

THE MORCHARD MESSENGER

THE INDEPENDENT VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/news/latest-morchard-messenger

No.365 NOVEMBER 2025

SPONSORED THIS MONTH BY CHURCH STREET STORES

Church Street Stores — Your Village Shop, All Year Round

It's our turn on the front page again — and as ever, it's a pleasure to share what's been happening at Church Street Stores. Over the years, the shop has grown and evolved, but our purpose remains the same: to serve the village with warmth, reliability, and a strong focus on local food, community spirit, and everyday essentials. Stocking good quality, locally made products is still our priority — better for the environment, better for the local economy, and better for keeping jobs in our community.

Fresh Local Favourites

We've continued to stock artisan bread from Luisa at **The Home Kitchen** based in Copplestone — her sourdough, focaccia, and seeded spelt loaves are always popular. Luisa's bread arrives fresh on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, and sells out fast — preorders are welcome.

On **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**, we have traditional loaves from **Chulmleigh Bakery** — a long-standing favourite with customers who love a classic white, granary or wholemeal loaf. It's great to be able to offer a mix of styles throughout the week, all baked locally.

We continue to support **Jubilee Park Farm in Winkleigh**, whose pork and apple burgers are a real treat. Their generously sized sausages remain a customer favourite — available in Cumberland, Lincolnshire, traditional, and a hot Spanish-style for those who like a bit of heat.

Freshly Baked Hot Food

Our pasties and sausage rolls are baked fresh in our kitchen six days a week and remain a firm favourite with locals and tradesfolk alike. The pasty warmer is stocked first thing with freshly baked savouries ready to grab and go (prices from £2.85). If you fancy something different, we have our made to order Panini or our Ham & Cheese Croissants - Freshly baked (usually available on Thursdays) — super popular and always sell out fast!

Gifts & Christmas

A big hit this year: our bespoke OS map gifts — tea towels, little trays and mugs, covering Morchard Bishop, Lapford and Eggesford they make an ideal gift! We now stock a huge selection of greetings cards to suit a variety of occasions — birthdays, anniversaries, thank-yous, and more. The 3D and cut-out designs are especially beautiful and have been really popular with customers looking for something a little special. And, of course charity Christmas cards are in now too!

The shop is looking like an Aladdin's cave again this season, filled with local chocolates, chutneys, jams, ales, ciders, wines, gifts and candles. We give careful thought to ethics, quality, and presentation — and many items are ambient, making them perfect for hampers

Our **Christmas Shopping Evening** will be back again this year — date to be confirmed. Last year was such fun, with samples of Christmas mead, brownies, mince pies, and special offers. We're looking forward to another festive gathering and hope to see you there!

Royal Mail & Handy services

Please do make use of our **Royal Mail services** — it's one of the most useful things we offer so please help us spread the word. We're an official *Parcel Shop*, which means you can drop off prepaid parcels, bring in a QR code and we'll print your label, or collect deliveries here at your convenience. We also accept online returns — quick, easy, and local.

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Thank you for supporting us

We hear it often: "I wish we had a shop like this!" from visitors passing through. It's a daily reminder of how lucky we are to have such strong support from our community. Every time you shop with us — whether it's for a loaf of bread, a bunch of flowers, or a warm pasty — you help keep Church Street Stores thriving. Thank you.

If you're on Facebook, it's a brilliant way to stay in touch: facebook.com/churchstreetstores

Warm wishes, Matthew, Clare & Hilary

NOVEMBER 2025 DIARY

If you would like details of your event or meeting to appear in the December diary, please let Sue Eaglen know by November 12 at sue_eaglen@fastmail.co.uk or text Sue on 07854745791. You may also want to plan ahead by using the Future Events section below.

St. Mary's All welcome at our services.

Sun 2, 10.30am Morning Worship

Thurs 6, 1.15pm All age worship in church with school, all welcome.

Sun 9, Remembrance Sunday. 10.50am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial followed by Remembrance service in St. Mary's

Sun 16, 10.30am Family service. 6.00pm Joint Bible study at Emmanuel

Sun 23, 10.30am Morning Worship

Fri 28, 3-7pm Emmanuel / St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar

Sun 30, 10.00am Mission Community Eucharist at Zeal Monachorum

Third Sunday of the month, Joint Bible Study Group with Emmanuel at 18.00

Emmanuel All welcome at our services.

Morning services start at 11.00, coffee from 10.30. Visit www.emmanuel-morchard-bishop.org for detailed information about services, Sunday School for primary age children, youth clubs and other events. Joint Bible Study Group with St. Mary's: third Sunday of the month.

BOOK SWAP: Wednesday November 5, 15.00 – 16.30 in the Memorial Hall

PARISH WALK: Usually final Saturday of the month, 11.00 start at the Memorial Hall.

Future Events:

Christmas Tree Festival: Dec 5 - 7.

Carol singing: Dec 7, 16.15, start at Emmanuel

Christmas Craft & Social: Dec 10, 14.30 in the Memorial Hall.

Bus Shelter Nativity, lights on: Dec 14, 17.45, followed by chips and soup at the London Inn.

Friends of St Mary's: Saturday **Dec 20,** 18.00, concert in the church, David Cottam playing seasonal guitar music, plus minced pies, mulled wine and juice.

Sat	1	09.30 – 11.30	Flower & Produce Show Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
		09.30 – 11.00	Togs & Toys Giveaway	Emmanuel
		16.00 – 19.00	Kids' Halloween Disco	MBSSC
Sun	2	14.00 – 16.00	Indoor Car Boot Sale	Memorial Hall
Mon	3 & 10, 17, 24	09.00 – 10.00	Basic – Intermediate Pilates	Memorial Hall
	3	19.30	Parish Council Parish Initiatives Next year's meetings	Memorial Hall - upstairs
Tues	4 & 11, 18, 25	10.00 - 11.00	Café Emmanuel	Emmanuel
		14.25 – 18.00	Dove Dance Academy	Memorial Hall
		19.30	Bridge & Pool	MBSSC
Wed	5 & 19, 26 (not week of 12 th)	10.30 – 11.15	Chair Pilates	Memorial Hall
	5	15.00 – 16.30	Book Swap	Memorial Hall
	5 & 12, 19, 26	17.30 – 19.00	Brownies	Memorial Hall

6 & 13, 20, 27	09.30 – 10.30	Toddler Group new-born onwards	Memorial Hall
	16.00 – 16.30	Junior ballet – Dove Dance	Memorial Hall
6	10.00 – 15.00	Can't sew won't sew – shared lunch	Emmanuel
6	12.00 – 15.00	Pennymoor Singaround	London Inn
6 & 13, 20, 27	18.30 – 19.30	Pilates: basic – intermediate	Memorial Hall
6 & 13, 27	19.30	Men's Darts	MBSSC
7 & 14, 21, 28	13.30 – 14.30	Visiting Post Office	London Inn
	17.30 – 19.00	Max & Mike's Street Food	War Memorial
7	19.00	Prime Youth Group – primary age	Emmanuel
8	09.30 – 11.30	Produce & Table Top Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
12	14.30	W. I. Fever in Devon with local writer Liz Shakespeare	Memorial Hall
	19.30	Tractor Club	Memorial Hall
	19.30	Sustainable Morchard	Memorial Hall – upstairs
13	19.30	Pennymoor Singaround	London Inn Skittles Alley
14	19.30	Edge Youth Club – year 7 onwards	Emmanuel
14 & 28	19.30	Darts Competition	MBSSC
15	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning Toddler Group/FOMBS	Memorial Hall
19	12.30	Over 60s Lunch	London Inn Contact Mandy Tapp 877459/mandytapp@folk21.com
21	18.30 for 19.45	BINGO: Football Club	Memorial Hall
22	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning WI	Memorial Hall
28	15.00 – 20.00	Christmas Fair	Memorial Hall
29	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning	Emmanuel
	Meet 11.00	Parish Walk	Memorial Hall
	13.00 – 17.00	Makers' Market	Memorial Hall
	6 6 6 & 13, 20, 27 6 & 13, 27 7 & 14, 21, 28 7 8 12 13 14 14 & 28 15 19 21 22 28	16.00 - 16.30 6 10.00 - 15.00 6 12.00 - 15.00 6 & 13, 20, 27 18.30 - 19.30 6 & 13, 27 19.30 7 & 14, 21, 28 13.30 - 14.30 17.30 - 19.00 19.00 8 09.30 - 11.30 12 14.30 19.30 19.30 19.30 19.30 14 19.30 14 8 28 19.30 15 10.00 - 11.30 19 12.30 21 18.30 for 19.45 22 10.00 - 11.30 28 15.00 - 20.00 29 10.00 - 11.30 Meet 11.00	16.00 - 16.30

NOTICEBOARD

Copy for Publication in THE MORCHARD MESSENGER

The deadline for articles, adverts and notices for the next issue is:

15th November 2025

The Editors retain the right to reject, edit, alter or correct articles which are sent in for publication.

The opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors. We do not publish anonymous letters.

Copy should be sent **by email** to morchardmessenger@gmail.com

Hard copy may also be delivered to Colin Crewdson at the address below.

Postal Service.

This newsletter can be posted to you monthly at a cost of £12 per annum.

Please contact:

Colin Crewdson
Wayside Cottage
Frost
Morchard Bishop EX17 6SF
Phone: 07926 625120

ADVERTS

Open the door to new business by advertising in the Morchard Messenger

Adverts up to ½ page are £5 a month Adverts up to ½ page are £7 a month Adverts up to ½ page are £10 a month

(Larger sizes negotiable)

Please email your copy or draft to the editor (address above)

Morchard Bishop Sports & Social Club

Bar open to all members when the club is open Annual membership £2 per adult, due

Annual membership £2 per adult, due 1st August 25

November OPENING TIMES

Mondays - closed

Tuesdays – all dates open for pool & Bridge 7.30m

Wednesdays – 26th Founders Cup Ladies Darts 7.30[m

Thursdays – 6th 13th 27th Men's Darts 7.30pm

Fridays – 14th 28th open 7.30pm for Friday night darts comp.

Saturdays – All dates open from 7.30pm onwards.

Club open after half time if football are at home.

Saturday 1st November Halloween Disco, games, pumpkin carving competition & Fancy Dress. 4pm until 7pm. Members & their children. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

This is a rough guide which may be subject to change please contact morchardsportsandsocialclub@gmail.com for more information if needed.

Church Street Stores

Opening Hours:

Sunday & Monday: 8.30am-12noon Tuesday- Friday: 8.30am-5pm Saturday: 8.30a- 2pm

01363 877826

 $\frac{www.facebook.com/churchstreetst}{ores}$

Matthew & Clare

Bus Service 369

Outward

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway): 07.12, 09.40, 11.50, 13.55, 16.07

Crediton High St: 07.46, 10.14, 12.21, 14.24, 16.39

Crediton Train station / Redlands: 07.51, 10.19, 12.26, 14.28, 16.43

Exeter City Centre (Sidwell St): 08.17, 10.39, 12.45, 14.48, 17.05

RD&E Hospital 08.26, 17.14

Return

Exeter RD&E: 17.15

City Centre (Sidwell St Stop 40): 08.40, 10.50, 12.55, 15.00, 17.30

Crediton Train station/Redlands: 09.02, 11.11, 13.17, 15.23, 17.55

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway): 09.38, 11.48, 13.53, 16.05, 18.34

Witheridge: 18.59

Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

Available for birthday and celebration parties, family meetings/get togethers/wakes/wedding receptions.

Bookings - Contact Jo Eames jo_eames@hotmail.com 01363 877407

General - Contact Anton Heal antonheal@yahoo.co.uk
07970 227753

Produce / table top booking – Contact Jo Trask

jotrask@icloud.com 01363 877381 or Robert Moore 07455 896589 robert@lydcottnursery.co.uk

LETTERS - MESSAGES - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Tree Festival

St Mary's Morchard Bishop will be holding a Christmas Tree festival this year, from 5^{th} - 7^{th} December.

We very much hope that all the organisations and businesses in the village will get involved by decorating a tree.

The theme can be whatever you would like - you might like to choose one which is connected to your group. More details will be provided via letters which will be coming out shortly, but if you would like to take part, please email Kate Bray at kjbray@btinternet.com to reserve a tree.

We look forward to seeing the ideas that everyone has for decorations!

Kate Bray
PCC secretary
St Mary's Morchard Bishop

Churchyard Tidy

The Churchyard committee would like to say a huge thank you to those brave souls who turned out during Storm Amy and started the tidy up on Saturday 4th Oct, and the wonderful turnout on Wednesday 8th, everyone came armed with hand tools, power tools and enthusiasm making a tremendous difference to the churchyard. After a few hours of hard work we were all rewarded with tea, coffee and some of Tracys' wonderful homemade sausage rolls!

Thank you Volunteer Churchyard Committee

Friends of St Mary's

Thank you to everybody who signed up showing interest in protecting the fabric of the church.

Please check your email spam/junk box as you should have received more information about Friends but it may have been filtered off by the algorithm in the sky! Information is also on the website.

Wendy Vere





Chair Pilates

Wednesdays

5th November----17th December [**not** 12 November]

10.30 am---11.15 am.

Memorial Hall

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: home - 01363 877803.

: email - jomcdphysio@gmail.com

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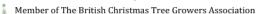
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*3rd Thursday of every month, 18:00 - 19:30 - candlelit yin yoga session, flowing into a deep relaxation soundbath

"3rd Saturday of every month, 10:00 – 11:00 – up-lifting yet relaxing soundbath

Please visit our website for details of special events we have coming up, or get in touch to be added to our WhatsApp group for notifications:

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Folk Tales Corner

A Head Full of Bees

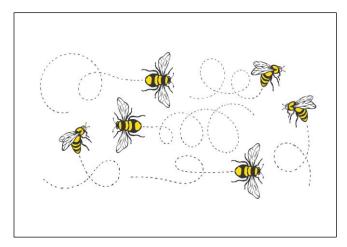
I should be thinking about Giants, but my head is full of bees! I'm off on my autumn mini tour in less than two weeks and I need to revise all the stories, but at my last festival of the season someone requested stories about bees, then yesterday I got stung on the arm so, although I have a whole year to find some, bees are what my inner folklore enthusiast has decided to focus on.



I know of two stories that have bees in. The excerpt from the Finish epic The Kalevala that I learned for a set about the invention of beer has a bee in it, and there's a bible story about Samson setting his guests an impossible riddle concerning a bee hive in a dead lion. The bees in the Samson's story have very little to do with the plot, which is mostly about Samson being a bit of a jerk to his parents; a lion; his wedding guests; their relatives; his wife... and the bees since he steals their honey... basically everyone else in the story. The more I think about it the less I feel like Samson is going to make the cut.

In the Kalevala excerpt, there is only a single bee but they are much more significant. Osmotar The Beer-Preparer, who is somewhat oddly named considering no one has actually made beer before, is experiencing a problem engendering fermentation in her carefully concocted water, barley and hops. Having sent a Snow White Squirrel to collect fir cones and pine shoots from an enchanted forest, and then a magic marten to the mountains to bring foaming spittle from battling bears, neither of which manages to make the mixture effervescent, she produces a honey bee from a magic pod and gives it some very specific instructions:

'Little bee with honeyed winglets, King of all the fragrant flowers, Fly thou whither I direct thee, To the islands in the ocean, To the water-cliffs and grottoes, Where asleep a maid has fallen, Girdled with a belt of copper By her side are honey-grasses, By her lips are fragrant flowers, Herbs and flowers honey-laden; Gather there the sweetened juices, Gather honey on thy winglets, From the calyces of flowers, From the tips of seven petals, Bring it to the hands of Kapo, To the hands of Osmo's daughter.'



The bee sets off on what turns out to be a six day round trip, finds the Island and the rather peculiar landmark of a somnolent woman, whose description is simultaneously some of the most charmingly evocative lines in the poem and utterly irrelevant to either plot or action:

Found the maiden sweetly sleeping, In her silver-tinselled raiment, Girdled with a belt of copper, In a nameless meadow, sleeping, In the honey-fields of magic;

Our bee collects the honey, which is rather oddly lying about on the flowers (a bit like the snoozing lady), and returns with it to his maker to complete his quest. Once added to the vat this sweet nectar finally kicks the beer in to brewing in a fit of foamy fermentation, which kind of makes the bee the hero of the episode... despite the fact that he is never mentioned again. I think that one is definitely in, but the solitary bee is very much a handy helper, the majority of the action and emotional development of the chapter revolving around Osmotar, the brewer of the barley.

I will still go looking for a tale in which bees are more central to the plot, I just hope I run in to some giants along the way and they get me back on track, which is an odd thing to find yourself saying but you'll have to forgive me, I've got a head full of bees...

...here's to living happily ever after, until the next adventure.

The Travelling Talesman www.thetravellingtalesman.co.uk

Morchard's Weather - and clocks

The weather in October has been - well - rather boring. Some warm days, some wet days. Not much to report. Storm Amy went through, but with hardly a bent branch. So instead, how about some information about the clocks? By the time you read this, the clocks will have gone back one hour, reverting back to Greenwich Mean Time - GMT from British Summer Time or BST.

So why do we do this?

Well, it's all about making the best use of longer summer days. The Romans even altered how 'long' an hour was during the summer (75 minutes in summer, 44 in winter). In 1784, Benjamin Franklin thought it a good idea to have 'longer days' to save candles. And then, in 1907 a British chap called Wiliam Willet was annoyed about wasting daylight during summer mornings so proposed to move the clocks forward 1 hour for the summer period. Germany went first in 1916 and the UK followed a few weeks later. During the second world war, this was extended to two hours and between 1968 and 1971, the clocks stayed on summer time for three years as an experiment. However, sunrise in Glasgow in mid-Winter is just before 10:00 am on this time scheme, so the experiment was shelved. Iceland, Belarus and Russia are the only three European countries which do not change their clocks during the year. King Edward VII created his own time zone in 1901 for the Sandringham Estate so he could have an extra 30 minutes hunting each day.

Hopefully you remembered to change yours - if you can get that pesky oven clock to change that is!

Stephen Leese

Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall



Sunday 2nd November 2pm - 4pm

£5 per Table

(Please reserve your table, sellers from 12.30pm)
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info@morchardvillagehall.co.uk **Refreshments available**





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Sustainable Morchard

Volcanoes

Volcanoes occur at plate boundaries and at "hotspots". Hotspots are places where plumes of magma rise from deep within the mantle. Magma is the name given to lava which has yet to reach the Earth's surface. The mantle is the section of the Earth that lies below the Earth's (surface) crust.

The magma in the mantle is rather like plasticine or thick porridge. Heat from the centre of the Earth rises as convection currents to the surface and spreads out. This means that in some places the crustal plates (the "jig-saw pieces of the Earth's crust) move apart (divergence) or move together (convergence). Volcanoes can be found along plate boundaries of both convergence and divergence, but the type of volcanoes found at each boundary are very different.

Where plates move apart (divergence) the volcanic eruptions tend to be more gentle with a number of episodes, and comprise largely lava. If the lava is viscous (sticky) with a high silica content it will flow slowly and cool to form a cone-shaped volcano called a shield volcano.



Although the lava flows from these eruptions can destroy everything in their path, their slow speed does allow evacuation and, in some instances, lava flows can be diverted away from buildings. However, some lava flows which have a low silica content and low viscosity move much more quickly. Mount Nyiragongo, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, erupted in 2002 with lava speeds reaching up to 60 mph. As a result 100 people were killed, 12,500 homes destroyed and 400,000 evacuated.

Where thin, but dense, oceanic plate sinks (subducts) beneath thick, but light, oceanic plate, composite cone volcanoes occur. As the oceanic plate subducts it heats up and essentially melts. This molten rock finds its way to the surface and erupts with a magnificent explosion of ash, rock, lava and lava bombs. These dense clouds of ash often blow out the side of the volcano and rip down its sides as a pyroclastic flow. (It is worth searching pyroclastic flows on YouTube.) The heat and density of these flows will destroy everything in their path. They can reach speeds in excess of 200 mph, making them more deadly than lava flows. Their direction of flow is difficult to predict.

The gas and ash clouds associated with these explosions can create their own weather systems with torrential rainfall. In these circumstances the rain will mix with the ash to create deadly mudflows called lahas (lahars) - again worth searching on YouTube for footage. These lahas follow the line of least resistance, usually pre-exiting valleys, and so their direction of flow can, up to a point, be predicted.

Geoff Thatcher

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Unlike earthquakes, volcanoes do give some warning that they might explode in the near future allowing communities to prepare for the worst. One week prior to the Nyiragongo explosion on January 17th 2002 a local expert identified some warning signs in the behaviour of the volcano and alerted local officials. A UN survey team was sent to the area and declared the volcano safe. Shortly afterwards it erupted destroying 40% of the nearby city of Goma. The science of predicting volcanic eruptions, whilst far in advance of that of earthquakes, remains far from secure.

Unlike most other natural hazards, the incidence and intensity of tectonic hazards are not affected by climate change, although volcanic eruptions do affect the climate. In the short-term large ash clouds, which can circle the globe, can have a cooling effect on the weather until such time as the ash settles onto the Earth's surface. In the longer term, greenhouse gases such as water vapour and carbon dioxide will enhance the greenhouse effect resulting in climate change. Such natural causes of climate change are insignificant compared with man-made causes.

Paul Ticehurst

~ Debbie's Diner ~

Take one ingredient.....potatoes

Potatoes are a form of starchy carbohydrate. They are cheap, easy to buy or grow yourself and extremely versatile. They are nutritious, offering us slow-release energy, vitamin C to boost our immune system, fibre to aid digestion [especially if you leave the skins on] and potassium which helps muscle contractions, nerve function and a regular heartbeat. In their natural state, they are fat-free, salt-free, cholesterol-free and gluten-free. If you add butter and salt then this changes of course!

'Floury' potatoes eg King Edwards, Maris Piper are great for roasting, baking and mashing etc. 'Waxy' potatoes hold their shape for longer and are good in salads. There are loads of potato recipes on sites such as www.bbcgoodfood.com

Homity Pie

A delicious pastry case filled with cheesy leeks, onions and potatoes. For a 15cm flan tin. Pre-heat the oven to 180*

1 medium onion, 1 small leek, 350g of clean floury potatoes, 100g cheddar, 75g of double cream, thyme, salt & pepper.
1 ready made savoury pastry case or shortcrust pastry made from 150g plain or wholemeal flour [or 50:50], 75g butter/Flora, 1 medium egg, pinch of cayenne or paprika.



To make the pastry: rub the cold fat into the flour using fingertips until it looks like breadcrumbs or sand. Add the paprika/cayenne egg and mix it together by hand. Add cold water, if necessary, one spoon at a time. Mix it until it forms a ball of pastry and the bowl is clean. Wrap it in clingfilm and chill till needed.

Fry off the chopped onion and chopped leek in some olive oil until softened. Roughly chop the potatoes into chunks and add them to the onion mix. Stir it all together and cook on a low-ish heat for 15 ins. Turn the heat off and stir through the cream and half the cheese.

Roll out your chilled pastry so that it is as big as your pie dish plus enough to go up the sides. If the pastry tears, just mend it with your fingers. It is very forgiving! Once you have lined it all, lightly press the base with a fork and sprinkle over half of the remaining cheese. Pile in the potato mixture and spread it out. It should not be smooth. Sprinkle over the last of the cheddar and bake for 35 mins until golden brown. Rest it for 10 mins before serving it.

Hasselback potatoes

2 large clean floury potatoes per person, olive oil, crushed garlic, rosemary leaves and seasoning. Pre-heat the oven to 190*.

Place each potato between two identical wooden spoons or chopping boards. Using a sharp knife, cut down in narrow slits only as far as the board or spoons ie not right through. See photo *right*. Rub the oil, garlic and rosemary into the slits on each potato and bake them [slit side up] on a tray in the oven for up to an hour. They should be tender and golden brown.



News from your Parish Council

The Parish Council met in the Memorial Hall on Monday 6th October 2025.

The Parish Council spent £389.67 from the main account, nothing from its Reserve account and £1,104.54 from the Footpaths account. The items of expenditure over £100 were £267 for grass cutting and £1,104.54 for work to footpaths. There were no planning applications for the Parish Council to consider.

The Council decided to leave the Play Area behind the garages at Greenaway in the ownership of Mid Devon District Council. Correspondence had been received from the Fuel Poverty Project - Better Housing Better Health works to help residents living in or at risk of living in fuel poverty to access advice and support. Their service is free of charge. They also have emergency fuel vouchers worth £49 to assist residents who use a prepayment meter. Please see below for the notice explaining how to access their services.

Conversations continued about how to get Devon Highways to respond to the Parish Council's concerns about drains, flooding and signposting. A meeting had been diarised with the local Highways Officer.

It was agreed to buy a Crab Apple Tree to replace the Cherry Tree that had been on the Green by the Bus Shelter. The lighting of the Village Nativity would take place on Sunday 14 December at 5.45pm at the Bus Shelter.

There would be a meeting arranged for the Bad Weather (Snow) Wardens in the London Inn to brief the wardens. Apple Day had been busy and another success.

Members of the Parish Council and guest of honour Pamela Tilney-Ellis attended the opening of the school track around the field and to the school gardens on Friday 10th October. This track was made possible by the proceeds from the Laser Light Extravaganza and the generosity of the Tilney-Ellis Trust.

If you want to read the full minutes of Parish Council meetings, they are available on the Parish Council noticeboard on the London Inn Skittle Alley. They can also be read on the Parish Council Website: https://www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/. We hope that the new website is a useful tool for everyone in the village, please do let us have your comments and contributions.

If you have any views or issues regarding life in Morchard Bishop, please do let me know.

David Parker
Parish Clerk

Contact Details for the Parish Council:

David Parker: 01363 877008 / 07794 362591 email: clerk@morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk



MORFEST '26

Following on from the wonderful laser show in November 2024, we are organising a music, food, drink and entertainment festival on Saturday 23rd May '26 to raise money for village organisations.

Our hope is that lots of people from different Morchard Bishop organisations will help us to run it, thereby enabling that village group to apply for a grant from the proceeds.

How can you help?

- Offer to join the organising committee
- Offer to run a stall/activity
- Offer to perform
- Offer to sponsor part of the event
- Offer to help set up/clear up nearer the time.
- Etc

Contact the Parish Council via David Parker, Simon Baker or Sarah Gillbard. Email Clerk@morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk

MORCHARD BISHOP FOOTBALL CLUB

Devon & Exeter Football League Divison 2



November Fixtures

Saturday 1st November Alphington (A)* cup match 2pm k.o Saturday 8th November Heavitree Utd (A) 2.15pm k.o

September/October Results

27th September Morchard Bishop 3 Heavitree 1 (Callum Vanstone 1 Adam Bell 1 Liam Tucker 1)

4th October University of Exeter 0 Morchard Bishop 4 (Joe Barrow 2 Jack Parkhouse 1 Adam Bell 1)

11th October Morchard Bishop 2 Beer 0 **cup match (Ben Betts 2)

Light refreshments on sale during the match

For all updates on fixtures please visit The Devon and Exeter Football League website www.defleague.co.uk

Facebook Morchard Bishop Football Club or the Football Club noticeboard

Please support your local Team

BINGO....Friday 21st November 2025 Full details please see main advert in this Messenger (page 23)

Garden Tips for November



- Clear up fallen leaves especially from lawns and ponds - leave some at back of beds and in mounds as habitat
- Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent waterlogging
- Make sure all tender plants are protected
- Plant tulip bulbs for a spring display next year
- Prune roses to prevent wind-rock
- Plant out winter bedding
- Cover brassicas with netting if pigeons are a problem
- Insulate outdoor containers from frost bubblewrap works well
- Stop winter moth damage to fruit trees using grease bands around the trunks
- Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into the garden
- Use a seasonal bonfire to dispose of excess debris unfit for composting
- BUT CHECK FOR HEDGEHOGS immediately before lighting!

Jo Coffey



Friday 6 November Jazz on the Green 7.00pm Bar Jazz and Sri Lankan food Tickets £27

Friday 7 November Jay walkers 7.30pm Bar Vibrant Americana with Musicianship to enthral Tickets£15/£12

Friday 14 November Rosalie 7.30pm Bar Drama from "Pleasuredome Productions" based on her life at Arlington Court near Barnstaple Tickets£13/£11

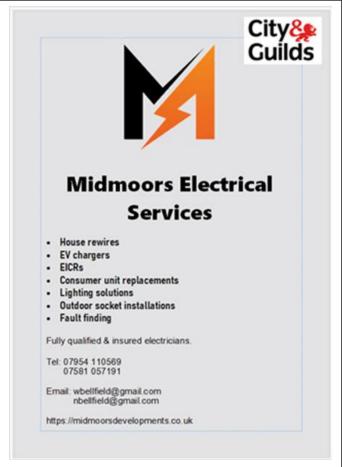
Friday 21 November The Red Dirt Band 7.30 pm Bar A melange of Irish, English & American Folk with more than a touch of verve Tickets£10/£8

Thursday 27 November Limbo 7.30pm Bar An engaging and poignant film presentation "The Last Thursday Picture Show"

Tickets £5 with the opportunity to purchase a themed pudding

Friday 28 November Pink Floyd live at Pompeii 7.30pm Bar A legendary film digitally restored with bonus material - a gem that music fans will not want to miss. Tickets £5





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Countryfile

Weeds

Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them. A. A. Milne
Such plants are "weeds" only to those who make a business of selling and applying chemicals.

Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

A weed is just a plant in the wrong place.

There is nothing which creates more squabbles in online plant ID groups than someone calling something a weed rather than just identifying the actual plant. A weed is a totally subjective term for a plant which happens to grow where the gardener doesn't want it to be. There is nothing inherently wrong with them. A rose can be a weed if it is growing where it is unwelcome, daisies are welcome wildflowers to many people, even in lawns. Very often a plant considered a weed is a valuable native wildflower, essential to support the biodiversity we all rely on, which just happens to like the conditions in our gardens and often is good at self-seeding so it appears there without invitation.

The noxious chemicals sold as "weed killer" are more properly called herbicides because the vast majority of them don't give two hoots what the plant they drift onto is, just that they can disrupt its ability to live by blocking essential functions or causing it to grow so fast it collapses. Many of them are toxic to more than just plants too, causing issues for people, aquatic life and especially for insects – that's why so many in the small print say to apply them at night or not to flowering plants, their ability to destroy our essential pollinators is a harmful side effect. Others, such as aminopyralids, persist in plant matter and beyond being composted or digested by animals, and can go on to cause compost or manure to be toxic to the plants trying to grow in it. "Natural" or "home-made" mixes are no better and have the disadvantage of being less targeted and, in the case of anything using salt, likely to make the soil toxic for anything to grow in (think about the beach and how small a range of plants can tolerate growing there).

Most gardeners like to have some influence over what grows in their space, and removing plants like brambles is understandable, but the safest and most environmentally responsible, and often most effective way to approach removal of plants is to physically remove them, either hand weeding or, in paths, a burner can be effective. Regular small amounts of effort soon stops the more prolific from seeding; prevention is better than cure. Even better is to learn about the many moths and butterflies, lacewings and hover flies which all rely on the native plants for their homes and food as larvae, and how the hedgehogs and bats rely on them, and start to notice and enjoy the different native plants for the added benefits they bring to our gardens and the wider countryside.

Jo Coffey

September & October WI News

Our WI advisor Lesley Beer came and demonstrated making beautiful resin flowers; we all had a go with lovely results! Lesley is returning in December for our Christmas craft and social. Our October meeting was not as advertised as the speaker had to cancel, but the



speaker Liz Westcott will be coming to talk to us about beekeeping in February 2026.

In November local author Liz Shakespeare will be talking about her book "Fever in Devon" in the Hall and all are welcome.

You do not have to be a WI member to attend a meeting but may come along as a guest to see if it interests you – we are a friendly lot with tea and cake always on offer!

Wendy Vere

Our meeting in October was changed because the original speaker, Liz Westcott could not make it and will speak to us about bees next year. Instead, we had a speaker called Ruth Chambers demonstrating chair yoga which we all enjoyed enormously. Wendy, our President was looking after her baby granddaughter, and at the end of the chair yoga we all relaxed to the sound of cooing from a contented baby.

The speaker at our November meeting will be Liz Shakespeare who has spoken to us before. This time she will be delving into the history of her book, "Fever".

Sue Pluckwell

Poem of the month

I am as open as a broken window

and the wind passes through singing faint praise with

the entwining voices of Balkan choirs. The grasses

are worn out with summer. I should shut this out,

coughing with the dust of harvests, stay silent as drizzle on glass

till you return.

Colin Crewdson





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Crediton & District Third Age Trust



Next meeting

19 November 2025 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Working with the Military: Television Presenters under Stress

> A talk by Alex Leger Venue: Boniface Centre Cost: £1.50

Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

VEDNESDAY 5° NOVEMBER 3nm - 4.30nm



We have a wide selection of books for adults and children. Also a large selection of jigsaws. No charge for books or jigsaws.

> Tea\Coffee and Biscuits £1 Cakes 50p

Come and join us just for a chat!!





Over 60's Luncheon & Get Together

The next Over 60's Luncheon at the London Inn will be on Wednesday 19th November at 12.30pm. The menu for this lunch will be Steak & Ale Pie with a selection of Vegetables & Roast Potatoes, followed by Sticky Toffee Pudding with Ice Cream, followed by tea/ coffee.

The cost is £12.00 inclusive.

Regular and new members will be warmly welcomed in the London Inn.

If you would like to join in please fill in the slip below and return it to me by Tuesday 18th November or email me at mandytapp@talk21.com or phone me on 01363 877459 or just pop in to me at Harries.

Regular members please let me know if you are unable to attend, thank you.

Name-	

Tel No: -----

Mandy Tapp

MORCHARD BISHOP FOOTBALL CLUB



FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2025 MORCHARD BISHOP MEMORIAL HALL **DOORS OPEN 6.30PM EYES DOWN 7.45PM CHICKEN DINNERS-FULL HOUSE CASH FLYER GRAND DRAW**

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School News



New Track for the School Grounds



Last week marked the grand opening of our new daily mile track. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Tilney-Ellis and the team at The Tilney-Ellis Village Trust, the Parish Council and FOMBS (PTA) members, all of which have driven the project forwards and worked tirelessly to provide the school community with a track to complete their daily mile.

Mrs Yendell, Chair of FOMBS, spoke to our visitors and children:

On behalf of FOMBS, I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Tilney-Ellis and the team at The Tilney-Ellis Village Trust for their amazingly generous support in the completion of our new track. It's wonderful to be able to use it every day for our daily mile and to have a safe way to get to our garden and roundhouse come rain or shine.

I'd also like to thank Sarah Gilbard and the Parish Council team for using their very successful Laser Extravaganza evening to raise much needed funds for the track. It was incredibly generous, kind and also a wonderful night for us all. Without the support from yourselves and The Tilley-Ellis Village Trust we would still have many, many years of fundraising ahead of us.

In addition, this would not have been possible without the continuous support from the School (staff and children!), parents, the community, Mr Partridge and all the local businesses that have helped along the way. We've had some very dedicated families working on this project from start to finish and we are all so thankful.

This has not been an easy journey with changes to the FOMBS committee, families moving onto secondary school, new leaderships and lots of design adaptions. We have, however, achieved our goal! The garden space can be accessed all year round, we can walk our daily mile in a safe and beautiful location that research shows can improve the children's focus, reduce stress, enhance learning and develop social skills; and let's not forget we now have a fun track for cross country practice! Everyone's a winner!

So thank you everyone for your support, we really do appreciate it and it just goes to show that teamwork really does make the dream work. Thank you.

Hannah Bancroft



