FEBRUARY 2009 **Price 40p**

ST. CATHERINE, WHITESTONE

with

Pathfinder Village

And

ST. THOMAS, OLDRIDGE

Parish Magazine

St. Catherine's Church, Whitestone

Priest in Charge

Reverend Martin Wood, The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop 01647 24119
(Tuesday to Saturday)

Whitestone and Oldridge Churchwardens

Dr. Jane Richards, Quarryfield House, Whitestone (tel. 01392 811492)

Miss Mary Stanbury, Poole Meadow, Barton Head Hill, Tedburn St Mary (tel. 01392 811532)

NORTH KENN BENEFICE

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2009

Sunday February 1st

8.0.am.	**Whitestone**	**Holy Communion**	**Revd Tim Gorringe**
9.30.am.	Holcombe Burnell	Parish Communion	Revd Martin Wood
11.0.am.	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Lay led MW preach
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder Village	Holy Communion	Canon Geoffrey Moore
6.0.pm.	Cheriton Bishop	Evening Prayer	Lay led

Sunday February 8th

9.30.am.	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
9.30.am.	**Whitestone**	**Parish Communion**	**Revd Martin Wood and JWW**
11.0.am.	Cheriton Bishop	Family Service	Lay led Revd Wood preach
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	Fellowship and Prayer	
3.0.pm.	Tedburn St Mary	Evensong	Revd Martin Wood

Saturday February 14th

6.0.pm Whitestone Parish Hall Saturday Surprise

Sunday February 15th

8.0.am.	Tedburn St Mary	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
9.30.am.	Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	Evensong	Rosemarie Scaife
6.0.pm.	Holcombe Burnell	Evensong	Peter Chalk

Sunday February 22nd

8.0.am.	Cheriton Bishop	Holy Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
9.30.am.	Tedburn St Mary	Parish Communion	Canon John Tutton
11.0.am.	Holcombe Burnell	Family Service	Lay led
11.0.am	**Whitestone**	**Morning Prayer**	**Lay led**
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	United Service	

Ash Wednesday February 25th

10.30.am	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
7.30.pm.	Cheriton Bishop	Benefice Holy Communion	Revd T Gorringe

Every **Thursday** 10.30.am. Pathfinder Holy Communion (BCP)
5th and 12th February Revd Martin Wood. 19th February Canon Geoffrey Moore.

FROM THE RECTOR

Should we mind the gap?

The month of February provides a little breathing space between the end of Christmas and Epiphany (2nd Feb Candlemas) and the beginning of Lent (25th Feb Ash Wednesday). This February provides a small gap of three weeks between the Christmas celebration and our Lenten reflection. The gap varies from year to year.

Last year the gap was just four days, a very early Easter. In 2011 the gap expands to 5 weeks, a very late Easter. The movement of Easter is always a hot topic. The date of Easter is set by the lunar event of a full moon. Whereas our calendar year is measured by a solar orbit of the earth around the sun. Lunar years are approximately 11 days shorter than solar years. Without any correction Easter would move forward by 11days each year. You could end up celebrating Easter and Christmas together every 25 years! Easter is linked to the Jewish Passover festival which is a Spring celebration. In the lunar calendar there is a leap month about every 3 years which keeps the seasons in their right place. I have no idea how your birthday works out in leap month! Easter is very roughly determined by the Sunday after the first full moon after 21st March. It is much more complicated than that and apparently the cycle repeats every 5.7 million years!

As you can see the gap varies from year to year. I always hear in my head the announcement on the tube "mind the gap". There the gap might trip you up and cause you to fall. The gap in this instance is meant to give us space. In church life, this time is also called ordinary time. At first glance ordinary time seems quite dull. My experience of being too busy and having too much to do makes ordinary time sound very appealing. There is a valid counter argument that if life is constant and changeless it is indeed dull. As always we need some of both the excitement of special times and the normal life that is ordinary. It is at this point that life never seems that well ordered, it is often quite chaotic. On a personal level Christmas and Easter seem to me to come too close together. It would be much better to have Easter around June! There is a part of life which is given to us rather than we shape it. It is usually in these instances we have to accept a divine purpose that we cannot fathom. Do we challenge rights and wrongs of that plan or try and make the best of the situation? I cannot move everything around in life to suit my ideal plan. What I can try and do is make the most of things as they come. This year a three week gap before Lent gives a reasonable break. I shall try to slow down and appreciate what is going on around me. I will not try to add extra to make it extraordinary; I will just enjoy what it is.

One of my observations is that God turns the ordinary into something unique and special. I believe God meets us where we are and helps us in our journey of life. I guess the gaps and the ordinary are good places to draw close to God and see what happens!

Rev. Martin Wood. The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop 01647 24119 (Tuesday to Sunday)

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DAILY OFFICE (MATTINS AND EVENSONG)

Martin will be saying the Daily Office (Mattins and Evensong) in each of the churches once a week at 9.00 am and 3.00 pm as follows:

Tuesday:	**Cheriton Bishop**
Wednesday:	**Tedburn St. Mary**
Thursday:	**Holcombe Burnell**
Friday:	**Whitestone**

He will be very pleased to see anyone who wishes to join him or speak to him at these times as well.

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PRISE SURPRISE SURPRISE SURPRISE SURPRISE SU

Saturday Surprise recommences on

Saturday February 14th
Parish Hall, 6.00pm

Come and join us to sing, enjoy, learn, be silent,
Pray (if you wish)
and BE SURPRISED!
Everyone welcome.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME - OR DOES IT?

St Catherine's Church (and Pathfinder and St Thomas, Oldridge) are kept running by those who give their time and/or money to support them, to enable them to pay their share of the clergy costs and keep the church buildings maintained (and heated for the services!!). However, we think it is important that we also should give as a church, as has been done by churches ever since the first one. There are lots of reasons for giving - to help others, to bless others by gifts as we have been blessed, and because we know that it pleases God. Sometimes we make gifts from special collections at services as a response to special appeals (e.g the Tsunami Appeal) but every year we have also made gifts out of our general fund to a variety of charities. In this and succeeding magazines, we wanted to say a little bit about one of the charities we support.

This month we are starting with Crosslinks.

Crosslinks is an international mission agency with its roots in the Bible and its principal sphere of operations in the worldwide Anglican Communion. Its prime focus is making Christ known through the proclamation and teaching of God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are enthusiasts for creative worldwide mission: their slogan is 'God's word to God's World'.

Crosslinks supports workers across cultural and other boundaries. They co-operate with churches and mission and relief agencies, sponsor students and encourage mission links worldwide. St Catherine's church is particularly associated with Crosslinks as Dan and Rosie Button, supported by Crosslinks in Africa (see newsletter later in the magazine) have links with our Parish.

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ADVANCE NOTICE - GORDON PIKE MUSICAL EVENING

A Musical Evening with Gordon Pike and others, including former Exeter Cathedral Girl choristers, will be held on **Wednesday, 11th March** at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. In Aid of PARISH HALL ROOF APPEAL.
Please keep this date free. More details next month.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

We will be revising the Church Electoral Roll prior to the AGM on **30th April.**
If you wish to join the existing Roll please complete the application form by **6th April** and return to Mrs. J. Thomas, 2 Barton Cottages, Whitestone, Exeter. EX4 2LB.
Forms are available from the Church Table, Mrs. Blockley (Pathfinder Village) or Mrs. Thomas.

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BELL RINGING

Practice nights are on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome, please contact Joy Field on 01392 811600 beforehand.

BENEFICE CHOIR

Anyone who would like to join the choir and sing please contact Jackie Lightband (811527). New recruits always welcome.

GUILD OF ST. RAPHAEL (Sec. Mrs. E. Milverton, Tel: 811268).

The next meeting is on **Tuesday, 24th February** in Pathfinder Village Church at 2.30pm. Mrs. J. Walmsley White will give a talk. Any requests for prayer to Eileen Milverton on 01392 811268.

MOTHERS UNION

Please contact Mrs. Gilbert on 811230 for details of the next meeting..

WHITESTONE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (Secs. Mrs Judith Henshaw, 01392 811416 and Mrs Diane Tattersfield, 01392 811426)
The next WI meeting will be on **9th February 2009** at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. The speaker for the evening will be Mrs Penny Townsend who will give a talk about Jane Austen and her West Country Links.
Whitestone WI desperately need some new members if we are going to keep going, please come and give us your support in 2009. The group would really appreciate some fresh ideas for 2009.

PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Mrs Roz Hanson will be taking the bookings for Whitestone Parish Hall, her telephone number is 01392 811878.

WHITESTONE GARDENING CLUB (Sec. Mary Stanbury. Tel: 811532)
The next meeting is on **16th February** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
Speaker will be Dr Jane Richards on her trip to Botswana. This will be followed by the AGM.

ARE YOU FEELING STIFF OR STRESSED?
On **Saturday, 14th February 2009**, Jo Chappell has volunteered to give treatments of AROMATHERAPY, INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE, or REFLOXOLOGY. She is fully qualified in all these treatments and at present is giving voluntary treatments at the Hospice. These will take place by appointment at 11 Merrymeet. Please phone 811354 for appointments, £15 per $^1/_2$ hour session.
All proceeds in aid of the Hall Roof fund.

DIGITAL DAYS ARE ALMOST UPON US
The upcoming digital switchover is the biggest thing to happen to TV since the introduction of colour television.
On Valentine's Day February 14th there will be just 81 days for you to prepare to receive the digital signal or risk being unable to receive any sort of transmission.
To ensure that you keep your TV service you will need to convert your TV to digital before the area's switchover date on May 6th.
Digital TV will be exciting; it will enhance your viewing pleasure. It will mean that without paying any kind of subscription you will be able to receive the 5 traditional channels plus lots, lots more. Everyone will receive around 20 of the most popular Freeview channels as standard, with most people receiving at least 40 extra channels depending on where you live.
You can of course choose to subscribe to a satellite service or cable company and receive up to 340 extra channels.
You do not have to purchase a new "digital ready" set if you don't want, but you will have to invest in a set top box to transform the signal to your existing set.
This may all sound just a little confusing ….. however help is on hand.
Havills your friendly local electrical dealer holds regular 'Digital Days' in their shops in Alphington and Topsham.
Everyone is welcome, totally without obligation, to come and seek some friendly, easy to understand advice from specialists.
Havills local knowledge is key to a successful switchover. We have already helped hundreds of households solve their digital problems.
D day shouldn't mean "Disaster Day" on May 6th if you seek some specialist advice sooner rather than later.
Why not call us to arrange to attend one of our free digital help clinics.
Havills of Alphington ….. 273095
Havills of Topsham ……. 873964

REGULAR PARISH HALL BOOKINGS
There are regular activities in the Parish Hall apart from the monthly society events. In response to suggestions we publish a list. Please note contact numbers for future reference.

WEEKLY

Tuesday evening	Ballroom Dancing	Colin Thorne - 01392 206442
Wednesday 10.00am - 12.00 noon	Mothers & Toddlers	Rachel Wilson - 01647 61744
Friday evening	Bingo	Ray Kielty - 07949 865204
Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm	Topaz Dancing	Sally Gray - 01392 424073

MONTHLY

Parish Council Meeting	Normally 2nd Thursday in the month starting at 7.30pm. Open to the Public.

Contributions for the March 2009 Parish Magazine to Pat Martin, 11 Merrymeet, by MONDAY, 16th FEBRUARY. Any queries, comments, suggestions or complaints about the magazine, please, to the editor, Mrs. J. Kellagher, East Rowhorne – (01392) 273864.

Subscriptions of £4 for 2009 are now due please.

TEDBURN & CHERITON SCOUT GROUP

An extraordinary meeting will be held in Cheriton Bishop Hall at 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 24th February** for all adults with an interest in the Group.

If you have children already in the Group or on the waiting list, or would like your child to be on the waiting list, please join us for an open discussion on how best to expand the Group in order to deal with the large waiting list that we currently have.

We would also welcome anyone who may have time to spare and who would like to get involved in any of the sections i.e. Beaver Scouts (6 to 8 years); Cub Scouts (8 to $10^1/_2$ years) or Scouts ($10^1/_2$ to 14 years).

RSVP Roger Wickham, Group Scout Leader, Tel: 01647 252705 or e-mail roger@wildwoodartworks.co.uk

ROYAL OAK, NADDERWATER

The proceeds from the Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale to be held on Saturday March 7th starting at 10.30am will go to St Catherine's Church, if anybody would like to have a table the cost is £3. For more info please either drop in to the pub or ring Tracey on 01392 272352.

WHITESTONE PARISH HALL

POSITION OF CARETAKER

The Committee of Management of Whitestone Parish Hall wish to appoint a CARETAKER to assist in the management and administration of the Hall.
This is an important job in the Village Community
The position will be part time, requiring a deal of flexibility concerning hours worked which are expected to be in the region of 45 hours per month. This will include some evening and weekend work.
Remuneration will be paid at the rate of £6 an hour, the position is most suitable for a local resident.
For further details please write to, or telephone, Mr Peter Trowbridge at Hindcross, Whitestone or 01392 811375

TABLE TENNIS

For further information please contact Rob Prouse on 07720510452.

SHELDON

PROM FROM SCRATCH - Do you love to sing? Would you like to be part of a special one-off choir?

Following the success of last years 'Prom from Scratch' the event just had to be repeated. On one of the few balmy summer evenings last year a colourful 80 strong choir belted out favourites like 'Land of Hope and Glory' and 'Jerusalem' under the capable conductorship of Roy Nicholson. A similar event is scheduled to take place this year on **Saturday 25th July.**

Rehearsals take place during the afternoon followed by the performance in the evening in the Open Air Theatre.

Why not sign up now to be a member of the choir? Only £5 per person. Last year was over-subscribed so act now as choir membership will be on a first come first served basis. It will make a great evening to bring friends to while at the same time raising funds in aid of the Long Barn appeal. This appeal is to raise money to rebuild the smallest, oldest guest bedrooms as part of the ongoing work of caring for people in ministry.

Contact Sheldon for details:

Sheldon, Dunsford, Exeter, EX6 7LE. Tel: 01647 252752. www.sheldon.uk.com

EXTRACTS FROM DEVON IN TOUCH December 2008

CONSULTATION ON ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOLS

A recent development has been to include community groups and parents in a consultation on admission arrangements for schools. Your parish council and residents are invited to view and comment on the arrangements which are being proposed by the County Council and by those schools which are responsible for their own admissions.

This is an opportunity for the community to have a say on how admissions into local schools will take place. Please feel free to contribute to the consultation on the arrangements for the 2010/11 academic year and encourage local residents and community groups to do the same.

You can view the arrangements at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements or please contact Andrew Brent - Policy and Strategy Officer on 0791 746032. The consultation closes on 1st March 2009.

COMMUNITY FOOTBALL COACHING PROGRAMME LAUNCHED IN EXETER SCHOOL

A football programme launched by Devon County Council and Exeter City Football Club kicked off with a coaching session at Isca College in Exeter.

The programme was given a kick-start by Devon County Council, who presented the club with a £30,000 cheque toward its Football in the Community Kick Around scheme - a three year social inclusion project offering 40 weeks of 3-hour football sessions. The programme will involve over 400 young people between 11 and 18 accessing one of the courses, designed to broaden their football skills and offer coaching training and qualifications.

The Council also pledged a further £5K to develop the skills of the coaching team, to deliver multi-skills training to the club's coaches enabling them to deliver sessions in sports other than football to a wider audience in Devon.

MARY'S DAIRY DIARY - JANUARY 2009

Even in the first days of the year, while winter is still chilly and dark, I secretly breath a sigh of relief that the days are inching longer. I know it's only minutely, but I find the snail's pace of days getting darker in December so life-sapping, and take the smallest hint of sun and seconds longer in the day for evidence that spring will come again. The jollity of Christmas is gone, so I hold onto the small signs – the sun, the hazel flowers, I heard of two primroses out in South Devon, I saw a camellia bravely out in the Arboretum on the farm.
Fallow deer, shadowy with their black backs, graze out in the field, trees sheltering them, they think, from human eyes. A little owl has taken to flying out from the same tree as I drive home – it must have taken a leaf out of the sparrow hawk's book, who glides in front of the car, catching the mice and voles disturbed from safety in the hedge by the car. But that doesn't explain the little charm of finches that has taken to accompanying my car down my bumpy lane – they've been nibbling seeds in the hedge. Little egrets graze on the cow marshes, elegant white birds, standing up, white against the green. It means the cow grazing fields are getting too wet, and we need to dig the ditches out to drain them better, but I can enjoy the sight in front of my eyes.
CROPS - All the crops are safely in the ground, getting roots down. The oilseed rape was put in late, and looks thin and chewed by all its wild fans – deer and pigeons. So little, it didn't completely protect the soil from recent heavy rain, so we've got a little more soil washed on one steep slope. We like to get crops forward to protect soil, but this year, the tricky harvest delayed drilling by a couple of weeks in the autumn, enough to slow down the growth of the precious soil – saving leaves. Farming is always doing the best you can given everything there is to handle. It also showed the value of a beetle bank we'd put across the long slope, breaking the flow of water above the steepest bit, so we had a rivulet of soil washed, not a rut.
COWS - The last few dry cows are out on some kale, keeping healthier and easing all the work keeping all the cows inside. Last year we didn't do this well, didn't plan it to have least impact on the soil, this year it's all laid out, with water and straw bales for the cows to chew at when cold kale loses its appeal. They look great, clean coats standing out to keep them warm, great clouds of misty, cowy breath going up. They will soon be coming inside for a final bit of TLC and feeding up before they calve in February and March. The rest of the herd are already inside, the remaining milking cows eating time-shifted sun in the form of whole-crop wheat and maize silage. They stand looking over the fence, longing at the grazing fields. Emma drives the quad bike out down the track, and they crowd to the gate, hoping she's coming back to let them into the field. This is the one month we keep the cows inside, off the tender soil, to avoid the cow's hooves damaging it. It's too cold for the grass to grow much, so the soil isn't drying out enough out to make it firm enough for the cows to go out.
YOUNGSTOCK - Calves and heifers are all inside, I love to see them chasing around the clean straw when they've just been bedded up, just like children kicking leaves in autumn. They are joyful and exuberant, a great gang of mates. We store the straw in the same building as the in-calf heifers, so they have more room as they grow, and we take straw away to bed up all the animals. We check to see who's udder is bagging up, the first sign that a calf is only few weeks away, 'a lovely little vessel in the making' as one local cattle auctioneer puts it.
CHEESE - The milk from the cows is very rich at this time of year, with so many cows so late into lactation. Will, our herd manager, feeds the cows skilfully to make sure the milk still makes the best cheese, not too much fat to make too acid flavoured cheese. There's less milk, so we have time to work the curd, to get the moisture out, so it promises to be good cheese. We sent some of our 'Antique 3 year old Cheddar' to Australia, it is fabulous, made in January three years ago, I can't wait to find out how they like it.
Less milk, and we have time to spring clean, cleaning the hardwood boards we store the new cheese on. In the spring, grass, calves and milk pop out, so we don't have the time, but now we while are watching and waiting for the new year to get going, we get it all set up, ready for whatever the year brings.

RECIPE - Carrot and Potato Mash with Melting Onions – an easy winter warmer to have with stews, all good comfort food.
Prepare: 10 minutes
Cook: 15 minutes
Serves: 3-4

350g carrots, peeled and cut into small chunks
350g Desiree or King Edward potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks
1 tsp salt
25g butter
1 large Spanish onion, peeled and sliced into thin wedges
125g Quickes Cheddar
1. Put the vegetables together in a pan of cold, salted water and bring to the boil. Boil for 10-15minutes or until the carrots and potatoes are very tender. Drain well then return to the saucepan and cover with a lid or tea towel for 5 minutes. This allows any excess moisture to dry off.
2. While the carrots and potatoes are cooking, melt the butter in a large frying pan and cook the onion over a medium heat until soft and golden brown.
3. Mash the carrots with the potatoes and cheese, leaving the mash quite speckled and rough. Taste for seasoning then add a little extra salt if necessary and plenty of freshly ground black pepper. Serve the mash with a spoonful of caramelised onions on top.

Extracts from Minutes of Whitestone Parish Council meeting held at Whitestone Parish Hall on Thursday 8th January 2009 at 7.pm to be confirmed at the Council meeting on Thursday 12th February 2009

Attendance: Chairman – Councillor Mrs M Belt
Councillors D Munro, Mrs B Netherway, R Phillips, M Riches
Mrs P Vaughan, Clerk to the Council

Apologies: Councillors P Hanson and Mrs T Taylor

The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the January Draw for the 100 Club in support of the Parish Hall Roof Appeal was made by Councillors Phillips and Riches. The lucky number was 04 and belongs to Nicky Collins.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th December 2008 having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true copy by the Chairman with the addition of the words excluding plumbing and electrical work in Minute 85.5

MATTERS ARISING

Precept for 2009/10

Income and expenditure statements having been circulated to Councillors, discussion followed regarding the necessary Precept requirements for 2009/10. It was proposed and seconded that it remain at £8,000 as in 2008/09. All in favour.

2 School Houses

It was reported that All Cure started work on the bathroom on the 5th January and three quotations for the plumbing work as per specifications sent out were discussed, i.e.

£1,935.00 + VAT
£950 + VAT
£1,302.66 including VAT

Following discussion it was proposed and seconded that quotation 2 for £950 + VAT be accepted. All in favour. Councillor Phillips will investigate the possibility of upgrading the tank proposed in the quotation.

Councillor Hanson had removed from taps from the bathroom suite and these were examined to see if these can be re-used. As taps were provided with the bathroom suite already purchased it was agreed that these should be put into one of the table top sales which were being held as someone might wish to purchase them.

Cheques were proposed and seconded for payment for the bathroom tiles which had been obtained and for the bathroom suite which had been purchased at trade price, namely £47.60 for the tiles and £235.80 for the bathroom suite. All in favour.

MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN

Very deep potholes have been reported in Pound Lane and the Clerk was instructed to notify the Highways of the need for their repair.

It was noted that the road closure and diversions are still in place at Halsfordwood Lane and the Clerk was instructed to enquire from the SW Water how long the repair would take.

It was resolved that Hi Line should be approached for an estimate for the cutting back of the trees and shrubs overhanging the road by the Hall car park.

PLANNING

Refusal of Planning

08/03925/FUL Demolition of redundant piggery and construction of a 4 bedroom detached dwelling with an attached double garage at The Piggery, Whitestone Cross, Nadderwater for Mrs Baker.

Granting of Planning

08/04211/FUL Extension to form six bedrooms, two bathrooms, staff rest room and kitchen at Treelands, Five Mile Hill.

Planning Application

08/04477/FUL Industrial building at Lower Trelake Business Park, Tedburn Road for Mr D Lane. Plans were examined and discussed with no objections.

Registration of New Property

The Greenery, St Catherines Nursery, Whitestone, EX4 2LF

FINANCE

Income - Rental School Houses

Expenditure - The following expenditure was proposed and seconded for payment. All in favour.
Clerk's quarterly salary and expenses £290.94

Mr Joll, grass cutting and general cleaning to Crossway Park and surrounding areas for quarter October to December 2008 £207.00 and £32.00 for the P7 Footpath.
Councillor Munro – P3 expenses for 12 months £13.01

CORRESPONDENCE
TALC Meeting on 29th January 2009 - Councillor Belt to attend

Teignbridge District Council gave notice of a Roadshow which will be held at the Whitestone Parish Hall on 11th February from 4pm to 7.30pm. This will be an opportunity to meet with Councillors and officers who will answer questions and hear views regarding how the local Council Tax will be used this year

Teign Housing supplied information regarding the TeignCare Alarm Service which is available to help people of all ages to live confidently and independently in their own home by supplying an alarm unit that is activated by a pendant worn around the neck or on the wrist like a watch. For further information about the service you should telephone 01626 355135.

REPORTS
It was reported that the road is subsiding on the Oldridge Road, before Cleave Farm.
The 30mph sign at Nadderwater is turned around
The field opposite Rebecca Springs appears to be being used for non agricultural purposes.
Grit bins are being tipped over.
Concern of dogs reported running loose in the Heath Cross area.

The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.

Minutes of Whitestone Parish Council meeting held at Whitestone Parish Hall on Monday, 15th December 2008 at 7.30pm.

Attendance: Chairman – Councillor Mrs M Belt
Councillors P Hanson, D Munro, M Riches, Mrs T Taylor.
County Councillor J Brook
Mrs P Vaughan, Clerk to the Council
Mr N Bateman

Apologies: Councillors Mrs B Netherway, R Phillips
and District Councillor P Bromell

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Mr Bateman said he was attending out of general interest.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the December Draw for the 100 Club in support of the Parish Hall Roof Appeal was made by Mr Bateman The lucky number was 94 and belongs to Mr H Piper.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th November and Planning Application meeting held on 28th November having been circulated were taken as read and signed as true copies by the Chairman. Councillors Hanson and Munro gave apologies for non attendance at the meeting on 28th November.

MATTERS ARISING
Mrs L Cox has resigned from the Council for health reasons and appreciation was expressed for her past services to the Council.

Due to the resignation of Councillor Taylor as the Parish Council representative for the Parish Hall Management Committee discussion took place regarding her replacement. A letter had been received from Mr Peter Strawbridge stating that as Councillor Mrs Belt was already on the Committee she might like to act in this capacity but Mrs Belt declined. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor M Riches should be appointed and he expressed his willingness to serve.

<u>Parish Hall Roof Appeal</u>
It was noted that various events have raised funds for the appeal, amongst them Creative Whitestone donated £1,000 and the Mel Stride Talk raised £81.55. Thanks were also expressed to Tracey Baird at the Royal Oak Inn for her continued help in organising fund raising events at her public house.

The Chairman reported that an application for a £5,000 grant has been made to the Rural Aid Fund.

Enquiries had been made with The Low Carbon Partnership for a Naturalwatt Proposal for the Hall and Councillor Hanson is undertaking further investigations regarding this. A quotation of £50,000 for solar panels was received but it was intimated that grants would be available.

A letter from a parishioner was discussed regarding the possibility of funding for a new hall as opposed to repairing the existing roof and it was agreed to make enquiries from the Community Council of Devon as to the feasibility of such an enterprise.

1 School Houses
It was reported that a repair to a broken locking mechanism on a window had been required and the Letting Agency had arranged this at a cost of £89.77.
2 School Houses
It was reported that Councillor Hanson had disconnected and removed the old bathroom suite and kitchen sink unit and taken them to Marsh Barton. It was proposed and seconded that he should be reimbursed the sum of £25.00 for this and he is donating this sum to the Parish Hall Roof Fund. A vote of thanks was given to Councillor Hanson.
An estimate for £639 (excluding plumbing and electrics) for the work required in the bathroom has been obtained and it was proposed and seconded that this should be accepted as the builder had said that he could start in early January.

MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN
The Chairman reported on attending a Police meeting at Chudleigh.
There have been complaints regarding the gritting of roads within the parish and County Councillor Brooks will pursue this matter with the Devon County Council Highways.

FINANCE
Income
School Houses.

Expenditure
The following expenditure was proposed and seconded for payment. All in favour.
Clerks expenses £24.80
Annual subscription Society of Local Council Clerks £44.00

CORRESPONDENCE
The Information Commission has informed of the necessity for local authorities to adopt a Publication Scheme to ensure the Council is fulfilling an obligation to disclose information under the Freedom of Information Act. It was proposed and seconded that the Council adopt the new scheme from the 1st January 2009. All in favour.

PLANNING
Applications Granted
08/03404/FUL Revised siting of six log cabins and re-alignment of the approved access road at Fingle Glen Golf Club, Five Mile Hill.

08/03720/AGR Open fronted hay barn on lead near Heath Cross.

Planning Applications
08/04415/FUL Erection of an industrial building and demolition of two existing buildings at Cross Park Farm, Heath Cross. Councillor Riches declared an interest as he lives in a neighbouring property and took no part in the decision reached. Discussed with concerns regarding the increased number of parking spaces (from 10 to 32) indicated on the application. Council felt that this would lead to increased activity/noise on the site and extra traffic on surrounding highways.

08/04336/FUL Detached garage at Newton Orchard, Pound Lane. Discussed and noted that although the application is for a detached garage the plans show a games room in the loft space and there were concerns that this might be converted to living accommodation in the future and it was requested that stipulations should be made that this should not occur.

08/04355/FUL Retrospective application for erection of solar, photovoltaic array in field adjacent to Whistledown, Longdown.

REPORTS
Councillor Riches reported that there had been a bad motor accident ten days ago near Heath Cross and Mr Keen at Cross Park Farm had lent "slow" signs prior to emergency services arriving and it was resolved that a letter of thanks be sent to him.

Councillor Hanson reported that he had again reported the water leak in Halsfordwood Lane.
The meeting closed at 9.30p.m.

WHITESTONE SOCIAL CLUB- Secretary Peter Hanson, (tel. 01392 811878)

The next meeting on **Monday 23 February** will be a fun auction of unwanted Xmas gifts or other useful items (up to two each), in aid of the Parish Hall Roof Appeal ('Bring & Share' food & drink). If you're able to bring your items along to the Parish Hall between 5 and 6 pm this will be much appreciated but not essential.

The 'Bring & Share' food & drink evenings are a great way to meet other people in the village. In particular 'newcomers' to the village can get to know people, make new friends and find out what is going on.

Why not join, it's only £12 per year, or try out one of our 'Bring & Share' food & drink evenings to see if you like it; it's only £2.00 a head.

Future Events:

Saturday 14 March	Club's Annual Birthday Celebration Meal in the Parish Hall. A great meal prepared & served by the Committee. (Free to members)
Monday 27 April	Talk by the Dartmoor National Trust (to be confirmed) ('Bring & share' food & drink)
Monday 25 May	Bank Holiday Barbecue
June (date TBA)	Summer event

WHITESTONE CALENDAR 2010

We are going to produce a calendar showing the fabulous scenery in and around Whitestone, for sale at the end of this year in aid of the Parish Hall Roof Fund.

The pictures in it will be taken by the residents of the parish and each month a small committee will select the best photo submitted as the scene for that month and the actual photo will be displayed in the Parish Hall road-side notice board. The name of the photographer will be printed under the photo when it appears in the calendar.

So please get snapping. Send your photo each month to Jock Kirkpatrick. If your camera is digital and you can send it by email, send it to: kirkpatrick@eclipse.co.uk. If the photo is already printed, send it to him at 2 Merrymeet, EX4 2JP (?)

Towards the end of the November we will have a sample ready so that people can see what it'll be like before ordering.

WHITESTONE WALKERS FEBRUARY WALK

Next Walk – Sunday 1st February, 09.30a.m.

Meeting in the car park of The Royal Oak, Nadderwater for a winter walk along country lanes – hopefully dry and mud free.

Starting from the Royal Oak car park, we will go to Whitestone Cross and then to Waddles Down via Rowhorne. From Waddles Down we will return to the start via Whitestone Church and Nadderwater Bottom.

Distance approximately 4.5 miles.

This is the route of our initial walk in 2007.

--- oOo ---

PROPOSAL FOR AN EMAIL 'WHITESTONE NEWS'

In January, the concept of an email 'Whitestone News' was suggested by a few parishioners to supplement and support the existing monthly Parish Magazine.

The advantages put forward were:

Cost - It would be free

Immediacy - Readers could let each other know of road problems encountered, short-notice cancellation of meetings, funeral arrangements for neighbours, short-term bargains in the shops, Neighbourhood watch information, etc. Readers could respond immediately to points and queries raised.

Photograph information - Many events could be celebrated by the inclusion of a colour photograph be it an annual dinner or AGM, cheque presentation to charity, birth of a baby, extract from talk and so on. Possibly, a page for items for sale or, better, items for free if collected could be considered (with a picture).

Comprehensiveness - Full page information on groups or meetings, bus-timetables, articles of interest, etc.

Circulation - At present, some households do not take the Parish Magazine. This newsletter could increase the awareness of Church and other Parish matters.

Some disadvantages already put forward include:

The take-up and circulation of the Parish Magazine might suffer a little.

Parishioners without email facilities could not receive it.

Too big a newsletter would take too long to download.

The sole aim of such a newsletter would be to increase the involvement and awareness of parishioners whilst keeping the existing Parish Magazine. Before the idea is progressed any further, your views and suggestions for such a newsletter would be welcomed. Many thanks to those who have already submitted comments.

Jock Kirkpatrick on 811205 (kirkpatrick@eclipse.co.uk)	Tina Taylor on 01647 61063 (Tinatigercub@aol.com)	Peter Hanson on 811878 (peterhanson4@googlemail.com)

WHITESTONE PARISH HALL ROADSHOW BY TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Wednesday 11th February 4.00 - 7.30pm. District Councillors and Officers from Teignbridge will hear your views and answer questions on the new service, details below:-

New Service Brings Teignbridge Council To You

As part of its ongoing work to help tackle the Credit Crunch, Teignbridge Council is launching a brand new service which takes the council to the customer - Teignbridge Direct.

Starting as a pilot programme on 11th December, Teignbridge Direct takes representatives from key services such as customer services, housing, benefits, and recycling, to local facilities such as village halls. The service offers a convenient drop in service to customers, who are able to pay bills, get advice, apply for benefits, and have any queries or issues addressed face-to-face.

Teignbridge Direct launched in Dawlish on Thursday 11th December, at Open Daw, held at the Methodist Church in Brunswick Place.

The move means that people who live some way from the council offices have the opportunity to access face-to-face services without needing to travel to Newton Abbot. The service is especially beneficial for those who do not have access to the internet and the council website, where many day-to-day issues, payments and applications can be handled. As part of Teignbridge Direct, a wi-fi enabled laptop is brought along by staff, enabling customers to visit Teignbridge's website and find out how to make the most of it. Teignbridge Direct also offers direct telephone contact with the council office if any issue relates to a different service or requires specialist knowledge.

Teignbridge staff are also be able to offer information and advice about Teign Reach, (part of Plough & Share Credit Union Ltd), a council-supported project which provides a local, friendly alternative to other financial services, including low-cost savings and loans to local people. Teign Reach is run by its individual members, which results in customers dealing with a friendly local team, and having a say in how their money is used. The scheme is open to anyone living or working in the Teignbridge area, and may be able to offer a welcome and reputable alternative to high-interest loans, credit cards and voucher schemes.

It is hoped that the scheme will operate throughout Teignbridge next year.

Cllr Sally Morgan, Teignbridge Executive Spokesperson for Customer and Financial Services said:

"Teignbridge Direct will respond to local needs by taking the Council's services to our customers, encouraging them to come along and access services face-to-face without having to travel to our offices.

"In rural and hard to reach areas this will be especially beneficial, as many people may not have internet access and rely on long journeys via public transport to reach us.

"As a Council we offer a huge range of services, from bin collection to benefits, and Teignbridge Direct will not only provide more information about these services, but will enable people to pay their council bills, apply for benefits, and much more. We'll be able to help with a wide range of issues, and we promise that if we can't handle something on the spot, we will refer it directly back to the people who can help."

Teignbridge Direct is operating three pilot days, starting with Dawlish and continuing with Buckfastleigh in January and Whitestone in February. Following these pilots the scheme will be assessed to find out how much it has helped and whether any additional services need to be offered. It is hoped that the scheme will operate throughout Teignbridge next year.

ENDS

For media queries please contact Tim Borrett, Media and Communications Officer, on 01626 215164 or Tim.Borrett@teignbridge.gov.uk

1) Teign Reach, part of the Plough & Share Credit Union, is run by Teign Reach in partnership with Teignbridge District Council, South West Pound, Teign Housing, Plough & Share Credit Union Ltd, and Teignbridge Council for Voluntary Service.

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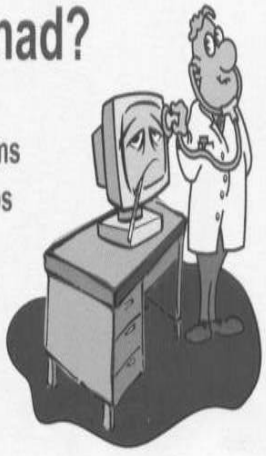

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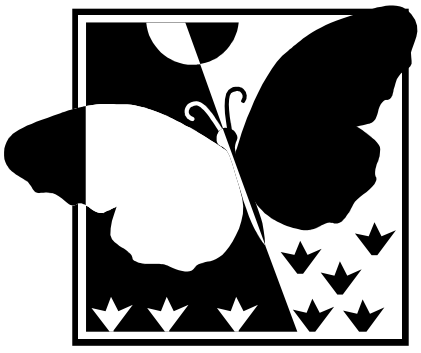

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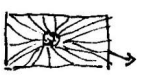

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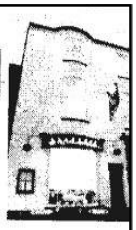

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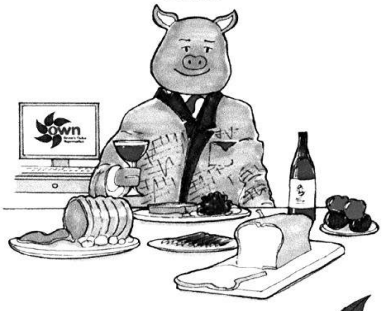

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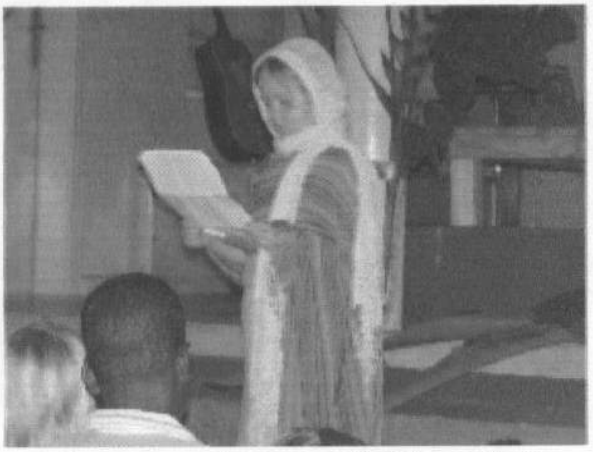
Prayer Update December 2008

Dear Everyone,

Greetings from Uganda. Although this is technically not a Christmas Family News Letter, but actually a rather late prayer bulletin (!) we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and hope you all have wonderful times with family and friends as you celebrate the coming of Jesus into the world. This picture shows Abigail taking the part o Mary in the parent-run school Christmas celebration – which was possible thanks to the new Religion Policy at Ambrosoli!



We are very thankful for the way the school Religion Policy worked out in t end and grateful for your prayers for this. We have ended up with a policy t allows religion to be taught and discussed in school in an objective way, fo children to be allowed to express their views freely, for children to be taugh respect other people's views, and for parents to be allowed to organize reli events/celebrations out of school hours and invite children and parents to participate. The resulting evening of Christmas carols and readings was lo and well attended.

Abigail and Alex are now on school holiday, and very excited about everyth to do with Christmas. The university term is about to end (students are still finishing exams this week), but this means a very busy time for Dan and th Foundation Studies department, with heaps of exams to mark, results to compile as well as all the preparation for next term which begins in about t weeks time. Do pray that Dan and the tutors will get a good rest over Christmas. A good thing is that very often here people will travel their home villages for Christmas and be away until New Year, which does mean everyone gets a real break.

We were really delighted that Peace Kwikiriza very suddenly got ordained at the beginning of this month. (Picture attached). It wasn't sudden, in that she would have been ordained on completing her theology studies here in 2006, but that didn't happen because of the death of her husband. While she stayed on to work here as a tutor and started a counseling course, it seemed as though her bishop h forgotten her, but he suddenly announced in November that he would ordain her. Thankfully he was willing to second her to the Chaplaincy so that she can continue to live here for the foreseeable future and Di can stay at the Kids Care centre where she has been doing so well. S Peace has already started working with the university chaplains, and yesterday took home Communion to our art teacher William Kayamba his wife who were recently involved in a bad car accident. (They both broken limbs but are otherwise now all right.)

On this subject, our chaplain Frederick Baalwa asks for special praye next term as the assistant chaplain Rebecca Nyegenye is going away further studies. Fred is concerned about the huge workload, and is ho to find someone to work with him full time for the term. Peace will of c be a real help but is not in a position to jump right into those shoes.

Another very surprising and sudden thing that happened in the last m is that I (Rosie) was given the opportunity to go to Kerala, in southern India! You may remember us speaking about a wonderful Indian coup CV Mathew and Ammu who were our neighbours here while CV taug the Theology department for two years. CV was made a Bishop in the Thomas Evangelical Church of India (which split away from the Mar Thoma church and traces its roots back to the apostle Thomas w he evangelized in India.) I was asked if I would go to represent the university at CV's consecration, and in spite of some nerves I eage agreed. It was a very brief trip, five days in total, but a wonderful experience. I saw Hindu shrines and temples, working elephants, wil elephants and monkeys on a drive into the hills, orthodox churches and shrines to Jesus and St George(!), rice paddies, rubber and t plantations, rode in autorickshaws and ate wonderful Keralan food. It was so lovely to see CV and Ammu again and meet all their fam The consecration itself was a great day attended by over four thousand people. I had to make a 2 minute speech on behalf of the university, and afterwards met an Indian clergyman who had been a missionary lecturer at Bishop Tucker back in the 1970s! I was th during the same few days as the terrorist activity in Mumbai, which caused some anxiety for family, but in fact I was very far from it all everything was peaceful where I was. So I do thank God for a great experience and for safety on the trip. Please also pray for CV as begins his demanding new role as one of only five bishops in the St Thomas Church, three of whom are actually retiring this month.

Dan's parents are coming for a visit immediately after Christmas and will be with us for most of the month of January. Please pray for travels and good family times with them.

Thank you for all your prayers, letters and support, all of which we value very much. Once again we wish you a very Happy Christmas

With our love and prayers, from Rosie, Dan, Abigail and Alex.