MARCH 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 MARCH 2009

Sunday March 1st

8.0.am.	**Whitestone**	**Holy Communion**	**Revd Martin Wood**
9.30.am.	Holcombe Burnell	Parish Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
11.0.am.	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
6.0.pm.	Cheriton Bishop	Evensong	Revd Martin Wood

Sunday March 8th

9.30.am.	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30.am.	**Whitestone**	**Parish Communion**	**Revd Tim Gorringe**
11.0.am.	Cheriton Bishop	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	
3.0.pm.	Tedburn St Mary	Evening Prayer	Jocelyn Walmesley White

Sunday March 15th

8.0.am.	Tedburn St Mary	Holy Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
9.30.am.	Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Martin Wood
11.0.am.	**Whitestone**	**Family Service Lay led**	**Revd Wood preach**
3.0.pm.	Pathfinder	Evensong	Revd Martin Wood
6.0.pm.	Holcombe Burnell	Evensong	Peter Chalk

Sunday March 22nd Mothering Sunday

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

Sunday March 29th

10.30.am	**Cheriton Bishop Benefice Communion**		**Revds Gorringe & Wood**
4.0.pm	Tedburn St Mary	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

Every Thursday 10.30.am Pathfinder Holy Communion
Revd Martin Wood

FROM THE RECTOR

A Holy Lent

I find Lent often has a very negative feel. People often remember it in terms of giving things up, like chocolate. Very few people can articulate why they have given up chocolate. Let us look for the positive side rather than the negative. Here are couple of alternative ways someone might view it. "I am collecting money for Water aid by not eating chocolate in Lent so I will able to give £10." or "I want to be healthy for the summer and I have found by giving up chocolate I do not eat so much sugar."

What is Lent? Lent is a countdown of forty days (excluding Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Why are the forty days called Lent? They are called Lent from the Old English word '*lencten or lengthen*' literally meaning the lengthening (of hours of daylight) in the spring. This is something unique to English. What happens in Lent? Christians might take to heart the call to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

At first this season of Lent was observed by those who were preparing for Baptism at Easter and by those who were to be restored to the Church's fellowship. In the course of time the Church came to recognize that, by a careful keeping of these days, all Christians could benefit. There is a sense in which all people can benefit by observing Lent. In some small way our communities would also benefit.

I would want to balance the negative with a positive. Here are some simple suggestions. Stop talking behind someone's back and say something positive to their face. Stop being impatient and give up your place in a queue to someone else. There are lot of ideas in a booklet or webpage *'Love life live Lent'*

1100th Anniversary

In 2009 Churches of all denominations across Devon are celebrating 1100 years of the westward expansion of Christianity from Sherborne to Devon. Many events are organised for the year. The Bishop of Crediton Bob Evens will visit the Deanery from 10th to 14th June.

As part of the Bishop Bob visit there will be a Confirmation Service at 11am on Sunday 14th June. **What is confirmation?** Put very simply it is the next step after baptism when the Bishop lays hands on you and asks God's spirit to work within you.

It is a little complex. Some people are baptised as children. Confirmation is their commitment as a growing Christian. It is recommended that Confirmation candidates be children of at least secondary school age, or adults. Other people have not been baptised and want to make a grown up commitment. In this instance they are baptised and confirmed in the same service. There is a plan to have the baptisms in the sea at a beach. It will certainly make it a unique experience!

If you would like to be confirmed please talk to me or one of the churchwardens before the end of March. My plans are to start preparation after Easter. The preparation will need to be adapted for both age and Christian experience. Until I know what is required I cannot precisely say what needs to be done. The course will be mid April to mid June either fortnightly or weekly.

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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From the Register

Funeral of Walter Eveleigh on 28th February 2009

LEARNING FROM THE BOOK OF JEREMIAH

Lenten Course - Wednesday Nights in March and April

In the weeks leading up to Easter we will be looking together at the Book of Jeremiah to see in what ways it has things to say to the twenty first century.

Bible Studies led by Rev. Prof. Tim Gorringe.

Discover more in the Bible, meet with other people. Everyone welcome

7.30pm 4th March	***Whitestone Village Hall, Whitestone.***
7.30pm 11th March	***Longdown Village Hall, Longdown.***
7.30pm 18th March	***Tedburn Methodist Hall, Tedburn St. Mary***
7.30pm 25th March	***Spalding Hall, Cheriton Bishop.***
7.30pm 1st April	***Pathfinder Church, Pathfinder Village.***

The series of Bible studies we had last autumn was very popular, so hopefully even more of you will join us

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 share C.M.S. with you.

Church Mission Society (C.M.S.) is an Anglican evangelistic mission agency established with the objective of seeing a world transformed by the love of Jesus. With a world-wide canvas, CMS aims to train and help people to live a mission lifestyle in their every-day lives, to equip people for mission service at home and abroad, and to share resources for mission work with other Christian agencies.

CMS was founded in 1799 and sprang directly out of the campaign to abolish slavery. William Wilberforce was its first Vice President. Its founding objectives were (1) abolition of slavery, (2) social reform, and (3) world evangelization.

The background in which it emerged was the spiritual renewal of the time, in which John Wesley was a key player. Whilst he and others left the Church of England to found the Methodist Church, many keen evangelists remained within the Anglican Church, and CMS remains an Anglican organization, working closely with other Christian denominations to avoid unnecessary overlap of effort.

Overseas work started in West Africa in 1804, spreading then to New Zealand and Canada, where CMS now has local headquarters. Next was India, China and Japan. Uk sponsored work is now concentrated in Africa, India, the Middle and Far East. Whilst there will always be a need for Christian teachers and evangelists, CMS also looks for mission-minded people with secular occupations, such as doctors, engineers and agriculturalists, to use their work situations as opportunities to spread the Gospel through their example of Christian living, helping in local churches and encouraging and supporting local leadership.

St. Catherine's has supported CMS financially for very many years.

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.

PATHFINDER VILLAGE CHURCH
A Fund Raising Coffee Morning will be held on **Saturday, 14th March** in Pathfinder Village Hall. Everybody welcomed. Many Items for sale.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
Friday, 6th March at 11.00am in Pathfinder Village Church.

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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 March** in Pathfinder Village Church at 2.30pm. The speaker will be the Revd. Martin Wood 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 meeting of Whitestone WI will take place **Monday March 9th 2009** at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. The speaker for the evening will be Judy Murray and she will be discussing Colour Analysis and Image.
New faces always welcome please come and give the WI a try - if only just the once. You never know you may enjoy it.

WHITESTONE GARDENING CLUB (Sec. Mary Stanbury. Tel: 811532)
The next meeting is on **Monday, 16th March** at 7.30pm in the Billiard Room of the Parish Hall.
Aileen Wills and Anne Davies will tell us their experiences of walking in the Canadian Rockies. Visitors welcome, - £2 per meeting.

PANTOMIME
Forty One Years and still going strong
Our 41st Pantomime "Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood" is one we shall certainly remember for a long time, not just for its fun and excellence, but for SNOW!
One member of the cast who has emigrated to Hatherleigh, arrived at 11.30 on Tuesday morning in order to make sure she was here for the Opening Night---finally got home at midnight on Saturday! But the show went on every performance with full casts and was greatly appreciated by the folks who were brave enough to come. There was plenty of humour supplied by Cecil and Syd (Nikki Coombs and Nigel Bateman), Big John and Little John (James Bryant and Gareth Clatworthy) and Mutch the Miller (Arwin Hoekstra) who had to be initiated in to the absurdities of the English Pantomime. All the teenage leads (Ellen Doggett, Pippa Rutter, Gemma and Katie Prouse) gave excellent performances and everyone was impressed by their confident singing.
Beware gentlemen!! The Dame was desperate for a Man - and the Sheriff was his usual evil self and deserved all the booing he got - even when he needed a doctor! The Babes and the Dog all played their parts very well, especially as two of them were newcomers to the stage. The Juniors all danced enthusiastically and it was amazing to see a Maypole Dance on our small stage.
Congratulations to everyone especially Laurence Blades and Jo Barker who pulled the whole thing together and gave us a pantomime to remember, also to all the helpers, backstage and Front of House (one person had to come by tractor one night). Thanks to all the audiences who struggled to get there - and to get home. We were all very grateful for your support.
A big thank you goes to the army of helpers who turned up unasked on Friday morning to clear the whole car part and entrance to make it safe for cars and pedestrians to get in - and out.

********** WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY! **********

Your luck may be in! Due to a much-regretted resignation there is a wonderful opportunity to join the committee of management of the parish hall in a voluntary role as secretary. There are committee meetings approximately 8 times a year, usually starting at 7pm. The main responsibilities of the secretary are to take the minutes and distribute them and the agenda. Good sense of humour preferred!!! Come and be part of our dynamic and friendly team (and help to preserve an important part of village life..)
For more details, please contact Peter Trowbridge on 01392 811375.

Whitestone Parish Hall Roof Appeal

The roof appeal has raised a net total of £6,525 so far, after allowing for the prizes in the remaining months of the 100 club. This does not include the planned donation by Whitestone Players from the proceeds of the pantomime. Forthcoming events include :

March 11th : Musical evening (see separate notice)
April 25th : Quiz night
May 24th : Cream Tea and Plant Sale in Hall and Community Garden

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

Final call for Subscriptions of £4 for 2009 now due please.

ROYAL OAK, NADDERWATER

Saturday 7th March Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale in aid of St. Catherine's Church -Sellers 10am £3 Buyers 10.30am.

TABLE TENNIS

For further information please contact Rob Prouse on 07720510452.

SHELDON

A great gift to start 2009 - planning consent has been granted for the rebuilding of the Long Barn.

Over recent years we have extensively patched, made-do, and mended the building. We have redecorated and re-furnished, altered and adapted as far as we possible could within the constraints of the existing structure. Like a faded old rug, it retains a certain nostalgic appeal, but there's no getting away from the fact that the building is no longer fit for the purpose of the Mary and Martha ministry (tiny rooms, few bathrooms, poor disabled access down-stairs, etc.)

The wonderful gift is the permission to completely rebuild rather than embark on yet another make-do effort. It makes the construction quicker and cheaper and allows for a much better design for future Long Barn guests. To see the plans, Long Barn blog and FAQs, go to www.sheldon.uk.com

Please pray for the project, and encourage your church to support it too.

EXTRACTS FROM DEVON IN TOUCH FEBRUARY 2009

Helping Devon through the recession

The recession is putting huge pressure on local businesses, people and communities across Devon. As Devon's local Council responsible for over 85% of your services we believe it is essential to use our resources wisely to help the county and its economy to weather the current storm and get in shape for the recovery that will follow.

The County Council has introduced a raft of measures:

- £48million is being invested in local projects across Devon funded by the sale of Exeter airport. This was divided into funds all targeting areas of improvement and has included funding towards the Lynton and Lynmouth Hydro-Electrical scheme, £100,000 towards the redevelopment of Matthew Hall in Topsham and £2.5 million for a new sports hall at Teignmouth Community College.
- A £5 million stimulus package to boost the local economy. The funds will be allocated over three years with £1.7 million proposed for Devon Employment Space Strategy, £1.4 million for Skypark, £700,000 towards ICT Strategy, £450,000 for Renewable Energy for Devon and £750,000 for community infrastructure in coastal towns.
- The launch of a business advice scheme for shop owners, whose businesses provide a partnered post office service, complemented by annual grants of up to £5,000 for up to three years. The grant scheme is thought to be the first of its kind in the country.
- Payment terms to creditors from the industry are being reduced from the standard 30 days, down to 20 days. The council pays out approximately £400 million to suppliers per annum, so reducing their payment terms is expected to help businesses considerably.
- A scheme by the Devon Welfare Rights Unit, funded by Devon County Council to ensure families get the benefits to which they are entitled. Earlier this year, over 500 families secured their full entitlement, totalling more than £2million.

For more information about how the County Council is responding to the recession please www.devon.gov.uk/devonmoney

Walk this way for new foot care service

Research has shown that having poorly looked after feet is a major cause of concern for older people. Devon County Council, Devon Primary Care Trust, and agencies from the voluntary sector have therefore set up foot care services across Devon, but more are needed.

The new foot care services are for older people, who cannot care for, or possibly even reach, their own feet. If they have no relatives or friends nearby or able to help them, their only option is to pay privately for podiatry, which can be too expensive for many people.

Foot care services have been set up in Exeter and Mid Devon (including Crediton, Tiverton and Cullompton) and new schemes are coming online in North Devon (Torridge, Beaworthy and Ilfracombe), East Devon (Ottery St Mary and Axminster), West Devon (Okehampton), South Devon (Dawlish) and South Hams (South Brent).

People in these areas requiring support with their foot care can simply call the services to request appointments. The Exeter service can be contacted on 01392 879009, and the Mid Devon service can be contacted on 01823 681036.

Scamnesty - bin your scam mail

Devon County Council Trading Standards has joined forces with the Office of Fair Trading ('OFT') in a bid to raise awareness of mass marketed scams and to gain an insight as to how people are affected.

As part of the Trading Standards ScamWise initiative, special "Scamnesty" bins will be located in specific libraries in Devon during February. Devon residents are being asked to place their scam mail in the bins, so Trading Standards and the OFT can obtain intelligence which can be used against those who set up these scams.

If you or someone you know has fallen victim to scams and you would like advice and support please call ConsumerDirect on 08454 040506 or go to their website at www.consumerdirect.gov.uk

Looking for a lost world? Try Devon libraries

A new Reading Adventure is being lined up for Devon library lovers with the magical world of dinosaurs waiting to be discovered.

This is the third year that the Reading Adventure has been rolled out across libraries around the country, encouraging readers to all read the same book and take part in a variety of activities around its theme.

Previous years have seen hundreds of people across Devon agreeing to read *Around the World in 80 Days* (2006) and *Small Island* (2007).

MARY'S DAIRY DIARY - FEBRUARY 2009

We've had our cold weather, the first sustained frost we've had for years. Now are we in for a warm wet February, bright cold days swopped for dark damp ones? Everything looks heavy – the fallow does are slower and clumsy, bellies full of kid, cows full of calf, popping out all over the place, soil damp, sprouting leaves halted before by frost, cloud pregnant with rain sailing in over the hills. Primroses are spreading in the hedges, soft and delicate, you can hardly believe they can stand the wind and rain. Finches flock on the corn stubble, taking off in front of me as I walk, only to sit chittering in a tree, and come to land where I'm going, setting out to be disturbed – maybe they like a change of scenery, they've got whole fields to land in and forage from. I wonder how the ground diggers, like badgers, got on when the ground was so hard – people say a good hard winter kills the bugs, but I don't know how some of the bigger animals fare.

CROPS - The cold weather has made the thin crops, sown a little late after last year's harvest, look thinner. Oilseed rape can make a crop with very few plants a square metre, it branches so strongly. We'll watch as this month goes on, maybe we need to stitch in some spring oilseed rape where the deer have hammered it. The wheat plants are just recovering, starting to grow again, after they came out of the frosty time looking shrivelled but clean of mould. Now they'll start growing again, putting on leaf, adding tillers, the sub-plants which will each make a flowering head – we want enough to have a good lot of ears of wheat, but not so many that the plant can't make good fat grains. The cold weather has probably helped get the right number, as the plants won't have too much time before they complete this bit of their growth.

COWS - The cows started to calve at the beginning of February, several a day every day this month. In the wetter, colder times, the cows calve inside, and as soon as possible we get them outside so they can calve as peacefully as possible. The calving cow gets restless, and finds a quiet corner. Her tail head sticks out as the calf moves up the birth canal. You can see their sides moving, and you may get a water bag emerging ahead of a hoof, the first part of the calf to be born. We try to leave them alone, and attend only if things aren't going right. Twins can be tangled up (there's an art to make sure the two hooves you are pulling at belong to the same calf), or a calf coming out head first or head turned back (they can get stuck at the shoulders if they aren't in a good diving position). Mostly the crossbreed cows calve well on their own, and their calves are vigorous. We use smaller bulls on the heifers (first time rounders) that throw little calves. The heifers have to come to the parlour to be milked for the first time, not easy if you are sore, not sure what's happening, and don't know where your calf is. Mostly they trust their herd mates, and us, and they quickly get to appreciate the relief being milked gives.

CALVES - The calves stay with their mothers till we are sure they've had some colostrum, then we take them away, always a heart-rending moment of separation. You can't keep the calves with the cows, they would get too attached – done quickly and kindly, each forms their attachments with their herd mates that give them their security. We build pens for the calves with big straw bales for walls in a barn, which keeps them warm and snug. Once they discover milk comes from the pink teats that stick out from the big tank, and there is enough for everyone to get a full belly, they sit sweet and content in their little groups of ten or so. We plan to keep them inside for just a little longer this year, maybe to 12 weeks old. These spring born calves have had more struggle than we'd like to see in past years, so we are trying out housing them for longer, which cuts across the New Zealand way of turfing them out from the day they are born – time will tell what works best.

CHEESE - The milk for cheese changes suddenly from just the winter milk to this fresh calved milk, out onto the grazed grass as soon as possible for cow health and the best flavour. The milk from grazed grass is also richer in essential fatty acids omega 3 and conjugated linoleic acid. These are said to be very beneficial – we're being told to eat less fat, but it seems like there's some that we can't do without. If they come with great flavour, that's got to be great. The cheese takes on a lovely yellow colour as soon as the cows are outside eating grass, and an extra layer of flavour. The amount of milk rapidly rises, making more work – one vat to two full ones by the end of the month. The work rises directly with the milk, not just making today's milk into cheese, but also handling the last 3 day's cheese in and out of moulds and into the presses, and taking them down to the store, and turning each cheese weekly.

RECIPE - I've been making a lot of sprout soup, to a Jane Grigson recipe – lots of sprouts, potato to balance, about a half in weight to the sprouts, plus an onion. Top up with a good flavoured stock, whizz up with cream (there's often cream left over from some pud that needed it but we didn't use it all), and season with plenty of pepper, sprinkle parsley on at the end if you have it. Serve with triangles of Quickes Traditional Mature Cheddar on toast for a satisfying first course or a light lunch.

Extracts from Minutes of Whitestone Parish Council meeting held at Whitestone Parish Hall on Thursday 12th February 2009 at 7.30pm to be confirmed at the Council meeting on Thursday 12th March 2009

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

Apologies: Councillor R Phillips, District Councillor P Bromell

The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the February Draw for the 100 Club in support of the Parish Hall Roof Appeal was made by Ms Dawn Eckhart. The lucky number was 82 and belongs to Muriel Cheriton.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th January 2009 having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true copy by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

2 School Houses

It was reported that work on the bathroom had now been almost completed and the following accounts were placed before the Council for payment

APB Plastering Services £198.00
All Cure £575.00
Plumer £575.00
1 Premier Plus Direct Cylinder £471.50

It was proposed and seconded that they were passed for payment. All in favour.

Councillor Hanson mentioned that there were some unused bathroom tiles and these will be returned for a refund.

It was noted that there were some odd jobs needing to be done and the sub committee will be meeting next week and arrangements made for these to be completed. Work will then commence on the refitting of the kitchen area.

Parish Hall

Ms Dawn Eckhart of the Community Council of Devon had an introductory meeting with the Councillors regarding the Parish Hall as some parishioners have expressed a preference for refurbishment or rebuild of the Hall instead of repairing the roof. Ms Eckhart gave a very interesting insight into the main sources of funding and talked through what would be involved. She indicated that the Community Council of Devon would be able to give help and advice as any applications for grants for such a scheme would involve making a business plan. The Council will consider the ramifications at a future meeting and any decisions would be made after consultations with parishioners.

As agreed at the January meeting the following estimates for the cutting back of trees and shrubs at the Hall were discussed

£782.00 including VAT
£529.00 including VAT

It was agreed that the quotation of £529 should be accepted.

PLANNING

Appeal Decision by Planning Inspectorate

Little Orchard, Halsfordwood Lane. No further action in respect of this appeal.

Granting of Planning

08/04414/FUL Erection of an industrial building and demolition of two existing buildings (revised scheme) at Cross Park Farm, Heath Cross.

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

08/04336/FUL Detached garage at Newton Orchard, Pound Lane.

Planning Application

09/00365/FUL Erection of single storey outbuilding within rear garden for use as hobbies craft rooms, shed, workshop and storage at Higher Hurston, Nadderwater. Discussed but objections raised regarding over development of site.

09/00237/AGR Building for dry storage for hay, straw and silage at Top Steps Farm, Halsfordwood Lane. Discussed with no objections.

09/00047/AGR Proposed agricultural track at Springdale Farm, Bond House Lane. Discussed but noted that this has already been granted,

FINANCE

Income - Rental School Houses

Expenditure - The following expenditure was proposed and seconded for payment. All in favour.

Clerk's expenses £22.36

Cutting of 2 keys for 2 School Houses £12.00

CORRESPONDENCE

TALC Meeting on 26th March2009 - Councillor Belt to attend

Devon County Council – Information that the Secretary of State for Local Government and Communities has extended the deadline by which the Boundary Committee must provide its advice on local government reorganisation in Devon, Norfolk and Suffolk from February 13th to July 15th 2009. The Boundary Committee will be meeting to consider its position in the light of this decision and more information will be provided as soon as available. Mr Phil Norrey, Chief Executive, states that his initial reading of today's decision is that it almost certainly means the implementation of any eventual unitary recommendations is delayed to April 2011. The County Council elections in June this year continue as planned.

Devon Association of Parish Councils – request for a nomination to attend the Royal Garden Party on 7th July 2009. Councillor Mrs Belt to be nominated.

Devon Association of Parish Councils – request for a nomination for a councillor to serve on the DAPC County Committee. Councillor Mrs Belt to be nominated.

REPORTS

Potholes in Pound Lane, Heath Lane and at Higher Hare
Warning sign at Heath Cross (from Whitestone to Tedburn) hanging off
Visibility regarding wall at Brookside Garage, Five Mile Hill
Large shrub/tree overhanging into road at entrance to Woodhay Lane.

All these matters to be reported appropriately

The meeting closed at 9.45p.m.

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PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

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

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

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.

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

The next meeting on Saturday March 14th. will be a meal to celebrate our 3rd anniversary. The meal is free for members but friends and family are welcome (cost £5 per person) if there is room.
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 one of our 'Bring & Share' food & drink evenings to see if you like it; it's only £2.00 a head.

Future Events:

Monday 27 April	Talk by the Dartmoor National Trust "The Myths and Legends of Dartmoor"('Bring & share' food & drink)
Monday 25 May	Bank Holiday Barbecue
June (date TBA)	Summer event

WHITESTONE CALENDAR
Did you take some good photos during the snowy weather? If you did, don't forget to send them to Jock Kirkpatrick (no. 4 Merrymeet) or email them to him on: kirkpatrick@eclipse.co.uk.
Then what about something typical of March for the next month? Remember we'll choose the best from each month, put your name to it and make them into a calendar for sale in aid of the roof fund for 2010.

Whitestone Walkers March Walk

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

Meeting at the Parish Hall to share cars, we will then drive to the northern end of Dunsford Woods for a walk beside the River Teign to Steps Bridge and return via Cod Wood and Clifford Bridge. This area is well known for wild Daffodils, which should be flowering. Total distance of walk is approximately 5 miles. Good footwear is required as the path will be muddy in places and very stony in others.
For anyone wanting to make their own way to the starting point, we will meet at the Bridleway entrance to Dunsford Wood, on the Boyland Road; Map OL28 Grid Reference 784.892 at 10.00a.m.
There will be an afternoon walk, of approximately 4.5 miles, starting from Drogo Castle. The restaurant at the castle will be open from 11a.m. until 4p.m.

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ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR, BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, MAY4TH
We will be holding the Fair as usual, from 10am to 4pm with a mix of artists and hopefully some new craft workers. Pat Martin and Dr Jane will be running a seed and preserves stall like they did at the Craft Fair in November, and Paul and Ruth Charles will be selling plants as usual.

This year though there'll be a new element,- a competition for parishioners only, to exhibit something they have created or invented at some point in their life which they are pleased with.
Names of exhibitors will not be known by those judging and there will be prizes for the most creative as well as the most carefully crafted. So please have a think about anything you've made or invented in your life in the meantime. You don't have to have spent hours making it,- it could just be an idea you had for doing something different that was original to you.

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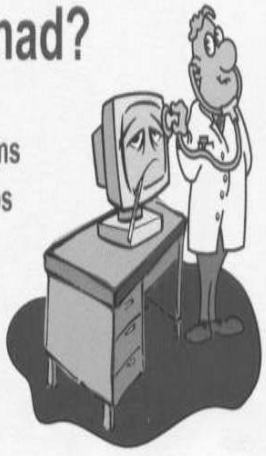

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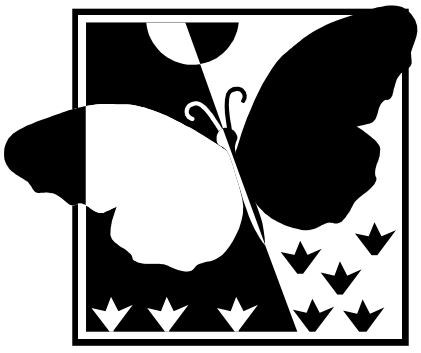

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Tuesday 17th St Patrick's Day– Home cooked Gammon Ham & Colcannon £3.95
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Sunday 22nd Mothering Sunday

Tuesday 31st Quiz Night – 8pm

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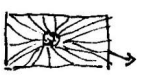

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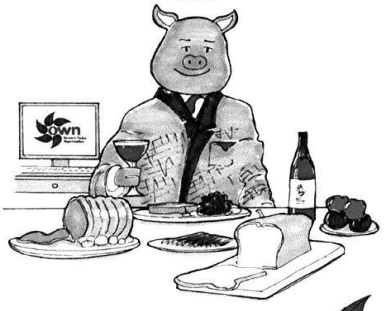

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Daniel and Rosie Button

Prayer Update February 2009

Dear Everyone,

Thank you for all your prayers over the last few weeks, and for all the lovely cards and Christmas letters. Perhaps understandably the PO "crashed" and we received all but five cards well into January – but, we were still very happy to receive them and we displayed them until just a few days ago! We hope you had great celebrations and that the New Year has started well. Our Christmas was extremely hot, but, not so different from yours in other ways. Although, Abigail and Alex really enjoyed getting to know our turkey this year before eating it, as it lived in our shed for three weeks - and even more so watching it being slaughtered. Mum was nowhere to be seen at that point! But, it was delicious.

We have had a month of many visitors... Dan's parents Joan and Allan were with us until the end of January, and we thank God that all went well, and that the visit was enjoyed by all. We had one trip away with them, to Murchison Falls, where we enjoyed game-viewing and beautiful birds. We had a near miss with the car – the radiator fan broke and all the blades snapped off, but we were able to drive gently home with no further problems – we are grateful that it wasn't worse.

We also partially hosted a team from Bristol Diocese, who came to visit their many different links and connecting churches around Uganda. We enjoyed some time with them at the beginning and end of their trip. Immediately after Joan and Allan left, we had a couple from Oxford visiting for a week. Dr Ard Louis is a theoretical physicist and chairman of Christians in Science in the UK, and he had come here as part of a grant to speak to various groups of our students and staff around the subject of Science and Religion. Dan is chairman of the university's "Areopagus Society" which runs discussions and seminars on this area, so he had linked up with Ard because of that. He spoke at one of our twice-weekly services at which about eight hundred students attend, and at several other gatherings, and made a great impact. We are grateful for his ministry to the students through his very lively talks and interactions with students.

We also had visits from two of our former students from other countries, which was really lovely. John Mono was our student here until 2004, and he now teaches in a Bible college in southern Sudan. It was very good to see him again and hear about his work and how he is passing on what he learned here to ordinands and lay readers in Sudan. And our old friend Daniel Lemadada also came on the bus from northern Kenya, where he is leading a large parish and running a training programme for local church leaders. Again it was so encouraging to hear about his work there - and also to hear that he and Susan have had another baby since he returned from his studies in Uganda – ten years on from their last one!

Our theology students returned mid January, and it has been good to see them back again. I met with the female students group for the first time of the term and was so encouraged by all their stories of their times in their home churches and doing their placements. One girl Sarah Kakyo was ordained a deacon on December, and she and several others were so excited by the ministry they were able to do. Betty spoke about how people loved to hear her preach, and Wincrovia talked about her ministry with the young women in a local prison, and Margaret seemed to have grown greatly in confidence in how God can use her in ministry. She told us that on the night before she returned here, the archdeacon she had been working with on placement came to stay at her family home with a group of parishioners, to give her a send-off. During the prayer and praise time, her Dad stood up and confessed to becoming a Christian! – followed by the only one of her brothers who wasn't previously a believer. She was just so excited – she said to us "If only you could have been there, you would have seen..." One other piece of good news from that group – you may remember last year that a small group of them including Lydia had asked for prayer that they would find husbands who would support them in their ministry – well, Lydia got married on 6th December, to Samuel Kwesigwa who was also a student here in her class. So, there is a lot to praise God for. Please keep praying for these women who go through so much yet are truly committed to serving God in ministry.

As well as giving thanks for all of the above, please also pray for our family over the coming weeks, as Dan is going away on sabbatical study leave. He leaves on 9th February, and will be back at the end of April. He was granted a sabbatical by the university having taught and headed up the department for five years. He will be in Boston and then Pittsburgh, USA, working on his PhD. We are very glad that he has this opportunity, but of course slightly daunted by the separation. The UCU community is a close one and I will receive plenty of support and friendship while he is away, but would still covet your prayers, needless to say, especially for Abigail and Alex. Please also pray for the Foundation Studies department, and for Amos especially as he runs things during Dan's absence.

We have a University Mission starting on 16th February for one week. This term's mission, as well as being partly evangelistic, also aims at encouraging and discipling committed Christians into living out their faith either in ministry or as Christians in the workplace – it is called the "Missions and Ministry week." Please pray for the visiting speaker, Bishop Hwa Yung, and that many students' lives would be impacted through his messages.

Thank you for your continuing support and prayers. Once again we wish you all a blessed 2009,

With our love and prayers,

From Rosie, Dan, Abigail and Alex.