DECEMBER 2013 **Price 40p**

ST. CATHERINE, WHITESTONE

with

Pathfinder Village

and

ST. THOMAS, OLDRIDGE

Parish Magazine

St. Catherine's Church, Whitestone 1841
(drawn from Nature and on Stone by W. Spreat)

Rector

Reverend Martin Wood, The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop EX6 6HY 01647 24119

Whitestone and Oldridge Churchwarden

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

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2013

Sunday December 1st

9.00 am	**Whitestone**	**Holy Communion**	**Canon John Tutton**
9.30 am	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
11.00 am	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3.00 pm	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
6.00 pm	Cheriton Bishop	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

Sunday December 8th

9.30 am	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
9.30 am	**Whitestone**	**Parish Communion**	**Revd Tim Gorringe**
11.00 am	Cheriton Bishop	Playgroup Nativity	
3.00 pm	Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	
3.00 pm	Tedburn St Mary	Evening Prayer	Lay led

Sunday December 15th

8.00 am	Tedburn St Mary	Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30 am	Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
3.00 pm	Oldridge	Carol Service	Revd Martin Wood
6.00 pm	Holcombe Burnell	Christingle	Revd Martin Wood

Sunday December 22nd

11.00 am	**Whitestone**	**Carol and Christingle**	**Revd Martin Wood**
3.00 pm	Pathfinder	United Carol Service	
4.00 pm	Tedburn St Mary	Carol Service	Revd Tim Gorringe
6.00 pm	Cheriton Bishop	Carol Service	Revd Martin Wood

Tuesday December 24th **Christmas Eve**

4.00 pm	Tedburn St Mary	Crib Service	Revd Martin Wood
11.00 pm	Tedburn St Mary	MidnightCommunion	Revd Martin Wood
11.15 pm	**Whitestone**	**Midnight Mass**	**Revd Tim Gorringe**

Wednesday December 25th **Christmas Day**

10.00 am	Cheriton Bishop	Christingle & Communion	Revd Tim Gorringe
10.00 am	Holcombe Burnell	Family Communion	Revd Martin Wood

Sunday December 29th

10.30 am	Pathfinder	Team Communion	Revd Martin Wood
4.00 pm	Holcombe Burnell	Carol Service	Revd Martin Wood

Every Thursday

10.30 am	Pathfinder	Holy Communion (BCP)	Revd Martin Wood

FROM THE RECTOR

Tales of two Christmases

The words ‘Bah Humbug’ and ‘Scrooge’ immediately remind us of a famous Christmas story. They come from the Charles Dickens novel ‘A Christmas Carol’. Many of us are aware of the story but may have never actually read the book by Charles Dickens. We have probably seen the film versions or TV drama based on the story. It is almost an annual event to have some new adaptation or a repeat of a favourite version. It has become part of the Christmas television package. Sadly, I remember the Muppet version with most affection! It is interesting that the main character Ebenezer Scrooge has had his surname adopted into our English language and is associated with meanness and a lack of Christmas spirit. The book was written at the height of the industrial revolution and asks profound questions about the plight of the poor and the responsibilities of both society and the wealthy towards them.

There is a parallel idea that there are probably many people who have never read the story of Mary and Joseph in the bible. Yet they already know the story through nativity plays and television dramas. The context of the nativity story is very important; it is at the time of the Roman occupation and the need for a census to ensure that the right taxes are paid to the Romans. The Jewish nation is looking for freedom from occupation and oppression.

Returning to one of the central characters in Dickens story, the lasting legacy of Ebenezer Scrooge appears to be the meanness he characterises. He is remembered most for his poor qualities of over working his employees, their poor working conditions, low pay, his hostility to worthy causes and the scorning of good times. We are given a glimpse that in his youth his affections were scorned and he became bitter and insular. The story was not meant to dwell on his short comings, but rather upon his transformation and redemption. Scrooge should be about turning a negative attitude into a transformed spirit of generosity. Yet the word ‘scrooge’ remains frozen in his past life and not in his liberated life.

I often feel the Christmas story is also locked in the past. It was a good thing that Jesus was born and that he did some good deeds. But like Ebenezer Scrooge the transformation in Jesus and his significance is largely lost and seems more like an idle tale. The Christmas story is about a human beginning but it also has an ending on Good Friday when Jesus dies on a cross. If that really was all there was to it, then it would just be ordinary. But Easter day replaces death with new life and hope. It speaks of God’s love for each one of us. What is really extraordinary is that God choses the humble birth of Jesus to change the world. **So, is the point of Scrooge to warn us about meanness, or that we can be transformed? So, is the point of Christmas about a baby being born, or that God works to forgive and restore us?**

Rev.Martin Wood. The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop EX6 6HY 01647 24119 (Tuesday to Sunday)

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

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS at ST CATHERINE'S

Sunday, December 22nd at 11.00am

Carols and Christingle
Blessing of the Crib
Revd Martin Wood

Tuesday, December 24th at 11.15.pm
Christmas Eve

Midnight Communion
Revd Tim Gorringe

CHRISTMAS at OLDRIDGE

Sunday December 15th at 3.00pm

Carols followed by Mulled Cider
and Mince-pies in the Farmhouse.

(Please note - There will be NO service at St Catherine's that week)

CHRISTMAS at PATHFINDER

Sunday December 29th at 10.30.am

Team Communion
Revd Martin Wood

Also

Wednesday, December 25th at 10.00am
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

CHERITON BISHOP
Christingle & Communion
Revd Tim Gorringe

HOLCOMBE BURNELL
Carols - Revd Martin Wood

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING

This year there will be no need to ask for volunteers to decorate the church for the Christmas services as Paula Cook has very kindly offered to do so in advance of her daughter's wedding on Christmas Eve.

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 since the very first churches. 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 Red Cross Syria Appeal) but every year we have also made gifts out of our general fund to a variety of charities.

The charities we are supporting this year are:

Crosslinks - an international mission agency with local contacts

Church Mission Society - an international mission agency

Children's Society - a UK based Children's charity

Exeter Diocesan Council for Social Aid - gives small grants to those who have been before the Courts but are now wanting to turn their lives around

The Mission to Seafarers - caring for seafarers around the world

Church Army - UK and Ireland evangelistic organisation

Devon Historic Churches - fund for repair and maintenance of churches in Devon

The Leprosy Mission - helps people affected by leprosy to transform their lives

National Churches Trust - dedicated to promoting and supporting church buildings

Practical Action - an international development agency using technology to challenge poverty

Send a Cow - practical farming and support for people in rural Africa

Hospiscare - an Exeter charity that gives high quality care and support to terminally-ill people, free of charge

Exeter Street Pastors - local volunteers who help those who may need assistance during the evening/ night in city centres, preventing more serious problems developing

Barnabas Fund - supports Christians where they are in a minority and suffer discrimination, persecution and oppression because of their faith.

CHRISTINGLE GIVING

There will be a combined Carol and Christingle Service in our Parish Church at 11:00 am on Sunday 22nd December.

Christingle services have raised funds for the Children's Society since 1968 and the proceeds offer practical hope to children living in poverty.

The process is in two stages:

- Collecting tubes are distributed to children who wish to be involved in the event. The tubes are available in the church from early November or can reach you via a phone call to Mary Stanbury on 01392 811532.
- Stage two is when the tubes are brought to the service where they are exchanged for a Christingle. The symbolism of the Christingle highlights the life of Jesus as the Light of the world. So, amid the seasonal rush towards Christmas, there is a moment to focus on those who will not be able to enjoy the usual celebrations unless others provide for them.

Envelopes are also available if others wish to join in our contribution to the Children's Society.

Mary Stanbury

THANK YOU

We would like to thank Dr Jane and the willing helpers for the lovely leaving party. We would also like to say how much we have enjoyed living in Whitestone with 24 years at Way Farm and 25 years at Ramslade Farm. Everyone has been so friendly and we will miss you all. We are moving to Lifton to be near our family.
Best wishes to you all.
Vic and Jean Christopher

TAME OR HUNGRY?

This photograph was taken through a glass window with the deer about six feet away. Leaves must taste good.

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THANKS.....

To the happy band of volunteers who transformed the Billiard Room of the Parish Hall over the weekend of 26/27th October.

Please join us if you can on Dec 14/15th when we hope to do the same for the Green Room.

TEIGN VALLEY/ RURAL REPORT OCTOBER 2013

Between the 01/10/2013 and 31/10/2013 there have been a total of 15 crimes in the Teign Valley and rural villages.

Vehicle offences - 2
Burglary – 1
Criminal damage – 5
Assault – 1
Animal offences / Wildlife offences. – 5
Possession of Drugs – 1

Once again the above figures show a low crime rate covering such a large area.

The police local neighbourhood team have been carrying out a vehicle speed monitoring operation in local areas that including Longdown, Pathfinder village and in Tedburn St Mary. The figures in the area of Longdown were taken between 16/10/2013 – 04/09/2013 on six separate occasions and the results show that, out of approximately 730 vehicles, 564 vehicles were speed compliant (under 30 mph), at the location of Tedburn St Mary near to Pathfinder village, out of 142 vehicles, 117 vehicles were also speed complaint.

The speed concerns in Longdown will now be monitored using a Highways Agency's black box that will record the speed of vehicles over a 7 day period, 24 hours a day. This data will be analysed and considered at a multi-agency meeting where it will be decided if further measures are needed. This way of data collection will provide a more accurate picture of what is occurring as we find drivers often slow down when they see us, in our high-viz jackets, standing by the road side.

In relation to speeding, there have been reports of vehicles at inappropriate speeds through Boyland Land, Dunsford. Although this is road is governed by National Speed limit (60mph), drivers should be aware and consider the type of road and drive accordingly at an appropriate speed.

In the area of Whitestone between 27/10/13 and 28/10/13, a horse was attacked and sustained a cut injury in a 'V' shape. Can local people please report anything that they believe is suspicious. If anyone has any information relating to this please call 101 and quote crime no JC/13/583.

The Neighbourhood Team were very active during the evening of Halloween patrolling the Parishes and did not witness any incidents of concern and had no reports of any anti-social behaviour in the area.

We can be contacted via the central switchboard on 101 or by e-mail on teignbridge@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 30659 Leanne West,
PC 10658 Robert Condy- Young
PC 14939 Alison Hooper

SUSTAINABLE WHITESTONE

We have been given the following tools which we are happy to keep and lend out to anyone who would like to borrow them. All we ask is that they are returned in the same (or better!) condition and that any consumables are replaced.

Arc Welder with welding rods, mask etc	Norman Pook 01647 61389
Angle grinder with 9" diamond cutting blade.	Peter Hanson 811878
SDS Hammer drill with chisels and drill bits	Peter Hanson 811878
Garden shredder	David Oakey 811585
Tile cutter with diamond cutting blade	Peter Hanson 811878

If you have a tool or item of equipment that you would be willing to loan out occasionally in the same way, please give the details to Peter Hanson to be included in the above list.

WHITE VAN FOR SALE - INDICATORS NEVER USED

The incorrect use (or no use at all!) of indicators on a vehicle is common in Exeter and probably everywhere in the UK. Everyday whilst out driving, you can see many drivers do not, or cannot, use their indicators properly. I suspect a lot of drivers get into their little tin box which suddenly becomes "My Territory!" so they conveniently forget that there are also a lot of other people out there in other little tin boxes or on foot. That's why they don't bother with indicators - likewise with speed limits, using the phone, etc.

The requirement is simple. **Indicate in plenty of time if you are changing direction.** Late signals are considered a major threat to motorcyclists who might be attempting to pass a queue of traffic. If going round roundabouts, indicate your exit but not too soon as it may confuse other road users. I've still got to work out why some drivers indicate RIGHT as they approach a roundabout AND leave their **RIGHT** indicator flashing as they exit the roundabout. Is it their way of telling the world that you go clockwise round a roundabout? Finally, remember to check that your indicator has been cancelled.

The debate is out on, "Should I indicate when there's no-one around"? Some feel that indicating when no-one is around helps to breed the habit of indicating when required. Others suggest that you should NOT give signals when no-one is around to see them as this will encourage you to check first to see if anybody is there. It's up to you.

Safe driving and, next month, blocking box-junctions and cyclists - on second thoughts, let's leave it there.

JUST FOR FUN

When you drink vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.
When you drink rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.
When you drink whisky over ice, it can give you heart problems.
When you drink gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.
Apparently, ice is really bad for you.
Warn all your friends.

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THE HEALTH CORNER

Surprisingly, if you're over 60 and want to live a long healthy life, doing gardening or DIY is just as good as going to the gym or even training for a marathon, according to a study of 4,000 sixty year olds in Stockholm.

The study took place over a 12 year period and is reported in the British Journal of Sports Medicine. It suggests that gardening and DIY are as good as exercise because they increase overall energy expenditure. The study went on to explain that "sitting down can disrupt the skeletal muscle's normal hormone production with potential negative effects on other body organs and tissues".

At the start of the study, those with an active daily life were at much less risk from heart attacks - even if they did not exercise. They also had smaller waists, lower levels of potentially harmful blood fats, and lower levels of glucose, insulin and clotting factor levels in men.

If you want to read the whole article and have a computer, go to -
http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/44/12/834.extract

WHITESTONE 100 CLUB - 2013/2014

The first draw for the new 100 club will take place at the December meeting of the Parish Council.

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WHITESTONE BIRDING

Well, what a difference a year makes! I have just looked back on last December's piece and it notes that there was a lack of natural food which was encouraging the birds to feed in the garden. This year there has been an abundance of natural food which we have all benefitted from. I stopped feeding in the garden for a bit, partly to give the areas under the feeders a break and partly because there were plenty of berries and seeds for the birds. In the last couple of weeks I have started feeding again – fat balls, sunflower hearts and peanuts. The birds immediately returned with the most numerous by far being the goldfinches. There have also been blue tits, house sparrows and several coal tits. The peanuts are being visited regularly by at least three great spotted woodpeckers, two of which are definitely this year's young birds. There is also a sparrowhawk regularly hunting the garden – a form of indirect feeding!

You may have noticed several fairly large flocks of birds passing overhead. The most noticeable are woodpigeon as they are quite big. However, there have also been flocks of goldfinches and chaffinches. These birds may be migrating and heading off to France for our winter months. Whilst these birds leave, others are flying in to replace them. There were a group of about 30 redwing in the garden a week or so ago and there have been several groups of fieldfare flying over. Both these species belong to the thrush family. Numbers of starlings are also increasing. Some of these birds are this year's young. You can pick them out on the feeders as they look much browner than and adults. Others will come to Britain from the continent and from Russia.

On the subject of thrushes there are at least one pair of mistle thrush in the churchyard. These bred this year although the magpies were chasing the young. Their presence is often given away initially by their call. They sound like a football rattle. Once you have heard that, it is a matter of working out where the sound is coming from and searching the trees. You are looking for a large song thrush but the black spots are round and show more distinctively on a white belly. In flight they have a white 'armpit'. But beware! So does the fieldfare and they can be confused. As a guideline, the mistle thrush is often only found on its own or in a pair whereas fieldfares often move as a group. If the winter becomes severe, both species are often seen feeding on the ground in groups along with redwing, blackbirds and starling.

Another species that is very vocal at the moment is the tawny owl. These can be heard both evening and early morning. There are at least two calling behind Merrymeet and probably more. These are probably this year's young birds starting to disperse and find their own territories. They make a variety of noises from the well know ones to a long screech similar to a barn owl call.

The hirundines are long gone. That is the swallows, house martins, sand martins and swifts. The table in the next column shows birds seen on morning walks over a short period.

August					September				
20th	22nd	23rd	26th	27th	6th	16th	19th	20th	30th
Swallows									
2	8			1	11	2	1	15	30
Housemartins									
		5	8			150		150+	

Having put it in a table form like this, it is interesting to see how the numbers seen altered. Several people commented on the numbers of house martins present on the 20th September. At least 150 were seen during the day around the Parish Hall. These birds and those on the 16th were probably birds moving south and quite possibly not just local birds. The same applies to the slight increase in the swallow numbers towards the end of the month. Interestingly, it is not known where the house martins go during our winter, apart from 'somewhere' in Africa.

So now we go into the winter months. If the weather predictions are correct and it does get very cold the gardens will not only become busy but also a very important means of survival for the birds. Try to feed at regular times each day. Birds move in regular patterns around different gardens expecting to find available food. They will adapt if you are unable to feed for several days but in bad weather their survival depends on not spending too much time finding food. Keep the feeders clean as well as the ground beneath them and try to ensure that there is water available. Finally, keep any eye out for that unusual bird!!

Happy birding and a Happy Christmas to you all.

Judith Read

MEL STRIDE
MP FOR CENTRAL DEVON

To contact Mel Stride, please write, call or email him at the details below.

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SW1A 0AA

01392 823306

mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk
www.melstridemp.com

For a monthly update on Mel's work in Central Devon and Westminster, sign up to his email bulletin 'SNAPSHOT' via the website.

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WHITESTONE PARISH COUNCIL - NOV 2013

DRAFT Minutes of Whitestone Parish Council meeting held at Whitestone Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th November 2013 to be ratified at Parish Council meeting on 12th December 2013.

Attendance: Chairman – Councillor P Nierop
Councillors Mrs M Belt, Mrs P Fisher, S Heathcote, L Hickman, D Munro, R Phillips, A Reed.
County Councillor J Brook
Mrs P Vaughan, Clerk to the Council
Mr D Friend, Mrs B Bramhall, Mrs L Fairley, Mrs S Greenfield,
For part of the meeting re their planning application – Mr G Radford,
Mr and Mrs Radford-Lewis and representative.
Apologies: Councillor M Quinn,
District Councillor P Bromell.

The Chairman opened the meeting and the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 10th October 2013 having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true copy by the Chairman

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
County Councillor Brook reported on the disruption on the Valley Road with road closure and speed restrictions for some considerable time in order that work can be carried out to repair damage before it degenerates beyond the repair situation. He also again reiterated the service reductions which will be put in place by Devon County Council because of budget cuts which includes ceasing the mobile library service which will affect Whitestone residents. Cllr Hickman raised a query regarding care home facilities and Cllr Brook said that the situation regarding all cuts is still under investigation. He then left to attend another Parish Council meeting.

PLANNING
Planning Applications
13/01686/LBC Replacement windows at Chants Cottage, Heath Cross. The Council examined the application and there were no objections
13/03192/OUT Outline – dwelling for a rural worker at Bickhams Farm Livery. The Council discussed the outline application and there were no objections
13/03197/COU Change of use of stables to additional accommodation and domestic storage ancillary to Nadder Park, Nadderwater. The Council discussed this application which was not supported and it was felt that if granted there should be conditions imposed that it was for family use only and should not be used, let, leased or otherwise disposed of for any other commercial purpose.

Granting of Conditional Planning Permission
13/02739/AGR Barn for hay storage at Woodlands, Halsfordwood Lane
13/02774FUL Erection of detached garden studio/shed at 2 Merrymeet Cottages

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION
Co-option of Councillor to fill the Casual Vacancy
Applications have been received from Mrs B Bramhall and Mrs L Fairley and the members of the public were asked to leave the room in order that Councillors could discuss their applications. The members of the public then rejoined the meeting and a ballot was conducted and as a result Mrs B Bramhall was co-opted as a Parish Councillor and duly signed a Declaration of Office.

Cllr Nierop thanked Mrs Fairley for applying on this occasion and she expressed interest in being considered should another vacancy occur.

Parish Paths noticeboard repair
It was reported that a border has now been placed around the notice.

Report by Asset Management Group
School Houses
The Asset Management Group supplied a report of a meeting with Devon Sales and Lettings regarding issues connected to School Houses

After discussion it was resolved that new tenancy agreements be issued to the tenants as the existing agreements were made with Cooksleys and Devon Sales and Lettings felt that clear relationships and expectations would be supported by an up to date contract.

It was resolved that the Asset Management Group's recommendations to repair the current fireplace at 1 School House be implemented following the chimney sweep report. Cllr Nierop offered to provide an electric heater for use as auxiliary heating until the open fireplace has been repaired.

It was agreed that the handrail on the stairwell at 1 School House should be made secure

It was resolved that the estimate for alteration to window at 1 School Houses (£408 + VAT) and repair to glass on the inner entrance door at 2 School Houses (£42 + VAT) should now be authorised

The installation of extract fan in bathroom and replacing of faulty time switch controlling hot water at 2 School Houses had been arranged by Devon Lettings at a cost of £306.54 (including £51.09 VAT).

Repairs to Store roof
It was reported that following investigations by Cllrs Hickman and Reed repair work has now been completed to the roof on the store used by the Whitestone Players and information has been received that this has proved satisfactory. Cllr Hickman submitted receipts for materials used and requested reimbursement of £22.52. A vote of thanks was expressed for the work which had been done.

The Clerk reported that the noticeboard situated at the Royal Oak Nadderwater is broken away from its posts. Cllr Hickman said he was aware that the landlady at the Royal Oak has moved it. The Asset Group will investigate the repair work necessary.

FINANCE
Draft Budget Review for 2014-2015
Cllr Nierop went through the budget statements which had been distributed to Councillors and gave explanations to the meeting and answered questions. Mrs Greenfield has applied for a grant of £1,000 for the Parish Plan. It was proposed that the rent for the garage and store should be raised from the current nominal £15 to £160 charged in proportion to space occupied by the three organisations using these facilities. It was noted that the Precept will be set in December 2013.

Income
School Houses rents for November £1,425 – Letting Agency fees £136.80 (including £22.80 VAT) = £1,288.20
Rural Aid Grant for Parish Hall roof £1,850.00
Whitestone Baby and Toddler Group £5.00

Expenditure
Electrical work at 2 School Houses £306.54 (incl £51.09 VAT)
DALC Attendance at AGM for Cllrs Nierop and Belt on 12th October £48.00 (incl £8 VAT)
British Legion – Poppy Wreath £20
Renewal of hosting domain for Whitestone Website £36
Whitestone Parish Hall Management Committee (November) £125
Hire of Parish Hall for Parish Plan meeting £7.50
Mr G Dicker grass cutting and grounds maintenance £1,250
Clerk's expenses £21.42
Whitestone Parish Hall Management Committee £2,850
Mr L Hickman £22.52.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Following a request to the owner of Marylands a reply has been received saying that action is being taken to provide some signage.
- Teignbridge District Council have informed that there is a change in property name from White House Bungalow to White Horse House, Tedburn Road, Whitestone.
- Crediton Area History and Museum Society are asking for local history concerning the outbreak of the Great War and a poster giving details is displayed on the Parish Council notice board at the Parish Hall.

MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN

- Cllr Nierop raised concern regarding a tree needing attention in the area by the bus stop and Cllr Phillips said that he thought trees at Crossway Park needed trimming back. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Crumby of Greentrees requesting that he contact Cllr Nierop regarding this.
- Cllr Nierop reported that the replacement deeds and land registry was still ongoing.
- There was some concerns regarding the parking of cars in the Hall car park as people should be aware that there was no insurance cover for any damage.
- Cllr Nierop then spoke at length regarding the need for a working group to review our continued ownership of School Houses, other options available and the implications of any changes, reporting back in the New Year. It was agreed that Cllr Hickman, Cllr Belt and Cllr Bramhall would assist him in this respect.

REPORTS

- Cllr Belt reported that the repairs at the village pump are being completed and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Peter Bartley for his efforts in this regard.
- Cllr Belt reported on having been given a letter regarding the possibility of a Credit Union being set up within Whitestone and this was then passed to Mrs Greenfield as something that might be discussed within the Parish Plan.
- Potholes were reported in Merrymeet (by number 22) and the previously reported one in Hill Lane is leading to subsidence and these will be passed to the relevant department.
- Mud on the road running from a field in Pound Lane is causing concern and will be reported.
- Cllr Munro said that Mr Peter Joll has volunteered to paint the bus stop and the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Joll accepting his offer.
- It was noted that the sign to Whitestone situated in Exeter (by the old Barley Mow) is turned around.
- Cllr Hickman has been approached by residents asking about the possibility of a sign for Nadderwater and the Clerk will investigate.

Cllr Belt gave apologies for the December meeting as she will be in hospital undergoing an operation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Greenfield gave the following report on the Parish Plan Steering Group:- "We have had two committee meetings since the last report and work continues on the full questionnaire. Mrs Margaret Nierop and Councillor Tony Reed have resigned from the Group and we thank both of them for their invaluable contributions since the inception of the Group".

The last date for contributions to the January 2014 Parish Magazine is
Monday 16th December

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2 Merrymeet, Whitestone
kirkpatrick@eclipse.co.uk

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Session dates in
December:

TUESDAYS
3rd, 10th & 17th

Come along and join the fun!!

Whitestone Baby & Toddler Group

Whitestone Parish Hall, Whitestone, Nr. Exeter, DEVON, EX4 2JS

Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00 noon

Providing Fun, Crafts, Games, Stories and Singing and much more for all 0 – 5 year olds (and their parents/grandparents & carers)

Newsletter - December 2013 - **"Tis the season to be merry" (nearly!!)**

The children and babies enjoyed their autumn term and the leaves are rapidly disappearing from the trees and it won't be long before a certain man in a red suit makes his annual appearance!! Towards the end of November we will be making at start on our Christmas with crafts and activities and finalising the Christmas Party!!

Baby & Toddlers Christmas Party 2013
We will be holding the Christmas Party on Tuesday 17th December 2013 between 10:00am and 12:30pm. Party Music, Party Food and Father Christmas, plus a Bouncy Castle. The food list will go up nearer the time. The activities will be suitable for our 1-4 year old children. If you have younger ones they are more than welcome to join in but please look after them, particularly when on the bouncy castle. Father Christmas will hopefully (weather and reindeers dependent) arrive at around 11.45pm. If you would like your child to receive a present then just wrap it up (under the value of £5) and make sure your child's name is clearly marked on it and hand it to a team member preferably by 11:00am on party day.

Volunteers Needed: Whitestone Baby & Toddler Group is volunteer run and as such we rely on the support of our members. No special skills are required and everyone mucks in to help out!! If you would like to get more involved please speak to any team member.

And finally we return to Baby & Toddlers on Tuesday 7th January 2014, therefore from every-one at Whitestone Baby & Toddlers: We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

For More Information please contact us at: **whitestonebabyandtoddlergroup@live.co.uk**

Find Us on Facebook – Whitestone Baby and Toddler Group.

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SarasSchoolPreSchool

PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ALLIANCE

Ofsted Registered

Newsletter – December 2013

Last month, the children learnt all about Guys Fawkes and why we celebrate Bonfire night. They made firework pictures and fireworks. We also learnt all about Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies and the children made poppies and wreathes. We also took part in Children in Need on the 15th November by holding a coffee morning and the children came to pre-school dressed in their onesie's/PJ's. We decorated Pudsey biscuits and cakes with icing and sweets and made Pudsey masks. Thank you to everyone who came and supported us to raise £44 for Children in Need. It was great to see some new faces and due to the success of the open/coffee morning we will be holding more in the future.

This month the children will be busy practising for their Nativity play "Happy Birthday Jesus", which will be performed on the 15th December in the Tedburn Village hall from 11am. We will also be holding our Christmas party on the same day and hopefully weather permitting; we should have a visit from Father Christmas! We are also looking forward to singing some of our songs at the Tremletts coffee morning.

Pre-School will break for Christmas on the 19th December but we will be back on the 7th January 2014 and our new topic work will be based around "Farms".

We currently have spaces for all aged children at pre-school so if you are interested please contact me or pop into any session to see what we have on offer. As well as the funding for the 3/4 years olds we also accept the 2gether funding for eligible 2 year olds.

We still offer our popular drop in sessions on any morning from 10am to 12.30pm for Parents/Carers to come with their children. These sessions are a great introduction for children into pre-school life. A charge of £5 per session is payable. However, if you attend two sessions or more in the same week the subsequent sessions will be half price.

All the Staff and Children of Sara's School would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

COULD THIS HAPPEN ON YOUR TRAVELS?

You arrive at your hotel and check in at the front desk. Typically, when checking in, you give the front desk your credit card (for any charges there may be to your room). You go to your room and settle in. All is good.

The hotel receives a call and the caller asks for (as an example) room 620 - which happens to be your room.

The phone rings in your room. You answer and the person on the other end says the following: "This is the front desk. When checking in, we came across a problem with your credit card information. Please re-read to me your credit card number and verify the last 3 digits of the number at the reverse side of the card."

Since the call seems to come from the front desk, you oblige.

But actually, it is a scam by someone calling from outside the hotel. They have asked for a random room number, then asked you for your credit card information. They sound so professional, that you think you are talking to the front desk.

If you ever encounter this scenario on your travels, tell the caller that you will be down to the front desk to clear up any problems. Then, go to the front desk or call directly and ask if there was a problem.
If there was none, inform the manager of the hotel that someone has tried to scam you of your credit card information, acting like a front desk employee.

There is a UK Code of Practice for hotels that should prevent staff from putting outside calls directly through to rooms. But that is not to say that some staff member might put such a call through due to lack of training, tiredness, etc. Additionally, this Code will certainly not apply to foreign hotels. Be careful.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP?

A small group of us, keen to produce better photographs, spent the morning of November 7th learning more about our cameras with Crediton photographer, Cyril Chudley. In the afternoon, we went to the area around Meldon Quarry to try to apply our learning and for further guidance from Cyril.

Are you interested in photography?
Would you like to improve your photographic technique?
Are you an experienced & expert photographer who would enjoy the opportunity to share your knowledge with fellow enthusiasts?

We are considering the formation of a photography group in Whitestone and would like to know what level of interest there is for this.

Please contact Sandy Oxford on 078 669 20719 if you would like to express an interest.

JUST FOR FUN

Trying to think of somewhere novel to go in 2014 is difficult. I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not.

People keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive I've never been there before!

I may have been in Continent, but I don't remember what country I was in. It's an age thing. They tell me it is very wet and damp there.

FUSED GLASS WORKSHOP

Would you like to try making something in fused glass? Tutor Catherine Packham is coming to Whitestone Parish Hall to teach the technique on the morning of Tuesday 6th February 2014.

The workshop will include an explanation of Kiln Worked Glass, the type of glass which can be used, a demonstation of cutting techniques and how to secure and layer the glass.

Each person would be able to make a keyring or pendant and earring set (a chance to make a very personal Valentine's Day present?).

Places are limited so please register your interest now. Early in January, you will be asked to confirm your booking and pay a £5 deposit. It is hoped that the total fee will not exceed £10 but, of course, that will depend on the numbers attending.

For further information, contact Sandy Oxford on 078 669 20719.

WHITESTONE PLAYERS ARCHIVE

Before she left the village, Pat Martin handed over her collection of programmes, newspaper cutting and photographs in respect of pantomimes produced between 1967 and 2014. Unfortunately, the collection, otherwise complete, is short of two pantomime programmes - that for Cinderella in 1973 and Ali Baba in 1993. It would be good to be able to complete the archive and I would therefore ask anyone, and particularly those listed below (or relatives as appropriate) as being involved with the two productions, to search their records and let me know if they have copies of the programmes. Although it would be nice to have original copies, if they remain precious to you I am quite happy to photocopy.

1973 Cinderella

Les and Gordan Pike
Roy Cheriton
John Clatworthy
Janet and Nichola Hambly
Douglas Obee
Gladys Stanley
David Brewer
Phil Cockram
Pearl Thompson
Ian Parsons
Janet Griffiths
Jenny Christopher
Mervyn Benham
Ann Trump
Linda Gatrell
Jenny Urch
David and Marina Gibson
Janet Richmond
Heather Cox
Alan Tibbitts
Ron Holmes
Julie and Frank Winslade

1993 Ali Baba

Trica, Natasha and Rebecca Millinson
David, Kimberly and James Strawbridge
Robert and Michael Whitmore
John, Caroline and Vicky Rutter
Lisa and Christine Christopher
Eleana, William and Alan Soper
Mark Blaber
Kate Gillard
Roy Cheriton
John Stone
Charlotte and Harriet Scutt
Nicolette Clatworthy
Stuart Taylor
Gordan Rodel
Robin and Judy Lemon
Graham Joll
Anne and Jock Kirkpatrick
Greg Palfrey
Mike, Jane and Cathy Eastman
Charlotte, Elizabeth, Matt and Sally Anne Wood
Ron Christopher and Carolin Eaglen
Rosanna and Felicity Lowless
Alison, Richard and Rosanna Martin
Hazel Palfrey
Louise Taylor
Gene Alford
Leslie Pike
Clare, Peter and Sam Watkins
Rebecca Hurley
Sam Eastman
Lisa and Bryan Durrant
Penny, Emily and David Luther
Linsay Frazer
Paula and Simeon Rodgers
Jenny Hodgins

Finally, can anyone identify the photo below, clearly a panto., but, apparently all children. Who, what and when? Any help please to Derek Fisher 01392 811979.

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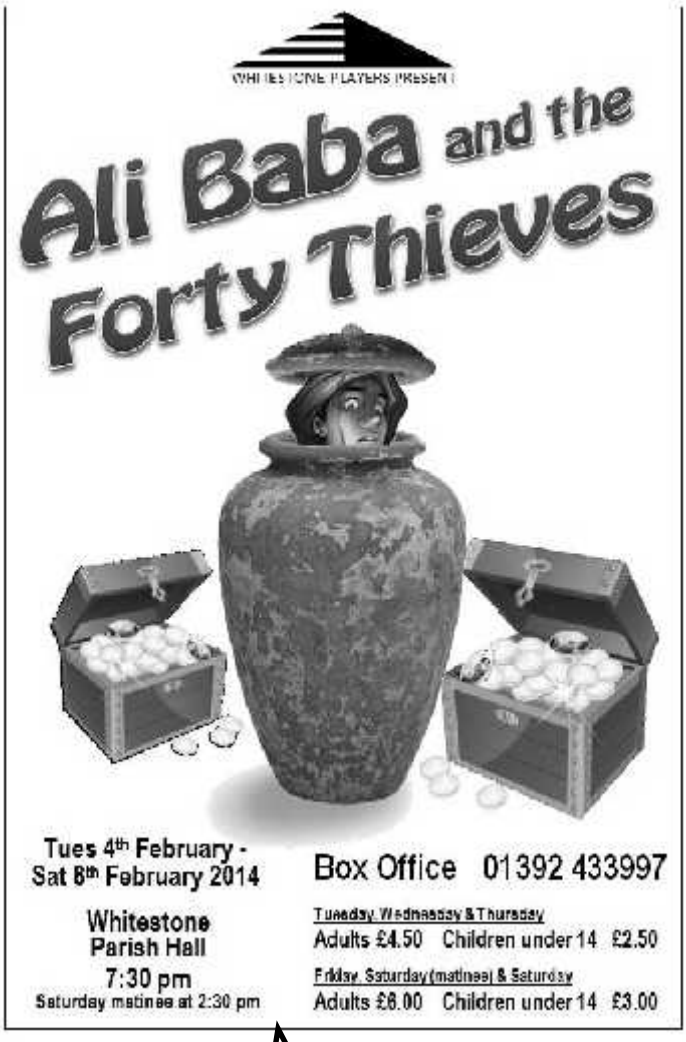
ALI BABA and the FORTY THIEVES

Is there anyone out there who can help us please. We desperately need help with the making of the costumes for the 7 children who are dancing in the pantomime.

If you are able to help please come along to the village hall on a Saturday at 2pm or a Wednesday at 6pm we would be so pleased to see you.
Or telephone Nikki Collins on 811740.

Many thanks, Nikki and Sophie.



Tickets for the pantomime are now on sale.

Reserved seats are available for the Friday and both Saturday performances.
Adults £6 Children £3

Sit where you like for the Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday performances
Adults £4.50 Children £2.50

THE GREEN CORNER

The average UK gas bill last year was £800 but this was for mains gas which is much cheaper than LPG or oil. Out in the countryside, we're paying significantly more so, when we hear about being able to heat a house for £20 a year, that sounds very interesting.

The way it's achieved is by using insulation to what are called "Passive House" standards. As well as super-insulation of walls, floors and ceilings and triple glazing, they are completely draught free and have a ventilation system that extracts heat from the out-going air and transfers it to the incoming fresh air.

Usually they also have good areas of south-facing glass which gain more heat from the sun than they lose over the heating season and, when you add in the heat from occupants, lights and other sources, the houses don't usually need a conventional heating system at all. Although they cost more to build than normal houses, the savings from the reduced energy costs soon pay for the extra construction cost. And also on the plus side, they're very comfortable to live in.

Of course that's not a lot of use to those of us stuck in normal houses but there are things worth considering. Draught proofing is the most cost effective. So, next time it's windy outside, go round your windows and doors and put your cheek up against the edges and you'll soon find where the draughts are. Don't forget things like loft hatches and chimneys as well. If you don't use your chimney, block it up with something you can easily remove but leave evidence that it's there so you don't forget next time you light the fire!

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Ros Hanson
Tel: 01392 811878
email: ros4hanson@gmail.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE

If you're going to be around on New Year's Eve and haven't got anything organised, the Social Club will be hosting a party much like last year. There's no charge, just bring along some food or nibbles to share and whatever you'd like to drink.

We'll all make our own fun so, if you're coming, have a think about what you'd like to do, if anything. If you fancy singing a song, playing something on an instrument, telling a story or a joke or bringing along a game we can play that would be great.

Of course we'll be singing Auld Lang Syne and with a bit of luck some of our local musicians will be playing for us.

Make a date in your diary now!

Longdown's Pantomime for 2014 is

Sleeping Beauty

Friday 24th & Saturday 25th January

Evening performances at 7.30pm.
Saturday matinee at 2pm.

Tickets £4, available on 01392 811315

Poor Melinda, an evil spell cast by the wicked Darkini could ruin her 16th birthday celebrations. 'Who' will help Nanny and Gozunda save the day? Come along for an evening of hilarity and find out.....

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NOVEMBER ON THE FARM

The summer was hot and dry, and the autumn is cooler and wetter – seasons in the right place. That is so reassuring for a farmer – you realize how much we need everything in place. We had the finest harvest of field mushrooms for years, soil warm, good rain. We ate them for almost every meal, even dried them and froze them – I'll report how that works. The hedgerows are still full of fruit – the sign of a warm summer, not a cold winter, we hope.
We have had a battle royal overhead with ravens and rooks scrapping, aerial acrobatics, cawing and croaking. The buzzards joined in, wheeling around and calling. Are they fighting over territory released from the summer birds leaving? Or are they playing in the autumn sun and crisp air? The one solitary fallow buck roaring in the rut was drowned out by the battle. The stalkers are at work, determined to reduce deer numbers.

CROPS - I'm happy to see the stalkers, although seeing men with camouflage and rifles at dawn and dusk is an odd sight. Our crops need relief from deer. The last harvest gave us the lowest yields we've ever had, and lower than our neighbours. We had low populations of wheat and barley from deer damage and weather over winter, and the cold spring meant they delayed tillering, where each plant produces enough plantlets to use the available light. When the weather warmed up, the fewer plants grew more tillers rapidly, and when the dry weather came, the roots, limited by the overwinter wet, couldn't chase the water down fast enough to feed all those ears on the new tillers. Then the deer walked through the crops, feasting on the ears there were. The net result was half a yield. The maize had an excellent yield, except where deer had mown the plants
This season, we've already got good establishment of wheat and barley, that lovely even velvet sheen across the fields that promises yield. Fewer deer would mean that promise would come to sensible sized heaps of grain in the store. We are really pleased with the minimum tillage – fast, less fossil fuels, leaves the soil structure intact. I'm hoping for it to up our organic matter content, doing our bit to take carbon dioxide out of the air – arable farming mostly releases it, unlike grassland farming.

HEIFERS – We are weighing the little ladies, making sure they keep to weight. Some of the older ones, from before we started weighing routinely, are a little underweight, and will not be big enough to calve at two years old. Calve older, and their udders will be fatter and less milky….might explain why bra sizes have gone up in humans. We start serving to calve next August, always a jolly sight, with a gaggle of hot girls with their attention on finding a bull to do the necessary. We brought them inside last month so they don't have to cope with getting in calf and dealing with a feed change at once.

COWS – The autumn calving cows go to bull as well this month; they are milking well, lovely milk for cheesemaking. We've got them in at night to look after them that little bit better. The spring cows are still out day and night, depending on the weather. Enough grass

to keep them out, and they'll stay there; too wet, too much damage to pasture, and we will bring them in. Even a few hours of grazing gives those lovely distinctive grassy flavours. The work we did to get the milk pumping super gentle seems to be working, milk looking just right in the vats, lovely 3 month gradings, I can't wait to taste the cheese at 12 months old.

CHEESE – I love November cheese, still grassy and rich as the spring cows come to the end of lactation and the autumn cows settle into full milk. Milk volumes are good, too, enough and not too much so the team strains to care for each cheese. We are busy sending cheese out for Christmas, too; we are expecting more sales of Extra Mature and Vintage Cheddar, as we can store our naturally matured clothbound cheddar longer than anyone else, giving real depth to the flavour, on top of the luscious richness from the grazing. Many clothbound makers either sell cheese younger or put their cheese into a plastic bag for some of the maturing time, both of which limit the depth of flavour. I'm very proud of our mite-busting system that enables us to keep cheese in great condition, breathing, growing a glorious garden of mould on the rind, and developing unsurpassed complexity. Moving the cheese to clean them also means we can sort our cheese into the different families of flavour, and really learn how each of the 6 starters we use produces subtly different flavours and work out which flavours work best for which customers.
I have the best job in the world, spending my time thinking how to make the most glorious flavours, and what flavour would give the most joy and pleasure where!

SHOP – Remember to order your Christmas presents – we have a selection of baskets on offer, which we can post to your friends and family. Come into the shop to design your own, or order one off our website, www.quickes.co.uk

RECIPE - Hips and haws jelly
I love foraging in the hedgerows to catch the last of the summer's bounty. The bright red of rosehips and hawthorn berries make a wonderful jelly to eat with cheese. Take a bright autumn day (bright is for your joy, not part of the recipe), collect as many hips and haws as you have the patience for (it's fiddly), wash, and simmer till soft with about the same volume of water as fruit. Strain the liquid, and add a pound of sugar to a pint of liquid, and boil till it sets. Put in jam jars and seal. You can further dry the jelly in open baking trays on greaseproof paper in a low oven, or covered with a tea towel and put in a warm place, and cube and roll in sugar to make sweets; both jelly and sweets make lovely presents, which are great to eat with Quickes Traditional Extra Mature or Vintage Cheddar.

CHEESE PAIRING - I met the global cheeserati at Slow Cheese in Bra, Italy in September, the best cheese party on the planet, where cheese lovers from all over Italy, and all over the world, congregate to adore cheese for four days every other year. Jordan Zimmerman, Manager of Education at Murray's in New York, one of the best cheese shops anywhere, said she had been enjoying our cheddar with Whistle Pig Vermont Rye Whiskey aged 10 years. I'd never thought of spirits working with cheese – thanks Jordan for opening up another avenue to explore. Let me know other pairings that work.

Mary Quicke

Kevin Osborne

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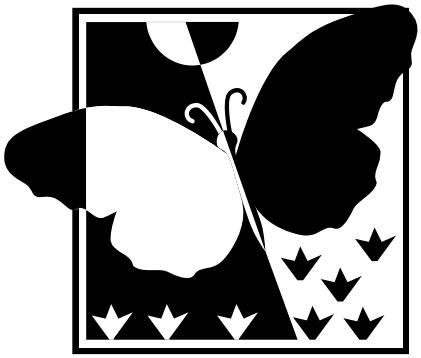

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JUST FOR FUN

"Happiness equals reality minus expectations"

Cuban Airwaves
Whitestone's own Salsa Band

Every month "Cuban Airwaves" meet to play a set playlist in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome, especially any budding acoustic musicians, singers or percussion players.

We play popular Cuban and other Latin music and sheet music is available if required. We meet on a Friday evening at 7:30 pm so please ring if you are interested to find out details of this month's session.

Booked dates until the end of the year are:
20th December (Main Hall)
Please make a note in your diary.
Call Dave Lee on 01392-811579 /dave.lee1071@gmail.
There is a small charge of £1.50 to cover hire of hall.

Dave Lee

FOLK at the OAK

Folk songs and instrumental music
Come and join in - Free entry
Every 3rd Tuesday 8pm

Next meeting: 17th December

Royal Oak Nadderwater

WHITESTONE GARDENING CLUB

VEGETABLES TREES & SHRUBS
ADVICE SEEDS SPEAKERS
GARDEN VISITS

Interested?
Then join our friendly gardening club

We meet every third Monday of the month
at 7:30pm in Whitestone Parish Hall
Contact - Gill Oakey, 811585

JOBS FOR DECEMBER

Christmas is almost here but, if you need holly with berries to decorate the house, I'm afraid the local birds have eaten their fill already!

1. Now is the time to protect vulnerable plants against frost.
2. Wrap up outside taps.
3. There's still time to winter prune.
4. Still spray roses for black spot.
5. Take hardwood cuttings of red white and black currants and gooseberries.
6. Treat timber sheds and fences with preservative.
7. Sow some early lettuce and cabbage-good light, germination around 13°C/ 55°F.
8. After a snowfall, shake off shrubs and small trees to prevent damage.
9. Continue winter digging.
10. Christmas flowering plants, if well rooted, could be brought out into the daylight.

Sunshine will be weak but, on sunny days, it can be pleasant if you are wrapped up well to still enjoy the garden or admire the wonderful views around Whitestone.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS !

GOOD COMPANIONS

Meeting In Pathfinder Village Hall --- 2.30pm
Agenda for December
4th December.....Members Bring and Share Christmas Tea

We ended October by visiting Alaska under the guidance of our speaker Sue Densham, who showed us some wonderful slides. Starting from Vancouver and going cruising on the Fjords, the highlight being getting up close to the Sawyer Glacier and being amongst the beautiful turquoise icebergs, visiting Denali National Park and its crown jewel, Mount McKinley, and seeing and hearing about much of the native culture of Alaska.

Our last speaker of the year was a lovely lady from The Children's Hospice South West who gave us a very moving talk on the wonderful work that they do for children who are very ill. Paula Hullett is based mainly at Little Bridge House, near Barnstaple which opened in 1995. The theme that ran through her talk was rather than being a place of sadness a children's hospice is full of love, caring and laughter.

At the time of reading this epistle, we shall of started our Christmas celebrations with our Christmas dinner at The Fingle Glen Golf Hotel, and will now be looking forward to our Christmas 'Bring and Share' Christmas tea with members of our club providing us with our entertainment.

On behalf of your committee we wish everyone" A Very Happy and Joyous Christmas" and "A Peaceful New Year".

Angela Paddy, Chairman 01647 61934
John Hunt, Secretary 01647 61958

VILLAGE VOICES FOR 2014

The Parish Hall has been booked for the Whitestone choir - Village Voices - for the first quarter of 2014.

January 2nd, 9th, 16th (NOT 23rd, 30th and 6th Feb)
February 13th, 20th, 27th
March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Same times as usual: Thursday at 7.45 - 9.30 pm
Liz Watkins

If you have any comments to make on the content, layout or any other matters concerning this magazine, please contact the Editor: Mrs Jennifer Kellagher, East Rowhorne, Nadderwater, Exeter EX4 2LQ 01392 273864.

We always welcome any suggestions to improve the magazine.

If you wish to place an advertisement, please contact the editor for the current rates.

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TABLE TENNIS

Regular Table Tennis takes place in the Parish Hall on Monday evenings 7:30 to 10 pm except when the Social Club is meeting. This means, for **December**, we will be meeting on the **9th, 23rd** and the **30th.**
Remember that, for Table Tennis, everybody is welcome for an evening's fun, entertainment and fitness workout for only £1.50. Up to four tables available.
Just remember that children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

WHITESTONE WALKERS

Details of the **1st December** walk are yet to be finalised and will appear on the Whitestone website www.whitestone-devon.org.uk under Clubs then Walkers. Meet at 9:30 am at the Parish Hall as usual.

WHITESTONE HANDBELL RINGERS

(for information, contact Mrs Chris Piper 01392 811365)
If anyone would like to join us, we welcome both experienced and learners alike. At present we practice every Wednesday afternoon between 2 and 3 p.m.

WHITESTONE ARTS & CRAFTS MORNING

In the run up to Christmas, the Arts & Crafts mornings are an opportunity to share ideas & techniques for things to make for the Festive Season.
THE Parish Hall Billiard Room is booked from 9:30am to 12:30pm for the following Thursday mornings. The cost is £2 to cover room hire & tea/coffee and biscuits.

21st November 2013	**16th January 2014**
12th December 2013	**6th February 2014**
	27th February 2014

Everyone is welcome so do come and join us.
For more information, contact Sandy Oxford on 078669 20719.

WHITESTONE BABY & TODDLER GROUP

For all children aged 0-8yrs. Tuesday - 10:00am to noon.
A place to play, make friends and have a chat!
£2.00 first child and 50p for each additional child.
To see the full list of activities and fun, please contact us at:
- whitestonebabyandtoddlergroup@live.co.uk
- our Facebook page, or
- our whitestone-devon.org.uk page

Why not pop in to one of our sessions and pick up a leaflet.

VILLAGE VOICES

(Liz Watkins tel.01392 811285
This month, rehearsals and performances are booked for the following :

December 5th & 12th	**Rehearsal 7:45pm**
December 13th	**Performance - St Thomas**
December 16th	**Performance - Parish Hall**

BOOK CLUB

In response to a special request and to fit with the Jane Austin celebrations, we read "Persuasion" for our November meeting. Local author, Lesley Adkins, talked to us about life in England in Jane Austin's time which helped us to put the book into context. At our meeting, we watched the film, "Persuasion" sitting in the comfort of Carole's home!
Our next meeting will be in the Whitestone Parish Hall on Monday **9th December** at 2.00pm. The book to read for that meeting is, "Never Let Me Go" by Kazuo Ishiguro.

WHITESTONE SOCIAL CLUB
(Coordinator Pauline Fisher, tel. 01392 811979)
Forthcoming Events on Monday:
25th Nov "It Shouldn't Happen to a Vicar "
16th Dec Members Free Christmas Buffet
23rd Jan Talks by Members **(**THURSDAY**)**
24th Feb Trekking in Nepal
Our Christmas buffet will take place on Mon 16th Dec. at 7.30 p.m. This will include a glass of mulled wine but then bring your own drinks. The event is free for fully paid up members of Social Club but names of those who wish to attend must be given to Pauline by Mon 25th Nov (next Social Club meeting) at the latest. This is also the deadline for choir members who do not belong to the Social Club. (Cost £3)
After this date others may also be able to attend (subject to numbers) at a cost of £3

All '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. There's also a book swap club. All meetings start at 7:30 pm in the Parish hall.

CHURCH BELL RINGING
We practise most Thursday evenings at St Catherine's Church from 7:30 to 9:00pm.
If you would like to learn, find out more, or are a visiting ringer, we would be very pleased to see you. To confirm that we are practising on a particular Thursday, please telephone James Bryant on 01392 811391.

GARDENING CLUB
(Secretary: Derek Fisher, tel. 01392 811979)
There is no meeting scheduled for December but do ensure you have returned your menu for the post Christmas Dinner at the Travellers Rest in January. Bear in mind that membership subs will fall due again in January/February and should be paid to David Gibson the Treasurer.

PILATES IN THE PARISH HALL
Please join us for Pilates with an expert instructor.
Thursdays 6.45pm
Classes cost £6.50 or £30 for 6

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

SHORT MAT BOWLS
(Contact David Oakey tel. 01392 811585)
Enjoy Short Mat Bowls twice a week in the Parish Hall
Wednesdays 10 am to noon
December 4th, 11th and 18th

Fridays 7:30 to 9:30 pm (but not the 20th Dec as the Hall is booked by Cuban Airwaves)
December 6th, 13th and 27th

Cost is only £1.50 and everything is provided.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The Whitestone Parish Council meeting will be on:
Thursday **12th December** at 7.30pm.
Members of the Public and Press are invited to attend.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY		
Mon	25 November 2013	Social Club - “It Shouldn’t Happen to a Vicar” - Whitestone Parish Hall 7:30 pm
Sun	01 December 2013	Whitestone Walkers - Meet at Parish Hall car park - 09:30 am
Wed	04 December 2013	Pathfinder Good Companions - Members Bring & Share Christmas Tea - Pathfinder Village Hall - 2:30 pm
Mon	09 December 2013	Book Club - Parish Hall - 2.00pm
Thu	12 December 2013	Arts & Crafts Morning - Parish Hall - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Thu	12 December 2013	Parish Council Meeting - Parish Hall - 7:30 pm
Fri	13 December 2013	Village Voices performance - St Thomas
Sat-Sun	14 December 2013 - 15 December 2013	Volunteers required for a TLC weekend for the Green Room
Mon	16 December 2013	Social Club Christmas Buffet with Village Voices - Parish Hall - 7.30pm
Mon	**16 December 2013**	**LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR DECEMBER MAGAZINE**
Tue	17 December 2013	Baby & Toddler Group Christmas Party - Parish Hall - 10am - 12.30pm
Tue	17 December 2013	Folk at the Oak - Royal Oak - 8pm
Fri	20 December 2013	Cuban Airwaves - 7:30 to 9:30 pm
Tue	31 December 2013	New Year’s Eve Party - Parish Hall - 8pm onwards
Thu	16 January 2014	Arts & Crafts Morning - Parish Hall - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Mon	23 January 2014	Social Club - Talks by members - Whitestone Parish Hall 7:30 pm
Tue	06 February 2014	Fused Glass Workshop - Parish Hall - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Tue-Sat	04 February 2014 - 08 February 2014	Ali Baba & the Forty Thieves pantomime - Parish Hall - 7.30pm (matinee on Saturday - 2.30pm)

WEEKLY EVENTS IN DECEMBER		
	Dates	Event
Mon	9th, 23rd, 30th	Table Tennis - Whitestone Parish Hall - 7:30 to 10:00 pm
Tues	3rd, 10th, 17th	Baby & Toddler Group - Whitestone Parish Hall - 10 am to noon
Wed	4th, 11th, 18th	Short Mat Bowls - Whitestone Parish Hall - 10:00 am to noon
Thu	5th, 12th, 19th, 26th	Pilates - Whitestone Parish Hall - 6:45 to 7:45 pm
Thu	5th, 12th	Village Voices - Whitestone Parish Hall - 7:45 to 9:30 pm
Fri	6th, 13th, 27th	Short Mat Bowls - Whitestone Parish Hall - 7:30 to 9:30 pm