

Stoke Fleming Voice

May 2025





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HOTEL

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Editorial

What a great start we have had to spring this year! The prolonged period of fine, warm weather has inspired us to get an early start to work in our gardens, and they are now looking their best: bluebells, rhododendrons and azaleas doing well and the cherry blossoms and hawthorn flourishing. As a result, Loam Rangers have been doing a brisk trade since they re-opened in April – such an excellent service for the gardeners in the village.



I'm told swallows have been seen on the coast near Start Point, and I'm sure our local naturalist will have spotted other spring arrivals, perhaps nearer to home; see his article on page 10 to find out. Other signs of summer coming are that the May to September parking restrictions in town are back in force, and dogs are no longer allowed on Blackpool Sands.

Still on the theme of summer, because of volunteer holidays **we will not be producing a magazine in July**. So if you have news or events during July that you would like to have published in the June edition, please let us have them by the June copy date of **16 May**.

Already this is the 4th edition of Stoke Fleming Voice; we hope you are enjoying the new magazine and finding it full of useful and interesting information. So far, we have stuck closely to the successful model developed by Joan and Trevor but are now exploring some new ideas. To that end, in the June edition we will be inviting you to contribute any thoughts on how we might develop content and layout in the future, so please start thinking about this. We are drawing up a short survey questionnaire which will be included in the next magazine and will also be available to complete on-line.

Stoke Fleming Voice is developed and produced entirely by volunteers, and is provided free-of-charge to all residents of Stoke Fleming. It is funded by grants, advertising by local businesses, and by kind donations from regular contributors and local recipients. Next month we will be distributing envelopes to enable households to make a voluntary contribution to the funding. Of course, you can always make donations by BACS at any time if that's more convenient. Our bank details are on the inside back page. It currently costs about 70p per household each month to produce the magazine. We hope you think it's worth it!

Anne Bailey – Publishing

(Cover photograph of Stoke Fleming (circa 1910) from Barry Morris' postcard collection)

Readers Corner

“The existing world (economic) order has been destroyed.” The words, or sentiments, of many politicians and commentators at the time I am writing this in April. Day after day the chaos increases – doubling down, rowing back, taking a new tack altogether. And not only tariff wars but shooting wars as well – “peace” said to be imminent one moment, redoubled fighting and destruction the next. It seems to be anyone’s guess what will be happening on the world stage by the time we reach 1st May. Better to focus on Easter!

Easter Sunday is just a few days away as I write and the Easter Season will last throughout May, right up to Pentecost or Whit Sunday (on 8th June this year). Easter offers us reassurance about the past, that Jesus’ historical resurrection marked the defeat of death: ultimately chaos and evil did not and will not prevail. Easter offers us joy in the present, the knowledge that Jesus lives and he loves us, that forgiveness is possible, that God wants us to be his children. Easter offers us hope for the future, that one day we too shall receive resurrection of life in God’s new creation.

May is a special month, full of the beauty of new growth, promising the hoped-for balm of summer to come, a month of bluebells and campion and wild garlic with foxgloves to follow, a month for gardeners to enjoy (as well as to weed!), for outings and celebrations, bank holidays and visitors, a month when the heart lifts and the step quickens. Oh, and a month with two special Sundays. 11th May is Christian Aid Sunday, an opportunity to show our concern for all our many fellow human beings living in dire need. This year we shall be learning how Aurelia has been helped by Christian Aid’s local partner in Guatemala, and what she is now able to do for her local indigenous community. Let’s show that Stoke Fleming really means business as a compassionate community, by learning more about the issues, by prayer and by giving generously through Christian Aid.

25th May is Rogation Sunday when we ask for God’s blessing on the work of farmers, gardeners and fishermen. If the weather is kind it is a wonderful chance to move out from church to field and garden, and back through the churchyard, thanking God for all he has given us in this beautiful location and praying for village and parish, for livestock and pets and wildlife. Please come and join in!

Wishing you the joy and hope of this Easter Season,

Peter Barker

From the Registers

24th March. Jose Sylvia Brown. Funeral followed by burial

27th March. Michael Jordan. Funeral followed by cremation

29th March. John William Skelley to Joy Elizabeth Bruckner. Marriage

St Peter's Church Services for May

Sun 4th	Easter 3	11am Communion Midday Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sun 11th	Easter 4	Christian Aid Week 11am Morning Worship 4pm THE 4
Sun 18th	Easter 5	11am Communion by extension
Sun 25th	Easter 6 Rogation Sunday	11am Rogation Service
Thurs 29th	Ascension Day	7pm United Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's

Holy Communion on Ascension Day will be followed by a simple sit-down supper. (Please book supper places with Peter Barker). Each Friday morning there is a brief, simple, informal and reflective service at 9am.

Mike Jordan 1943 – 2025



A real stalwart and supporter of organisations and events in the village. A member of the local Coastguards for 38 years, he also belonged to the Royal British Legion for 50 years.

He arranged the Remembrance Service at St Peter's Church for the Legion and read out the names of the Fallen from the Parish in both World Wars every year until last year when, due to ill-health, he was unable to do it.

He was a Trustee on the Village Hall Management Committee for several years as well as being a great supporter of the Horticultural & Sports Society, being

the scorer at the popular quiz night, field manager on show day, and Vice Chairman for many years. He helped set up the Short Mat Bowls Club as well as playing outdoor bowls and, with his son Mark and grandson Joel, became a formidable team, known as the Jordan Triples and won many trophies and prizes.

BM

Little Stars

Spring is here and our little stars are growing like weeds but more entertaining than weeds; we all love their characters, all individual and amusing. Join us in church on a Monday morning at 9.00 until 10.30, term time only, everyone welcome.

Heather, Sue and Peter

Dart The Dart Foodie Fun Trail

This run is designed to be purely for fun and to raise vital funds for the Dartmouth Food Festival 2025. Along the way up to 150 runners will sample various culinary delights and take on board liquid refreshments at a host of different venues, all whilst wearing fancy dress. A few more marshals and other helpers are still needed; if you can spare a couple of hours on **Saturday 10th May** please contact Clare or Lara at volunteers@dartmouthfoodfestival.com

Stoke Fleming Youth Club

Stoke Fleming Youth Club is up and running. We welcome all young people from year 5 upwards on a Tuesday evening from 5:30-7:30 during term time. Thank you so much to Matt for running the sessions.

We also hire out the hall in Rectory Lane to help raise money for the club. We offer a low cost and flexible space, with all the proceeds used to keep the club running for the young people of Stoke Fleming. Please do consider using the club if you have a group or event. If you have any further questions please message our Facebook page or email stokeflemingyouthclub@gmail.com.

Stoke Fleming Cricket Club

April showers bring the start of the cricket season on 27th April! So the bats are being oiled, the pads whitened and the pencils sharpened. In the meantime sunscreen is being packed as Stoke Fleming are honouring their international commitments with a tour against Gibraltar in Gibraltar! If they win they will go into the draw for the 2027 World Cup so I will keep you posted on the results and the tans. The cricket ground is in Venn Lane.

Our May fixtures are as follows:

Home	Sunday 4th May	1pm	Exiles
Away	Sunday 11th May		Gibraltar
Home	Sunday 18th May	1pm	South Brent
Home	Sunday 25th May	1.30pm	Red Dogs

Stacey Gilbert



Dartmouth Friends of Rowcroft Coffee
Morning at
Stoke Lodge Hotel
Stoke Fleming, 10-12 noon
Thursday 15th May 2025

in aid of Rowcroft Hospice

Craft Stall
&
Raffle

Delicious
Homemade
Cakes



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Company

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hospice
Registered Charity No. 282723

News from The Hort and Sport

Spring is well and truly with us, and we are looking forward to seeing you all at the Spring Plant Sale and Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on Saturday 10th May – 10am to 11.30am. Donations of plants, seedlings etc, labelled please, can be dropped off at the Hall from 9am on the day, plus any donations for the cake stall, homemade cakes, buns, scones etc and any raffle prizes would be appreciated. Contrary to the negative rumours going around the village we are working hard and planning for the Annual Show which will take place on Bank Holiday Monday, 25th August, so we hope you are also busy with your plans to enter the vegetable, flower, photography and cookery classes, and not forgetting the children's classes. If you are not interested in gardening then why not just come along to the plant sale for a cuppa, a piece of cake, a chat and perhaps make some new friends, and you will be supporting a local village event.



Stoke Fleming Horticultural
& Sports Society
Founded in 1875

Barry (770754)

80th anniversary of VE Day!

Dartmouth Town Council are hosting a Street Party in Royal Avenue Gardens on Sunday 11th May to honour this historic occasion, starting at midday with The Proclamation read by the Town Crier. They invite us to come dressed in 1940s attire, bring a picnic and enjoy great company as we commemorate the bravery and sacrifices made during WWII. There'll be music from the BRNC Volunteer Band and children's entertainment. Dartmouth Rotary are operating the bar, supported by Bays Brewery. Finishes at 4pm.

Across the country, including in Stoke Fleming, it is planned that church bells will ring at some time during the day, and at 9.30pm over 1,000 Beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace will be lit.

In Nick Teage's history of Stoke Fleming he tells us this about how the village responded to the end of the war in Europe. "The Allies accepted the surrender on 6th May 1945 which was celebrated as VE Day (Victory in Europe). £64 was collected and spent on a carnival fancy dress parade in the morning, children's tea and adult sports, a comic football match and a general tea in 3 sittings in the afternoon followed by a bonfire in Thorn Field, Mill Lane and a social in the evening. But the war in the Far East continued and it must have been quite difficult for people like my mother with loved ones still fighting there to join in the celebrations. It was not until the atom bombs were dropped over Hiroshima and Nagasaki that the Japanese finally surrendered on 15th August 1945, which would become known as VJ Day". *Our thanks to Nick for his permission to print this extract from his book.*

STOKE FLEMING HORTICULTURAL & SPORTS SOCIETY



**PLANT
SALE**

and

**COFFEE
MORNING**

**CAKE STALL &
RAFFLE**

Stoke Fleming Village Hall

Saturday 10th May - 10.00 to 11.30

Friends Of St Peter's



AGM

Friday 9th May 6.00pm
in The Church

Projects

1. Updating kitchen & toilet facilities;
2. Creating a safe path;
3. Providing benches;
4. Enhancing the churchyard.



All welcome

Wine, nibbles
& Soft drinks at 5.30
(contributions bar)



Church open at 5.30 to view displays

Get growing this May with Gardentime!

May's a busy month in the garden. Summer's just around the corner and everywhere you look, plants are flowering and bees are buzzing. When the sun shines, there is nothing better than a garden in May, so here are a few tips to get your garden looking its best.



May Gardening Jobs

- **Plant out summer bedding plants** like petunias, geraniums and marigolds for a splash of colour.
- **Get tender vegetables planted** such as tomatoes, courgettes and cucumbers—perfect for your grow-your-own patch!
- **Harden off young plants** raised indoors by gradually introducing them to outdoor conditions.
- **Give evergreen hedges and topiary a trim** to keep them neat and encourage strong growth.
- **Direct sow hardy annuals** like sunflowers and cornflowers straight into borders for easy summer blooms.
- **Stay vigilant for pests** such as aphids and slugs—early action now can save your plants later!
- **Feed roses** with a specialist fertiliser to encourage strong, healthy flowering.
- **Keep on top of weeds**—they grow quickly at this time of year and can compete with your plants for nutrients.
- **Continue sowing vegetable seeds** like carrots, beetroot and lettuce for a steady summer harvest.

The garden centre is now packed with fresh new plants ready for your pots, beds and borders; summer bedding, herbaceous perennials, new season roses, fruit bushes, seasonal shrubs, rockery plants and herbs are all looking superb. If you do not have much outside space you might want to visit our amazing houseplant emporium, filled with foliage and flowering plants to enhance your home.

It's time to stock up with compost, soil conditioners and bark – let us take the strain – make use of our delivery service, we'll get those heavy bags placed where you need them. Our 50% off pot range has been topped up with wonderful new pots, including colourful glazed and terracotta.

Don't forget to visit our newly refurbished Café, it has a fresh new look and a brand-new menu too, including delicious new breakfasts and a kid's menu, as well as our established favourites.

Nature Notes

In spite of the easterly and northerly winds some of the summer birds arrived. The first, like before, is the chiffchaff which came on 4th April and it is common by the 7th April for most of the parish. The second is a willow warbler which arrived on 11th April near the dilapidated Venn Farm. The third and final arrival is a solitary swallow flying over Riversbridge Lane towards the Venn Stream. A pair of cirl buntings, or maybe two, was seen near Pine Wood near Ash Lane on 10th April onwards. Two herons were seen on 10th April, one at Riversbridge Pools and the other at Combe Pond, the latter flew to South Wood. The little grebe came out of the island after and dived to get some food. A Canada goose flew from the corner of Combe Pond to the middle of the pond and swam on the 13th. Also, I saw a peregrine falcon flying over Ash Lane to Stancombe Wood on the 10th. A pair of kestrels were seen, a female at Little Dartmouth on 4th April and a male at Cotton on 7th April. At 9 pm on my return on 13th April a Leisler's bat came over me and then went to go down Worden Track.



DW

Children's Hospice South West

Thank you to everyone who supported Children's Hospice South West at our two fundraising events in April. Our Easter Fair in the Market on 5th April, where the support and generosity received was heart-warming, resulted in a total of £960 raised. This was boosted by Stephen Levy's wonderful Winkworth Easter Raffle drawn at the event which raised another £700. We also received a generous £100 donation that day from Sue Payne and her Stand Up To Cancer friends, bringing our total for the day to an amazing £1,760. We held a street collection in Dartmouth that week where a much-appreciated total of £564 was donated. In total, a wonderful £2,325.74 was raised, hard work but well worth the effort and will help CHSW to provide specialist care and support for over 550 families with life-limited children in the South West – making the most of short and precious lives.

Our next event in Dartmouth is our Dart Art Day in Royal Avenue Gardens on Saturday 5th July - a definite date for the diary. Meanwhile, if you're visiting the Devon County Show (15th-17th May), look out for the CHSW stand to learn more about the incredible work carried out by the Hospice. New helpers are always welcome, for more information, please contact **Sue Tweed** on tweed833@btinternet.com or 07955 197721. Thank you.

Start Bay Performers Present

The Last Panto in Little Grimley

*A One Act Comedy by
David Tristram*

**on Friday 6th & Saturday 7th June
At Stoke Fleming Village Hall
Dartmouth Road**

Licensed Bar

Tickets £15 includes hot supper

Doors open from 6.30pm, food served at 7.15pm

**Tickets available from The Village Shop
or via Mary Rimell (07909 970510)**

Dartmouth Caring

Monday Makers at Dartmouth Caring

If you are looking for a little calm in this busy world, a way to reduce stress, lift your mood and get in touch with your creative side then Monday Makers craft sessions could be the answer.



Supporting Our Community

Crafting has well known benefits on both physical and mental health. It's a great way to bring mindfulness into your life by providing a focus for busy brains and racing thoughts. It's good for improving dexterity and motor skills and possibly even lowering blood pressure. For anyone feeling a little lonely or isolated but nervous about meeting people, crafting is an ideal low-pressure way to spend time with other people.

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced crafter you are more than welcome to come along, have fun trying your hand at different activities without worrying about the end result and share any ideas you have for future sessions.

We meet every other Monday from 11am to 1pm at our home in the Health and Wellbeing Centre, by the Park & Ride. **Call 01803 835384** for more information.

Who Cares Club

Our club is for those who are caring for their loved ones or who have in the past been carers. We meet on the first Monday of each month at the Sportsman's Arms at 12.45 for lunch and at 10.30am in The Flavel Foyer for coffee mid-month on a Friday.

John Mitchell 01803 835030

Dart Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Dart PPG is seeking new members who are motivated to improve medical care and patient services at the Dartmouth Health Centre. If you wish to champion a specific type of care or medicine that would also be most welcome. Contact **Paul Green** for more info: 07799 772709.

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you or someone you know has a problem with alcohol this weekly meeting in the Dartmouth Health Centre may be the way to a solution. The meeting is private, anonymous and closed – meaning it is for AA members. It takes place every Thursday evening from 6.30-7.30 pm. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Dartmouth Food Bank

DARTMOUTH & DISTRICT
FOOD BANK



Monday 5:30pm - 6pm

Friday 11am - 12:45pm

Townstal Community Hall, TQ6 9LJ

We know that if you work on min wage you may still need help, so we are open Monday tea time NOW

News from the Community Kitchen

Our lunch in March stepped away from our usual repertoire and moved to Eastern food with spices of cumin and coriander, paprika and sumac served with hummus and pickled cucumber. Overall it was voted a success but some people found it a bit spicy! So this month we played safe and cooked a vol-au-vent of chicken, mushroom and leek with fresh vegetables on the side. It went down a storm. Luckily we had warning of vegetarians coming so we could produce a similar meal but without the chicken. Puddings, always popular, were Tiramisu, Baked Spiced Plums with Basque Cheesecake, Lemon Surprise, Fresh Berries and Brioche Frangipane Apple. Does that whet your appetite? Come and join us next time. It will be on Friday 23rd May in the Village Hall. Tickets will be in the Village Shop on Tuesday 6th May. They cost £10 with £2 to pay on the day.

Our friends who come to the lunch say, "Always friendly faces to chat to", "No washing up" and "Delicious Food!"

Please come too but get to the shop early to buy your tickets. Remember that we need to know of any dietary requirements in advance. There is always a list of ingredients for every dish so you can check out anything that you are unsure of with an option of a vegetarian dish if you prefer. We look forward to welcoming you.

Mary Newman

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The Green Dragon

What's on in May @ The Dragon:

Saturday 3rd May - Live Music with the fantastic Lee McCombe and Danny Hibbard.

Tuesday 6th May - Tasty Tuesday Pop up Chef Night with The Greedy Table's "Taste of the Souks" Persian Night.

Friday 30th May - Fish and Fizz served at lunchtime.

Fridays and Saturdays 10am-12 noon - Putty's delicious breakfasts are served.

Booking is now advisable with us entering the holiday season.

With the days getting longer and temperature milder our back garden will be open, with a covered area in the case of any Spring showers.

We look forward to seeing you all.

Georgie and Alan

Start Point Lighthouse

Start Point Lighthouse will be open to the public on Sunday 4th May from 11.00am. We are only able to open on the first Sunday of the month due to rising costs and shortage of volunteers. Despite this, we are very keen that there should be public access to demonstrate the aids to navigation that Trinity House initiate around our coastline. We are one of 66 lighthouses in England and Wales that Trinity House own but only 5 are open to the public. Full details of opening times are on the Trinity House website. Come down to see us!

Mary Newman

Stoke Fleming Village Hall

Bookings are looking healthy and the heating controls are much improved. We have hosted Weddings, Parties, Corporate Days, Yoga and Pilates, Short Mat Bowls and Coffee mornings as well as the usual village meetings in the Ron Harris Room.



Our AGM was held on 7th April so we are all legal for another year! We have a Fundraising Bingo evening in Moreleigh Village Hall on Friday 9th May. We have some great prizes and many of the Trustees are going and supporting this, so do come along too. Eyes down at 7.30pm. This is one of many fundraising events we are organising to ensure our funds remain healthy and we have the opportunity to upgrade various aspects of the Hall. The redecoration of the Hall will be on 1st and 2nd May with the weekend to complete moving items back into place and to clear up.

We have some First Aid Training booked for June and open to all. This is a life skill and so important to learn. The two-hour sessions, non-certified, will be especially targeted for parents and young children including using the defibrillator. Other sessions during the day will be targeted for adults. More details will be in the June magazine, including the times and the charge per person. We hope this might be repeated at other times of the year if it proves popular.

A Table Top Sale will also be organised on Saturday 21st June. Tables will cost £10, payable in advance. More details on how to book a table in the next magazine.

MN

More News from the 100 Club!

We're thrilled to announce that the winner of the 100 Club April draw is Struan Coupar with the number 121. He takes home a prize of £22 – congratulations!

Save the Date: The next draw will take place on **Monday 12th May** during the Start Bay Players Rehearsal at Stoke Fleming Village Hall for another £22 prize. Could you be our next winner?

Joining the 100 Club not only gives you a chance to win these amazing prizes but also helps support our Village Hall. Good luck, and see you at the next draw!

Simon Dowden

Wednesday Ladies

Wednesday Ladies next meeting is on 14th May at 2.30pm in the Village Hall, Ron Harris room. The speaker this month is **Janet East** and she will bring us **“More tales from Yellingham Farm”**.

If you would like to join Wednesday Ladies, or for more information, phone Jill 01803 771137.

Dartmouth & District Flower Club

All meetings are held in Stoke Fleming Village Hall at 14.30. Subscription for the year is £35, with a small charge of about £3 at each meeting. There is always tea and cake served after the demonstration. Next meeting is on 8th May: **Angela Hyland** – **“Trailblazing Women”**.

Contact: **Gwendoline (833270**



Craft Club

For those who enjoy stitching, crochet, knitting etc, the club will be having its next meeting on **9th May** since the Hall is being painted on 2nd May. Please will everyone note the change of date. If you would like to join us we meet in the Ron Harris room at the Village Hall at 2pm.



THE GREEDY TABLE

Local Private Chef & Small Party Caterer

Offering food deliveries for dinner parties and special occasions, or in house cooking.

Tailor made menus to suit different budgets and tastes.

Contact: thegreedytable@gmail.com



Dart Music Festival (DMF) 16th-18th May 2025

We are so lucky to live in an area where so much goes on. The Dartmouth Calendar is full of events throughout the year and this year is the 27th Dart Music Festival.

Three days of fabulous, live music spread across our 8 official venues in the town and this year, more restaurants and pubs than ever have stepped up to provide more music for our fabulous audiences to enjoy. See the website at www.dartmusicfestival.co.uk for a preview of the weekend's line-up.

We are always looking for volunteers who can spare an hour or two to help sell programmes at a table or as a roving collector at venues. If you think you could help, please get in touch with **Sally** at dmf.collections@outlook.com.

DMF is a free-to-attend event, brought to you by a small team of volunteers, but it certainly isn't free to put on. Every year we commit to spend around £90,000 and then we try to raise that money.

Nearly half of that comes from our wonderful business sponsors and Festival Friends, but the rest is funded by programme sales and donations to our bucket-rattlers over the weekend.

If you'd like to show your support and become a Festival Friend, all the details are on our website. www.dartmusicfestival.co.uk.

A note for residents of Little Cotton:

DMF underwrites an extension to the Park and Ride service which will be operating an extended evening service over the weekend.

If you live at the top of Dartmouth, a ticket can be purchased from the Park and Ride machine or by using code 810442 on the Pay by Phone App. This provides a return bus journey for up to 6 people for £10.

Whilst DMF makes no money from this provision, if it makes a loss (as it did last year) then DMF has to meet that shortfall.

If you are planning on using the bus over the weekend, please consider using the Park and Ride to help keep this service viable.

Stoke Fleming Loam Rangers (SFLR)

The 2025 season has started with a real flourish – must be the wonderful weather combined with the enthusiastic gardeners of Stoke Fleming! We increased the number of compost bags members can take from three to five and everyone has certainly bought into that with a record 440 bags being taken in March.

Talking of records we had the 2024/5 AGM on Wednesday 9th April – thanks to all who attended. A few highlights from that meeting

1305 visits to site Apr 24 to Mar 25 – up 30% on previous year

1883 compost bags taken – up 38% (28,245 kg)

Drainage channel installed

Donations to other parish groups approved

149 members – currently 100 paid up for 2025

2025 celebrates 20 years of SFLR



We also discussed volunteers on whom, together with the committee, we totally rely to keep SFLR running. We have 31 registered volunteers – with 20 already volunteered for the Sunday duty roster. We still have a number of unfulfilled Sunday slots so please help us fill these slots and share the workload- after all the commitment is just a couple of Sunday mornings 10:00 – 11:30.

We are also looking to open on a Wednesday evening 17:30 – 18:00 June through September, however this will only be possible if we can man the site with at least two volunteers.

Please contact Paul to get added to the volunteer register or book in for a Sunday or Wednesday.

In terms of our commitment to supporting other parish groups we were able to sign off donations of £250 to each of the following;

Stoke Fleming Voice

The Village Hall

Prickles in a Pickle

Stoke Fleming School

We will be in touch with the applicants in the near future to arrange payment.

Steve Shakespeare – sgshakespeare@btinternet.com 07970 137311

Paul Noonan – pnoonan14@gmail.com

CRAB SHELL



"Probably the best
seafood sandwiches
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CREAM TEAS - CLOTTED CREAM -
LUXURY DEVON HAMPERS

The Good Intent, 30 Lower Street, Dartmouth, TQ6 9AN t:01803 832157
www.dartmouthicecream.com



Dartmouth Caring

Supporting Our Community

We are a local charity, reliant on self-funding. We support the vulnerable and those in need in Dartmouth and surrounding villages.

We are here to assist when someone you know needs support.

Some of our services are listed alongside.

- General Advice, Support & Advocacy
- Outpatient Transport
- Various clubs:

Lunch Club—Memory Café—Monday Makers—Souper Thursday—Baby Weigh & Play—Table Top Gaming Group—Bereavement Group

- Housing & Benefit advice
- Palliative and Oncology Nursing support
- Visually Impaired Reading Club
- Dementia Carers Support
- Social Prescribing
- Befriending
- Counselling Support

01803 835384

enquiries@dartmouthcaring.co.uk



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Nathan Brown 0751 3030476

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Gardening & Design



Contact Mark
07561 881132

seaparr01@yahoo.co.uk

News from Blackpool Sands

Blackpool Sands is celebrating a new boardwalk thanks to a grant to part-fund its cost. A grant of £8,091 was secured from Defra's "Access for All" funding to make the South Devon National Landscape more accessible for people of all ages and abilities. It is part of a wider government initiative to make all protected landscapes "places for everyone".



The boardwalk is made of almost 10 tonnes of recycled soft plastic waste such as crisp packets and bread bags; the kind that isn't easily recyclable at scale. This is then injected into moulds to form boardwalk sections which are linked together and placed on the beach to provide two pathways.

Now that the boardwalk has been laid people are taking full advantage of this easy access path to visit parts of the beach they were unable to reach in the past. A huge thank you to South Devon National Landscape for helping to make this happen and to The Plastic Company in Ivybridge for supplying and installing this boardwalk.

MN

Stoke Fleming Probus Club

A lunch meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th May at the Stoke Lodge Hotel, starting at 10.30am. The meeting will commence with coffee, followed by a talk by **Jeremy Sackett** entitled, "**Guinness Brewing**".

Recent events suggest that Generation Z has suddenly discovered the delights of this unique brew, leading to an unexpected upswing in demand and tales of shortage and dry pubs. Or is it all just clever marketing? Jeremy tells us how to make the stuff. We are keen to attract new members and a warm welcome will be given to guests. If you would like to come along and be a guest please phone me.

Peter Hales (01803 770739

Slimming World, Dartmouth

We meet every Tuesday evening at Townstal Community Hall at 5pm and 7pm and would love to welcome you. For details, contact **Sharon** on 07877 826101.

Dartmouth Banking Hub (opens Monday to Friday, 09.00 – 17.00)

The banking hub provides basic banking services including counter services run for the major banks by the Post Office. You can pop in on any day to access these services.

You can also talk to a community banker from your bank on the day your bank is in the Hub.

Monday	HSBC
Tuesday	NatWest
Wednesday	Lloyds
Thursday	Barclays
Friday	Santander

There is a private space where you can talk face-to-face about more complicated banking enquiries like payments and transfers, managing your account, and how to use online banking. Community bankers usually take their lunch breaks between 12.00 and 13.00.

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Stoke Fleming Information

Stoke Fleming Library – Tel: 770076

At the Village Hall: Monday 15.00 to 17.00, Tuesday 10.30 to 12.30, Thursday 15:00 to 17.00.

Stoke Fleming Village Shop and Post Office

	<i>Shop – 771119</i>	<i>Post Office – 770229</i>
Sunday	09.00 – 12.00	Closed all day
Monday	08.00 – 17.00	08.00 – 17.00
Tuesday	08.00 – 17.00	08.00 – 17.00
Wednesday	08.00 – 17.00	08.00 – 13.00
Thursday	08.00 – 17.00	08.00 – 17.00
Friday	08.00 – 17.00	08.00 – 17.00
Saturday	08.30 – 13.00	09.00 – 13.00

Stoke Fleming Little Lanterns (Pre-School) – Tel: 770244

Children from 2 years old. Mon to Fri, 08.30 – 15.00.

Baby and Toddler Stay and Play. Tuesday 09.00 – 11.00.

Loam Rangers Community Composting (School Road)

Every Sunday 10.00 to 11.30

Bus – Service 93 (at Endsleigh Hotel)

Stoke Fleming to Dartmouth			Dartmouth to Stoke Fleming	
Mon – Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon – Sat	Sun
08.32	08.30		06.15 (<i>Not Sat</i>)	
09.35	09.35		07.30	
11.00	11.00	11.38	09.30	09.55
12.00	12.00		10.30	
13.00	13.00		11.30	
14.00	14.00		12.30	12.25
15.00	15.00	14.08	13.30	
16.28	16.25	16:38	14.30	14.55
17.15	17.15		15.30	
18.15	18.15		17.15	17.25
19.15	19.15	19.13	18.45	

Service 93 runs from Dartmouth to Kingsbridge

Service 3 Some of the buses continue from Kingsbridge to Plymouth as service 3 on weekdays and Saturdays. Please check before travelling.

May 2025

Thur	1	Devon County Council Elections, Ron Harris Room, Village Hall
Fri	2	
Sat	3	Live music at the Green Dragon
Sun	4	11.00, Start Point Lighthouse Opens
Mon	5	
Tue	6	Pop up at The Green Dragon – The Greedy Table. Evening
Wed	7	18.00, Parish Council Meeting 19.00, Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall
Thur	8	10.30, u3a talk, Flavel 14.30, Dartmouth & District Flower Club, Village Hall
Fri	9	14.00, Craft Club, Village Hall 18.00, FoSP AGM, St Peter's Church 19.30, Bingo Evening for SF Village Hall, Morleigh Village Hall
Sat	10	10.00, Hort & Sport Plant Sale and Coffee Morning, Village Hall
Sun	11	VE80 Street Party – Royal Avenue Gardens, Dartmouth
Mon	12	14.30, TASDAK talk, Flavel
Tue	13	
Wed	14	10.30, Probus talk, Stoke Lodge 14.30, Wednesday Ladies, Village Hall
Thur	15	10.00-12.00, Coffee Morning for Rowcroft, Stoke Lodge
Fri	16	Dart Music Festival COPY DATE FOR JUNE/JULY MAGAZINE
Sat	17	Dart Music Festival
Sun	18	Dart Music Festival
Mon	19	
Tue	20	
Wed	21	
Thur	22	
Fri	23	12.30, Community Kitchen Lunch, Village Hall
Sat	24	Dartmouth Outdoor Pool opens
Sun	25	10.00-16.00, Outdoor Bowling Open Day, Bowling Green
Mon	26	Half Term holiday week starts
Tue	27	
Wed	28	
Thur	29	
Fri	30	Lunchtime Fish and Fizz at The Green Dragon
Sat	31	

Parish Council Minutes Summary – April 2025

A monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 in the Ron Harris Room, Stoke Fleming Village Hall at 7.00 pm. Please note: a full version of these minutes is at the library and on the website.

The following Parish Councillors were present: Cllr David Harris (Chair), Cllr Tim Moseley (Vice-Chair), Cllr Tilly Crowther, Cllr Phil Elliott, Cllr Jay Floyd, Cllr Jack Handley, Cllr Belinda Duffy. Also invited: County Cllr Julian Brazil, District Cllr Simon Rake, Clerk S A Whelon.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr John Belli, Cllr Bella Johnston

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 5th March 2025, AND PLANNING SITE MEETING NOTES

Were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as true and correct records.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Moseley announced he will be standing down as Vice-Chairman from the next meeting. Council thanked Cllr Moseley for his excellent work as Vice-Chairman.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME Baker Estates: a report regarding S73 Application to increase retail cap at Little Cotton for proposed 'Home Bargains' retail outlet. Planning authority can put condition on what sort of retail is permitted. 100 jobs are expected – some part time. It was noted that Norton bends are narrow for lorry access. No interest for the site has been received by builders' merchants. S106 monies Open Space and Recreation has been earmarked for playing fields at Norton, to broaden this out will require a Deed of Variation. Clerk's note: Baker Estates will be present at the Annual Parish Meeting on 7th May from 7pm.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- Council tax bills have increased by 5%
- Devolution: Five options are being considered – feedback from Govt expected in April, costs of £100m expected if process is 'cliff edge'.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- Devolution: 451 proposal is supported by most district councils, local link may be under threat. Unitary may have too many councillors. 31 councillors are presently at South Hams. Parish councils are going to have to do more.
- Council tax and parking charges are now live..
- S106 Agreements – Deer Park. £21,000 improvements for Recreation Field noted, triggered by sale of individual properties 50% prior and 50% on occupation. Application should be made to SHDC for this funding. Clerk to add to Actions List. Clerk to request full details from Cllr Rake to confirm in detail.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Proposed new car park. Landowner is working with land agent who is concerned about commercial value of the field. Landowner keen on a

lease. A further consultation with other options was discussed. A further sub-committee meeting will take place to discuss alternatives.

FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERING sub-committee report

Toilets – School Road – timeline for refurbishment and occupation. The key was passed to Cllr Harris. Security and a locksmith will be a priority. Cllr Floyd happy to volunteer in refurbishment. Circuit test will take place shortly. An onsite meeting was planned for the weekend. Possible cleaners were discussed.

COMMUNITY

Little Cotton meeting next Tuesday. Police are monitoring issues.

ROADS and TRANSPORT

- a) Staggered parking in School Road, still a problem.
- b) Damaged wall by Bidders bus stop – DCC Highways have been informed. Cllr Rake to investigate.

MAINTENANCE

- a) Ravensbourne Lane insurance claim, settlement received and earmarked.
- b) Drain clearing. Exjet booked for 3rd April. 25-30 drains proposed to be cleared. Drains in School Road seem blocked – report from Exjet requested by Cllr Handley as to cause of blockage.
- c) Request to view playground inspection reports. Permission granted.
- d) Pavilion guttering needs repair

COUNCIL AND ACTIONS REGISTER

- a) Council policy – to approve metal detecting policy. Amended to be approved at APCM.
- b) Suggestions for guest speakers at APM: Friends of St Peter's - Update on Church projects; Baker Estates - Update on Little Cotton, houses, hotels, care homes and retail projects; Little Cotton Residents Association Chair.

PLANNING: All noted and item d) discussed.

APPLICATIONS

- a) Reference 0566/25/CLE

Proposal Certificate for lawfulness for existing use of building as a separate self-contained residential dwelling

Site Address: Land At Sx 862 485 (The Chalet) Cinders Lane Stoke Fleming

- b) Application Number: 0598/25/COM

Location Address: Hillfield Dartmouth TQ6 0LU

Proposal: Notice of intent of works to Overhead Lines (exemption) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 for the refurbishment of the pole mounted transformer no. 34/1694 Status: Under Consideration. Application Type: 28 (one month) Communication PD Application

c) Application Number: 0768/25/PDM

Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural buildings/barns to 7 No dwelling house (class C3) and for associated development (Class Q (a+b)).

Location: Barns at SX 856 506 Dartmouth. Site visit to be arranged.

d) Reference: 0721/25/VAR

Proposal: Application for variation of Conditions 18, 19 and 20 (use) of planning consent 2609/19/VAR

Site Address: Land At SX 853 510 adjacent to Townstal Road, Dartmouth. Current cap is half the site. Clarity on bulk retail required. Change of size was discussed.

Stable jobs would be welcome to the area. Landscaping would be an issue. **Majority decision: Support** - on the basis that a Planning condition restricts the additional use to bulk discount retail.

DECISIONS

a) Application: 3493/24/TPO Location: Stoke Lodge, Cinders Lane, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0RA Decision: Conditional Approval

b) Application Number: 0289/25/CTN

Location Address: Land At Sx 836 505 Ash

Proposal: Temporary Campsite Notification for up to 60 days of camping between and including 16/07/25 - 01/09/25. Status: Decision Made Application Type:

Temporary Campsite Notification. Appeal Decision N/A

c) Application Number 0598/25/COM

Location Address: Hillfield Dartmouth TQ6 0LU

Proposal: Notice of intent of works to Overhead Lines (exemption) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 for the refurbishment of the pole mounted transformer no. 34/1694. Status: Decision Made. Application Type: 28 (one month) Communication PD Application

d) Application Number: 0212/25/ARC

Location Address: Barn At Sx 844 512, Norton

Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 10 (WSI), 11(CMP) and 12 (Hard and Soft Landscaping Scheme) of planning consent 0122/22/FUL. Status: Approved. Application Type: Approval of Details. Reserved by Conditions

e) Application Number: 0874/24/FUL

Location Address: Cornish Post Farm Blackawton TQ9 7AW

Proposal: Retention of implemented engineering works and the provision of a temporary agricultural worker's dwelling. Status: Approved. Application Type: Full Planning Application

Date of next meeting: 7th May 2025 Annual Meeting of Parish Council 6pm followed by Parish Council Meeting. Annual Parish Meeting 7pm

Stoke Fleming Parish Council

Annual Meeting

7th May 2025

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (council elections and co-options) will be held at 6pm followed by

The Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm

In the Ron Harris Room, Stoke Fleming Village Hall

The Annual Parish Meeting will include reports from the Parish Council together with District and County councillors on the events of the last twelve months, and from community organisations:

Stoke Fleming Primary School

Dartmouth Academy

Friends of St Peter's

Plus special guests to be announced

Stoke Fleming Library News

We have a good selection of children's books on display, together with a lovely stock of picture books and board books for the younger borrower. Grandparents please note - if you need some assistance in keeping those little visitors entertained - you can borrow children's books on your cards. Jigsaws available too! All for free.

Did you know you only need a Library Membership card and a PIN number to borrow a huge range of magazines, newspapers, e-books and e-Audiobooks from Devon Libraries via BorrowBox App.

Our usual opening hours at the Village Hall are on the Magazine's information page - and of course there's ample free parking!

For your information there is a copy of Nick Teage's "History of Stoke Fleming" which anyone is welcome to peruse in the library. Thank you for continuing to support the library and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sue

Dartmouth Outdoor Pool

Opens Saturday 24th May.

For information visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dartmouthoutdoorpool>.

Dart Valley u3a

“Science of Spices: how to use spices to revolutionise your cooking” presented by **Dr Stuart Fèrrimond** at 10.30 on Thursday 8th May at The Flavel Arts Centre, Dartmouth.

Dr Fèrrimond will explain the nature of spices, why they are so important for cooking, the science underpinning flavour and how to harness this in everyday cooking to create more flavourful dishes, equipping us with knowledge and skills.

Entrance only £2 for members and £3 for guests. Tea and coffee will be available from 10.00 to 10.30am, please bring a reusable cup.

Tim Freeman

River Dart Rotary Club

We would like to introduce ourselves for those who have not seen us in action as yet. We are River Dart Rotary and we would like to help you in Stoke Fleming if you are considering a project or an idea? We are an enthusiastic Group with a variety of skills so why not get in touch with us. We look forward to hearing from you. **Kirsty Cook: 07921 554894** **Caroline Martin: 07976 836509**



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The Arts Society Dartmouth and Kingswear (TASDAK)

A blast from the past - The horn and strings of the Middle Ages presented by **Jonathan Weeks** on Monday 12th May at 2.30pm at The Flavel Arts Centre.

Jonathan brings his love of medieval music and his large collection of musical instruments to a lecture which celebrates The Dart Music Festival. He is a proficient musician and will demonstrate eight examples of the horn family as well as an extensive selection of stringed and percussion instruments.

Juliet Lambert

Stoke Lodge Hotel

Locals' Evenings at Stoke Lodge

We are truly privileged to have Jordan Bartholomew, previously of Lincombe Hall and Thurlestone Hotel, at the helm of all things culinary at Stoke Lodge Hotel. Working together with Dave Lawrence, Dan Putt and Cristian Beare, the team have been producing beautiful, delicious dishes, using locally sourced produce and receiving great reviews.

At the end of February, we introduced our Locals' Evenings every Thursday, offering our à la carte dinner menu at a discounted price of £20 for two courses and £25 for three courses. We're delighted to have seen so many of you come to dine with us and look forward to welcoming you back soon!

Visiting guests are always welcome throughout the week; please call 01803 770523 or email hello@stokelodge.co.uk with any enquiries or to make a reservation.

EV Charging at Stoke Lodge Hotel

We have seen a significant increase in the number of our guests travelling with PEV and fully electric vehicles. We will be installing two EV charging points to the rear of the property that will be available to use by both hotel guests and visitors. Further information will be shared in the coming weeks/months.



The Stoke Fleming Voice team would like to send our congratulations to Alex and Myles for the birth of their son August Stuart James Bruce who was born on 5th April. Welcome to Stoke Fleming August!

Citizens Advice South Hams

Free, confidential and impartial advice

We give **up-to-date** advice on: benefits, work, domestic energy use, debt and money, immigration, consumer rights, housing, family issues, law and courts, problems with healthcare and more.



South Hams

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Every Tuesday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

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Devon County elections

Devon County elections take place on Thursday 1st May, and there are five candidates for the Kingsbridge electoral division. Local council 'devolution' and reorganisation means that the council will almost certainly cease to exist within the next couple of years. However, this is still an important opportunity to choose the person who best represents our community and the issues we care about. Stoke Fleming Voice therefore asked candidates what they would aim to achieve for this parish. Here are their responses:

Julian Brazil, Liberal Democrats



Devon County has been floundering. It seems to be somewhat stale and complacent. What frustrates me the most is the county's failure to work in partnership, particularly with parish councils.

Senior councillors must challenge the officers making sure our communities come first. I'm not going to pretend I'll solve all the issues around potholes, children's services and the finances, but the culture has got to change. I'm hoping there will be a new administration and with your support I'd like to be part of that. I will continue to work for all the community if I'm lucky to be re-elected.

Gonçalo De Sousa, Reform UK



Devon is being mismanaged – with your money. Despite high council taxes, we get failing services while millions go to consultants and vanity projects. Potholes worsen, homes become holiday lets, and families are priced out. After 20 years with a Liberal Democrat councillor, all we see are broken promises and costly distractions like Net Zero. I'm not here to sit quietly—I'm here to deliver. We'll prioritize housing, properly repaired roads, clean water, and a council that serves you. This election is about right versus wrong. If you want results, not excuses—vote Gonçalo De Sousa. Vote Reform. Vote for Devon.

Wayne William Grills, Labour Party



I'm Wayne Grills, 35, the Labour candidate for Kingsbridge. I've lived here all my life, run a local business, and previously served as town councillor and mayor. I understand the pressures facing families, young people, and small businesses. I know many in Stoke Fleming may not know me yet, but I'm keen to change that, and I'm here to listen and act. Labour is fighting for properly funded Children's Services, safer roads, and support for Devon's local food economy. If elected, I'll be a strong, local voice for fairness, sustainability, and real investment in our community's future.

Helena Penfold, Conservative and Unionist Party



This is the last County Council election due to local government reorganisation. It will enormously impact the parish council's duties and responsibilities. I grew up locally, I am building my life and legal career here. I will use my energy, local understanding and analytical skills to advocate for your needs during this transition.

Issues with parking, increased housing costs and lack of homes place demands on the parish. As a younger person struggling to survive in this area, I understand this. I will represent you by listening and having the hard conversations. I will be visible, contactable and accountable.

Anna Presswell, Green Party



What an honour to stand for the hard-working community of Kingsbridge. My background is service in all guises. A Town and District Councillor in the South Hams – a background in the military and international development, an Osteopath for 16 years both teaching and practising.

Stoke Fleming parish is a delight but understanding what makes a community tick and flourish counts. Deprivation is often hidden – and geographical barriers create challenges. Dependable public transport alongside health and wellbeing are all paramount to maintain. Opportunities and support for young people in rural areas is often overlooked, so I'd prioritise with funding and resources.

Registered voters can vote in the elections at the Village Hall on Thursday 1st May between 7am and 10pm – please remember your photographic ID.



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Please wear suitable clothing and comfortable supportive footwear. Dogs are welcome, please clear up after them and ensure they are on a lead at all times. Please bring a bottle of water on warm days and medication if required.

For more information on the walks please call 07570 848446. All walks are subject to change or cancellation at this time of the year.

Date	Time	Walk level	Location of walk (£=bring money for ferry)	Meeting Point
1st May	09.22 or 10.05	3+	Totnes to Harbertonford via Ashprington	09.22 no. 92 bus from Dartmouth Pontoon or 10.05 Totnes, at the bus terminus opposite the 7 Stars. Bring sandwiches/snack for lunch.
8th May	10.00 or 10.25	2	Berry Head, Brixham circular (£)	10.00 no. 18 bus from Kingswear Banjo or 10.25 Bank Lane Brixham.
15th May	10.30	3	Dittisham & the Dart Valley Trail	Sandquay Wood car park, Old Mill Lane, Townstal.
22nd May	10.30	2	Hoodown Woods Kingswear via higher and lower ferries (£)	The Bandstand, Royal Avenue Gardens.
29th May	10.30	3	The Diamond Jubilee Way a spectacular extended circular walk – bring a picnic lunch	Dartmouth Castle Tea Rooms – free and unlimited parking on the higher road leading to the Coastguard Cottages.



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Mr Burton (12A) Based on a remarkable true story	Thu 1st May 7pm
The Return (15) Odysseus washes up on the shores of Ithaca.	Fri 2nd May to Tue 6th May
A night with Janis Joplin: The Musical (12A)	Fri 9th May 7pm
The Royal Opera: Wagner's DIE WALKURE The second chapter of Wagner's Ring cycle	Wed 14th May 5.15pm
Dart Music Festival – pick up a programme to see the full list of events at The Flavel and in town	16th,17th,18th May
The Royal Ballet: BALLET TO BROADWAY: WHEELDON WORKS	Thu 22nd May 7.15pm
A Minecraft Movie (PG) Four misfits find themselves struggling with ordinary problems when they are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld	Fri 23rd to Thu 29th May
Hannay Stands Fast – LIVE Theatre A thrillingly funny sequel to “The 39 Steps” brought to you by the Our Star Theatre Company. Suitable for the whole family.	Wed 28th May 7.30pm
An Evening with the Suchet Brothers John Suchet in conversation with David Suchet.	Fri 30th May SOLD OUT
Silent Disco Yoga Devon Launch Party!	Sat 31st May 2pm & 3.30pm

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Tuesdays

09.30-10.30 Zest Stretch and Reset Yoga, designed to improve flexibility, strength and to help you destress. All levels welcome. Book www.zest-yoga.co.uk / Kirsty: 07534 441715.

10.45-11.45 Stretch & Stay Mobile, a gentle, chair based class designed for people with injuries or limited mobility. Most of the exercises are seated, with some optional standing ones using the chair to improve balance. Book www.zest-yoga.co.uk / Kirsty: 07534 441715.

14.00-16.30 Short Mat Bowls. Contact Adrian: 01803 712159.

19.00-21.00 Table Tennis, new players (over 18) are always welcome. Contact Kim: 07594 223673.

Wednesdays

09.15-10.15 Yoga with Ellie, no experience required. Contact Kirsty, Ellie or Lara: 07778 208080 / 07534 441715.*

10.30 Club de Pétanque, Village Hall recreation ground, for all skill levels. New members are welcome. Contact John: 07811 102460.

Thursdays

13.00-14.00 Tiny Feet Yoga, a friendly, relaxed, weekly class to enjoy with your baby, helping your body heal and recover after birth and pregnancy.

Fridays

09.15-10.15 Move with Grace Pilates, a mixed level mat work class. Contact Grace: 07757 907025 / www.movewithgrace.co.uk.

10.00-13.00 Mahjong.

18.30-19.15 Ju-Jitsu and Self-Defence Children's class. Contact John: 07783 334746.

19.30-21.00 Ju-Jitsu and Self-Defence Adult class. Contact John: 07783 334746.

Sundays

10.30 Club de Pétanque, Village Hall recreation ground, for all skill levels. New members are welcome. Contact John: 07811 102460.

**Please check for any last minute changes.*

Prickles in a Pickle

My favourite time of year, new beginnings, new life, and nature waking up. The rain is very welcome, after such a long dry spell bringing us many severely dehydrated hedgehogs. Thank you for supporting our Easter coffee, cake and craft event; we raised £769.60. We have a lot more booked throughout the year including Yealmpton Show, South Devon Riviera Garden Festival at Lupton House, a Ceilidh, a quiz night, bingo night and loads more. All this, plus the running of the charity, the work we do for the hedgehogs, all the talks, educating with the Devon Wildlife Trust in schools all over Devon, all adds up to a busy life.

We have had some amazing news. The Fisher Trust have agreed that anything we raise in the next 6 months for our new hospital fund up to £25,000, they will double in match funding. This will help tremendously.

People are still staggered to see how many hedgehogs we have here and the set up and equipment we have. We have 47 volunteers, 8 trustees and 25 volunteer drivers. We always need more hands. When you factor in holidays and illness we like to have a buffer zone. Especially when things get really busy.

We have got most of our winter hedgehogs out bar a few. Since January we have taken in 85, and we are nervously anticipating the sound of tiny pattering feet and peeping as the babies start arriving.

Our Duke of Edinburgh students are trooping through their bronze, silver and gold awards. We have now taken nearly 80! Weekends are a bit like a youth club at times! It's great to see them all blossom and thrive.

Speaking of thriving, friends of ours have been hand rearing 6 rabbit kits. A digger went through their burrow and there they were. Once weaned, they came to us to start rewilding and now they will be going to a soft release area that is being rewilded and has no rabbits. Surprisingly rabbits are on the decline in a lot of areas causing many other animals and raptors issues with finding food, as they are a vital part of the food chain. Some, reading this, will be thinking, "what a lot of rot, we have too many where we are". There are 'pockets' of them, but they are isolated due to habitat fragmentation, and cannot link up.

We need a washer upper for a couple of hours in the mornings, 9 -11 if you have a bit of time spare. We have our lovely Mary on a Thursday and Belinda on Mondays, but it would be very useful to have the other days covered as well.



Judy and Alan PIAP.

G.P & S. Lock

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Latest News from Stoke Fleming Primary School

This half term we have been celebrating all things science at Stoke Fleming Primary School! The highlight of this was the incredible Space Dome, which transformed the village hall into a portal to the stars. Each class had the opportunity to step inside and experience a breath-taking journey through space.

Our workshops covered a wide range of exciting topics, from the Moon landings and the latest discoveries in space to constellations and even a thrilling flight through the rings of Saturn! Key Stage 2 pupils took a deep dive into the history of the Space Race, exploring milestones from Sputnik to the International Space Station, as well as learning about the phases of the Moon and what to look for in that night's sky.



In addition to our space adventures, Mr Harrison (Headteacher) had the pleasure of meeting with representatives from South Devon Nature Trust. We have some fantastic opportunities lined up for the summer term, where they will be working with us to bring the science curriculum to life by taking learning outdoors and making the most of our wonderful school grounds. One of their key projects will be helping us restore our pond and its surrounding area, creating an exciting space for outdoor learning and wildlife exploration.

During the last few weeks leading up to the Easter holidays there were various trips across the whole school; below is a snapshot of the activities that the children had the opportunity to go on.

Children from various classes had the incredible opportunity to visit Swannaton Farm to meet the newborn lambs. The children learned all about caring for sheep and lambs, and the highlight for many was having the chance to bottle-feed some of the newborns. Experiences like these bring learning to life in such a special way, and we are grateful to the farm for welcoming us.

Two classes went on a coach to visit Dartmoor Zoo. Reception class and pre-school children enjoyed a trip to Paignton on the Steam Railway. Year 3 and Year 6 children enjoyed a trip to the Princess Theatre, Torquay to watch "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe".

We also welcomed twenty Naval cadets from Britannia Royal Naval College, who helped us with various projects around the school—including the much-anticipated redecoration of our library.

Friends of St Peter's

Please join us for the AGM on Friday 9th May at 6pm. We meet in the church, refreshments available from 5.30pm.

To find out more, and to support our work, go to: <https://www.fospstokefleming.com>.



From South Hams District Council – Beware of parking fraud

If you're parking in South Hams Council car parks you can pay to park by phone using PayByPhone cashless parking. It's quick, secure and easy. Download the PayByPhone app from PayByPhone directly at <https://www.paybyphone.co.uk/> or through official app stores only: The App Store, or Google Play.

There have been a few instances where residents have fallen victim to fraudulent PayByPhone accounts after using fake QR codes or downloading from unofficial websites.

South Hams do not operate any QR codes in their car parks, and they make daily checks of our machines and car park signs to look out for fake QR stickers.

"Ask not what Stoke Fleming can do for you, but" (to paraphrase JFK)

If you can help Prickles in a Pickle in any way, including looking after the hedgehogs, please contact us on 01803 771086.

Join Stoke Fleming Voice and help us produce our magazine, for the benefit of the village. Our contact details are on the inside back cover.

The Dart Music Festival is looking for volunteers to help for an hour or two over the Festival weekend 16th to 18th May. Please contact Sally at dmf.collections@outlook.com.

To volunteer at Start Point Lighthouse from Easter to the end of September contact Mary Newman on 07855 483865.

The Community Kitchen is often looking for good confident home cooks to join our team. Training given. Contact houseonthehill661@gmail.com

Loam Rangers needs volunteers to assist on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Contact Paul Noonan – pnoonan14@gmail.com

Stoke Fleming Outdoor Bowling Club

<https://stokeflemingbowlingclub.co.uk/>

Well, by the time you read this, Stoke Fleming Outdoor Bowling Club (SFBC) will have “opened the green” on 19th April and either had a wonderful time welcoming old and new faces to the club, or, the weather was terrible, the event was called off and just a few hardy stalwarts sat in the clubhouse, drinking tea and swapping bowling tales of old! Whichever it was, if you missed it, perhaps we can tempt you to come along on **Sunday 25th May, anytime between 10.00am– 4.00pm**, when SFBC will be just one of over 800 bowling clubs participating nationwide in the Bowls England (the sport’s governing body) Bowls Big Weekend. This is a national initiative aimed at encouraging more people to have a go at bowling. It’s a free event, club members will be there to help you, there will be bowls you can use and there will be light refreshments. All we ask is that you bring some flat soled shoes or trainers to wear on the green, if possible.



Here’s hoping for fine weather on Sunday 25th May but if the weather is terrible still come along – you will probably find a few hardy stalwarts in the clubhouse drinking tea and swapping bowling tales of old!

PS: take a look at our new website (see above) for more information about the club, membership and events.

Liz Mallyon

Karate Club for Children



A new children’s after school karate club is starting at Stoke Fleming Primary School to be held on Monday evenings, with the first lesson free of charge. For more information contact **Caroline** on carocariad@icloud.com.

ALADDIN'S CAVE



Lost

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Good Home Needed

FOR SALE	Kindling and logs, all recycled from builders' waste and in large feed bags. Kindling £15, Logs £6. All proceeds to Prickles in a Pickle.	Alan: 07970 983608
WANTED	Prickles in a Pickle needs lots of steriliser, newspapers and other items. See page 37. 20 Well Park Place.	Judy: 07891 657104 Alan: 07970 983608 01803 771086
WANTED	For Ukraine: Medical supplies for dogs, cats and humans, tinned and dried food, clean blankets and sleepings bags/duvets, torches and batteries, hygiene items, baby nappies and formulae. 20 Well Park Place.	Judy: 07891 657104 Alan: 07970 983608 01803 771086
FOR SALE	Greenworks 24Volt Long Reach Hedge Trimmer with 2Ah battery and charger, very little use and in good condition, no longer needed £45 ono.	01803 770478
FOR COLLECTION	Pair of white UPVC patio doors, double glazed with frame, glass and seal. Frame size 1.80m high. Width 2.13m. Buyer collects from Stoke Fleming address. Donation to Stoke Fleming Voice magazine.	07971 202472

Where are we now?

Alex Knight, Clever Clogs, Peggy Holt and Jean Saunders all knew we were in the Royal Avenue Gardens in Dartmouth last month.



So, let's see how you get on with this month's picture going back to 1917.

Now the only question is where are we now?



Barry Morris (Tel: 01803 770754, email: barry219morris@btinternet.com)



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(Local Area Code: 01803)

County Councillor (Devon)	Julian Brazil	01548 511109
District Councillor (South Hams)	Simon Rake, cllr.simon.rake@southhams.gov.uk	861129
MP for South Devon	Caroline Voaden, caroline.voaden.mp@parliament.uk	658461
Medical services	Boots	832742
	Wellbeing Pharmacy, Dartmouth	832474
	Wellbeing Pharmacy, Health Centre	222117
	Dartmouth Medical Practice	832212
	Dart Vale Vets	832422
Stage Coach buses	Customer Services	01752 495200
Refuse and Recycling (South Hams)	https://www.southhams.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling	861234

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Stoke Fleming Voice is run entirely by parish volunteers, for the benefit of parish residents.

Our editors work hard to ensure factual accuracy; however, readers may want to check provided information for themselves. Please notify us of any changes to contact details.

Donations towards the production of this magazine are always welcome. Our Bank details are: Stoke Fleming Voice, A/c: 19250960. Sort code: 30-54-66.

Stoke Fleming Village Directory 2025

(Area Code: 01803)

Bellringing	John Dietz	770515
Bowling Club	Liz Mallyon	712799
Church – Rector	Rev Matt Gorton, revgorton@hotmail.com	906861
Church Visiting Group	Rosemary Minshall	770300
Churchwarden	John Dietz	770515
Cricket Club	Stacey Gilbert	07931 384017
Dart Valley u3a	Suzie Dodsworth	770134
Friends of St Peter's	Annie Worsfold	07969 990443
Hort & Sport Show	enquiries.hortandsport@gmail.com	
Little Lanterns	Lisa Callard	770244
Loam Rangers	Steve Shakespeare	07979 137311
Parish Council	Sharon Whelon, clerk@stokefleming.org	
Pétanque	John Sparks	07811 102460
Primary School	Christopher Harrison, Head Teacher	770244
Primary School (Friends)	Annabel Harris	770244
Probus Club	Peter Hales	770739
Short Mat Bowls	Adrian Kyte	712159
Start Bay Performers	Mary Rimell	07909 970510
Table Tennis	Kim Fricker	07594 223673
Village Hall Bookings	Emily Handley, enquiries@stokeflemingvillagehall.org.uk	07450 075734
Village Hall Management Committee	Debbie Morris, Secretary to Trustees	770305
Wednesday Ladies	Jill Fell	771137
Youth Club	Rev Matt Gorton, stokeflemingyouthclub@gmail.com	906861