

THE COLDRIDGE CALENDAR

EDITOR: John W Smith, Rockfield, Coldridge, EX17 6AX: Email: biggles1047@gmail.com

SUPPORTED BY OUR ADVERTISERS & PRINTED BY COLDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

DIARY FOR APRIL 2026:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON PARISH EVENTS, PLEASE ALSO VISIT OUR **PARISH WEBSITE** AT: www.middevonparish.co.uk/coldridge AND OUR "WHAT'S ON IN COLDRIDGE, DEVON (WOICD)" FACEBOOK PAGE AT: www.facebook.com/groups/coldridge

VILLAGE HALL 'REGULARS':

TAI CHI: CLASSES RUN FROM 4.00pm, EVERY MONDAY

PILATES & CHAIR PILATES: RESTARTING ON TUESDAY 10th MARCH@ 5.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY (3rd)	
11.30am: CHURCH:	SPECIAL SERVICE
EASTER SUNDAY (5th)	
10.30am: CHURCH	EASTER COMMUNION
EASTER MONDAY (6th)	
10.00am: CHURCH:	EASTER TREASURE HUNT
2.30pm: CHURCH:	CHURCH CAFÉ
Wednesday, 8th	
7.30pm: HALL	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Thursday, 9th	
7.00pm: HALL:	ADULT TABLE TENNIS
Friday, 10th	
7.00pm: HALL:	FETE OPEN MEETING
8.00pm: HALL:	COLDRIDGE ARMS
Sunday, 12th	
10.30am: CHURCH:	'PET PRAISE' SERVICE
Monday, 13th	
7.30pm: HALL:	GARDENING CLUB
Tuesday, 14th	
2.00pm: HALL:	COLDRIDGE QUILTERS:
Thursday, 16th	
8.00pm: HALL:	VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL CLUB MEETING
Friday, 17th	
6.30-7pm HALL:	SOCIAL/FILM NIGHT:
Wednesday, 22nd	
7.00pm: CHURCH:	ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETINGS
Thursday, 23rd	
10.00am-3.30pm: HALL:	COLDRIDGE CAFÉ
11.00am: CHURCH:	HISTORY TALK & TOUR
7.00pm: HALL:	TABLE TENNIS
Saturday, 25th	
7.00pm: HALL:	BINGO NIGHT
Thursday, 30th	
7.00pm: HALL:	CRIB CLUB

EDITOR'S NOTES FOR APRIL:

Thank you all for your Notices, News and Events for this issue.

The copy deadline for our MAY issue is **SUNDAY, 19th APRIL (latest)**. Please may I have all your items, in WORD or JPEG format, no later than then.

Many thanks; John W Smith (Editor)
Email: biggles1047@gmail.com

NEWS FROM ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH:

The **CHURCH CAFE**, this month, is on **Easter Monday, 6th April, starting at 2.30pm**. Everyone is very welcome to join us in the Church for Tea/Coffee, Cakes and Biscuits and, as usual, some very cheerful conversation.

SERVICES FOR EASTER and APRIL:

Our service for **GOOD FRIDAY** is at 11.30am and will, again, be led by Rev. Jeremy Putnam. As it was last year, this is a reflective service for a challenging day in the Christian calendar and, like last year, this service will offer you much scope for reflection and preparation for the great joy of Easter Sunday.

Our **EASTER SUNDAY COMMUNION** will take place at 10.30am, led by our very dear friend, Rev. Peter Rapsey. The most joyous and celebratory service of the year, we welcome you all to come along and share in the Good News that Christ is risen again.

Something of a 'First' for St Matthews (but not for the 'Vicar of Dibley', I understand)....On **Sunday, 12th April at 10.30am**, we will be opening the church for a '**PET PRAISE**' service! Yes, that's right, you are welcome to bring your pets along to the church for a blessing and we can show our gratitude for the companionship that animals of all sorts can give us. As you can probably imagine, this will be an informal service. It may be chaotic, it might be a little noisy, but we can guarantee that it will be fun!

We offer **refreshments and companionship** after our services, to which everyone is always very welcome to stay.

SITUATION VACANT:

The PCC is currently seeking to recruit a new Hon. SECRETARY, upon the retirement of Keyth, who has filled the role magnificently for many years. It is a voluntary role and the successful candidate will be given a separate PCC email address. It is an enjoyable and rewarding (though not too demanding) role, working with a very proactive PCC. Meetings are usually once per month.

Applications close on Sunday, 19th April.

For more details, please contact John Smith on 01363 83436 or Andrew Green on 01363 83791
John Smith & Andrew Green (Churchwardens)

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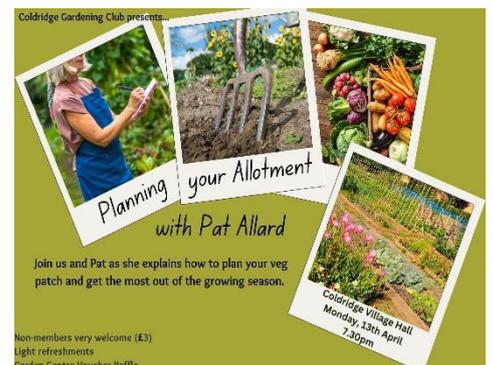
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Green,
Winkleigh, Devon, EX19 8AT

Email:

samjcarne@outlook.com
Tel: 01837 680199
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COLDRIDGE GARDENING CLUB:

In March we found out what it takes to be awarded 'National Collection' status, in this case for peonies, when speaker Caroline Stone came. A self-confessed 'peony addict', she virtually toured us around her garden near Launceston and the plant's history. She is also keen to expand her collection, and recounted how some of her lesser-known specimens came out of people's gardens and appealed for us all to look in our own back yards. If you think you have a peony worthy of inclusion in a national collection, get in touch with her on: doubleprimroses@gmail.com



Non-members very welcome (£3)
Light refreshments
Garden Centre Voucher Raffle

We are in for a treat in April. On **Monday, 13th April at 7.30pm** in the **Village Hall**, our own Pat Allard will be taking to the floor again talking about how to plan planting for your patch. Pat has spoken before more generally about her allotment nearby, and is now ready to dig deeper (pun intended) about how to get the most out of the growing season. We will be supplementing this talk with a few drinkies and nibbles to make it a social evening as well.

Everyone is welcome to join Coldridge Gardening Club - a family membership is only £15 for the year. Keep an eye out for news of upcoming events on all the usual village channels. If you are not (yet!) a member of the Coldridge Gardening Club, and would like to see what it's all about, please drop us a line on coldridgegardeningclub@ecomail.uk for more details.

Tracy, Teresa and Nick.
(Gardening Club Committee)



ABIGAIL'S
Beauty Retreat

Massage & Beauty Therapist in Lapford.

Massage - Manicures - Pedicures - Waxing
Hot stone massage - Eyelash & Brow tinting
Eyebrow Shaping - Gel Nails - Facials

Lapford Village Hall
Lapford
EX17 6PZ
07565 768386
abigailbeautyretreat@gmail.com

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:

In March, Coldridge WI got moving with a very thought provoking talk about the importance of strength training for women in mid and later life. Personal trainer and soft tissue therapist, Becky Horton, gave us plenty of easy to incorporate ideas about adding life to our years; it was also an eye opener to find out just how many members are secret gym bunnies!

April's will be a meeting of two halves; first, the AGM with committee reports reviewing the old year and looking forward to what's coming up and later, a talk from Coldridge's own Kate Fitch about her work as a Street Pastor. As a group of faith-based volunteers, Street Pastors patrol our communities during the small hours providing care and help to anyone in need. Whether that need arises from an overexuberant night out, homelessness, mental health crisis or wanting a chat, Street Pastors are on hand to provide non-judgmental compassion and aid to those in a vulnerable state. Find out more on **Wednesday, 8th April at 7.30pm** in the **Village Hall** about this inspirational organisation.

New members are always welcome or come as a guest (£3 - women only). Meetings are held (with the odd exception) on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Subjects range from charities and local interest groups, cookery demonstrations and craft workshops to the arts and wellbeing. Look out for more information on the village socials. Hope to see you soon.

Lyn Green (WI Secretary)

Coldridge WI presents...

Caring, Listening, Helping
The Role of the Street Pastor

with Kate Fitch



Providing a tangible presence of hope and compassion to those in need at any given time.

Coldridge Village Hall
Wednesday, 8th April at 7.30pm
Incorporating the 2026 AGM

Non-members are always welcome (£3, women only)



CARVED IN TIME:

The recent talks at St Matthew's Church by experts Hugh Harrison and Jo Cox were both fascinating and deeply informative, drawing a large and engaged audience both from afar and within the locality. Hugh shared expert insight into the church's remarkable woodwork, even reflecting on how much time and care it took him to complete his detailed report on the building, while Jo brought the wider architectural history to life, helping everyone appreciate how the church has evolved over centuries.

Many attendees were especially captivated by the rich history, and there was a strong sense throughout the day that what we have here in Coldridge is truly something very special, an extraordinary piece of heritage right at the heart of our community. In Hugh's own words, on writing his report about St Matthews he says "Coldridge must have the most diverse collection of woodwork for a parish church throughout the centuries in Devon/West country. It is in the running for the longest, most heavily illustrated report in my 52 years running this little outfit".

A big thank you to all those who helped clean the church in preparation and those who helped make this day successful, from the marketing and planning team to all those who helped on the day with AV, car parking and refreshments. Once again, Coldridge is put on the map!

Lyn Green

IAN RUNS...AGAIN!

Local runner, Ian Webber is due to run his Silver Anniversary **25th consecutive London Marathon** on Sunday 26th April.

Once again, Ian and Jayne are raising funds for the vital work of **Hospice UK**. Hospice UK is the national charity for hospice and end of life care. They support many of our local hospices.

The Hospice UK mission is to promote and protect hospice care for all who need it, for now and forever.

As the national champion for hospices, Hospice UK fight to make sure hospice care is there for everyone, from every background, fight to make

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sure hospices are able to deliver the best, most personalised care, and fight to make sure hospices can thrive – today and into the future. Hospice UK represent the community of more than 200 hospices across the UK. They do everything they can for children and adults living with long-term illness, or approaching the end of their lives through providing bereavement, counselling and practical support. Hospice UK do everything they can to support hospices' incredible, invaluable work.

You can donate via the fundraising page: www.justgiving.com/page/ianwebberlm2026 or alternatively, send your donation / pop it in Ian and Jayne's letterbox at 2 Thorn Corner, near West Leigh. (Postal address: Bramble Cottage, 2 Thorn Corner, Nr Wembworthy, Chulmleigh EX18 7SN / Email: jayne.webber@tiscali.co.uk / phone 01837 82540) or drop your donation in at North Tawton Post Office for Jayne's attention.

As part of their fundraising, Ian and Jayne will be holding a Virtual Silent Auction (in early May - date to be confirmed). Donations of items, vouchers, tickets, service promises, would be much appreciated, as well as auction bidders.

£3100 was raised last year for Hospice UK. Over the years, Ian and Jayne have raised an incredible **£84,594** for various charities, along with the help of our local community.

COPPLESTONE SINGERS ARE COMING TO ST. MATTHEW'S



The PCC are delighted to welcome **The Copplesstone Singers** who are coming to St Matthew's Church to entertain us on Friday, 24th April at 7.30pm.

The performance is free but any donations will be given wholly to The Amber Foundation at Chawleigh, whose wonderful work we have supported for many years. **ED.**

EASTER TREASURE HUNT!

Join us for a Treasure Hunt on Easter Monday, 6th April at 10-11.30am in St Matthew's Church, Coldridge! No booking is required and it's free to enter.

This Treasure Hunt is open to children of pre-primary and primary ages. There will be 10 age-appropriate questions which lead to clues around the church, church path and the village hall. Winners will be drawn from a hat of correct entries. There will be four age groups with an Easter Egg prize for the winner in each age group. Every child will get a goody bag.

Tea, coffee, juice and hot cross buns will be available to enjoy as well.

For more details contact Kate Fitch on 07765 863484 or email kate.fitch15@btinternet.com

JOIN US FOR A TREASURE HUNT

SEARCH FOR CLUES
WIN AN EASTER EGG!
EVERYONE GETS A GOODY BAG!
for pre-primary & primary ages

Refreshments & Hot Cross Buns

APR | 6 | 10 TIL 11.30AM
FREE TO ENTER
NO BOOKING REQUIRED

St Matthew's Church, Coldridge

Contact: kate.fitch15@btinternet.com
07765 863484

IF YOU SHOULD SPOT A POTHOLE....

Roads & Transport Devon Highways

0345 155 1004

Contact Devon County Council for information regarding road maintenance, traffic management and parking, street-lights and signs, and public rights of way between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturday.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

ADULT TABLE TENNIS

April 2026 Dates:
Thurs 9th & Thurs 23rd
7.30 - 10pm
Coldridge Village Hall

FREE - ALL ARE WELCOME

COLDRIDGE CAR POOL

Affordable Transport to local medical appointments:

Our Tariff (for return trips) is as follows:

Bow:	£4.00
North Tawton:	£4.00
Winkleigh:	£3.50
Chulmleigh:	£6.00
Crediton:	£7.00
Okehampton:	£10.00
Exeter:	£15.00
Barnstaple:	£17.00

To book a trip or to join the team (we urgently need to recruit new volunteer drivers) please contact:

John Smith on 01363 83436 or email: biggles1047@gmail.com

Thanks to all our volunteers. JS

Coldridge Fete & Vintage Rally Flower Festival & Dog Show
11am
Sat 27th June 2026
(in aid of Coldridge Village Hall & St Matthew's Church Fabric Fund)

You are invited to join us for an

Open Meeting

7pm, Friday 10th April
Coldridge Village Hall, EX17 6AX

Your chance to find out the latest on the preparations and attractions planned for our 2026 Fete.

All are welcome.

Coldridge Fete & Vintage Rally Flower Festival & Dog Show
11am
Sat 27th June 2026
(in aid of Coldridge Village Hall & St Matthew's Church Fabric Fund)

Announcing the launch of the 2026 Grand Prize Draw!

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1st Prize - £200 Cash
2nd Prize - £125 Cash
3rd Prize - £75 Cash
4th Prize - £50 Cash
- Plus many more exciting prizes!

The draw will take place in the Fete Field on Saturday 27th June 2026 at 4pm.

Tickets £1 each, or £5/book
Top Cash Prizes plus many more....
Tickets on sale now!

Available to buy at Coldridge Village Hall events or by contacting Marion Born on 01363 83482

<https://middlevonparish.co.uk/coldridge/>

Coldridge Village Hall Social Group Presents

The Coldridge Arms

Friday 10th April
8* - 11pm

Coldridge Village Hall,
EX17 6AX

* Note slightly later opening time this month to accommodate a 2026 Coldridge Fete Open Meeting

Licensed Bar
Refreshments & Snacks Available - Cash or Card

Pop-in anytime on the night for a drink and friendly chat

Coldridge Village Hall

COLDRIDGE VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL GROUP

Next Meeting

Thursday 16th April, 8pm
Coldridge Village Hall, EX17 6AX

Do you enjoy the many and varied social events held in Coldridge Village Hall?

Would you like to share your ideas for future events, or can you spare some time to help prepare or lend a hand 'on the night'?

If yes, we are keen to hear from you.

The Coldridge Village Hall Social Group is a small band of 'entertainment activists' who devise and deliver social activities that appeal to all ages in the Parish.

All are welcome. Feel free to join us on 16th April to help us plan and prepare future events in 2026.

For further information contact Lyn Green.

COLDRIDGE VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL GROUP PRESENTS

SOCIAL NIGHT

FREE ENTRY

FRIDAY 17 APRIL
DOORS OPEN 6.30PM FOR A 7PM START

COLDRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

THIS MONTH'S MAIN FEATURE...

As our hero pursues a dangerous AI that's infiltrated global intelligence, world governments and someone from his past is in hot pursuit as he races to stop it from forever changing the world.

"M_ss__n: _mp_ss_bl_ - Th_ F_n_l R_ck_n_ng"
(7:10 - 3,5,9)

Starring: Tom Cruise Hayley Atwell Ving Rhames
Cert. 12A Action/Adventure/Spy/Thriller/Drama 2025

LICENCED BAR, SNACKS AND ICE CREAMS AVAILABLE

Continued...

EASTER CHURCH CAFÉ

HOP ON DOWN TO ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH CAFÉ THIS EASTER MONDAY. Monday, 6th April 2.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME.

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✉ joe@iscasaelectrical.co.uk

Coldridge Café

Thursday 23rd April

10 am – 3 pm

Coldridge Village Hall

You are invited to join us for tea, coffee, hot chocolate & home-made cake...
PLUS

...a selection of lunchtime dishes served between 12 and 2pm

April's Lunch Menu to be advised nearer the date

Takeaway Service Available

THE COLDRIDGE CRIB CLUB

NEXT MEET

Thursday 30th April, 7pm

All are welcome

Can't play want to play. If you would like to learn, come along, beginners are welcome, instruction is on hand.

Attendees to pay £1 to cover the hall hire costs. The bar will be open.

For further details contact Andy.
andrewfitch@coldridgevillagehall.org.uk
07990565973

COLDRIDGE VILLAGE HALL SOCIAL GROUP PRESENTS

BINGO NIGHT

Don't miss out on the chance to enjoy a thrilling game night in a lively and welcoming atmosphere!

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2026
FROM 7PM AT COLDRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER DETAILS!

COME AND SING MOZART'S REQUIEM with THE WINKLEIGH SINGERS

Saturday 18th April 2026

10.00am – 5.00pm, with a free public performance at 4.00pm.
Barnstaple Parish Church, High Street, Barnstaple

Early bird tickets £10.00 (accompanied U16s FREE) available until 22nd March from www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-winkleigh-singers
Full price tickets £15.00 from 23rd March and closing 12th April.
Tickets also available from choir members (cash only).

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Ticket price includes score hire and refreshments at breaks.

Please bring your own packed lunch.

The Winkleigh Singers is a registered charity number 1171218 • Hon. Patron: Sir Richard Seligoe