

AUGUST 2025

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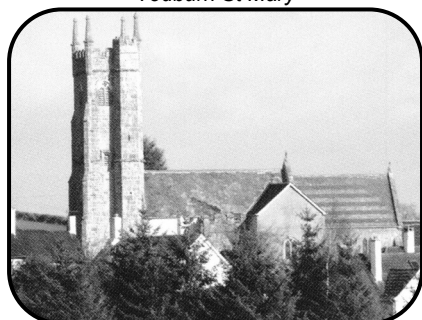
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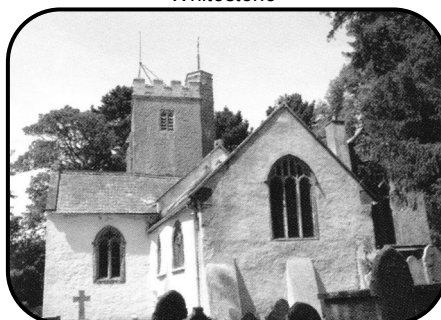
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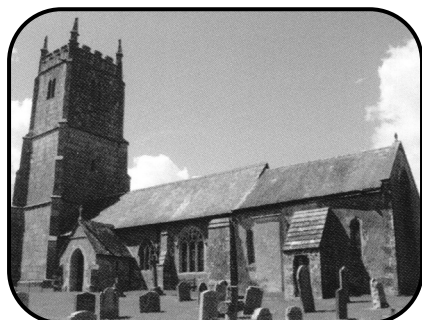
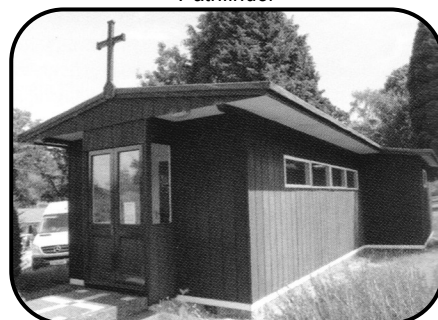
*Tedburn St Mary*



*Whitestone*



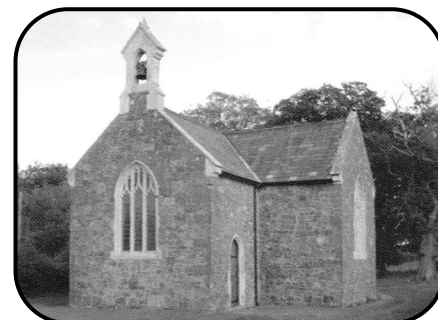
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Cheriton Bishop EX6 6HY 01647 24119

**Whitestone and Oldridge Churchwarden**

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(01392 811492)  
Vicky Bryant 01392 811391

## NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

### SERVICES FOR AUGUST

#### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

9:30 am Holcombe Burnell  
**10:00 am Whitestone**  
11:00 am Tedburn St Mary  
6:00 pm Cheriton Bishop

Holy Communion  
**Morning Prayer**  
Family Service  
Evening Prayer

Revd Martin Wood  
**Lay led**  
Revd Martin Wood  
Revd Martin Wood

#### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August

10:30 am Pathfinder

Holy Communion

Revd Martin Wood

#### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August

**9:30 am Whitestone**  
9:30 am Holcombe Burnell  
11:00 am Cheriton Bishop  
3:00 pm Pathfinder  
6:00 pm Tedburn St Mary

**Parish Communion**  
Holy Communion  
Family Service  
Prayer & Fellowship  
Evening Prayer

**Revd Martin Wood**  
Revd V. Lee  
Revd Martin Wood  
  
Revd Martin Wood

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August

9:30 am Cheriton Bishop  
**11:00 am Whitestone**  
3:00 pm Pathfinder  
6:00 pm Holcombe Burnell

Parish Communion  
**Parish Worship**  
Evening Prayer  
Evening Prayer

Revd Martin Wood  
**Revd Martin Wood**  
Lay led  
Revd Martin Wood

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August

10:30 am Pathfinder

Holy Communion

Revd Martin Wood

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August

9:30 am Cheriton Bishop  
9:30 am Tedburn St Mary  
11:00 am Holcombe Burnell  
3:00 pm Pathfinder  
**6:00 pm Whitestone**

Morning Prayer  
Parish Communion CW  
Family Service  
United Service  
**Evening Prayer**

Lay led  
Revd Martin Wood  
Revd Martin Wood  
  
**Revd Martin Wood**

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August

10:30 am Holcombe Burnell

Team Communion

Revd Martin Wood

## FROM THE RECTOR

### Remembering the end of World War Two

This August sees the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War Two. The Japanese finally surrendered on 14 August 1945, following the dropping of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Soviet declaration of war and the invasion of Manchuria. The next day, Wednesday 15 August 1945, was celebrated as VJ (Victory over Japan) Day. The British and Commonwealth campaign in the Far East was the longest war campaign, fighting raged for three full years. Unlike their comrades fighting in Europe, the British Forces had no leave during which they could go home, even for just a few days. They were there for the duration of the war; their only hope of seeing England was in victory. Life was extremely hard for the Allied Far East Prisoner of War (FEPOW). The prison camps became infamous for the harsh treatment administered to their inmates. Food was strictly rationed – many men had a little rice and boiled river water. All the prisoners suffered with diseases such as malaria, beriberi and dysentery. Despite their weakened state, the men were put to work as forced labour. The 258-mile Thailand-Burma railway construction, also known as the Death Railway, was the most notorious.

It is sobering to think that the atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are estimated to have killed instantly over 140,000 people, and about the same number were injured. However, they had been exposed to very high levels of radiation, and the majority would die from radiation sickness.

The national commemorations will begin at midday on 15 August 2025. A service will be held at the Far East Prisoner of War Memorial Building at the National Memorial Arboretum, and a wreath laying and blessing at the Far East Prisoners of War Grove will follow.

This anniversary is a sombre reminder of the human cost of war and the tragic events that leave deep scars in the memories of the survivors of the war. Despite these harsh realities, people seem very able and willing to take up arms against others and even repeat acts of genocide. Edmund Burke said

*“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”*

At the heart of God is a demonstration of love that stands up against evil and delights in goodness. It relies on people doing good to transform the dark parts of our world. It is goodness that triumphs rather than might, and it relies on many people acting out of love. The events of eighty years ago are a timely reminder of what happens when people make war rather than peace. There is still so much death and destruction in our world. We need to keep looking for the good in people.

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### **Whitestone Fellowship and Prayer Group**

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meeting once a month.

**There is no meeting in August  
And the next meeting is  
Monday 1st September 2025  
Come and Join Us**

7.30 pm to 8.45 pm at  
Gary & Mary's house at  
3 Exe View Cottages  
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07772 393965

### **Bus Service 173**

When road works on the Tedburn side of Heath Cross blocked the Whitestone & Nadderwater road to Exeter, the bus service had to be cancelled (21 - 25 July). In its place, a taxi service was provided at certain times on this route as long as this service was booked the day before.

We are told that more roadworks are planned, this time at the top of Redhills. This will mean that the road to Exeter will be blocked for 3½ months from: **Tuesday 2nd September to Friday 19 December 2025**

We are informed that the same taxi arrangements will be made for those dates. Although this service will be "financially supported by Devon County Council", it is not clear if that means 'free to all', 'free to holders of bus passes' or 'a discounted taxi fare'.

As soon as full details are available, they will appear in this magazine and on the [whitestone-devon.org.uk](http://whitestone-devon.org.uk) website.

### **EXETER FORUM**

Meetings take place in the Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter, EX4 3AT on Wednesday mornings. The talks start at 10:45am, while coffee is available from 10:15am. Full descriptions of talks and speakers appear on the Exeter Forum website [www.exeterforum.org](http://www.exeterforum.org). Visitors are welcome subject to a small charge for each talk.

**Exeter Forum will be taking its Summer Break over the latter part of August.  
The Forum will therefore not be meeting on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> August.  
Meetings will resume on Wednesday 3 September.**

### **\*\*\*\* Change of closing times \*\*\*\***

#### **Best-One Tedburn Village Stores**

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30 years and cover domestic and commercial projects of all sizes.*

The Tedburn St Mary WI meeting on Tuesday 1st July 2025 was held at Tedburn St Mary Village Hall, with 27 WI members and 1 visitor. Following the business section of the meeting, Tedburn St Mary WI enjoyed an excellent presentation delivered by the speaker for the evening, Katie Cross, from the Exeter bakery business Cake or Death. Katie gave fascinating and informative talk about her career and business. Katie, founder of Cake or Death, is based in her bakery in Fore Street, Exeter, and employs a team of local staff. E commerce accounts for most sales, with cakes being ordered online through the Cake or Death website and sent out in their hundreds each week via the mail, but you are very welcome to visit the bakery and buy in person. Katie also sells her cakes at local events, including Exeter Christmas market. Tedburn St Mary WI members were fortunate enough to sample the chocolate brownies Cake or Death produces and declared them to be absolutely delicious. They felt they would be the perfect postal letterbox gift to send to family and friends to celebrate a variety of occasions. A huge thank you to Katie, from Cake or Death, for her excellent presentation, the delicious brownies and her generous raffle prize donations. WI members also took part in the monthly competitions, a raffle, with the prizes donated by Cake or Death and enjoyed tea, coffee and biscuits.



Tedburn St Mary WI members sampling chocolate brownies.

Members of Tedburn St Mary WI continue to participate in a busy programme, recently sharing time together at a fantastic celebratory birthday tea at Fingle Bridge. Thank you to the staff at Fingle Bridge pub for a super afternoon.



Future plans include a visit to Powderham castle and lunch out at a local farm shop. Our meetings are held in Tedburn St Mary Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm. (Our next meeting is in September). As always, we love to meet prospective new members, and you will be warmly welcomed if you would like to attend. There are lots of activities on offer at Tedburn St Mary WI every month, including good speakers, walks, and knitting and craft sessions. Remember that the first meeting attended is free, to enable you to decide whether to join our W.I. Just contact President Jane: Tel: 07814659526 or Secretary Rachel: Tel: 01647 61868

Don't Look Now by Daphne du Maurier (1971)

This is a collection of five stories of suspense, mystery and slow, creeping horror.

In 'Don't Look Now' John and Laura visit Venice to try and escape the pain of their young daughter's tragic death. They meet two sisters, one of whom claims to have second sight, and become caught up in a train of increasingly strange and violent events.

It is disturbing read, and sets the tone for the other stories. It has a strong sense of place, using the architecture and water Venice is famous for.

In 'Not After Midnight', a lonely teacher on holiday in Crete investigates a mysterious American couple - again this transports the reader to a hot summer on the coast and is unsettling and violent.

'A Border Line Case' opens with the harrowing death scene, and a young woman investigates her father's past and his associations with the IRA. The story is set in Ireland but we all felt it was unrealistic.

'The Way of the Cross' was our favourite read, it had humour, great characters, and an interesting plot. Set in Jerusalem, it accurately describes the place and atmosphere - confirmed by one of readers who has visited the same locations.

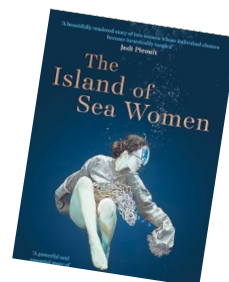
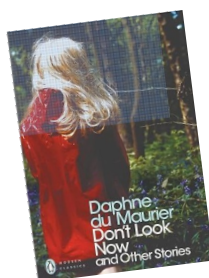
In 'The Breakthrough' a scientist claims to be able to trap the soul at the point of death. We agreed this was a chilling story about scientists crossing an ethical line. Set on the windswept coast of rural Suffolk, it is atmospheric but with an unrealistic plot. A science fiction story that tackles subjects of morality and experimentation and made us reflect on the current AI debates.

We had a lively discussion, with very mixed views. We agreed the writing was good but dated and used terms that would not be used today. Several members did not finish the book as it was too disturbing.

Daphne du Maurier (1907-89) is best known for 'Jamaica Inn (1936), Rebecca (1938), and The Birds (1952), all filmed by Hitchcock. 'Don't Look Now' filmed in 1973 to critical acclaim is available on the BBC i Player.

At our next meeting on August 11th we will review The Island of the Sea Women by Lisa See.

Jane Rose



# Kevin Osborne



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# **Whitestone** GARDEN CLUB by Artie Fishal

## **Garden Jobs for August – Tips for Whitestone Gardeners**

August is a glorious month in the garden—full of colour, buzzing pollinators, ripening fruit, and long, warm evenings to enjoy your hard work. But while it might seem like a time to sit back and relax, there are still plenty of tasks to keep your garden looking its best through late summer and into autumn.

Here are some timely tips tailored for gardens here in Whitestone:

### **Flower Garden**

**Deadhead Regularly:** Keep bedding plants and perennials like cosmos, dahlias, and roses flowering by removing faded blooms.

**Support Tall Plants:** Late-flowering perennials such as asters and heleniums may need staking to protect them from wind or heavy rain.

**Divide Bearded Irises:** If your irises have become crowded, lift and divide them now so they establish before winter.

**Sow Biennials:** Foxgloves, wallflowers, and sweet williams can be sown now for strong flowering next spring.

### **Fruit & Veg Plot**

**Harvest Frequently:** Pick beans, courgettes, cucumbers, and tomatoes regularly to encourage more growth.

**Feed Hungry Crops:** Tomatoes and courgettes benefit from a weekly potash-rich liquid feed.

**Keep Watering:** Especially in dry spells, water crops deeply and early in the day or evening to reduce evaporation.

**Net Autumn Fruit:** Use mesh to protect ripening plums, apples, and pears from birds.

**Plant Winter Brassicas:** Kale, cabbage, and purple sprouting broccoli can still go in the ground.

### **General Maintenance**

**Lawn Care:** Mow regularly, but raise the blade slightly in dry weather. Consider sowing new grass in bare patches later in the month.

**Weed Control:** Don't let annual weeds go to seed—pull them out while still young.

**Hedge Trimming:** Give privet, laurel, and box hedges a final tidy-up before growth slows in autumn.

**Composting:** Turn compost heaps and add grass clippings and veg waste to keep the pile active and healthy.

### **Wildlife Friendly Tips**

**Top Up Bird Baths:** Keep them clean and topped up, especially during hot spells.

**Avoid Over-Tidying:** Leave seed heads and some faded flowers to provide food and shelter for insects and birds.

**Plant Late-Summer Nectar Sources:** Sedum, echinacea, and verbenas are all great for bees and butterflies.

### **Local Tip: Prepare for Autumn**

August is a transition month—start thinking about bulbs for spring (order now!) and plan space for overwintering crops or new shrubs. If you're lucky enough to have a greenhouse, it's also a great time to clean it out ahead of autumn sowing.

Wishing all Whitestone gardeners a productive and peaceful August. May your borders bloom and your courgettes never bolt!

(Generated for WGC using ChatGPT)



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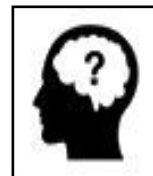
**King William Street, Exeter EX4 6PD**  
**Tel: 01392 272682**

## This month's teaser

### BRAIN TEASER CORNER

What day is encoded in this sequence of dates?

**4th of September**  
**2nd of November**  
**1st of December**  
**6th of February**  
**3rd May**



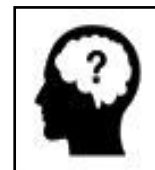
Answer next month

## Last month's teaser

### BRAIN TEASER CORNER

Read this sentence carefully and  
Then read it back. What is the  
missing word?

**WAS IT A \*\*\* OR A CAT I SAW**



Answer is CAR

'WAS IT A CAR OR A CAT I SAW' reads the same  
when read forwards or backwards



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ADVANCE NOTICE! BOOK THE DATE!

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FREE to ALL

Minutes of Parish Council at Whitestone Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th July 2025.

Attendance: Chair – Cllr T Baird  
Councillors: M Belt, M Frankum, C Lang, E Purser,  
P Stott, T Taylor, M Baxendale-Nichols  
Mrs P Vaughan, Clerk to the Council.  
District Councillor J Parrott

Apologies:- District Councillor K Lake,  
County Councillor Connett

**43.** Cllr Baird opened the meeting and the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th June 2025 having been circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chair.

#### **44. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

District Councillor Parrott reported on various matters and stated that there will be a Planning Forum to discuss local government reorganization being held at Tedburn St Mary Village Hall from 6pm to 8pm on 15th July.

#### **45. PLANNING**

**45.1 25/00887/AGR** Agricultural building at at Redwood Grove Whitestone. The Council has discussed and considered this planning application. However, as the Council was not formally asked to provide a response we have not done so. The Council would like to note that there is a lack of information in the current application.

**45.2 25/00932/NPA** Application for a Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q (a) and (c) and paragraph W of the GDPO for change of use of an agricultural building to two dwellings at Merry View Whitestone. The Council discussed and considered this planning application. However as the Council was not formally asked to provide a response we have not done so.

**45.3 95/02040/AMD2** non material amendment to amend the design of the approved extension to No.2.Cleave Cottage to planning permission 95/02040 (2 storey extensions to form additional living accommodation, porches, garages and extra garden) at 2 Cleave Cottage Whitestone.. The Council reviewed this application and noted that there was no requirement for the Council to respond as the application had already been resolved by Teignbridge District Council.

**45.4 24/00503/COND2** Discharge of Condition 5 (Treatment Plan) on Planning Permission 24/00503/FUL for installation of four glamping pods for overnight guest use, associated decking footpaths, parking and turning area, storage hut, secure bicycle storage and recycling/refuse storage and associated works at Oak Tree Farm. The Parish Council discussed and considered this planning application and has noted the update regarding the drainage and have no further comments.

**45.5 25/01044/FUL** Construction of a new farm building and farm access at Rowhorne Farm, Nadderwater. Following discussions and consideration of the planning application at the Whitestone Parish Council meeting, the Council has the following comments. The following changes are proposed:-  
• The inclusion of bat and owl boxes are encouraged to improve the environmental impact of the structure.

• We would like the usage of more environmentally friendly materials such as hempboard are utilised to reduce carbon emissions of the building.

The Council makes an effort to represent the interests of the Parish in this Planning Application response but we encourage members of the community to post individual issues or challenges with this proposed development directly on the planning forum. This document is provided to Teignbridge District Council in accordance with Section 293G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It is for the Teignbridge District Council Planning Officer / Planning Committee and we leave the final decision to Teignbridge District Council.

Considerations made by WPC are provided based on the following information:

- National Planning Policy Framework.
- Local Parish Development Plan and Parish knowledge.
- Planning Material Considerations.
- Non-material Considerations that contribute to Material Considerations.

**Construction Considerations** - While construction disruption is not a material consideration, the proposed building construction will potentially cause environmental damage that should be considered as a part of the whole -life cycle of the building.

- Excavations – Owing to the site position, there is the likelihood for excavations to create a site onto which the structure will be placed. Construction must include adequate cut and fill analysis to prevent export of topsoil.
- Construction Traffic – Issues of usage of local roads must be informed to users of the site during construction.

**Environmental Material Considerations**

- Noise – There are limited noise considerations as a result of this development beyond current noise levels in the site.
- Air Quality – The development is not projected to cause detriment to the air quality of the area.
- Biodiversity Impacts – Included in the application is the proposal for the planting of wild flower meadows, orchards and shrubs. This is will be of benefit to the area and is encouraged by the WPC. Further schemes could include owl and bat boxes.
- Light – The side panels on the structure may cause light pollution. Therefore, information could be provided to the Council on the usage of the site at night and lighting to be installed to minimise light pollution.
- Land Pollution – N/A for this application.
- Materials in Construction – The use of concrete for the side panels is not as environmentally sustainable as the usage of timber. A potential change of the design to minimise concrete usage or include cement substitutes (where possible) is recommended.
- Biodiversity Net Gain – The overall development will not cause significant environmental damage in conclusion.

**Economic Material Considerations**

- Local Business – This application is a proposal to expand an agricultural business and support the rural economy. This will bring an economic benefit to the local area.

**Community Impact Material Considerations**

- Appearance and Design – The proposed barn structure is a traditional agricultural building and is in keeping with surrounding structures and the agricultural character of the area.
- Visual Impact – It should be noted the new building will cause a limited amount of loss of existing farmland as a result. This has been considered in the application and mitigated against. Owing to the position of the site at the top of a hill, this will cause a visual impact.

- Loss of Privacy – The building is unlikely to cause issues of loss of privacy of existing buildings in the area.
- Heritage Assets – There is to be no impact on heritage structures in the Parish as seen in the application.
- Flood Risk / Drainage – Site is not in a flood risk area. The implementation of rain water collection systems in the planning application is to be a positive for preventing run-off issues on the site. This is encouraged by the WPC.
- Highways – The proposed access point to the site will involve a double galvanised steel gate. This is deemed to provide adequate access to the site and is in-keeping with the area.
- Transport – The proposal to link education and tourism to farming will likely generate a small amount of traffic as a result. This can be managed effectively by the applicant and the WPC welcome their appearance at the Parish Council Meetings to discuss their proposal.

#### Site History

- Previous Applications – The application is fairly small compared to the work that has been previously carried out.
- National Planning Policy Framework - The key goal of the National planning policy framework is to achieve 'sustainable development'. This is centered around United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) which is centred around the following three points:
- Economic Sustainability – In general, the proposal supports the existing agricultural economy and is proportional to the existing economy of the area.
  - Social Sustainability – We encourage members of the Parish to submit their responses to all planning applications. The proposed scheme acting to maintain the agricultural character of the area and provide education on rural issues is welcomed by the WPC.
  - Environmental Sustainability – Environmental issues have been highlighted in this response and further mitigations and recommendations are made in the introduction section. However, the WPC appreciates the applicants concern for maintaining the environment.

#### 45.6 Grant of Request for Prior Approval

25/00612/NPA Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q (a) and (b) paragraph W of the GPDO change of use of an agricultural building to one larger dwelling house at Devon View.

### 46. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 46.1 Cleaning of outside toilet at Hall

Cllr Baird reported that Mr Tom Woodley has been taken on a self employed basis to clean the outside toilet (3 visits a week) at a cost of £15.00 per hour commencing at once..

#### 46.2 Improvements at bus stop area

A new noticeboard has been installed at a cost of £780.00. Painting of the area has been arranged.

#### 46.3 Parish Online

Cllr Purser will be updating.

#### 46.4 Potholes & Highways

It was agreed that Cllr Frankum should undertake training regarding potholes within the Parish and parishioners were asked to report any defects directly to Highways using the link on the Parish website. If anybody would like to do this training to assist Cllr Frankum please email the Parish Clerk.

#### 46.5 Planning process

Discussion took place regarding the planning process.

#### 46.6 Crossway Park

Cllr Taylor was thanked for all her help in the organization of the work at the Park. There is some dispute regarding the costing from Sovereign Design Systems which is being investigated. Park users are requested not to have BBQs within the area and signs have been out up. .

#### 46.7 Community Garden

It was decided that improvements would be discussed in the new year and Cllr Belt will investigate the trimming of the walnut tree in this area.

#### 46.8 Reports on School House

Satisfactory reports had been received from the Letting Agents regarding the properties.

### 47. MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIR

Cllr Baird reported that the road from St Peters Mount to the new development just after Barley Lane would be closed from the 2nd September to 10th December to allow installation of services to the site. No bus services will be running but there will be a taxi service provided. More information to follow.

### 48. FINANCE

48.1 Bank balances at Nat West Bank as at 1st July 2025

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Current Account            | £200.00          |
| Business Reserve Account 1 | £21 508.18       |
| Business Reserve Account 2 | <u>£3,537.50</u> |
|                            | £25,245.68       |

#### Income

48.2 2 School Houses rental to 7th July 2025

£1,050.00 - £126.00 (includes £21.00 VAT) = £924.00

48.3 1 School Houses rental to 2nd August

£950.00 - £174 (includes £29 VAT) = £776.00

#### Expenditure

48.4 Sovereign Design and Play Systems Ltd

£7,476.85

48.5 Mr L Blades (Lengthsman £221.40,

Grass cutting £220.00) £441.40

48.6 Clerk's quarterly salary and expenses £464.55

48.7 HM Revenue and Customs

(Clerk's income tax on salary) £101.40

48.8 The Play Inspection Co

(includes £18.05 VAT) £108.30

48.9 Devon Association of Local Councils

(includes £7.00 VAT) £42.00

48.10 Krystal Hosting Ltd (for whitestone-devon

domain) (includes £14.00 VAT) £84.00

48.11 J J Taylor (for work at Playpark) £250.00

48.12 A Charlton (noticeboard at bus shelter) £780.00

### 49. REPORTS

Speeding through Nadderwater was mentioned as there is a 30mph speed limit.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

#### Note

No meeting in August

Next Meeting : 11th September 2025

## WHITESTONE SPORTS & SOCIAL FUN DAY Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025

In the preceding days leading up to the Fun Day, weather forecasts for the day were suggesting heavy rain and possible thunderstorms. Thoughts were of cancellation of all outdoor events and of cooking the barbecue on the gas hob in the Parish Hall kitchen.

But, surprise, surprise, the sun shone and, with the exception of two short showers, all events went as hoped. Turnout of residents and visitors was excellent with the kitchen staff being kept busy serving cream teas, cakes, etc. About a dozen stalls were arranged in the Parish Hall selling cakes, homemade goods, raffle tickets, sweets, goods for charity, tombola, Lucky Wine or Water, Name the Teddy, a bar, a barbecue and others. A lovely free to enter vote could be cast to choose the best 'reduce speed' poster from an excellent selection all designed by children. Entertainment was provided throughout the afternoon by the talented singing duo, 'Country Harmonies'. The outdoor children's races were great fun and the day ended with drawing the raffle prizes and the Great Egg Competition - a smashing time for all.

Thank you to all involved for making it a lovely day. Special thanks to Les & Lesley Hickman for putting up all the Hall bunting and to Freddy Hawkins for allowing overflow parking in his field.



## Sky watching in Whitestone

Situated in Devon within reach of Dartmoor's renowned Dark Sky Reserve, Whitestone benefits from exceptionally low light pollution. On clear nights, especially during moonless periods, you can clearly see the Milky Way, bright constellations such as Lyra and Scorpius, and planets without visual interference.

### Perseid Meteor Shower (Peak: 12–13 August)

This is the highlight of the month. The Perseids, visible from around mid-July to late August, often produce 60–100 meteors per hour at their peak on the night of 12–13 August.

Best observed after midnight when the radiant in Perseus climbs overhead and skies are darkest. Since the Moon is waning crescent or new around that time, conditions in 2025 are particularly favourable.

Head to open fields or elevated lawns away from local streetlights. Whitestone benefits from largely rural skies. Allow your eyes to adapt to darkness for 20–30 minutes (reduce screen use). For meteor watches, lie flat with feet facing south, scanning wide areas of sky rather than focussing on one point.

### Planets, Constellations & Conjunction Events

Saturn rises in the south east shortly after dusk and appears especially bright in early mornings, dominating the eastern sky well after midnight

Jupiter typically follows Saturn by a couple of hours, appearing in the east for early-morning viewing.

On 9 August, look east just after midnight to spot a lovely alignment: Jupiter, a crescent Moon, and the Pleiades star cluster. With binoculars, Uranus is visible near the Moon too.

Other planetary pairings like Mars and Jupiter get very close mid-month, offering great binocular or naked eye views before dawn.

Look south after sunset for Scorpius, with its fiery red star Antares shining bright, and south west for the graceful harp of Lyra.

On the dimmest nights (around the new moon on 23 August), the Milky Way becomes clearly visible as a hazy band stretching overhead.

### In Summary

August in Whitestone, Devon offers premium celestial viewing: from dazzling meteor showers to bright planets and classic constellations framed by truly dark skies. Whether a casual admirer or a dedicated stargazer, this month provides the perfect backdrop for exploring the heavens. Just step outside after dark, look up—and let the skies amaze.

Artie Fishal

## Artificial Intelligence

You may have seen or heard the phrase 'Artificial Intelligence' being mentioned in the press or on radio or television. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the field of computer science focused on creating systems or machines that can perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence.

AI mimics aspects of human cognition such as:

- Learning from experience or data (like how we train a dog)
- Reasoning to solve problems or make decisions
- Understanding language and responding meaningfully
- Perceiving the world through sensors, images, or sound

### Real-World Example

- Voice assistants like Siri or Alexa
- Self-driving cars that navigate roads and traffic
- Companions that can chat, create, and help with tasks
- Medical diagnostics that analyze scans and predict health risks.

AI is kind of like the "brain" inside machines, but instead of neurons, it uses algorithms and data. Its potential is huge but it raises serious ethical questions that must be addressed:

### Key Ethical Issues

- Bias & Fairness  
AI can inherit societal biases from training data, leading to discrimination.
- Privacy  
AI systems often rely on massive data collection, risking personal privacy.
- Accountability  
When AI makes a mistake, it's unclear who is responsible—developer, user, or system?
- Transparency  
Many AI models are "black boxes," making their decisions hard to explain.
- Displacement  
Automation may replace certain jobs, requiring reskilling and new policies.
- Surveillance & Control  
AI-powered monitoring can threaten civil liberties if misused.
- Weaponization  
Autonomous weapons raise concerns about human oversight and global security.

AI's future is dazzling—but only if we steer it wisely. You are free to explore how AI might impact your field or interests or dive deeper into one of these ethical dilemmas.

*Interestingly, as an experiment, both the columns on this page were not written by any individual but were produced in seconds by typing in two statements into a mobile phone or personal computer:*

1. *Star gazing in Whitestone, Devon in August*
2. *Artificial Intelligence*

*The Garden Club entry was also produced in this way.*

## CAN WE HELP YOU?

Do you have a business that could benefit from being advertised more widely?

Whitestone Parish Magazine has a couple of advertising spaces available. Our magazine is delivered monthly to around 220 households locally.

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*Mary Belt*

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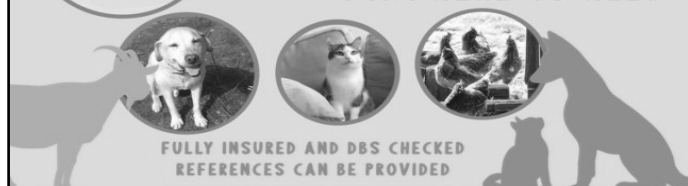
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## WHITESTONE ENTERTAINMENTS

You are invited to an evening with the



## EXMOUTH SHANTY MEN

**Whitestone Parish Hall  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
at 7:30pm (Doors Open 6:45)**

**Bring your own refreshments.**

**Tickets £10**

**[www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments)  
or telephone 0333 666 3366**

Devon's Original Buoy Band first burst onto the folk scene in 2007 and their continually growing reputation has been founded on the authenticity and integrity of their performance.

They have sung at the 2012 Olympics in Weymouth, the Tall Ships Regatta in both Waterford and Falmouth and in numerous Festivals across the UK and Europe. To date they have recorded 6 albums.

The concert at Whitestone Parish Hall will be in two parts: on board the good ship Malarkey as they voyage across the seven seas, and in the Tavern on shore where they reminisce about lassies they have known, adventures past and think longingly of the joys of home.

| DATES FOR YOUR DIARY |        |                                                                                             |     |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Sun                  | 3 Aug  | Whitestone Walkers<br>Meet at the Parish Hall at<br>9:30 am or Haldon Woods at<br>10:15 am. | p19 |
| Wed                  | 6 Aug  | Handbell Ringers<br>Hall Extension<br>14:00 - 16:00                                         | p20 |
| Mon                  | 11 Aug | Book Club<br>Parish Hall<br>2.00 - 4.00 pm                                                  | p7  |
| Sat                  | 16 Aug | Last date for copy for the<br>September magazine                                            | p18 |
| Wed                  | 20 Aug | Handbell Ringers<br>Hall Extension<br>14:00 - 16:00                                         | p19 |
| Thu                  | 21 Aug | Social Club<br>Boat trip from Exmouth to<br>Torbay                                          | p19 |
| Wed                  | 27 Aug | Table Tennis<br>Parish Hall<br>7:00—9:00 pm                                                 | p19 |

## WHITESTONE Parish Pals



**Join** our coffee morning, it's the perfect way to **make** new **friends** and **brighten** your day.

Each Thursday  
at Whitestone  
Parish Hall

**10-12 NOON**

£2 Contribution each meetup

For more information call Beryl on 811713

### JOBS FOR THE PARISH WARDEN

If you notice any damage to Parish property, build up of litter, blocked roadside ditches, or any other matter that would improve the environment and well-being of Parishioners or visitors within the Parish boundaries, please contact the Parish Warden's line manager.

**Cllr Mary Belt** on 01392 811374  
wpccontacthub@gmail.com

**The LAST DATE for contributions to the next Parish Magazine (September 2025) is**

**Saturday 16th August**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

***magazine@superjock.co.uk***

### WEEKLY EVENTS IN AUGUST 2025

| Day | Dates                       | Event                                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Mon | 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th      | Pilates<br>Parish Hall<br>9.30 - 12 noon          |
| Tue | 5th & 19th                  | Baby & Toddlers<br>Parish Hall<br>9.30 - 12 noon  |
| Tue | 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th      | Short Mat Bowls<br>Parish Hall<br>7.30 to 9.30 pm |
| Wed | 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th      | Short Mat Bowls<br>Parish Hall<br>10.00-12 noon   |
| Thu | 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th      | Parish Pals<br>Parish Hall<br>10.00 - 12 noon     |
| Fri | 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th | Short Mat Bowls<br>Parish Hall<br>7.30 to 9.30    |

## **WHITESTONE WALKERS**

### **Next Walk – Sunday August 3th 2025**

Starting from Whitestone Parish Hall car park at 09:30 or Mamhead Woods at 10:15 am.

A circular walk of approximately 4 miles on well maintained paths in the woods at Mamhead with the excellent view of the Exe Estuary and the Mamhead Obelisk. Depending on the weather, good walking footwear should not be essential.

There are good refreshment facilities at the end of the walk for tea/coffee/cakes/etc.

Directions: From Exeter, take the A30 up Telegraph Hill and go past Exeter Racecourse. After about a ½ mile, take the left turning to Mamhead. After about a ½ mile, turn right at the crossroads and look for the free car park on your left. Meet near the 'Teign Bean' refreshments cabin.

Please let us know if you are intending to start at Mamhead Woods either by email or phone 07949447193.

Jock & Sue

## **PILATES AND EXERCISE THERAPY**

Pilates with Caroline Dodd is on Monday evening in the Parish Hall from 6.15 to 7.15 pm. for all levels and abilities. Pilates can help improve posture, reduce pain and help you move more freely to improve your quality of life. £8.00 per class or £30.00 monthly.

Please get in touch with Caroline if you have any questions or to book the Exercise Therapy class.

Mobile 07791105987 or email:

caroline\_dodd@sky.com

## **HANDBELLS**

We currently have a full team of handbell ringers and continue to meet every two to three weeks, normally on a Wednesday afternoon. For more information contact Bryan Durrant on 811328.

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Please contact the Parish Clerk, Pat Vaughan, for the latest information. (01392 411628) or view the Whitestone website [www.whitestone-devon.org.uk](http://www.whitestone-devon.org.uk) There is no meeting in August and the next Council meeting is in the Billiard Room of the Whitestone Parish Hall on Thursday **11<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30pm.

## **SHORT MAT BOWLS**

We normally meet THREE times a week.

Please see table on page 18 for the actual dates.

Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30 pm

Wednesday 10.00 -12 noon

Friday 7.30 - 9.30 pm

The cost is only £2.50 (50p for 16s and under) including tea/coffee and a biscuit.

To protect the green mat (rink), please wear soft shoes with completely flat soles if you have them.

If not, bowling in socks is perfectly OK. Why not come along and have a go. There is no need to have your own bowls as we have plenty of sets available.

## **ARTS AND CRAFTS MORNINGS**

Our next meeting will be later in the year when we resume our autumn and winter sessions.

For further information contact Marian Durrant 01392 811328 or Nikki Phillips 07763 879897

## **SOCIAL CLUB**

(Secretary Bryan Durrant 01392 811328)

### **August Thu 21<sup>st</sup>**

Boat trip from Exmouth to Torbay (choice of Torquay or Brixham). Departs 1000, returns 1730. You will need to make your own way to Exmouth. Cost £14 per person. Names to Bryan.

### **September Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>**

"A year in the life of a Whitestone farmer : a talk and slide show by Phil Mingo.

The Social Club normally meets monthly, mostly in the Parish Hall, and is a great opportunity to meet other people. After the speaker there is normally a social "bring and share" food and drink session.

Annual membership is £16 (which includes an annual dinner). Non-members are most welcome to join us at meetings in the hall (except for the annual dinner) on an occasional basis at a cost of £4.00 per evening. Meetings in the hall normally start at 7:30pm.

## **CHURCH BELL RINGING**

If you are interested in learning how to ring, please contact James Bryant on 01392 811391 for more information. Practice night is usually every Thursday at 7.45 until 9:00 pm.

## **GARDENING CLUB**

The Gardening Club will not be meeting in August - the next meeting is on **Monday September 15th** - 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. All will be welcome.

Contact lesley 07803-173305 for further information

## **BOOK CLUB**

Next meeting is in the Parish Hall at 2:00 pm on Monday, **11<sup>th</sup> August**.

## **TABLE TENNIS**

I have booked up the hall for **August 27th**. If we have 6-10 people keen to play, I could book up for more sessions. We can get the 3rd table fixed if there were more people. Please let me know if interested or pass this on to anybody who might be.

Lucy. [Lucyrockliffe@gmail.com](mailto:Lucyrockliffe@gmail.com) 07948399872

## **WHITESTONE ENTERTAINMENTS**

Exmouth Shanty Men (Devon's original Buoy Band) will be making a welcome return to Whitestone Parish Hall on Saturday **27<sup>th</sup> September** at 19:30. See the full page advert in this magazine on p.xx for further details.

Tickets (£10) are now on sale at:

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments) or telephone 0333 666 3366.

Exmouth Shanty Men (Devon's original Buoy Band) will be making a welcome return to Whitestone Parish Hall on Saturday **27<sup>th</sup> September 2025** at 1930.

See the full page advert in this magazine for further details.

Tickets (£10) are now on sale at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments) or telephone 0333 666 3366.

Advance notice – The Budapest Café Orchestra will be returning to Whitestone on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November **2026**.

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## BOOKING THE PARISH HALL

**The Whitestone Parish Hall is available for bookings.**

**Contact the Booking Clerk, Caroline Honeywill, for the latest information.**

**Tel: 01392 811245 email: [carolinehoneywill@icloud.com](mailto:carolinehoneywill@icloud.com)**

If you have any comments to make on the content, layout or any other matters concerning this magazine, please contact this month's Editor: Vicky Bryant, St Catherine's Cottage, Church Lane, Whitestone, Exeter EX4 2LF [vbryant269@gmail.com](mailto:vbryant269@gmail.com)

We always welcome any suggestions to improve the magazine.

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