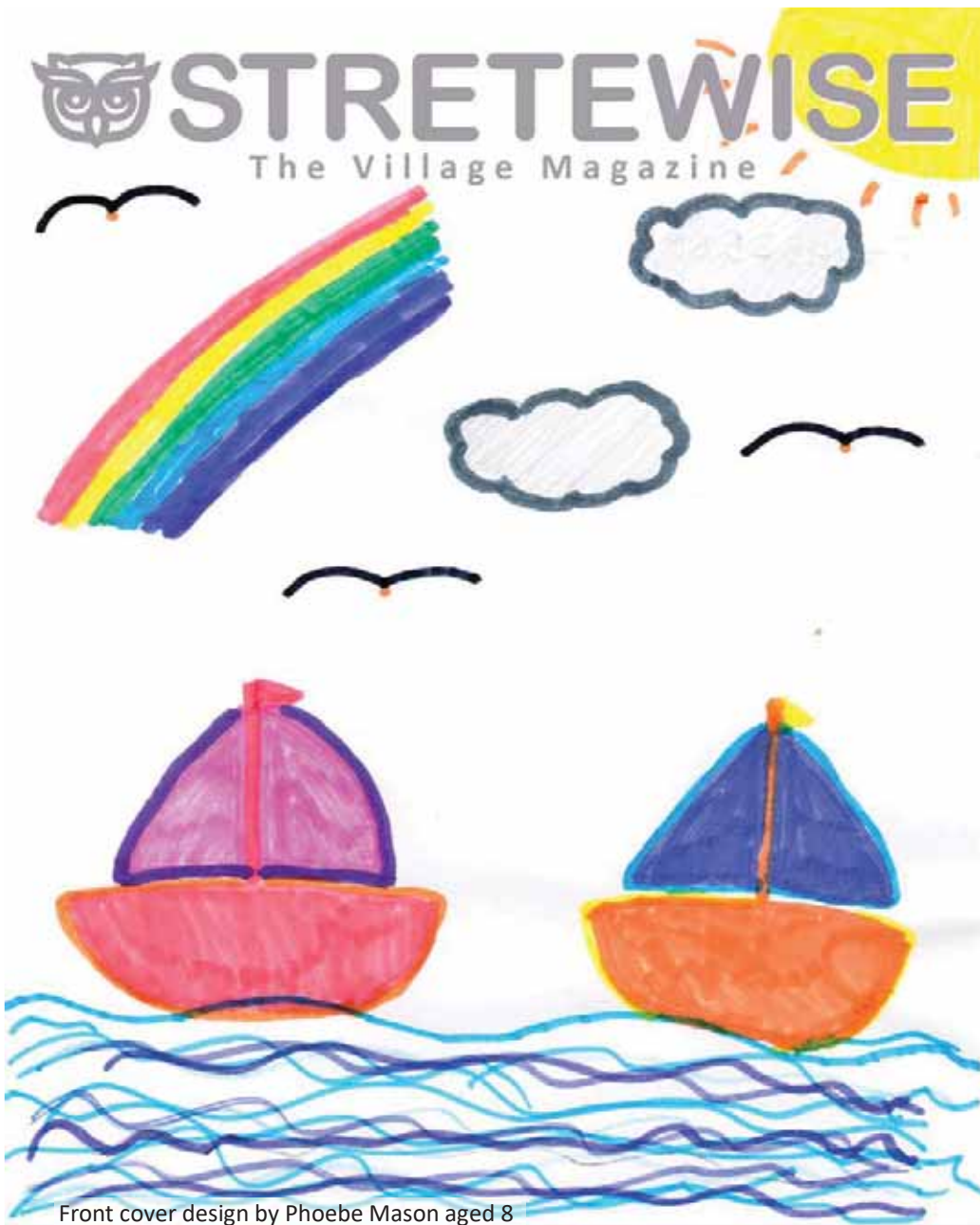




# STRETEWISE

The Village Magazine



Front cover design by Phoebe Mason aged 8

Published with support from the  
Captain Pearson Memorial Trust,  
Advertisers, Strete Parish Council,  
individual donations and our readers.  
Printed by Parish Magazine Printers EX22 6TD.

**Price £1**  
**August - September 2024**  
**Vol 33:04**

<https://www.stretewise.co.uk>

email: [stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com)

# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

Saturday 3rd August 2024

Thank you to Paul Potgieter  
for his drone pictures.  
Focus Media Marketing  
[www.focusmediamarketing.uk](http://www.focusmediamarketing.uk)

A VERY BIG  
**THANK YOU**

from Penny and The Committee

TO EVERYONE  
WHO HELPED,  
IN ANY WAY,  
TO MAKE STRETE  
VILLAGE DAY 2024  
SUCH A SUCCESS

There was a strong sibling rivalry evident at the coconut shy.



Coconuts were in short supply before the end of the afternoon.



Phoebe Mason aged 8  
Winner of the Stretewise  
cover design competition

High scores were par for the day.



Rats were splatted.







The Tea Room was brimming with a delicious array of savouries and cakes. The Bar and Pimms Tent quenched thirsts and the BBQ delivered a regular supply of quality Burgers and Hot Dogs.





A big thank you to Nick Shepherd for his photography

**STRETE  
VILLAGE DAY**





# Strete Chapel



Greetings from the fellowship to all in the village!

We are continuing to meet every Sunday at 11am in the chapel building. Since the last edition of Stretewise we have enjoyed Sunday services together with varied speakers, shared meals and a weekly prayer meeting too.

Shared meals at chapel are always well received and in addition to being able to try lots of lovely food it is also a chance to spend time together.

When reading up on this I learned that...

'The Bible begins and ends with meals. The first words of God to humans are an invitation to eat; the first conflict in the Bible is over a forbidden meal; the last act of Jesus before his death is to share a meaningful feast with his disciples; and the final vision of the new world is of a massive, joyful banquet.'

<https://au.thegospelcoalition.org>

Food is clearly important and it is also used in illustrations about our need for God.

**'Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. John 6 v 35**



We have now had our last Young Searchers group before the holidays. We had lots of fun playing games – making good use of the chapel balcony and finishing off our series on the disciple Peter.

Peter was someone who was not perfect and let Jesus down, but we learnt that Jesus forgave Peter and showed him love time and time again. We learnt that even though we can get things wrong too, Jesus loves us too and will forgive us if we ask him to do so.

We hope that the children enjoy their summer holidays and make the most of living in such a wonderful part of the world!



## Readers Corner

Great is thy faithfulness is an all-time favourite hymn. Its joyful tune inspires one to praise and it is certainly a hymn many people love to sing.

It proclaims a sure statement of God's goodness that can be faith enhancing. Sometimes though, I find myself questioning the words of the chorus even while singing it. "Morning by morning new mercies I see". I wonder at the lack of

mercies in the world at this present time, all those dark corners of suffering and heartache, where there are no flowers and no morning breakfast.

It is not until we reach the last verse of the hymn that we realize what the writer of the hymn George Chisholm counts as God's blessings.

From verse 3, we hear the words, "Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside"

Chisholm took part of his inspiration for the hymn from the book of Lamentations in the Bible. "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning, great is his faithfulness" chapter 3, verses 22 and 23.

These verses recognise that God himself is the fulfilment of all our needs.

It is in the act of bringing all the elements of our lives, both joys and griefs, that we find he can meet the needs and fill the gaps.

Chisholm's great hymn and the words of lamentations are an encouragement

that God makes his love known in all our days, no matter what they bring or fail to bring.

Let us count God's presence as the best of blessings in each new day.

**Jenny Harris.**





The Village Hall is available to hire for events, clubs and activities. Book through Danni Brien on 07841 505797

During the work to create the Hall's new entrance path, the workmen found a rather damp mini 'time capsule'. Once dried it turned out to be part of a 1999 copy of Stretewise. In this it explained that The Parish Square was designed in January 1999 as a Project for the Millenium.

*Below are extracts from this 1999 copy of Stretewise.*

It was felt that a new entrance courtyard would provide a real amenity: a safe haven where Mums could sit and watch their toddlers playing in safety while they had a natter with friends. There could be seating where senior citizens might have a rest walking back from the shop, an area where perhaps the Youth Club could have the odd outdoor event in the summer and an area where stalls for Summer Fetes could be erected.

#### AN IDENTIFIABLE CENTRE – A PARISH SQUARE

Whilst the Hall will contribute funds as available for much of the skilled labour and materials, it is hoped that the organisations who use the Hall will look favourably towards grants and gifts. But hopefully, it will be the Villagers who will generously – "BUY A SLAB". They could then have their names written on the underside of slabs before they are laid.



30th MAY 1999

"THE PARISH SQUARE WAS DESIGNED IN JANUARY 1999 AND RECEIVED THE APPROVAL OF THE HALL COMMITTEE. AN APPEAL WENT OUT TO THE VILLAGERS TO "BUY A SLAB" - WITH GRANTS FROM SWS (ELECTRICITY) & THE SOUTH HAM DISTRICT COUNCIL, OVER £2,000.00 WAS COLLECTED.

"THE SLABS WERE LAID IN MAY 1999 BY GARY MCCOY ASSISTED BY DAVID HACKETT, KEVIN FINELLI, MALCOLM SHUTELOWORTH, DAVID BUDGE, PETER MAWLEED, DAVID DUNDALE.

GRANTS FROM THE LOCAL SCHOOLS GAVE ASSISTANCE.

CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH HALL - CHARLES WOOLLARD ESQ.



“BUY A SLAB”. They could then have their names written on the underside of slabs before they are laid.

An appeal went out to the Villagers and then with grants from SWEB(Electricity) and South Hams District Council, over £2,800 was collected.

Work started on 11<sup>th</sup> May to clear the land, levels were trimmed and land drains laid. 17 tonnes of stone were spread by hand by three Sub-Lieuts from BRNC. This work was completed by lunchtime and all retired into the Hall where the Committee Ladies had prepared a splendid lunch of beef casserole with dumplings.

On 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> May work started on laying the slabs by Gary McCoy assisted by David Hackett, Ken Parnell, Malcolm Shuttleworth, David Snook, Peter Maynard and David Dugdale.

Hopefully by the next edition of Stretewise the Parish Square will have been completed, the landscape and seats in place and the area being used – a focal point for Village activities.

THE SQUARE IS A TRUE VILLAGE EFFORT FOR THE MILLENIUM, YEAR 2000

**URGENT!** The Hall Committee needs more members.

If you would be interested in finding out more, please contact Penny  
771005

p.g.penhale@hotmail.com

**NB: Someone is allowing their dog to poo on the grass outside the entrance to the Hall grounds! If you know who this is, please will you let us know. If it is you PLEASE STOP!**





need the sun to keep shining!

In June and July, the Euros saw the pub packed to the rafters for the England games and despite England losing in the final it was everything you'd hope a community pub could be. The last Summer BBQ was also a great success with Terence Waldstadt playing 90s & classic rock, a wonderful BBQ and glorious sunshine.

The **August Summer BBQ** on the afternoon of Saturday 24th has live music from the exciting Barney Newman, playing lively country, blues and roots on banjo, guitar and mouth organ. Plus of course Elliot's Most Excellent BBQ. Not to be missed.

The pub is **open every day** over summer with a few details worth noting. There is a full menu on Monday and then again from Thursday to Sunday, with bar service only on Tuesday and Wednesday lunch but on Wednesday evening there is the hugely popular **Pizza Pop-Up from Artisan Pizzas**. See below for the full details.

Every Wednesday is also Jon's popular **Weekly Quiz**. The quiz starts at 7.30pm and there seems to be a different winner each week so it really is a quiz for everybody whilst gorging on the best pizzas around.

There is a plan forming to hold a **Summer Vibes session on the August Bank Holiday Monday** the 26<sup>th</sup>, with live music, chilled Ibiza tunes and a BBQ.

The **Open Mic Night** takes a break in August, but is back with a bang on Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. There's a strong group of players but we're always looking for more so if you fancy a play, please pop along. You'll feel a warm glow no matter what you play.

The **Village Lunch** is also taking a summer break, returning in October with its affordable menu and convivial chat.

Our new chef Elliot is now firmly established in the kitchen, offering a full menu and regular Specials, regularly including fresh fish from the markets that morning. There are numerous positive reviews on Google and Tripadvisor, so if you have not sampled his cooking, now is a great time. Don't forget: in Summer tables are often fully booked. So, if you want to be sure, it's **BEST TO BOOK**.

Finally, please see the note on the following pages about fundraising. This is an inevitable element of keeping open a community pub and any support will be greatly appreciated.

To book or ask a question just call on 01803 770027 or pop into the pub.

Follow on Facebook at [Facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete](https://www.facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete)

Or go to the website [www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](http://www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk)

For other enquiries, please contact [info@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete).

## Opening Hours

Through high summer, the Kings Arms is open seven days a week. Hours are:

Monday 12-3pm & 5-10pm with a full menu

Tuesday 12-3pm & 5-10pm with bar service only

Wednesday 12-3pm bar service & 5-10pm Pizza Pop-up

Thursday & Friday 12-3pm & 5-10pm with a full menu

Saturday open all day 12-10pm with a full menu

Sunday 12-6pm with a full menu



### The Kings Arms: Fundraising

You can now become a subscriber to the Kings Arms!

Why are we doing this when many of you have already contributed a considerable amount?

The Kings Arms Committee has worked hard to ensure sound management of the business, but realistically, trade cannot be accelerated to the extent needed in a village the size and demographic of Strete, especially when set against a particularly brutal economic environment. We have no other option but to raise additional funds for the foreseeable future to offset anticipated losses of c. £45 - £50k annually. *(We'll provide more detail about these numbers in a later newsletter and can be discussed at the AGM later in the year.)* In order to meet the shortfall, we have a multi-pronged approach to raising funds to ensure the future of our pub. But of course...

We continually seek creative ways to grow trade, and push down hard on costs to maximise profits. There have been numerous improvements but keeping a rural pub open will never be easy. Good summers are critical. In the past the committee have used share offers to raise additional funds. This time, rather than another share offer, we aim to do this via a subscription scheme, which we consider to be a fair way of sharing the cost across a broader base and is, hopefully, a more affordable means for more people to contribute. This small monthly payment is akin to a Netflix or magazine subscription. Other community ventures have done this and it has proven successful.

We have three recommended subscription levels: **Bronze** at £10, **Silver** at £20, and **Gold** at £30 per month. Subscribers will be in control of their payments and can cancel at any time.

Ordinarily, a different level of subscription would afford different levels of privilege, but that is not the case here. We have explored doing so, but it would cause unintended and unwelcome consequences, detracting from the benefits to the pub and the purpose of this scheme. It is simply that multiples of relatively small monthly payments, with people paying what they can afford, will help keep the pub afloat.

We have already had pledges to subscribe from some shareholders and prospective benefactors.

The Kings Arms will, of course, seek additional avenues of funding. We are approaching local benefactors and businesses, for whom preserving the pub within the village is particularly important, and we will run fundraising campaigns throughout the year that reach a wider audience in the effort to spread the financial load beyond the village.

The Kings Arms isn't just a pub — it's our pub, and it's where community spirit thrives.

The pub has been a cornerstone of our village life for generations. Community involvement helps preserve this rich heritage for years to come. In an age of digital connectivity, the pub offers irreplaceable face-to-face interactions where friendships are forged, strengthening the bonds that make our village special.

By keeping the Kings Arms thriving, we're supporting other local businesses that rely on the pub's presence and custom. From celebratory pints to Sunday roasts, the pub is where experiences are shared and lasting memories are made. The pub serves as a vital social hub, combating isolation and promoting mental health through regular social interactions.

**If you can help, please complete the standing order form.**

# Support the Kings Arms Subscribe today!

To Friends of the Kings Arms.

First and foremost, thank you for doing this, your support plays a crucial role in preserving our pub.

Restricted by our bank from offering a direct debit payment route, **we ask that you set up a standing order with your bank.**

This is almost as convenient, and importantly allows you to maintain your generous support while giving you full control over your donations.

A step-by-step guide for setting up a standing order is provided aside, and here is the detail you will need:

**Account Name:** Stretle Community Pub Limited  
**Swift Code (BIC):** NWBKGB2L  
**IBAN Number:** GB93NWBK60023571418024  
**Sort Code:** 608301  
**Account Number:** 20428277

Please also include the appropriate reference with your monthly payment, reflecting either £30 (gold), £20 (silver) or £10 (bronze) monthly payments.

**Reference:**  
GOLDDONATION  
SILVERDONATION  
BRONZEDONATION

Payment date: 1st day of each month

Ideally, we ask that you set up the standing order for the first day of each month, continuing indefinitely. If your circumstances change, you can easily modify or cancel your standing order at any time without providing notice - you will be in control.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to keeping the Kings Arms alive. Every contribution helps!

If you have questions or need help with setting up your standing order, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help.

With huge appreciation,

The Stretle Community Pub Limited Committee

## How to Set Up a Standing Order:

You can do this simply by visiting your local bank branch or calling your bank's customer service line, but for those preferring online banking...

1. Log in to your online banking or mobile banking app.
2. Look for an option like 'Payments' or 'Transfer money'.
3. Select 'Set up a standing order' or 'Regular payments'.
4. Enter the details given above, as requested.
5. Choose the amount you wish to donate monthly.
6. Set the payment date (1st of each month) and frequency (monthly).
7. Enter the appropriate reference - e.g., GOLDDONATION - in the reference field.
8. Select the end date as 'Until further notice' or leave it blank for an indefinite period.
9. Review all details - there's a lot of numbers there! - and confirm the standing order setup.



Hair By Pura Vida 01548 581000



At Pura Vida we are a small salon offering personalised professional hairdressing. As an experienced duo, we now work separately which offers a much more personalised experience. We like to take time with you to do a full consultation to ensure you leave our salon with your hair looking fabulous and you feeling amazing. We want you to rest assured your comfort and welfare are important to us.

**Hair By Pura Vida**

**Unit 1A Fairfield Meadow Orchard Way Chillington TQ7 2LB**

**[www.hairbypuravida.co.uk](http://www.hairbypuravida.co.uk)**



**Building**



**Groundworks**



**Carpentry**



**Landscaping**



**☎ Wayne Pound - 07969 981536**

**☎ Chris Drury 07734 432667**

**✉ [Pdconstruction1@hotmail.com](mailto:Pdconstruction1@hotmail.com)**





**Oven Hero provides professional oven cleaning services in the South Hams.**

Book your appointment today and our trusted technician will bring your oven back to nearly new!

**Contact: [hello@ovenhero.co.uk](mailto:hello@ovenhero.co.uk) or Call: 07507 941705**

**<https://www.ovenhero.co.uk>**

---





# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2024

### STRETE VILLAGE HALL

#### PRESENT COUNCILLORS:

Ralph Clark (Chairman), Helen Darch (HD), Ian Cumberlidge (IC), Peter Hales (PH), Graham Campbell (GC), Cllr Kate Gill (KG), Cllr Julian Brazil (JB), Cllr Laurel Lawford (LL)

Also in attendance: Hannah Iles (HI), Parish Clerk

#### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None

#### ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR

Peter Hales stood down as chair and will not stand for re-election. RC thanked PH for the excellent job he has done in his three years as chair. As current deputy chair, RC put himself forward for election as new chair. No other nominations received. PH Proposed RC as chair and KG Seconded. Unanimous agreement from the councillors.

#### DISTRICT COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

LL announced household support fund available for households in the South Hams who are struggling with daily living costs. It is a one-off payment to provide financial support to pay for food, bills or household goods and is open to the lowest income households initially but is expected to be opened up to others. LL will share link to the scheme with SPC via email.

Decarbonisation support scheme is available for local businesses/organisations. Funding will be provided for specialist consultancy. LL will share link to the scheme with SPC via email.

LL will share information via email regarding DEFRA grant that may benefit the village hall's proposal for an EV charging point. Councillors invited to send questions and ideas for Fusion Lifestyle (leisure centres) to LL to forward on.

#### COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

**Devolution:** Devolution deal has been agreed by DCC and Torbay and has gone up to Westminster for approval. JB believes everything will be renegotiated in the future so as to not leave Plymouth behind and also as the district councils feel very left out by the current proposal.

**Safety Valve scheme:** Central government has accepted DCCs application to the Safety Value Scheme, giving the council access to £95 million to help with the cumulative deficit it has accrued in its SEND service. Part of the deal is that the services no longer run at a deficit. JB does not yet know how this will be achieved and is aware that other counties, who previously signed up to the safety valve subsequently dropped out as cost saving service cuts were so unpalatable.

Strategy meeting held with Devon and Plymouth to decide what a good Freeport will look like. Hoping for highly paid and highly skilled jobs. Sherford and Langage site is area that will be the Freeport and businesses sited there will receive various tax breaks. RC asked what information is available about how other freeports that are already in existence are working. JB shared that most are at a very early stage. One concern is that they do displace businesses from other areas due to the tax breaks. The overall view is the "jury is still out" and some of them get bad press but if targets are hit it will be a positive for the area. Plymouth city population is declining and 5000 houses are being built at Sherford (building is progressing at a slow rate due to lack of demand). PH understands that councils have aspirations for developing certain industries and wondered if they will point them towards freeport. JB advised that DCC signpost access to business facilities and support but in his opinion, it is not for the council to take the lead (though he pointed out that other councillors may have more interest in promoting the freeport).

RC noted that DCC have been granted £12 million funding and would like the damaged road outside the village shop to be repaired.

JB stated that has heard RCs message “loud and clear”. He does not believe that the road will be closed during the summer season but they may be able to do an interim repair.

### **DANNI BRIEN REPRESENTING DARTMOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (SUMMARY)**

Danni Brien and Laura Campbell introduced the Chamber of Commerce, who meet on the third Tuesday of each month. The chamber has already represented 123 local business members interests in negotiations for the Dartmouth park and ride and in securing free berthing days at the harbour. The chamber is trying to raise the profile of Dartmouth as a competitor to other more well-known towns. They aim to make the Dartmouth area an easier place to run a business by advocating supporting and encouraging collaboration between local businesses. The chamber is currently focused on Dartmouth in December and are involved in the visitors centre where they are developing a business hub.

Councillors asked about plans for the shortage of skilled labour in the hospitality industry and the chamber are already speaking to DCC about transport and housing accessibility and with South Devon College about apprenticeships.

An article about the chamber will be coming out in Streetwise magazine.

Full minutes appended.

**OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:** No members of the public present

### **1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON MARCH 21ST, 2024**

These were agreed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **3. PLANNING AND PLANNING MATTERS**

None

### **4. FINANCE**

- a) Current Account Balance 14,079.65
- b) Reserve Account 11,857.21
- c) Monitoring/Spend to-date.
- e) Payment of the following cheques/ bank transfers approved.

Strete Village Hall Rent+ WIFI £60.00

Clerk's wages (exact amount TBC) £346.70

Expenses for APM refreshments £24.45

Stamps £6.80

Greenspace £253.80

Terry Hallett's Gardening Services £190.00

SHDC (election recharges) £148.50

Terry Hallett contract ended in writing. Final invoice will be paid following this meeting.

Councillors approved purchase of gift for BW as gratitude for auditing accounts.

### **5. 106 LAND MATTERS**

Final payment applied for and BACs remittance advice received. All monies spent.

### **6. PLAYPARK MAINTENANCE**

SHDC report states same faults each time. Inspector has confirmed verbally to IC that none of the issues reported are dangerous. IC keeping repairs within budget. RC reminded IC that if there is anything that needs to be fixed urgently due to a safety issue, or if IC needs assistance, funds are set aside.

## **7. ROAD SAFETY**

£12million has become available to DCC. SPC are keen that funding is distributed equally throughout the county. SPC are concerned about damage to road outside shop and the danger it proposes to all road users but especially pedestrians. SPC are seriously concerned about the state of the A379 linking Strete to Kingsbridge between Torcross and right through Stokenham and Chillington. Concerns have been escalated to DCC.

## **8. SLAPTON LINE PARTNERSHIP**

PH emailed DCC highways representatives after APM. No other updates and no meetings scheduled. RC suggested contacting John Fewings and Josh Mannings every three months for an update. Date to be scheduled at the June meeting.

## **9. CYCLICAL DRAINAGE WORKS**

Councillors articulated that current situation is untenable and unfair on residents, who are effectively paying twice. DCC are not carrying out works satisfactorily and so SPC are forced to employ their own contractors and charge the residents via the precept. Training is available for volunteer lengths man.

**Action: Clerk to check latest funding position.**

## **10. INSURANCE**

Councillors reviewed renewal documents and alternate quote. Approval of councillors obtained to accept renewal received from Clear Councils. Alternatively, if Clear Councils will agree to a three-year undertaking councillors would prefer this option, so long as the first year's premium is no more than £550.00 per annum. Note: Three-year undertaking agreed with Clear Councils after the meeting.

RC queried depreciation on items on asset register and HD explained that with small entities, according to JPAGS guide the most common recorded value of asset is the price at the time it was purchased. Councillors deliberated on the information provided and agreed to retain the status quo.

**Action: Clerk to request quote for three-year undertaking. If this is not possible or quote is more than £550.00 per annum clerk to negotiate on renewal price.**

## **11. OTHER ONGOING MATTERS IF NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**

Dave Jones, editor of Streetwise magazine asked if councillors would like anything included in the magazine before the deadline on 23rd May.

Start Bay Park footpath has been cleared by the residents of number 17, appreciation of other residents has been noted.

**Action: Clerk to send minutes of April meeting to Dave Jones. Councillors to share any information to be included in the magazine.**

## **12. CLERK'S REPORT**

Lloyds have confirmed the account switching process. The interest rate at NatWest is higher than the interest rate we anticipate receiving from Lloyds 1.46%AER vs 1.31%.

I have shared the requested documentation with SHDC to facilitate final payment from the s106 grant and a BAC remittance advised was received on 15/05/2024 confirming payment.

Comments were uploaded to the SHDC planning portal following last month's meeting.

I have obtained access to the government gateway and can now submit a VAT reclaim at the end of this month for all invoices up to 31st May 2024. I contacted DALC regarding the impending insurance renewal. They confirmed that insurance prices have increased dramatically. On their advice I approached three brokers to obtain quotes for the insurance renewal. Zurich provided a quote which I have shared with councillors, James Hallam (Aviva) advised that they do not feel any of their products would be suitable for the parish council due to their minimum premiums.

The clerk for Blackawton Parish Council has advised that “BPC has a contractor (60 hours per year) who clears drainage channels on the roads in the parish. This supplements the work done by DCC as the responsible authority”.

Five payments for hedge cutting out of twelve are outstanding as at 12th May 2024.

**Hannah Iles, Strete Parish Clerk, May 2024**

**Action: Clerk to send reminder letter for hedge recharges that have not been paid**

### **13. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

**Chairman’s role:** As intimated to Councillors at the April Parish Council Meeting, I will be standing down as Chairman at the start of the May meeting after three years in the role. I will not be offering myself for re-election on this occasion. It has been an honour to serve the Community as Chairman of the Parish Council over the past three years, but I feel that it is now in the best interests of the Village that someone else should take over the reins. All of us Councillors have a particular individual style and approach towards the PC, and I believe that it is important for the health of the Parish Council that there is a regular turn-over of leadership to ensure diversity.

We are currently running with one vacancy on the PC and I believe that we should make an increased effort to fill this role with a new councillor, in order to provide both succession and (again) some diversity and fresh views. If there is anyone in the community who feels that they would like to know more about the duties of a Parish Councillor, we would be grateful if you would make yourself known to any Councillor – you will be made very welcome.

Bus Services and Road Closures Nothing to report.

### **Slapton Line Partnership**

There is nothing further to report from the Partnership, as no meeting has been convened for a couple of months. However, Josh Manning and John Fewings, two staff members from Devon Highways, attended the Annual Parish Meeting in April and explained options for improving the minor road network in the area in anticipation of a catastrophic future breach of the A379 road over the Line. This was part of a series of meetings with local Parishes to explain their proposals to residents and Gauge local opinions.

There were a number of questions from the floor, and the Parish Council followed up on this meeting with the following written response, which was also copied to Anthony Mangnall MP, the interim Chairman of the Slapton Line Partnership: -

Thanks once again for attending the Strete Annual Parish Meeting on 18th April and explaining your ideas about reinforcing the back-routes for the communities that would be affected in the event of the loss of the A379 over Slapton Line. I thought it might be worthwhile just jotting down a note about some of the ideas discussed. Public Transport and heavy vehicles In Strete, we are particularly concerned about what would happen to public transport and access for HGVs, goods delivery vehicles and large farm traffic in our area in the event of loss of the road over the line. These aspects of transport are important to the economic and social welfare of the village and surrounding area. Tourism and business are supported by transport access, and in particular the 93 bus route which currently connects communities along the coast between Dartmouth and Kingsbridge, a route which is also important for supporting walkers on the South Devon Coastal Path. Breach of the A379 will mean that the public transport strategy for the area will need to be re-thought. It follows that the road from Strete up to the A3122 will likely be required to bear the additional burden of heavy vehicle access and a revised bus route in order to ensure that some sort of route is available. As a Parish Council, we believe that this factor should be 'designed in' with any proposed improvements and therefore the whole route from Strete right up to the A3122 should be assessed for improvement and the passage of buses and heavy vehicles.

You will have heard a speaker from the floor ask that your proposals should be ".....a bit more ambitious". The Parish Council echoes this view. We believe that there are multiple areas on this route where significant improvements could be made if the will to do so and the finance is there to support. Indeed, the northern part of this route would benefit the residents of Slapton and Stokenham as well as Strete, as demonstrated by the routes indicated on your handout. Junction improvements at adjoining A roads

In the proposals presented on your handout, there are two places where the proposed 'Blue routes' meet the A381 and the A3122 as 'T' junctions. Currently the sightlines and layout of these junctions are poor and they lie in de-restricted speed areas where traffic speeds are high. Strete Parish Council believes that they should really be significantly re-engineered in order to improve traffic safety. We briefly discussed the use of roundabouts and your points about cost and suitability were well made. However, as an alternative perhaps some thought could be given to providing a dedicated 'right turn' lane at these junctions (as they will be carrying significantly greater amounts of potentially slow-moving heavy vehicles in the event of a breach of the Line). together with the improvements to aspect and sightlines that you offered. Timescale Finally, I think it is fair to say that the meeting as a whole was dismayed to hear that you thought that the timescale for the work may take in excess of 10 years to implement. Whilst we understand that the work will be budget constrained, the whole point of the exercise is to have the improvements in place before there is a catastrophe. None of us knows when that might be, so a plan which implements sooner rather than later must be preferred. We will continue to press for the improvement programme to be implemented in full as soon as possible.

### **Devon Devolution Proposals**

On 25th January Central Government published proposals for a Devolution Deal "... which will provide the Devon and Torbay area with new powers and funding to increase opportunities and living standards through inclusive growth and productivity improvements."

The deal is part of the "levelling up" programme that the Government has been pursuing country wide. It will require the formation of a new tier of local government, proposed as Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA).

Following the public consultation which ended on 24th March Devon and Torbay Councils produced a revised Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority – Final Proposal which was submitted to Central Government on 1st May. It is available to view here:

Appendix B - Final proposal for DT CCA.pdf ([torbay.gov.uk](http://torbay.gov.uk))

Legislation will now be drafted in accordance with this proposal to bring about the implementation of the Devolution proposals.

### **Strete Annual Parish Meeting**

This took place on Thursday 18th April

### **Cyclic Contracts Grant**

The Parish Council finally received a response from Devon Highways on this issue. The authority has declined to devolve their budget for cyclic maintenance to the Parish, but it is clear that they are not fulfilling their maintenance responsibilities regarding drainage and sweeping, necessitating additional expense for residents through Parish funds. This is an unacceptable state of affairs and the Parish will continue to push for a more equitable solution.

Peter Hales, Chairman, 14th May 2024 .

#### 14. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

##### **Ralph Clark PC Report – May 2024**

###### **Planning:**

Rose Cottage planning application to convert the barn attached to the property into living accommodation has still not yet been approved.

**Strete Village Hall:** Following detailed discussions to improve the paving at the Village Hall, it has been decided to utilise the lottery grant to remove the existing surface slabs at the entrance to the Village Hall and increase the width of the footpath section from the road to the gate to provide sufficient wheelchair access. This will include extensive ground works and edging to provide surface drainage and compaction for the final resin bound surface to be installed. Strete Village Day is in August, and monthly meetings have started to discuss and agree the content for the event to ensure there is sufficient support available on the day. Various organisations in the village are invited to attend these meetings as it is hoped that funds raised on the day will be shared with organisations who are able to put forward beneficial proposals for Strete community. This is an important fund-raising event for the Village Hall.

**Village Sweeping and Road Works:** Dartmouth Triathlon is due to take place on Sunday 9th June 2024. The event organisers have applied for a road closure on Blackpool Valley Road in the morning from 7am until 1pm.

In 2023 a small number of large vehicles on Blackpool Valley Road caused significant problems for the runners. In some places on that lane, it's not wide enough for runners to easily get past large 4x4s. Prescribed Chapter 8 Signage will be placed in advance. All residents on that road will be contacted in advance by letter. Devolution in Somerset has prompted discussions with town and parish councils to consider adopting some of the routine works currently undertaken by SCC to ease pressure on their budget. Devon CC have approved £12m funding for repairs to its highways including potholes. We must ensure this is shared fairly throughout the county. Surface repairs on the A379 (Priority Road) at the junction with Totnes Road (outside the Post Office and Shop) has seen nothing happen after uploading this to the Devon CC 'Report a Problem' website. This is a Category 1 defect that should be actioned for repair in 7-days.

Update: DCC Highway engineers observed inspecting the site this week presumably to determine the surfacing requirements for the site. Hopefully, something will happen soon. In addition, surface patching to some of the highway edges of Totnes Road observed.

##### **Graham Campbell – May 2024**

**Greenspace:** The contractor has cut the playpark grass short and has rolled it well. He says that any high spots will now be dealt with by the new mower.

Greenspace is also dealing with the Ivy that has overgrown on the village well on the field.

Other grass cutting has been done.

No contact regarding Slapton Line Partnership. There has been a considerable reshaping of the beach in recent weeks.

##### **Ian Cumberlidge PC Report – May 2024**

No report

##### **Kate Gill PC Report – May 2024**

No report. Manor Farm is hosting D-Day beacon, which will be lit on 6th June.

##### **Helen Darch PC Report – May 2024**

###### **Deposit account**

Hannah has approached Lloyds to start the move over.

## **Year end**

Hannah and I plan to meet soon to go through the paperwork for the internal auditor [Bob]. Once he has completed his review then we can report that to the June meeting. Then other forms need to be completed and signed at the June meeting. These are the annual governance and accounts reports [AGAR sections 1 and 2]. We may also require an external audit which will be done by PKF Littlejohn remotely. It should cost around £250 plus VAT. The period of public inspection of the accounts papers must be notified to the Parish by the end of June.

## **Other**

The Church meets tonight for its AGM where various inc safeguarding are reported. Officers are elected for a number of posts inc secretary and treasurer.

## **15. CORRESPONDENCE**

Post: Emails: have been circulated as normal.

## **16. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday June 20th at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**

Meeting closed at 20:40

## **Dartmouth Chamber of Commerce**

Danni Brien and Laura Campbell introduced the Chamber of Commerce, which was set up in January as a voice for businesses in Dartmouth and the surrounding areas. The chamber has already become involved in issues that affect trade in the area such as transport and parking and were pleased to represent local business interests in negotiations for the Dartmouth park and ride price increase.

The chamber is trying to raise the profile of Dartmouth and get it on the map as a competitor to other more well-known towns and they aim to make Dartmouth and the area an easier place to run a business by:

- Advocating for
- Supporting
- Encouraging collaboration

Funded training is being sourced to help businesses who may otherwise not be able to access training due to their small size.

123 members are already signed up (including businesses in Strete). Sign up is currently at a reduced rate of £10 per annum while the chamber is still getting set up.

Jonathan Fisher from the National Trust and representatives from South Devon College (SDC) have already given talks.

The chamber is working on a number of projects. The current focus is on Dartmouth in December (a programme of events between the candlelit procession on 30th November and 1st January dip in the river). They are looking to schedule events to avoid clashes. The harbour has agreed to free berthing on Thursdays to boost shopping. Kingswear are getting involved in the chamber and they have also reached out to Blackawton.

Laura and Jo Hinde pitched proposal of how to move the visitors centre forward. Their bid was selected. They have already launched a new official Dartmouth tourism website. The visitors centre will be developed and the available space split between tourist information and a business hub, offering space to work, office equipment e.g. a laminator to laminate menus etc and advice such as making the most of social media.

The chamber meets on the third Tuesday of the month and the meetings have an engagement session to find out what businesses want and what support can be given.



Reed cutting, Slapton Ley, Strete Gate.



PH asked about plans for the shortage of skilled labour in the hospitality industry.

The chamber has spoken to JB about transport and housing accessibility as these are barriers. Working with DCC and SDC to look at apprenticeships. SDC have training available to upskill jobs. They are also looking at experience packages to attract seasonal workers to choose to come here. Looking to other countries methods e.g. New Zealand are looking at two-year visitors. They are hopeful that promoting tourism will let people know what exciting businesses there are in Dartmouth. The Premier Inn will attract people who regularly use the Premier Inn and are signed up the loyalty programme etc.

KG asked if the chamber have anything planned for D Day and explained the plans for the beacon at the camp site in Strete.

LC explained that they have only been involved in the museum for six weeks. A new exhibition has been launched and they will look to link up with the D-Day celebrations. A new media team have been set up and the chamber asked KG to provide the details to link it to their local story telling.

An article about the chamber will be coming out in Streetwise magazine.

RC offered to publish information on Strete Website.



# *Hyne Town House*



## RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME FOR THE ELDERLY, SPECIALISING IN HIGH QUALITY DEMENTIA CARE

Hyne Town House is a highly regarded Residential Care home in Devon for elderly people who require full time or part time professional care, sheltered housing or assisted living in a safe, luxurious, warm and welcoming, care home near Dartmouth in Devon

**Please call on 01803 770011  
or email [manager@hynetownhouse.com](mailto:manager@hynetownhouse.com)  
Strete, Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 0RU**



## Exciting news

### Blackpool Sands Café and Takeaway

We are delighted that our newly refurbished restaurant is now open. Our Head Chef Sam has created a range of fantastic dishes from beachside staples to seafood specials. **Join us daily from 9am to 6pm**; with breakfast served until 11.00am, breakfast baps continuing until noon and then lunch available from 12 until close. Pastries, cakes and drinks served all day.

**Please note that we do not take bookings during the summer months; we take walk-ins on a first come first seated basis.** We will open reservations in the Autumn.

Do you have a special occasion coming up?

Do you want to celebrate somewhere truly unique with a stunning backdrop and delicious food? Please contact us on [events@blackpoolsands.co.uk](mailto:events@blackpoolsands.co.uk) to discuss your needs.



## A & A COMPUTING

Covering Strete, Dartmouth  
Totnes and Kingsbridge



"Feel free to phone me for  
help or advice"

- Tony Newman



## On-Site Servicing:

**Repairs & Upgrades,  
Internet Access,  
Software Problems,  
& Virus Removal**

**We also supply PCs  
From budget machines  
to custom-built,  
Including  
Delivery & Installation**

**Call 0845 643 1812**

**Or Tel Mob 07985 009954**

# Feet First with Sam

07761 930917

Professional Foot Care by Qualified Practitioner

SMAE Qualified Dip FH, MCFHP, MAFHP. Fully Insured. DBS checked



Providing a home visiting service, I can support you with your foot care, treating the following conditions: \* Cutting Toe Nails \* Treatment of Hard Skin, Cracked Heels \* Ingrowing Toe Nails \* Corns and Callus \* Fungal nail and skin conditions \* Verrucae  
Discounts for couples and groups.

Find me at 'Feet First with Sam' on Facebook  
'Feetfirstwithsam' on Instagram

Email: [feet.first3@outlook.com](mailto:feet.first3@outlook.com)

# Anyone for badminton....?

Tuesday 7.30pm-9.30pm at Slapton

## Village Hall

Beginners welcome.  
Racquets available.  
First visit free, then  
£3 per evening.

All welcome – existing  
members have a cross  
section of experience.  
A very social club.

Contact Gill Harris 07816 971798.



## EXCLUSIVE DOG TRAINING IN SOUTH DEVON

With over 30 years' experience  
Ingrid Grayling offers professional and  
experienced dog training lessons and  
courses tailored for you and your dog.

- Personalised training 'one to one'
- Training the owner to train their dog
- 5 week basic obedience courses
- Anti livestock chasing
- Day courses available
- Puppy training



Ingrid Grayling  
T: 07432 367325/01626 923968  
[www.ingrid-grayling.com](http://www.ingrid-grayling.com)



Your friendly local Wine Merchant in Blackpool Valley.

We sell wine from all over the world with a great selection under £10 - Free local delivery or  
pop in to see us.

Jonathan & Suzie Sutton

[www.michaelsuttonscellar.co.uk](http://www.michaelsuttonscellar.co.uk) 01803 770737 [wines@michaelsuttonscellar.co.uk](mailto:wines@michaelsuttonscellar.co.uk)

## A Very Big Thank You to the Stretewise delivery team:

Brenda Range, Liane Baldock, Colleen Seymour, Heather Robinson,  
Joan Kendall, Chris Burne, John Goldring, Carol Wills, David Wall and Trudy Rothwell and  
not forgetting Monica, Andy, Sally at the Strete Post Office and Stores.

 **airbnb** co-hosting  
 The flexible approach to letting  
 your holiday home

Gail Critchlow 07889 628514	Liz Baker-James 07388 673228	www.let-it-out.co.uk info@let-it-out.co.uk
--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---




## South Hams Upholstery

### Made To Measure Upholstery

We are more than happy to look at any Bespoke Projects Proposed  
so do please give us a call.

*We've Got It Covered!*



Vehicle Upholstery



Marine Upholstery™



Motorcycles

**South Hams Upholstery South Hams Business Park Churchstow  
 Kingsbridge Devon TQ7 3QH 01548 464383**  
 Alternatively email to Kim, Sarah or Rob at: [info@southhamsupholstery.co.uk](mailto:info@southhamsupholstery.co.uk)



**South Hams**  
*Wills & Probate*

**Your local  
cost-effective  
alternative to  
solicitors**

**Wills**

**Probate**

**Lasting Power of Attorney**

**Inheritance Tax Planning**

**Trusts**

Call Vanessa (Chartered Accountant)  
on **01548 858806**

*mail@southhamswills.co.uk*

*www.southhamswills.co.uk*



**South Hams Property  
Improvements**

***Bathrooms, Kitchens & General Building***

*Specialising in plastering, boarding, rendering, tiling and all types of flooring.*

*Decorating internal and external, carpentry and general building.*

*Over 20 years experience in France and the UK.*

*All of the South Hams*

*Salcombe - Malborough - Kingsbridge - Loddiswell - Totnes*

*Strete - Dartmouth - Ivybridge*

**Christopher Jefferson Bland**

Tel: 07480 766671 or 01803 770766 [chrisbsb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chrisbsb@hotmail.co.uk)  
[southhamspropertyimprovements.com](http://southhamspropertyimprovements.com)



# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

## Word Search

A S W H M T E P C A W D L C O B N R W P  
 B N O T R E A S U R E H U N T W A I O D  
 O M W B F A C E P A I N T I N G E O I O  
 O E A O N V I T W B O W L S O T E S L G  
 K O R A V E U E T A I R C N E L B C I A  
 S S O D L R C L D B M W A L P A C A S G  
 T T E O W S O C E W A R B O W E D R J I  
 A O E M A W C I N R O R C M A L O E I L  
 L N P W R G O L F F U W E A W B T C O I  
 L E W I D H N A B O R N W N T A W R P T  
 S P O C N W U R B W N I T E A R O O M Y  
 M A H E W M T K E B E T W O M O E V L E  
 C D R C E A S M R C E N K T M W C Y W A  
 I D Y R W N H P O N I E S N U B I B T O  
 E O D E B A Y W I B T M W B B Q O C I K  
 W C T A R N B O W N C I T V N D A L W M  
 F K E M O S W B C I N W B W T S L O A M  
 Y B V E A O A W B T W I N E A O M Y B I  
 B R I C A B R A C W J Y N B D R M E T H  
 F E A N I O D R N E W D O G S H O W G M

Scarecrow Alpacas Pimms Coconut Shy Tea Room Spinning Arena  
 Ice Cream Treasure Hunt Dog Show Bar Book Stall BBQ Dyers  
 Weavers Dog Agility Bria a Brac Ponies Tombola Golf  
 Bowls Mewstone Paddock Face Painting



# BBQ STREETWISE

## Grilled Vegetables Skewers

- Combine the olive oil, vinegar, garlic, lemon juice, smoked paprika, oregano and thyme in a shallow dish; season with sea salt and black pepper. Coat the aubergine, peppers, courgette and red onions in the marinade.
- Thread the vegetables and bay leaves alternately onto metal or pre-soaked wooden skewers. Place on a foil-lined tray and grill for 15 mins, turning regularly, until golden and beginning to char. Or, grill on the barbecue over a medium heat for 15 mins, turning regularly. Brush the remaining marinade over the skewers as they cook.

## Roast Garlic Bulbs

Garlic, cooked until soft is transformed, caramelised and smooth the flavour is so different to raw garlic.

- Slice the top of the garlic bulb off (depending on the size of your bulb around 1/4 to a 1/2 of an inch from the top) to expose the individual cloves.
- Drizzle the top of the garlic cloves with olive oil.
- Cover the bulb with aluminium foil.
- Place on a hot grill, over indirect heat, for approximately 40 minutes. They should be soft and caramelised when roasted through.

## Ingredients

- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 red peppers, cut into 3cm pieces
- 1 courgette, thickly sliced then halved
- 1 aubergine, thickly sliced and quartered
- 2 red onions, cut into quarters
- 3 bay leaves halved

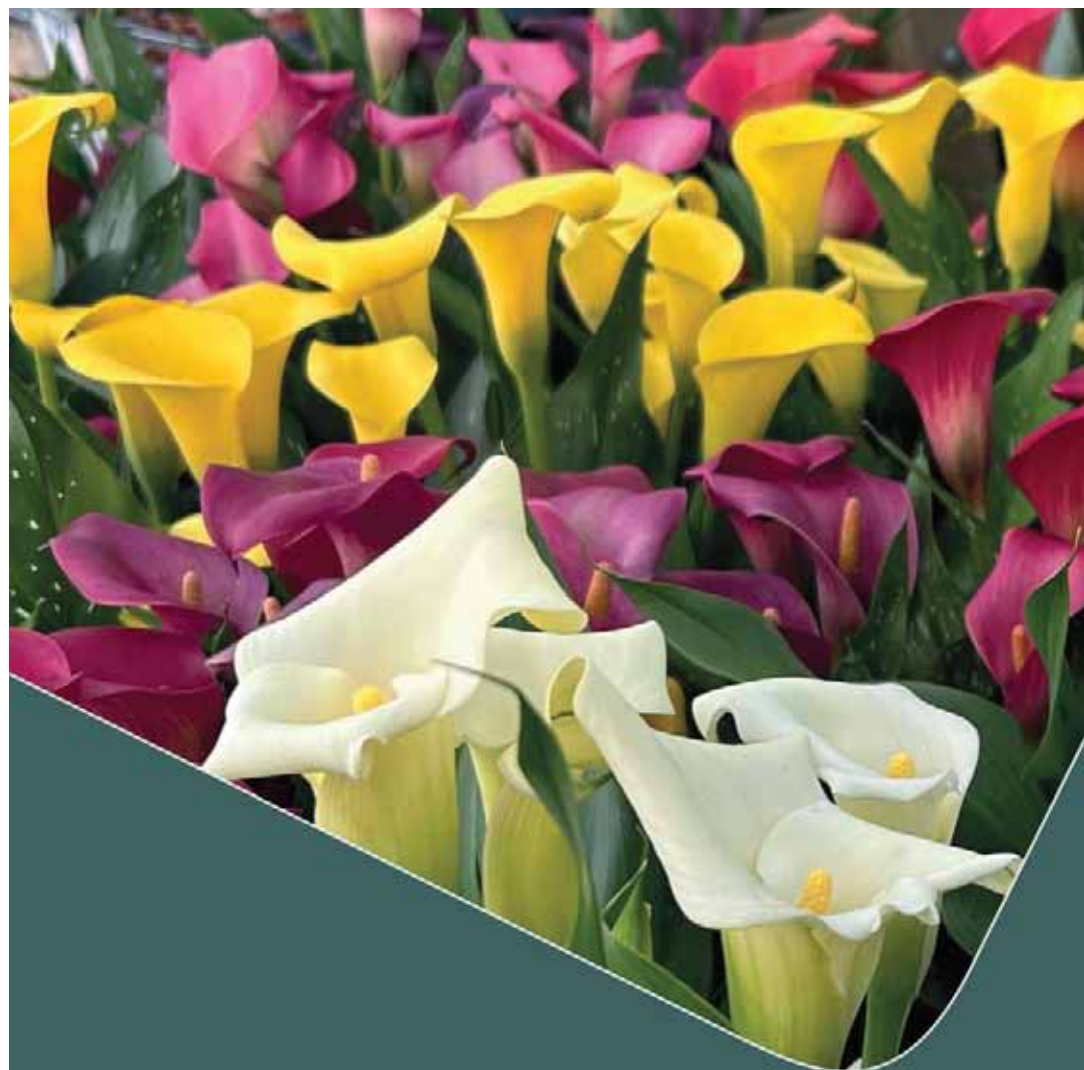
## Padron Peppers

Padron peppers plants are easily grown from seed but will need to be kept in doors or a greenhouse. Padron peppers are occasionally available in supermarkets. Used whilst still green & immature and are very mild, however, 1 in 10 may be hot.

- Heat olive oil in a large frying pan over a high heat. Fry the peppers, stirring frequently, for 5 mins until blistered and wilted. The peppers should be soft and slightly charred. Transfer the peppers to a serving plate and season with sea salt.

Padrón pepper provides Vitamins A, B2, B6, C, E and K, as well as Potassium, Phosphorus, Magnesium and Calcium.





**Your local independent,  
family run, garden centre,  
café and farm shop.**



Your local independent, family run,  
garden centre, café and farm shop

01803 712345 · [gardentime.biz](http://gardentime.biz) · Gardentime, Hemborough Post, Totnes, Near Dartmouth, TQ9 7DE

## Philip Elliott

Company Director

**01803 770787 07974 382158**

philip@elliott-construction.co.uk

www.elliott-construction.co.uk



Sunnyhurst Baileys Meadow Stoke Fleming TQ6 0QD

Building company established 1980 in Stoke Fleming.

Projects have included:

Stoke Fleming Village Hall.

Houses at Deer Combe, houses by the Green Dragon, Frenchman's Creek.

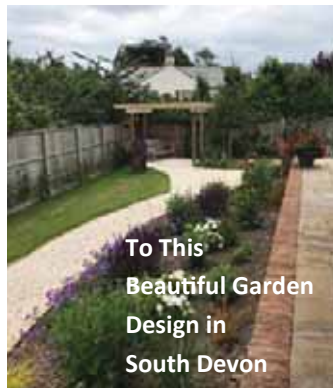
**ELLIOTT Construction 01803 770787**

**Attention to detail and quality.**

**Traditional skills without living in the past.**



From This



To This  
Beautiful Garden  
Design in  
South Devon

**shoreline**  
planting design

**Julie Elliott**

01803 770787

m 07989 564082

julie\_elliott@hotmail.com

Beautiful garden design  
in South Devon.

**Experienced Qualified  
Trained Local Garden  
Designer.**

Dartmouth Born and Bred

- familiar with plant tolerances  
for climate and condition.

Qualified garden and planting  
designer experienced in wide  
variety of styles.

RHS trained in advanced  
horticulture.

**Complete Garden Design  
offered or individual  
borders or areas.**



# Lyric chamber orchestra

Conductor - Keith Marshall  
Musical Director - Trish Calnan

## Dartmouth

St Saviour's Church

Sat 14 September

7.30pm

## Stravinsky

*Concerto in D, K075*

## Grieg

*Concerto for Piano*

*in A minor, Op 16*

*Anton Piggot, piano*

## Brahms

*"Serenata" Arreglo del  
Quinteto, Op 111*

*in G major*

*(arr. German Marciano)*

Tickets £18 (Under 18s free) from [wegottickets.com/lyricchamberorchestra](http://wegottickets.com/lyricchamberorchestra)  
[www.lyricchamberorchestra.org.uk](http://www.lyricchamberorchestra.org.uk)



# Lyric chamber orchestra

Conductor - Keith Marshall  
Musical Director - Trish Calnan

**Dittisham** St George's Church  
Fri 6 September 7.30pm

**Totnes** St John's Church  
Sat 7 September 7.30pm

**Ashburton** Arts Centre  
Sun 8 September 11am

**Bach** *Concerto for Violin and Oboe  
in D minor, BWV 1060*  
*Fergus McCready, oboe; Trish Calnan, violin*

**Stravinsky** *Concerto in D, K075*

**Marcello** *Oboe Concerto*  
*Fergus McCready, oboe*

**Brahms** *"Serenata" Arreglo del  
Quinteto Op 111 in G major*  
*(German Marciano)*

[www.lyricchamberorchestra.org.uk](http://www.lyricchamberorchestra.org.uk)

Tickets £18 (under 18s free) Dittisham tickets from John Wells 01803 722414

Totnes tickets from [wegottickets.com/lyricchamberorchestra](http://wegottickets.com/lyricchamberorchestra)

Ashburton tickets £10/£7/£5 (under 18s free) from [wegottickets.com/ashburtonarts](http://wegottickets.com/ashburtonarts)

## Advertising in Stretewise

**Stretewise** is the Strete Village and surrounding district magazine.

Why not advertise your services in the Stretewise magazine.

We have an expanding distribution base which could benefit your customer awareness?

The magazine is published bi-monthly. Your ad is included in six issues over the year.

The advertising subscription is for a year December to December.

A5 full page £150 (six issues) (£25 per ad)

Half Page (A5) £40 (six issues) (£6.66p per ad)

One third page £25 (six issues) (£4.16p per ad)

Contact:

[stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com)

or **Dave Jones 01803 770059.**



We really welcome dogs

Perfect for walkers and nature lovers, comfy C18th cottages in 20 acres of unspoilt S Devon valley in AONB, upstream from Slapton Ley National Nature Reserve. Own fenced garden, log burner, walks from the cottage door.

Close to beaches and pretty villages. A real digital detox and off the grid holiday. Holidays like they used to be, away from it all....



Open all year short breaks available.

**Phone us on 01803 901743**

[enquiries@watermillcottages.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@watermillcottages.co.uk)  
or see [www.watermillcottages.co.uk](http://www.watermillcottages.co.uk)

## TV & INTERNET SERVICE

Aerials Free View

Satellite Free Sat

Smart TVs Set Up

Internet Links & Boosters

TV Wall Mounting

**RICHARD 07778471300**

Your Local Man At STOKENHAM



# RGC

**BUILDING SUPPLIES**

Inspirations

**Kitchens • Bathrooms • Interiors**

## KITCHENS

# 75%

# Off

RRP

Collingwood Road Dartmouth TQ6 9JY  
01803 834622 [rgcbuildingsupplies.co.uk](http://rgcbuildingsupplies.co.uk)

# COPPER TOPS



## TREE SURGERY

**01803 712632 07782 349069**

Landscape Design & Build

**FENCING • HEDGE CUTTING**

**LOGS • GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

[www.coppertopstreesurgery.co.uk](http://www.coppertopstreesurgery.co.uk)

## RGC mobility

**KITCHENS & BATHROOMS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING**

- Grab Rails
- Wash & Dry Toilets
- Adapted Taps
- Side Opening Ovens
- Rise & Fall Worktops
- Wet Rooms
- Walk-in Baths
- Raised Toilets
- Seated Showering
- Level Access

Collingwood Road Dartmouth TQ6 9JY  
01803 834622 [rgcbuildingsupplies.co.uk](http://rgcbuildingsupplies.co.uk)



# DISCOVER WELLBEING

*“The beginning is always today” Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley*

Nature can help us to rediscover a beginners mind, when we step back in time to just observe and listen, without the need to know or be right. Like how we observe our children or grandchildren approach something new, the way they are filled with curiosity and without expectation. The wonderful thing about nature is that it's never in a rush, which I always find to be totally fascinating as I hurry from one task to the next task, not always remembering to take time to pause and reflect. This 'down time', that we all need, is an important part of our natural cycle and is essential to our thought processing.

My interviewee this time is George Robertson who is an amazing musician, and a very creative and interesting person.

## **What was your first job?**

Aged 15 years old, way back in 1955, I was weighing lorries at the Caledonian Milling Company, near to Aberdeen harbour. We used to climb to the storage lofts for dried locust beans which were very sweet. They were used in animal feed but very edible for us lads!

## **If you could choose a superpower, what would you pick?**

To fly free as a bird... to soar up at will beyond the clouds. To swoop between cliffs and valleys and race at great speed, just feet above the waves.

## **What does a 'perfect day' look like for you?**

A light drizzle...no bright sun!  
Boiled eggs and toast.. no particular plan ahead but the delicious sensation that something lovely is going to happen! Perhaps a short trip to Totnes, perhaps allowing your creative thoughts to be nurtured along the way!

## **If you had to live in a fictional movie, which character would you choose to be?**

I would like to be a time traveller in a science fiction movie where everything and anywhere is possible...  
All Times Present!





## Our Summer Picnic Recipe Apricot and Pistachio Flapjack

### Ingredients

- 140g butter
- 140g soft brown sugar
- 2 tbsp honey
- 175g rolled oats
- 75g chopped pistachios
- 140g dried chopped apricots

### Method

1. Preheat oven to 160C / 140C fan / gas 4.
2. Put butter, soft brown sugar and honey in a small pan, then heat gently until melted.
3. Tip oats, pistachios and apricots into a medium bowl. Pour over the melted butter mixture and stir to combine.
4. Transfer to a 20cm x 20cm greased and lined baking tray and cook for 35 - 40 mins. Remove and cool in tin, then slice into 16. Will keep in an airtight container for up to 3 days.



### **A Mental Analgesic**

Start by taking a few long slow breaths, focussing on the exhale.

1. SEE. Notice five things that you can see around you
2. TOUCH. Find four things to touch. Try to vary the textures... perhaps a petal, piece of bark, or a blade of grass
3. HEAR. Acknowledge three different sounds such as water trickling, a dog barking or leaves rustling
4. SMELL. Find two different scents. This can be the most challenging but the outdoors should provide plenty of options from earthy moss to freshly cut grass
5. TASTE. Is there something around you that you can taste? A leaf of pungent wild garlic perhaps, or a sweet berry

Finish the exercise with another two long breaths and notice how you feel afterwards.

Visit [www.mindbodyandme.co.uk](http://www.mindbodyandme.co.uk)  
or contact Trish on 07976 269208

**For current classes in Mindfulness and Meditation**



## Dr. Property

Maintenance + Refurbishment Services

**Based in Torcross with care for detail and service**

Kitchens, bathrooms, general maintenance,  
carpentry, tiling, windows, decorating, roofing  
and all things property.

**Over 15 years experience in the South Hams**

Contact: Mark Leetham 07932 740236 [drpropertyoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drpropertyoffice@gmail.com)

# Toodles

**Helping Dogs & Their Owners**

Qualified & Insured Groomers

Specialist Shop

Quick Nails to Full Grooms

Spa Treatments

Ultrasonic Teeth Cleaning

Puppy Packages

Raw Food & Treats

Restraints & Life Jackets

Shampoos & Brushes

Gifts for Dogs & their Owners

07572 239 219

[ToodlesLovesDogs.co.uk](http://ToodlesLovesDogs.co.uk)

15 Victoria Rd, DARTMOUTH TQ6 9RT



## SOUTH HAMS PLUMBING & HEATING



Oil Heating



Air Source Heating



Servicing / Repairs

*A Family Run business with over  
15 years' experience in South Devon*

Previously known as Oil Burner Service

**Call Us: 01548 852375 Email Us: [info@shph.co.uk](mailto:info@shph.co.uk)**

Unit 5J, South Hams Business Park,  
Churchstow, Kingsbridge, Devon.TQ7 3QH



For help and advice regarding your animals, large or small  
please call our friendly team



Stumpy Post Surgery Kingsbridge Devon TQ7 4BL

**☎ 01548 853322 (24 Hours Emergency)**

[www.selworthyvets.co.uk](http://www.selworthyvets.co.uk)

[reception@selworthyvets.co.uk](mailto:reception@selworthyvets.co.uk) [@selworthyvets](https://www.facebook.com/selworthyvets)



## *Strete Social Club*

**28th May:** Once again it was a miserable afternoon weather wise when it was our fortnightly social club meeting. Again, a very good attendance all looking forward to a Magical Afternoon.

Karen started promptly and as there was very little business except arranging our next meeting which is a visit to Avon Mill Garden Centre for afternoon tea, which seems to have become a regular outing at this time of year. Karen then introduced our Magician who had travelled all the way from Tiverton to entertain us. Jude Coram who describes himself as A Comedy Stage Magician.

He gave us a very varied programme involving quite a few of our members. Lisa one of our leaders was the first one he picked on to assist him. She played the part well. He went on to do card tricks and involved all of us, each having been given by Karen a pack of cards. We had to take the 8 of diamonds out and lay on the table in front of us.

We studied this to see what was so different about this card than any other in the entire pack. A few suggestions were given all to be wrong. At the end of his act, he revealed that whichever way top or bottom you could trace between the diamonds as they were laid out on the card you could trace a figure 8.

He had asked three members to think of a name on the topic he had given them and he would guess what they were thinking. His thought was written on a piece of paper.

Each one he got wrong, so he screwed up the paper threw it on the floor and there it stayed until the end of his act. He then picked these three pieces of paper up and opened them and just by magic the correct answer was written on them.

Some members thought they worked out how he done this.

He also did a trick using UNO cards, Derek had to shuffle these and then Jude gave to a few of us a card in turn we had to hold up and say the number on the card. Lisa was on the ball and said it wrote out a mobile telephone number. Jude then rang the number on his mobile phone, no one's phone rang. Then Rita who was one of the three box holders which the Magician had given to them prior to starting the trick said 'THERE IS a phone ringing in my box'. Pure magic.

Karen was then asked to assist him and had to pretend she was the Magician taking instructions from a script written by Jude and read out by Joan.

Lisa thanked him for such a lovely afternoon.

It was an afternoon when there was a smile on each members face and all seemed to really enjoy our afternoon of magic.

Cups of tea and biscuits and a chat followed.



## *Strete Social Club*

**11<sup>th</sup> June:** Summer has come and the social club went on their annual outing to Avon Mill Garden Centre. There were plenty of volunteer car drivers so we all travelled individually but met at the Mill.

A few early ones had bagged us a corner of the outside tea room and managed to gather enough chairs for us to all sit as a party; Some ladies chose to look around at the various shops within the courtyard and some even managed to buy some of the nice clothing on display in one of them.

Some decided to take our seats and chat, then order our choice of food ranging from cups of tea and coffee with delicious cakes (Very large portions) while others ate crumpets, cream teas and savouries. Very quickly served by the staff.



After a chance meeting with one of Joan's friends, she managed to get her to come and do a talk one afternoon for us in the hall.

Thanks must go to Karen who organised this afternoon and was busy going to and fro to order food choices of those not quite so able to walk to the café where we had to place our orders. After a very nice afternoon members left, some having purchased plants on the way out.

## *Strete Social Club*

**25<sup>th</sup> June:** On a hot sultry afternoon, we met for our fortnightly meeting in the Hall. We received several apologies from members unable to be with us.

In the absence of Karen, our leader, Lisa took the meeting. There being no business to deal with Lisa introduced our speaker for the afternoon Mrs. Brenda Loosemoore, who didn't really need introduction as she has been to speak to us on a number of topics.

Today her talk, which was most humorous, was about her travels. She began by telling us of her life on the stage, mainly at Torquay, playing many parts including a who done it type of play where she was cast as the murders. On holiday once she was recognised and in a very loud voice the lady said I know you, you were the murderer.

She went on to tell us of how as a child, being a war baby, holidays were not on the card, only going away twice both times to staying with her maternal and paternal grandparents. She kept us amused with all her tales of her first trip at the age of 19 when her and a friend went to America, packed her case with all the clothes and her gold and silver shoes that she was sure she would see, basing on what she had seen in the movies. The first host lived up in the mountains and obviously her wardrobe was not suitable for this place. The other two were slightly better but again not the Hollywood life she had imagined they would have. In between her tales she read various poems.

She was thanked by Lisa for a most interesting and amusing afternoon; Tea was served by Joan & Dorothy, Derek as usual took care of our draw. We all then left a nice cool hall to face the heat on our return journey home.



## SEASONED HARDWOOD LOGS

*Free delivery*

*Quality firewood throughout the South Hams*

**CHRIS**  
079 122 869 17



**TREE & HEDGE CARE  
GARDEN CLEARANCE**



## Timber-Jack

4 Island View Thurlestone Kingsbridge TQ7 3NH

07866 696 307

01548 560564

[WWW.TIMBERJACK.CO.UK](http://WWW.TIMBERJACK.CO.UK)

E mail:  
[info@timber-jack.co.uk](mailto:info@timber-jack.co.uk)

A J Rhymes

### Landscaping & Fencing

We have experience in building and carrying out a wide variety of garden services and are able to design and build any style of fence to your personal requirements using the highest quality locally sourced timber products.

### Tree Services

All aspects of tree surgery from pruning to the removal of dead, dying and dangerous trees.  
Stump grinding      Replanting      Woodland management and maintenance.  
All of our work is carried out to BS:3998 standards by fully trained and qualified staff.

*Working today for tomorrow's countryside*





## Keith Ellis & Son

Working locally, with over 30 years experience

Carpenter & Joiner

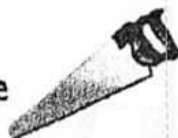
General Maintenance Including Painting & Decorating

Also undertaken: PVC Fascia Boards & Guttering, Doors & Windows ect

Kitchens, Bathrooms Including Tiling

**Tel: (01803) 770264**

Start Bay Park, Strete



## Timber-Jack

4 Island View Thurlestone Kingsbridge TQ7 3NH

07866 696 307

01548 560564

WWW.TIMBERJACK.CO.UK

E mail:  
info@timber-jack.co.uk

### Chimney Sweeping

We are committed to providing a thoroughly professional service towards all aspects of chimney care. Our qualified staff will treat your home like their own and ensure that you are totally satisfied with all aspects of our visit.

Rayburn & Multifuel burners

Inglenook fire places

Traditional chimneys

Advice on getting the best from your burner

AGA flues

Twin & flexi lined systems

Smoke draw test

Chimney Certificates Issued



Pol No: 5500 26209



Reg No: 0784



# LOCAL ELECTRICIAN

## Mike Elder

Qualified and Insured

Em: [mike@mikeelder.net](mailto:mike@mikeelder.net)

Mob: 07853 908970

Office: 01803 770999

# Strete Social Club

## STRETE SOCIAL CLUB SUMMER/AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2024

Meetings are usually held in Strete Village Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM  
Everyone very welcome to come along!

August		Summer Break
September	3rd	Floral Demonstration - Lindsay Johns
	17th	Devonshire Land Girls - Rebekah Pearson
October	1st	Riding for the Disabled - Peggy Douglas

**9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024:** Karen Hales welcomed everyone to our early July meeting even if the weather was not very good for July!

We were delighted to welcome our member Heather Robinson as our Speaker with a talk intriguingly titled "My skeletons were not in my cupboard". Heather skilfully told the story of the discovery of skeletons in the garden of her previous home near Dartmouth Castle. Her talk was supported by some fascinating pictures and articles written about what one called "How a macabre mystery was solved."

During the landscaping of the garden in the grounds of Heather's house in Castle Road Dartmouth in 1985, a skull was found. Their spooky find did not entirely surprise Heather and her late husband Derek, as the remains of five skeletons had already been exposed by workmen when they were building the couple's home in 1969. The house was near One Gunn Point previously the site of the Gunfield Hotel. At the time of the original discovery, the pair had alerted police, but since the skeletons were dated more than 100 years old, they were of no interest to the police and were returned to the ground.

Since the skull in the garden had not been disturbed until 1985, it was believed by Ray Freeman a local historian to be worthy of archaeological investigation. Since no professional archaeologist could undertake the work, a small excavation was conducted by Ray and a team of about 20 volunteers in order to establish the character and date of these burials. The volunteers were from various backgrounds including Heather a retired nurse, along with doctors and dentists all with useful knowledge in assessing the finds. As Ray said in her article "the enthusiasm of the team compensated for their somewhat advanced years and tendency to back trouble". So, armed with trowels, brushes and plastic bags for finds, they set to work. Eight burials were excavated and a total of fourteen skeletons were eventually unearthed. The skeletons, all male except one female buried alongside a tall man, were given names to somehow give the project a human side with some light heartedness.

The puzzle was then investigated. Many theories around historical events including the Civil War were discounted. Clues to the age of the burials included that a fragment of pine was discovered thought to be part of a coffin, and pine was not a native wood and only imported in large quantities from the Baltic after 1600. Devon Records Office indicated that local people were buried within the churchyard. A study of St. Petroc's Church parish registers revealed some scribbled entries from 1676 recording burials of



two Frenchmen one belonging to “a great ship from the West Indies buried at One Gunn.” This suggested that Gunn Point was the customary place to bury foreigners who died on ships coming into the port but who did not wish to be buried at sea, and others who had no connection with the parish.

Finally, all bones were reburied with a proper Christian service and a memorial plaque was made. Heather felt that she had thus done the right thing by them.

Heather was warmly thanked by Lisa for an excellent talk with fascinating documents that members studied throughout their customary tea and biscuits. It seems that Heather has another tale to tell about a mermaid sculpture in her garden at the harbour entrance but we must wait for another occasion! Karen Hales.

## HERITAGE GATEWAY

*Freeman, R., 1985, Diary of an Unofficial Archaeological Dig, Haven Lights, Castle Road, Dartmouth (Un-published). SDV341413.*

*Account of the progress of the excavation, and details of earlier finds of human remains at One Gun Point in 1985. Site lies at circa SX88495041 with five further burials reportedly discovered in 1969 and now beneath house then being built at circa SX88505040.*

*Freeman, R., 1985, Post-medieval burials near Dartmouth Castle, 131-4 (Article in Serial). SDV341410.*

*Post medieval burials were found in the grounds of Gunfield Hotel and adjacent properties. Following the discovery of human remains a small excavation was conducted in order to establish the character and date of these burials. Remains of at least eight burials were found. A full description and discussion of the excavation is given. The archaeological evidence suggests a post-1600 burial ground for mostly male adults. A 17th century document gives 'One Gunn' as a burial place for foreigners some of whom were seafarers on visiting ships.*



Gunfield Hotel

*Strete Social Club* **23<sup>rd</sup> July:** The last meeting before our summer break was in the usual format. We have a produce stall to which members bring anything from garden produce to store cupboard items. This received great support covering two long tables.

Karen opened the meeting firstly by thanking us all for the contributions to the sale and to the ladies who had set up the room and worked in the kitchen.

We then all enjoyed a delicious tea, prepared by Carol and Chris consisting of homemade scones, clotted cream and a delicious strawberry on the top, for those wishing for something more savoury cheese scones were offered.

Various other little bites were served along with the always welcome cups of tea.

All having taken of their fill Karen declared our sales table open. Items were soon purchased and left the table rather bare. Anything that was left Derek kindly auctioned making a total of around £50 for our funds.

Karen again thanked all who had helped in anyway especially the two ladies in the kitchen.

We resume in September at 2.30 in the Village Hall.



START BAY  
ELECTRICAL

---

DOMESTIC AND  
COMMERCIAL  
ELECTRICIAN

---

**Tel: 07891 708018**

startbayelectrical@hotmail.com

www.startbayelectrical.co.uk

All enquiries welcome





## STRETEWISE

Subscriptions for Stretewise 2024 are now due. Stretewise Vol 33. 1 to 6. Starting February - March. To order your six issues of Stretewise please complete the slip and give slip and payment to Monica and Andy at the Strete Post Office and Stores. Payment for six magazine issues for 2024 = £4.00 which includes delivery in Strete.

We thank you in advance and hope for your continued support for the village magazine.  
email: [stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com) [www.stretewise.co.uk](http://www.stretewise.co.uk)

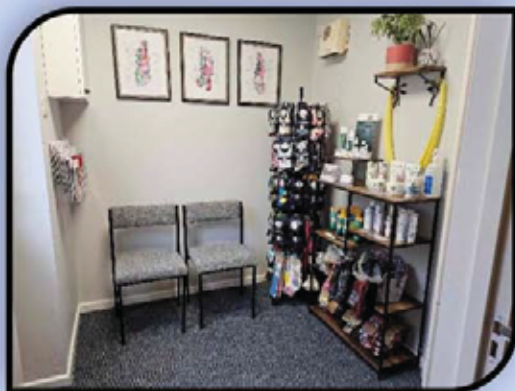
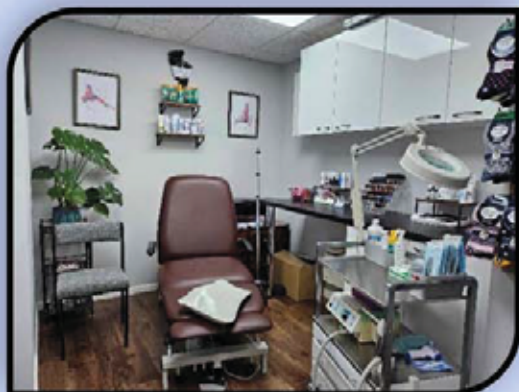


Erica Nicholls BSc(Hons) MRCPod

Professional, warm, and friendly Podiatrist offering a wide variety of treatments in Chillington and the surrounding areas.

Nails/hard skin/corns | Ingrowing toenails | Verrucae | Minor skin surgery | Diabetic foot checks |  
Foot pain | Home visit appointments

The clinic is also stocked with foot creams, files, and lots of socks!



Appointments are available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9am til 6.30pm. Home visits are available in the afternoons.

2a Orchard Way, Fairfield Road,  
Chillington TQ7 2LB

Contact: 01548581005/07545596016  
info@westcountrypodiatry.co.uk  
www.westcountrypodiatry.co.uk



# Directory

Devon County Councillor	Julian Brazil	01548 511109
District Councillor	Laurel Lawford	07908 104473
Doctors (Chillington)	Chillington Health Centre	01548 580214
Doctors (Dartmouth)	Dartmouth Health/Wellbeing	01803 832212
Paul Green	Dart Patients Participation Group	07799 772709
Highways	Devon County Council	0845 155 1004
Kings Arms	<a href="https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk/">https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk/</a>	01803 770027
Parish Council Chairman	Cllr Peter Hales	01803 770739
Parish Council Clerk	Hannah Iles	01548 580449
Village Hall Committee	Penny Penhale (Chairman)	01803 771005
Village Hall Committee	Danni Brien (Treasurer/Bookings)	07841505797
Probus	John Light	johlight1@gmail.com
RSPCA		01803 859695
Short Mat Bowls Secretary	Gary Taylor	garytaylor@hotmail.com
Strete Social Club	Karen Hales	01803 770739
South West Water	Report leaks	0800 230 0561
St John the Baptist Church	Fr Sunny Paul	01803 853406
St Michaels Church	Revd. Matt Gorton	01803 906861
Strete Chapel	Derek & Gill Harris	01803 770256
	Andrew and Lesley Kemp	07774 431109
Stretewise Editor	Dave Jones	01803 770059
Totnes Ring and Ride		01803 867878
Tree Warden	Ian Cumberlidge	01803 770020

## Local Emergency Services

Emergency Fire, Ambulance, Police and Coastguard 999 or 112  
Non-emergency contact with emergency services 101

NHS Direct 0845 4647

Torbay Hospital 01803 614 567 Derriford Hospital 01752 202082

Totnes Hospital 01803 862 622 Kingsbridge 01546 852349

**Strete Post Office and Stores** 01803 770225

**Stoke Fleming Library Village Hall** John Lewis 01803 770075

Monday 3.00pm to 5.00pm, Tuesday 10.30pm to 12.30pm,

Thursday 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Or 24 hours at [devon.gov.uk/libraries](http://devon.gov.uk/libraries)

## TOTNES & DARTMOUTH RING AND RIDE

Phone between 10:00am and 12:00 midday 01803 867878

**PS 3418 Ollie Abercrombie**  
**Dartmouth Neighbourhood Team Leader**

Dartmouth Police Station

**Mobile:** 07736 622761

**Email:** ollie.abercrombie@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk



Devon & Cornwall  
**POLICE**



## **Strete Post Office and Store:**

Pay in telephone, electric, water rates, foreign currency and postal services round the world.

If you bank with an English Bank such as:

NatWest, Lloyds TSB, Barclays the CO-OP, Cahoot, Alliance and Leicester, or Smile, you can deposit and pay cheques.

Withdrawals or deposit of cash can be made via your card (and PIN number).

### **All contributions to the magazine are welcome:**

Recipes, Crosswords (not cryptic) Articles, Letters. However, the editor reserves the right as to whether to include, edit or adjust the content. Contributions should be sent to [stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com) or hard copies of contributions can be left at the to the Post Office or delivered to the Editor:

Stretewise, 27 Start Bay Park, Strete, TQ6 0RY.

### **Copy deadline for the next issue of Stretewise August - September will be 1st August 2024.**

Stretewise is either £1 per copy purchased from the shop or £4 for a yearly subscription of six issues.

To subscribe for six issues of Stretewise 2024 pay £4 at the Strete Post Office and Stores or send £4 to the editor, Stretewise, Strete TQ6 0RY.

Please provide your name, address and the date you paid.

**Stretewise Advertising:** Contact [stretewise@outlook.com](mailto:stretewise@outlook.com) or Dave Jones 01803 770059.





## Ready for your next chapter?

From rolling hills to sweeping lawns,  
we're here for where life takes you.

**Knight Frank**

01392 914507

Mark Proctor | Sarah Jane Chick

[mark.proctor@knightfrank.com](mailto:mark.proctor@knightfrank.com)

[sj.chick@knightfrank.com](mailto:sj.chick@knightfrank.com)



Your partners in property