

OCTOBER 2025

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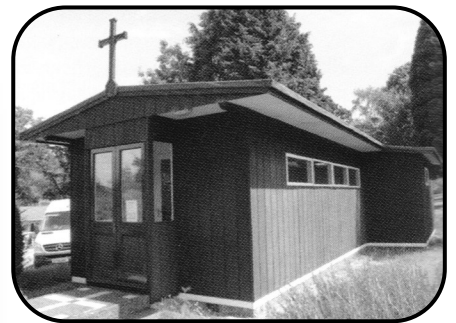
and

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*Parish Magazine*



*Whitestone*



*Pathfinder*



*Oldridge*

**Rector**

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Cheriton Bishop EX6 6HY 01647 24119

**Whitestone and Oldridge Churchwarden**

Dr. Jane Richards, Quarryfield House, Whitestone EX4 2JS  
(01392 811492)

Vicky Bryant 01392 811391

## NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

### SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

10:30 am Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
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#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October

9:30 am Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
<b>10:00 am Whitestone</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Lay led</b>
11:00 am Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
6:00 pm Cheriton Bishop	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October

<b>9:30 am Whitestone</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>	<b>Revd Martin Wood</b>
9:30 am Holcombe Burnell	Morning Prayer	Lay led
11:00 am Cheriton Bishop	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3:00 pm Oldridge	Harvest	Revd Martin Wood
3:00 pm Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	
6:00 pm Tedburn St Mary	Harvest	Revd Martin Wood

#### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

10:30 am Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
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#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October

9:30 am Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Martin Wood
<b>11:00 am Whitestone</b>	<b>Parish Worship</b>	<b>Revd Martin Wood</b>
3:00 pm Pathfinder	Evening Prayer	Lay led
6:00 pm Holcombe Burnell	Evening Prayer	Revd Martin Wood

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October

9:30 am Cheriton Bishop	Morning Prayer	Lay led
9:30 am Tedburn St Mary	Parish Communion CW	Revd P Rapsey
11:00 am Holcombe Burnell	Family Service	Lay led
3:00 pm Pathfinder	United Service	
<b>6:00 pm Whitestone</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>	<b>Lay led</b>

#### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

10:30 am Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
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## FROM THE RECTOR

### Does the darkness dominate the light?

I always feel that we lose daylight in October. The nights are drawing in and the evenings are becoming darker earlier. The clocks go back to Greenwich Mean Time on Sunday, 30th October. We gain an extra hour in bed but lose an hour of daylight in the evening. It is not always noticeable that we have gained an hour of light in the morning. We tend to mourn the loss of the light evenings. Light and darkness are compelling ideas. Darkness is often associated with fear and uncertainty. Light can dispel darkness and any of the fear associated with it. I guess there may be many of us who, as children, preferred to go to sleep with the light on. Now, as adults, the presence of light makes going to sleep more difficult! There is a sense of no longer being afraid of the darkness. We are told in the Psalms that God deals equally well with both light and darkness.

*“Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You.” Psalm 139 verse 12*

I am always reassured to know that God sees darkness as clearly as daylight. Sometimes the cover of darkness is used to hide bad deeds. They may succeed in not being noticed by other people, but we are told God sees them as plainly as day. There is a cautionary note that we sometimes believe we can get away with things when we are plainly and clearly in God’s sight. The themes of light and darkness are used to convey the hope that Jesus brings to the world.

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” John 1 verse 5*

I think it is fair to say that in this earthly life, there will be darkness and evil, but God promises that the light will always overcome it. As we face dark places in our lives, we should not be overwhelmed by them or feel that we are without hope. We are encouraged to look for the light that has the power to dispel the darkness. The Christian faith brings light and hope that can transform even the most desperate situations.

One area where this is acutely felt is in the area of loss and bereavement. The acceptance of heaven and the forgiveness that Jesus brings into the world bring hope. Jesus is the visible sign of life beyond the grave, in an eternal place with God. There will be a ‘Service of Light’ at 6 pm on Sunday, 2nd November, at Tedburn St Mary Parish Church, where we can remember those who have passed away recently. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of someone dear to you. The service reaffirms God’s power over light and darkness, life and death.



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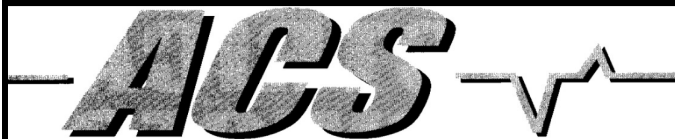


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## Whitestone Fellowship and Prayer Group

Look to grow in prayer and faith  
with local Christians usually  
meeting once a month.

**Next meeting is  
Monday 6th October 2025  
Come and Join Us**

7.30 pm to 8.45 pm at  
Gary & Mary's house at  
3 Exe View Cottages  
Whitestone EX4 2JJ  
07772 393965

Thank you Whitestone

We had a stand at the Whitestone Fun Day on  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July, selling bits and pieces in aid of  
the people of Gaza and Ukraine. Together with  
other donations we've been able to donate £100 to  
the UNICEF Gaza appeal and £50 to the  
International Rescue Committee's Ukraine appeal.

Thank you to everyone who helped us to raise this  
money.

Guy & Sue

## CHURCH HELP REQUIRED

On Friday 17th October from 10am, we plan to do  
some jobs inside and outside the church. We  
would really be grateful for any help so please  
come along and bring some useful tools with you.  
(If anyone has any native hedge saplings to  
donate to plant in between the hedging we  
already have, that would be great.)

The jobs we have identified so far are:

### Inside

- Removing the cobwebs
- Vacuuming all pews and polish
- Cleaning the window sills
- Removing the candle wax from the carpet

### Outside

- Sweeping the paths and ramp area
- Carefully removing the ivy from the walls of the  
church without damaging the plaster work
- Clearing any brambles around the perimeter of  
both church yards
- Generally tidying up

We look forward to seeing you.

## Would you be willing to help as a "Lift Buddy / Community Driver"?

With another significant road closure expected  
in the coming months between Whitestone and  
Exeter we are putting together a list of  
volunteers from the village who could offer  
transport to fellow Parishioners — whether  
that's to surgery, hospital or dental  
appointments, or just for essential trips in the  
community.

During the recent road closure there was  
considerable impact on the bus routes which  
caused significant difficulties and resulted in  
several members of the Parish facing large taxi  
fares or long journeys.

This time we'd like to be ready, and having a  
list of willing helpers will make a real difference.  
So if you regularly make trips from Whitestone  
- on the school run, going to work, nipping to  
the shops - and wouldn't mind giving a lift to  
someone in the community then let us know.  
We don't expect you to be a taxi service and  
wait around, but even if you help with just one  
journey that is a significant saving to someone  
who needs it!

Once we have a list of volunteers the Parish  
Council will set up a private group to share  
details of Parishioners with details of when they  
need a lift.

If you are able to put your name forward,  
please let the Parish Council know.  
Phil.stott@ytko.com  
cldr.tbwpc@gmail.com 07782192306  
Mary Belt 01392 811374

## WHITESTONE FREE LIBRARY

Dear Whitestone readers,

Donations continue to roll in for our village library in the  
green room at the village hall that you can access any  
time the hall is open. We have pretty much filled all our  
shelves, even the new one added a few months ago. I  
will therefore soon be clearing out the books that have  
been there the longest. The shelves may look a bit  
depleted for a while, but it doesn't seem to take long for  
them to fill up.

I have been a bit tardy in labeling all the shelves.  
Basically there's general fiction in alphabetical order  
starting with the book case on the left as you enter  
leading to the next set of shelves and finishing with tall  
book case to the right of the door. Non fiction is on the  
bottom shelves of that book case and thrillers/mysteries/  
crime books are on the tall shelf between the two  
windows

Happy reading

Judy Sanford

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*We are a small specialist family run business based in Devon for over  
30 years and cover domestic and commercial projects of all sizes.*

September 2025 has been a busy month for the members of Tedburn St Mary WI. The month started with a meeting on Tuesday 2nd September, held at Tedburn St Mary Village Hall, with 27 WI members and 1 visitor in attendance.

Following the business section of the meeting, Tedburn St Mary WI enjoyed an excellent presentation delivered by the speaker for the evening, Peter Savage, from the plant nursery Bowdens. Based in Sticklepath, Bowdens specialise in growing Hostas. Peter gave fascinating and informative talk about the history of this versatile plant, its many different varieties and gave expert tips as to how to best care for the Hostas in your garden or plant containers. Bowdens have exhibited their Hosta plant collection at the Chelsea Flower Show for the past 21 years and won their 15th RHS Gold medal this year. They have also supplied Hosta plants to the Royal family. If people wish to find out more about Hostas, they are very welcome to visit the show gardens in Sticklepath. A huge thank you to Peter, from Bowdens, for sharing his extensive knowledge of Hostas with us. WI members also took part in the monthly competitions, a raffle, and enjoyed tea, coffee and biscuits.



As shown in the photograph above, members of Tedburn St Mary WI were also busy providing and managing the tea tent at the Tedburn St Mary Fair, held on the 13th of September. All our customers enjoyed a chance to chat with friends whilst eating the delicious home baked cakes and savoury flans provided by WI members. Filled rolls, pasties and sausage rolls were also available, and hundreds of cups of tea and coffee were served to grateful customers in need of refreshment.

Future plans for Tedburn St Mary WI members include a visit to The Beer Engine in Newton St Cyres to share time together over lunch. Our regular meetings are held in Tedburn St Mary Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm. 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 either Jane or Rachel. Their details are listed below.  
President Jane: Tel: 07814659526 Secretary Rachel: Tel: 01647 61868

Winter Fuel Payment fraud, or Winter Fuel Payment scams, are a type of "Phishing" scam where criminals attempt to trick individuals, particularly older and vulnerable people, into giving up their personal and financial information. The scam typically involves fraudsters sending fake text messages, emails, or making phone calls that claim to be from a government department like the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) or HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC). The messages often state that the recipient needs to "apply" for a Winter Fuel Payment or that they haven't submitted their application. They include a link to a fake government website where the individual is asked to enter personal details, including bank account information, in order to "claim" the payment.

#### Why It's a Scam

The key thing to remember is that in the UK, the Winter Fuel Payment for the vast majority of people is automatically paid to eligible individual. The government will never contact you by text, email, or phone to ask for your bank details or other personal information, in order to "process" your payment.

#### How to Avoid Becoming a Victim

The general public, and especially those who are eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment, can take several steps to protect themselves from these scams:

Be aware of the process. The most important thing to know is that if you are eligible for the payment, it will be sent to you automatically. You do not need to apply or provide your details.

Do not click on links in suspicious messages. If you receive a text or email claiming to be about a Winter Fuel Payment, do not click on any links. These links lead to fraudulent websites designed to steal your information.

Look for red flags. Scammers often create a sense of urgency, using phrases like "act now" or "deadline approaching."

Don't share personal information. Government agencies will not ask for your bank details, PIN, or passwords over the phone, via text, or in an email.

Block and delete the message. If you receive a suspicious text, email, or call, simply block the sender and delete the message.

Tell others. Inform older friends, family members, and neighbours about these scams, as they are often the targets.

#### What to Do If You've Been Targeted

Do not respond to the scam. End all communication with the scammer.

Contact your bank immediately. If you have disclosed any financial information or lost money, call your bank's fraud department right away. In the UK, you can use the 159 hotline to connect directly to your bank's fraud department. (Note – Most but not all telecom providers offer this service).

Report the scam. You can report a suspicious text message by forwarding it for free to 7726. You can send Phishing emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) You can also report scams to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via their website.

# Kevin Osborne



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## HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST PENSION FRAUD?

- Secure your online pension account: the account you use to manage your pension should have a different password to all of your other accounts. Use three random words to create a strong and memorable password, and enable 2-step verification (2SV).
- Ignore unsolicited calls about your pension: cold calling about pensions is illegal and likely a sign of a scam.
- If you're thinking about changing your pension arrangements, you should get financial guidance or advice beforehand.
- Investment opportunities: don't be rushed into making an investment. Remember, legitimate organisations will never pressure you into investing on the spot.

You should treat investment opportunities with extreme caution if there's:

- Pressure to invest (for example: time-limited offers).
- Downplayed risk of losing your money.
- Promised returns that sound too good to be true.

Remember to Stop! Think Fraud and find more information on how to protect yourself from fraud here:

<https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk/>

### What can you do if you have been a victim of pension fraud?

Report pension scams: if you're worried about a potential pension scam or you think you may have been contacted by a criminal, report it to Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling: 0300 123 2040.

If you have made a payment: inform your bank or pension provider as soon as possible, they can help you prevent any further losses. Monitor your bank and pension statements regularly for any unusual activity.

## CHURCH HOUSE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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### EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE

Applications are invited for consideration at the next meeting of the Trustees. The closing date is

#### **SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2025**

The fund is intended to provide financial assistance to residents of the ancient parish of Whitestone who wish to further their education or training for academic or practical purposes. Funding for leisure activities are not eligible for consideration. There is no restriction on the age of applicants who may apply for a grant. Applications are not means tested.

All applications are assessed in confidence by the Trustees with reference to the provisions of the Trust Deed. Successful grant applications range typically from £50 to £500, depending on particular circumstances, and may include grants towards course fees and materials, books, computers, mandatory uniforms, and travel costs. The Trustees are elected representatives from village organisations who meet twice a year, normally in May and November, and notice is given in advance of the meetings in the Parish Magazine.

Applications need to be fully costed with documentary evidence provided and must be accompanied by a completed data protection form which is available on the Whitestone website\*. They should be sent to the Hon Secretary, Sue Llewelyn, Trillow, Halsfordwood Lane, Nadderwater, EX4 2LD or by email: [susan.llewelyn@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:susan.llewelyn@hmc.ox.ac.uk) to arrive by **8th NOVEMBER 2025**

\*[www.whitestone-devon.org.uk/chef.html](http://www.whitestone-devon.org.uk/chef.html)

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## This month's teaser

### BRAIN TEASER CORNER



What **THREE-WORD** saying is hidden within this code?

**3S46T89R5E7N68G46T52H9**

Answer next month

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## Last 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 TODAY. The fourth letter of September is 'T' and so on.



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## COMING SOON - NEW INPOST LOCKER



If you ever send or receive parcels by post after on-line shopping, a new facility will soon be available for the community at Whitestone Parish Hall. **InPost** is a company that provides automated, 24/7 parcel lockers for collecting, sending, and returning parcels. The service uses a digital QR code which is sent to your mobile phone to open a secure locker compartment, and users can track their parcels through the InPost app or website.

The facility works in this way:  
When buying from applicable sellers, you will be asked what delivery address you require. If you wish your goods to be sent to a secure locker at the Parish Hall, you can select this option. The InPost service could be your choice if you think that, when the parcel is expected, you may be away from home with the parcel, possibly, being left unattended on your doorstep. Only you would have access to the secure locker at the Hall. Remember, you still have the choice for delivery. If you wish the goods to be posted to your home address, that's still fine.

Retailers that use InPost include:

Retailers & Brands: ASOS, Zara, H&M, Boohoo, Gymshark, PrettyLittleThing, schuh, New Look, JD Sports, Dorothy Perkins, Karen Millen, and many others on the Inpost website.

Online Marketplaces:

Vinted: You can use InPost for both sending and receiving items.

eBay: InPost offers a cost-effective and convenient way for sellers to ship items.

Supermarkets & Convenience Stores:

Aldi and Lidl: Have partnered with InPost to provide parcel lockers for customer convenience.

Parcel delivery Services:

Yodel

It is expected that the Whitestone InPost lockers should be in place by the end of September. The site that has been chosen is on the east wall of the Parish Hall (i.e. where the wheely bins are currently placed).

More information will be made available when the system is up and running. If you want to know more, the InPost website contains a lot more information.

<https://inpost.co.uk/>



Autumn has arrived with a bang. As I write, we have high winds over 50mph and sudden downpours of rain. This season is when our Rangers and Garden team begin to undertake annual tree checks across our sites. We look out for any signs of canopy thinning and any fungal growth on or around trees, which may indicate a potential health problem such as internal trunk or root rot. We may need to remove affected trees if they pose a hazard to people, buildings, roads and footpaths.

In addition to the annual tree surveys, our post storm checks will become a routine feature again as we approach the winter with the likelihood of unsettled, windy weather. We may increasingly see otherwise healthy trees drop limbs or being uprooted in storms as our trees are experiencing increased seasonal stresses due to the effects of prolonged drought, followed by lots of rain, much like we are seeing so far this year. If you see any of our team out and about gazing up at the trees, hopefully this gives you an insight in to what they are doing.

In between the feisty weather, we will of course see glorious autumn colour and it is a great time of year to get out for a walk. One of the most spectacular places is Lydford Gorge, with its mosses, lichens and tumbling waterfall; or the grounds and estate at Castle Drogo with its glorious beech trees. If you are walking along the river, you may even be lucky enough to catch sight of a leaping salmon. Please do check our website or social media pages for any unexpected closures as we always pop a notice up if we have to close due to high winds.

Work is also underway preparing for a very 70s Christmas at Castle Drogo, as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations since the National trust opened Drogo to the public. We would love to hear your 70s Christmas memories, so please do drop me a line with the things that you feel sum up 70s Christmas perfectly. For me, as a child in the 70s, my memories are a house filled with bright colours (so much tinsel!), playing games such as Twister, singing cheesy Christmas songs by Wizzard and Boney M, and my sister and I 'performing' a play that I had made up. Weren't my parents lucky to be so well entertained!

The gardens and visitor centre will be open all through November and December (closed for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day). The Castle will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday and decorated for Christmas from Friday 28 November. You will probably find me dancing to some 70s Christmas songs in the Service Corridor, so please come and join me for a bop.

Best wishes all,

**Paula**

Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor  
07826 945107, [paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES - 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

Minutes of Parish Council at Whitestone Parish Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

Attendance: Chair – Cllr T Baird  
Councillors M Belt, M Frankum, P Stott  
Mrs P Vaughan, Clerk to the Council.  
County Councillor A Connett (left at 8pm)  
District Councillor J Parrott  
Mr T Tume (left at 9pm)

Apologies:- Councillors C Lang, E Purser, T Taylor, M Baxendale-Nichols.

### Declaration of Interests

Councillor Frankum declared an interest in planning application for Pound Lane.

**60.** Cllr Baird opened the meeting and the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> July and 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025 having been circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chair with some amendments to the minutes for 14<sup>th</sup> August..

### 61. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR / DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

61.1 County Councillor Connett thanks all those concerned regarding the proposed road closure.

61.2 District Councillor Parrott spoke regarding re-organisation within Teignbridge District Council and also spoke on the Community Funding which is available.

### 62. MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIR

Planning proposals: We previously voted to keep our planning responses short and concise. At the moment, I feel we're not doing this consistently. Some applications are receiving very detailed responses while others are much briefer, and when these appear in the Parish magazine and the minutes, it could give the impression that we are biased towards certain applications. From now on, we need to respect the vote that took place and provide short, concise replies for planning responses, as was originally agreed.

Meeting conduct: I'd like to ask that we show a little more courtesy to each other during discussions. That means avoiding side conversations, raising hands if we want to speak, and trying not to talk over one another. I will do my best as Chair to recognise who has their hand up and to make sure everyone has a fair chance to contribute.

Voting and agenda items: We must ensure that decisions are only made on items that are properly listed on the agenda. If something isn't on the agenda, then we should note it for the following month. This way, all decisions are transparent and properly recorded.

Community offers of help: Occasionally we receive offers of help from the Parish to maintain various community assets in-between meetings. Although

this is always welcome, and a kind offer to make, it has been discussed and decided that we need to gain approval from the Council before any major maintenance projects are undertaken. Some assets hold emotional value to different Parishioners and we must ensure that everyone is given the chance to be consulted before making any changes to our community.

**63. PLANNING** - Applications can be viewed on line by going into the public access system at Teignbridge Planning following the directions giving the application reference. The following applications having been received from Teignbridge District Council with a request for comments were examined and responses will be sent which can be viewed on Teignbridge District Council Planning site.

63.1 25/01134/FUL Construction of domestic garage and home office to be used with the main house at Glebe Farm  
Whitestone Parish Council has discussed and considered this planning application. We have no concerns regarding the construction or final development. We did note that the biodiversity metric needs to be re-run following feedback from the Biodiversity Officer.

63.2 25/00887/AGRFDR Agricultural building on land at 28716693148 Pound Lane.  
Whitestone Parish Council has discussed and considered this planning application. We have no concerns regarding the construction or final development.

### 64. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

64.1 Poster for Speed awareness competition  
These had now been printed at a cost of £212.00 and discussion took place regarding the siting throughout the parish and Cllr Frankum undertook the distribution.

64.2 Parish Online  
To be placed on October agenda for an update from Cllr Purser.

64.3 Crossway Park  
It was reported that some trees had been removed and there had been an offer from a parishioner to remove the remaining stumps for free and this is gratefully accepted.

64.3 Community Garden  
To be discussed early next year once funding for the year has been determined..

### 65. FINANCE

#### Income

65.1 1 School Houses rental to 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
£950.00 - £114.00 (inc. £19.00 VAT) = £836.00

65.2 2 School Houses rental to 7<sup>th</sup> October  
£1,050.00 - £126.00 (inc. £21.00 VAT) = £924.00

#### Expenditure

The following expenditure was proposed and

seconded for payment. All in favour and the cheques were signed by Councillors Baird and Belt.

65.3 Devon County Council (Legal costs re- Lower Hare Farm) – cheque no 821	
	£5,000.00
65.4 L Blades (Lengthsman) cheque no 822	
	£231.60
65.5 Sovereign Design Play Systems (includes £11.11 VAT) cheque no 823	£66.68
65.6 Clerk's salary and expenses cheque no 824	£435.44
65.7 HM Revenue and Customs (Clerk's income tax on salary) cheque no 825	£101.40
65.8 The Menu Monkey (posters for speed signs) cheque no 826	£212.00

## 66. REPORTS

66.1 Cllr Belt requested that land owners now cut back hedges within the Parish.

66.2 Cllr Belt said that some parishioners had fed back to her that "they wouldn't recognize the Parish Councillors in person" and it was suggested that photos of the Councillors be added to the Parish Magazine or noticeboard. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

66.3 Cllr Stott suggested a community driver scheme could be arranged for future road closures. Details of how to become a travel buddy will be on Facebook, website and magazine.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

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The children's 'SPEED AWARENESS' signs have now been installed throughout Whitestone. We are hoping that they have the desired effect



## WHITESTONE PARISH MEETING SUMMARY OF THE EXETER CITY UNITARY BID PRESENTATION BY PHIL BIALYK

Residents of Whitestone came together at the Parish Hall on Thursday the 11th of September to hear from Councillor Phil Bialyk of Exeter City Council who gave a detailed presentation on the Exeter City Unitary Bid.

The meeting was very well attended with many residents were eager to understand the proposal and its implications for Whitestone. Cllr Bialyk was warmly welcomed and delivered a very detailed presentation, though time ran short leaving limited opportunity for questions and further discussion.

In summary, the Exeter City Unitary Bid proposes expanding its geographical boundary to incorporate 49 adjacent parishes, villages and towns with Exeter, including Whitestone, Tedburn, Cheriton Bishop and Crediton to name a few, which would be incorporated into a Single Unitary Authority aligned with Exeter City (around 256,000 - 294,000 residents).

The Exeter bid focuses on growth and employment for our young people. The suggested benefits include closer integration in areas such as planning, transport, health and education to deliver our local services. Under this proposal Whitestone would leave the dissolved Teignbridge District and fall under the governance of Exeter.

An alternative proposal from Teignbridge suggests merging Teignbridge with South Hams, West Devon areas and Torbay to form a very much larger South Devon Unitary Authority. This proposal is fairly bare bones with, so far, little information provided as to how Whitestone would be affected.

This raises the question of whether Whitestone's needs would be better served by Exeter where specific agreements and protections might be negotiated at the outset to maintain our distinct rural identity. Alternatively under the Teignbridge plan we would become part of a very much larger organisation with Teignbridge and Torbay where our influence could be very much more limited and diluted.

It is important to note that these changes are part of Central government's Local Government Reorganisation, (LGR). The process will go ahead no matter what, the final decision rests with Central Government and they will consider which plans are logical and workable. There will be no public vote on how that decision is made.

Residents still have the opportunity to make their views known for the Exeter City Bid and their consultation survey can be found at

<https://exeter.gov.uk/lgr>  
which closes on the 26th of September.

Local voices are important to ensure Whitestone's rural identity and services are protected.

Tanya Miles

Note from the Editor: Thanks to Tanya for an excellent summary. We look forward to receiving information of the proposed alternative of a Teignbridge plan with South Hams, West Devon areas and Torbay.

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

**Best-One Tedburn Village Stores**

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8:00AM – 6:30PM Sundays and Bank Holidays

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**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.

Date	Speaker	Title
Wednesday 1 October 2025	Lottie Dale	<b>Treading the Wards</b> Lottie is well known for her humorous talks about her life in Nursing. From Carry on Nurse to Oooh Matron, you'll hear about her experiences and adventures in the early 1970s at Bart's Hospital in London. Lottie has had a varied career with both two-legged and four-legged patients and also enjoys skydiving!
Wednesday 8 October 2025	Ben Lowings	<b>The traditional sailing brig: its continuing relevance as 21st Century transport.</b> Ben Lowings grew up in Devon and then spent 20 years working as a journalist at BBC World Service radio. He now contributes to boating magazines and is a member of the Society for Nautical Research. Sailing brigs were often seen in and around the Exe Estuary in the past.
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Robert Hesketh	<b>Devon's Ports and Harbours</b> Robert will make a welcome return to the Exeter Forum to tell us about the story of Devon's ports and reveal many unusual facts about their history.
Wednesday 22 October 2025	Jonathan Turner	<b>Devon's atmospheric railway – a Victorian engineering experiment.</b> There are many myths surrounding the atmospheric railway that was built from Exeter to Newton Abbot. Jonathan will explain why atmospheric propulsion was chosen and why it was abandoned. He will show how we can still see the legacy of the atmospheric railway and explain why, in principle, it should have worked.
Wednesday 29 October 2025	Jon Bell	<b>VE Day in Exeter and its aftermath.</b> Jon will take a virtual walk around the sights and sounds of the city of Exeter on VE Day 1945 and immediately afterwards. His talk captures an extraordinary moment in Exeter's history when residents were still dealing with the aftermath of wartime destruction whilst at the same time planning for the future. Jon will show astonishing archive photographs and there will also be couple of songs!

## WHITESTONE PLAYERS

The 2026 Pantomime is

### **HANSEL AND GRETEL** by **ALAN P FRAYN**

Never been in pantomime before? Never been on stage before? It doesn't matter. There is lots of support for everyone – new and old or perhaps it should be experienced and inexperienced!

The first read through is on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 in the Billiards Room at the Parish Hall. Do not worry if you miss the first read through – there is another on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October and another on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Just come along to as many as you can. After that it will be rehearsals every Wednesday.

Come and join the pantomime family, enjoy the laughter and help us make this pantomime another success. To all the established pantomime folk – look forward to seeing you all again.

Judith Reed

## WHERE IS MY 173 BUS?

If you regularly catch the 173 bus from Whitestone to Exeter, you will know that, recently, there have been a number of occasions when the bus hasn't turned up.

This usually happens when there are roadworks and the bus is diverted to take an alternative route.

However, part of the problem is two fold:

- All 'Road Closed' signs are not removed quickly enough when the roadworks have been completed, and
- Stagecoach still have on their website the original estimated finish date for the roadworks which has not been updated.

With the current increased activity in road repairs, this problem is only going to get worse. If you know that the roadworks have been completed and the road is clear, please contact either (or both if necessary)

Devon County Council Highways Department  
on 0345 1551004

Stagecoach on 01392 427711

## OUR LOCAL EXPERT GUIDE

Local residents have always been very supportive of OurLocalExpert – the free printed guide of recommended tradespeople – now in its 15th year.

If you didn't receive your free copy of the little orange book (2025-26 edition), you can phone or email Nick Hall with your details on 01392 340304 / Nick@OurLocalExpert.co.uk and he will be happy to post you a copy out at no charge.

The guide is also available online at [www.OurLocalExpert.co.uk](http://www.OurLocalExpert.co.uk) Nick always welcomes genuine feedback about businesses who do and don't feature in the guide using the same contact details.

---

Nick Hall - Publisher - Our Local Expert  
Local Businesses Recommended by YOU!



*dates for autumn*  
**2025**

# Table Tennis Club

All Welcome

**at Whitestone Parish Hall**  
The FIRST WED of The Month  
7.00pm-9.00pm

1<sup>st</sup> October  
5<sup>th</sup> November  
3<sup>rd</sup> December

For more info  
07948399872  
[lucyrochliffe@gmail.com](mailto:lucyrochliffe@gmail.com)



## CAN WE HELP YOU?

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

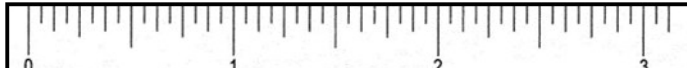
Whitestone Parish Magazine has a couple of advertising spaces available. Our magazine is delivered monthly to around 220 households locally.

Shawthorne Bungalow  
Whitestone  
Exeter EX4 2JS

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*Mary Belt*

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**SOME LAST MINUTE REMINDERS**  
**Saturday 27th September**

WHITESTONE PARISH HALL  
TRUSTEES &  
WHITESTONE PARISH  
COUNCIL

**WHITESTONE  
OPEN DAY**

Come to see what's going  
on in Whitestone  
and to tell us who you are  
and what you do ?

**Saturday September  
27<sup>th</sup> 10:00am to 4:00pm**

Book a space NOW  
CLUBS or INDIVIDUALS  
Free Admission  
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

Contact Jane Richards  
Quarryfield House  
01392 811 492  
jane@sjaner.plus.com

**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 available in  
advance from  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
whitestone-entertainments](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitestone-entertainments)  
or Telephone 0333 666 3366  
or at the door on the night  
(cash only)**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY			
Sat	27 Sept	EXMOUTH SHANTY MEN Parish Hall 7:30 pm	p 17
Wed	1 Oct	Table Tennis Parish Hall 7:00 - 9:00 pm	p19
Mon	6 Oct	Whitestone Fellowship and Prayer Group at Gary & Mary's house 7.30 pm to 8.45 pm	p 5
Sun	5 Oct	Whitestone Walkers Meet at Whitestone Parish Hall at 09.30 or Okehampton Railway Station at 10.15	p 19
Thu	9 Oct	Arts & Crafts Club Parish Hall 9:30 - 12 noon	p 19
Thu	9 Oct	Parish Council Parish Hall 7.00 - 10.00 pm	p 19
Mon	13 Oct	Book Club Parish Hall 10.00 - noon	p 11
Thu	16 Oct	Last date for copy for the November magazine	p 18
Mon	20 Oct	Garden Club Parish Hall 7:30 - 9:30pm	p 19
Mon	27 Oct	Social Club "A talk about Cyber Crime by Mick Harrison from Devon & Cornwall Police.	p19

#### JOB'S 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  
wpcontacthub@gmail.com

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

**Thursday 16th October**

**EMAIL ADDRESS**

**magazine@superjock.co.uk**

**WHITESTONE**  
*Parish Pals*



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

Each Thursday  
(NOT the 2nd Thursday of the month)  
at Whitestone

**10-12  
NOON**

£2 Contribution each meetup

For more information call Beryl on 811713

#### WEEKLY EVENTS IN OCTOBER 2025

Day	Dates	Event
Mon	6th, 13th, 20th & 27th	Pilates Parish Hall 6.15 to 7.15 pm.
Tue	7th, 14th, 21st & 28th	Short Mat Bowls Parish Hall 7.30 to 9.30pm
Wed	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th	Short Mat Bowls Parish Hall 10.00 - 12 noon
Thu	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th	Parish Pals Parish Hall 10.00 - 12 noon
Thu	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th	Whitestone Singers Parish Hall 7:30 - 9:30 pm
Fri	3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st	Short Mat Bowls Parish Hall 7.30 to 9.30pm

## **WHITESTONE WALKERS**

The next walk is on Sunday 5th October 2025.  
A walk of approximately 5 miles starting from Okehampton Railway Station. This walk can be reduced to 3.4 miles if the weather is bad.  
The walk will be led by Herb - 07773552906  
herbpiper@hotmail.com

Meeting at Whitestone Parish Hall at 09.30 or Okehampton Railway Station at 10.15  
If you intend to go direct to Okehampton please let me know (details above) in order that we don't start without you.

A circular walk to Higher Halstock Farm via Fatherford Viaduct & East Okement Valley. The terrain is uneven, muddy and there are fallen trees to negotiate (good limbo dancer can go under).  
There are also three stiles. Suitable footwear essential. There is a choice of two restaurants plus toilets.

## **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 **9<sup>th</sup> October** 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.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Next meeting is in the Parish Hall at 2:00 pm on Monday, **13<sup>th</sup> October**

## **SOCIAL CLUB**

(Secretary Bryan Durrant 01392 811328)

**October 27<sup>th</sup> Monday** A talk about Cyber Crime by Mick Harrison from Devon & Cornwall Police.

**November 24<sup>th</sup> Monday** A talk by Caroline and John Rutter on their visit to the Galapagos Islands.

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**

Gardening Club will meet next on Monday 20th October at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall when Micky Little will be giving a talk about Roses. All welcome

## **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 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.  
Tickets will be available at the door (cash only).

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

## **ARTS AND CRAFTS MORNINGS**

Autumn Term 2025

Arts and Craft sessions will resume on **September 11th** 2025 in Whitestone Parish Hall.  
Are you trying to finish a painting, some sewing, knitting or anything else? Come along to Whitestone Parish Hall and give yourself time to finish off your project.  
TIME: 9.30 to 12 noon  
COST: £2 per session

Forthcoming dates for Arts and Crafts:

<b>October</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Billiard Room (Meeting Room 2)</b>
November	13 <sup>th</sup>	Main Hall
December	11 <sup>th</sup>	Main Hall

For further information contact Marian Durrant 01392811328 or Nikki Phillips 07763 879897

A talk about Cyber Crime by Mick Harrison from Devon & Cornwall Police.

## **TABLE TENNIS**

At Whitestone Parish Hall on the first Wednesday of the month. From 7:00 -9 pm. Future dates are  
**1st October**  
5th November  
3rd December

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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.