



# STRETEWISE

The Village Magazine

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Vol 32:01

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## Historic February

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- 1 Feb. 1901 The royal yacht *Alberta* brings the body of Queen Victoria into Portsmouth.
- 
- 2 Feb. 1665 British forces capture New Amsterdam, Manhattan is renamed New York.
- 
- 3 Feb. 1730 The London *Daily Advertiser* publishes the first stock exchange quotations.
- 
- 5 Feb. 1958 Parking meters first appear on the streets of London's exclusive Mayfair district.
- 
- 6 Feb. 1783 Death of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown the greatest English landscape gardener.
- 
- 7 Feb. 1301 The son of King Edward I of England becomes the first English Prince of Wales.
- 
- 8 Feb. 1587 Mary Queen of Scots is beheaded on the orders of Queen Elizabeth I.
- 
- 10 Feb. 1354 Students at Oxford University fight a street battle with local townspeople.
- 
- 11 Feb. 1975 *Iron Lady* Margaret Thatcher, the first woman leader of the Conservative Party.
- 
- 12 Feb. 1554 At the age of 16, Lady Jane Grey is beheaded at the tower of London.
- 
- 13 Feb. 1688 A "Glorious Revolution" brings the Protestant William of Orange and his wife Mary.
- 
- 16 Feb. 1659 A cheque is used for the first time in Britain as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settles a debt.
- 
- 17 Feb. 1461 Lancastrian forces defeated the Yorkists at the Second Battle of St. Albans.
- 
- 18 Feb. 1478 George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence died in the Tower of London.
- 
- 19 Feb. 1897 The Women's Institute is founded in Ontario, Canada, by Mrs Adelaide Hoodless.
- 
- 21 Feb. 1804 Richard Trevithick demonstrated the first steam engine to run on rails.
- 
- 22 Feb. 1797 Over 1,000 French troops attempted to invade Britain, landing at Fishguard.
- 
- 23 Feb. 1863 Lake Victoria, in Africa, was declared to be the source of the River Nile.
- 
- 25 Feb. 1570 England's Queen Elizabeth I is excommunicated by Pope Pius V.
- 
- 26 Feb. 1797 The Bank of England issues the first ever one-pound note, in part a result of the panic in London caused by the French invasion of Fishguard.
- 
- 27 Feb. 1782 The British Parliament votes to abandon the American War of Independence.
- 
- 28 Feb. 1900 The four-month siege of the British garrison at Ladysmith in Natal ended.

## Historic March

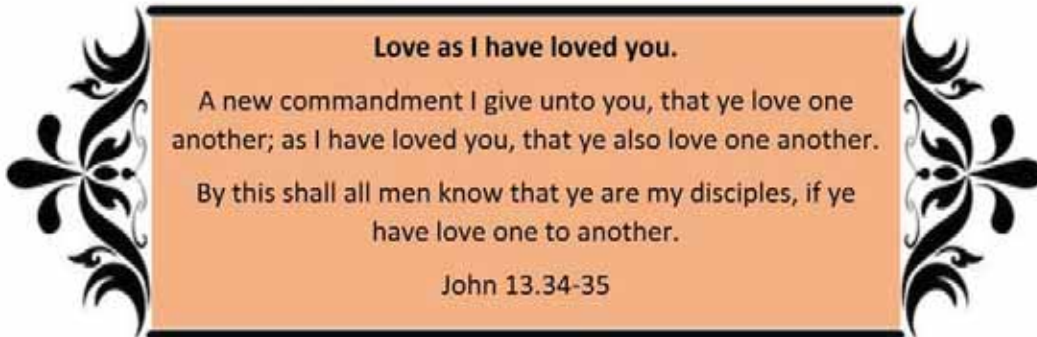
1 Mar.	–	National Day of Wales. Feast day of St David.
4 Mar.	1681	King Charles II granted a Royal Charter to William Penn, a Quaker, entitling Penn to establish a colony in North America.
5 Mar.	1936	The British fighter plane <i>Spitfire</i> made its first test flight from Eastleigh, Southampton.
7 Mar.	1876	The Scottish-born inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, patented the telephone.
8 Mar.	1702	Anne became Queen of Britain after William III died in a riding accident.
9 Mar.	1074	Pope Gregory VII excommunicated all married priests.
10 Mar.	1886	Cruft's Dog Show was held in London for the first time – since 1859 it had been held in Newcastle.
11 Mar.	1858	The Indian Mutiny, Indian sepoy had mutinied believing rifle cartridges had been lubricated in animal fat.
14 Mar.	1757	British Admiral John Byng was executed by firing squad at Plymouth, for failing to relieve Minorca from the French fleet.
15 Mar.	44 BC	“Beware the Ides of March” – Julius Caesar is stabbed by Marcus Brutus.
16 Mar.	1872	The Wanderers beat the Royal Engineers 1–0 in the first English FA Cup Final, at Kennington Oval.
17 Mar.	1766	Parliament in London votes to repeal the controversial Stamp Act in an attempt to stifle rebellion in the American colonies
18 Mar.	978	Edward, King of England is murdered at Corfe Castle.
19 Mar.	1834	Six farm labourers from Tolpuddle, Dorset, were sentenced to seven years' transportation to Australia.
20 Mar.	1653	Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, dissolves the Long Parliament.
21 Mar.	1556	England's first Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer is burnt at the stake as a heretic, by Queen Mary I.
22 Mar.	1824	The British Parliament voted to purchase 38 paintings at a cost of £57,000, which are housed in the National Gallery.
24 Mar.	1603	The crowns of England and Scotland were united when King James VI of Scotland succeeded to the English throne.
25 Mar.	1306	The eighth Earl of Carrick, Robert the Bruce is crowned King of Scotland at Scone Palace near Perth.
27 Mar.	1871	England and Scotland played their first rugby football international, in Edinburgh; first blood to Scotland.
28 Mar.	1912	Both the Oxford and the Cambridge boats sank in the annual Varsity boat race.
29 Mar.	1461	Over 28,000 people killed in the bloody Battle of Towton, N Yorkshire.
30 Mar.	1856	The Crimean War between Russia and Europe was brought to an end by the signing of the Treaty of Paris.
31 Mar.	1855	Charlotte Bronte, the Yorkshire novelist and author of <i>Jane Eyre</i> , died today.



## Strete Chapel

Happy New Year to all in the village from Strete Chapel. We hope that you all enjoyed Christmastime and New Year. We are looking forward to 2023 and what this will bring for our chapel.

Towards the end of 2022 Hugh Crossman sadly passed away due to ill health. Some in the village may have known him and his wife Velma as they were resident in Strete for a long time. Each year we have a motto chosen by a chapel member and Hugh kindly agreed to do this leaving the chapel with a wonderful reminder of his time with us.



Hugh wrote that he had chosen this verse as he and Velma always regarded the chapel as a fellowship filled with love from the first time they arrived in the village and were welcomed in. Hugh will be sadly missed by all, but it is hoped that the qualities that Hugh found in the fellowship will continue to flourish in 2023.



## St. Michael's Church Strete



Sunday morning service followed by tea and coffee,  
everyone is very welcome to come along.

Church wardens Trish Robertson 07976 269208 (The Laughing Monk)  
and Vincent Dingley

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## Strete Voices

We are a recently formed, small group, coming together to share our enjoyment of singing

We meet on Tuesday evenings, between 6:00 and 7:30 PM in Saint Michaels church under the direction of our choirmaster Bob Barsby

We welcome any abilities of singing and at the moment we are learning folk songs, songs from the musicals and sea shanties

For further details please contact Trish at the Laughing Monk  
([patriciarobertson@fastmail.fm](mailto:patriciarobertson@fastmail.fm))

or

Pop along to the church on Tuesday evenings to meet us, have fun and sing along.



## **VILLAGE DAY**

**SATURDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 12.00 - 5.00**

**MEWSTONE (garden + paddock)**

This is a **VILLAGE** event. It is held on the first Saturday in August, but there has not been one of our special days since August 2019 because of the pandemic and the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Picnic Party. It is fun for all ages, colourful, varied, welcoming and a way to show off our lovely village. It looks effortless, but that is only because of the people who have helped put it together and worked hard to make it happen.

**We need your help to make this Village Day an event to remember!**

We have already had two Planning Meetings (November and January).

Those present were very positive with ideas and offers of help before, during and after the day, but we need more of you!

**We are also looking for Sponsors and/or offers of Draw Prizes**

The next meeting is on **WEDNESDAY, 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 7.00pm**, in the Village Hall. We should love to see you there, but, meanwhile, if you have any thoughts, questions or offers of help regarding

Strete Village Day,

please contact me.

**Penny: 771005**

**[p.g.penhale@hotmail.com](mailto:p.g.penhale@hotmail.com)**

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## **HOT SPACE, WARM DRINKS**

The Village Hall is open most Mondays (when the sign is out)

**10.30 - 12.00**

for teas, coffees, biscuits, and scintillating company.

**Do come and join us.**



# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

**Strete Village Day 5th August 2023 12.00 - 16.30**  
**Mewstone Paddock Totnes Road Strete TQ6 0RU**

Let us make the 2023 event really special. Strete Village Day is a wonderful, joyous occasion for the whole village and our summer visitors. It, therefore, needs the whole village to become involved with ideas and help before, during and after.



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the  
**Kings Arms**  
at Strete

## Would you like to host an event?

Events are the lifeblood our community pub. They pull together the community and are always well attended. They are vital to the success of the pub.

We've had music, poetry, walkers, painters, card players, tea & cake lovers, quizzes, dog reiki, kids crafting...whatever interests you, you can do it at our community pub. It's your space.

**Contact us and we can find a way to make it happen.**

[info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk)

# Strete Social Club

## SPRING PROGRAMME 2023

Meetings are usually held in Strete Parish Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM		
January	10th	AGM and Quiz
	17th	Special Film Outing to Mrs Harris Goes To Paris at the Flavel in Dartmouth at 10.30am
	24th	Secrets of Shopping - Danni Brien
February	7th	Travels around Georgia in the Caucasus Region - Peter Barker
	21st	Animals In Distress Rescue Charity - Christine Paradine
March	7th	Watercolour Painting - Juliet Collins
	21st	Reflections - Sally Green
April	4th	Feet First - Sam Hodges

## Strete Social Club

10th January. Members of Strete Social Club met in the village hall for their first meeting of 2023 which was their Annual General Meeting.

Our leader Dorothy welcomed everyone and wished us all a happy New Year and then conducted the Meeting.

She gave a very comprehensive report on all the speakers who had spoken to us over the twelve months. She then thanked all who had taken on the various tasks, including press reports, running the raffle, making teas and setting up and clearing the room.

Our Treasurer Heather had circulated the Annual Accounts and took us through each item and answered any questions that were put to her.

These were approved and adopted. Thanks were given for her efficient keeping of our books.



Our subscription is staying at £15 per year.

Our two leaders, Dorothy and Karen were re-elected. With no further matters arising we then took part in a quiz, organised by the treasurer, on Nursery Rhymes.

We were all muttering away under our breath how these went to get the missing piece.

What memories this brought back and how most of us could remember them. It was a very close contest with Joan gaining the most correct answers.

As usual we then all enjoyed our tea and biscuits served by Carol and Colleen.

Our group meet twice a month, alternate weeks and new members are always welcomed.

Further details from **Dorothy on 01803 770982**

## *Strete Social Club*

17th January. On a cold but dry Tuesday morning a group of ladies of the social club ventured into Dartmouth to see the film "Mrs Harris goes to Paris" Karen, one of our leaders, had organised this as an extra to our usual Tuesday meeting.

On arriving at the Flavel Karen was there to greet us all and see that we were all safely seated and then passed around the Minstrel chocolate drops before the film started.

A delightful film enjoyed by us all, with Mrs. Harris, a cleaning lady who whilst doing her chores in an upper-class house spied

this beautiful dress which was a Dior creation. Saving hard to take a trip to Paris to get a Dior Dress eventually made her way to Paris where she took us on the many adventures she had whilst getting a fitting for a Dior Dress. Eventually she went back to London and the beautiful dress that she had made for her lent to a young women who unfortunately stood too near a naked flame and caught the front alight. In the end a large parcel arrived with an enormous bunch of roses. On opening the package was inside a most beautiful red dress which she did wear to a local dance at the British Legion Club. As with all good stories this ended with a romance.

A film well worth seeing as not all the story has been revealed by the writer of this piece. Afterward the majority of us retired to the Flavel Café and had a very nice lunch together. This was a perfect morning which we hope to do again.







## STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

### Vacancy

#### **Strete Parish Council is looking for a new Parish Clerk**

This is a part time job administering the business of the Parish Council (Meetings, Agendas, Minutes, Correspondence etc) and looking after receipts, payments and accounts, which are mostly online.

The job offers 25 hours of work per month at a pay rate around £12/hour depending upon experience.

Most of the job can be done at home with flexible hours to suit the job holder. Attendance at Parish Council meetings one evening per month to take meeting minutes is essential.

Applicants must be computer literate and able to run word processing software and spreadsheets. Training is provided. If you are interested in the role please contact Peter Hales, the Parish Council Chairman, on 07969 248397 for more details.

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### Village Litter Pick

The Parish Council will be organising a litter pick around the village on Saturday 18th February, everyone welcome. Meet at the Village Hall at 9.30 am, please bring gloves and wear stout shoes. Refreshments for everyone afterwards will be provided at Manor Farm Barn, courtesy of Kate Gill.





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### A Big Thank You to the Stretwise 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.

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## Dartmouth Art Society

Need a bit of New Year motivation to develop and continue with your love of painting? It's a very relaxing hobby and Dartmouth Art Society welcomes everyone, either novice or seasoned painter.

We hold our weekly meetings on Thursdays at Townstal Hall in Dartmouth from 1.30 to 4:30 pm. Why not come along to see what we do? We offer a friendly and casual atmosphere and help is always available to develop your skills. Throughout the year we offer demos and workshops for our members. Car parking and refreshments are available.

For more information, have a look at our website <https://dartartsociety.wixsite.com/townstal> or phone Sue Tweed on 01803 770730, or why not just pop along to see us?

# A Christmas 2022

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November 2022

St Michael's church Strete was privileged to hold the inaugural concert of the recently formed Lyric Chamber Orchestra. The orchestra was the brainchild of Trish Calnan, who lives at the Laughing Monk and is a professional violinist. She has appeared all over the world with "Academy of St



Martin in the Fields" directed by Sir Neville Marriner.

Trish felt that there was a real need for the South Hams to have a dynamic chamber orchestra of quality, vision and innovation and so begun the process of hand-picking players for their skill and dedication to the cause.

The enthusiastic audience were treated to a mixed programme of work which included J S Bach's Brandenburg Concerto, John Rutter's Suite for Strings and Tchaikovsky's Serenade for strings. After a standing ovation, the orchestra played a beautiful piece by Strauss. This was followed by cheese and wine which gave an opportunity for members of the audience to mix with the players and ask questions. Similar successful concerts were held at Totnes and South Brent

All monies raised will go towards the ongoing repairs of St Michael's Church.

Early next year, they hope to hold more concerts in the area and will be joined by a young, enterprising, highly successful and up and coming cellist Felix Rosenboom. He will be performing Haydyn C major cello concerto, with The Lyric Chamber Orchestra concerts in March. We are so lucky to have Trish in the village. She does so much for our community. I feel sure The Lyric Chamber Orchestra will go from strength to strength and quickly establish a deserved recognition in the South Hams and beyond. **Nick Shepherd**

## CHRISTMAS MARKET and COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 3rd  
December  
Strete Village Hall





## *Strete Social Club*

The social club met in the village hall for the last meeting of November when Linda Maybey came to show us how to make a Garland. She had brought all the greenery with her and each one was given a piece of string and a collection of leaves and fir. After making little bunches of the greenery, we were instructed how to attach these to the string. Some managed to have a reasonable length while some of us could only manage to make a small one. These could be embellished with thin polyribbon and battery powered lights and they could then be placed around in a circle and a candle in container put in the centre. She was thanked by Karen.

We then met in December at the Kings Arms Strete where we enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch, desert and mince pie and coffee.

We were all given a glass of prosecco. To bring the afternoon to a close Karen played a selection of Carols on her guitar and



we all joined in with the singing. Dorothy, The Chef and staff at the Kings Arms were thanked as was Karen for the lovely carol singings we all enjoyed by Joan.

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### December 13th Christmas Carol Service at St Michael's. **Nick Shepherd**

This year we were very lucky to have the Company of Archdeacon Douglas Dettmer to lead the Christmas Carol Service at St Michael's. As well as the traditional carols and readings, we were blessed with some wonderful musical performances. Nigel Backwith (oboe) and Gabrielle Mills (piano) played a moving performance of the "Prayer for Ukraine", and the Lyric Players led by Trish Robertson entertained us with a mixture of carols and seasonal songs. The Strete Voices (our very own community choir) led by choirmaster and organist Bob Barsby gave their inaugural performance as well. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening which was finished off nicely with wine and mince pies.

Our village is so lucky to have such talented and hardworking residents who willingly give



up their time for our pleasure. Thank you to them and all the dedicated people who work tirelessly and unnoticed behind the scenes.

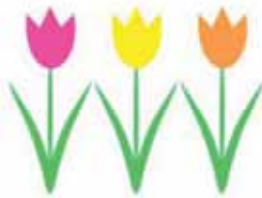


# EASTER FAIR

in aid of  
**Children's Hospice South West**  
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**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

10am – 3pm



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For more information, contact:  
Sue Tweed: [tweed833@btinternet.com](mailto:tweed833@btinternet.com) or 01803 770730



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## STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen DarchHomer Park, Strete, Dartmouth TQ6 0SJ  
streteClerk@gmail.com 01803 770018 www.strete.org.uk

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

HELD AT STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 17th November 2022 AT 7 PM

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**PRESENT:** Cllr Peter Hales (PH) (Chairman); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Kate Gill (KG); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); County Councillor Julian Brazil (JB); District Councillor Richard Foss (RF); The Clerk. Three members of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Mr. Nick Hindmarsh attended on behalf of Dartmouth Caring to give a presentation on the aims of the organisation. Dartmouth Caring will be working from the new Health and Wellbeing Centre up by the Leisure Centre from next year. The service works in three main areas: to support the elderly, to help younger clients with complex social needs and to help those with specialist health needs. Among its services is the memory café in Dartmouth, transport to and from hospitals, shopping and other helps to housebound people. A warm hub is on offer this winter and a meals on wheels service continues to run. It helps some 750 people annually and fills many of the gaps in statutory services. There are 112 volunteers and six fulltime equivalent staff. Its income comes mostly from government, from charities, fund raising, and some from users.

The new Centre will allow the service to offer social prescribing, partnership with the Leisure Centre and Pool, drop-in services and exercise classes. The new Centre will also house a palliative and cancer care liaison nurse who will help clients when a diagnosis is received.

Sgt Abercrombie was unable to attend but had been asked to make the December meeting.

Two parishioners attended to explain planning application **2513/22/HHO**. This will see the modernisation of the house with an increase in the upstairs space hence the garage roof will be raised 1 ½ metres. However the footprint of the house will be unchanged. The conservatory will have a solid roof. They have spoken with neighbours and believe there are no overlooking issues.

The parishioners then left the meeting.

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The A379 at Frogmore has reopened. There will be a road closure from the village to Landcombe from 28th November for a week. Also, Loddiswell will be shut from 28th November for a week for resurfacing. In 2023 the A379 at Modbury will be closed for three months.

RC observed a radar gun/speed capture device has been fitted at the top of the Totnes Road as part of the Highways traffic survey for the Gateway project.

JB reported on the parlous state of finances at Devon County Council [DCC]. He noted DCC at the moment is overspent by £37mn. This can be capitalized and repaid over 50 years. However, there is a possibility that one or more local tiers of government disappear and a unitary authority replaces these tiers.

The cap on council tax increases has been temporarily raised to 5% for 2023/24 so councils may levy an additional 2% on charge payers before a referendum needs to be called. The 5% is comprised of 3% on council tax and 2% on adult social care. JB noted the Liberal Democrats don't

support this measure as they believe central government should provide adequate funding and not rely on a regressive tax on local people.

IC asked when the wall would be rebuilt at Stoke Fleming. JB thought during the spring or autumn when the roads are quieter. JB thought a diversion route via Cinders Lane or Ravensbourne Lane would work and maybe a quad rider to keep the traffic flowing but cost may prohibit this.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Planning and housing.** RF observed no 10 The Plat had gone to Development Management committee, as he had called it in, and has been approved. The planning department has been taken back to the two original councils i.e., South Hams and West Devon but there remains a problem with recruitment of planners. However, there are some good enforcement officers now. He observed people shouldn't take enforcement matters to appeal as this takes them out of the planning authority's responsibility. He also noted a rise in preapplication advice being taken.

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014 -2034 [JLP] was being amended to include supplementary special planning guidance. SHDC has approved an amendment which affects DEV32 *Delivering Low* .

*Carbon Development* in the JLP. This does not change policy until the planning inspector has reviewed it but it reflects intention. Thus, the special planning guidance will require anyone who buys a house and knocks it down to justify the carbon footprint and that the new build decreases the carbon output by 20%.

One aim is to make more housing available to local people. The next review of the JLP is in 2024. This might also be a good time to look again at the Strete neighbourhood Plan. RF also noted there is a need to provide more housing in villages to help local people who can't afford house prices. The Leveling Up and Regeneration Bill is intended to be in force by April 2024 and this will allow local councils to levy twice the council tax charge on second homes. He reckoned this would see an additional £700,000 revenue collected on council tax.

**Refuse collection.** Now the garden waste service is discontinued the crews will be taken onto the domestic waste rounds to improve the box collection. He observed the system inherited from the contractor is too labor-intensive but the crews are more responsive to missed collections now and a new manager is very supportive and rides with the crews.

Although taking the service back inhouse cost money, the lapsed contract had been fixed price so there is a saving of around £300,000 compared to an inflation-linked agreement.

**Grants available.** RF noted he has localities money still available until the end of March 2023. So, if there were any projects that would benefit the community as a whole and wanted a small sum of money, please ask him. PH suggested a sum of £240 toward the costs of the enhanced Internet in the Hall. RF agreed. **Resolved the Clerk to apply for these monies.**

**The memorial.** JB noted that DCC has money to move the memorial to the location owned by the Field Studies Centre behind the carpark at Strete Gate but RF cautioned that costs have increased and there is a 3 metre<sup>3</sup> concrete block under the memorial which has to be removed before it can be resited. The meeting commented that one way

might be to try to get the Field Studies Centre to contribute to the costs. **Resolved someone will need to consult the six parishes to resolve the draft agreement on maintenance.**

**Slapton Line Partnership.** RF confirmed he is still trying to find a chair to run the meetings to get them going again. In the meantime, the MP is waiting for central government funds toward both the short-term and long-term projects he outlined at the May town hall meeting.

**Follaton House.** Councillors voiced their disappointment that the council offices remain closed. RF advised them to email Andy Bates the Chief Executive of SHDC to express their concern.

**1122/1 APOLOGIES – Sgt Abercrombie.**

**1122/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20TH OCTOBER 2022**

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

**1122/3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. **GC declared an interest in Fairfield.**

**1122/4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

**Planning applications consulted on. To discuss and respond to South Hams District Council on:**

**2513/22/HHO.** Householder application for raising of roof to create master bedroom and ensuite, part conversion of garage for additional kitchen/dining space, replacement conservatory and minor interior alterations. 1 Crestway, Strete. TQ6 0SF. Councillors discussed the plans and whether there might be an issue with the raised roofline. PH suggested a response be taken from the officer's wording for No 10 the Plat in connection with the nature of the proposed roofline. **Resolved to support with comments as follows: *The councillors express concern over the intention to raise the roof as outlined in the plans. This is not considered a subservient addition to the dwelling as the proposed ridge line is the same height as the existing dwelling.***

**3700/22/HHO.** Householder application for alterations and kitchen extension, alterations to entrance. Slide House, Hynetown Road, Strete TQ6 0RS. **Resolved to support.**

**3747/22/HHO.** Householder application for addition of two balconies to rear and side elevations. Fairfield, Hynetown Road, Strete TQ6 0RS. Councillors considered the possibility that one balcony might overlook the neighbour to the South [Hylside]. RC reminded councillors that 21 metres is the guideline for a suitable distance from neighbours when assessing whether a development overlooked its neighbours. Councillors felt this south facing balcony was a grey area and risked being invasive on the neighbour. **Resolved to object on the basis one balcony would overlook a neighbour [Hylside].**

**Other planning matters.** None were raised.

**1122/5 PARISH COUNCIL TARGETS FOR 2022/23**

- ❖ **Night landing site for air ambulance.** Still awaiting response from Savills on the proposal sent in August to purchase some land for a landing area. The Strete Estate has now been sold: exchange has taken place and completion is awaited. Tenants will be contacted by the agent in due course.
- ❖ **Enhanced vehicle speed control measures in the Village.** A radar device is now in place to undertake a count of vehicles and measure speeds at the Totnes road end of the village.



The VAS speed measuring machine still awaits installation by a DCC highways engineer. **JB to pursue this.**

- ❖ **Raise awareness of forthcoming green grants for domestic heating, insulation etc.** The visit by the South Dartmoor Community Trust on November 9th was not well-attended. **Noted.**
- ❖ **Secure electric vehicle charging facility in the Village.** PH responded to a consultation by DCC on EV provision. DCC has failed to plan for EV charging points outside main conurbations. PH will write to them to express his disappointment that rural areas won't have charging infrastructure. This is required for locals and tourists.
- ❖ **Identify sites for tree planting in the Village. Resolved: The Clerk to send round information on the designated status of the Village Green.**

#### **1122/6(a) FINANCE**

Three cheques were listed for payment on the agenda, invoices circulated before the meeting and invoices approved for payment at the meeting. Four additional invoices were circulated after the agenda date and approved at the meeting for payment.

1870 – Clerk salary plus back pay for November £477.00. To note the national pay award back-dated to April 2022 of £175.50 and approve the November pay of £301.50.	1871 – Hall hire for October £55. This comprises hall hire for the parish council meeting plus £25 on hire for the defibrillator training.
1872 – The Society of Local Council Clerks annual membership for Strete £98.	1873 – Mr Ian Cumberlidge costs of maintenance of buddle holes in the Parish August to November 2022 £478 no VAT.
1874 – Mr Peter Hales costs of printing 312 copies of a circular/parish referendum. Includes paper and printer ink £89.12 no VAT.	1875 – Mrs Kate Gill. Reimbursement of purchase cost of Remembrance day poppy wreath £30 no VAT.
1876 – Mr Graham Campbell cost of hire of garden shredder £74.32 plus VAT.	

**It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise the payments as enumerated above.**

#### **1122/6(b) FINANCE**

The monitoring statements for the first seven months to 30th November were circulated at the meeting. To date including the payments listed here there is total income of £16,889.78 less total expenses of £12,338.70 gives a net surplus of £4,551.08 in the year to the end of November 2022. **The current position was noted.**

#### **1122/6(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £16,082.87CR at 08/11/22 Current account. £11,320.06CR Business Reserve account at 08/11/22.

#### **1122/6(d) FINANCE**

Discussion on precept for 2023/24 and individual budgets and savings in 2022/23.

PH started by reminding councillors the current precept for 2022/23 of £14,000 was a 6.6% rise [though only 1% on Band D due to an increased tax base] on the previous year's precept of £13,130 at a time when inflation was seen to be rising especially fuel costs. This year continues with fuel

inflation and general price inflation likely to continue into March 2024.

The recent referendum by post had garnered 29 responses [plus one email on broader issues] to proposals to use s137 [Local Government Act 1972] powers to raise an element of the precept to donate small sums to local charities which benefit the local community. The 's137 powers' permit parish councils to grant towards activities that benefit the local community or a part therefore. The amount for 2022/23 is a maximum of £8.82 per elector or £3,696; 2023/24 is not yet known. Although this would be a grant rather than a loan, conditions would attach under s137A which include scrutiny of the accounts where the amount granted is £2,000 or more. **The results of the survey are in the appendix to these minutes.**

To precis: 24 responses were in favour of some level of donation to Dartmouth Caring, and a lesser number to Dartmouth Citizens Advice, the Dartmouth Foodbank and other local causes which included Blackbird Wood and the Social Club. Some of these charities have had donations in the past e.g. CAB. Councillors suggested they might approach the Blackbird Wood and offer a councillor as a trustee as part of the s106 process.

Five responses were against any donations and some expressed concern that the precept was an involuntary tax. GC counselled that the response rate was low and this did not suggest a carte blanche to go ahead.

**Resolved PH to draw up scenarios for December and set aside £750 toward local charities in 2023/24. This to be funded from the unspent budget on carbon neutral initiatives [£1,250]. The overall precept would have to be set against a backdrop of 10.1% CPI [September 2022] which may fall toward the middle of next year. The agenda for the meeting would be confined to setting the precept [and any urgent business].**

He also reminded councillors that the Council should look at savings on current services. RC noted the road sweep acted to prevent further problems on the highway as it kept the road maintained. Weeds remained an issue but could be dealt with in another way. This contractor was a saving on the previous service. DR wondered if the dry weather meant weeds were less prevalent. Also it was difficult to assess responses and whether people are happy to continue with a contractor as most don't complain. LN observed maybe the contract for sweeping could be aligned better with other activity on the roads e.g. silage and harvest and GC thought maybe December. RC suggested the cycle could be run one month behind so June, September, December and April to accommodate the leaf fall. RC did not know what the likely contract price would be for 2023/24 yet.

#### **1122/7 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

JB informed the meeting that Meg Booth [Devon County Council head of transport] had advised him to contact Lisa Edmonds to discuss the proposed cyclic contract for road maintenance. **Resolved the Council to contact Lisa.**

#### **1122/8 STRETE VILLAGE DAY PLANNING**

It was noted the plans were well in train and people had volunteered to do certain tasks. The Pub will offer its services as well to include a bar.

#### **1122/9 STRETE GATE AND THE MEMORIAL**

**Discussed above under the District councillor slot.**

#### **1122/10 SALE OF THE STRETE ESTATE**

The sale was agreed, under exchange but not yet completed. Tenants will be contacted in due course. This will include the Parish Council as a tenant for the playpark land. **This was noted.**

#### **1122/11 DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS LAND MATTERS**

Pam Wills has emailed the Clerk a list of planned works on behalf of Blackbird Wood [Trust]. Where these are capital works, they can be considered for the s106 monies. SHDC has recommended the Trust look at grants to fund any tree replacement in the first instance as these are readily available

**The Council can work with SHDC to arrange funding under the s106.**

**A form needs to be completed and sent to Alexis Huggins at SHDC.**

#### **1122/12 OTHER ONGOING MATTERS IF NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**

Nothing to add.

#### **1122/13 CLERK'S REPORT**

**Post Box on Hynetown Road.** A new box has appeared. It awaits activation and can be used thereafter. **Noted.**

**Bid to purchase playpark.** Submitted to Savills on 14th August. **Noted.**

**Banking.** Met with Ian to activate his user but the password has expired. Another has been received and I will activate his user. We will need to change my user to someone else. **Note.**

**Road safety measures.** No change this month. The VAS machine remains with the Clerk who sent correspondence on to the County Councillor to chase up with Meg Booth. **To carry forward and note.**

**Speed watch initiative.** No change: police contact awaited. **For information and action.**

**S106 monies.** Have received a list of capital and revenue items off Pam Wills for the Blackbird Wood. To draft a report for SHDC to consider this for release of funds. **Noted.**

**Hall broadband.** Due to capacity issues with PlusNet the Clerk and PH are looking at either a PlusNet package with more data or another package e.g. Smarty ['3']. The Hall committee has offered to share 50:50 in any funding. **Noted.**

**Warm spaces.** The Clerk attended the first of these drop-ins on Tuesday 8th November at the Hall. There were nine people who turned up, mainly helpers and supporters. Soup made at the Pub [and donated] was served along with bread. Tea and coffee were available. There is another session planned for 22nd November. **Noted.**

**Christmas tree.** Ian asked if the arrangements for this could be passed on as he is very busy. He can buy and recharge the cost of a tree but if someone else could put it up and dress it that would be good. **Resolved RC will look at this and see if he can arrange for the tree to be put up and decorated.**

**Locum clerk and recruitment.** The SLCC was asked to supply a locum clerk for December and one response was received. There is an advert for a replacement Clerk in the local paper 17th and 24th November. **Resolved the Clerk to ask Gilly Claydon if she can recommend a locum for the December meeting. The report was received.**



## **1122/14 CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **Report submitted before the meeting.**

#### **Strete Parish Council Chairman's report – November Meeting**

**Strete Estate** The PC now understands that the estate has been sold as a whole, although the identity of the buyer remains unknown to us. The further implications of the sale of most of the land on the west side of the village is of grave concern to the PC, especially given the stance of the selling agent towards earmarking land for future development.

**Bus Consultation by Devon County** and new timetables In early November DCC published its revised bus service Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme, Transport websites - Devon CC - Enhanced Partnership Plan & Scheme v.5.0 FINAL 3.11.22.pdf - All Documents (sharepoint.com) Much of this document is devoted to describing and defining the new partnership arrangements that the County has struck with all the bus operators in Devon. It sets out service aspirations and long-term targets for transport across Devon, recognising that it is a very diverse county and includes cities with intensive population levels, market towns and sparsely populated rural areas, all of which have very differing transport needs. It sets out the public funding and subsidy proposals going forward.

In Strete, the main service of note is of course the Stagecoach 93 service linking us to Dartmouth and Kingsbridge. Two aspects of the new document seem likely to affect us here: - • Better affordability of travel fare reductions. DCC is subsidising the Devon Day Ticket which will be reduced in price to £6.60 (from £9.60) for an adult fare, allowing unlimited daily bus travel across multiple Bus Operators on the majority of bus services across the county. The long-term aim is to improve the use of buses and reduce car travel. • Better Carbon Outcomes through a modernised, cleaner bus fleet. DCC will commission a longer-term incremental decarbonisation strategy with a structured and costed delivery plan that sees DCC's ambition kept in step with emerging technologies and improvements in the performance of existing propulsion systems (e.g., electric and hydrogen).

There are currently no electric or hydrogen fuelled zero emission vehicles in the Devon bus fleet, and only 71% of the diesel fleet meets Euro VI or V emission standards. Average vehicle age in Devon is 9 years and bus fleets range between 3 and 15 years. This will be a difficult programme to execute and will require central government funding to achieve aspired levels of carbon reduction. Timetable changes to the service between Dartmouth and Plymouth serving Strete were implemented in October. The service has been hampered recently by the medium-term road closure of the A379 at Frogmore for road works. A shuttle service has been operating between Frogmore and Strete, meeting the 93 service which has been diverted via Totnes Road. It has been necessary to turn the shuttle bus around in Strete, and after some experimentation this has been happening at the entrance to Start Bay Park.

**Slapton Line Partnership** SHDC full council adopted the motion put forward by Cllrs Foss and Bastone (Dartmouth) on 14th July. The motion called for the Terms of Reference of the Slapton Line Partnership to be revised and for greater effort to be given to the preservation of the road across the line, at least until a viable and realistic alternative back route has been established. Since that point we have had no further information, and no meeting has been convened by SLP. The Parish Council has sent a number of formal letters to the Councils and the MP expressing our alarm at the lack of information and action. Proposed relocation of the Slapton Line Memorial In

early September Devin County Council submitted a planning application to remove the Memorial from the current site at Slapton Beach car park and relocate it on the land at Strete Gate owned by the Field Studies Council. This is despite the fact that the six Parishes have failed to reach agreement with the FSC about maintenance of the site. At the September Parish meeting Strete Parish Council agreed to submit a formal objection to the DCC planning application, and this has since caused some attention, although there is no further progress to report.

**Waste Collections** Waste collections by SHDC are now all carried out using 'in-house' Council labour, vehicles and facilities rather than being outsourced. The free 'brown bin' collection service ceased at the end of October. SHDC has announced the start of the new subscription service for green waste from March 23, inviting households to sign up before 22nd January to ensure they are registered for the start of the scheme .

**Night Landing Site for the Devon Air Ambulance** Nothing further to report. Police Hub Nothing further to report.

**Post Box on Hynetown Road** The good news is that Royal Mail installed a new post box on the pedestrian pathway outside the Village Hall in early November. This is a replacement for the old box which was summarily removed from a site on Hynetown Road in January. The new unit has not yet been commissioned.

**Newsletter and referendum on the 2023/4 precept** The responses to the referendum attached to the October newsletter have been received and counted, and the Parish Council will discuss them at the PC meeting on 17th November. The results will be published as an addenda to the meeting minutes.

**Village Green** A volunteer Parish Council working party is tackling the overgrown buddleia bushes in the wood.

**Wi-Fi in the Village Hall** The Village Hall Committee have agreed to a proposal from the PC to jointly fund an extension of the limited wi-fi arrangement currently provided by the PC for use during PC meetings. The new arrangement will allow unlimited use of the installed wi-fi by all users of the village hall 24/7. The cost is expected to be approx. £240 per annum and will be equally shared by the two organisations.

**Additional Public Holiday – the King's Coronation.** The Coronation of King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6th May 2023. Monday 8th May 2023 has been declared as an additional public holiday.

**Strete Parish Clerk** Very regrettably, Helen has announced her resignation from the post of Parish Clerk with effect from the end of November. On behalf of myself and all of the Parish Councillors I would like to acknowledge the huge contribution that Helen has made to the smooth running of Strete Parish Council in recent years, thank her for her efforts and wish her well in her future career. The post is currently being advertised for a replacement Clerk, and a locum will be arranged for the December meeting. Peter Hales, Chairman 15th November 2022.

**The Chair's report was received.**

#### **1122/15 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Reports were circulated prior to the meeting. PH. This report was given under 1022/14.**

**KG. Slapton Line Partnership and AONB.** Dear All As you know – there is nothing to report officially on SLP. However, the barrier at the Memorial car park has been taken down – giving access to the large motor homes. Also this last week on my tour around the Line area I discovered that one of the smaller motorhomes had been issued with a penalty ticket for staying in the Strete Gate car-park.

**LN. Roads: hedges, and litter.** There are no real problems on the roads although outside the village there is quite a lot of debris from leaves and general bad weather. Some stones have fallen out of the wall by Landcombe corner but the landowner knows about it. Some hedge cutting has been done and particularly Vicarage Lane looks much better. More hedge cutting will be done after Christmas. The milestones are fine.

**DR. Health and safety, Parish Hall liaison. Parish Hall liaison.** I recently attended a meeting of the parish hall committee when the following points were discussed. The subject of using the hall by the police was raised again as to date there had been no real proposal. It had been suggested that the police have one key to access all village halls which would not be acceptable to the hall insurance company, and no information has been received on costings. It was decided to wait for more information. Wednesday 16th November at 7.00pm will be the first meeting of those people wanting to help with Village Day 2023. As many people as possible are encouraged to attend. The hall committee agreed to a 50% contribution towards the charges for the provision of increased broad band in the hall. Information for those people wishing to contribute towards a '12 days of Christmas' food box which is being organised by two local Dartmouth residents, has been displayed at the Post Office.

**Warm space/hot food.** The first of the proposed events took place on Tuesday 8th November, when homemade soup and roll, and a hot drink were available, but unfortunately only one person made use of the facility. The next one will take place on the 22nd November. Snow Warden. I have recently heard from the 'snow czar' and confirmed my availability to be the snow warden for the forthcoming winter, which I am sure you're all pleased to hear. I will be checking on all the salt/grit bins in the next few weeks.

**Defibrillator.** Following on from the very successful defibrillator training evening, I have received from Kevin Bowyer, the South West Ambulance co-ordinator, that our current agreement for the defibrillator, will be due for renewal on the 31st October 2023. The cost of a further four-year agreement will be the same as in 2019, which was £1800.00 plus VAT.

**IC. Rights of Way, Tree warden, Strete Gate and Playpark.** Playpark:- Virtually nothing to report about the playpark, other than a couple of previously 'noted' minor faults....E.g. gate closure springs, a few fittings missing from the skateboard ramp, And a small amount of decay in some climbing-apparatus timbers. Grass is reasonably short, but could maybe do with a cut before Winter sets in.

**Strete Gate:-** The car park has recently been 'treated' to a good 'brush-up', to remove a lot of pine needle debris. There has been quite a lot of camper-van activity in this area over the last few weeks, but fairly quiet, with no disrespectful behaviour, to my knowledge.

**Footpaths/Rights of Way:-** The only obvious problem, has been a large, fallen Sycamore tree over Prideaux lane, at the bottom, near Severn's Cottages. It came during the gales a few weeks ago, but the area is passable.

The Land agents that have, hither-to, dealt with the Strete Estate, are aware of the problem, and are awaiting their usual team of tree surgeons to deal with it. The rest of the paths seem OK.

**Tree Warden:-** Apart from the casualty tree mentioned above, I am unaware of any tree issues at present.

**RC. Planning and Neighbourhood Plan, road maintenance including sweeping and Kings Arms liaison.** PC Report November 2022

**Neighbourhood Plan.** There is nothing to report this month.

**The Kings Arms.** Hugh Macken has agreed to take on the role as Operations Manager in an unpaid temporary capacity until the spring 2023 with the objective of improving communications and operational activities with all the front of house staff. October sales fell short of budget. Poor weather contributed to poor sales. Sales on some days failed to achieve the breakeven position, particularly on Tuesdays. In the first week of November, lunch time sales were insufficient to sustain regular opening. The pub continues to plan weekly events and is also offering guest beers and ciders including the popular Jail Ale and Vintage Cider. With Christmas dinners to look forward to from 1st December as well as a packed calendar of events that includes Strete Village Lunch, Quizzes, Book Club, Card Games and Music Nights there is a lot to look forward to from a visit to the pub. Enjoy the warmth of the pub with friends over a drink and/or lunch/supper.

**Totnes Road Gateway Scheme.** Regrettably Devon Highways have not installed the survey cables across the highway during the first week of November as advised in the email received on 26/09/2022. This survey is required by Devon Highways to obtain sufficient evidence to support a proposed gateway scheme aimed at reducing road users speed as they enter the village and respecting the 20mph speed limit into the village from Manor Farm camp site. A request for an update in this matter was submitted to the Neighbourhood Highway Officer for Devon Highways on 10/11/2022, but no response has been received to date.

**GC. Village Green, Prideaux Lane, campervans and carparks, social care and Slapton Line partnership. Village Green. Grass cutting.** Not a great deal to report. Field was cut but needs cutting again. Grass will no doubt grow until the weather gets colder. Wall repair was completed and all the spoil removed efficiently. Pruning in the copse to take place on 15th November. GC to confirm with local 'observers' tractor has done the cuts promised.

**SLP** issues remain as before. **Citizens Advice** will be beginning a second session each week at the Children's Centre, which is situated in front of the Dartmouth Academy building. This is convenient because there is a good car park. Day and times to be decided. The existing session at the Community Cafe on Mondays 10 - 2 continues. Reports were received.

**1122/16 REFERENDUM ON DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURE FOR 2023/24 TO BE ADDED TO THE PRECEPT** This was covered above.

**1122/17 CORRESPONDENCE:** All correspondence has been circulated.

**1122/18 OTHER BUSINESS:** The councillors presented the Clerk who was leaving with flowers and chocolates. She thanked them and commended them for their unpaid service as councillors.

**1122/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 15TH December 2022 at 7pm. Venue in the Parish Hall unless otherwise advised. **THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 9.50 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Peter Hales (Chairman) Dated: ..... 15th DECEMBER 2022



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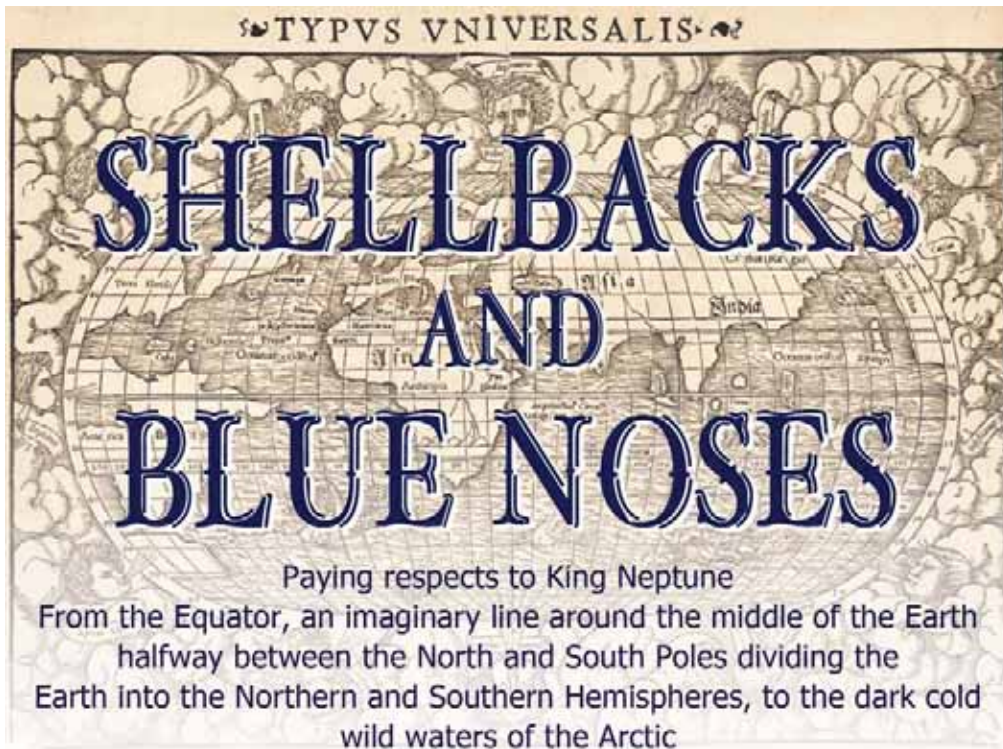


  
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'Crossing the Line' is one of the oldest traditions in the Royal Navy and takes place when a ship crosses the equator.

Royal Navy tradition dictates that any ship crossing the equator must pay its respects to the Lord of the Seas, King Neptune, to gain his acceptance. The ceremony involves sailors being tested to ensure they are capable of 'handling rough seas' and can see them being painted, fed a less than appetising snacks and being dunked in sea water.

Members of crew who had never previously 'crossed the line' – and a few extras – are 'charged with crimes' and get the justice they deserve in a comical fashion turning them into a trusty 'Shellback' after proving themselves in front of King Neptune.

Neptune's Royal Court is steeped in tradition, set rituals, grandiose speeches, elaborate costumes and props – and is usually led by King Neptune, with his consort, Amphitrite, and assistant, Davy Jones. Those who have not yet crossed are known as "pollywogs." After crossing the equator they become "shellbacks," or trusted subjects of Neptune. Aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth sailed in the southern hemisphere for the first time, marking passing the equator with a traditional 'Crossing the Line' ceremony.



*The 'Crossing the Line' ceremony is a naval tradition dating back centuries and has been held on HMS Queen Elizabeth for the first time (Picture: HMS Queen Elizabeth/Twitter). October 2021*



By the eighteenth century, there were well-established line-crossing rituals in the British Royal Navy. On the voyage of HMS *Endeavour* to the Pacific in 1768, captained by James Cook, Joseph Banks described how the crew drew up a list of everyone on board, including cats and dogs, and interrogated them as to whether they had crossed the equator. If they had not, they must choose to give up their allowance of wine for four days, or undergo a ducking ceremony in which they were ducked three times into the ocean. According to Banks, some of those ducked were "grinning and exulting in their hardiness", but others "were almost suffocated". In the 18th century and earlier, the line-crossing ceremony was quite a brutal event, often involving beating pollywogs with boards and wet ropes and sometimes throwing the victims over the side of the ship, dragging the pollywog through the surf from the stern. In more than one instance, sailors were reported to have been killed while participating in a line-crossing ceremony.



Once the ceremony is complete, a Pollywog

receives a certificate declaring his new status.

Britannia 1956





Paying respect to Neptunus Rex includes navigating the Arctic Circle and who better to describe the experience but Strete's very own ancient mariner Ron.

## **EARNING MY BLUE NOSE CERTIFICATE**

On the 1st of January 1958 I was just 17 days from my 20th birthday when we slipped our moorings in Chatham Dockyard and headed for the dark cold wild waters of the Arctic.

Instead of turning left into the North Sea we turned right into the English Channel passing what will become my home in South Devon in over 50 years' time.

Rounding Start Point, the Lizard, Lands' End we turned North heading for Londonderry via the Irish Sea to refuel before our long journey to the Greenland Sea and Barents Sea to watch over the fishing fleets of Europe.

There was no ceremony as we crossed the Arctic Circle, we had no time to think of crossing the equator in a hot climate as we struggled to keep upright in a Force 8 gale in near permanent darkness heading for the Norwegian port of Tromso our base for the next few weeks.

The next few weeks saw us steaming over the top of Norway into the freezing waters of the Barents Sea calling into the ports of Hammerfest, Vadso, and Kirkeness, we looked after and assisted the fishing boats when the weather allowed us, we also had the problem of Black Ice that made us look like a floating Iceberg that had to be chipped off by hand.

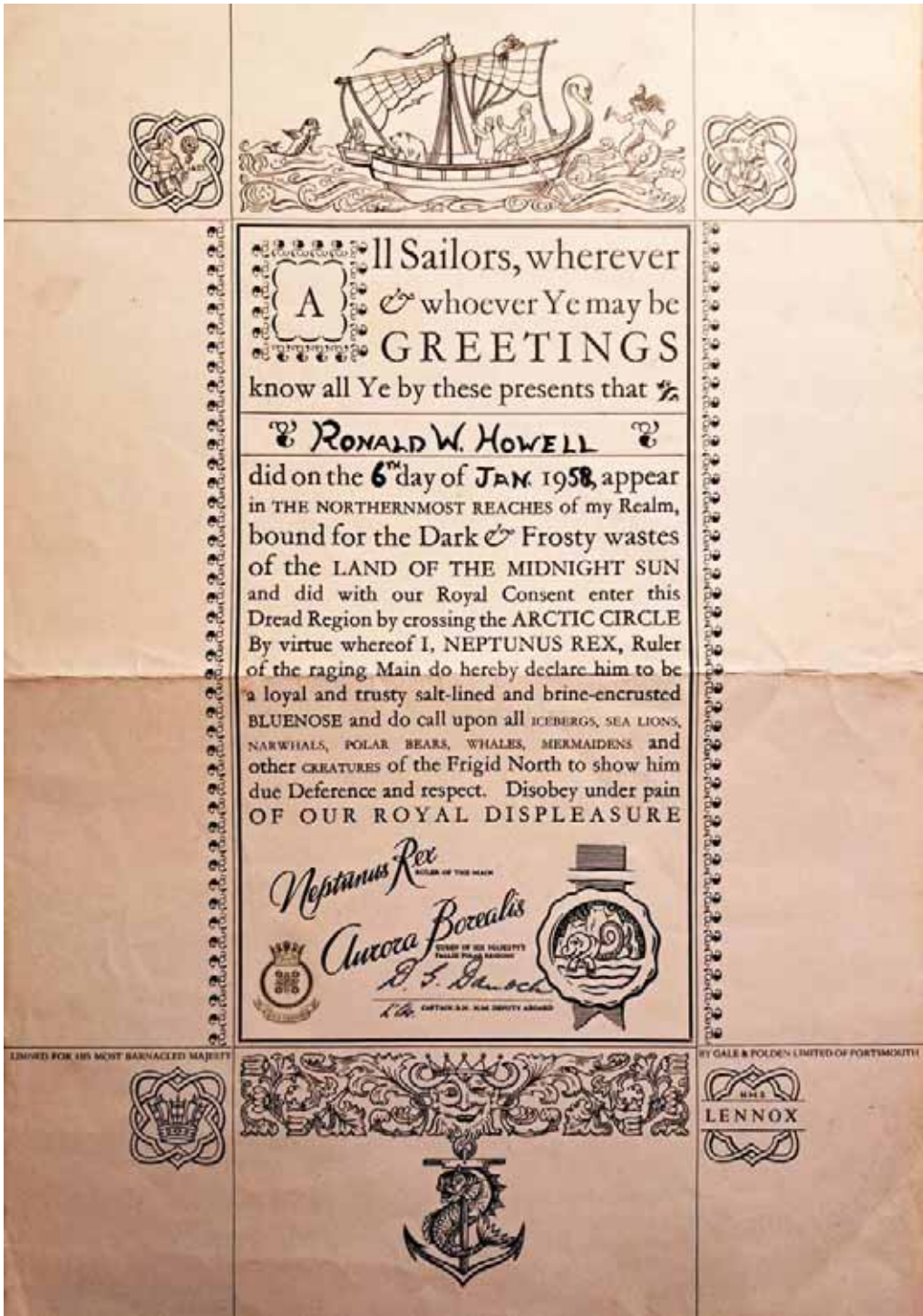
It was when we headed for Greenland that we hit a gale of all gales a Storm Force 11, three fishing boats were lost in the gigantic waves one hitting us on the foredeck splitting the breakwater and flooding the forward mess decks which had to

be abandoned and all watertight doors shut tight. When we could we turned to port and headed south to the only port that could take a battered ship, Amsterdam where we licked our wounds and gave thanks for our lives.

A couple of weeks later we received our Blue Nose Certificate, I think we definitely earned it.

**Ron Howell** The Nook Strete





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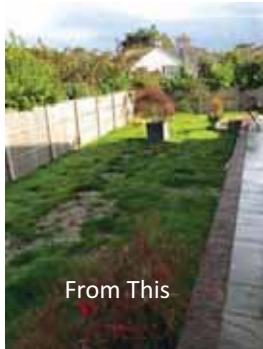
Stoke Fleming Village Hall.

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

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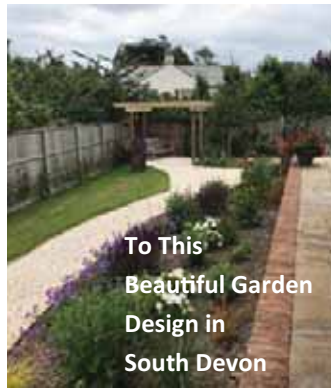
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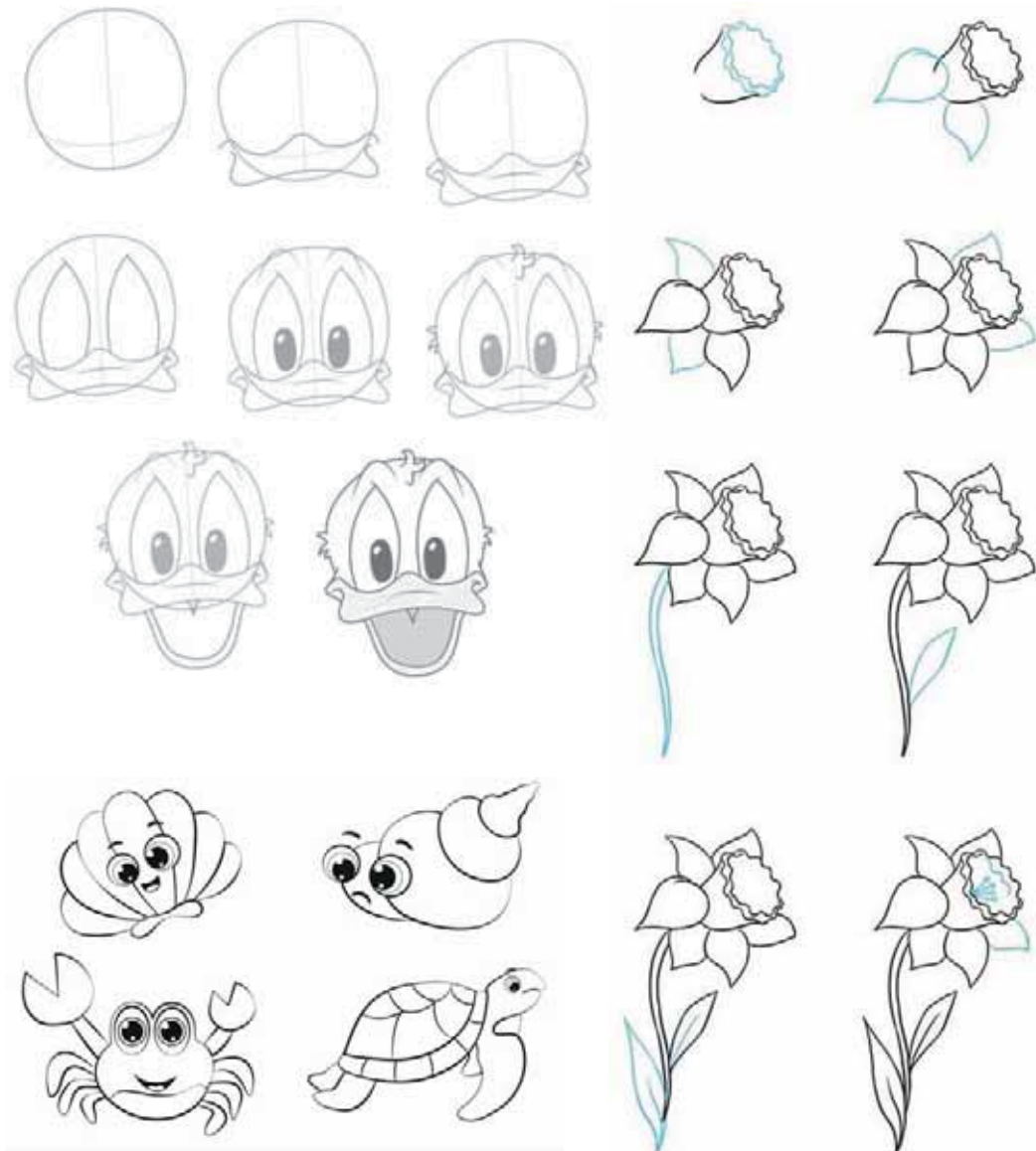
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# Creative Corner

## Lets Draw



# the Kings Arms



## **The Six Nations Brilliant Burger Deal**

**Two Burgers & Chips for £15**

*Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>*

2.15pm Wales v Ireland

4.45pm England v Scotland

*Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>*

3pm England v Italy

*Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>*

4.45pm Wales v England

Kitchen times to be confirmed

*Support your community pub*

## the Kings Arms

Welcome to our community  
pub on the South Devon coast.



Our community pub is now back open after a short Winter break, a break that provides a chance at a very quiet time of year to conduct some maintenance and solve a few problems. It is likely to remain a pretty quiet period, at least until Easter, and so your continued support is vital.

Alongside this article is a note from the Interim Chair explaining the situation the pub faces.

In an effort to drum up customers, the pub has introduced what is believed to be the best deal about, a Two for Twelve offer, whereby you can get two meals from list of favourites for only £12. Available on Wednesday & Thursday evenings and Friday lunch.

More experiments will be done in the next couple of months to see what works. For example, there's an exciting Six Nations Burger deal - Two burgers for £15 deal when the Six Nations is being shown in the pub – check out the list.

These deals are time sensitive and in effect a way to reward locals before the tourist season starts again so make the most of them while they are here. As the team continue to experiment, other great deals will be on offer from time to time so keep your eyes on Facebook and your emails.

And with that, let's say hello to the Kings Arms Friday Lucky Number Draw. Every Friday there is a prize draw, to be won by one person. The catch is, you have to be there when the draw is made. Otherwise, there is a rollover where the prize gets bigger and the following week the draw is made again. And the draw is made anytime between 6pm and 8pm....

As usual, there's a full list of events through February, all listed on the adjoining poster. Events are vital to the health of the pub, especially at this time of year and we need people to run them. If you are interested, please get in touch. The Spoken Word Night run by local writer Christine Cooke launched in November and was a great success.

Many more people have said they want to participate and there is another one planned for Wednesday 22nd of February. One of the many events you can come to.

If you are not on the update email list, please email us at :

[info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk), or you can follow us on Facebook, or just call the pub.

If you are not on the update email list, please email us at [info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk), or you can follow us on Facebook, or just call the pub. We will close on Tuesdays in February and March. The full Winter opening hours are as follows.

**Closed Monday & Tuesday**

**Wednesday & Thursday:** Open evenings only. Bar 5pm to 11pm, food 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

**Friday:** Open 12-3 and 5-11pm with food served 12.30 to 2.30pm and 5.30 to 8.30pm

**Saturday:** Open 12-11pm with food served 12.30 to 2.30pm and 5.30 to 8.30pm

**Sunday:** Open 12-8pm with food served 1-6pm.

To book more or find out about events, phone 01803 770027 or email [bookings@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:bookings@kingsarmsatstrete). For other enquiries, please contact [info@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete).

## Kings Arms Chair's Update

The Kings arms is run by a group of dedicated volunteers for the benefit of the local community. During the summer months holidaymakers provide a regular stream of custom but during the winter months the pub is more reliant on locals to keep the business ticking over. As you've probably seen in the press, the hospitality trade has been hit not only by lower customer numbers, due to the cost of living crisis, but also by increased costs of everything including food, beer and energy. The Kings Arms is not immune to these pressures and we are doing everything we can to try and manage the situation, but success is not guaranteed. Pubs, restaurants and shops are closing every week and it's clear to us that many more will close this year. It's a terrible thing for the country and we do not want the Kings Arms to be one of these. We understand that times are hard, so we've tried to help by introducing special meal deals and we'll be launching our loyalty card for local residents soon. I would urge everyone in the community to make an extra effort to support the pub during the winter months, to ensure its future and to protect our amazing community asset.

Tim Fowler

Interim Chair



the  
**Kings Arms**  
at Strete

## What's On In February

Reopening Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January  
Friday Bar Club with Prize Draw. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>. From 6pm  
Quiz Night. Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>. 7pm  
Fishy Friday. Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. 5.30-8.30pm  
Valentines Menu. Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>. 5.30pm-8.30pm  
Book Club. Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>. 8pm  
Music Night. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>.  
Friday Bar Club. Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. From 6pm  
Spoken Word. Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Village Lunch. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1pm  
Fishy Friday. Friday 24<sup>th</sup>. 5.30-8.30pm

Don't forget the Six Nations Rugby Brilliant Burger Deal for selected Six Nations games.

**Support your community pub.**  
**01803 770027**

Facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete  
ww.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk



the  
**Kings Arms**  
at Strete

**Wonderful Winter Deal**

**Two for Twelve**

Available on Wednesday & Thursday evening and Friday lunch.

*Choose any two of the following main dishes for £12, or one dish for £8.*

Homemade cottage pie with peas

Homemade spaghetti Bolognese with garlic bread

Homemade sweet potato & chickpea curry with rice, mango chutney, poppadoms

Homemade chilli con carne with rice

Beer battered Start Bay cod fillet with minty mushy peas, chips, homemade tartar sauce

Ham, eggs & chips with peas

Deep fried breaded scampi & chips served with peas & homemade tartar sauce



## **Toodles**

Toodles is named for my two dogs that started my journey into grooming. It is an amalgamation of their recorded breeds; a Tibetan Terrier and a Miniature Poodle. When I first got my two rescue dogs, Poppy & Charlie, I knew nothing about grooming. The dogs I had grown up with were short haired, bathed at home and had their nails checked at the vets. Now I was responsible for pups with very different coats and I needed help.

I quickly found out that grooming salons and parlours were out of reach to the average dog owner. We were to drop off our dogs at the front desk, from where they would be whisked away to back rooms or basements. For the first few years as an owner, I gained little knowledge or understanding of grooming.

When I moved back to South Hams, I had a reduced teaching schedule and with time available I signed up for a series of evening courses. I realised that there is so much more to grooming and even the way I wash my dogs can affect their skin and coat health. The more I learned the more I wanted to learn and the following year I started my formal training.

Like me, you may be shocked to know that there are no legal requirements for any qualifications to open your own salon, nor does your business have to be registered with any professional body. I look back at some of the places I left my pups and feel so guilty, but it's hard to question the status quo.

When I opened my own salon, I wanted it to be open to my owners. Owners should be able to stay with their dog, inspect the cleanliness of the salon, ask about relevant qualifications, and get advice on grooming at home. In short, groomers and owners should be working together for the well-being of our dogs. Our shop grew out of this need as we looked to source high quality tools, shampoos, restraints, food and accessories for our owners. Buying online may be cheaper, but the value of getting expert advice and guidance in 1to1 sessions is priceless. **Sam & the Toodles Team**



# Toodles

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# DISCOVER WELLBEING

*'Be willing to be a beginner every single morning' Meister Eckhart*

With the start of another year, let's brush away the cobwebs, discover new walks and ditch the clutter to free your imagination with a spot of spring cleaning!

The article in this edition is with our very own photographer extraordinaire, Nick Shepherd, who can often be spotted on the coastal paths, camera in hand. Nick's kind and generous nature allows us to enjoy the stunning photography of the events Strete has to offer, for which we are all very grateful.

## **Oceans or mountains? Why?**

This is a very tough question for me. Holidays and any spare time, particularly in my younger years, was spent walking in Snowdonia, the Alps and the Pyrenees. There was always the challenge in getting to the top to see the beautiful views and the sheer grandeur of what was around you. If I had to choose, I would say oceans. Here, I am totally at one with nature. The seashore completely absorbs me and I would like to think my photography reflects this.

## **Do you remember the first novel you ever read?**

I certainly can't remember the title, but it was almost certainly one of the Famous Five novels by Enid Blyton. Timmy the dog was of course a favourite.

## **What is your favourite comfort food?**

This is a much easier question. I love Tunnock's Caramel Wafers! My mum always used to put one in my dad's lunch box and I quickly grew to like them as well. I am obviously not alone as this family manufacturer has been making them for well over 150 years and sell in excess of 7 million bars each week! There was a personal crisis a couple of years ago when the factory had to shut due to Covid. There was a nationwide shortage. Luckily Andrew at our shop managed to buy up the last remaining supplies which kept me going.

## **Describe the most captivating artwork you have ever seen.**

This will be a politician's answer I'm afraid! I like the work of the old masters, particularly Rembrandt for his use of light and shade, Caravaggio for his large and intense religious works and Turner's atmospheric seascapes. However, the greatest artwork is in nature. You only need to look at a mature beech tree to appreciate this.

## **What is your most-loved piece of music that you enjoy listening to?**

My answer would depend on my mood at this time. I have a wide taste in music and depending on how I feel, I may choose either progressive rock or a well-known opera aria by Puccini. My favourite rock bands are Marillion, Clepsydra and Porcupine Tree. A much-loved aria would probably be 'O Soave Fanciulla' from Puccini's *La Bohème*. Finally, I love Christmas Carols, especially 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter'.

## Pistachio Oat Squares, vegan & gluten free

### Ingredients

- 1 cup raw shelled pistachios
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/4 cup maple syrup, more for drizzling on top
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/3 cup unsweetened coconut flakes
- Additional handful of chopped pistachios for the top



### Method

1. Preheat oven to 170 C and line an 8-inch square tin with parchment paper, leaving two paper flaps on either side of the tin.
2. In a food processor, with the S blade attached, whizz together the pistachios, oats and salt for about 30 seconds, until a meal-type consistency starts to form. Drizzle in the maple syrup and olive oil while the food processor is still running. Continue until the mixture begins to come together into a crumbly, almost-wet dough.
3. Press the dough evenly into the tin and cover it with coconut flakes and the remaining pistachios. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes until the coconut is golden brown and the dough is cooked through.
4. Carefully lift the cooled, now cooked, dough out of the tin by holding the two sides of parchment paper. Cut into squares. Drizzle a little maple syrup over the top for extra sweetness.

Visit [www.mindbodyandme.co.uk](http://www.mindbodyandme.co.uk)  
or contact Trish on 07976 269208  
For current classes in Mindfulness and Meditation



### **Walk & Notice**

Take a walk and notice the beauty that you see; a gratitude and appreciation practice that can elevate your mood.

Take your time to explore a park, really look at your favourite tree and notice something new; a practice that will spark creativity.

Gaze at the shapes that nature has created, as well as the spaces between them, reflecting on what the Japanese call "ma", the "negative space" between forms that is just as important as the objects themselves.

As you walk, notice what has changed and is changing as you pass the same spot. Take some time to sit in nature, connecting with its rhythm.



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## STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held on 15/12/22 at Strete Parish Hall

Minutes taken by Councillor G Campbell in absence of a clerk

---

**PRESENT:** Cllr Peter Hales (PH) (Chairman); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Kate Gill (KG); Cllr Ian Cumberland (IC); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); District Councillor Richard Foss (RF); One member of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** The new owner of Blossoms Pasture introduced himself and was welcomed.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:** No official report in Councillor's absence.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT:**

RF reported that there will be an SLP meeting at end of January/early February. There will be an adjustment of Strete Line rock protection asap.

Memorial land situation is unresolved despite meetings, suggestion that land be given to village has been put forward.

SHams DC are looking carefully at the implications of vaping dangers for young people in particular. Urging bringing rules in line with tobacco

Recycling is going well and there is a good take up of brown bin contracts. There is the possibility of free bases being laid for village composting sites.

Access to Strete Gate parking improvements being pursued, but no news on extra parking.

RF suggested that the major road closure at Modbury may bring more lorries onto A379.

RF asked to investigate slow planning enforcement process – caused by staff shortage?.

**1 APOLOGIES:** received from Councillor Newman and DCC Councillor Julian Brazil

**2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING ON THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER**

Minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST :**

IC declared an interest re buddle hole contracts

**4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS:**

**Planning applications consulted on. To discuss and respond to South Hams District Council on:**

Planning application consultation (ref: <3889/22/VAR>) Strete Blossoms Pasture  
Decision to support.

Planning application consultation (ref: < 3431/22/FUL >) Strete Driftwood House Decision to  
comment on possible need for reflective glass and a construction management plan.

Planning application consultation (ref ?) Sandpipers Hynetown Rd Strete.  
Decision support with comment Construction management plan needed.

**5 CLERK'S REPORT:** Not available – new clerk awaited.

**6 CHAIR'S REPORT:**

Written report received. The chair reported in addition, news on the appointment of a new clerk. Advertising in various places had resulted in a serious application from a well qualified candidate. He was unable to attend the meeting but is expected to be invited to the next meeting. A couple of other possible options to follow up had been given by RF and LN.

**7 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

Discussion re Shams Society circulation re government plans to give minister power to ignore local plans and neighbourhood plans. Seen to be a worrying possibility.

**8 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS:**

Invoices for recent road sweeping and grass cutting since May have not been received.

**9 REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS;**

No additional comments except IC reported a footpath sign on coastal path below Strete has fallen down.

**10 FINANCE:**

A new auditor will need to be appointed as existing one has resigned.

**Budget:**

The draft budget was fully examined and adjustments were made to grass cutting, Playpark expenditure, possible coronation expenses and WiFi costs.

A new defib payment becomes due in 2023 October, @ £1800 + VAT.

There were possible alternatives, which DR would examine.

**Precept:**

The Chair presented a summary of previous expenditure and draft expenditure and income for 2023/4. Discussion re the suggested figures in draft plan suggesting a 5% rise in the precept.

No need was seen for extra considerable expenditure and as both current and reserve balances were seen to be healthy, this would seem to be a modest increase.

This was unanimously approved.

**11 CHEQUES:**

A cheque was written for the Parish Hall for two meetings. £50

**12 CORRESPONDENCE:**

Earlier discussion re parishioner query re traffic using Vicarage Lane as a rat run during road works had been passed to JB and answered

Letter received from Savills announcing that the sale of the Strete Estate has been completed. The new owner is Mr Nigel Spoke.

**13 NEXT MEETING:**

To be held on Thursday January 19th at 7pm in Strete Parish Hal

Signed as a True Record

Peter Hales, Chairman.....Date: 19th January 2023

## Advertising in Stretewise

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

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# **NEW MEMBERS NEEDED!**



## **Gentlemen**

**Are you sociable? Do you enjoy male company and getting out of the house in the day to meet new friends?**

**Stoke Fleming and District Probus Club is actively recruiting new members for our regular meetings at the Stoke Lodge Hotel.**

**We are a mixed group of friendly chaps who meet on the second and fourth Wednesday mornings of each month.**

**We always have interesting talks from diverse expert speakers on many varied subjects. After the talk, we adjourn to the bar for a drink and a chat, and at one meeting each month we have lunch together at the Hotel.**

**Does that sound interesting? - Come and give us a try.**

**Please call John Light on 01803 834861 for more information and to arrange to be welcomed to a trial meeting**

## PROBUS CLUB OF STOKE FLEMING AND DISTRICT

### Where friendliness matters above all else

The Probud Club of Stoke Fleming and District has been in existence since 1984. It was initiated at the Stoke Lodge Hotel, Stoke Fleming which has been its 'home' ever since. We meet fortnightly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The meetings start at 10.30am with coffee followed by a speaker at 11am and on the first meeting of the month we also have lunch at 12.30pm. The following programme for February until July 2023 is as below:



<b>February 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>BRIAN GOLDING</b>	The History of Weather Forecasting
<b>February 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Coffee</b>	<b>JEREMY WILSON</b>	History of Tea
<b>March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>JOHN BRYANT</b>	Bioethics & Genetic Engineering
<b>March 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Coffee</b>	<b>RAY HOLLARD</b>	Community Benefit Society (Community owned Renewable Energy in South Devon)
<b>April 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>DAVID RAMSDEN</b>	Climate & Ecological Crisis. What's all the fuss?
<b>April 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Coffee</b>	<b>MARK COOPER</b>	Royal Navy Submarines
<b>May 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>STEPHANIE AUSTIN</b>	Turning to crime in Retirement (an author of several crime novels set in and around Ashburton)
<b>MAY 24<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>MEMBERS – AWAY DAY</b>		
<b>June 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>TBA</b>	Devon Air Ambulance
<b>June 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Coffee</b>	<b>TRISH AND GEORGE ROBERTSON</b>	A Musical Interlude
<b>July 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>PAM WILLS</b>	Evacuation of Villages in South Hams 1941 – My Story

**Why not be our guest?** Our Club is keen to attract new members.  
**Come** and join us and receive a warm welcome from our members.

For more information please feel free to contact **John Light** on **834861** or email [johnlight1@gmail.com](mailto:johnlight1@gmail.com)

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# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

## *Can You Help?*

Make Strete Village Day happen on the 5th August 2023

Would you:

- Help manage a stall or bake a cake.
- Help with parking and gate receipts.
- Help with organising children's games.
- Help erecting and dismantling marquees.

We are also looking for Sponsors and/or offers  
of Draw Prizes

The next Strete Village Day planning meeting  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm**  
at the Strete Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

Or give your contact details to Penny 771005  
email: [p.g.penhale@hotmail.com](mailto:p.g.penhale@hotmail.com)

## Stretwise Word Search

Bluebell Tulip Snowdrop Daffodil Crocus Viola  
Cyclamen Primrose Hellebore Hare Robin  
Catkin Blackthorn Anemone Magpie Brimstone  
Hazel Camellia Forsythia Cherry Magnolia

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Devon County Councillor	Julian Brazil	01548 511 109
District Councillor	Richard Foss	01548 511 234
Doctors (Chillington)	Chillington Health Centre	01548 580 214
Doctors (Dartmouth)		01803 832 212
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	Helen Darch	01803 770 018
Parish Hall Committee	Penny Penhale (Chairman)	01803 771 005
Parish Hall Committee	Dani Brien (Treasurer/Bookings)	07841505797
Probus	John Light	johnlight1@gmail.com
RSPCA		01803 859 695
Short Mat Bowls Secretary	Gary Taylor	garytaylor@hotmail.com
Strete Social Club	Dorothy Teal	01803 770 982
South West Water	Report leaks	0800 230 0561
St John the Baptist Church	Fr Sunny Paul	01803 853 406
St Michaels Church	Trish Robertson	07976 269208
Strete Chapel	Derek & Gill Harris - Tony & Jan Atkins	01803 770 256
	Tony & Jan Atkins	01548 580 227
Stretewise Editor	Dave Jones	01803 770 059
Totnes Ring and Ride		01803 867 878
Tree Warden	Ian Cumberlidge	01803 770 020
<b>Local Emergency Services</b>		
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 202 082
Totnes Hospital	01803 862 622	Kingsbridge 01546 852 349
<b>Strete Post Office and Stores</b>		01803 770 225
<b>Stoke Fleming Library Village Hall</b> John Lewis		01803 770 075
Monday 3.00pm to 5.00pm, Tuesday 10.30pm to 12.30pm, Thursday 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Or 24 hours at <a href="http://devon.gov.uk/libraries">devon.gov.uk/libraries</a>		
<b>TOTNES &amp; DARTMOUTH RING AND RIDE</b>		
Phone between 10:00am and 12:00 midday		01803 867 878

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

Dartmouth Police Station

**Mobile:** 07736 622761  
**Email:** ollie.abercrombie@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk



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#### **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.

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