



The MORCHARD MESSENGER

The Independent Village Newsletter

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

No.371 MAY 2026

SPONSORED THIS MONTH BY EMMANUEL METHODIST CHURCH

This Is Love

As we move into spring, our village is beginning to change almost before our eyes. The days grow longer, gardens begin to bloom, and there's a quiet sense of new life all around us. It's no coincidence that this season also brings us to Easter—the heart of the Christian story.

You may have noticed, around Christmas, small pebbles appearing across the parish with simple messages of hope and kindness. They were a reminder that even in the darker, colder days, love is present.

Now, as we come to Easter, we return to that same theme—but in an even deeper way. At the centre of Easter is a simple but profound message: **this is love.**

Not just the kind of love we often celebrate in cards or kind words—important though those are—but a love that gives, that sacrifices, and that does not give up. The Bible expresses it like this: *"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son..."* (1 John 4:10).

Christians believe that Jesus came into the world not only to teach and inspire, but ultimately to show the depth of God's love through his death on the cross. It's a story of self-giving love—love that meets us in our brokenness and offers forgiveness, hope, and a new beginning.

But Easter doesn't end with the cross. It continues with the extraordinary claim of resurrection—new life where there was death, hope where there was despair. It is this promise of new life that Christians have celebrated for over two thousand years, and which still speaks into our lives today.

In a world that can often feel uncertain or divided, Easter offers a different message: that love is stronger than fear, and that new beginnings are always possible.

If you've ever found yourself wondering about these things—about faith, meaning, or the bigger questions of life—you would be very welcome to come along to our **Alpha course**, starting on **Sunday 19th April at Emmanuel Methodist Church from 5-7 pm.**

Alpha is a relaxed and friendly space where people can explore the life's big questions together and share their thoughts—without pressure or expectation. Whether you're curious, sceptical, or simply interested, you'd be warmly invited to join us.

As you enjoy the signs of spring in our villages this Easter season, we hope you might also take a moment to reflect on this deeper message:

You are known.
You are valued.
You are loved.
Because this is love.

May you know the joy and peace of the risen Jesus,



Peter A. Brown (Revd)
Superintendent Minister
Ringsash Methodist Circuit

MAY 2026 DIARY

If you'd like details of your event or meeting to appear in the June 2026 Diary, please let Sue Eaglen know by May 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

May services at St. Mary's: **3/5** Morning worship 10.30am **10/5** Holy communion 10.30am

Thursday 14/5 All age worship in church with school **17/5** Family service 10.30am **24/5** Morning worship 10.30am

31/5 Mission community Eucharist 10 am at Coldridge church **31/5** Garden themed worship 5 pm in St Mary's.

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. Coffee mornings Tuesdays 10.00 – 11.30.

BOOK SWAP: Wed, May 6, 15.00 – 16.30

PARISH WALK: Usually 4th Sat of the month, 11.00 start at the Memorial Hall.

FUTURE EVENTS:

June 6, Make, Bake, Grow & Woof!

June 28, 19.30, St. Mary's Church Friends' Concert, Pimm's & Pipes in the Pews.

August 1, 12.00, Vintage Rally & Family Fun Day

Fri	1 & 8, 15, 22, 29	13.30 – 14.30 10.00 – 11.00	Post Office visit Pickleball	London Inn Memorial Hall
Sat	2	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning Annual plant Swap Sustainable Morchard	Memorial Hall
	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	19.30	Club open and for home football	MBSSC
Mon	4 & 11, 18	09.00 – 09.30	Mat Pilates	Memorial Hall
Tues	5 & 12, 19, 26	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning	Emmanuel
	5 & 12, 19 (started 21/04)	14.30 – 15.00 15.45 – 16.30 16.30 – 17.15	Pre-school ballet Intermed. Ballet Intermed. Modern	Memorial Hall
	5 & 12, 19, 26	19.30	Pool & Bridge	MBSSC
Wed	6 & 13, 20	10.30 – 11.15	Chair Pilates	Memorial Hall
	6	14.00 – 15.00 15.00 – 16.30 14.30	Intro Pickleball + refreshments at Book Swap Bowls v Budleigh Otters	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall
	6 & 13, 20	17.30 – 19.00	Brownies	Memorial Hall
	6 & 13, 20*, 27	19.30 – 21.00	Pickleball	Memorial Hall
Thurs	7	10.00 – 15.00	Can't sew won't sew incl. lunch	Emmanuel
	7 & 14, 21 (started 23/04)	12.00 – 15.00 16.00 – 16.30 16.30 – 17.00	Singaround incl. lunch Junior Ballet Junior modern	London Inn Memorial Hall
	7	18.30	Football K.O. Club opens 19.30	MBSSC
	7 & 14, 21, 28 21* if Tractor Club is on 20 th .	18.35 – 19.30 19.30 – 21.00	Mat Pilates mixed ability Pickleball	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall

Sponsored This Month by Emmanuel Methodist Church

Fri	8 8 & 15, 22, 29 8 8	19.00 10.00 – 11.00 19.30 11.30 onwards	Prime Club Pickleball Pools finals Carers' Café	Emmanuel Memorial Hall MBSSC London Inn
Sat	9	9.30 – 11.30	Coffee Morning Produce Market & Table Top	Memorial Hall
Sun	10	Any time between 9.30 – 11.00 14.00	Big Breakfast Bowls v. Tiverton West End	Emmanuel
Mon	11	19.00	Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall
Wed	13	14.30 14.30	WI Bowls v. Tiverton Canal	Moor Farm for the Bluebell Walk
Thurs	14	19.45 19.30	Memorial Hall AGM Men's Darts Competition	Memorial Hall MBSSC
Fri	15 15, 16, 17	18.30 19.30	Bowls v. Hatherleigh Edge Club Pilgrims summer bash	Emmanuel MBSSC
Sat	16	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee Morning Garden Produce	Memorial Hall
Mon	18	14.30	Bowls v. Okehampton	
Wed	20	12.30 14.30	Over-60s Lunch Bowls v. Wellington Tigers & Madiera	London Inn
Thurs	21	18.30	Bowls v. Belmont	
Sat	23	10.00 – 11.30 12.00 – 24.00 14.00 11.00 start	Coffee Morning Chapel MORFEST & WI Cocktails, Cake & Coffee Bowls v. Uffculme Parish Walk	Memorial Hall London Inn fields Meet outside Memorial Hall
Mon	25	14.00	Bowls v. Torrington	
Fri	29	10.30 14.30 – 17.30 18.30	Two Moors Way Anniversary Walks Two Moors Way Celebration - WI Tea & cakes Bowls v. Rock Park	Meet in car park Memorial Hall
Sat	30	10.00 – 11.30 10.00 – 18.00	Coffee Morning FOMBS Open Gardens & Table Tops Refreshments in the Hall	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall start
Sun	31	17.00	Garden themed worship	St. Mary's

NOTICEBOARD

Copy for Publication in THE MORCHARD MESSENGER

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

15th May 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.

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 ¼ 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

MAY OPENING TIMES

Mondays – Closed.

Tuesdays – All dates open for pool practice & Bridge 7.30pm.

Wednesdays – All dates may be open for ladies' darts practice.

Thursdays – 7th – Football K.O 6.30pm, Club will be open at 7.30pm. 14th Men's Darts competition.

Fridays – 8th Pool finals, 15th, 16th & 17th Pilgrims summer bash.

Saturdays – Open 7.30pm plus home games for football.

SPORTS CLUB AGM
29TH APRIL 2026 7.30pm.

ALL MEMBERS MORE THAN WELCOME. WE DO NEED A FIFTH OF THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE MEETING TO GO AHEAD.

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 0828, 1714

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

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL
AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS PRESENT

MORFEST

THE MORCHARD BISHOP FESTIVAL

Saturday 23rd May 2026

AT
THE LONDON INN FIELDS
(THE PUB WILL BE CLOSED ON THE DAY - EVERYTHING WILL BE OUTSIDE!)

12pm to Late

- LIVE MUSIC FROM LOCAL BANDS •
- COMEDY • LOCAL PERFORMERS •
- BBQ & OTHER FOOD
OPTIONS AVAILABLE •
- BAR • STALLS • BOUNCY CASTLE •

Come along for a family
day out & enjoy the party

Please bring cash to spend on the day

Tickets available from
The London Inn,
Church Street Stores
& Parish Councillors

Advanced Tickets
Adults: £25.00
Children: £10.00

On the day
Adults: £30.00
Children: £10.00

TWO MOORS WAY 50th ANNIVERSARY

Friday 29 May

Have you ever walked part of the Two Moors Way?
No? Now's your chance!

Join members of the Two Moors Way Association on one of two guided 7-mile walks, starting either from Witheridge (to the northeast), or Whelmstone Cross (to the southwest). Follow the Two Moors Way through the beautiful Mid Devon countryside and back to Morchard Bishop for tea and celebrations in the Memorial Hall from about 3.30pm, with invited guests. Bus transport provided to both start points.

And if you're not walking, why not call into the Memorial Hall from around 2.30pm for a cup of tea and piece of cake (kindly provided by the WI – donations) and take a look at the display of Two Moors Way photographs and memorabilia? TMW merchandise will also be on sale.

Walks and transport are free, but please register on the walks at jointhebigwalk@btinternet.com.

More details at <https://twomoorsway.org/events-and-walks>. Any queries please email info@twomoorsway.org or telephone (01363) 779492.

Quality Garage Sale

IN AID OF LOCAL CHARITIES

*Emmanuel * W.I. * Trefoil Guild *
* Unite Carers *

Saturday May 2nd

Sunday May 3rd

12.00 – 4.00

at

HAWTHORNES,

WOOD LANE, MORCHARD BISHOP

St Mary's Morchard Bishop Open Gardens and Allotments

**Saturday May 30th
10 am – 6pm**

**Start point for programmes including map
at**

Memorial Hall

Entry to gardens via programme

£6/adult £2/child over 5

Refreshments available all day in the Hall

Bacon baps, scones, cakes, tea, coffee etc

Plants for sale in Hall and in some gardens

Tabletop stalls also available

MORCHARD BISHOP ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

- Do you enjoy fresh air and gentle exercise – without having to travel too far from home?
- Are you looking for an outdoor activity that's sociable, healthy and rewarding?
- Are you new to the village and looking for ways to meet people in beautiful surroundings and a relaxing environment?
- And – most important! – do you like the idea of growing (and eating) your own fresh fruit and vegetables?

We have allotments looking for new tenants! Sunny Lane Allotments are located just beyond the new houses on Chulmleigh Road. It's a beautiful spot, with incredible views of north Dartmoor. It's also wonderfully sunny (a touch breezy at times!) and the soil is highly productive. If you haven't 'grown your own' or had an allotment before, there are lots of people on site who will help you and give you advice if and when you need it.

For more information please phone Roger and Margaret Field on (01363) 877631 or email r.field@btinternet.com.



**Morchard Bishop Playing Field
Association**

**Vintage Rally and Family Fun Day
2026**

Saturday August 1st 12pm onwards

**Planning meetings will be held on
Mondays at the Clubhouse from 7pm.**

27th April 25th May 29th June

**We would love to see some new faces at
our planning meetings!**

Come along and offer your support

Sustainable Morchard Plant Share



**Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall
Saturday 2nd May
10.00-11.30**

**Bring plants ~ Take plants
Meet fellow growers!
Blackberry Lane Produce
Alongside regular coffee morning**

WI AGM and April meeting



Our April meeting was at the Hall and we all sang "Jerusalem" before welcoming our advisor Lesley Beer, who told us about the news from Devon Federation of WIs and also introduced us to the new national learning portal called VIA which is free to all WI members. This gives all of us access to some amazing courses from learning languages to creating craft to first aid – and all from our own homes whenever we choose! There is also a "Working Together as WIs" course in Tiverton which could be helpful for us.

We then dealt with all our own business, including the forthcoming events that we are involved in which will be : **Cocktails, cakes and coffee at Morfest on 23rd May** and serving tea and cake to the walkers for the **TwoMoorsWay 50th on 29th May**. In between those events we have our annual litter pick for Keep Britain Tidy and a group Red Earth meeting at Colebrooke so the Spring is rather busy!

Our next meeting is May 13th 230pm at Moor Farm for our Bluebell walk and cream tea, everyone is very welcome to come along and see if the WI is for you – we may even be doing a final sampling of our cocktails and mocktails at that meeting.. Our meetings are listed in the Messenger, and also on the noticeboard opposite Church Street Stores.

Wendy Vere

Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

**Please note our AGM will be held on Thursday
14th May at 7.45.**

Everyone welcome!

**This year we have decided that the Coffee
Mornings will continue over the summer!**



Morchard Bishop Parish Council

Carers' Café

Our monthly coffee mornings at The London Inn, on the second Friday in the month, continue to thrive. It is a chance to chat about life, families and village news.

Sheila and I described our meeting with Vicki Cole who is the Practice Manager for our GP Surgery. As a Carer, they are keen to know if you need any additional help from them and will check if you are up to date with your vaccines.

All new patients registering at the surgery are asked if they are a carer. If you tick 'yes' then they will ask if you would like to be referred to the wonderful organisation Devon Carers. This organisation is a fount of knowledge and support. Sheila and I hope to visit their offices before our May coffee morning, to arm ourselves with leaflets about all sorts of useful topics.

We were reminded that the onus is on all of us to update the GP surgery if our circumstances change. They may not know otherwise. Better to be told twice than not at all.

Devon Carers will provide you with **an Alert Card** to keep in your wallet/phone case so that emergency service personnel will see that there is someone at home who relies on you.

The GP surgery now has a stock of '**Message In a Bottle**' pots and I have spares. You fill out the form inside about yourself and the person you are a carer for. The pot goes in your fridge, and the enclosed sticker goes on the inside of your front door. Emergency services are trained to look out for both.

Our next Carers' Café will be on **Friday May 8th** from 11.30am in the pub. We look forward to seeing any current or previous carers there.

Thanks, as always, to Sarah, Emma and Carrie at the pub for hosting us so generously.

Any questions...please email

CLlr.sheila.sinclair@morchard-bishop-pc.gov.uk

Or dticehurst@icloud.com

Hele Lane Methodist Chapel, Black Dog

Fourth Friday Feast community lunch

Friday 22nd May 2026 at 12.30pm

Hele Lane Methodist Chapel, Black Dog

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

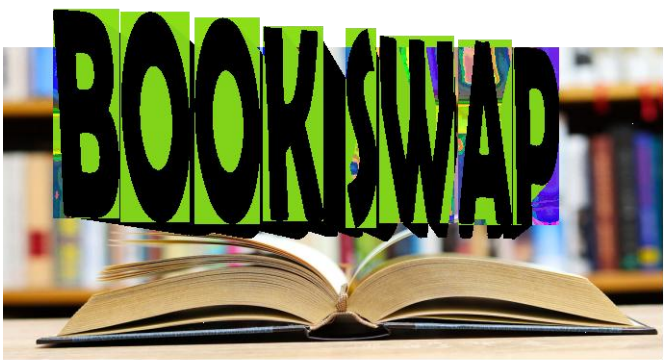
No charge but donations welcome.

Must pre-book by phoning Mary on 07814 590220




Please join us for
BREAKFAST CHURCH
Sunday, 10th May 2026
Anytime between
9.30am – 11.00am
Hopefully see you there!

Morchar Bishop Memorial Hall
WEDNESDAY 6th MAY
3pm-4.30



We have a large and varied selection of new books, jigsaws and lots of children's books.
Teas\Coffee and Cakes
Or just join us for a chat!!!



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

Over 60's Lunch & Get Together

The next Over 60's Luncheon at the London Inn will be on Wednesday 20th May at 12.30pm.

The menu will be Chicken Breast in Cream of Mushroom & Madeira Sauce with Vegetables and Roast Potatoes followed by Strawberry Trifle.
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 19th May 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

Morichard Bishop Show Day and Car Boot Sale

Saturday June 6th 2026

Flower and Produce Show	Blue Cross Fun Dog Show	Car Boot Sale
 <p>We hope that as many of you as possible will enter a class or two at this show held in marquees on the Playing Field!</p> <p>Entry to all classes in this show are free of charge.</p> <p>Classes to include: Roses, peonies, sweet peas, herbs, Broadbeans, rhubarb, salad items etc Berries, cherries, currants.</p> <p>Victoria Sandwich, shortbread biscuits, bread, traybake, cheese straws, fruit cake [men only!], quiche.</p> <p>Knitted item, embroidered item, quilted item, felted item, crocheted item, sewn garment</p> <p>Children's classes include: Animal made from a vegetable or fruit, decorated cupcakes, decorated recycled item, a photo taken in Morichard.</p> <p>Entries in the tent by 10am Judging 10-11.30am Public access from 2pm Prize Giving 4.00pm 'ish</p> <p>Schedules will be available from May 1st by email or at the shop and pub dlicehurst@icloud.com rixeycottage@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Raising money for the Blue Cross Charity, we hope that our village canines will be entered into our Fun Dog Show! Open only to dogs living in the Parish, classes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Waggiest tailWiggliest bodyKindest eyesMost handsome dogMost beautiful bitchCutest puppy under 12 monthsBest rescue dogBest rescue bitchBest veteran dog/bitch over 10 years old <p>Dog judge would most like to take home</p> <p>Helpers will be needed to run the show with the Blue Cross volunteers.</p> <p>Classes probably between 1.30-4.30pm</p> <p>Schedules will be available from May 1st by email or at the shop and pub dlicehurst@icloud.com rixeycottage@gmail.com</p>	 <p>The Playing Field Association will be running their Spring Car Boot Sale alongside the two Shows.</p> <p>Tea/coffee and cakes will be on sale all afternoon in the Pavillion.</p> <p>Sellers set up from 1pm Buyers from 2pm</p> <p>Enquiries to toni@bayhouse.myzen.co.uk</p>

Morchar Bishop Bowling Club

May home fixtures

What could be more relaxing than a pleasant afternoon watching a bowls match?

Everyone welcome to come and support our players.....on...

Wed 6th v. Budleigh Otters 2:30 pm

Sun 10th v. Tiverton West End 2:00 pm

Wed 13th v. Tiverton Canal 2:30 pm

Fri 15th v. Hatherleigh 6:30 pm

Mon 18th v. Okehampton 2:30 pm

Wed 20th v. Wellington Tigers and Madeira 2:30 pm

Thurs 21st v. Belmont 6:30 pm

Sat 23rd v. Uffculme 2:00 pm

Mon 25th v. Torrington 2:00 pm

Fri 29th v. Rock Park 6:30 pm

Pickleball at the Memorial Hall



Introductory and general play sessions

These will be held on the following dates/times in **May**

Weds 6th intro session-2pm to 3pm. Free tea and cake after at the Book Swap!

Wed 6th, 13th, 27th 7.30-9pm

Thurs 21st 7.30-9.30pm if Tractor Club is on the 20th

Fri 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th 10-11am

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/plimssoles. Equipment is provided.

MORCHARD BISHOP FOOTBALL CLUB

Devon & Exeter Football League Division 2



May Fixtures

Saturday 2nd **Morchar Bishop v Tedburn St Mary (H) 3pm k.o**

Thursday 7th **Morchar Bishop v University of Exeter (H) 6.30pm k.o**

Saturday 9th **Tedburn St Mary v Morchar Bishop (A) 3pm k.o**

March/April Results

21st March **Morchar Bishop 2 Broadclyst 2 (Ben Betts 1 Billy Conabeare 1)**

4th April **Witheridge 3 Morchar Bishop 0**

11th April **Broadclyst 1 Morchar Bishop 3 (Ben Betts Adam Bell Samuel Rice)**

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

or Facebook Morchar Bishop Football Club or the
Football Club noticeboard

Please support your local Team

ANGIE BRIMILCOMBE - A LEGEND

We would like to pay a very small tribute and acknowledge all the work Angie has done over her time living in the village, as she has decided to retire at long last.

Angie came to the village in 1985. She volunteered as a cub leader for many years, keeping the young ones in check. Fast forward to many years later, she was still keeping the "little ones" in check as adults, as they socialised at the social club, now parents of their own. How time flies.

Angie worked as a care assistant at Ridge House for about 7 years until an accident forced her to leave the job she loved, caring for others.

She has worked at the Social Club as a volunteer for over 20 years, later with her late husband Ronnie, who was her world.

Together they worked many thousands of hours running the Club, with many other wonderful volunteers, not just standing behind the bar serving drinks, but organising many successful fair days, events, book keeping, collecting stock etc, the list was endless, always making sure the club ran efficiently.

Angie has always had the club's best interests at heart and the club has gone from strength to strength, under Angie's watchful eye, since the early days. She has seen many, many changes over the years, the good, the bad and the ugly! but she kept going, even when the going got tough. She struggled through COVID to keep the club open and to date the club is probably the best and busiest it has ever been, with ladies' and men's darts teams, ladies' and men's skittles teams, 2 Pool teams, Bridge Club, and of course the sometimes raucous Football team. She has also hosted quiz and bingo nights and too many other events to mention. Angie has loved every minute.

That is a testament to Angie's strength and determination, and to all the other wonderful volunteers who supported her, even when she cared for her darling Ronnie when he became ill, who by the way, was a groundsman for many years. Angie still supported others and she was not always in the best of health herself, always thinking of others, going above and beyond, always giving the

club ¹⁰⁰ percent. Not wanting to let people down.

Angie always had a kind word for people, a great listener and sometimes a taxi home for some. Always seeing the best in people.

Angie has certainly touched many people's lives for the better. Morchard Bishop has been so blessed to have Angie in their lives.

Angie, you are a legend. On behalf of the thousands of people who have used the club over the many years - THANK YOU for all you have done and for being you.

Now take time for yourself, you will be a hard act to follow, do what retired ladies do - relax, enjoy your next adventure and eat cake !!!

Friends of MB Social Club

Tabletops at Open Gardens

Do you want to clear out stuff? Have you unwanted toys/books/bricabrac/dvds etc? If you would like to sell anything outside your house on the day of Open Gardens (30th May) we are encouraging people to recycle stuff whilst there are extra people walking around the village! All we ask is you give a donation to Open Gardens; there will be volunteers in the Hall all day.

Other villages have successfully done this and we thought we would give it a try this time – you can put anything you want to rehome outside your house/gate on the day, almost like a community garage sale!

Please contact me if you need any more information.

Wendy Vere: r.vere@btconnect.com



MAY EVENTS

- 1 May Music: Suntou Susso
- 7 May Music & Fo od: Jazz on the Green
- 8 May Music: Mishra
- 16 May Opera: La Cenerentola
- 22-26 May Art Exhibition
- 28 May Film: Last Thursday Picture Show
- 29 May Film: Blade Runner JR

All events start at 7.30 pm

As usual Tickets for all events at Creditor Art Centre from

www.ticketsource.co.uk/creditorartscentre

Further information for all events can be found at our web site www.creditorartscentre.org or the Summer Brochure available throughout the retailers in Creditor

Creditor & District Third Age Trust



Next Meeting: **20 May 2026**
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Caravaggio: Genius and Chaos
A Talk by Prof Peter Edwards

Venue: Boniface Centre Cost: £2.00

News from your Parish Council

The Parish Council met in the Memorial Hall on Monday 13 April 2026, late this month due to the first Monday of the month being a bank holiday.

The Parish Council spent £1,684.01 from the main account, nothing from its Reserve account and £98.50 from the Footpaths account. The items of expenditure over £100 were; £1092 for the Clerk's Salary for January to March and £453.18 for the subscription to Devon Association of Local Councils. The Parish Council also received the first half of their precept for the year 2026-27.

Members of the Public attended to make their feelings known about the planning application no. 26/00300/PIP. There were three planning applications for the Parish Council to consider.

26/00300/PIP	Permission in Principle for the erection of 1 detached dwelling.	Land at NGR 277210 106707 South East of Lydcott House, MB
26/00369/PIP	Permission in Principle for the erection of 9 dwellings.	Land at NGR 276588 107753 Chulmleigh Road, MB
26/00397/FULL	Conversion of barn to self-build dwelling and construction of a new vehicular access.	Land and Building at NGR 276997 107128 Polson Hill, MB

After individual discussions about each application the Council decided on a case-by-case basis that as each application fell outside of the settlement area for the Parish, the Council would object to each of the applications.

A report from our District Councillor was received. Mid Devon Councillors on the Planning Committee had received mandatory training refreshing the requirements for lawful decision-making including reliance on the Development Plan and material considerations, clear evidence-based reasoning and correct procedure. Training had been offered to Parishes and two of our Councillors had attended on-line. The M5 Junction 28 Improvement Scheme had passed a national review. It remained supported by Government, but funding had not yet been approved. The annual charge for the optional garden waste collection service had been frozen for the year 2026/27. Free Recycling advice and additional containers are available from Mid Devon District Council. There would be a Landlord Networking Event on Wednesday 13 May 2026 between 5.00 and 8.30pm, Upton Barn & Walled Garden, Cullompton.

Various items of correspondence were considered by the Parish Council including the Mid Devon Lifeline Alarm Service which provided 24-hour digital alarm support to help residents live independently. Costs include a £40 one-off installation fee and a weekly charge of £6.23. Residents may self-refer without an assessment. Details will be published on the Parish Council Website.

May is a busy month in the Village with **MorFest** on 23rd May – have you got your tickets yet? Tickets can be bought online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/morfest--26> . And, the **50th Anniversary Celebration of the Two Moors Way** on Friday 29th May with two walks converging on Morchard Bishop – These walks are free to join and great fun – so do make contact with the organisers – details elsewhere in this magazine (page 5).

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 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
Parish Clerk

Contact Details for the Parish Council:

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Morchart's Weather

April Showers. We have certainly had them, some even with hail. But is it true that April has more showers than other months? Apparently it is. Chaucer - in about 1360 - first wrote about "April's sweet showers piercing through to the root after the drought of March". It has to do with the temperature differences - in April the ground is still cold, but April sunshine is as strong as that in August - it just doesn't feel that warm, as we are coming out of winter. This temperature difference causes the showers.

Talking of which, I thought I would get away from the dull UK weather by taking a holiday to Cyprus - that warm place in the Eastern Mediterranean. While you basked in glorious weather in late March - temperatures almost at 20C (68F) and no rain - we had eight days of torrential rain and cold weather. Here in March, only 21mm (3/4 of an inch) of rain fell. In the first two months of the year, we had about 12 inches of rain (300 mm). The moral? Next year, we are going to 'Argate....

Stephen Leese

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What is Development?

The term “Third World” is a somewhat antiquated, generalised label for economically less developed countries.

The Cambridge English Dictionary defines development as “the process in which an economy grows or changes and becomes more advanced”. This rather vague, but nonetheless narrow definition of development might be measured using such indicators as Gross National Product (the total market value of all goods and services produced in a country in one year, including those produced by British citizens and companies operating abroad); or Gross Domestic Product (as above but excluding the foreign earnings).

These measures can be refined to consider the impact population size has on the nation’s earnings, by dividing GNP/GDP by the country’s total population to give GNP/GDP per capita. Differences between different countries’ purchasing power can be calculated to give GNP per capita PPP (purchasing power parity).

The rather simplistic threefold classification of First, Second and Third World economies has been superseded by a plethora of new terms such as LEDCs, MEDCs, HICs, MICs, LICs, NICs and RICs. Each new term trying to resolve a perceived weakness, including politically incorrectness, in the pre-existing terms.

The Brandt Report (1980), named after the German Chancellor, observed that most of the wealthy countries (bar Australia and New Zealand) were in the Northern Hemisphere, while the poorer countries were in the Southern Hemisphere. This geographical inequality became known as the ‘North-South Divide’. However, since then some poorer countries have undergone significant economic development, giving rise to new terms such as “emerging economies” and “Middle Income Countries”.

More recently, the World Bank analyses the GDP data submitted to them each year by 220 nations. These countries’ GNP data is then ranked, richest to lowest, and divided into five equal groups (quintiles) each comprising 44 nations. The results show that the richest 44 countries (the top quintile) owned 82.8% of the world’s wealth (World Bank, 2014), while the remaining 176 countries own the remaining 17.2%. This disparity between the richest and the rest is even more stark if we ignore nationality and focus on individual wealth. The richest 1% of the World’s population own 40-43% of the World’s wealth. The poorest 50% of the World’s population own just 1-2% of the wealth.

This definition of development has only considered economic development. Pure economic development is not sustainable unless it considers the impact it has on the environment and on social factors. Generally speaking and up to a point, as countries become more economically developed their impact on the environment also increases by way of pollution, resource depletion, biodiversity loss and climate change. Once a certain level of wealth is reached economies switch to renewable energy sources, become more resource-efficient and develop stricter environmental regulations, thereby reducing their impact on the environment.

Social indicators need to be considered as different countries may have different political systems that have different goals. For example, Cuba spends a higher proportion of its GNP on health than does the UK. So while Cuba’s GNP per capita is only \$9010, and the UK’s is \$47780, Cuba has 4.3 hospital beds per 1000 people compared with the UK’s 2.3.

As a footnote, Bhutan, a small country situated between China to the north and India to the south, measures its development in terms of happiness. Gross National Happiness acknowledges that economic development with environmental pollution or extreme economic inequalities may result in an overall poor happiness score.

Paul Ticehurst

Garden Tips for May



- Watch out for late frosts. Protect tender plants
- Earth up potatoes, and promptly plant any still remaining
- Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (except in cold areas)
- Water early and late to get the most out of your water, recycle water when possible
- Regularly hoe off weeds
- Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days
- Mow lawns weekly
- Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges
- Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs
- Watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs

Jo Coffey



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~ *Debbie's Diner* ~

Seasonal Produce
Take one month...May

These days we are used to being encouraged to eat seasonally. Not only does the meat, fruit and vegetables taste better when eaten in season, but they are often cheaper to buy. The environment benefits too as it is more likely to be grown locally therefore supporting local producers and reducing food miles which lowers CO2 emissions. If grown during its natural season it is less likely to need to be grown with additional heating or irrigation. A win-win situation!

Asparagus with peas, mint & Jersey Royals in wild garlic butter [Good Food Magazine]



300g Jersey Royal potatoes, 75g softened butter, small handful garlic leaves or a finely chopped clove or 'normal' garlic, 1 tbsp mint leaves, 250g peas, drizzle olive oil for frying, ½ lemon zested and juiced, a bunch of asparagus.

- Bring a large pan of water to the boil and cook the potatoes for 8-10 mins or until tender. Drain.
- Mix together the butter, wild garlic leaves and mint (you can blitz in a food processor, if you like). Set aside.
- Cover the peas with boiling water for 30 seconds, then drain.
- Heat the olive oil in a large, lidded saucepan over a medium heat. Add the asparagus and a good pinch of sea salt and shake to coat in the oil. Put the lid on and cook the asparagus over a low to medium heat, shaking the pan to move the spears around, about 4 mins. Remove the spears from the pan.

Melt the garlic butter in the pan and squeeze in the juice of the lemon. Stir the potatoes, asparagus and peas into the butter until warm. Tip everything onto a serving dish and grate over some lemon zest.

Rhubarb Gin



1kg pink rhubarb stalks [washed and sliced into 3cm lengths], 400g white caster sugar, 800ml gin, [fresh ginger x 5 slices or zest of a blood orange are optional].

- A large, wide necked clip jar.
 - Will need to wait 4 weeks before drinking it!
1. Put the rhubarb lengths into the jar with the caster sugar. Shake it well to coat the rhubarb. Leave it overnight to draw the juices and dissolve the sugar.
 2. Add the gin, seal and shake. Now wait 4 weeks for the magic to happen!



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The BIG FIX hopes to help people save money, not only by repairing old items but also passing on skills to fix their own items in the future.

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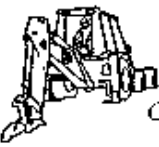
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Poem of the Month

Night:

its soft black skin stretches tight
over the slow shifting seasons.
My father, the cardiac surgeon,
operates on my heart tonight.

He takes half for repair,
saying it will survive a few hours,
but doesn't return
and I despair.

I look for him, I carry my bed,
my heart, my tubes, in my bag,
he can finish the job at home instead.

Halfway down the street
I'm full of doubt and turn back.
There's an infinite lethargy, a lazy
rolling ocean on the shore, a beat

of slow pauses soothing
what's left of me in this
softly thinning stretching skin.

Colin Crewdson



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Sustainable Morchard

We are holding our annual plant swap on the 2nd of May in the village hall, 10:00 till 11:30.

What is a plant swap and why are we doing it?

A plant swap works by people bringing plants they have spare/left over, and taking away other people's plants. If you don't have spare plants, please come along anyway and take some plants home with you.

Any plants will do: house plants, garden plants, vegetables or herbs, though please do label your plants.

Also stay for a tea/coffee and chat with other gardeners.

All plants are free, we only ask for donations to go towards organising other events.

Why are we doing it?

Good reasons for having a plant swap include:

Plant swaps introduce you to other local gardeners, and help to develop a sense of community.

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Morichard Bishop is a happy school!



There is much to celebrate at Morichard Bishop Church of England Primary School, where a glowing SIAMS inspection report proudly highlights a joyful, nurturing community in which every child is encouraged to flourish.

At the heart of the school's success lies a deeply embedded Christian vision—"Deeply rooted, individually nurtured, inspired to flourish"—which is not just words on paper, but a living ethos shaping daily life. Inspectors found that this vision is clearly understood and embraced by both staff and pupils, creating a culture of care, kindness and ambition.

Leadership has played a pivotal role in this success story. Bold and thoughtful decisions have strengthened the curriculum, improved behaviour policies and ensured that pupils thrive both academically and personally. The result is a vibrant learning environment where curiosity is sparked, resilience is nurtured and children are inspired to "dig deep" in their learning.

The report highlights what pupils and parents already know: this is a happy school. Children feel safe, valued and supported, including those with special educational needs and disabilities. Inclusivity is a standout strength, with pupils celebrating diversity and showing genuine compassion and respect for one another.

Older pupils take pride in mentoring younger ones, and kindness is evident throughout the school day—from the classroom to the playground.

Religious education is another shining feature, described as lively, engaging and thought-provoking. Pupils enjoy exploring big questions, debating ideas and learning about a wide range of faiths and worldviews. Visits and special experiences enrich their understanding, helping them grow both intellectually and spiritually.

Collective worship also plays a central role in school life. Inspiring and relevant, it offers pupils meaningful opportunities to reflect, pray and consider their place in the world. Strong links with the local church further strengthen this sense of community and belonging.

The school's caring ethos extends beyond pupils to staff, who benefit from a supportive environment where wellbeing is prioritised and teamwork is strong. This sense of shared purpose contributes to the positive atmosphere that inspectors recognised.

In every sense, Morichard Bishop Primary is living up to its vision—firmly rooted, full of life and blossoming with potential. It is, as inspectors proudly conclude, a place where both pupils and adults truly flourish.



Hannah Bancroft
Academy Head

