because it rained forever), Owls have done well. In good vole years with good weather conditions Barn Owls can produce a second brood.

However this can be a bit of a double-edged sword. That second brood can be too late, the adults frantically feeding them will never regain their own bodyweight, neither will the juveniles put on enough reserve fat to cope with the lean times of Winter. In consequence the young will perish and it’s likely the adults will too when the rodent population dies away. So you can lose future breeders as well as the adult population. We have been really privileged here. A pair of Tawny Owls has produced 3 young Owlets in the big Oak in the Churchyard. When they become large they start ‘branching’. At night they will come out into the tree and flop about rather clumsily in the branches, squeaking and squawking for the adults to bring food. We’ve watched them fly in with prey against the pale evening sky. It doesn’t get much better than that, does it? Where the Barn Owl will quarter the fields at dusk, hunting like a white ghost, dropping into the grass after voles, the Tawny is a bit of a sitter. He favours the woodland in darkness, and will sit patiently on a branch and drop on prey.

So, each to his own. I suppose we human beings are just as diverse in our habits, our food likes and dislikes and our varied abilities. As long as we recognise that we share the world with some amazing and beautiful creatures, of which we must take great care.
**WITHERIDGE SPORTS CLUB**

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<tr>
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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**

We meet Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start, and Thursday afternoons 2.00pm for 2.15pm 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.

Friday 11.00am - 12.00 in Parish Hall

Greg Henderson
WITHERIDGE YOUNG FARMERS

On Saturday 14th April we held our comedy night in Witheridge Hall which was very well supported. It was a great night, a full house was entertained by Welsh Compare David Arnold, along with Luke Honnoraty, Regan MacNeil and headliner Will Mars. We did a silent auction in aid of FCN which raised £422.50 with lots of pledges given from various companies. A very successful evening with lots of good feedback since, thank you to those who came.

In May at the Devon County Show, we had members enter individual handicraft and cooking entries in the YFC tent. As a club we did the club entries, this year the cubicle theme was ‘Magic and Mystery’ and it came 11th, the club scrapbook came 6th and the coat of arms which was a new class for this year ‘to represent your club’ came 3rd.

On Sunday 20th May we held a clay shoot at East Middlewick Clay Shoot which was kindly hosted by Graham and Tony. With members working the traps and doing the BBQ the weather was good this year and around 80 shooters came, making a profit of just over £500. We held a disco in Black Dog Hall on Friday 8th June with HnR Disco, lots of young farmers enjoyed the evening and it was very successful. Members have been doing a bit of community work in the village by cleaning out a stone trough near the square and re-filling the soil.

Coming up we have Mid Devon Show where we hold our group rally. 22 members have entered classes from cooking, flower arranging, crafts, silage samples etc. We also have club entries including the cubicle, decorated harvest arch and the scrapbook. It will definitely be an interesting tent to pop into on the show day. We are also planning a few club socials including a blind drop and cycle along Tiverton Canal.

The YFC year is flying by and we will be holding our AGM on Tuesday 18th September at Black Dog Hall, where new officers will be elected. This is a good time to become a member of the club. It’s always good having new members so if you’re interested please come along.

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**WITHERIDGE AFC UPDATE**

**1st Team**
Since the last edition, the 1st team finished off the last month of the season playing 16 games due to the bad weather for the previous 3 months, so pretty much 4 times a week which, when you’re bottom of the league isn’t a bonus as there were some very tired legs out there, but credit to all the players who kept digging in and got on with it.
Unfortunately we were unable to move off the bottom of the table which normally would mean relegation but with no team wishing to be promoted due to the league restructuring in the 2019/20 season, Witheridge will remain in the Peninsula League for at least 2 more seasons.
We begin our new season away to local rivals Cullompton F.C. on 10th August, so it would be nice to see a few supporters to cheer the boys on. We have been drawn at home to Wells City in the FA Vase, so a good turnout would be great for that game - keep an eye on the fixtures board at the gate for all times and dates.

**2nd Team**
Darren and his team finished the season in 8th place which, in a very hard league, is a respectable finish to the season. This group of players play some really good attacking football and with a bit of luck, and maybe the odd improvement, will be pushing for a top 4 finish next season I’m sure.

**3rd Team**
The 3rds had another great season by finishing 3rd and gaining promotion to division 6, which means they have been promoted pretty much every season since they formed. Considering these are all local lads that’s a great achievement and a credit to Daryl and his hard work.

So overall, we have had the highs and lows over the last season but now it starts again. After a few weeks off, it’s back to pre-season training, friendlies, and league kick offs, so come along and cheer Witheridge Football club on - I’m sure all 3 teams would appreciate it.
Come on Withy!!

The picture is of the 3rd team at the club presentation night.

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

**Potholes down your street**

At last B3137 near the school has been resurfaced, Cllr Yabsley has advised more works are imminent between Witheridge & South Molton. Reports highways issues to Devon County Council on 0345 155 1004 or:-

https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/

**Housing Development**

Larkfleet Homes ([http://www.larkfleethomes.co.uk/](http://www.larkfleethomes.co.uk/)) have now submitted their detailed planning application for the new housing development on the Tiverton side of the Adventure Playground. The plans can be viewed on the District Council website here:-

http://planning.northdevon.gov.uk/search.asp (application number 65041).

**Village Litter Pick**

It is with regret that owing to the fact that our insurers have insisted that we have a Qualified First Aider present on our litter picks, we have to discontinue this activity. Moving forward, should there be anyone in the village who would like to take over and organise their own litter picks, we would be happy to lend them the kit free of charge.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped in the past.

Carol Northam.

**Public Toilet Block**

Apologies for the delays in reopening the public toilet; until we have sign-off from the District Council Building Control Department we cannot reopen the facilities. We hope to resolve the outstanding issues as soon as possible.

**Grass Cutting**

We have received a couple of complaints about the grass cutting which we hope will settle down once the new contractor becomes more familiar with the area. The maintenance schedule showing what the parish council cuts & how often, can be viewed on the parish council website under Amenities.

**Councillor Vacancy**

The council still has a vacancy for anyone interested in serving on the council. If you are interested to know more please see the information available on the website or contact the clerk.
Community Information N Devon

**Library 2018**
**Mondays**  Witheridge
**Dates:**  Sept 3rd;  Oct 1st;  Nov 26;  Dec 31
Witheridge, The Square  14:00-15:00
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WRVS Home Library Service. For anyone physically unable to reach a library.
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**Oct-Mar**  Sat & Sun 10-4:30

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**Oct - Mar**  M-F  9- 4:30  Sat & Sun 10- 4:30

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**Council & Committee Meetings**

**Meetings** are held at the Parish Hall Committee Room, North Street, Witheridge. Unscheduled meetings are advertised separately to this notice. Residents can make representations in writing to the clerk or in person verbally during the public session at the start of a meeting.

**Agendas** (with planning applications for consideration) are published at least three days in advance on the council web site at [www.witheridgepc.org](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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Andy, Barbara and all our staff at the Mitre Inn welcome our customers old and new to our 18th Century Inn, situated in the village of Witheridge, which is nestled within the heartlands of the beautiful county of Devon.

We are extremely proud to have been awarded the 'Trip Advisor certificate of excellence for 2018' for the 4th consecutive year.

Our summer specials board will reflect the beautiful weather we have been fortunate to have had so far this summer. Of course, we will always have our very popular Exmoor Steaks and homemade Exmoor hamburgers.

Every Tuesday is Curry Night with a great choice of curries, all accompanied with a poppadum, naan bread, onion bhaji, vegetable samosa and mango chutney. 1 x curry for only £10.50 or any 2 for £19.50.

Our recently refurbished family ensuite room, sleeping up to 4, is ideal for 'Two Moors Way' walkers or families visiting friends locally.

Included in with the bed and breakfast room of course is our fabulous breakfast selection which includes cereal, fruit, juice, tea, coffee, toast and homemade jams etc. plus a choice of cooked dishes, including smoked haddock.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates on summer offers.

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

Like us on Facebook to catch us early when we post special offers and events.