



# STRETEWISE

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	Tony & Jan Atkins	01548 580 227
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“We are deeply saddened at the passing  
of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.  
We extend our deepest sympathies to  
His Majesty the King and all members of  
the Royal Family”

“A lifetime of service we will  
never forget, thank you Ma’am”



## St. Michael Church

The day after her Majesties death, our church bell was tolled 96 times, once for every year of her life. Councillor Ralph Clarke taking his turn to ring the bell, one of a group of ringers.



A very well attended memorial service was held at the church on the day before the Queen's funeral. The service was conducted by Jenny Harris. As part of the service, Trish and George from The Laughing Monk played a beautiful lament by Bach. The church was beautifully decorated with magnificent floral displays and a picture of the Queen with a solitary candle provided the focal point for a moving service. After the service, delicious cakes and coffee were served. Thank you to everyone for making this a memorable occasion. Thank you Nick Shepherd for the report and pictures.





The Lying-in-State of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II took place in Westminster Hall at the Palace of Westminster, also known as the Houses of Parliament, from Wednesday 14 September and open to the public 24 hours a day until 6.30am on Monday 19 September.

By the time her lying in state ended on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.30am officials expect about 750,000 people would have viewed the coffin.

The Prince of Wales and Duke of Sussex joined their cousins in a solemn vigil at their beloved grandmother's coffin.

On top of the coffin sat the Imperial State Crown. The crown sparkling with nearly 3,000 stones - including 2,868 diamonds, 273 pearls, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, and five rubies.

A bearer party of the Queen's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, lifted the Queen's coffin from the catafalque in Westminster Hall and carried it in procession to the state gun carriage of the Royal Navy.



The coffin, topped with the Royal Standard, Imperial State Crown and a wreath of flowers cut from the gardens of Buckingham Palace, Highgrove House and Clarence House. A message read: "In loving and devoted memory. Charles R."

The coffin was carried to Westminster Abbey on the State Gun Carriage of the Royal Navy, drawn by 142 navy ratings. King Charles III and other senior members of the Royal Family followed behind on foot.



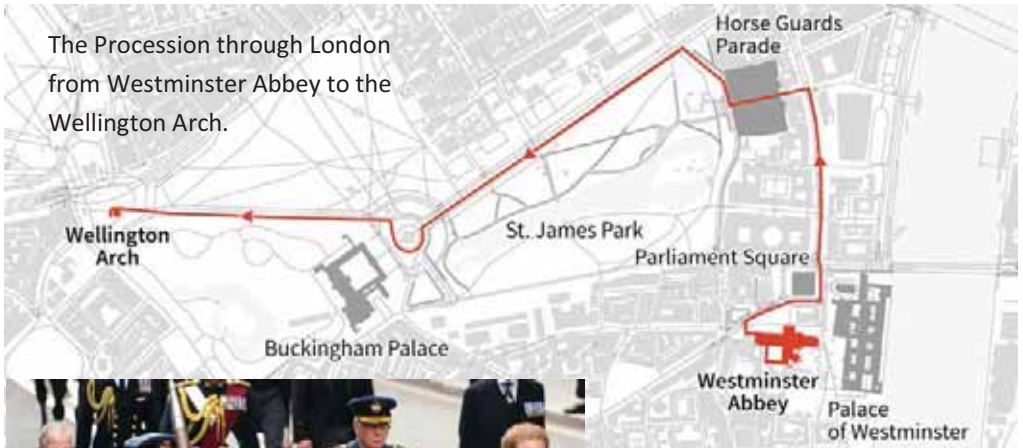
2,000 guests were inside the Abbey for the funeral service, including wider members of the Royal Family and dozens of world leaders and politicians from across the globe.



The State Funeral, by the late Queen's own wish, took place at Westminster Abbey on Monday 19th September 2022 at 11.00am. This was the first State Funeral of a reigning monarch at the Abbey since that of George II in 1760. The service was conducted by the Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, with the Archbishop of Canterbury and other representative clergy taking part.



The Procession through London from Westminster Abbey to the Wellington Arch.



Big Ben tolled at one-minute intervals as the procession made its way slowly through the streets of the capital. Gun salutes were also fired every minute from Hyde Park.

After the coffin was transferred from carriage to hearse at Wellington Arch, it then travelled by road to Windsor Castle. There were crowds of people along the route and thousands more waiting in The Long Walk, Windsor, where there was a short procession to St Georges Chapel.





There was also a very special welcome home from those very close to her majesties heart.

The committal service for Queen Elizabeth II was at St George's Chapel, Windsor. The King placing the Grenadier Guards' Queen's Company Camp Colour – a smaller version of the Royal Standard of the Regiment – on the coffin.



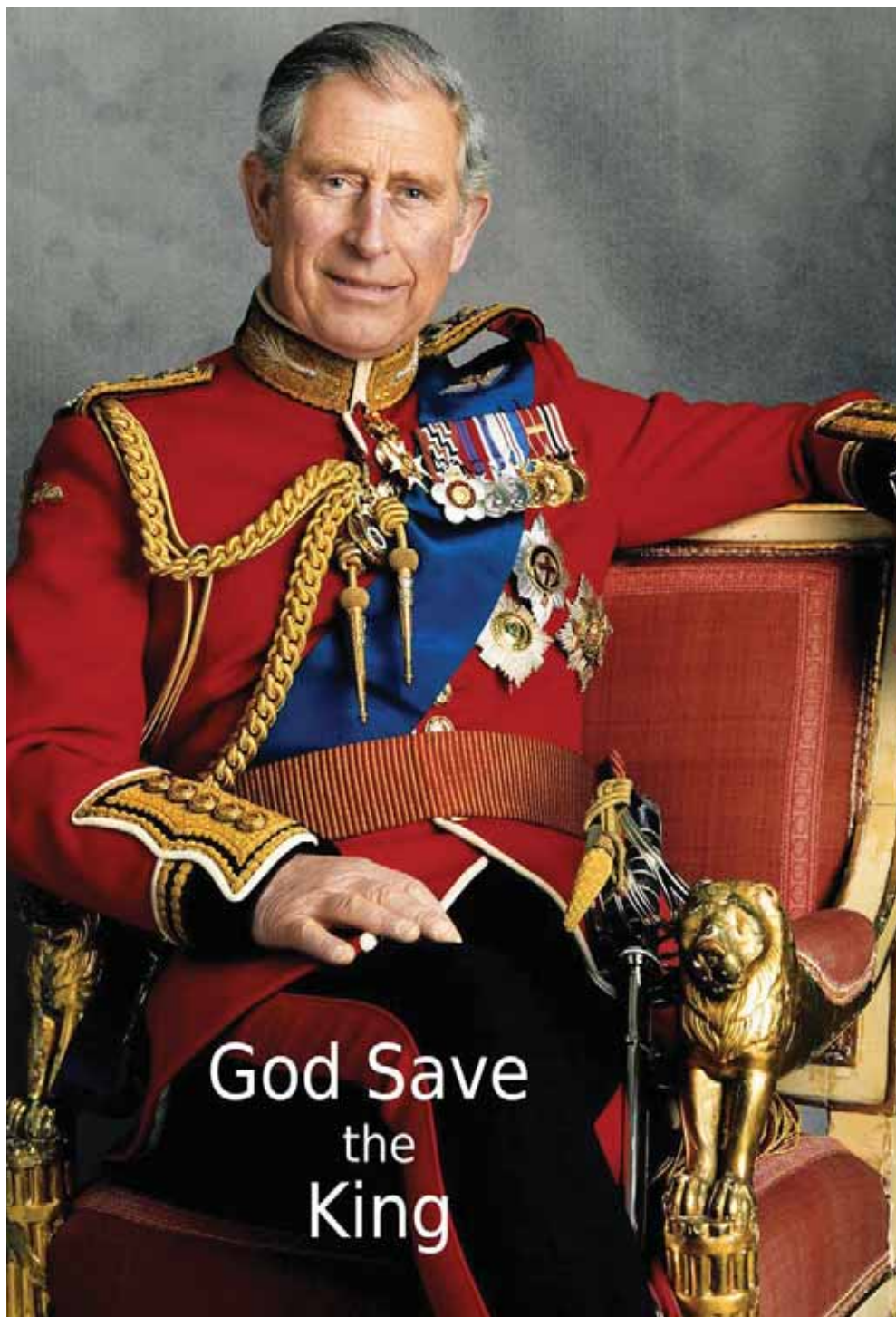
During the service, which was conducted by Dean of Windsor David Conner, the Imperial State Crown, the orb and the sceptre were lifted from the Queen's coffin by the Crown Jeweller, separating the Queen from her crown for the final time.

The ceremony concluded with the congregation singing, like at the State Funeral earlier in the day, the British National Anthem, 'God Save the King'. The Queen's Piper, Pipe Major James M. Banks, played the lament, 'A Salute to the Royal Fendersmith', prior to the National Anthem.

Ending 10 days of national mourning, Elizabeth was finally laid to rest at the chapel at her Windsor Castle home alongside her husband of 73 years Prince Philip, who died last year.







God Save  
the  
King

## Strete Chapel

Strete Chapel join with the rest of the country in honouring the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and praying for the Royal family at this time. The Queen's Christian faith was evident throughout her reign, and she was able to share this through both her words and actions.

In her millennium Christmas message to the nation the Queen said,

***"To many of us, our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me, the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example."***



We pray now that we will remember Queen Elizabeth II and her steadfast faith and dedication to duty. We ask that You will be with those who mourn her passing and that You will bless King Charles III as he ascends to the throne. Help him to seek You and rely upon his Christian faith as his mother did throughout her life. Amen

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We are meeting every Sunday at 11am for our weekly Sunday service and Young Searchers Children's Club continues to meet every Thursday 6-7pm.

### Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022

Followed by a shared meal in the village hall.

Strete chapel would like to remind you of the Harvest Thanksgiving Service followed by a meal in the village hall. Please put the date in your diary! Living in a rural area we get to see the crops and animals in the fields and have a better connection of how food ends up on our plates. Food production is an area of life that has come into focus this year with the terrible events in Europe and the cost of living increasing. Please join us in thanking God for the provisions we have and in praying for those who are less fortunate.





## St. Michael's Church

### Readers Corner

The changing of the seasons is the perfect opportunity to reflect on the seasons past and look forward to the blessings that will come with the next season's beginning.

The beauty of Autumn in particular is a great reminder of God's provision in our lives, that the harvest of the land has been safely gathered in. As one of the harvest hymns goes.

*'Come ye thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home!  
All is gathered safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;  
God our maker cloth provide for our wants to be supplied;  
Come God's own temple come; raise the song of harvest home!*

In Autumn the days grow shorter and more evenings are spent indoors.

Enjoy the warmth of a log fire if you have one. It is an ideal setting for reflection and a great opportunity to engage with family members and friends and focus on everything you are grateful for.



God remains unchanged and unchanging.

Hear those words from Psalm 90, verses 1 and 2.

*'O Lord you have always been our home. Before you created the hills or brought forth the world into being, you were eternally God and will be God forever'*

During Autumn we all know that winter lies ahead, but when it comes, can Spring be far behind?

Peace, Love and Joy be with you all.

**Jenny Harris.**





### **WINTER WARMERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF STRETE**

On Tuesdays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
the Hall will be open from 11.45am - 2.00pm (ish).

There will be homemade soup and bread, a cup of tea and a chance to chat to other villagers.

All from Strete are invited to join in and/or help.

A donation would be welcome but not essential.

This is an opportunity to come to a communal, warm place for food and company.

If this proves successful and wanted by the people of Strete, then the offer may be extended.

NB If you have grown and have surplus vegetables that we could use, please leave in the box outside the hall. Alternatively, you can contact Penny at [p.g.penhale@hotmail.com](mailto:p.g.penhale@hotmail.com)

771005 or 07976 176748

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### **HALL EVENTS**

\*QUIZ and PASTY EVENING will now be held on  
SATURDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER, starting at 7.00pm.

Tickets are on sale at the Village Shop and cost £7.50.

This always proves to be a good evening with interesting questions and amazing(?) prizes.

Make up a team of 4 or 6 if you want or just come for an enjoyable evening out.

### **\*VILLAGE DAY 2023**

This will be held on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

This event is usually held annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in August but because of the pandemic and the Queen's Jubilee celebrations the last one was in 2019!

Therefore, 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.

Please see the advert for the first meeting to put things in motion.

This will be on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, starting at 7.00pm in the Hall.

Come to the meeting to find out more.

Hanging on the wall in the Hall is a lovely and colourful framed collage of photos of the 4 days of Jubilee events held in the village. Please come and have a look.

# STRETE VILLAGE DAY

*Can You  
Help?*

Make Strete Village Day happen on the 5th August 2023.

Could 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.

The first Strete Village Day planning meeting  
**16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.00pm**  
at the Strete Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

email: [p.g.penhale@hotmail.com](mailto:p.g.penhale@hotmail.com) or [daverjones@outlook.com](mailto:daverjones@outlook.com)

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*loving the beach*

# Strete Social Club

## AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2022

A warm friendly welcome will be given to guests

Meetings are usually held in Strete Parish Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM

October	4th	Wellbeing - Georgina Lewis
	18th	Musical Interlude - Trish Robertson
November	1st	Bees, Butterflies and other Insects - John Tucker
	15th	Christmas Crafts - Yvonne Temple
	29th	Christmas Flowers - Linda Mabey
December	8th	Christmas Lunch at Kings Arms NB on Thursday.
	13th	Wine and Mince Pies



Strete Social Club summer outing to Avon Mill, July 2022



The meeting was well-attended with sixteen members and some partners who turned up to listen to Pam Wills speak on the Blackbird Wood and the Captain Pearson Fund. Joan Kendall kindly stepped in to be chairman for the meeting as both Dorothy and Karen were away.

Joan started the meeting by reminding members of a list of future meetings which include a Christmas lunch at the Kings Arms Strete on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

Pam started with a history of the Wood which was set up in 1997 when a parcel of land known as the Blackbird Wood on the Hynetown road was placed in Trust. This trust, The Nan and John Smithes 1997 Charitable Trust – Melro De Smithes Wood had original trustees who included Michael Sutton-Scott-Tucker and a local solicitor Nigel Wollen. John Smithes was a local benefactor who had worked in Portugal and retired to the UK. He enjoyed wildlife in particular butterflies and wanted to ensure a place where these species could thrive. It would then be open to all who wished to visit the Wood. His niece, Trudy Andrews has kept his artefacts which include butterfly specimens from Portugal. Pam and Trudy Andrews then became trustees of the Wood in 2000. The Wood was entered in the Devon County Show and won a bronze medal in the woodland section in 2005.

Pam then outlined the current activity taking place in the Wood. There has been some ash dieback and the alders have been thinned out as they were crowding out other trees. Andrew Shilston who is a tree surgeon and trustee is currently looking at the design of the Wood to ensure there is more light. The paths are worn and the plan for the moment is to seed them out with hard grasses until plans are drawn up to replace them permanently. Andrew will report on what work needs to be done and the trustees would be grateful at that point for volunteers who could help with work. Pam has asked the Devon Wildlife Trust for some free trees around 25-30 saplings. A villager has donated two oak trees to the Wood and would like to plant one in the Wood in memory of her dog. A related plan is for anyone who donates trees to have their names on the noticeboard inside the entrance. They can also look after their tree. The noticeboards will be improved with new signage. Someone has kindly offered to repair one of the benches. The logs currently in the Wood from the recent thinning will be sold.

Pam mentioned a coffee morning to raise funds for the Wood and she will call on people to donate cakes toward the morning. Questions were then taken. The name of the Wood [Melro] is Portuguese for blackbird. The Trust owns the land the Wood sits on in perpetuity as it was gifted to be a place where all might enjoy whether local or visiting Strete.

Pam then talked about the Captain Pearson Memorial Fund. After WWII parts of the Village had been destroyed in the practice for the D Day landings. One of these was the local youth club which stood where the Pub carpark is nowadays. Mrs Robinson who was married to Captain Pearson decided to provide a new youth club and bought a Nissan hut and some land from the Strete Estate. Around 1951 the Strete Estate donated land where the current Parish Hall is as a site for a new Hall. When the Nissan hut burnt down the youth club relocated to the current Parish Hall. Mrs Robinson then sold the land where the hut had been and placed the proceeds into a separate bank account which became the Captain Pearson Memorial Fund. The aims of this Fund include that monies should be available for local causes. At one time the Fund was able to give away interest only as interest rates were higher. However, there is still money for village causes. The 'trustees' are Brenda Wall, Pam, Mark Wall and Dr Eynon-Lewis.

Pam finished with an announcement that there are plans to start up a Strete version of BASH which will research and conserve the history of Strete. A number of locals are involved including Nick Shepherd and Penny Penhale. Nick is currently doing some research into the South Hams.

# Strete Social Club

Tuesday 20th September.

After the previous day of watching our dear Queen Elizabeth II funeral which we all agreed had greatly moved us. Dorothy welcomed us all to the meeting.

Business was quickly dealt with and then Karen, our other leader, had brought along her guitar and brought us all together with singing songs to us asking us to guess who the original singer of each one was. It was infectious and those of us who knew the words or at least the chorus joined in. A carer who had escorted one of our members then said how she liked singing and used to work in a care home and got the residents to sing stood up and gave us her rendering of the first song which Karen had sung 'Sing'.

As usual we had our cups of tea and biscuits served by Helen and Joan. When a social chatty time was had.

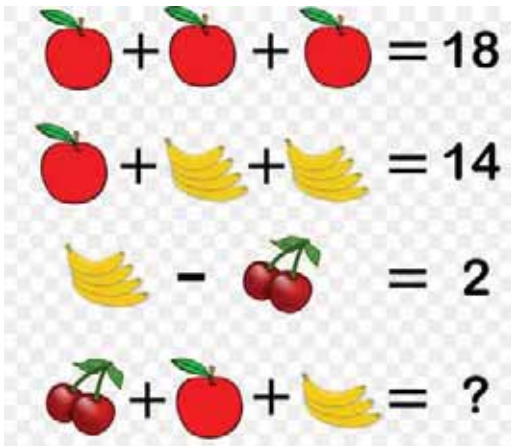
Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October with our speaker being Georgina Lewis who is talking on Wellbeing. The meeting begins at 2.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Anyone living in or around the village is most welcome to come and see what our group is all about, make new friends and just have an enjoyable afternoon.

We have a varied programme covering many things including slides on nature subjects, Crafts, flowers and of course a Christmas lunch.

For Further information call Karen on 01803770739 or Dorothy on 018030770982

## STRETEWISER



$$2 \square 1 \square 6 \square 6 = 48$$

+ - × ÷

**What is the meaning of 'Mellifluous'?**

**What was the Spice Girls original band called?**

**Who currently holds the most Academy Awards?**

**What was the last letter added to the English alphabet?**

**What is name for 1/100th of a second?**

**In a group of 23 people what is the percentage chance that two people will share the same birth date?**

**What is the name of the town that has never experienced rain?**

**What is the oldest vegetable?**

**About how many grapes make up one glass of wine?**

# Stretewise Word Search

1: SOUTH BRENT 2: BRIXHAM 3: STOKE GABRIEL 4: BERRY HEAD  
5: TUCKENHAY 6: EAST PRAWLE 7: TOTNES 8: HARBERTONFORD  
9: KINGSWEAR 10: FROGMORE 11: SOAR 12: LODDISWELL  
13: UGBOROUGH 14: DARTINGTON 15: BERRY POMEROY

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

# Horse Power

at the  
Community Wood  
Hynetown Road



The Dartmoor Horse Loggers have done a great job in clearing the ash dieback infected trees in the Community Wood. They also undertook a general thinning to let more light in for the remaining trees which were being strangled. Two horses were used, Beano a Comtois and Polly an Ardennes. They made easy work of dragging out the timber and had two overnight stays at Trudy's paddock next door. It was lovely to see an old method being used and provided a good photo opportunity. The great advantage of using horses is that they can easily get to places in the woods where vehicles can't and they do not churn up the ground.

**Nick Shepherd**

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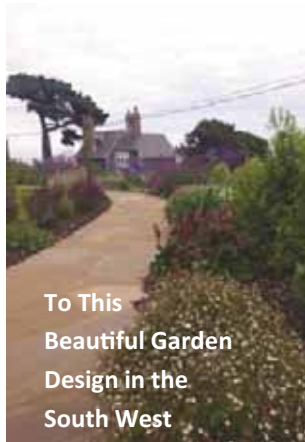
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planting design

**Julie Elliott**

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m 07989 564082

julie\_elliott@hotmail.com



With the passing of Her Majesty the Queen, the Kings Arms, like everywhere, has been a little quieter, and somewhat sombre. So, it was a joy to see so many people coming together after the Queen's funeral to offer a toast to the old Queen and a second toast to the new King, using the pub as it is meant to be, as a space for all the community.

Now we can all look forward to the Kings Arms celebrating a King's coronation next year. In the meantime, there is plenty going on in the pub in the next couple of months.

Sunday lunches are back. Always popular, with beef, turkey or nut roast to keep everyone happy, served from noon to 4pm.

In October one of the highlights is a wine tasting night hosted by Michael Sutton's Cellar to mark the launch of our new wine menu. As we go to press, details are still being finalised but there will be various wines to sample and food to enjoy.

Booking is essential.

A number of people have asked that the pub does more to create a convivial atmosphere to attract people in for a drink in the bar area. With that in mind, we are launching the Friday Bar Club, starting Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Different things will be tried. To begin with the team will offer free bar food. A loyalty card will be launched in the coming months. We are looking at furniture, décor and even layout. The aim is to do more to create a space where people will want to come because they know that there will be a good atmosphere and a chance to meet people and have a chat.

The Music Night returns in October. This month it will be an Open Mic night so if you fancy a little play, get in touch or pop along. All welcome, no matter what instrument you play, what music you play, or even how good you are. It's a bit of fun and a very friendly crowd.

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>, the lively Halloween family event returns for the third year. There will be fancy dress, ghoulish games, along with a burger and hot dog menu. This will be an afternoon event.

The remaining events in October are listed in the poster next to this article.

In November, the usual events repeat themselves. That's the Friday Club on the 4<sup>th</sup>, quiz on the 9<sup>th</sup>, Fishy Friday on 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, music night on the 17<sup>th</sup> and village lunch on the 24<sup>th</sup>. There are a couple of events still being planned but yet to be confirmed. First, we are hoping that a group of local poets and performers will be able to host a spoken word evening towards the end of November. Second, after their rollicking performance last year, we are hoping that the Nauti Bouys return in November to sing their shanties.



We will update when plans are confirmed. 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.

Even though the sun is still shining and the days relatively warm, thoughts are already turning to Christmas. In October the Christmas menu will be published and booking will begin to be taken. Covid severely affected last Christmas but this year we are hoping that people will be keen to get back into the pubs and arrange Christmas dinner get-togethers. Get in touch if you'd like to book ahead. We will once again start December with our Christmas Begins event, when we ask the village to decorate the pub and hope that Father Christmas visits to help raise money for charity with his tour of the village.

Opening hours in October are as follows.

**Closed Monday**

**Tuesday:** closed lunch, bar only in the evening 5-11pm.

**Wednesday to Saturday:**

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

**Sunday:** Open 12-9pm with food served 1-5pm.

To book 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)

# the Kings Arms at Strete

## What's On In October

**Wine Tasting Night. Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Friday Bar Club. Friday 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Quiz Night. Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>. 7pm**

**Fishy Friday. Friday 14<sup>th</sup>. 5.30-8.30pm**

**Book Club. Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>. 8pm**

**Music Night: Open Mic. Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Curry Specials Friday 21<sup>st</sup> 5.30-8.30pm**

**Village lunch. Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>. 12.30pm**

**Fishy Friday. Friday 28<sup>th</sup>. 5.30-8.30pm**

**Halloween Family Event. Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>. 2-5pm**

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### A Message from the Chair

As Chair of the Kings Arms Pub Management Committee (SCPL) I am writing to thank you for your continued interest and support in our lovely community pub here in Strete – owned by the community for the community.

But I need your further support! A few weeks ago, the committee launched a second Share Offer to raise additional funds to see us safely through the winter and into Spring 2023 – but we've not quite hit our target yet. Investment is vital to keep us going...whilst I appreciate that times are going to be hard for all of us over the coming year, with inflation rising, interest rates rising, the cost of utilities spiralling, these same costs are hitting the pub. As you are aware, the Kings Arms has become the social hub of our beautiful coastal village with fantastic events over the last few months; going into the winter we will continue to be a place to have a fabulous meal, a natter with friends, share your woes and burdens and escape from the realities of day-to-day life.

At our recent Annual General Meeting I presented the Chair's Annual Report to current shareholders. The headline was that we've had an extremely tough winter but our financial status to date gives hope:

- Actuals Sales Year to date are in line with our budgeted financial plan.
- Actual Sales Year to date exceeded 2021 by 35%.
- August sales this year exceeded budget, with overall summer sales beating last year – trading up to 31 Aug 22 was profitable and we are cash positive.

Budget for year end 31 March 2023 remains on target.

With a second chef now on contract to support in the kitchen, a fabulous winter menu on offer, outstanding Sunday lunches and Christmas dinners to look forward to, as well as a packed social calendar (including village lunches, quizzes, book clubs, Children's events, wine tasting) there is definitely reason to invest in the pub, to safeguard all of this!

To invest and secure the pub only takes as little as £50 – this gives you one share for voting for the future of the pub. If eligible you also get tax relief on this investment via the Sitr scheme. Shares also make fantastic gifts for Christmas or birthday or a thank you! You will be given a lovely share certificate to show that you have secured a piece of community asset and it'll give you the feel-good factor!

So, if you wish to invest – for yourselves, a gift for a loved one or a valued friend – because the investment process was in effect put on hold during the mourning period for Her Majesty The Queen, the deadline has now been extended to 16 October.

Please send all applications or expressions of interest to Karen Hales, the Committee Secretary: [karen.hales@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](mailto:karen.hales@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk)

To find out more, visit: <https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk/invest/>

Sincerely yours,

**Nicky Cullen** Chair Strete Community Pub Limited



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## The story of a West Country Ketch

*It took less than a minute for the brick to zig zag its way to the sea floor where it landed with a gentle silent thud, it threw up a cloud of silt disturbing a small fish scavaging for morsels in the fine sand. There were many bricks that found their way to a watery grave that day but it was the only one to hit an object that had laid there undisturbed for well over 3,500 years.*

Three quarters of a mile east of the Salcombe Bar and a quarter of a mile out to sea from the Gara Rock hotel complex lie two protected wreck sites. One of these sites is known as Moor Sands, Bronze Age weapons were found there in the late 1970's. The other, known as the Salcombe site's, hide two wrecks, a 17<sup>th</sup> Century Dutch Merchantman or Barbary Pirate vessel, and adjacent the remains of two Bronze Age vessels potentially the oldest in the world if not the most important because it has proved that there was trade 3500 years ago between Europe and the Mediterranean. Since the discovery of Europe's largest collection of Islamic gold coins and jewellery on the 17<sup>th</sup> Century wreck, work continued, until 2003 when the first Bronze Age artefact was discovered, work then stopped on the 17<sup>th</sup> Century site to enable the divers to concentrate their efforts on these considerable and very important finds from the Bronze Age.

On one dive during late summer in 2003 a diver searching the outer edges of the 17<sup>th</sup> century site came across the brick one side just visible above the sea bed, as this brick gave a signal on the metal detector the diver pulled it out and placed it to one side to see where the signal came from, as he did so he noticed a defined shape under



the brick, pulling that out also revealed a heavy lump of bronze which turned out to be a Bronze Age palstave axe head.

Divers had come across these bricks over the years and just ignored them, but why there were there so many scattered everywhere, lying alongside artefacts from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and Bronze Age, they were soon to find out.

In 2006 two of the team surveying the outer edges of the Protected area found a trail of bricks, they followed them and came across a huge pile of them, swimming over the top of the mound they discovered an anchor and chain, following the chain they discovered a winch, under the winch was a piece of pottery with the broken word 'MOUTH' impressed in the glaze. They had found the 'Brick Wreck' as it was soon to become known.



Divers from the South West Maritime Archaeological Group have been diving and working together for many years and know they have the responsibility for the discoveries they make and the 'Brick Wreck' was no exception. Within days of the discovery, they consulted the 'Board of Trade Casualty Returns' for 1910/11 and found that on April 25<sup>th</sup> the '*Lord Napier*' Ketch, sunk whilst carrying a cargo of bricks from Exmouth to Kingsbridge. She was lost "off Rackham"; exactly where they had found her except the admiralty chart names the area Rickham.

Further research found that her last owners were the Trout Brothers of Topsham, near Exeter, and a chance conversation revealed that the Trout Brothers still traded from the same boatyard in Topsham. A phone call soon set up a meeting with two divers of SWMAG and the descendants of the last owners of the *Lord Napier*.

Within half an hour of meeting the Trout family the divers had a full account that had been passed down the family of the sinking of the *Lord Napier* plus the

names of the two surviving crew members.

They were told that the ketch had

loaded a cargo of 22000 'hot bricks' from Exmouth Brickworks for delivery to Balkwells Merchants Kingsbridge, a day's sailing away. Just off Prawle Point one of the crew noticed she was getting low in the water and



The end of the Salcombe Estuary at Kingsbridge. Balkwells Merchants in the centre Cir 1912



The end of the estuary, now Kingsbridge bus station. Balkwells now Boots the Chemist

heavy on the wheel, looking in the hold they saw she was taking in water and that the bricks being hot, acted like blotting paper. So they started throwing bricks over the side in order to lighten the vessel, eventually they realised they could not save her, so they dropped the anchor and jumped into the small dingy they towed astern and rowed to nearby Salcombe, and to safety. The *Lord Napier* slipped under the water a few minutes later.

As well as providing the story of the last moments of the *Lord Napier* the family were able to give the divers a family history booklet that had just been completed. In it were the names and addresses of the original owners.

Research continued into the history of the Ketch, and with the help of the internet found that the *Lord Napier* was built in Rye, Sussex in 1868 as a fishing smack destined for the fishing fleet of Ramsgate. In the 1881 census the *Lord Napier* was listed as being alongside at Sheerness, Kent with a crew of five aboard, the youngest being a cook on trial at the age of 14.



joined the Ramsgate the North Sea fishing swing with the then Hull, Lowestoft and rewards of the rich grounds. The fishing Country seasonally Coast ports chasing them at docksides with close access to the markets of London and the Midlands.



By the time the newly built *Lord Napier* had fishing fleet in 1868 industry was in full small ports of Grimsby, Ramsgate reaping the North Sea fishing fleets of the West migrated to these East the fish and unloading

In 1860 the first fish and chip shop opened in London and in just a few years the demand for fish grew and the North Sea provided an abundant supply of turbot, sole, hake, cod and plaice. Also, at the time of the *Lord Napier* the east coast ports expanded with the influx of these fleets prompting the development of new houses around the docks for the new fishermen from Devon and Cornwall which are still there to this day.



Having such a large fleet operating from Ramsgate created a particular social problem in as much as the presence of young boys that crewed these fishing smacks, once ashore they had no fixed abode.

By 1878 there were over 200 Smack boys as they were known, many of them recruited from Reformatories, Poor Law Schools, Orphanages, and Training ships having no known parents. Local inhabitants were often disturbed by rowdy, cheeky boys in the streets until a local vicar took it upon himself to open a home especially for boys from these fishing smacks. Opened in 1881 as 'The Home for Smack Boys' it lasted until the decline of the fishing fleet and the start of the First World War, it finally closed its doors in 1915 and is now the Harbour Office for Ramsgate.



By 1898 the old fishing smacks were being replaced by the new steam trawlers, the *Lord Napier* now 30 years old was sold on to a William Hall of Galampton, South Devon for the coastal trade, the articulated lorries of that time. She was not listed by Lloyds, in other words not insured for valuable goods cargo that is why we see her trading in timber, sand, concrete, stone, slate, bricks and other heavy materials. A local



Dartmouth newspaper writes in 1903 of "*The Ketch Lord Napier hitting the Horse Ferry, resulting in spearing a covered wagon with her bowsprit*".

After taking two hours to disentangle her she proceeded up the River Dart narrowly missing the Floating Bridge (Ferry) only to run aground off Noss where she remained for several days. The skipper was either having a bad

day or he was intoxicated, history does not record his eventual fate.

By 1904 it was obvious she was nearing the end of her days, research shows that her owner William Hall had connections with Topsham near Exeter and so he sold her on the Trout's, a well known Topsham shipping family at the time, who had a reputation of buying up old vessels cheaply and fitting them out to do heavy dirty work. Her rig was changed from Ketch to a Yawl, and she plied the south coast with all manner of heavy goods. Bridport Harbour records several such cargo's being loaded on the

*Lord Napier* to Dartmouth and Exmouth. And it so it was on her final voyage with a cargo of bricks, she ended her 43-year career as she slipped beneath the calm waters off Salcombe that April day in 1911.

So that was the end of the *Lord Napier*, but what of her crew and owners? Research continued, revealing a fascinating story of the end of 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup>, reopening individual lives in those troubled times.



Samuel Trout one of the two final owners of the *Lord Napier* was a Master Mariner and probably skippered the *Lord Napier* in her later years. He was born in 1842 and died in 1927, his son and co-shareholder Rupert Henry Trout was born in 1875, and he lived all his life in Monmouth Street, Topsham, and by strange coincidence, was killed in action, when HMS Monmouth was sunk with all

hands at the beginning of the First World War. The battle one the first great naval actions of that war was fought off the coast of Chile, South America. Known as the Battle of Coronel it resulted in the complete destruction of Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock's squadron by the German Admiral Von Spee with his battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, both HMS Monmouth and Good Hope were lost with all hands along with Admiral Craddock. The action prompted the then 1<sup>st</sup> Sea Lord Winston Churchill to send a fleet south which later resulted in the complete destruction of the German squadron.

Samuel's only son Wallace Henry Trout joined the Royal Navy between the wars and became a Chief Engine Room Artificer, he also lost his life in action aboard the Cruiser HMS Bonaventure when the Italian 'Ambra' torpedoed her off Crete in 1941 with the loss of 139 lives.

One of the two survivors of the Lord Napier Skipper Henry Kentsbeer was killed on the Western Front in Aug. 1917 six months later his brother also lost his life in the trenches.

Of crew member Henry Turl aged 38 a Topsham man, nothing more was found to date. His descendants still live in Topsham one a Funeral Director.



HMS Bonaventure

Etched on the war memorial outside Topsham's church are the names of Rupert Trout and his son Henry both killed in action whilst serving their country in separate World Wars. A link to the little fishing smack that started her life in 1868 helping to create a great fishing industry on the east coast of Britain and ending her life 43 years later as a tired old Ketch carrying bricks.

On the sharing same memorial stone is a name also associated with the Lord Napier, Henry Kentsbeer who lost his life fighting with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

Little did Henry Kentsbeer and Henry Turl know but in trying to save the Lord Napier that day in April 1911 just one of those bricks would reopen their stories and a social history of life a century ago.



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

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

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Spice Girls original band **Touch**. The most Academy Awards **Walt Disney**.

Last letter added to the English alphabet **J**. 1/100th of a second is a **'Jiffy'**.

Same birth date percentage **50 percent**. Never experienced rain **Calama**

What is the oldest vegetable **The Pea**. Grapes to make up one glass of wine **630 grapes**.

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# STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

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01803 770018 [www.strete.org.uk](http://www.strete.org.uk)

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

HELD AT STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 AT 7 PM

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### PRESENT

Cllr Peter Hales (PH) (Chairman); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr Kate Gill (KG); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Graham Campbell (GC) [took minutes]; Cllr David Rothwell (DR); District Councillor Richard Foss (RF); members of the public.

### PUBLIC FORUM

Mr Gordon-Smith raised questions on the sale of Cox's field: whether there is a TPO on an elm tree at the end of the Plat, (*there is no TPO here*), and whether the housing would include affordable housing for local people. Definitions of affordable are here.

<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-7747/>

The best-known definition from The National Planning Policy Framework is **housing which is sold at a discount of at least 20% below local market value.**

RC outlined the Neighbourhood plan's relevance to this sale and outlined the strong effect of its place in the Joint Local Plan for planning issues.

Mr Burroughs queried the planting of new trees in the Village Green field copse. The Council was not aware of this happening. **Resolved IC and GC to meet Mr Burroughs to look at the copse.**

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The County Councillor for Devon County Council [DCC] was unable to attend due to his presence being required at a full DCC Council meeting in Exeter. He apologized for non-attendance by email during the meeting and did not send a report but made the following comments:

*I have made some progress in respect of the cyclical parish maintenance and County has come up with the numbers of buddle holes, ditches, drains and grips in each Parish. The problem now is they don't know where they are. We're working on it.*

*The County is in a serious financial position. They are not alone and many local authorities are struggling. There's a projected overspend of £40mn at the moment. Its only month 2 so plenty of time to bring spending back under control. Unfortunately, this will inevitably lead to cuts to our core services including children's, adults [social services] and parish maintenance including road services.*

### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Richard Foss [RF] reported on his recent visit to the Pub with Andy Bates the Chief Executive of South Hams District Council [SHDC] who was impressed with the Pub.

RF is supportive of the issues surrounding the Slapton Line Partnership. He reported that a recent motion put to councillors at SHDC that SHDC should add road maintenance to the Partnership terms of reference was passed unanimously. The MP still is working on plans to request funding toward the upkeep of the Line from Central Government. The intention is to relocate the Memorial in the Strete Gate car park before autumn. PH had raised the accident at Strete Gate where someone had fallen trying to climb the fence because of the closed steps to beach with the Chief Executive. RF was sympathetic to the problem. It was suggested the steps were rebuilt when the Memorial was moved. RF has funds if PC wanted to do a self-help job.

The waste management contract will return inhouse after October 1<sup>st</sup>, ending a badly managed contract. One possibility after the end of the existing contract is a switch to monthly brown bin emptying. The cost of waste disposal and recycling will go up as result of the change.

RF stated that because Strete is in the AONB, Strete does not have an expectation of new houses being built which will affect land being sold with the Strete Estate. PH asked RF a question on the rules for residential houses becoming rental properties. **Resolved PH to follow up.**

**0722/1 APOLOGIES** – County Councillor Julian Brazil (JB); Clerk.

**0722/2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022**

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

**0722/3 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. **PH and RC re Item 0722/4 Hollocombe, PH, RC and KG re item 0722/16 Strete Community Pub Limited, LN re item 0722/9 the sale of the Strete Estate.**

**0722/4 PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS**

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

1805/22/HHO Hollocombe. **Resolved to support with no comments.**

2031/22/FUL Quack Cottage. **Resolved to support with no comments.**

**Other planning matters.** Nothing was raised.

**0722/5 PARISH COUNCIL TARGETS FOR 2022/23**

PH invited suggestions from the meeting in addition to those listed on the agenda. There were none offered. The list on the agenda is

- Night landing site for air ambulance
- Enhanced vehicle speed control measures in the Village
- Raise awareness of forthcoming green grants for domestic heating, insulation etc
- Secure electric vehicle charging facility in the Village
- Identify sites for tree planting in the Village

**0722/6 UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

The Clerk did a survey of Fuge and Orestone last week and the map of buddle holes in the Parish is still being updated for the outlying areas. **Resolved to defer discussion until the next meeting.**

**0722/7 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE**

A working group which comprises LN, RC and the Clerk will work on the preparations contained in Operation London Bridge which governs what the Council must do when the monarch passes away.

**This was noted.**

**0722/8 STRETE GATE AND THE MEMORIAL**

It is intended to install the Memorial in Strete Gate Car Park by the autumn. The car park negotiations are still ongoing due to the sale of the Strete Estate. DCC have not yet applied for planning permission to move the Memorial. The new site would remove a need for maintenance contract. PH is waiting for approval of the plan from the other five parishes involved. **This was noted.**

**0722/9 SALE OF THE STRETE ESTATE**

Savills are acting as the agent on the sale by the Strete Estate and any enquiries should go to them. The Estate is for sale as a whole or in 11 lots. RC reported that the plan of sale notes several areas identified as potential residential development areas including Cox's Farm field. This means the Strete Neighbourhood Plan [Plan] becomes an important element in the sale. The Plan's original aim was to build 17 homes on Cox's field of which 5 were affordable, 4 were to be second homes and 8 were tied to the principal residency criteria. The Strete Estate removed the site from the plan, so Cox's Farm field was returned to be outside settlement boundary, as are all other suggested land parcels. This means they become exception sites within the Neighbourhood Plan criteria.

**<https://www.cpresussex.org.uk/news/the-good-and-the-bad-about-rural-exception-sites/>**

One suggestion is a possible purchase of Cox's field by individuals or a consortium in the Village. The lease of the playpark is now dependent on its sale. **Resolved the Clerk examine the Lease.**

There are worries about inflated prices of some agricultural land offered because of possible development interest. RF pointed out that this is Hope value as the agent is always trying to maximise a sale value for their client. RC noted that the Plan needs updating. **Resolved to ask for volunteers to do this and to seek advice.**

#### **0722/10 DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS LAND MATTERS**

It was noted more discussion now needed on the report circulated in May. There was no progress on the review of the s106 monies toward the three sites in the agreement namely the Village Green, the Playpark and Blackbird Wood. **Resolved RF to confirm with SHDC that s106 monies are being earmarked for Strete.**

A possibility of s106 money being used to buy the playpark was discussed. **Resolved the Clerk contact Savills re this. RF to put a land expert in touch with PH.**

#### **0722/11 OTHER ONGOING MATTERS NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**

**The Clerk to ask DCC to recut the bank at the Totnes Road/A3122 junction.** This has been reported already in July. A partial collapse of the wall at one of the houses which looks onto the Village Green was discussed. It had been requested the owner make safe the area for the public pending repairs.

#### **0722/12 CLERK'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting. Banking.** The Council is now live for Bankline. The Clerk has done online training and needs to set IC up as co-administrator to authorise the signatories. **To note.**

**Road safety measures.** The VAS machine is with the Clerk. The Clerk contacted DCC to get their engineer to set up the machine and he has emailed with PH on various matters. There is a backlog of around six months on installation of these road safety devices. The Clerk has confirmed the blanket insurance cover with the insurer covers this and notified them of the addition to the policy. **To note.**

**Speed watch initiative.** The Clerk contacted the Police Speedwatch team on 14<sup>th</sup> July and they have replied with information how to register a group and start the scheme. **To note.**

**Standing Orders.** These are as last year. There is no need to update for online authorisation as this is covered in the Financial Regulations. **Resolved to approve for the year to July 2023.**

**To consider** whether to grant monies to local organisations such as CAB or the Foodbank to help the cost-of-living crisis. GC drew up a report. There is £100 for this budgeted in grants and donations. A discussion took place on the grant of monies to charitable organisations. This was related to the correspondence from the Strete Community pub on possible funding [discussed 0722/16]. A review of a social element will be made for grants funded by the precept, with a review of future needs in this area and cost of living increases. **Resolved GC to make a list of potential grants.** It was suggested the Village be asked for approval for this increased use of the precept, along with possible funding of the King's Head pub. **Resolved PH to lead on this.**

**To consider and approve** in principle payment toward a permanent photo album record of the Jubilee weekend. Nick Shepherd has offered to cost it. There is £184 left available in jubilee funds. **Resolved to approve the use of funds toward a photo album.**

**Police Hub.** The Clerk has corresponded with the Parish Hall Chairman on this. The responses from the Parish Hall Committee were sent to the MP's office on 15<sup>th</sup> July with a request to come back if any more information is needed. KG has invited the MP to discuss her offer of her caravan site as the hub. PH observed the Village Hall should be a central part of the village for such activities. **Resolved HD to contact police.**



**The election of a new council in May 2023.** To prepare for the election of a new council in May 2023. To ask the local community for volunteers to stand as a Councillor. **Resolved RC to advertise this in his newsletter.**

**Permission to work outside the council.** The Clerk has a part-time (three nights a week plus one day) paid role at the Kings Arms as a kitchen porter. Her contract of employment requires written consent to take on other work. However recent government proposals on exclusivity clauses <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lowest-paid-workers-to-be-given-flexibility-to-top-up-their-pay-under-government-reforms> are designed to encourage low-paid employees to top up their income. **Resolved Councillors are happy with the Clerk having a second job.**

A discussion took place on the use of weed killer on kerbs etc. RF reported on farming news re Glyphosate weedkiller that suggested it was politics rather than chemistry that created the scare.

**IC reminded all Councillors of the need to consider the environment. Resolved to carry forward to the next meeting. The report was received.**

### **0722/13 CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Report submitted before the meeting. July 2022 report.** Several items were discussed earlier.

**Strete Estate.** Strete Estate (SE) is currently being advertised for sale on the open property market by Savills. The estate is extensive (about 920 acres) and includes most of the land to the west of the village, together with a number of properties and some foreshore and woodland in the Gara Valley. It is being offered as a whole (preferred) or as 11 lots. This sale is likely to prove formative for the future of the whole village. The sale of such a large area of land so close to the village centre is unprecedented in living memory. It will have particular implications for future housing development in the village. As my Parish Council colleague and Strete Neighbourhood Plan author Ralph Clark notes in his recent newsletter.... "With a new or a number of new speculative landowners, Strete Neighbourhood Plan may have an effect on the future of the sale of Strete Estate and the potential of new housing development. The current landowner was unwilling to support the initial proposal, supported at the time by a majority of the community, for limited development in the village. This resulted in the site identified for limited development being removed from the settlement boundary and the site, subsequently, being identified as an exception site with constraints and implications." In the advertisements for the Sale, the agents have speculatively identified extensive areas of agricultural land around the village as possible development sites, indicating that they would expect retrospective uplift in sale value if development consent were to be subsequently granted. *Development Uplift: The land surrounding Strete Village shown hatched on the attached plan will be sold subject to an uplift provision triggered on the grant of planning consent and will become payable on the earlier of a sale with benefit of planning permission or implementation of planning permission. Please contact Savills for further details.*

Whilst this will be a matter for negotiation between prospective buyers, the agents and the current Estate owners, it is clear that the development protection afforded by the Neighbourhood Plan will be a crucial factor. The sale is on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on 21st July where Councillors will briefly discuss the implications. Most immediately, the playpark is currently leased from SE at a peppercorn rent. Given the uncertainty, it would be reckless to commit further capital spending on play park equipment until the sale is completed. It may be some months before the outcome of the sale is known.

**Bus Consultation by Devon County.** Nothing further to report. The next activity is likely to be a public consultation on a reduced improvement scheme by DCC, but this is now running late.

**Slapton Line Partnership.** Sam Lew, the newly appointed Adaptation Manager at the SLP, resigned from his post with effect from July. This has effectively led to the collapse of the Partnership and will result in a period of reconsideration as to the future of the organisation.

Cllrs Foss and Bastone (Dartmouth) put a motion before the full SHDC meeting on 14th July, calling for the Terms of Reference of the SLP to be revised. The amendment motion called 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. We await a report from Cllr Foss on the outcome of this motion. SLP. **RF reported SHDC is now pushing SLP to reform and act with urgency. Next action and meeting is awaited.**

**Proposed relocation of the Slapton Line Memorial.** Following the failure to agree site maintenance with the Field Studies Centre, all 6 Parishes have been reengaged in the hunt to find a different site for the Memorial. SHDC has also been approached to consider re-locating the Memorial to part of the car park extension at Strete Gate. We await feedback and developments.

**Climate Change Emergency.** Nothing further to report. Attempts to re-arrange the residents' information meeting have proved fruitless due to a lack of speakers.

**Waste Collections.** SHDC have announced that they intend to end their contract with FCC Environment Ltd by mutual consent with effect from 3rd October and take the waste service back in-house. FCC employees will be offered a transfer to become SHDC staff. FCC will continue to provide services for West Devon District Council. In the past month further scheduled brown bin collections in the village have been missed. Residents are urged to report such lapses to the SHDC online waste reporting service on each and every occasion that a scheduled collection of any sort is missed. [Report a Missed Collection - South Hams District Council \(fccenvironment.co.uk\)](http://fccenvironment.co.uk)

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

**Police Hub.** Anthony Mangnall MP has instigated a new initiative to set up 'Police Hubs' (by which he means a temporary base) in rural village halls around his Constituency. The aim is to improve community policing in rural areas by getting beat officers out and working from rural bases. The proposal suggests that Parish Halls in the area are all well equipped with facilities to support such an arrangement with very little adaptation needed. In Strete, the PC has taken up discussion of the matter with the Parish Hall Committee. Further development of the detail of the proposal will be needed.

**Post Box on Hynetown Road.** Finally a bit of good news. Following a lack of response locally from Royal Mail, the PC appealed to our MP. Anthony Mangnall. Our MP's office managed to extract a response the Postmaster General's office in London. This said that survey work is being planned for a new mounting post and a new box. No timescale was mentioned, but at least something appears to be happening! **The Chair's report was received.**

## **0722/14 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Reports were circulated prior to the meeting. PH. This report was given under 0722/13.**

**KG. Slapton Line Partnership and AONB.** KG reported rubbish being dumped again by skips adjacent to Manor Farm. She suggested a no motorhome sign to be placed at the road entrance to Strete Gate car park.

**LN. Roads: hedges, and litter.** Now the A379 is open at Stoke Fleming traffic is flowing much more freely. There did not seem to be a lot of extra traffic during the Tunes on the Sands Festival and it was managed well. Some cutting has been done along the Totnes road and this has made a great difference. Some hedges in Strete are getting long and Vicarage Lane really needs a trim. I will check if this can be done now. My greatest concern at present is with these hot temperatures the ground is tinder dry and the undergrowth and cliff could easily be set alight and I think is something we all need to keep an eye on particularly at Strete Gate, a barbeque which is not properly supervised could do immeasurable damage or it could be a match or a piece of glass. I remember in 1976 the cliff caught fire and it was very frightening.

**DR. Health and safety, Parish Hall liaison. Defibrillator.** I will be contacting the community

responder officer from South West Ambulance Service during the coming month, as requested by him, to arrange a defibrillator training session sometime in October.

**Parish Hall liaison.** I attended a meeting of the Parish Hall Committee on the 7th July, when the following was discussed. The Hall's new website is now live, giving details for those wishing to hire the Hall, deposits can be paid online. New signage with contact details is planned to be placed by the gate entrance by the church carpark. Anyone wishing to subscribe to the Hall's site to promote their own business will be charged £20.00 per entry.

Plans are in place for the village BBQ and Jazz to be held in the Hall's grounds on Saturday 6th August between 4.00 and 8.30 pm. Tickets are now available at the village post office at a cost of £8.50. (the ticket price includes the first burger or hot dog; additional ones will be available for an extra £5.00). A bar offering beer, wine and soft drinks will also be available.

The question of the Village Hall being used by the police whilst out on patrol was discussed and Penny has been in contact with Helen about obtaining a little more information to clarify the concerns that she has, largely in connection with the Village Hall's insurance.

**Platinum Jubilee.** The album of photos celebrating the Queen's jubilee was discussed. The Village Hall committee have already commissioned a collage of photos of the day in memory of the occasion which will be available to buy. The hall committee therefore would be quite happy to split the cost of an album, which could be kept in the Hall, with the Parish Council. *Post meeting note: The Parish Hall chairman contacted the Clerk on July 26<sup>th</sup> to advise they couldn't contribute toward the album as they were paying for the collage already.*

**Dog litter bins.** There are no issues with the emptying of the village bins.

**IC. Rights of Way, Tree warden, Strete Gate and Playpark. Footpaths/Bridleways.** By mid-July, these have been 'trudged-upon' by many folks! (mostly to the beach, in recent weather!) All seem to be in reasonable order, if a little "worn". Only Brambles seem to do well in hot dry weather! Where they get their moisture from beats me!

**Strete Gate:-** It was good to see that the council have carried out a 'clear-up' of surplus leaf-litter, and discarded litter, fairly recently in the car park, and have removed a few dead tree-limbs, which were a cause for concern, for motorists and pedestrians. The "Beach access steps", (or LACK OF!) continues, in its long-standing saga of, "Nothing Happening" sadly! The camping, with tents, along the back of the beach, is getting going now, with this hot & sunny weather, and, with the start of the school holidays imminent, will only increase, to the detriment of the SSSI, with its special Flora & Fauna.

**Play Park:-** We, ( the PC ), have received the latest report on conditions of equipment, faults, etc. Much the same, with nothing particularly dangerous, but , never-the-less, in need of attention. As the future of the availability of the play area is somewhat "up in the air" at present, we should only carry out a few basic essential repairs.

**Tree Warden:-** I am unaware of anything major, being carried out, apart from the continuing removal of Ash trees, where 'Ash Die-back' has occurred. As we are experiencing unusually high temperatures, and lack of rainfall, it is all too easy to mistake an Ash tree's natural 'shut-down', during drought conditions, with the signs of Ash Die-back!! Please let us not be too hasty with that chainsaw!

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

**Neighbourhood Plan.** My comments in June have become more relevant following the sale details released by Savills of land and property within Strete Estate. With the probability of a new or a number of new speculative landowners, Strete Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have an effect on the future of the sale of plots of land identified by Strete Estate as having the potential for new housing development.

The current landowner was unwilling to support the initial housing development proposal included in Strete Neighbourhood Plan, supported at the time by a majority of the community, for limited development in the village.

This resulted in the site identified for limited development being removed from the settlement boundary to comply with the requirements for completing Strete Neighbourhood Plan.

Strete Parish Council were advised that, should any potential developer submit a planning application for housing development on the site, the site would be treated as an exception site with the constraints and implications set out in the Neighbourhood Plan, the Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan and the requirements set out in documents for the South West Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It may become necessary to review the Strete Neighbourhood Plan to address potential development that may affect the village. Volunteers to undertake this review would be welcome.

**The Kings Arms.** SCPL committee continues to seek additional staff to enable 7-day opening with food. This includes a Commis Chef as an assistant to the Head Chef. The pub is currently open Monday and Tuesday for bar drinks only.

The SCPL Management Team seek a manager to support staff and manage the day-to-day organisational issues associated with hospitality, but this type of staff is not readily available. SCPL is constantly on the lookout for someone. SCPL Management Team give their time for free but the demands on their time are far greater than there is time available.

Press reports on pubs throughout the country are causing alarm bells to sound off. The Kings Arms has stuttered through 2021 and the first half of 2022 trying to serve the community to get some momentum going within the business. SCPL has battled staff shortages, rising costs and the harsh reality that customers have changed the way they go out to eat and drink. Despite government assistance, the Covid pandemic has cost the pub dearly.

Those involved in working, volunteering and generally helping out at the pub have put their heart and souls into the business, not to mention money raised through the share issue in 2020. Volunteers have performed exceptionally, but there are not as many as originally hoped for. More Front of House volunteers would make a difference to prospects immediately. Any amount of time would be welcomed. SCPL Management Team strive to provide a place in Strete for locals to eat and drink. The escalating price of energy (the electricity costs at the pub are averaging £1,000/month with a further 25% increase planned from 1 August) together with the soaring costs of ingredients is becoming hard to shoulder. To provide the quality of service to match the food offered, SCPL need to employ more staff to fit with the rota needed for opening. One of the key requirements, if the pub is to survive, is customers using the pub. Despite the previous chequered life of the Kings Arms there is a determination to kindle a love to make it a successful community pub. Many in the village appreciate the value of having a pub in Strete and have invested in the share issue to show their support, but SCPL need more to regularly use the pub if it is to survive. The Kings Arms is ready to welcome locals and visitors alike as the weather warms up.

**Village Sweeping, Fuge Road and Gateway Scheme.** The next village sweep is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The PC is still waiting to hear back from Devon Highways in respect of the proposal submitted to reduce vehicle speeding by installing a line marking gateway scheme to encourage vehicles approaching the village near Manor Farm camp site to observe the 20mph speed limit. This was submitted in January, but no response has been received to date despite follow-ups from the PC. RC reported the sweeper invoice for the May sweep had not been received and that they had been chased up.

**GC. Village Green, Prideaux Lane, campervans and carparks, social care and Slapton Line partnership.** **Village Green** I have requested that Greenspace deal with the very long verges and the area by the VAS machine, that has not been cut for a while. I have cut back a couple of buddleias that

were choking a silver birch tree. Ian and I are going to have a discussion about maintenance of the wooded copse which is getting heavily overgrown each year. A wall at the side of the Village Green had fallen over during the hot weather. The state of this wall had been reported to the owner's son who had called in a builder to inspect the wall and decide on action. PH had written on behalf of the Council to the householder to request urgent action and a fence to protect the area.

I have repainted one of the metal climbing frames on the playground with the special non slip paint, the other had to have some anti rust paint first, so I will get it finished this week. Another tin of paint was needed. The non-slip paint needs to be sanded down before the equipment is ready for use.

The disastrous news re the early departure of the Adaptation manager, Sam Lewis, has created severe problems for the Slapton Line Partnership. The delay so caused creates a real challenge for the SLP. I was worried by the absence of any reference to the maintenance and protection of the Line road in the references to the SLP. goals. There are suggestions that the SLP should be reappraised.

Citizens Advice continues to have a good number of clients on Mondays in the Community Cafe, 10.30 - 1.30. We are providing screens for added privacy for consultations. Predictably, CA have an increasing number of contacts from clients at the moment. CA have fuel vouchers available for those having difficulty in dealing with their electric and gas bills. These are only available if you pay using a prepayment meter, card or token. Dartmouth Caring continue to do hospital lifts, early booking is advised. **Reports were received.**

#### **0722/15(a) FINANCE**

Five cheques were listed for payment on the agenda, invoices circulated before the meeting and invoices approved for payment at the meeting.

1848 – Clerk salary for July £271.	1849 – Hall hire for June £30.
1850 – Greenspace grass cutting and strimming March to May inc. £642.80.	1851 – Mr G Campbell reimbursement of rust oleum paint for the playpark £57.34.
1852 – Mr G Campbell reimbursement replacement padlock for Prideaux Lane £19.99.	

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

#### **0722/15(b) FINANCE**

The monitoring statements for the first four months of 2022/23 to the end of July had been circulated previously. Year to date total income of £9,889.78 less total expenses of £7,750.76 gives a net surplus of £2,139.02 to the end of July 2022. **Resolved the monitoring statements would be put on the website and the noticeboards.**

#### **0722/15(c) FINANCE**

Cash at bank – £12,487.64CR at 08/07/22 Current account. £11,312.40CR Business Reserve account at 08/07/22.

#### **0722/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from the Strete Community Pub Limited was received with a request to consider financial assistance; in particular a grant or a loan. The Clerk had prepared a short report outlining the options available namely a grant under the Local Government Act 1972 s137 to a maximum of £3,696. **The Council does not have powers to lend money.**

This could be funded through savings in 2022/23, an additional precept in 2023/24 or for capital expenditure, for which the Council could take out a loan of a minimum £2,095 from the Public Works Loan Board. There was a quorum of 3 councillors, GC LN IC and Richard Foss took the chair, as other councillors had made a declaration of interest re the pub.

RC had already reported on pub costs going up in his councillor report. A discussion identified a need to raise prices further. The Pub has plenty of customers, but is currently held back at the potentially best time of the year by staff shortages especially a parttime chef, and is turning customers away. No food can be offered on Monday or Tuesdays, and this is reducing potential income by a considerable amount.

**At this point the chair closed the meeting so that the Pub treasurer could speak to councillors.**

The Pub treasurer outlined the need for an expression of support from the PC which was given. There was a discussion with the treasurer about the amount of money needed, and a figure of £2k was given. A discussion took place regarding the possibility of capital loans and grants by PC. *As above only a grant is possible at the moment.* The Pub Treasurer was asked for a summary of the capital expenditure needs as this was a criterion for any loan applied for from the Public Works Loan Board.

**The meeting was reopened.**

**Resolved further investigation of funding should be made and that consultation should be made regarding the capital/revenue type of funding needed. The Pub treasurer to provide further information.**

#### **0722/17 OTHER BUSINESS**

None was raised.

**0722/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 7pm if required. Otherwise Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Venue in the Parish Hall unless otherwise advised. **THE MEETING WAS CLOSED** at 10.00 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Peter Hales (Chairman) Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2022

## **STRETE VILLAGE ARCHIVE**

It is hoped to create and store a Strete archive in the Village Hall.

The archive will hold photographs, news items and documents relating to the history of Strete for all to study in the future.

If any parishioner has stored away anything historical relating to the history of Strete and would like to donate them to the archive please contact: Penny Penhale on 01803 771005 or Ron Howell on 01803 770452



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We meet mostly twice a month at the Stoke Lodge Hotel, Stoke Fleming on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The meetings commence with coffee at 10.30am followed by a speaker at 11.00am. On the first Wednesday of the month we follow the speaker with a lunch.

We are non-sectarian, non-political and a not-for-profit club. We support the concept of charitable activities but do not undertake any fund raising or charitable works.

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The Probud Club of Stoke Fleming and District is pleased to announce that the Autumn Programme is as follows:

#### October 12<sup>th</sup>

Lunch PETER GILL The Wit and Songs of Noel Coward

#### October 26<sup>th</sup>

Coffee PETE MOORE Being a Police Surgeon

#### November 9<sup>th</sup>

Lunch JOHN KEEHANE 21 Years Incarceration in the Tower of London

#### November 23<sup>rd</sup>

LADIES LUNCH JOHN MILES Bound together in Whimsical Stories

#### December 14<sup>th</sup>

Lunch ANDREW THOMPSON Otzi The Ice Man 2023

#### January 11<sup>th</sup>

Lunch PHIL BRADCOTT  
The Fatal Shore.  
The Transportation of Devon Convicts to Tasmania

#### January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Lunch JOHN BRYANT Bioethics and Genetic Engineering

#### January 25<sup>th</sup>

AGM 2.0PM

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# DISCOVER WELLBEING

*'The time you enjoy wasting, is not wasted time' John Lennon*

With recent events bringing closure to a time of great stability, with a Queen that has been with us, all of our lives and with the arrival of a new season beginning this week, it is a time of introspection and new beginnings. Here in the South Hams, the countryside is looking glorious with the slow returning of autumnal colours, new adventures lie ahead and with this brings small differences we can all begin to make in our community here in Strete. In this edition I am delighted to introduce you to local resident, Roscoe Howard who lives in Strete with his young Family.

**Have you ever tried unplugging yourself from all of your social media sights for a week?**

"Absolutely. I only have a Facebook account and haven't used it in years. The only reason I still have it is so I can message my friends using Messenger. Bex and I made a conscious choice to cut it all out upon the arrival of our son, Grayson"

**If a mysterious benefactor wrote you a cheque for 5 million pounds and told you to help a person or solve a cause, what would you do with this idea?**

"Would our dated home interior and out of control garden count as a 'cause'?! Currently, it would be helping the families of Ukraine"

**How do you really switch off and relax when you are on a break or holiday?**

"Read a book, paint some Warhammer models or play videogames"

**Would you like to write a book and if so, about what?**

I would absolutely love to write a book! In fact, I'm sure in some parallel universe somewhere there's a Roscoe who's a famous author. I read mostly sci-fi and fantasy so it would be one of those genres.

**If you could have tea with a fictional character, which one would it be and why?**

Gandalf the Grey (or White, I'm not picky). There's only so much you can learn from Tolkien's classics, I'd love to get a first hand account of Middle Earth.

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## Queen's Favourite Chocolate Biscuit Cake

### Cake Ingredients

- 1/2 tsp butter, for greasing the pan
- 8 oz rich tea biscuits or sweet cookies
- 4 oz unsalted butter, softened
- 4 oz granulated sugar
- 4 oz dark chocolate
- 1 egg



### For Icing

- 8 oz dark chocolate, for coating
- 1 oz chocolate, for decoration

### Method

1. Lightly grease a 6-inch-by-2½-inch cake ring with butter and place on a tray on a sheet of parchment paper.
2. Break each of the biscuits into almond size pieces by hand and set aside.
3. In a large bowl, combine the butter and sugar until the mixture starts to lighten.
4. Melt the 4 oz of the dark chocolate and add to the butter mixture, stirring constantly.
5. Add the egg and beat to combine.
6. Fold in the biscuit pieces until they are all coated with the chocolate mixture.
7. Spoon the mixture into the prepared cake ring. Try to fill all of the gaps on the bottom of the ring because this will be the top when it is un-moulded.
8. Chill the cake in the refrigerator for at least 3 hours.
9. Remove the cake from the refrigerator and let it stand.
10. Meanwhile, melt the 8 oz of dark chocolate in a double boiler or saucepan on the stove top over low heat. Slide the ring off the cake and turn it upside down onto a cake wire.
11. Pour the melted chocolate over the cake and smooth the top and sides using a palette knife. Allow the chocolate to set at room temperature.
13. Carefully run a knife around the bottom of the cake where the chocolate has stuck it to the cake wire and lift it onto a tea plate.
14. Melt the remaining 1 oz of chocolate and use to decorate the top of the cake.



### **The 5-5-5 Breathing Technique**

Box breathing is helpful regardless of whether you're going to combat with a toddler or your boss. As a matter of fact, it's actually a very simple technique used by Navy Seals to relax and get focused!

1. Inhale very slowly through your nose for 5 seconds
2. Hold the breath for 5 seconds
3. Release the breath through your mouth for 5 seconds
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3
5. Continue this process for either one full minute or 5 - 10 cycles







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Elizabeth Ann  
Prettejohn



1884-1964  
Hallsands



Intact at the highest point above the sea in old Hallsands - is Sea View, the Prettejohn's family home. After the evacuation in 1917 they were the only ones to stay. After her parents' died Elizabeth remained in her house up until her death, in 1964, at the age of 80. British Pathé news footage from 1960 shows Elizabeth in her late 70s, still living with her cat and her hens in 'Sea View'.



Elizabeth Ann Prettejohn was born in Hallsands at The London Inn. Her parents were the landlords of the village inn which was

built high above the tideline. Hallsands grew as a fishing village during the 18th and 19th century, reaching a population of 159 by 1891, occupying 37 houses. There was a small shop with post office, the London Inn with stables, a piggery and a Mission Room. The first known reference to a settlement at Hallsands comes in the Stokenham Manor court rolls of 1611.

But in 1894 the Royal Navy made plans to extend Devonport Dockyard at Keyham, which needed around 400,000 cubic metres of shingle. Extracting it from Start Bay was decided to be 'a sound business proposition' and a planning application was made without villagers being aware. After the dredging the wide shingle beach quickly disappeared leaving the village defenceless against a massive four-day storm that wrecked nearly the entire village in January 1917.





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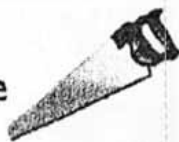
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\*We ask for a minimum commitment of six months – but we find that most of our volunteers stay many years.



**South Hams**

[southamscab.org.uk](https://southamscab.org.uk)

Registered charity 1091133.

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

**Dartmouth Police Station**

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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:

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