



# STRETEWISE

The Village Magazine

**Price £1**

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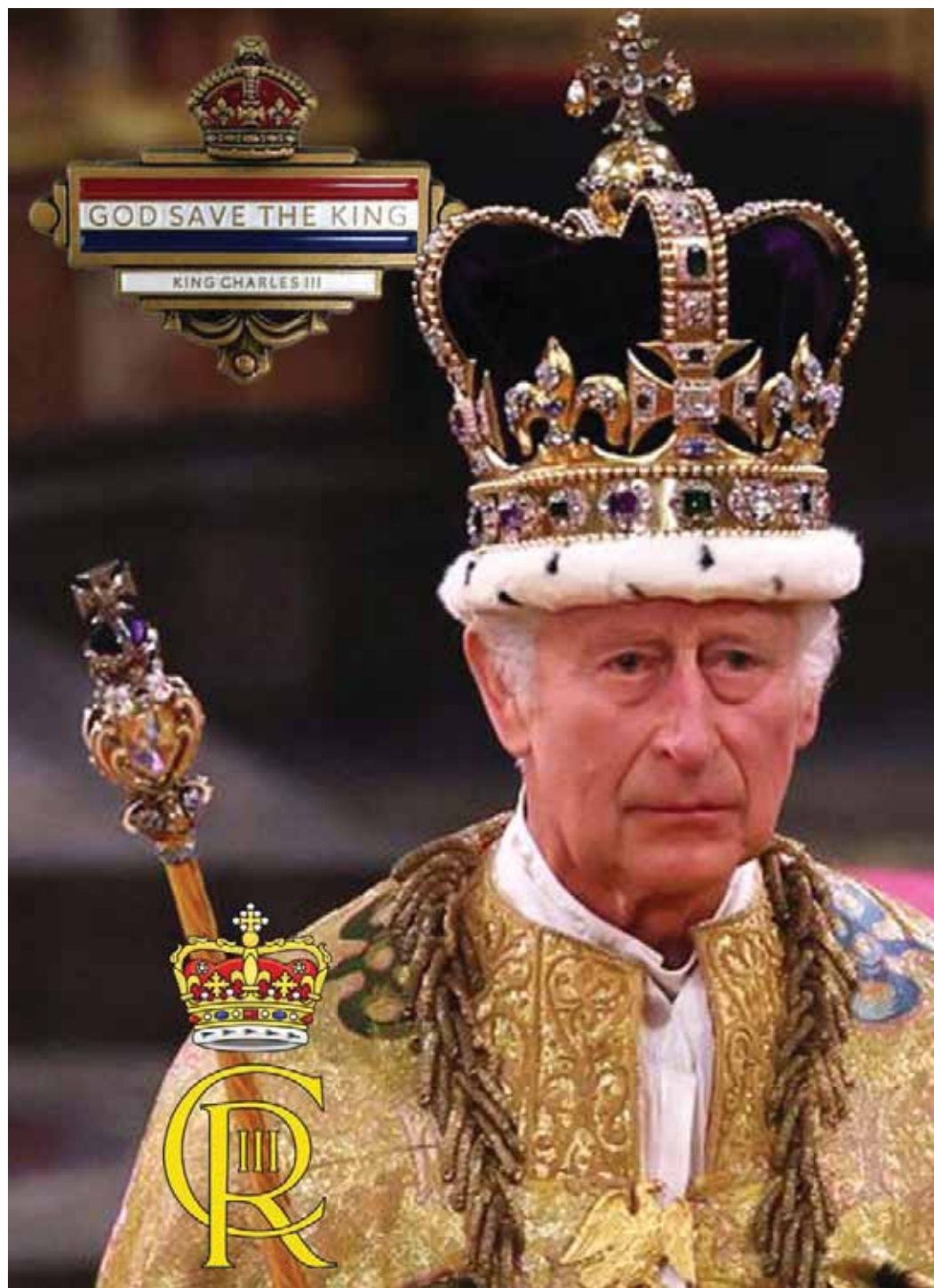
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**WESTMINSTER ABBEY**



**THE CORONATION OF  
THEIR MAJESTIES  
KING CHARLES III  
AND  
QUEEN CAMILLA**

Saturday, 6th May, 2023  
at 11.00 a.m.









*A special Commemoration  
service to celebrate the  
Coronation of  
King Charles III*

St. Michaels Church, Strete

At 11 o'clock on the 7th May 2023



# St. Michael's Church Strete

Commemoration Service to Celebrate the  
Coronation Of King Charles iii

A special coronation commemorative service was arranged by the churchwardens of St Michael's, Trish Robinson and Vincent Dingley.

The church was beautifully decorated with the theme of red, white and blue being reflected in the flowers and the beautifully designed order of service. The pedestal by the font, arranged by Dorothy Teal, was stunning.

Vincent led the happy and imaginative celebration which incorporated some of the King's passions and interests. The service began with Trish on violin and Karen White on piano playing the beautiful "Apres un reve" by Gabriel Faure. In the form of a dream, it reflects two imaginary lovers who are head over heels in love before being brought back to harsh reality as they awake. I wonder if King Charles is looking at the harsh reality of his role now that his "dream" has come true?

More references To the King were made through a reading by Emily Robertson of "The Boy who would be King" by Michael Morpurgo and a beautiful poem "A Curlew Calls" narrated by Trudy Rothwell. The curlew is the King's favourite bird and the poem by Richard Longstaff seemed particularly apt.

Richard Soans read an enlightening poem by the Dalai Lama "The Paradox of our age" which highlighted the fact that although we have so many things today, our lives are in some ways more empty and poorer. Richard also read out a very clever piece "Quoting Shakespeare" originally written by Bernard Levin. Shakespeare is a great favourite of the King and this reading starkly illustrated just how many phrases we use in everyday conversation not realising or appreciating their derivation.

Ukraine is of course still very much in our thoughts, and it was very special to have a Ukrainian citizen, Volodya, to lead "A prayer for Ukraine".

Everybody enjoyed the coffee, cake and a chat after the service where we could reflect on the wonderful occasion we have witnessed and just how lucky we are to have such a wonderful church and churchwardens. **Nick Shepherd**





# Strete Chapel

Greetings from the fellowship to all in the village!



We are continuing to meet every Sunday at 11am in the chapel building. All are welcome.

Together this past month we enjoyed many uplifting services and the celebration of the King's coronation. We marked this through a shared lunch on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May and had 29 people in attendance. The food was a highlight and featured the coronation quiche and coronation chicken. Thank you to all those who contributed to making this a great event.



During the service at Westminster Abbey there was a theme of service and following in Jesus' example. At the very beginning a child addressed the King by saying, 'Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings.' In response the King said 'In His name and after His example I come not to be served but to serve.'

What an example Jesus was to us all. In the book of Philippians we are told...

*'Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.'*

This is a challenge to us all but one which was perfectly fulfilled by Jesus Christ. In doing so '... God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

King Charles III was crowned in this country as our earthly king we must remember as he did that it is Jesus Christ who is proclaimed as the King of kings and Lord of lords.



## Young Searchers



Young Searchers is a Christian children's club based on teaching the Bible through stories, games and craft. We are meeting every Thursday (term time only) from 6-7pm in the chapel. All are welcome!

To those that may have known her we are sad to share that Stella Buckpitt passed away suddenly in April of this year. She was a valued member of the chapel who always took the time to speak and connect with others and had a deep love of the countryside. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband and family.





Thank you to Katherine Baxter for permission to show her map in the magazine.  
Prints are available to buy from Etsy <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/Katherinemapmaker>





## **APRIL AND MAY EVENTS**

### **SEA SHANTIES AND SUPPER EVENING**

This was a very successful evening.

The Hall was decorated with red, white and blue bunting (all hand-made by members of the village), tables were set and the appetising aroma of chicken casserole was gently wafting from the kitchen. The Kingsbridge Shanty Singers arrived and set up ready to perform. Guests began to arrive, find a table, buy drinks from the bar and settle down to an entertaining evening. Although we had been expecting the full shanty crew of 9, only 5 were present, because of ill-health, family commitments, etc. However, the 5 put on a splendid singing performance with anecdotes, stories and information in between the songs.

We had a break after about an hour for a 2-course supper of chicken casserole or a vegetarian alternative followed by fruit crumble and ice cream. All the food was delicious and we only had one complaint: where was the bread to mop up the gorgeous gravy? This will be remedied next time!

After supper there was more singing and the raffle was drawn. The evening finished with the whole room joining in with Sloop John B. We are planning to hold another Sea Shanty and Supper evening near the 2024 Easter holidays.

If you missed this year's, keep an eye open for next year's date!

### **CORONATION COFFEE AND CAKE MORNING WITH 2 LOCAL FILMS**

Requests went out for homemade cakes and, as usual, the village did not disappoint. The number and variety of cakes was magnificent and many thanks to all those who baked for us.

Once people had settled, Ron Howell began the film show. Both films had been made by Ian Phillips and the first was narrated by Jean Parnell as she walked around the village. The second, called Babes in Rubber, was a take on a silent movie showing four local ladies venturing into the sea at Strete Gate in rubber wetsuits. Some synchronised swimming also took place! There was music to accompany the action and dialogue printed at the bottom of the screen. Much interest in old Strete was shown so we are hoping to hold another film session - with coffee and cake, of course!

## **AUGUST EVENT**

**SAT 5th \* SAT 5th \* SAT 5th \* SAT 5th**

**VILLAGE DAY \* VILLAGE DAY \* VILLAGE DAY \* VILLAGE DAY**

### **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE**

**read all the adverts in this edition of Stretewise about this very important day in the Strete calendar. We haven't held our special day since 2019 and really hope to make 2023 extra special. More volunteers are needed to help set up and then clear away.**

**There are marquees and gazebos erect. All tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, tablecloths, teapots, tea urns, etc have to be transported from and back to the village hall.**

**This is a Strete Village Day for the people of Strete and our visitors but it cannot happen without your help.**

**Please contact me if you are able to help. Penny 771005 p.g.penhale@hotmail.com**

**THANK YOU**



# Coronation Tea Party



*Strete Social Club* **2nd May:** With the Coronation of King Charles 111 a few days away our theme for our Tuesday meeting was a Coronation tea – an indoor street party for our members! The village hall had already been festooned with red, white and blue bunting and the tables were beautifully set out for an afternoon tea complimented by Union Jack serviettes. Lead by Colleen and her team there were an array of cake stands filled with sandwiches and all manner of cakes. Organiser, Dorothy Teal opened the gathering by asking 2 members to recount their meeting with King Charles. Up first was Janet who had met the King as recently as January. Her son-in-law was in the Services and had been given an award and was allowed to take 3 guests to the ceremony at Windsor Castle. Janet was invited to join her daughter and grandson who was 7 years of age. They were shown into a room where champagne and elderflower drinks and nibbles were served. Her grandson was asked by an equerry to pass the nibbles round and ate quite a few himself! As these were cleared away Janet's grandson said he was very thirsty. The equerry heard this and her grandson was delighted and amazed to be



presented with a drink on a silver salver. The ceremony proceeded and Janet said she met the King and was impressed with how easy he was to chat to and his enthusiasm for the future. She came away feeling that he was going to be so good for the country.

The second member, Rita, then told us about the time she met the King when he was then a young Prince of Wales. As we know he was a keen polo player and she and her husband were invited by friends to a charity polo match. However, she was not expecting to meet the prince but was amazed when they were all lined up and presented to him. Like Janet she said he immediately put her ease. She met him a couple times more and was impressed by his presence and charisma.

Dorothy thanked them both and the buffet tea began - conversation, cake and tea was much enjoyed. Derek Darch held a special raffle with coronation biscuits and mugs as prizes and the meeting finished with our local photographer, Nick Shepherd, taking a group picture.



# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

**Saturday 5th August 12.00-16.30**

Mewstone Paddock, Totnes Road, Strete, TQ6 0RU

**Free Parking**

★ **FAMILY DOG SHOW** ★  
★ **and DOG AGILITY** ★  
★

Registration at 15.00pm

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**£2 Per Adult**  
Children Free

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FALCONRY** 

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& Her Cheeky Chatty Puppets  
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Ventriloquist & Puppeteer

**ALPACAS**

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★ **ASH RESCUE CENTRE PONIES** ★

Burgers and Sausages

**BBQ**

+ Vegan Burgers

 **PIMM'S**  
**Tent** 

**Tea Room**

Home  
Made  
Cakes



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**Bric-a-Brac**



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STALL**


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BOATS

# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

**Saturday 5th August 12.00-16.30**

Mewstone Paddock, Totnes Road, Strete, TQ6 0RU

**Free Parking**

## **Family Dog Show & Dog Agility**

**Main Arena at 3.15pm**

**Judge Mrs Shona Sanders.**

**£1 per class. Pay before each class at the ringside.  
4 rosettes per class.**

### **Classes:**

- 1:** Dog with the most waggiest Tail.
- 2:** Handsomest Dog
- 3:** Prettiest Bitch
- 4:** Dog the judge would most like to take home.
- 5:** Best child handler  
16 years and under

### **Please be a responsible dog owner:**

Clean up after your dog

Provide it with a drink

Keep it on a lead at all times

Do not leave your dog in a hot car

**ENJOY THE DOG SHOW**



# Strete Social Club

## SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMME 2023

Meetings are usually held in Strete Parish Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM		
March	7th	Watercolour Painting - Juliet Collins
	21st	Reflections - Sally Green
April	4th	Feet First - Sam Hodges
	18th	Whimsical Stories - Suzy & John Miles
May	2nd	Coronation Tea
	16th	Cinema Outing at the Flavel - tbc
	30th	Coleton Fishacre - Diane Riddell
June	13th	Avon Mill Afternoon Tea Outing
	27th	Icing Flowers Demonstration - Carole Wills
July	11th	Village Life as a Girl - Pam Wills
	25th	Home produce stall

**4th April:** With Dorothy leading our social club this afternoon we were pleased to welcome Sam, a chiropodist, who trades under the name of 'Feet First'.

Sam came into this profession later in life and set up her mobile chiropody practice and does a session in the clinic at Dartmouth.

She began her talk by informing us of the number of bones in our feet and how important our feet are to us and sadly the part of our body that does get neglected. Good feet starts from babyhood and how important it is to wear the correct shoes from the start which could alleviate any problems as we get older. Some feet problems can be hereditary.

Feet First with Sam  
07761 930917

She answered a lot of questions like fungal nail infections and the different kinds of treatment that was available and how to look after the feet to avoid this and athletes

foot. She showed us a gadget, that was quite cheap and available on the internet, which had a towelling head and used to dry between the toes so no moisture is left which fungal infections thrive on. How do you put your socks on when you can no longer get down to do this was one question asked. The answer being you can purchase gadgets to assist with this. One member explain how a common plastic carrier bag with handles could be used a very economical way to help with this problem.

At the end of her session she gave each member present a 'goody bag' with a pen, foot shaped key ring and a moisturised wipe along with her business card. A very interesting afternoon when members learnt a lot about our feet. She was thanked by Joan after which Colleen and Chris served our welcome cups of tea.





*Strete Social Club* **18th APRIL 2023:** Dorothy Teal, Joint Organiser, welcomed everyone to our second April meeting. It was lovely to see members out on a fresh spring afternoon.

Our excellent Speakers for the afternoon were Suzy and John Miles who had come over from Brixham to share some light-hearted readings and poems. They have both been writing poetry for some years and are actively involved in amateur dramatics.

This showed in their very entertaining delivery of extracts from *Under Milk Wood* by Dylan Thomas together with a selection of their poetry. We were treated to some saucy renditions of Welsh courtship which raised a giggle from our members. There were more smiley faces for John's poems about the perils of looking after your area as a pensioner, with stories of litter picking and battling dog owners. His poem of a boy going to his first hop – an old fashioned dance where the boys were on one side of the room surveying the girls along the opposite wall - prompted memories for many of us of hoping we would be picked by the one that we fancied! Suzy read love stories of courting magpies and girls falling in love with Morris Dancers. Altogether an amusing and entertaining afternoon ably delivered by two lovely people.



Tea and delicious biscuits were served by Rita Mansfield and Chris Burne and the raffle was ably run as always by Derek Darch. It was another enjoyable sociable afternoon.

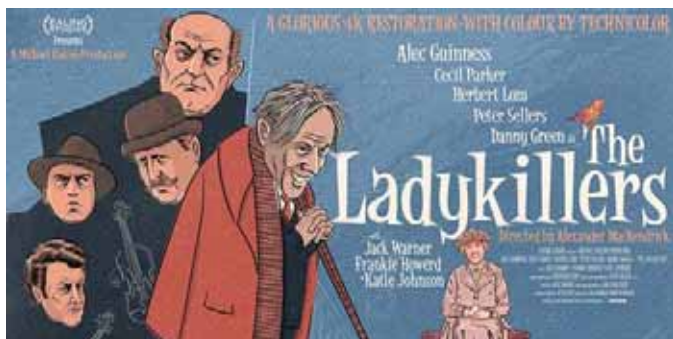
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**16<sup>th</sup> May 2023:** For our meeting in mid-May we had a change from our usual format with Karen Hales organising another trip to the Flavel Arts Centre in Dartmouth for a film.

Several intrepid members set off early to enjoy a special showing of *The Lady Killers*. It was a good old fashioned Ealing Comedy scarily made in Britain in 1955 – but at least it was in colour! We all tried to name film stars in the cast including Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers, Cecil Parker and Herbert Lom. An excellent black comedy crime film. Everyone was full of admiration for the star Mrs Wilberforce played by Katie Johnston when aged 76 – a sweet little old lady just like many of us - I confess I had to research who she was! Would that I had her memory.

An entertaining morning.

We then enjoyed a delicious lunch in the Flavel Café before driving home in the sunshine!



# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

**Saturday 5th August 12.00-16.30**

Mewstone Paddock, Totnes Road, Strete, TQ6 0RU

## Children's Fancy Dress Competition



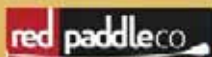
the theme  
"Countryside"

What will you come as?

Prizes will be awarded at 12.30pm in the arena



Sponsored by



# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

## Bake for Village Day



**Please deliver donations of Cakes, Scones,  
Pasties etc by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 6.00pm  
to: Juliet at Sea Barton, Vicarage Lane**

**All offerings gratefully received**

**Contact: 01803 770432**



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



Our Village Hall was once again a hive of kids activity on the 31<sup>st</sup> March. Incy laid on another craft and disco evening to help get everyone in the Easter mood as they broke up for the school holidays.

Having learnt from the first event for Valentines, Els and her team divided the hall up into 2 areas. On entering the Hall children from Incy's local after school clubs could show their parents their work, so there was a lively display of animal paintings along with vibrantly painted papier mache bowls and other art work. Next to these displays were a series of tables set up for yet more bursts of creativity, this time with an easter theme. The range of sparkly floppy rabbit ear headbands was a sight to behold – the Hall had never seen so many 'jewels' on display.

The second half of the hall began as a calm zone for parents to have a coffee and catch up, whilst their youngsters were busy crafting. However, that peace was short lived. Once the lights were dimmed, the disco ball began to spin and the music was turned on allowing the kids to bust some moves that would make any parent proud!

For those who needed an energy boost pizza and cookies were available, and it's fair to say there weren't many crumbs left.

Our thanks to the fabulous team of helpers, including Emma from Salcombe Candles, Penny from The Little Blue Budgie in Totnes, and Bec of Sea and Sen. Special mention also to our junior helper, Rozie, who stayed to carefully pick up as many 'jewels' from the floor as she could find (she found A LOT!)

The next Craft and Disco event will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the Summer Holidays. You can contact Els directly at [Hello@incybox.com](mailto:Hello@incybox.com), or keep an eye on the noticeboard outside the Hall.





**BEACH CAFÉ OPEN DAILY SERVING  
BREAKFAST, LUNCH & LOTS MORE**

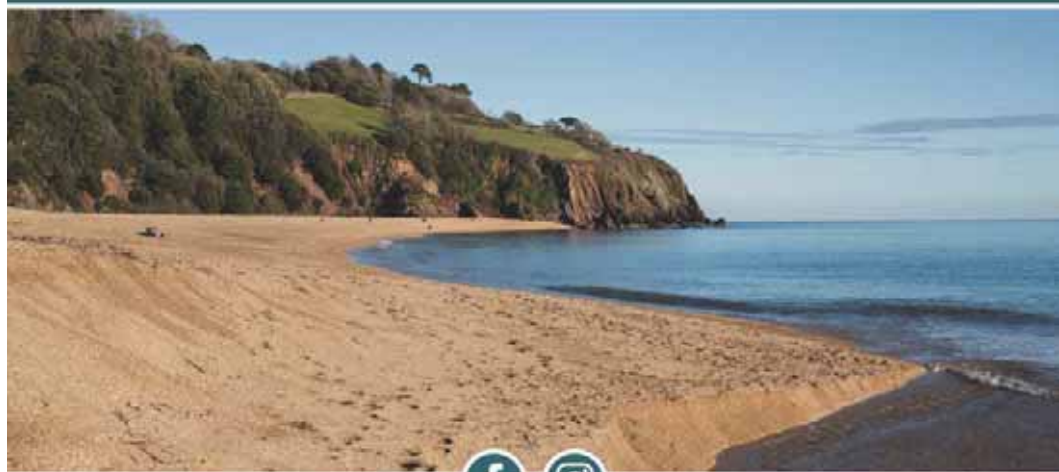
**LIVE MUSIC EVERY SATURDAY MORNING**

**FIRE & FEAST NIGHTS**

**BEACH SHOP OPEN DAILY**

**PADDLEBOARD HIRE, LESSONS AND TRIPS**

**BEACH SAUNA COMING SOON**



**LIKE & FOLLOW US FOR EXCLUSIVE NEWS & EVENTS**

# Volunteers Needed!

Devon Air Ambulance



We're looking for dedicated individuals to join our team of fantastic volunteers in our mission to help save lives and have a positive impact in our local communities.



## CAN YOU HELP US ...

- in our shops
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- support events
- deliver community talks
- at Head Office

## GET IN TOUCH FOR A CHAT & FURTHER INFORMATION



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www.daat.org



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*southhamspropertyimprovements.com*



After a pretty dismal Winter, we're finally beginning to see people venture out again. Trade in our community pub is very weather dependent and the recent sunshine vital, as we continue to try to get the pub onto a solid footing after the difficulties of the last couple of years.

There were some great events in May.

The month started with the boisterous arrival of a rum bunch of pirates at our annual Pirate Day. The little pirates ran amok before Pirate Ron calmed them down with tales of gold. There was also a whole weekend of Coronation celebrations including a very successful supper, some great live music from the Boatnotes on the Sunday as the sun blazed, and in the Monday rain there was BBQ food inside. Only in England.

Looking ahead to June, it's Father's Day and whilst the mothers got a free glass of fizz in March, the Dad's get a free pint (check terms)

There's an Open Mic Night on the 8th, the last until towards the end of the year. If you've been itching to play some tunes this is your chance. Or just pop along for a range of entertaining music and a chance to sing/hum/mumble along.

We're also going to try something new in June, a bingo night on Wednesday 21st. Details are still being finalised but it will be a lively night and great fun.

Most regular events take a break as we head into High Summer but there's the return of our famous monthly Summer BBQs & Live Music Saturdays, starting on June 24<sup>th</sup>, with more to follow in July and August.

In July there's also an Art Fair on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with local artists presenting their work. At Village Day on August 5<sup>th</sup> the Kings Arms team will be manning the beer stall at the event and afterwards we are planning a 'Back at the Pub' event once Village Day has finished.

If you have not been to the pub in a while the pub desperately needs everyone's support if Strete is to retain its village pub and with the sun out and so many great events on now would be a good time to visit.

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, go to the website [www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](http://www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk) or just call the pub.

Opening hours: As we head into Summer, we hope to open up to seven days a week if we can staff accordingly. If you know of anyone who might be interested working at the pub, please get in touch. We are particularly looking for kitchen staff.

For detailed hours please call the pub or follow Kings Arms at Strete on Facebook.

To book **01803 770027** or email [bookings@kingsarmsatstrete](mailto:bookings@kingsarmsatstrete)

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

the  
**Kings Arms**  
at Strete

**What's On In June**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Open Mic Night  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Friday Bar Club drinks promo.  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Quiz  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>, Father's Day. A free pint for dad!  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. NEW! Bingo Night  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>. Book Club  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Curry Night.  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>. Summer BBQ with live music.  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup>. Fishy Friday.

**Support your community pub.**  
01803 770027

Facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete  
www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk





## Hosepipe Ban

The South West Water region is still seeing the impact of last year's exceptionally dry weather and reservoir levels are lower than normal for this time of year. South West Water is acting now to protect water resources and the environment, to help rivers and reservoirs to recharge ahead of the summer months.

### **There are however Discretionary exceptions:**

Customers who meet the criteria below for a Discretionary Exception can continue to use water without having to make representation to South West Water Limited to receive permission to use water for the following restricted uses. It is requested that customers that meet the requirements for a Discretionary Exception use water wisely and adopt water efficient practices.

The criteria for a Discretionary Exception include:

Watering a garden attached to a domestic dwelling, or watering plants on domestic premises using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered to our Priority Services Register, or on our WaterSure tariff for medical reasons

Cleaning a private motor-vehicle using a hosepipe or specific low water use apparatus such as pressure washers by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered to our Priority Services Register, or on our WaterSure tariff for medical reasons

Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered to our Priority Services Register, or on our WaterSure tariff for medical reasons

Cleaning paths or patios, or other artificial outdoor surfaces, using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered to our Priority Services Register, or on our WaterSure tariff for medical reasons

Filling or maintaining a domestic pond using a hosepipe by people who hold a Blue Badge or by people registered to our Priority Services Register, or on our WaterSure tariff for medical reasons

Use of an approved drip or trickle irrigation watering system, fitted with a pressure reducing valve and a timer, that are not handheld, that place water drip by drip directly onto the soil surface or beneath the soil surface, without any surface run off or dispersion of water through the air using a jet or mist

Commercial customers that use hosepipes in the course of their day-to-day cleaning business operation (for example hand car washing, window cleaning, graffiti removal), excluding the watering of domestic gardens

Cleaning a private motor vehicle using specific low water use apparatus such as pressure washers

Watering food crops at domestic premises or private allotments using a hosepipe

Watering newly laid turf using a hosepipe for the first 28 days

Watering newly-bought plants for the first 14 days

Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe to remove graffiti

Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe to prevent or control the spread of non-native and/or invasive species

Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain to operate water features with religious significance

Filling or maintaining a new domestic swimming pool

Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool with covers to minimise evaporative losses when not in use

Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool with water conservation and/or recycling systems approved by South West Water

Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming pool that is subject to significant repair and renovation

Cleaning walls or windows of domestic premises using a hosepipe for the removal of graffiti or where very low water use technologies are employed and approved by South West Water

Cleaning paths or patios or other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe for the removal of graffiti or where very low water use technologies are employed and approved by South West Water.

### **How do I water my garden if I can't use a hosepipe?**

Watering your garden can be done in many different ways, and is best done in the very early morning or at dusk when it is much cooler.

You can water your garden with:

- Tap water using watering cans
- Greywater from washing up and showers (soap doesn't affect the health of your plants)
- Rainwater collected in barrels, waterbutts and even troughs! You can connect a hosepipe to a water butt (if the pressure will allow).
- You may water 'standard' trees planted in the last three planting seasons that cannot reasonably be hand-watered, or watered with non-potable water. A 'standard' tree is a tree with a single stem with clear trunk [no side branches] for at least 1.8m above the ground.
- You may use a hosepipe to water newly laid turf in domestic gardens for 28 days after planting/laying. This is to help it establish, and not doing so would affect the health and condition of the grass. To be able to water for the 28 days, you must be able to provide evidence of when the turf was laid. Failure to do so, and/or watering for longer than 28 days will be considered a breach of the ban.

Information from the South West Water web site 22/04/23

# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Linda Fox 07714 797777  
9 CHESTNUT PARK BEESON TQ7 2HN



## MINUTES OF MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT 7.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr Peter Hales (PH) Chair, Cllr Ralph Clark (RC), Cllr Graham Campbell (GC) Cllr Kate Gill (KG), Cllr David Rothwell (DR), Cllr Louise Newman (LN), County Cllr Julian Brazil (JB) Helen Darch, Linda Fox Clerk

### COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Julian Brazil entered at 8.50 and gave his apologies; he had been in an election meeting at Follaton House. He reported that here is nothing new to add since March, the extra money for roads of £9 million received from government was still far short of the estimated £180 million which is what is needed to repair the major backlog of work. JB suggested that the PC should put together a wish list of works, but the best option would be to put forward works on the A379.

### DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Foss offered his apologies and did not attend. There was no report from him due to the forth coming election purdah.

1) **APOLOGIES:** District Cllr Richard Foss and Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC)

2) **MINUTES OF MEETING ON MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>**

They were approved and signed as a true record.

3) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

DR, Planning Air source heat pump application number 4463/23/FUL

4) **PLANNING AND PLANNING MATTERS**

RC reported that on the Blindwells site the developer has said that he intends to re-start shortly but he did not indicate a revised finish date.

Reference: 0332/23/HHO

Proposal: Householder application for loft conversion with rooflights – debated and supported by SPC

Reference: 4463/23/FUL

Proposal: Air source heat pump installation – debated and supported by SPC

5) **FINANCE**

PH welcomed Linda Fox to take over as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023. The following payments were approved:

Cheque raised for the March Parish Hall hire and 50% of Hall wi-fi cost Invoice 3/23 £40.00. It was noted that the wi-fi element amounted to £120.00 a year for the PC.

NALC affiliation fee £142.27 (Cheque to be raised)

Cheque raised for £500.00 Begin by Starting CiC (River Gara Water Vole Project)

**Action Point** Linda to collate and write cheques ready for signature prior for next month PCM – LF  
(c)Monitoring

The unaudited annual statement for 2022/23 was provided by Helen Darch and reviewed.  
The following points were noted:

Grass cutting. Greenspace annual cost was estimated at £3210 last May, but at the end of the financial year it is £1667 under spent. Invoices for approximately another £1600 still need to be submitted (nothing has been received since last summer). **Action Points:-**(i) Helen/Linda to make provision to carry forward on cash flow. (ii) GC to write to Greenspace and request they submit their back invoices in order to clear payments.

Mark Rowe invoices (the road sweeping contract), still no PC cheques have been presented for payment to the bank, despite being sent out months ago. – **Action Point:** RC offered to chase.

Buddle Holes – it was noted that costs for this item have increased significantly, and this was well over-budget in 22/23. PH noted that a formal tender will need to be undertaken by the new PC, and with a view to this, 95% of the regular maintenance work has been collated and mapped as a scope of work.

#### (d) 2023/24 Budget situation

It was agreed by the Councillors that the 23/24 budget as formulated for the precept did not need to be altered at the present time but would need to review and adjustment after the summer.

#### (e) Strete Indoor Bowls Club

A letter had been received requesting a contribution towards the cost of £3000 to replace the bowling mats. The letter pointed out the social benefits that the club brought to the village and expressed the hope that replacement equipment would help draw in new members. The PC unanimously agreed that a contribution of £500 would be made. Peter Hales would write to confirm. Cheque to be raised.

### 6) UPDATE ON CONTRACTS -None

### 7) VILLAGE DAY and CORONATION DAY

There was no update on Village Day preparations.

Re the Coronation Celebrations, RC reported that a full weekend of events is planned at the Kings Arms as previously discussed. Tickets are still available at the pub for the King's Supper on the Saturday.

**8) SLAPTON LINE PARTNERSHIP** KG, Face to face talks with Anthony Magnall were postponed. Nothing further to report. Remove from the standing agenda.

**9) STRETE GATE & MEMORIAL** Slapton Memorial nothing further to report. PH felt that there would never be an agreement between the Parishes and Field Studies Council – the Councillors agreed to take the item off the standing agenda.

**10) SECTION 106 LAND MATTERS** LN, said she had a conversation with Pam and no application has been submitted yet, PH suggested we start to look at possible improvements to the playpark, as things are more settled now with land ownership and we should be more comfortable to invest. **Action Point.** IC to investigate further.

DR offered to run the lawn mower over the grass as it needed a cut, it was far too long for the children to play ballgames on. DR just needs confirmation that it will be OK to borrow the large mower first.

### 11) OTHER MATTERS NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

**Litter Picking.** LN said she was willing to continue to head up the village litter picking, despite standing down from the PC. Currently the village borrow tools from a third party. It was suggested that the village needs its own tools – a cost of around £180.00 + VAT for 5 tools. It was agreed that Louise could purchase and claim back via expenses and submit a VAT invoice addressed to Strete PC. The invoice needs to be made out to Strete Parrish Council in-order to reclaim back the VAT. The PC would pick up 50% of the invoice. Currently, the PC has nowhere to store tools or files. In the interim periods Louise was happy to store the tools, but PH is to approach Penny Penhale with a view to storing in the Parish Hall outside store.

**Archiving** Peter Hales wanted to know what the policy was for archiving. Helen said that there were many documents that needed to be stored. However, it was agreed at some point over the early summer that Helen and Linda would have good look to see what could be shredded. PH was going to talk to Penny about having garage space and hall space made available. GC said that Citizen Advice potentially were going to get rid of filing cabinets which would be suitable for storing documents. GC said he would check with CA and report back re the cabinets. Storing of documents:  
- Helen said 'Legal Topic Note 40' there were lots of different aspects that need to be adhered to. PH wanted clarification of what needs to be kept and the PC needs a policy for archiving.

### **Road Safety**

a) **Totnes Road Recycle Containers.** KG reported there is currently only one recycle container on the Totnes Road for bottles. The paper container has been removed. She felt that the two banks were causing road safety issues. It is not known if the removal of the paper bank is permanent. PH will try and find out officially what the intention is and if this is permanent.

b) The new speed sign is to be commissioned asap

### **Warm Space Initiative**

The PC noted that the Warm Spaces initiative meeting in the Village Hall had been discontinued due to lack of attendance.

### **15) CLERKS REPORT – None – new clerk only just appointed**

#### **16) CHAIRMANS REPORT – previously circulated:** Matters arising:

The Stagecoach 93 bus service is coming to a halt in September after Stagecoach indicated that they would give up the contract. This is a big concern for the community as it used by many residents in many parishes along the route who have no other means of transport. The new PC will need to work with other Parishes keep pressure on Devon County Council to ensure that the service is retained and retendered so that another operator can be appointed.

**Note To All Councillors your Expenditure Report must be completed for the next meeting in May please bring your completed signed hard copy to the PCM – thanks.**

#### **17) Councillors Reports – Previously circulated:** Matters arising:

PH asked if DR was still happy to look after the defibrillator even though he is standing down as a councillor. DR confirmed that he would - the 4-year maintenance contract is up in Oct 23 and will need to be renewed. DR confirmed the price will remain the same. On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.30pm defibrillator training for the public will be available in the Village Hall.

GC A village resident had asked if she could plant three flowering cherry trees on the rough piece of land on the Village Green (the piece at the bottom of the field). GC had informed her that the PC would look at the covenant which governs the lease of the land from DCC, but that the conditions were very stringent and new planting was unlikely to meet the terms.

**18) NEXT MEETING:** Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm at Strete Parish Hall. The first half hour of the meeting will be taken up with administration relating to the new Council. The main Parish meeting should get underway at about 7.30pm





# Thank you

Roy and Joan wish to Thank All for the lovely cards Roy received and good wishes following his hip replacement operation.

Pleased to say that he is making steady progress and is looking forward to joining in with the community again.



**Field Studies  
Council**

## **Celebrate Start Bay Festival 2023**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 11am until 5pm - Free entry (all day parking £5)**

Slapton Ley Field Centre is excited to invite you to their annual day of festivities celebrating the environment, nature,

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The event is held on the grounds of the field centre in Slapton on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

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Food and drink will be available throughout the day, and our day will end with our raffle draw, with a range of great prizes from local businesses.

**<https://www.field-studies-council.org/whats-on-at-slapton-ley/>**

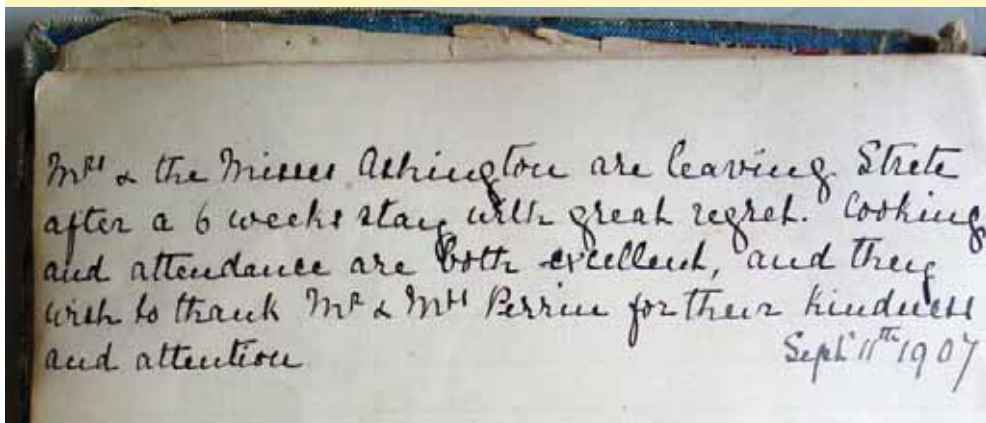
## Blackawton & Strete History group (BASH)

BASH needs new leadership, so if you are interested in taking an active role in its revival, please contact Kate Gill via email: [manorfarmstrete@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:manorfarmstrete@hotmail.co.uk)



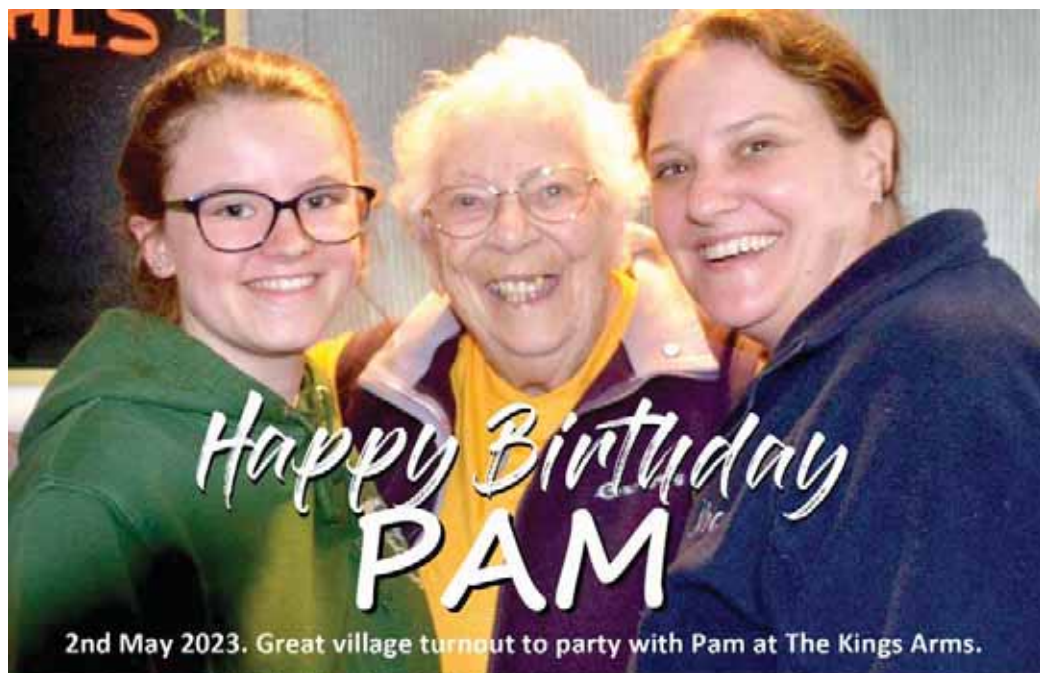
the  
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Visitors book 8th October 1907



### A 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.



2nd May 2023. Great village turnout to party with Pam at The Kings Arms.



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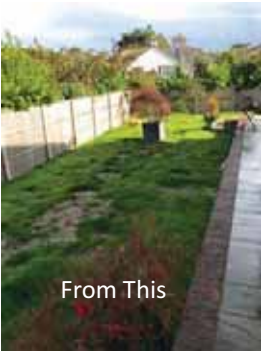
Stoke Fleming Village Hall.

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

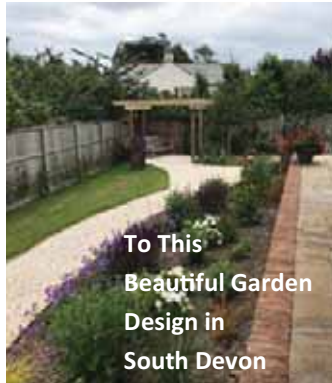
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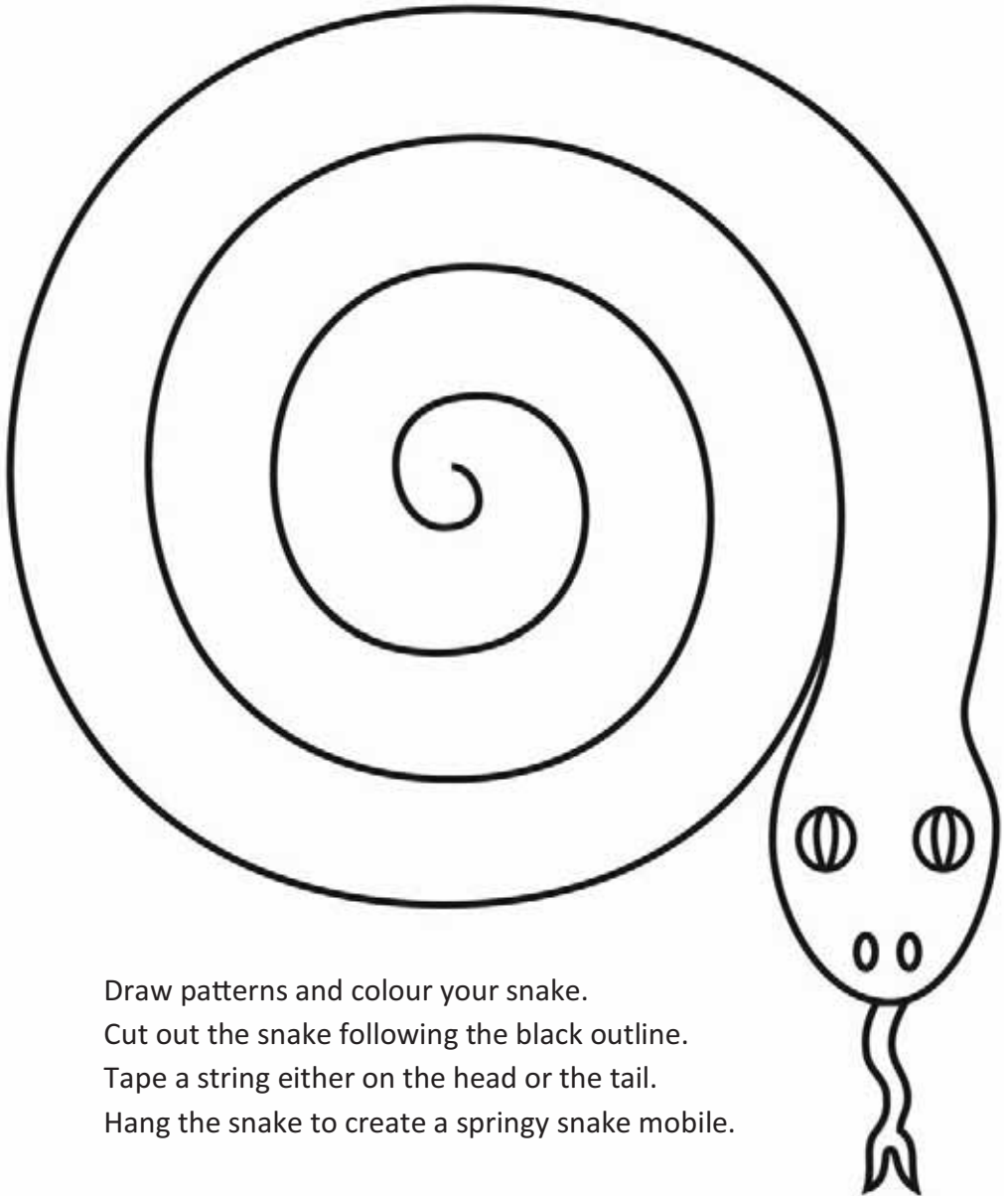
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## River Gara Water Vole Reintroduction Project UPDATE

A group of villagers from the Blackawton area have set out to reintroduce water voles to our local river. With more than 90% of Britain's water voles extinct due to habitat loss and predation by escaped American mink, they are a very rare sight these days. The group's first investigations suggested that the River Gara, which rises in Blackawton and



then flows through Strete and Slapton parishes, was an ideal habitat with lots of the vegetation rich banks that voles love. Discussions with landowners along the Gara showed strong support for the idea and so that left one big unanswered question – were there any American mink still in the valley? A single mink can wipe out an entire vole colony in a very short time. Five mink traps have now been positioned along the length of the Gara for the last four months and not a single mink has appeared and this finally gave the group the green light for the project.

Water voles are a keystone species, meaning that they have a disproportionately positive effect on their environment relative to their numbers. By nibbling vegetation alongside the river, water voles create flower rich banks with a lot of plant diversity which benefits bees, moths, butterflies and other pollinators and also the mammals, birds and bats that then feed on those insects. Water voles themselves are food for a wide range of animals including herons, otters, stoats, pike and owls.

The other key to the project succeeding was enlisting the help of a water vole expert. After visiting a West Devon farmer and naturalist by the name of Derek Gow, and seeing his water vole rich ponds, the group knew they'd found their man. He came and walked the Gara and confirmed that not only was the river perfect water vole habitat but pointed out that they would soon spread down into Slapton Ley. Having done other water vole reintroductions before Derek was very clear that the only way to establish a viable and genetically diverse population was to have at least four introduction sites and release, over two years, a total of 800 voles.

Such a comprehensive long-term project doesn't come cheap but a combination of local donations, some generous support from Strete Parish Council and a 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' grant has enabled the group to get the project going and Derek Gow has now got busy breeding the first 200 voles that will be needed for the initial release in July. They will be carefully monitored and then followed by three further introductions over the next two years. Before too long you should be able to spot their little bankside meadows and entrance holes in the bank and hear that plop as they jump in the water at your approach.

If anyone is interested in supporting this project then please visit [www.beginbystarting.co.uk](http://www.beginbystarting.co.uk) where you can learn more about it and have the opportunity to help make it happen.

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To enable us to include a full report and picture gallery of the Strete Village Day, Saturday 5th August and a holiday break taken by our printer, the August—September issue of Stretewise will not be printed and delivered until after the 14th August.

Thank to all our subscribers for continuing your support for the Stretewise magazine.

Subscriptions are increasing with new subscribers from Stokenham, Stoke Fleming and continued subscription from old friends that have moved to pastures new but still want to keep in touch.

Thank you to our regular and new advertisers that have joined the magazine this month.

---

## PROBUS CLUB OF STOKE FLEMING AND DISTRICT

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<b>June 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	TBA	Devon Air Ambulance
<b>June 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Coffee</b>	TRISH AND GEORGE ROBERTSON	A Musical Interlude
<b>July 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lunch</b>	PAM WILLS	Evacuation of Villages in South Hams 1941 – My Story

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These workmen have been installing bollards to stop people from parking on the pavement outside a Hospital. They are cleaning up at the end of the day. How long do you think it will be before they realise that they can't go home?



## Fun with Language

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

A thief stole a calendar got 12 months.

The professor discovered that her theory of earthquakes was on shaky ground.

The batteries were given out free of charge.

A dentist and a manicurist married.

They fought tooth and nail.

A will is a dead giveaway.

With her, she got a new name and a dress.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

Did hear about the fellow whose left side was cut off? He's all right now.

When a clock is hungry, it goes back for seconds.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine was fully recovered.

He had a photographic memory which was never developed.

When she saw her first strands of grey, she thought she'd dye.

You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

In a democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism, it's your Count that votes.

Thank you **Heather** for the **Witticisms**



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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		
Village Hall Committee	Penny Penhale (Chairman)	01803 771 005
Village Hall Committee	Danni 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
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<b>Strete Post Office and Stores</b>		
		01803 770 225
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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>		
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**PS 3418 Ollie Abercrombie**  
**Dartmouth Neighbourhood Team Leader**

**Dartmouth Police Station**

**Mobile: 07736 622761**

**Email: [ollie.abercrombie@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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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