

September
2026



THE CROSSLET



Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The Lord's words are sweeter to me than honey.

Ps 34:8, Ps 119:103



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**Collection and return of all Horticultural Machinery
[e.g. lawnmowers, rotovators etc] for repair or servicing can
be arranged if required.**

DATES FOR YOUR SEPTEMBER DIARY



Stitch and Create. Every other Tuesday. Littleham V.Hall
Coffee & Craft Mornings first Tuesday of every month Monkleigh V.Hall
Coffee Morning Weare Giffard V.Hall every Thursday 10:30 - 12pm
Pop-in mornings Littleham Village Hall Thursdays 10:30 - 12:00
Last Friday of every month, Friday Club. Littleham V.Hall 14:00 - 1600
Friday mornings. Breakfast Club. Monkleigh Village Hall. 8:45 - 10:30 am

Wed 2nd WeAre Friends 2:30 pm W.Giffard V.Hall (See P.24)
Thu 3rd Thursday Morning "get togethers" 10:30 - 12 noon Littleham V.H
Sat 5th Breakfast Rolls 10 till Noon W.Giffard V.Hall
Sat 5th Littleham Film + Social Club "Michael" 6:30 for 7 pm (See P.14)
Sat 5th Littleham Repair Shop - the Makers Shed (Cattery) See P 12.
Sat 12th Weare Giffard wine-tasting night 7 pm (See P.22)
Tue 15th Monkleigh V.Hall AGM 7:30 pm (See P.18)
Sat 19th Lets get Quizzical. St Mary's 6:30 for 7 pm (P.5)
Sun 20th Cream Teas 2 - 4:30 pm W.Giffard V.Hall (P.24)
Fri 25th Macmillan coffee morning Littleham V.Hall (P.11)



ADVANCE NOTICE OCTOBER

Sun October 11th Healing and Wholeness service 6pm St Mary's
Sun 25th October Big Breakfast 9:30 am Littleham V.Hall

October Crosslet

NOTE: Deadline for contributions: **10th September**

Please send your emails to: andrewtregoning@btinternet.com

Or phone ☎ 01237 479459

Dear Friends,

Scarecrows, St Swithun and Saving Water!

At the beginning of August, Littleham held their Scarecrow Trail and St Swithun, the patron saint, joined in, complete with umbrella. There were fantastic and funny scarecrow models throughout the village - a chance to walk and chat – and a welcome cream tea to follow.

St Swithun's Day is on 15th July and the saying is that if it rains, it will continue for 40 days. St Swithun was a 9th Century bishop, who requested a simple burial outside Winchester Cathedral. A later bishop exhumed him for reburial inside and caused terrible summer storms!



This year we could really do with that rain, with successive heatwaves leading to parched ground and spoiled crops. The Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit analysed media articles about the extreme heat and surprisingly, nearly three-quarters of them do not mention the climate crisis: we can feel powerless, yet every step we take to conserve and re-use water helps, as well as reducing our own carbon footprint.

Water – it's such a basic need for us all. The annual Jewish celebration of Sukkot in September celebrates this and it was at this festival that Jesus stood up and gave an invitation, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and let the one who believes in me drink." (John chapter 7 verses 37 & 38). September can be a time of new beginnings – if you feel dry & thirsty, why not take up that invitation? We'd love to welcome you.

God Bless, *Ruth*

Some dates for your diary...Harvest Celebrations in the villages, with refreshments after.

St Swithun's, Littleham	Sunday 4 th October at 11 am
St George's, Monkleigh	Saturday 10 th October at 7pm
Holy Trinity, Landcross	Sunday 11 th October at 11 am
Holy Trinity, Weare Giffard	Sunday 18 th October at 11 am





St Mary's Church,
Bideford Invites you
to:

LET'S GET QUIZZICAL

Please bring your own
drinks.

Tea, Coffee & Snacks
will be available

19th September 2026
6:30pm for 7:00pm start

Entry £5.00 per person
(collection on night)
Teams of 6.

It would be useful if people could let me know in the office if they would like to make a team and of how many, as we have room for 15 teams of 6 at the back of St Mary's Church.

Thanks very much. *Debbie* (Parish Administrator)

☎ **01237 472551** admin@stmaryschurchbideford.org

Are politicians the oldest profession?

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But" the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos first!"

From the Parish Registers, July & August 2026:



Funerals

Sylvia Clements at St Swithun's, Littleham on 21st July.

David Brown at North Devon Crematorium on 11th August.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Weddings, funerals, memorials, thanksgivings and baptisms – your church is here for you.

Who can have a service in the parish church? We welcome anyone – because your parish church is yours. You don't need to have attended a service, cut the grass or given money (although you are very welcome to do any or all of those things!). You can also ask any of us (Ruth, Sarah, Claire, Robin, Madeline or Alan) to take a service at the Crematorium, so that you have a known person to help at a sad time.

Phone Ruth on ☎ **01237 439584** or speak to any of the team in Bideford (☎ **01237 472551**).

4 Parish Choir dates for 2026

Oct 11th

Healing and Wholeness Service
St Mary's 6pm

Practice dates will need to be
organised later.



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!



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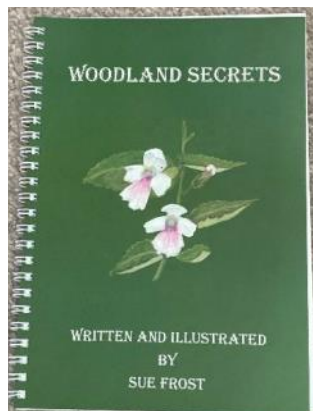


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Buy your Christmas Presents early this year...
and support Holy Trinity Church in Weare Giffard.

The book, *Woodland Secrets*, is by local resident, Sue Frost. It is illustrated with watercolour cameos, painted by Sue, of the animals, birds and plants that she saw on her walks through the local woods, accompanied by her faithful Labrador, Fagan.

It's local, lovely and available at church for just £5 per copy.

Torrington and District Historical Society.

Our programme team have been busy during the summer and we are keen to welcome people from the "and District" part of the society. We meet at Torrington Methodist Church on the second Monday of the month. Doors open at 7.00pm, talks start at 7.30pm.

We have two activities in September

Monday September 14th "Well Bowled" Matt Whittaker/Fred Niven. We will start with a visit to the ancient Windy Cross Well, just outside the Methodist Church, which has recently been reopened. There has been a well here for many hundreds of years. Matt will tell us about its history and plans for the future. Fred will follow this with a history of the Torrington Bowling Club, reputed to be the 3rd oldest in the country, founded in 1645 during the Civil War.

Saturday 19th September 2.30pm "Visit to Tarka Valley Railway". This is a bonus! We will be given a guided tour and a chance to sit in a train drivers seat. Over the past few years considerable work has been accomplished on the railway including completion of the Brake Van. Meet at the Puffing Billy.

If you would like more information about these activities or a copy of the programme these are available at the museum or email:

torringtonhistorysociety@gmail.com or tel ☎ **07510 924388** or find us on Facebook: Torrington and District Historical Society.

We look forward to meeting you *Maggi Rogers*

Jerusalem

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a babysitter."

LANDCROSS

Our services this month are: -

Taize service Thursday Sept 3rd at 7pm

Celtic Communion Sunday Sept 13th at 11 am

Holy Communion Sunday Sept 27th at 11 am

Do come and join us if you can!

April Saltmarsh



LITTLEHAM

Scarecrow Competition Category Winners

Scariest:	Luscious Lucy of Littleham	— David Edwards
Most Creative:	Vincent Van Crow	— Sue Batt
Funniest:	Captain Sky-High	— Rachel & Martin Manley
Children's:	Farmer Andrews	— The Andrews Family
Public Vote:	Farmer Andrews	— The Andrews Family



We hope everyone enjoyed the Scarecrow Festival as much as we did.

It was wonderful to see Littleham buzzing with creativity, laughter and community spirit.

Thank you all for making it such a special day!



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LANDCROSS & LITTLEHAM

LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL

Chair: Andy (07936991388)

Bookings: Eric (01237 238596)



September already and autumn will be approaching, probably earlier than usual, following our long summer drought. There has been plenty of time, though, this summer to enjoy the sunshine and the beach and the amazing scarecrows! **Coming up:-**

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 25th September 9.00-12.00

Big Breakfast: Sunday 25th October 9.30

Quiz and Curry Night in November TBC

We are pleased to say that the music festival raised £1,200. A great outcome for an enjoyable afternoon of music and mingling. Following some clever strategic planning, the occasion was more relaxing for the helpers and we hope the visitors felt that vibe too. Links with Weare Giffard are being forged and this is proving really helpful for both village hall committees.

The scarecrow competition was a great success raising a further £360 for the village hall. The amazing efforts of Sharon and Sarah and all the scarecrow builders brought great fun to the by-ways of the village. Thank you to everyone who took part and those who contributed to and helped with refreshments.

Scarecrow Festival

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make last month's Scarecrow Festival such a brilliant success. We're delighted to say that, amazingly, we raised about £360.00 for the Village Hall.

A special thank you to Martin for producing the most professional and detailed map of all the scarecrows — it was a fantastic addition to the day.

We'd also like to thank everyone who helped with the refreshments, whether by generously donating cakes and scones or by giving up their time to help out during the day. It couldn't have happened without you.

Of course, we must also thank our wonderful judges — Kate Cresswell, Emily Morgan and Tayla Cane — who had perhaps the most difficult job of all: trying to choose between so many fantastic and creative scarecrows!

But the biggest thank you of all must go to everyone who took part in the festival. The time, creativity and sheer effort that went into creating such wonderful scarecrows was truly fantastic. It was brilliant to see so many people getting involved and bringing the village to life.

St Swithun's Grass Cutting Rota September 2026

Andrew Tregoning
Eric Palmer

Martin Manley
Geoff Pengelly



Any problems contact:-

Wilf Smith

redcotts@hotmail.co.uk (☎ 01237 475538)

LITTLEHAM REPAIR SHOP

Littleham Men & Women's Shed announce the first Littleham Repair Shop. To reduce landfill, extend use of your favourite items and reduce your costs. It is a part of our sustainability drive. Our first repair shop session is on Saturday 5th September 2026, 10 am till 12:30 in our shed at the Old Moor Boarding Cattery. We think this may be offered every two months.

We can look at and fix smaller items in wood, metal, plastics, textiles and electrics / electronics, as long as it is economic and salvageable. Textiles may include minor repairs to clothing or bags but not major alterations. All mains electricity items will be PAT safety tested.

For each repair, we just ask for cost of materials and a small donation. This can be agreed before we get into the repair.

If we can't fix your item there and then, we may ask to keep it a little longer to fix it in the workshop or textiles room.

If there is a local commercial repair service for items, we may advise you to go there e.g. Mobile Phone repairs.

Sorry - No White Goods, that is no fridges, freezers, dishwashers, washing machines, dishwashers etc.

Tea, coffee and biscuits available for a small donation. Come on up to the Shed and see what all the fuss is about.

Jonathan

Intercessors and Readers for Littleham September 2026		
Date	Intercessor	Readers
September 6th	Anita	Anita Allan
September 20th	Anthony	Penny Pete

LITTLEHAM



Littleham Methodist Church Services

There are services at Littleham Methodist Church on the 9th and 23rd of August both at 10.30am, everyone welcome.
Our final service is on August 30th - also at 10:30 am - do come!

100 Club August Winners!

The July draw for the Littleham 100 Club took place on August the 15th, drawn by Monica Roker.

The results were as follows:-

First Prize	64 Judy Hamilton
Second Prize	9 April Saltmarsh
Third Prize	89 David Read

Congratulations to them all!



MOTHS

Find out what moths are in your garden



The Biodiversity Group has a battery powered moth trap available to borrow.

Contact Pete Jollands (pjollands@gmail.com)
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Use iNaturalist to identify, record
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Thursday Get Togethers

"The Thursday Morning Get Togethers at Littleham Village Hall will re-commence on Thursday 3rd September 10.30 to 12.00 hrs.

If you have any holiday reads you would like to pass on to someone else, or would just like to pop in for a natter, we would love to see you."

Tricia

Airport

What makes airport security think they can find something in your wife's handbag when even she can't?

Littleham Film & Social Club

Our next film scheduled for Saturday 5th September, is "Michael" The film tells the story of Michael Jackson's life beyond the music, tracing his journey from the discovery of his extraordinary talent as the lead of the Jackson Five, to the visionary artist whose creative ambition fuelled a relentless pursuit to become the biggest entertainer in the world.

As, always, we meet at Littleham Village Hall at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm screening on Saturday 5th September.

A well-stocked Bar, amazing raffle, free tea, coffee, and biscuits in the interval, £1 ice creams, tall seats on the back two rows and a warm welcome will greet you. Come early if you like to sit in the front and benefit from the subtitles.

Hoping to see you on 5th September. Please bring small change for ice-creams and raffle (it really does help).

From all the Littleham Film & Social Club Committee

(call Keith – ☎ **07425 392731** for more details).

Friday Club

We were delighted to welcome Sally Akam one of our members to give us a talk on her recent Wild Camping trip to South Africa, we all agreed that it was a brilliant presentation with wonderful photos which her husband Rory helped put together.

She has kindly written a short piece for us to share in the Crosslet.

There will not be a meeting in August and slightly different for our September meeting as we shall be supporting the Mcmillan Coffee Morning as we did last year, this will be held on the last Friday 25th September, hopefully as many of you can attend as possible, it's a lovely social morning with delicious cakes and most importantly supporting a wonderful charity.

My African Safari Trip

In May this year we embarked on a wild camping and safari trip, starting in Johannesburg in South Africa and finishing on the banks of the Zambesi river in



Livingstone, Zambia, a total distance of 2,480 km (not including our daily bush drives).

Most nights involved camping in the wilderness, with no fences, security or facilities, other than a pit latrine and bucket shower heated with water from the campfire we used for cooking. This unique, and at times challenging, experience gave us exclusive and close encounters with the teeming and diverse wildlife.

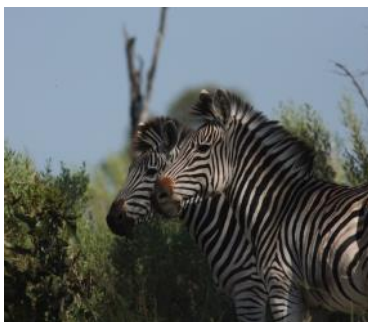
The trip was participatory, in so far that we were responsible for erecting and striking our own tents, helping with the preparation and cooking of meals and the washing up afterwards. Every four or five days we stayed in official campsites which meant access to showers, toilets and wifi.

Particular highlights included seeing 18 white rhino on a community owned reserve, very close encounters with elephant, lions and hippos, watching African painted dogs hunting and feasting on their kill. Three days spent wild camping on a remote island deep in the heart of the Okavango delta with local guides will remain forever in my



memory, travelling by dugout canoes known as mokoros, learning about the extraordinary landscape through long bush walks (without a gun!) and even a swimming in the delta itself - whilst keeping a watchful eye out for hippos and crocodiles! Moremi, Savuti and Chobe game reserves all brought new and varied landscapes; waterlily lagoons and winding water channels, grasslands, floodplains, forests and riverbanks with diverse wildlife and astonishing bird watching. The collaborative and participatory nature of the tour together with the physical and emotional challenges that camping wild in an extraordinary and potentially dangerous environment combined to make this a very special holiday.

Our tour ended with the wonders of the Victoria Falls, also known colloquially as the smoke that thunders, and two nights spent in luxury in a waterfront hotel, on the Zambesi, two miles up from the falls.



It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning



and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

Place: LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL

Date: 25th SEPTEMBER 2026

Time: 10 AM TO 12 NOON

Contact:

Karen Edwards - 07939 115388

or Sue Nichols - 07775 572056

**Donation of Cakes and Draw Prizes
would be much appreciated!**

**Please drop off at Village Hall on 24th or
25th in the morning - thank you!**

For more information contact Sue or Karen

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Karen and Sue (Nichols) are arranging a Macmillan Coffee Morning as they did last year.

In addition to the invite we are putting out a request for cake donations from anyone who is willing to make one for the cause!

If anyone is willing to do this please get in touch with :-

Sue

 **07775 572056**

or Karen

 **07939 115388**

See advert for more details!

Income

A man was asked if he lived within his income. "Certainly not," he replied. "It is all I can do to live within my credit cards."

Give it up

Psychiatrists say it's not good for a person to keep too much to himself. HMRC people say the same thing.

Fact of life

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Crossword Answers August 2026

ACROSS: 8, Prince of Peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried. 11, Gulag.
13, Treason. 16, In aid of. 19, Arena. 22, Calvinist. 24, Pad.
25, Moses and Aaron.

DOWN: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit. 5, Spur. 6, Matins.
7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian. 15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last.
18, Friend. 20, Empire. 21, Adding. 23, Inst.

MONKLEIGH



Monkleigh Village Hall News

We hope this finds you well. A note of our regular events, please also keep an eye out on the boards- the one on 'the bend' and one outside the village hall car park for more information, and check our Facebook page.

Coffee and Craft Mornings

First Tuesday of every month. 10am
Bring your own crafts, suggest and share some new ones, or just come along for a cuppa and a natter.



'Not at the Pub' Quiz.

First Weds of every month, Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start. BYOB and snacks, light supper available for purchase.

It's not mastermind, just a bit of fun. New teams welcome and we can match you up with a team if you don't have one.



Breakfast club: Friday mornings 0845-1030

Breakfasts and rolls to eat in or take away. Veggie options. Please check our Facebook page and the board at the hall for any updates/changes



Quilting class is the 3rd Thursday of the month – 10am start, £10 session

A reminder we are always looking for new committee members, we meet once a month at a time to suit everyone over a cuppa. If you are interested do reach out to us at our Facebook page, or by email to monkleighvh@gmail.com.

Our AGM was postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. The new date is 15th Sept at 730pm Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Hall and Skittle Alley are available to hire, to enquire please message our Facebook page or ring Lyn on ☎ **01237 429012**.

Stay safe and well, *Monkleigh Village Hall Committee*

Monkleigh School

Hopefully lots of news about the children and their activities in October!

Tracey Wilson PE lead

Karen Reeves (Head Teacher)



Tel: ☎ **01805 623269**

WEARE GIFFARD

Weare Giffard Village Hall

Coffee Morning
Every Thursday

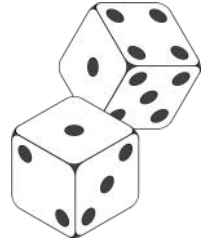
10:30 am - 12:00 pm



Weare Giffard Village Hall Lottery results

Lottery Results for August

1st prize.	Wendy & Nick, The Old Cornmill
2nd prize.	Theresa & Dave Curtis
3rd. prize.	Heather Hughes



Weare Giffard Village Hall

Community Website Continues to Grow

The Weare Giffard Community Website continues to grow in popularity and is becoming an increasingly valuable source of information for both residents and visitors. Between 1 January and 2 August 2026, the website recorded 3,651 page views – a 21% increase compared with the same period last year. This encouraging growth shows that more people are using the website to find out what's happening in the village and to keep up to date with local events and community activities. The Home Page remains the most visited page with 1,028 views, followed by the Events page with 442 views, demonstrating that the community events calendar is one of the website's most popular features.



Other frequently visited pages include the Village Hall, Parish Council, Village Park, Holy Trinity Church, Circular Walks, and the Contact page, showing the wide range of information that people are looking for. Throughout the year, visitors have used the website to find details of a variety of local activities and events, including the Village Summer Fete, Archive Days, WeAre Friends, Film & Social Nights, Breakfast Baps, Coffee Mornings, Art Group, Table Tennis, Line Dancing and many other regular community events.

Some pages, including those for the Village Park, Village Hall, Holy Trinity Church and Circular Walks, are viewed for several minutes at a time, suggesting that visitors are taking the time to explore the information available.

The website aims to provide a single place where residents and visitors can easily find details of forthcoming events, community groups, local organisations and village facilities. We hope it helps people discover new activities, supports our local organisations and encourages greater participation in village life.

If your organisation, club or group has an event coming up, we'd be delighted to include it on the community calendar. The more information we can share, the more useful the website becomes for everyone. If you haven't visited the website recently, why not take a look and see what's coming up?

www.wearegiffard.org

Breakfast Rolls

If you would like to add your name to the reserve list to help at breakfast rolls please contact Tracy ☎ **07826732399**. Breakfast Rolls are held at Weare Giffard Village Hall on the first Sat of the month between 10 and 12. All profits are given back to the village Hall. No experience required. We are a friendly team.



Breakfast Rolls

Saturday September 5th

10 till noon

Weare Giffard Village Hall



Wedding Anniversaries

My parents celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary in September.

David and Elizabeth Moore
Wedding date: 28th September 1966
Married at Frithelstock Parish Church



The other 60th anniversary I am aware of are my neighbours is:-
Michael and Diane Grigg
Married 21st September 1966 at Weare Giffard Parish Church.

Clare and Phil Messenger



Our pastoral visiting team 2026

If you would like a visit from one of our friendly team members or know someone who does then please call Sarah Cordingley ☎ **01237 471441**

Weare Giffard Village Fete & Horticultural Show 2026

What a wonderful day we had at this year's **Fete and Horticultural Show**. Once again, our village came together for a traditional community event, and the support from residents, friends and visitors was tremendous.

The turnout was particularly encouraging. With adults charged £1 admission, the gate and car park takings show that **at least 457 adults attended**, with children admitted free, so the actual number of visitors was higher still.

We are **still waiting for all the final figures to come in**, but at the time of writing, total takings stand at **£4,262.91** and, after costs recorded so far, the fete has made a fantastic **provisional profit of £3,235.99**.

From the bar, BBQ and afternoon teas to the raffle, tombolas, plants, produce, games and other attractions, every part of the fete contributed to that result.

Horticultural Show

This attracted an impressive **162 entries across 33 classes**, with a wonderful selection of home-grown, home-baked and handmade exhibits.

The show raised **£191** including items sold at the end of the day.

Congratulations go to all our entrants and particularly to this year's cup and trophy winners: **Debra Lake** for Baking; **Sue Gethin** for Preserves; **Karen Todd** for Flowers; **Lyn Nigh** for Arrangement in a Teacup; **Richard and Sally Andrews** for Vegetables and Longest Bean; **Dorothy Mountjoy** for Photography; joint Crafts winners **Valerie Vanstone and Rosemary Purcell Childs**; and **Tia Moon Fletcher**, winner of the Children's Novice Cup.

Special congratulations go to **Richard and Sally Andrews**, who accumulated the **most points in the entire show** and received the overall winner's Large Rose Bowl.

Dog Show

The Dog Show was **extremely well supported**, with a fantastic turnout across the different classes and plenty of four-legged competitors keeping the organisers very busy!

Our sincere thanks go to the businesses who generously sponsored the Dog Show: **Hatchmoor Vets, Torrington; Torch Vets, Bideford; Whiskers Pet Shop, Torrington; Top n Tail, Braunton; Safe Hounds Dog Field, Torrington; and HJ Ward Excel – Farm & Pet, Dolton Beacon.**

Thank you to everyone who brought their dogs along, entered the classes and supported the show, and particularly to those who worked so hard to organise and run it.

Music, stalls and entertainment

The live music added enormously to the atmosphere of the fete, and we are particularly grateful to **The Palladium in Bideford for organising the band for us**, as well as to the musicians themselves for entertaining everyone. And on such a lovely summer's day, a **big shout-out must go to Hockings Ice Cream**, who helped keep us all cool with their delicious ice creams! The many stalls and attractions would not have been possible without the generosity of those who donated goods. Thank you to everyone who gave **raffle prizes, bottles, cakes, plants, produce, and items for the various stalls and tombolas**.

We were also fortunate to receive generous raffle and fundraising support from local businesses and organisations. Our thanks go to **Arc, Combe Martin Wildlife Park, Dartington Crystal, Kudos, Let's Go Bowling, Morrisons, North Devon Surf School, Quince Honey Farm, RHS Garden Rosemoor, Sandfords Bakery, Tesco, The Milky Way and The Royal Hotel Bideford** for their generous prizes and donations.

A huge thank-you to all those whose work began **many months before the fete itself**. A successful village fete doesn't simply happen on the day. It takes a great deal of planning, organisation and hard work throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who played a part, however large or small, in making the 2026 Weare Giffard Village Fete and Horticultural Show such a success!



Barton Barn Bash

This was a great success. We raised over **£17,000** for 5 local charities. A big thank you to all our sponsors - especially Kernow Coatings who sponsored our Big Country Band! Thank you to all the people that came and a big thank you to the more than 20 helpers who helped on the night. We couldn't have managed without you!

This was our 4th "Bash" and over the years we have raised nearly **£60,000** in total. Sadly this will be our last "Barton Bash" - at least we ended with a bang! Finally a huge thank you to Ross Headon and Sharon Swan for organising it all.

In Memoriam: Larry Hill



Larry moved to Weare Giffard on July 4th 1969 with wife Rhona and young boys Ben and Dave, he worked as a meat inspector in several facilities over Devon and Cornwall for nearly 30 years. Larry was a keen and prolific gardener, a consistent winner at the Weare Giffard show, using his allotment to feed the family, supplying fruit and vegetables to local shops and strawberries to Sarah at Hill farm to compliment her Jersey's clotted cream.

Larry also found time to coach Torridgeside Swimming club, devoting thousands of hours over more than 35 years for the benefit of local children, in some cases teaching three generations from the same family. His service to the community has been recognised in numerous citizen of the year type awards and a prestigious lifetime achievement award from the Amateur Swimming Association.

Larry even found time to play darts for the Cyder Presse for many years.

Those who knew Larry (and he knew many people) will recount an affable gentleman with a cheeky smile, a wry sense of humour and a great deal of knowledge of all manner of things.

Larry was a devoted family man and celebrated 70 years of marriage with Rhona in 2025. Larry passed away quietly at his home, surrounded by loving family on 25 July 2026 aged 93 years.



WeAre Friends – August Meeting



At our August meeting, we welcomed local historian Chrissie Le Marchant, who gave a fascinating talk on the life of Nancy, Lady Astor.

Chrissie shared stories about Lady Astor's remarkable life, from becoming the first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons to her years at Cliveden and her connections with North Devon. The talk was both informative and entertaining, giving everyone a greater insight into one of Britain's most well-known political figures.

We would like to thank Chrissie for an enjoyable and thought-provoking afternoon, which was followed by tea, coffee and a chance to catch up with friends.

Our next WeAre Friends meeting will take place on Wednesday 2nd September at 2.30pm in Weare Giffard V.Hall.

We are delighted to welcome a speaker from the Barn Owl Trust, who will give an informative talk about these wonderful birds and the Trust's conservation work.

Everyone welcome.
Admission £5, including tea, coffee and refreshments.



Bell Ringers

Weare Giffard are happy to train new Bell ringers should anyone like to have a go .

We meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 and would be pleased to see some new faces .

Selection of cakes also available

Cream teas £4.50



Cream Teas

Being served in

Weare Giffard, Village Hall

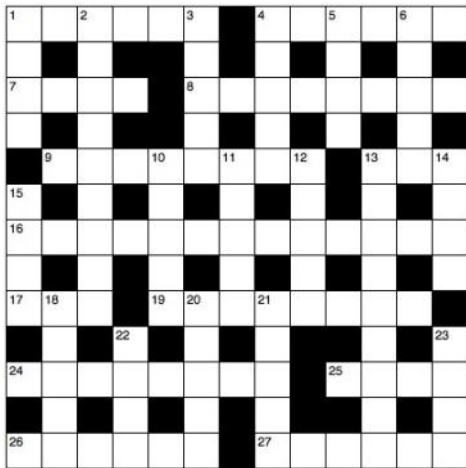
Sunday 20th September 2026

2pm - 4.30pm

In aid of Village Hall funds



Crossword Clues September 2026



Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)

17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)

19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8) 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)

25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)

26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)

27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)

2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)

3 O raid (anag.) (5)

4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)

5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)

6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)

10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5) 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)

12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)

13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)

14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)

15 Among the items imported by Solomon's trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)

18 'But I am afraid that just — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)

20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)

21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)

22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)

23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)

Answers in the October Crosslet

CHURCH OFFICERS 2026

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email: rev.claire@stmaryschurchbideford.org

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Vacant
PCC Treasurer: Mike Penny "Courtlands" Monkleigh, 01805 622584
PCC Secretary April Saltmarsh (Pillmouth Lodge, Landcross) 01237 475779

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Vacant
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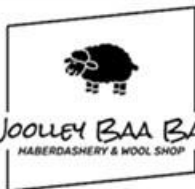
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Services for Anglican Churches in the Four Parishes September 2026

Date	Monkleigh	Littleham	Weare Giffard	Landcross
Thursday 3rd Sept				Taizé Service 7pm
Sunday 6th Sept <i>Trinity 14</i>		11am Morning Praise Exodus 12.1-14 Romans 13.8-14 Matt 18. 15-20	9:30am Holy Communion Exodus 12.1-14 Romans 13.8-14 Matt 18. 15-20	
Sunday 13th Sept <i>Trinity 15</i>				11am Celtic Communion Exodus 14.19-31 Romans 14.1-12 Matt 18.21-35
Sunday 20th Sept <i>Trinity 16</i>		11am Holy Communion Exodus 16.2-15 Phil 1.21-30 Matt 20.1-16	9:30am Morning Praise Exodus 16.2-15 Phil 1.21-30 Matt 20.1-16	
Sunday 27th Sept <i>Trinity 17</i>				11am Holy Communion Exodus 17.1-7 Phili 2.1-13 Matt 21.23-32
	5 pm 'Come and Sing' Evensong at St.Mary's Church, Bideford			

**Need to talk? It doesn't matter if you attend church or not,
we are here for you.**

Contact the Team Vicar, Rev'd Ruth on 01237 439584