



The MORCHARD MESSENGER

The Independent Village Newsletter

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

No.375 SEPTEMBER 2026

SPONSORED THIS MONTH BY THE LONDON INN

A Warm Welcome from The London Inn!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to everyone from all at the Morchard Bishop London Inn. I'm not sure where this year has gone as I write this on a hot August day, but we see ourselves heading towards cooler months and Christmas rapidly approaching: the nights already have started pulling in! The trees laden with fruit and the children holding on to the last of their holidays before their new school year.

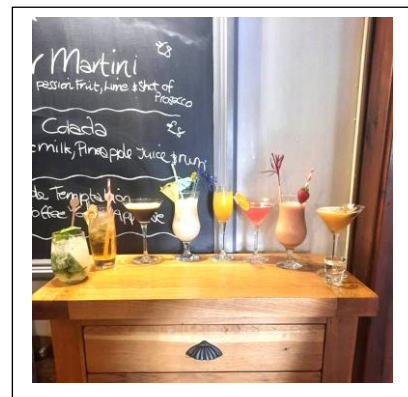


Will it be a white Christmas this year we wonder? With our three roaring log fires, come and enjoy a great range of award-winning drinks, local ciders, beers on tap, cocktails, freshly ground and brewed coffee, and a good range of soft drinks and juices. All can be enjoyed outside in the wooden pods in the beer garden, or inside. Featuring our locally sourced menu, please advise when booking any dietary requirements as with notice, we can cater for all, vegan, vegetarian, gluten free, dairy free etc here in the historic London Inn.

The London Inn welcomes you Wednesday through to Sunday, both lunchtime 12-2pm for food, closing at 3pm. Lunchtimes we offer a selection of homemade specials and light bites from our Snack Menu.

Then evenings we offer a Specials Board and the a' la Carte Menu from 6-8.30pm, closing 10.30/11pm and last orders for food 8pm, and closing slightly earlier at 9.30/10pm on a Sunday for the staff to have a well-deserved break. Bookings are strongly advisable and appreciated wherever possible, so we can prepare and plan staffing accordingly. Thank you for supporting **your** local village pub.

The London Inn can be booked for special events by prior agreement. We have a skittle alley, with darts, and a juke box available to use. Stella and Scrumpy, the pub Labradors, are happy to say hello and may often be found in front of the fires. Well-behaved dogs, and children, are warmly welcome too.



We have continued with our popular Take Away service, and we would appreciate wherever possible to place your order with as much notice as you can, ideally phoned through (01363) 877222 at lunchtime for an arranged collection time in the evening to help us serve all.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support over the past year and we look forward to welcoming you again soon. Our famous Christmas menus will be available shortly and bookings are already being taken.....don't delay!

With love from Sarah and The London Inn team x



SEPTEMBER 2026 DIARY

If you'd like details of your event or meeting to appear in the October 2026 Diary, please let Sue Eaglen know by September 12 at sue_eaglen@fastmail.co.uk or message Sue on 07854 745791. You may also like to use the section below to publicise a [future event](#).

St Mary's – all welcome at our services

6th. 10.30am Morning worship

13th. 10.30am Holy Communion with baptism

20th. 10.30am Family service

27th. 10.30am Morning worship

Emmanuel all welcome at our services.

Morning services start at 11, 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.

Third Sunday joint Bible study with St. Mary's at Emmanuel.

The Prime Club meets on the 2nd Friday at 19.00.

Edge Club meets on the 3rd Friday at 19.30 but please note the clubs do not meet in August.

Coffee mornings Tuesdays 10.00 – 11.30.

Book Swap - Wed September 2, 15.00 – 16.30

MB Sports & Social Club month's events & opening, please see page 4

Future Events

Apple Day – Sat, Oct 3, Memorial Hall

Breakfast Church – Sun, Oct 4, 9.30 – 11.00, Emmanuel

MBFC Bingo Fri, Oct 16

For September Dance Academy classes please contact Rachael Kemp doveschoolofdance@gmail.com

Wed	2 & 9, 16, 23, 30	10.30 – 11.15	Chair exercise	Memorial Hall
	2	14.00 – 15.00	Intro/ Pickleball – tea & cake after	Memorial Hall
	2	15.00 – 16.30	Book Swap	Memorial Hall
	2 & 9, 23, 30	19.30 – 21.00	Pickleball	Memorial Hall
Thurs	3	12.00 – 15.00	Singaround incl lunch	London Inn
	3 & 10, 17, 24 – please note, fully booked.	18.35 – 19.30	Mat Pilates	Memorial Hall
Fri	4 & 11, 18, 25	13.30 – 14.30	Visiting Post Office	London Inn
Sat	5	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall

Sponsored This Month by The London Inn

Mon	7 & 14, 21, 28	9.00 – 10.00	Mixed ability Pilates	Memorial Hall
	7	19.00	Parish Council	Memorial Hall
Tues	8, 15, 22, 29	19.30	Bridge	MBSSC
Wed	9	14.30	W.I. River Exe trip	Memorial Hall
		19.30 – 21.00	Pickleball	
Fri	11	11.30	Carers' Club	London Inn
Sat	12	9.30 – 11.30	Produce Market, Table Top & Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
Wed	16	12.00	Over-60s Lunch	London Inn
	16 & 23, 29	17.30 – 19.00	Brownies	Memorial Hall
Thurs	17	19.45 – 21.00	Pickleball	Memorial Hall
Sat	19	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
Sun	20	11.00	Harvest Celebrations	Emmanuel
Sat	26	9.00 – 11.00	Community Clean-up	Meet London Inn car park
		10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning	Memorial Hall
		19.00 – 24.00	Dance or listen to Cheaper by Bus	Memorial Hall



Mid Devon Council

Free kitchen food caddies now available

Residents in Mid Devon can receive a free kitchen food caddy as the Council encourages more households to commit to recycling more.

As part of the Council's Bin-It 123 waste and recycling scheme residents already get their food waste collected each week from the kerbside, and the Council collects 3,700 tonnes of food waste per year.

But we know many homes don't separate their food waste from their black bags and bins, resulting in up to 25% of black bag waste being food which could have been recycled.

While all households already have a kerbside food bin the Council is now providing smaller caddies to be kept in kitchens, making it handier to recycle food in the home.

Residents can request a kitchen caddy online: at

[Order a waste container \(Black Bin/Seagull sack\) or recycling box - MIDDEVON.GOV.UK](https://www.middevon.gov.uk/order-a-waste-container)

Request period: From 17 August to 21 September 2026

Delivery period: From 23 September to 13 November 2026

Copy for Publication in THE MORCHARD MESSENGER

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

15th September 2026

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, although names can be withheld on request.

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 ¾ page are £7 a month
Adverts up to ¼ 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
Annual membership £2 per adult, due
1st August '26

SEPTEMBER OPENING TIMES

Mondays – CLOSED

Tuesdays – All dates open for pool starting 1st September, Bridge starts again on 8th September.

Wednesdays – All dates maybe open for ladies' darts practice.

Thursdays – All dates maybe open for Men's Darts practice.

Fridays – 4th & 18th Village darts competition.

Saturdays – Normal opening times from 7.30pm.

Sundays – CLOSED

**IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE ABLE TO
VOLUNTEER AT THE SOCIAL CLUB,
HELPING BEHIND THE BAR FOR A
FEW HOURS, WE NEED YOU !!!!!**

PLEASE CONTACT
mbssc.secretary@gmail.com

This is a rough guide which may be subject to change please contact morchardsportsandsocialclub@gmail.com for more information if needed or go to our Facebook page for updates.

Church Street Stores

Opening Hours:

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

01363 877826

www.facebook.com/churchstreetstores

Matthew & Clare

Bus Service 369 (Dartline)

Outward

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway):
07.12, 09.40, 11.50, 13.55, 16.07
Saturday variation 07.25

Crediton High St: 07.46, (07.54), 10.14,
12.21, 14.24, 16.39

Crediton Train station /Redlands:
07.51, (08.00), 10.19, 12.26, 14.28,
16.43

Exeter City Centre (Sidwell St):
08.17, (08.23), 10.39, 12.45, 14.48,
17.05

RD&E Hospital 08.26, 17.14
Saturdays 08.28, 17.14

Return

Exeter RD&E: 17.15/ 17.15

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

Crediton Train station/Redlands:
09.04, 11.13, 13.19, 15.25, 17.57,
(17.55)

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway):
09.38, 11.48, 13.53, 16.05, 18.34
Saturdays 18.28

Witheridge: 18.59 (*not Saturdays*)

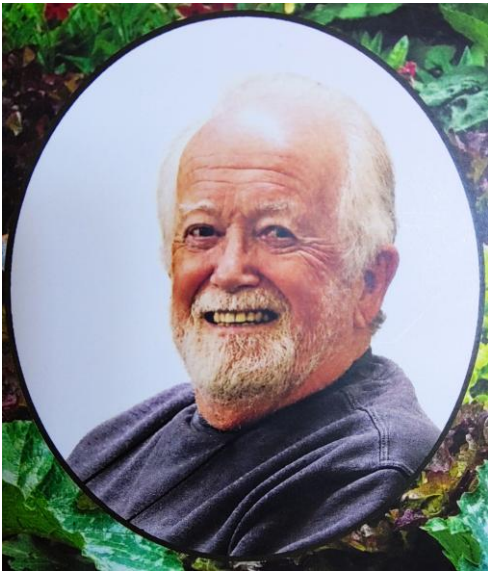
Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

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

Bookings - Contact Debbie Ticehurst
dticehurst@icloud.com
07875359563

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

Produce / Table Top booking –
contact **Robert Moore**
07455 896589
robert@lydcottnursery.co.uk



Keith Beresford Davies

29 November 1943 – 3 July 2026

Keith Davies, who lived for many years in Morchard Bishop and had many friends in the village, died on 3rd July in Falmouth, where he and Christine had moved recently. His funeral was held on 27th July, but it is hoped there will be a Memorial event in Morchard Bishop later in the year.

Keith had a special relationship with the Morchard Messenger, as long-suffering editor, having created the newsletter as it appears today, after reviving an earlier magazine started by the late Jeff Kingaby.



Emmanuel Methodist Church

We have a wheelchair at our premises that we are happy to loan to anyone on a short-term basis. We also now have a walker donated to us that is available for anyone needing it after an operation or short term until they can obtain their own. Borrowed at your own risk.
Contact Pauline Nott on 07927 698910 or email Pauline.nott@btinternet.com

A Plea

Drivers, please remember that few of our village roads have pavements!
This means the roads are shared by pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and vehicles alike.

A Morchard Resident

Memorial Tractor Run

I am writing to you to make you aware of an upcoming Memorial Tractor Run which will be passing through Morchard Bishop on the 27th September, as part of a special event being held in memory of Nathan James Saunders, aged 19.

This tractor Run is being held in memory of Nathan who sadly lost his life earlier this year. A true country lad, Nathan grew up on his family farm near Sandford, surrounded by agriculture and the outdoors. He always knew that farming was the place he wanted to be, and after finishing education, he quickly found his place in the industry. Known for his hard work, good humour, and his famous saying, "School is as useless as a yard scraper on gravel", Nathan was happiest out on the farm. He also enjoyed shooting with his friends and his beloved dog, Purdey. Nathan was a much-loved son, brother and friend to many; this tractor run is being held in his memory to celebrate the life he lived, the farming life he loved, and the many special memories he left behind.

The event will involve a large number of tractors travelling along the planned route through a number of local villages. We wanted to give you advanced notice so that residents and members of the public are aware that there may be increased traffic, slower moving vehicles, temporary delays and possible hold ups while the tractor run passes through the area.

We will be putting up posters and notices in advance to the event to make the public aware of the tractor run and potential disruption.

Our route consists of our starting point at Rudge Rew Farm and heading back towards Morchard Bishop along Chulmleigh Road and then turning left up Eastington hill towards Lapford. Nearer the end of the route, we circle back to entering Morchard Bishop from Venn Hill, to then enter Morchard going up Polson Hill and pass the green down Fore Street and back to our final destination along Chulmleigh Road.

We appreciate that the tractor run may cause some temporary inconvenience, and we are very grateful for the understanding and cooperation of the local communities. Our aim is to make the day a safe and enjoyable occasion for everyone while giving Nathan's family, friends and the wider farming community the opportunity to come together and remember him.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Kind Regards,

Milly Grigg

Sustainable Morchard

Sustainable Morchard now have 300 re-usable pint and half pint plastic glasses free of charge for village-wide events as well as parishioners' private parties.

We only ask for 50p to cover the cost of broken or lost glasses, though any other donations are welcome.

All donations are used to fund future Sustainable Morchard events.

For further details please contact **Steve Watson** at watsonsinxx@gmail.com

Morchain Bishop Community Clean up

Sprawling weeds. Unkempt verges. Hedges to cut back. Dirty signs. Jobs you'd like to see improved or done? Sadly, government funding and maintenance has declined, but let's be proactive!

Your Morchain Bishop Parish Council are keen to run a **Community Clean Up**, Saturday 26th September 2026 0900-1100am.

If 100 people give one hour of their time, think what a difference we could all achieve!

Register at The London Inn car park on the day (for insurance reasons) and get a free tea/coffee! High viz and tools will be provided as needed.

No job too small, and all help very much appreciated to get our village looking smart!

Equally, if there are jobs you think would benefit the village, please email our Parish Clerk, clerk@morchainbishop-pc.gov.uk and David will compile a list.

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Simon Baker
Parish Council Chairman



Memorial Hall Book Swap

Morchain Memorial Hall set up a Book and Jigsaw Swap 2 years ago. We have been very fortunate to have received many, many excellent and up to date books and a huge range of jigsaws.

In August we celebrated our 2nd anniversary with a complimentary cream tea.

The Book Swap is held on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 3pm - 4.30pm. We regularly have 20 or so residents of all ages joining us for some or all of the afternoon. There is no charge for books or jigsaws. If you enjoy reading or jigsaws do come and join us on Wednesday 2nd September. We look forward to seeing you.

National Emergency Briefing film

In November 2025, ten of the UK's leading experts briefed an invited audience of over 1,200 politicians and leaders from business, culture, faith, sport and the media.

The 45-minute briefing sets out the science and national implications of climate and nature breakdown for health, food systems, national security and the economy. The film brings together in one compelling film where the general public can hear exactly what our politicians heard and what can be done about it.

The next showing is at
Boniface Centre, Crediton
Postcode or location: EX17 2AH
Screening date: 10 Sep 2026
Start time: 19:30
FREE

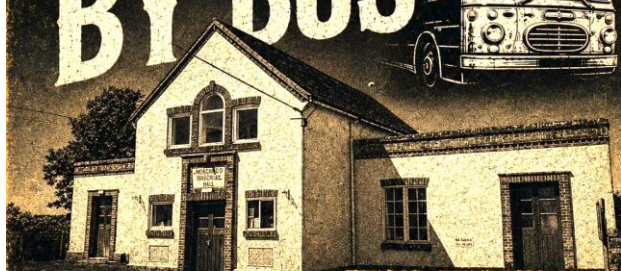
In light of recent events, heat waves and fires ...this is unmissable!

Want to know more? go to:
<https://www.nebriefing.org/>

LIVE MUSIC. GREAT VIBES. LOCAL COMMUNITY.

★ = FEATURING = ★

CHEAPER BY BUS



DATE
SEPTEMBER 26

TIME
19:00 TO 00:00

VENUE
MORCHAIN BISHOP MEMORIAL HALL

★ **ENTRY FEE** ★
£8pp / £20
PER PERSON / FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR
ADDITIONAL FAMILY TICKETS £5PP

★ **LICENSED BAR AND FOOD AVAILABLE** ★

MORCHARD BISHOP FOOTBALL CLUB

Devon & Exeter Football League

Division 2



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER FIXTURES

Saturday 29th August Lympstone 1sts (H) 3PM k.o
Saturday 5th September Heavitree 1sts (A) 3PM k.o
Saturday 12th September Cullompton Rangers (A) 3pm k.o
Saturday 19th September Broadclyst (H) 3pm k.o

Light refreshments on sale during match

For all updates on club fixtures please visit the Devon
& Exeter Football League Website.

www.defleague.co.uk

on Facebook Morchard Bishop Football Club or the
Football Club Noticeboard.

Please support your local team

BINGO...Friday 16th October 2026

Full details please see main advert in this messenger.

Morchard Bishop Table Tennis Group

Fancy a game of Table Tennis? New players of any ability
welcome.

From September Morchard Bishop Table Tennis group will
resume. Actual date still to be confirmed.

We play in the Emmanuel Hall on Mondays between 2pm and 4
pm, tea and biscuits provided.

Please contact Karena for further info.

07926171375.

Pickleball at the Memorial Hall



Introductory and general play sessions

These will be held on the following dates/times in
September.

Weds 2nd intro session-2pm to 3pm. Free tea and
cake after at the Book Swap!

Wed 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th 7.30-9pm

Thurs 17th 7.45 – 9.00

Places are restricted to just 6 people per session.
Places need to be pre-booked by email to
dticehurst@icloud.com or WhatsApp 07875359563.
£2 a session.

First come, first served. Wear comfy clothing and
trainers/plimsoles. Equipment is provided.

Over 60's Lunch & Get Together

The next Over 60's Luncheon at the London Inn will
be on Wednesday 16th September at 12.30pm.

The menu will be Chicken and Ham Pie with
Vegetables & Roast Potatoes
followed by Apple and Forest Fruit Crumble with
Custard.
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 15th
September 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

News from your Parish Council

The Parish Council met in the Memorial Hall on Monday 3 August 2026.

The Parish Council spent £71.21 from the main account, nothing from its Reserve account and nothing from the Footpaths account.

There were four planning applications for the Parish Council to consider:

26/00892/HOUSE SUPPORTED	Replacement of existing extension roof incorporating 3 roof lights, alterations to and formation of window and door openings, and erection of a conservatory	Redhill, MB NGR: 276103/108047
26/00907/CLU NO COMMENT PASSED	Certificate of lawfulness to establish the lawful commencement of development approved under planning permission 23/01480/FULL - Erection of dwelling following the demolition of Dutch barn, utilising the Class Q fallback position	The Dutch Barn, MB NGR: 278784/107461
26/00515/LBC SUPPORTED	Listed Building Consent for the repair of timber elements in A frame roof	3 Fore Street, MB
26/00300/PIP Appeal to Secretary of State	Permission in Principle for the erection of 1 detached dwelling	Land at NGR277210 106707 South East of Lydcott House, MB

With regard to the Appeal (last item) The Parish Council confirmed their previous position and will be supporting Mid Devon District Council Planning Officers in defending this appeal.

There was discussion about Local Government Reorganisation where the Government have now made a decision that Devon will be split into four unitary authorities, Plymouth, Torbay, Exeter and Devon (Rural) Council. Morchard Bishop and Sandford will form part of Devon Council whilst Crediton and Newton St Cyres have been moved to join Exeter Council. For the time being parishioners should not see any changes to their services.

Information has been received that the footpath between Fore Street and The Green (Jesse Chanters Way) is to be closed between 30 September and 6 October for works to provide Fibre Broadband.



Ref: Openreach Works – **WGS6T6W**
Re: FOOTPATH CLOSURE- THE GREEN.

Dear Resident,

We are writing to advise of a footpath closure at the above location for various telecoms works on Tuesday 22nd September as we proceed with the roll out of ultrafast fibre broadband infrastructure on behalf of our client Openreach. Closure times are 08:00 – 18:00.

Whilst we aim to complete works with minimal disruption, we have a requirement to close the road to complete some essential network maintenance.

All efforts will be made to maintain access to residents and businesses during the closure period, however, there may be delays accessing your property should our crews and equipment need to move.

If you have any further questions, please contact our office on **0800 085 9194**.
 Thank you for your understanding.

Circet UK
 Contract works on behalf of Openreach

The ongoing Parish Council projects are, a Community Orchard in the village, the Village Tidy-Up day – set for Saturday 26 September and the Village Archive. If you have any views on any of these projects, positive, negative or neutral do let me know – we do need your feed back.

Our next meeting is on Monday 7 September at 7.00pm in the upper room of the Memorial Hall – all are welcome.

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 website is a useful tool for everyone in the village, please do let us have your comments and contributions including future dates of your organisations' activities in order that other groups can avoid double booking.

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

David Parker

Contact Details for the Parish Council:

Parish Clerk

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



**Best in Show winner Mr Peter Beer, Crediton
at recent Vintage Rally, part of the Playing Field's event
held on August 1st.**

Morchard Bishop Parish Council

What are you going to do about that?

Many of us who serve as Parish Councillors or as volunteers on village committees often hear the question: "*What are you going to do about that?*" It's an understandable question, and one that reflects how much people care about our community.

Our Parish Councillors – currently ten in number – give their time voluntarily, and their capacity is naturally limited. This is why community support is so valuable. A recent example was at the Vintage Rally and Fun Day, where we found ourselves short of volunteers for the Welly Wanging event due to Parish Councillors working in other areas at the event. We were extremely grateful to Charles Parkhouse and Robert Vere for stepping in and helping to make the day a success.

The Parish Council's formal responsibilities include maintaining public clocks, bus shelters, play areas and equipment, awarding grants to local organisations, and contributing to neighbourhood planning consultations. We also aim to support community events and help maintain the character and appearance of our parish.

Recently, we have been approached about instances of inconsiderate parking. While we are always willing to listen, we would kindly ask residents to consider whether their parking may obstruct neighbours, larger vehicles, or emergency services. Matters such as neighbourhood disputes, harassment, or ongoing parking conflicts fall under the remit of the Police or County Council, particularly where they cannot be resolved amicably between those involved. Sometimes parishioners come to us with a concern and ask, "*What are you going to do about it?*" We genuinely appreciate being approached, and we always want to help where we can. At the same time, there are moments when the best way forward is for all of us to share in the solution. This is *our* village, and often the most effective and positive change happens when we work together.

With this spirit in mind, we are organising a Village Tidy-Up Day on **Saturday 26 September, from 9.00am to 11.00am**. Even an hour of your time would make a meaningful difference. Two residents who are unable to attend have already cleared the weeds along the wall in front of Ridge House, and the improvement is clear to see. If each household were able to tidy the kerb or wall outside their own property, the overall effect would be remarkable—and something we could all take pride in.

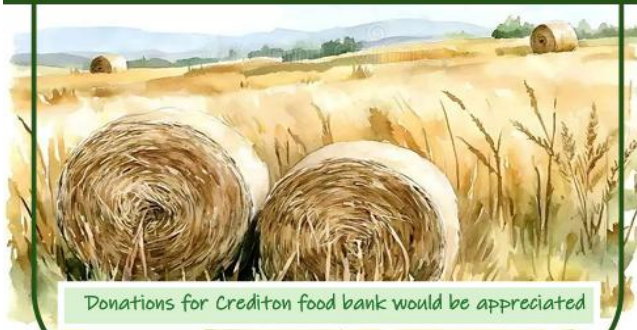
If you have suggestions for areas that would benefit from attention, please do let us know. We have not yet received any specific requests, and your input would be very welcome.

Let's work together to keep our wonderful village intact. We look forward to joining you in this effort.



Emmanuel Harvest Celebrations

20th September 2026 @ 11am



Donations for Crediton food bank would be appreciated

Everyone Welcome!

Morchard's Weather

OK, I am not going to discuss just how hot it has been. You all know that. So I thought I'd look up interesting facts instead.

The last time we had an extreme drought was in 1976 (there was drought in 2003, but not as bad).

Back then, we had standpipes, burning crops, scorched lawns and severe water shortages across many regions - no

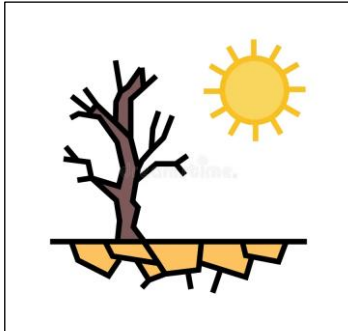
different from today. Also that year, Harold Wilson resigned, James Hunt won the F1 championship and the UK and Iceland were fighting - literally - over cod fishing rights in the North Atlantic.

And just how much water do we use? I tried to estimate it here at my house and guessed at 75 l per day. I am wrong. A 2020 survey found that 46% of respondents believed their household used less than 20 litres a day, while 17% said they consumed between 20 and 39 litres a day, and 15% thought they used 40 to 59 litres. The reality is we use between 135 and 150 litres per person, per day.

Back in 1976, the beech tree population suffered and many died, while oak trees were unaffected. And of course, we had massive gangs of unusual seven-spotted ladybirds swarming the south and west of England in search of food sources after the warm spring killed off their usual supply of tasty aphids.

The drought in 1976 ended abruptly towards the end of August with huge thunderstorms and torrential rain. As you read this, I predict it will be raining....

Stephen Leese



EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Thursday 3rd **JAZZ ON THE GREEN** Music and food

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th **ART AID FOR GAZA**

A sale of professional artist's original work donated for sale to raise funds for the humanitarian aid to those suffering in Gaza. An opportunity to buy work at very reasonable and affordable prices in a good cause.

Thursday 24th **LAST THURSDAY PICTURE SHOW** Film

Friday 25th **SAMSON ET DALIL** Opera

Credition & District Third Age Trust



Next Meeting: **16th September 2026**
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Dracula, The Man behind the Myth

A Talk by Ash Jones

Venue: Boniface Centre Cost: £2.00

Hele Lane Methodist Chapel, Black Dog

Fourth Friday Feast community lunch

Friday 25th September 2026 at 12.30pm

Hele Lane Methodist Chapel, Black Dog

All welcome for a delicious 2-course meal, & friendly social.

No charge but donations welcome.

August's WI meeting

Morchard WI met on Wednesday 12th in the afternoon at Angela Searle's farm at Hollacombe for a game of croquet and scrumptious cream tea and Pimms that Angela had laid on for us. It was yet another blistering day - 35 degrees on the thermometer - but a lovely breeze was blowing up the valley and made the heat more bearable ! Not many of us had the energy for croquet although we all had plenty of energy for chatting

and eating so a very enjoyable social afternoon was had by all, with Angela and David's cows watching us as we tried to find our raffle tickets for Hilda's draw prizes.

We also spent time discussing plans for our centenary celebrations next year, when we are having an exhibition in the Hall on "One Hundred Years of Morchard Bishop WI" with photos, posters, articles and so-forth. It should be interesting for everybody as there will be a lot of village history on display too.

You do not have to be a member of the WI to come along to one of our meetings, you are welcome to just come along and see if it is for you; our meetings are advertised in the Messenger and on the noticeboard opposite Church Street Stores.

Next month is another "outside" meeting - we are all going on a Boat trip on the Exe with Stuart Line from Exmouth - so with our vineyard tour, Morfest cocktails, croquet and boat trip we are much more than just "Jam and Jerusalem"!

Wendy Vere





LOOKING FOR A CAKE?

CAKES & BAKES BY KAT

I aim to create unique, bespoke creations for all occasions based on your requirements at an affordable price.

Fully Insured ✓
5* Food Hygiene rating ✓

Please contact me for more information

email: cakesnbakesbykat@gmail.com
Or find me on Facebook: Cakes & Bakes by Kat



Compassionate care
You Can Trust ♥

Providing reliable, respectful and personalised care in the comfort of your own home.

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... Is Worth Two in the Sea

Right, where were we? Ah, yes: Exiled Athenian artificer Daedalus, possibly a murderer, definitely a genius, was busy doing clever things for tyrannical King Minos of Crete – who was making Athens send 14 kids every seven years to feed the half bull, half man, Minotaur that his wife had given birth to. He, Minos, now kept his Minotaur in a complicated construction that no-one can agree on, generally called The Labyrinth (one continuous path that leads to the centre and then out again – it's unnecessarily windy but you can't get lost) but described as a maze (many paths with dead ends, confusing junctions, with options that lead you everywhere except the centre, or the exit –unnecessarily windy so you get lost).



21 years later, and an Athenian prince called Theseus, who was already a bit of a hero, volunteered to join the tribute. Minos' daughter Ariadne, fell in love with him, secretly went to Daedalus and begged for some help with the labyrinth or maze type thing. Being from Athens originally and not really a fan of Minos, our brainy builder was only too happy to comply. Consequently Ariadne snuck a ball of thread and some helpful instruction to Theseus, who followed the instructions and deployed the thread on the way in, killed the minotaur, followed the thread on the way out, and ran off with Ariadne, leaving Daedalus in the very tricky position of having to explain how his impenetrable labyrinth/maze had been solved.

"Beginner's luck?" Didn't cut it with Minos, who strongly suspected some partisan involvement by the Athenian artisans, so Daedalus and his son Icarus, were shoved in to their own mazyrinth and locked in. Not wishing to hang around in case Minos found out about his part in the conception of the Minotaur, Daedalus gathered feathers from the island's gulls, scavenged wood from parts of the labyraze, built some frames and attached the feathers with wax. Quite why he didn't knock up some of the glue he invented in chapter one I'm not sure, anyway, the master maker warns his son that the wings are not only a completely untested prototype but a bit of a lash-up to boot, and it's probably best not to fly too low, because he's not sure how it will stand up to the salt sea spray, and definitely don't fly too close to the sun as that will melt the wax.

Those who have children, or even were once children themselves, will know exactly how well those essential words of warning penetrated the decision-making areas of Icarus' youthful brain when faced with the excitement and freedom of flight. He did both with the inevitable result: his wings disintegrated, he plunged into the sea and drowned. Young people take note.

Students of cosmology may object that, even if one flew to the edges of the atmosphere, it would make very little difference to one's distance from the sun, and that one would run out of air long before a heat increase from proximity became a problem. However, the sun, as you know, was not at that time 149,600,000 km away, but was carried around in the sky on a chariot and could be reached by large birds, or even jumped over by dancing cows, if the moon - also horse drawn and equally low flying - wasn't available. It was a health and safety incident waiting to happen.

This was not the first catastrophe caused by the accessibility of the solar orb. Zeus had fiddled around with the driving schedule on a number of occasions; Phaeton, the son of the solar chauffeur, Helios, had nearly frozen, then incinerated the earth in the same day; and there were other irregularities... after the unfortunate plummet of Icarus, the Gods re-organised things to their current arrangement, which is both safer and more efficient, but caused considerable problems in astronomy and theology for many years afterwards.

Daedalus flew on to Sicily where the king, Cocalus, took him in. As Pasiphae had spilled the beans, not only about the bull affair but also that she had freed Daedalus and son from their incarceration and helped them get safely to the place from which they took flight, Minos was now proper narked at the flying fabricator and set off to search for him. Minos wandered around the Ancient Mediterranean asking if anyone could manage to pass a string through a spiral seashell. When he presented the conundrum to Cocalus, the king of Sicily took it to Daedalus who promptly attached the string to an ant and tempted it through the shell by placing a drop of honey at the other end. When the shell was brought back with the string through the middle, Minos instantly knew the wily wright was in the building. He demanded that Daedalus be handed over, to which Cocalus agreed and suggested Minos enjoy a relaxing bath while they capture the troublesome technician. Cocalus then sent his daughters to keep Minos distracted while they boiled him in a bath of poison.

Daedalus lived on and continued to be a smarty skirts, making wonderful things, though as far as we know he didn't continue the development of flight.

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

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Walnuts

A thing which I regret, and which I will try to remedy some time, is that I have never in my life planted a walnut. Nobody does plant them nowadays - when you see a walnut it is almost invariably an old tree. If you plant a walnut you are planting it for your grandchildren, and who cares a damn for his grandchildren? - George Orwell

Walnut and pears we plant for our heirs - trad.

Walnut, *Juglans regia*, (the royal tree of Jupiter) is not a native British tree. It has however successfully naturalised since being brought here (probably) by the Romans. Naturalised plants have found a balanced place and integrated into the local ecosystem where they do not crowd out other species and bring benefit, food, habitat, nest materials etc for native wildlife. Even though juglone, a compound specific to walnut family, found in walnuts is a natural herbicide deterring other plants from growing beneath them, they seldom prove dominant in a woodland and do not crowd out natives. They certainly provide tall broad branches for nesting; they grow up to between 10 and 40m tall and can have a spread of 15m. Walnuts with their large nutritious nuts are very popular with squirrels and mice, as well as humans. It is likely that they provide good habitat for wildlife as well as highly prized timber. However, they have not been as well studied as some trees.



The fruit of the tree is a drupe, and the nut, which we know so well from Xmas stockings, is the seed removed from the green fleshy/husky fruit. Care has to be taken accessing the seed; whilst a few people might find the herbicidal juglone an irritant, everyone will find it stains. It isn't just a surface stain either.

The fruit was once used to stain women's legs, mimicking nylons, because it lasts (though gravy browning and eyeliner were also used). 5-hydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone, or juglone, reacts with the proteins in skin and creates a complex that binds tightly. The rest of the plant has some of this but the fruit has the most. Gentle abrasion from sugar or bicarb are reportedly effective ways of reducing the stain when soap inevitably proves ineffective. Lemon juice can help break down the bonds in the stain, but time (counted in weeks not days) really is the only way to get rid of the stain.



Walnut trees will reach maturity and start fruiting sometime around 10 years old, they peak in productivity at about 30 years. They love a light sunny spot and will, by using juglone, keep it all to themselves, thus they are often found in parkland or large garden as well as in clearings near woodland, rather than deep in woodland.

They like a well-drained neutral pH loam best but really will tolerate a wide range of soil conditions and types, growing on chalk as happily as on acidic clay. They don't like frost pockets or strong winds though. Commercially produced walnut trees are more likely to be grafted onto more mature roots and will usually fruit in their 5th year, and are usually sold at 2 so people usually only have 3 years to wait for fruit.

If you want to try germinating walnuts, fresh walnut seeds in autumn (not store bought, they will have been oven dried) should be cleared of the husk/fruit, checked for viability (if it floats in a glass of water, it's likely more air than fertile seed) and sown 3cm deep in pots with a gritty compost or well-draining soil. Leave them outside through the natural cycle and by the following year you should hopefully have the start of your very own royal tree of Jupiter.

Jo Coffey

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Shrinking the Globe

Globalisation refers to the ways in which places across the world become increasingly connected. The connections can be almost anything: economic, cultural, political, social and even environmental.

Historically, there is a long history of places seeking connections with others, most of which would have been trade-focused. 6000 BC witnessed trade between different groups in Mesopotamia. From 3500 BC to 2500 BC the amber trade between Northern Europe and southern Europe was well-established.

Places traded goods that they could not produce. Initially, these would have been resources, such as coal, or agricultural produce that were restricted in their geographical distribution. However, as trade became more complex, countries started to specialise in producing products in which they had a comparative advantage. In simple terms, it benefits all countries involved in trade if they concentrate their resources (raw materials, labour etc.) into producing those products which they can produce most economically, even if other countries can produce the same products more cheaply.

World trade today is 410 times greater than it was in 1950. Such growth in trade, however, could not have occurred without improvements in transport and international relations.

Historically, developments of the wheel, road surfaces, canals, railways, steam power and air transport have all resulted in increases in trade. Politically, trade has been aided by the creation of trading blocs such as the EU and USMAC (US-Mexico-Canada Agreement), which between them account for 44.4% of world trade.

An important, but often overlooked technological development in transport was containerisation. Although, it's possible to find early examples of containerisation, such as James Brinkley's "starvation" box with ten wooden containers used to transport coal from Worsley Delph Quarry to Manchester, perhaps the most important player in this development is Malcolm McLean. An American lorry driver, McLean was concerned about the number of empty return trips he would do as his truck was not able to transport a wide range of different types of goods. So he developed a metal container of a standard size with fittings on each

corner to allow stacking. These containers can be lifted on and off different modes of transport quickly and efficiently. An average container ship travels 170,000 miles each year. A container ship that carries 14,000 containers can be unloaded in under 72 hours, much quicker than before when many stevedores would manually unload the ship. Each day there are 502,470 containers on the move, of which 1382 may be lost overboard each year. A container has an average lifespan of 25 years.

Improvements in air travel have contributed massively to globalisation. From early experimenters such as the brothers Montgolfier and Wright to modern jets, the growth in air traffic has been phenomenal. The first commercial passenger flight was in 1914, by 1938 there were 1.47 million flights, 19.3 m in 1950, and 39.8m in 2025. At any moment in time there are estimated to be anything up to 20,000 planes in the sky, with 6000 flying over the UK each day.

On July 10th, 1962, the satellite Telstar was launched from Cape Canaveral. Two days later it relayed the world's first transatlantic tv signal to Pleumer-Bowden Telecom Centre in France. Today, 13.5 billion phone calls are made each day.

The phenomenon of globalisation is "shrinking the world."

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SEPTEMBER RECIPES

SAUSAGE AND APPLE TRAYBAKE

Ingredients

- 1 small butternut squash, about 750g/1lb 10oz
- 2 red onions, sliced into rings
- 2 apples, unpeeled, cored and sliced
- 12 pork sausages
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp runny honey
- 1 tsp English mustard
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 15g/½oz fresh flatleaf parsley, finely chopped, to garnish (optional)

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 220C/200C Fan/Gas 7.
2. Cut the squash into quarters and leave it unpeeled. Remove the seeds then cut each quarter into 5mm/¼in slices.
3. Place the squash a very large baking tray with the onion, apple and sausages. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon oil and season well with salt and pepper. Roast for 20 minutes.



SCONES WITH CLOTTED CREAM AND BLACKBERRY JAM

Scones

Pre-heat the oven to 170*.

Ingredients: 450g self-raising flour, 150g butter or Flora, a handful of caster sugar, a handful of raisins, milk to bind the dry ingredients together. Rub the fat into the flour using your fingertips until it looks like sand or breadcrumbs. Add the sugar and raisins. Mix them all together. Make a well in the centre and add a little milk. Using a circular action, mix the dry ingredients with the milk. Add more milk gradually until it all holds together in one ball of dough. Try not to overwork it as this will cause gluten to form and the scones will become chewy not crumbly. Press the mixture into a flat shape, the height of the cutter that you will use. Press out the scones, using every last bit. Place them on a baking tray and sprinkle with flour or brush them with beaten egg. Bake them for about 18 mins until golden brown on the top and bottom. Leave to cool then spread them generously with clotted cream and jam.

[Whilst the oven is on, you can sterilise your jars by placing them in the oven for 10 minutes.]

Blackberry jam

Place a tea plate into the freezer.

Equal weight of blackberries [fresh or frozen] and caster sugar eg 300g of fruit and 300g of sugar placed in a saucepan. Heat gently and stir to dissolve the sugar. Once dissolved, increase the heat to bring the mixture to the boil. Leave to boil for 5 minutes. Beware....the mixture will be extremely hot!

Use a teaspoon to put a small dollop of jam onto the chilled plate. Use your finger to slide the dollop together. If it stays still but wrinkles it is done. It may need a little more boiling if it is too loose.

Allow it to cool before pouring it into clean jars.





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Garden Tips for August



(These tips are based on a 'normal' September.

It may be this year they aren't applicable until late September and early September should be treated like late August - hard to be sure in advance if we will still be in drought.)

- Divide herbaceous perennials (if they have suffered from heat/dryness just let them recover though.
- Pick autumn raspberries
- Collect and sow seed from perennials and hardy annuals - do not sow on hard dry ground until it is moistened.
- Dig up remaining potatoes before slug damage spoils them
- Net ponds before leaf fall gets underway (possibly a bit late this year)
- Keep up with watering of new plants, using rain(!) or grey water if possible
- Remember - you are less likely to waste water if you use a watering can (over a hose)
- Start to reduce the frequency of houseplant watering
- Clean out cold frames and greenhouses so that they are ready for use in the autumn
- Cover leafy vegetable crops with bird-proof netting (always ensure netting is tight and securely fastened with no loose edges to snare birds in)
- Plant spring flowering bulbs once the temperatures have cooled and the soil moistened.

Jo Coffey

Poem of the Month

Sitting on the Sea of Galilee

in the stern of the dinghy
red nosed, sweaty, jams his hat on
to thwart nervy gusts
choppy waves
sunglasses for the glinting sun

and the land behind steeping up behind in dusty
tomes
tired admonitions and Aramaic prayers –

so long ago now, and he's not sure who took the
picture
though he guesses –

phrases recur over the years
whispered on mental breezes, translated,
some making sense semantically (some not)
but like wormy old wood
those brittle words puff away into dust
with every touch of doubt –

still, they bother – memories, feelings –
like the rags of foehn wind from the hot
mountains

flung across his head
like a Palestinian keffiyeh

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Devon County Council

Bluetongue cases affecting Devon farms

Our Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs, Councillor Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin, has written to Government calling for urgent action to support farmers affected by the growing Bluetongue outbreak in the Southwest.

Councillor Cottle-Hunkin, who is also a sheep farmer near Great Torrington, is struggling with Bluetongue among her own animals and says many farming businesses are facing significant challenges as the disease spreads.

In her letter to ministers and Southwest MPs, she warns that the response to the outbreak is not keeping pace with the scale of the problem.

She is calling for faster and simpler testing, clearer reporting of the number of affected farms, better communication with farmers about local cases, and sufficient vaccine supplies to meet demand. She has also asked Government to provide financial support for affected farmers and to develop a long-term strategy for managing livestock diseases such as Bluetongue.

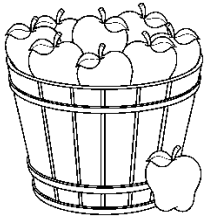
The council is reminding livestock keepers to remain vigilant. Cases of Bluetongue have been identified in ruminant animals across the county.

Bluetongue is a viral disease that affects cattle, sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas and other ruminants. Symptoms can vary from animal to animal and can include fever, lameness, depression, swelling of the face neck or mouth, ulcers, drooling, snotty/bloody noses, partial blindness, unexplained reproductive problems and sudden death.

“We would also encourage livestock keepers to speak to their local vet, who can provide advice on testing, referrals and vaccination options.”

Suspected cases should be reported to the DEFRA Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301.

If you, or a farmer you know needs to talk to a sympathetic person over the phone, please call The Farming Community Network on 03000111999.



Morichard Bishop Apple Day

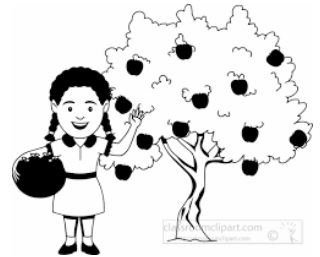
Saturday 3rd October from 10.00am

at the Memorial Hall.

Following on from the success of the last four years' Apple Days, by popular request we are holding the day again.

Bring along your harvest of apples – we will have a shredder and juicer for you to turn your apples into Apple Juice.

Start saving your plastic milk or juice bottles as they are ideal to take the juice home with you – and if you have a lot of juice you can freeze the juice in these.



Donations towards the cost of hiring the equipment requested.

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