

Stoke Fleming Voice

October 2025



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Editorial

I can't quite believe that it is my turn to write the editorial again. Fortunately, there is a lot to write about this month.

In the Community Kitchen article on page 13 Mary tells us about the presentation from the River Dart Rotary Weed Monkeys (not to be confused with the other sort of weed!). The Weed Monkeys are volunteers who keep the untreated weeds on the pavements, kerbs and steps in town at bay. Should Stoke Fleming have its own Weed Monkey group?

The Village Life interview this month on page 11 is with Jan Lloyd-Edwards, whose family arrived in the village in the 17th century. There is so much to tell that it hasn't been easy to keep the interview to one page!

The very successful Dartmouth Food Festival takes place later this month with Suzie Sutton of Michael Sutton's Cellars at the helm as Chair. Page 34 has information about the weekend and how you can be involved if you would like to help.

I'm excited to tell you that our November magazine will be a special issue featuring producers and suppliers of local produce, small and large. If you have any suggestions or recommendations email stokeflemingvoice@gmail.com.

I see the fantastic sum of £3,400 was raised at the Green Dragon last month with their Ballsy Bingo night raising awareness of testicular cancer. A great achievement! This month, they will be celebrating Halloween with a Rocky Horror Halloween party.

Finally, the new South Hams Way trail opens this month (page 27). A 100 mile long walk with ten manageable sections of roughly ten miles each. I'm really looking forward to trying a section or two.

Jenny

If you would like to contribute an article, Reader's View or Letter to the Editor, please email stokeflemingvoice@gmail.com. Your contribution can be published anonymously, but our team will need to know who you are. Publication is at our editorial discretion.

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

Reader's Corner

The Team? “Is he/she a good team player?” A question often faced by those giving references or doing appraisals. Two very different stories in the news, one from sport and one from politics, set me thinking about teamwork and leadership as I prepared to write this article. Towards the end of the Italian Grand Prix, Oscar Piastri allowed his team-mate Lando Norris back into 2nd place after an equipment failure at his pit stop had cost Lando the place through no fault of his own. The two drivers, intensely competitive rivals for the championship, nonetheless endorse and do their best to practise the strong team ethos and principle of fairness at McLaren, in a way which doesn’t happen in the other F1 teams. I’m reminded of leadership training long ago about prioritising and balancing the often conflicting needs of “mission, team and individuals”.

The departures of Angela Rayner and Peter Mandelson remind me of Greek Tragedy. People of undoubted talent can be brought down by a fatal flaw, a blind spot or a character defect. People are now questioning why the Prime Minister didn’t appoint a more reliable team. Perhaps we should remember that we are all flawed in one way or another. Jesus appointed his own team of twelve after much prayer. He chose the perfect team of course? Far from it! Judas went on to betray him, Peter to deny knowing him, and the others ran away.



One of the panels on the wonderful carved pulpit in St Peter’s shows Peter’s remorse and grief after the cock crows and he remembers his own brash promise to die for Jesus, and Jesus’ prediction that Peter would actually deny him three times. John’s gospel (chapter 21) records the wonderful scene where the risen Jesus gently reminds Peter and gives him another chance. We may all be flawed but God still chooses us. We all have our failures, but the good news is that we can all seek and obtain forgiveness and the transforming power of God’s Holy Spirit.

What can we learn about leadership and teamwork from those “flawed but chosen” disciples of Jesus? That’s the theme of this year’s Kingsbridge Bible Weekend. Bishop James is a down to earth and entertaining speaker whose words are full of insight and wisdom. I warmly commend the talks to you.

Wishing you all God’s blessing.

Peter Barker

Church website: <https://www.stokeflemingchurch.org>

From the Registers

No entries this month.

St Peter's Church Services for October

Sun 5th	10.15am Prayer time. 11am Harvest Festival, followed by coffee and cake. 6.30pm Choral Evensong.
Sun 12th	11am Morning Worship. 4pm THE 4.
Sun 19th	11am Communion by extension.
Sun 26th	Bible Sunday. 11am Morning Worship.

Kingsbridge and District Churches are organising a Bible Weekend on 17th - 19th October focusing on the theme of Lessons from Jesus' closest disciples. Local South Hams church members will be gathering in Kingsbridge for this event. Contact **Rev John Corrie** for more information:

revjohncorrie@gmail.com.

Little Stars

Welcome back Little Stars. How you have all grown like flowers in the garden over the summer holidays. It was good to catch up with everyone and hear all the news.

Everyone is welcome to join us on Monday mornings in St Peter's Church 9.00-10.30 term time.

Heather, Sue and Peter

Stoke Fleming Youth Club

Thank you to everyone who has used the youth club over the summer. It's been great to have the club used by so many different groups and to see children at our rainy day open mornings! Youth Club will be running again this term – please keep an eye on Facebook for updates on evenings and times.

News from the Hort and Sport

“How does a village this size manage to put on a Show like that?”, was a comment made on Bank Holiday Monday and what a Show it was, with weather to match. A FUN day for all.

There was entertainment from the James Harris Jazz Band, the Green Dragon providing drinks, a barbecue cooked by Anita and family, and endless teas and cakes in the Ron Harris Room. The Hall was groaning with baking, jams and jellies, handicraft and the increasingly popular photographic classes. In the marquee were all the flowers and fruit and vegetables, and masses of stalls to look at around the running track with old fashioned running races, sack races and children’s games revived by a volunteer in the village. Clive the Pig entertained the youngsters and Dartmouth Ice Cream refreshed everyone.

Our grateful thanks are due to many in the village, as our committee of 14 are supported by almost 100 willing volunteers who lift and shift, marshal the traffic, man the gates, judge, steward, number crunch the winners of the many cups and prizes, flip the burgers, serve teas and coffees and give us cake.

On the Friday evening preceding the Show, the opening of envelopes of all shapes and sizes give us an indication of how many entries we are expecting. No time to warn the judges that they will have a busy time on Monday morning! Those entries need to be logged and cards written as the wheels are turning to prepare everything. Saturday and Sunday are spent moving everything into position for Monday when the scene is set for a wonderful day of competition and rivalry – from the longest runner bean to the Men’s Baking which produced 19 Carrot Cakes for the Judges to deliberate over. After an afternoon of meeting friends, enjoying the stalls, soaking up the atmosphere, being amazed at the quality and quantity of exhibits, the raffle is drawn. The prize-giving and presentation of the cups follows on and then, magically the field clears, the lifters and shifters move in, and the tents come down to be packed away until next year. By Tuesday morning, the Hall is swept, the Ron Harris room is restored to normal and the field is empty.

But we are not resting on our laurels as our Autumn Coffee Morning looms on Saturday 11th October, from 10.00 to 11.30. There will be the usual cake stall, garden bits and bobs, one or two stalls (give Paula a ring to book your space on 07812 199058) and a raffle, with time to chat amongst friends. Come up to say hello, tell us what you made of the Show and give us some pointers on how we could make any improvements.

The committee has had its fair share of difficulties this year with Shirley’s illness and passing in the Spring, but thanks to her diligent notes we picked up the mantle and ran with it. Shirley – this was a Show and a year you could be proud of. RIP.

Mary Newman



**Stoke Fleming Horticultural
& Sports Society**

Founded in 1875

List of 2025 Prize Winners

Keturah Foster Bowl	(Best pot plant)	Adrian Booker
Lock Trophy	(Best dahlias)	Adrian Booker
Harold Pope Bowl	(Best plate of fruit)	Mrs P. Millard
Morgan Shield	(Best rose/roses)	Julie Duthie
Ernie Elliott Cup	(Best onions)	Robin Foale
Judith Hirst Cup	(Best bloom in show)	Adrian Booker
Hollenden Cup	(Highest points 'Open' Fruit & Veg)	Sid Rowdon
Belvedere Cup	(Highest points 'Open' Flowers)	Julie Duthie
Ingram Silver Cup	(Highest points Parishioners Classes)	Emily Bridge
Gascoigne Trophy	(Flower Arranging)	Paula Bennet / Jan Lloyd-Edwards
Mike & Gill Jordan Cup	(Photography)	Molly-Rose Halls
Stewart Rose Bowl	(Highest points Homecraft)	Sarah Rowdon
Daisy Cup	(Children under 7)	Imogen Chapman / Teddy Handley
Tigger Trophy	(Children 7 – 11)	Dottie Gillard-Wallis
Sams Cup	(Children 12 – 16)	Joshua Abraham
Thomson Trophy	(Special Division)	Sally Dempsey
Morris Tankard	(Chairman's Choice from the Special Division)	Sally Dempsey
Reg Elliott Salver	(Potatoes)	Alex Knight
Arnold Meire Cup	(Handicraft)	Sue Peters
Anne Wells Cup	(Best Cookery Exhibit)	Rachel Evans
Bill Fergusson Trophy	(Best Marmalade)	Martin Boyd
Peg Fergusson Trophy	(Judge's Favourite Flower Arrangement)	Jill Griffiths
Ravensbourne Cup	(Children's Photography)	Matilda Farmer
Devon Delight's Cup	(Devon Apple Cake)	Vickie Lockerbie
Leonards Cove Trophy	(Men's Flower Arranging)	Dom Calligaris
Ashes Trophy	(Men's Baking)	Ricky Gillard
Special Award		Fariba Sutton

In addition to these, Emily Bridge won the RHS Medal for the highest prize money in Divisions A, B & C.

The Blue Riband for the Best Exhibit in Divisions A, B & C was awarded to Adrian Booker for his Gladioli.

Congratulations to them all for their successes.

Here are some pictures, others can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

Photos: Sarah Moseley



Did you enjoy our SFrabble game?

Did you enjoy our SFrabble game at Hort and Sport?

We certainly enjoyed meeting everyone, and thanks for your useful feedback on Voice.

We also know from the length of time people stayed with us that many of you enjoyed playing our SFrabble game. Thank you so much for all the local businesses which donated prizes to us, as well as Debbie Luton for helping on the stand, Peter Barker for taking our photo, Sheila Foreman for donating our 6th Scrabble set, and everyone for playing, particularly our top prize winners:

Top word scores -

- 1st prize won by Beth, Ben and Neil with 264 for their double multiplier word “Quayside” and donated to Kim Bennett who chose a Reformer Pilates 5 session pack provided by **Dart Pilates** in Little Dartmouth.
- 2nd prize won by Karen Batty for Michael and Julie Duthie with 225 for the triple multiplier word “StokeFlemingite”! – a meal for two at **Trattoria Spaggia**.
- 3rd prize won by Andrew Culliford (99 for “Craze”) – a half day kayaking trip with **Sea Kayak Devon** at Blackpool Sands.

Top overall scores -

- 1st prize: Adrian Cornell (348) who chose an Indian Head Massage with **In Touch**, Stoke Fleming.
- 2nd prize: Jill Wallis (232) – 3 course dinner for two with house wine at the **Stoke Lodge Hotel**.
- 3rd prize: David Humeniuk (201) – 2 tickets to an open house winetasting at **Michael Sutton's Cellar**.



We had 50 wonderful spot prizes too, including a voucher and gift bag of beauty products from **The Hideaway**, Stoke Fleming; breakfast for two at **Blackpool Sands Café**; pizzas, a child's meal and drinks from the **Green Dragon**; entry for two adults and two children to **Fast Rabbit Farm** in Strawberry Valley; a visit for four people including cream tea at **Thorn Alpaca Farm** in Venn and a beautifully presented car washing kit from **Darmech**, Jawbone Hill.

Thank you, everyone, and well played!

What else we'd like to see offered in Stoke Fleming

Back in the summer survey, Stoke Fleming Voice asked everyone whether there is anything the village doesn't provide which they'd like to see offered.

The 64 responses we received fell into three main areas – transport (by far the biggest issue), presentation, the Village Hall and playing fields – and some other points.

1. Transport

We had seven responses about a better bus service to Dartmouth later in the evening and at weekends. One person asked us to bring pressure on the local bus service to use Milton Road to go past the Academy and to turn around at the roundabout by the Leisure Centre so that elderly people without their own transport can easily access Sainsbury's and the Health Centre. In addition, we liked the suggestion that the Townstal 90 service should also divert to Stoke Fleming maybe once an hour.

Five people suggested the need for better and more reliable local taxi services – and ideally a local Stoke Fleming taxi company – operating between Dartmouth and Stoke Fleming as evening trips are currently challenging and it costs £20 return to the Health Centre by taxi.

Two people suggested the need for a village minibus service like Bob the Bus in Totnes for helping the elderly, the school, and maybe regular trips and days out, as well as helping people back from town in the evenings when the buses stop.

Parking came up twice too, and we hope plans for a new car park opposite the bowling green will proceed. People also raised traffic problems, and the need for better care of the roads, including filling potholes!

“Safer roads for pedestrians – more info to highlight concern over speeding cars.”

“More done to slow the traffic down.”

“Pathway very overgrown by horse field. Attention needed.”

“Yellow lines in School Road”, “Children at Play” sign in Well Park Place entrance (see the Parish Council’s response on School Road traffic in the minutes on page 24).

2. Further improving presentation of the village

One person asked whether mock wooden gates could be erected on the pavements at the village entrances. Also, the addition of flower tubs at the gates to create a welcoming view of the village as seen in other villages around the country. (We do have a pair of flower barrels either side of the road as you enter Stoke Fleming from Dartmouth, by the Deer Park campsite. There isn't a pavement when entering the village on New Road and the first area wide enough is by the village shop, where we do have planters. Other barrels in the village are by Bidder's Close, the Church Road entrance to the Birdwalk and by the public toilets. The barrels by the public toilets will be brought to life this autumn now they are standing in front of such a smart building!)

Another person suggested an annual “clean-up the village” day, as was done a couple of years ago to good effect.

3. Village hall and playing fields

Someone suggested solar power at the Village Hall, and we’re pleased this is already being planned. Also, electric parking.

Another suggestion was for football and games to be re-instated in the park. (The Parish Council have confirmed that the playpark is open to clubs and that groups can request use of the pitch.)

A tennis court would be great. And someone asked for fun exercise classes. (On this, we’d encourage people to review the activities listed on page 36 of Voice, and to make full use of the classes which are already offered here. We’ve recently lost the Edo sessions and Short Mat Bowls still needs more participation and support.)

4. Other

Several people regretted the loss of the little shops we used to have especially a bakery, café or a good coffee shop whilst realising this probably isn’t going to change! (Have you had a coffee at the village shop? It is excellent.)

People also suggested the need for a local medical facility or village surgery like we used to have (perhaps because of the problems getting to the Health Centre with current bus services).

Decent WiFi is still an issue for some people too, and I’d add a personal wish to receive car radio in and around Stoke Fleming and Dartmouth.

Thank you to everyone for your responses. We asked you about possible improvements to facilitate the sharing of ideas across the parish but there isn’t much we can do about the issues which were raised, so this article is largely an open letter back to the parish and district councils.

However, bus and taxi services are clearly a major issue for residents and, as we asked the question, we’d like to play a small role in trying to find a solution. Therefore, we’d like to ask the councils, and everyone else with an interest in these issues, whether they would like to work with us in thinking through the issues with a view to putting some pressure on Stagecoach etc to improve services for us.

We’d also like to pick up the suggestion of an annual clean-up (or “weed-monkey”) day, and maybe enable the village to enter for Best Kept Village competitions again. More on this when we identify an opportunity. (See also page 13)

If you’d be interested in getting involved in either of these initiatives, or anything else, please email us at stokeflemingvoice@gmail.com.

Gardentime

10 October jobs to get your garden ready for winter

1. Aerate and scarify your lawn, feed and give it the last cut before winter.
2. When you've harvested your beans, cut the plants back, leaving the roots in the soil to release their stored nitrogen.
3. Prune summer-fruiting raspberries by cutting back all this year's old fruit-bearing canes. Leave the new canes to produce next year's fruit.
4. Lift dahlia and gladiolus bulbs and store somewhere dry over winter. If your garden is sheltered from the frost, you may get away with leaving them in the ground under a thick mulch.
5. Collect seeds for next year.
6. Move half-hardy plants into a greenhouse or indoors.
7. Sweep up fallen leaves, especially off lawns.
8. Cut back perennials.
9. Clean and disinfect your greenhouse.
10. Raise pots onto pot feet.



Stoke Fleming Poppy Appeal

Help needed with the Poppy Appeal this year! A group of four took on the appeal last year after it was going to be discontinued. Unfortunately, one of the helpers has passed away and another is not very well. It would be good for the villages of Stoke Fleming, Strete and Blackawton if a couple of new volunteers could be found. As you know it all happens in November, taking out the boxes to the various businesses, collecting after a couple of weeks and counting the money; there is no house-to-house collection. The group is well supported by the Royal British Legion – so if you can help, please contact **Linda Morris**.



Tel: 01803 770754 or Email: linda219.morris@btinternet.com

Village Life – Jan Lloyd-Edwards (née Duré)



It is generally said that busy people can always find time to be busier. Married to Adrian and with 7 children between them, 17 grandchildren, two dogs and a large garden, there is never a dull moment for Jan Lloyd-Edwards. Even so, Jan has found the time to be a stalwart supporter of Village activities. She has supported Hort and Sport for more than 40 years and is currently Vice Chair. Over the years she has also been a School Governor, Chair of the Youth Club and active member of the Friends of St Peter's committee.

Jan is also a valued distributor of *The Voice*.

Jan's ancestors were Huguenots who fled France looking to this area for safety from persecution. In the 17th century the Duré family put down roots in Stoke Fleming. As part of today's Albany House, which Jan still owns, stood a small, thatched cottage which the family ran as the village bakery. By the 18th century the cottage had become a staging post and the head of the Duré family went on to be the first village Postmaster, passing the role down through the generations.

Jan was born at Albany House and has lived most of her life in the village. She recalls a time when Leonard's Cove was Dark Hole Farm with carthorses who pulled the haycart through the village while she and other children sat on the very top! How times change, especially in the '60s when the increase in motor vehicles fuelled the need for the village high street to accommodate two-way traffic! Jan remembers, as youngsters, she and her brother were allowed to help her father and others on the Christmas Day morning post-round. Needless to say, this involved imbibing rather a lot of Christmas cheer, such a merry crowd finally sat down to Christmas lunch!

When her father retired Jan took over as postmistress; her mother helped until well into her 80s. The Post Office and shop started to sell groceries when the local dairy closed and continued to go from strength to strength. When she herself retired, she passed on the business and is delighted that current owners Laura and Jason are doing so well; the Shop and Post Office are an asset the village truly values.

Jan has seen a lot of changes in the village over her lifetime and welcomes the arrival of newcomers and their contributions to village life. Otherwise, as she says, things will just die out, like the Hort and Sport barn dance.

The *Voice* team would like to thank Jan for all she does to support the local community.

Nature Notes

I saw a female cirl bunting flying to the inner hedge from the ground nearby between Pine Wood and Ash Lane at 6pm on 15th September. A male cirl bunting has done the same but between Pine Wood and Black River, short flying from the high wind. I haven't seen them at the NT coast this year though, but I saw a pair of roe deer there at midnight on 8th September.

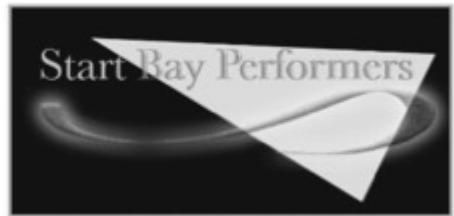
The last glow-worms were seen on 27th August at the coast. The last swift was seen at Bowden Farm on 15th August, and I haven't seen house martins during the past month, only swallows.

The old pond opposite Bowden House is full again, probably from ten inches of rain at the end of August and during September. There's only one hedgehog in my garden, in a hedgehog hut just behind the bungalow, which I gave Calci Worms, much cheaper than mealworms from Garden Wildlife Direct. (www.gardenwildlifedirect.co.uk/). I hope the others are still about.

DW

Start Bay Performers

After a well-earned break following their last production, Start Bay Performers are back, reading and searching for suitable offerings for the next production.



Our next meeting is on Monday 6th October at 7.00pm at Stoke Fleming Village Hall. Please come along if you would like to be involved.

Readings will include

Extraordinary Revelations of Orca the Goldfish	David Tristram
When The Cat's Away	Gwen Pierce
For Starters	Nick Warburton

These one-act plays look to have the potential to be cast by present acting members. However, we are always looking for new members, particularly of the younger generations, to expand the potential for future productions. We meet every Monday evening at the Village Hall at 7pm. So, if you are thinking of treading the boards, would like to be involved backstage in designing the sets or stage management, or if you just would like to read some plays, you will be most welcome.

Once again, a big Thank You to all our supporters.

John Belli

News from the Community Kitchen

We had 30 happy customers last month to kick off the new season of lunches which we held on a Thursday. The general opinion was to change back to Friday in due course which we will consider at our next meeting. However, our October lunch will be on **Thursday 16th October**, with tickets on sale in the village shop on Monday 6th October. We will keep a few tickets back for those who find an early start and a queue outside the shop not to their liking. If this is you, be prepared to put your name into the box and we will contact you as soon as we can.



“The Weed Monkeys”, members of the River Dart Rotary Club, came to give a presentation about the work they have been doing in Dartmouth and to see whether Stoke Fleming would be interested in either supporting them or joining them. As Jonathan Needs told us – the lack of weeding by Devon County Council and SHDC and the lack of spraying means the weeds have got a hold and will only get worse. Their method is to weed and hoe, dispose of the bags of rubbish and spray later with a “natural, organic remedy” harmful to no one. If anyone wishes to contact them, support them, donate to them, look at www.riverdartrotary.co.uk/weed-monkeys .

Autumn weather has arrived and with it some strong winds. I am hoping the apples will stay on the trees for a bit longer, especially the russet apples which are not ripe until October. It is time to enjoy the last of the home-grown vegetables and to think up some new puddings for the winter.

Anyone in the Parish is very welcome to our lunches. Tickets cost £10 from the shop plus £2 on the day. We can cater for a variety of dietary conditions BUT we do need to know beforehand, including vegetarians. An ingredient list is always available, tea and coffee served (sometimes with a chocolate!) for a small donation.

We look forward to seeing you in October.

Mary Newman

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TABLE TOP SALE

Get rid of clutter and earn cash

Stoke Fleming Village Hall

Saturday 8th November

10.00am to 1.00pm

Free Entry



Table set-up 9.00 am

ART & CRAFTS WELCOME

To book a table contact

➢ Jill 01803 770045

£10.00 payable in advance

Raffle

Refreshments

Exciting News from the 100 Club!

The winner of the 100 Club August draw, held on 25th August at the Prickles in a Pickle stand at the Stoke Fleming Horticultural and Sports Show, with the winning number **95** was Oliver McGowan Scanlon, who won £22.

The winners of the 100 Club September draw, held at the Community Kitchen Lunch in the Village Hall on 11th September were:

- 1st Prize of £55: Mary Newman with the winning number **109**.
- 2nd Prize of £33: Catriona Kemp with the winning number **120**.
- 3rd Prize of £22: Ken Sigrist with the winning number **159**.

Announcement

Simon will not be running the 100 Club beyond the end of this year so if anyone is interested in taking it over please email sfvh100club@gmail.com as soon as you can and before 30 November 2025 to express an interest.

Simon Dowden



Discover

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The Green Dragon

Now that the fun of summer is over and raincoats have replaced our sandals and shorts, we are looking forward to lots of entertainment over the coming months and sitting in front of our fire with a glass of red wine!

Here's what is on...

Sunday Roasts are back!! Booking advised.

Sunday 12th October – Greedy Table Sunday Roast from 1-4pm.

Tuesday 14th October – Greedy Table Pop-up Curry Night from 6pm.

Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th October – The Greedy Table Specials Board take-over.

Saturday 18th October – Get ready to rock with the amazing Terence – Rock against the Machine Live.

Friday 31st October – Rocky Horror Halloween Party from 7pm, with live music, ghoulish cocktails and a prize for the best spooktacular dress.

Looking ahead, keep your eyes peeled for more live music, tasty Pop-up nights, our festive Christmas market, plus more Christmas magic and New Year's Eve fun at the Dragon!

Georgie and Alan

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

STOKE FLEMING
HORTICULTURAL & SPORTS SOCIETY



Village Hall

Saturday 11 October - 10.00 to 11.30



Stoke Fleming Christmas Tree Festival 2025

It's all go for the 18th Christmas Tree Festival preparations. The Festival this year takes place in St Peter's Church on 12th to 14th December. The excitement is growing to see what amazing plans you all have for your trees this year. Don't forget your oddity! We hope to have a full contingent of thirty trees. Please get in touch if you are having any problems or need assistance.

This year's Festival will be in aid of St. Peter's Church for the renovations of the kitchen area and the hope is to start the works in 2026. So, grab the fairy lights and think "Christmassy" thoughts. Looking forward to seeing this year's fantastic designs!

Don't forget... if you're not part of a tree decorating team, you can always volunteer to help with lifting & shifting, helping with the teas or stewarding at the Festival, or you could just come along to the event and support us! Just let me know. I'll look forward to seeing you there!

Caroline Martin (07976 836509)

martincm516@gmail.com

Shaping Devon's Future

The way that Council services are delivered is going to change. In September Devon County Council made themselves available to the residents of Dartmouth in Royal Avenue Gardens to talk about the local government reorganisation and listen to people's views.

This month South Hams District Council are holding a community engagement event so you can hear about the proposed plans and ask any questions. This will take place at The Flavel on Wednesday 8th October from 6.15pm to 8pm. Entry is, not surprisingly, free but tickets can be booked through the website www.eventbrite.com.

CRAB SHELL



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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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RFS Cert Arb, Arb Assoc. Technician Member

Property Services,
Gardening & Design



Contact Mark
07561 881132

seaparr01@yahoo.co.uk

Loam Rangers – September 2025



Well, summer seems to have passed us by, and as we approach the end of our core operating season we are well on track for another record year! For the period April to August, visits to site were up 12% and compost bags taken was up 30%.

As you are probably aware if you have been on site recently, we are currently out of compost. This is for two main reasons – one is that we increased the allowance to 5 bags per visit, which was taken up with some enthusiasm, hence the number of bags taken being up 30%. Secondly, we have been having a problem with our “riddler” (the machine that sieves the aged compost ready for bagging). – I am pleased to report that the riddler maintenance / repair is under way and it is hoped that it will be back in action in October. We certainly have a good stock of aged compost ready for our intrepid team to attack.

A couple of early notices for you to make a note of:

We usually have an end of year site tidy up and we are looking at early December or possibly January – this activity has been superbly supported in previous years so look out for the call to arms and bring along your “power tools”.

As in previous years we are looking at once a month Sunday opening through winter – December to February. Currently the planned dates will be 14th December, 11th January and 8th February. These dates will be confirmed and circulated to all members and volunteers.

On a final note, we continue to have significant issues with garden tools being found in the deposited waste. Unfortunately, the most common way we find them is when they cause a problem with the SHDC shredding machine or our own riddler. We therefore ask that all members are extra vigilant in what is deposited on site, and maybe even apply some high visibility tape to your garden tools. We appreciate it is difficult and none of it is deposited intentionally, but it does cause operational issues.

Steve Shakespeare – sgshakespeare@btinternet.com 07970137311

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.

LEONARDS COVE HOLIDAY VILLAGE

Laundry Service

Fed Up with Endless Sheets & Duvets?

We provide professional washing, drying & ironing services, plus linen hire. We handle bed linen, towels & bedding essentials- from pillowcases to super king duvets!

Perfect for guest houses, Airbnb hosts, & busy households! Drop off your laundry & schedule a pick-up, or enjoy our collection & delivery service (small fee applies).

For enquiries and our full price list, call, email or just pop into reception!

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info@leonardscove.co.uk

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01803 712345 www.gardentime.biz

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

	Shop – 771119	Post Office – 770229
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

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.

October 2025

Wed	1	10.00 – Parish Council meeting – Village Hall 17.30-19.00 – Breast Cancer Support Group – Health Centre
Thur	2	14.00 – Flower Club AGM and meeting – Village Hall
Fri	3	14.00 – Craft Club – Village Hall
Sat	4	
Sun	5	11.00 – Harvest Festival, with coffee and cake – St Peter's Church
Mon	6	Community Kitchen tickets on sale at the Shop
Tue	7	
Wed	8	10.30 – Probus lunch – Stoke Lodge Hotel 14.30 – Wednesday Ladies – Village Hall 18.15-20.00 – SHDC engagement event – The Flavel
Thur	9	10.30 – u3a – The Flavel
Fri	10	
Sat	11	10.00-11.30 – Hort & Sport coffee morning – Village Hall 10.30- Opening of South Hams Way – Borough Park, Totnes
Sun	12	
Mon	13	14.30 – TASDAK – The Flavel
Tue	14	17.00 – Dartmouth & Kingswear Society – The Flavel
Wed	15	
Thur	16	COPY DATE FOR OCTOBER MAGAZINE 12.30 – Community Kitchen lunch – Village Hall
Fri	17	Kingsbridge Bible weekend
Sat	18	Kingsbridge Bible weekend
Sun	19	Kingsbridge Bible weekend
Mon	20	
Tue	21	
Wed	22	10.30 – Probus coffee morning – Stoke Lodge Hotel
Thur	23	
Fri	24	Dartmouth Food Festival
Sat	25	Dartmouth Food Festival
Sun	26	Dartmouth Food Festival
Mon	27	Start of Half Term
Tue	28	10.00-13.00 – Friends of Rowcroft coffee morning – RAG
Wed	29	
Thur	30	
Fri	31	End of Half Term

Parish Council Minutes Summary – September 2025

A monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on 3rd September 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 at the meeting of the Parish Council: Cllr David Harris (Chair), Cllr John Belli (Vice-Chair), Cllr Tim Moseley, Cllr Phil Elliott, Cllr Jay Floyd, Cllr Jack Handley, Cllr Bella Johnston,

Cllr Belinda Duffy. Also invited: County Cllr Julian Brazil, Clerk S A Whelon.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Tilly Crowther, District Cllr Simon Rake.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 6th August 2025, AND PLANNING SITE MEETING NOTES were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as true and correct records.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Harris declared an interest in one item and left the meeting for this item.

QUESTIONS RAISED BY CLERK ON BEHALF OF STOKE FLEMING VOICE:

- Have there been any suggestions made to Stagecoach about adapting the routes of the 90 or 93 buses to make it easier for village residents to get to the health centre or supermarket etc? **Answer:** None from the council.
- What is happening beyond the existing yellow road markings around the school? **Answer:** Signs are up re consultation. Paper will be coming to county cabinet with criteria of works planned (Cllr Brazil).
- Are football and games now being re-instated in the park? **Answer:** Playpark is open to clubs and groups to request use of the pitch.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- Influx of summer season visitor feedback invited.
- Full county council meeting is Thursday 4th Sept. Ambitions and delivery to be agreed. Children's services to be prioritised.
- St George's crosses and flags have not been removed, except provocative placements.
- Road closure in Dartmouth - contact Cllr Rake.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Item chaired by Cllr Belli in the absence of Cllr Harris.

a) Proposed new car park.

i. Exclusion of press and public confirmed whilst negotiations in progress: Approved by council.

ii. Report from sub-committee. Explanation of report to council following sub-committee meeting. It was agreed that the sub-committee has authority to negotiate on behalf of the council, and the outcome will be subject to final agreement from full council meeting. It was agreed that the sub-committee must keep the council informed as to progress with negotiations.

Cllr Handley voted as Chair of the sub-committee.

COMMUNITY

a) BT box Dartmouth Road adopted by council. Sub-committee formed: Cllrs Harris, Johnston and Duffy.

ROADS & TRANSPORT a) Blackthorn bush to be marked.

MAINTENANCE

a) Toilets – School Road:

- i. Works update – disabled pull cord is being researched.
- ii. Smart meter installation – still needs to be done. Clerk to re-send telephone numbers.
- iii. Quote for hand dryer installation – Approved.
- iv. Lighting timer needs attention

b) Play Area. Climbing frame ropes need attention. Will be fenced off.

Section 106 funding status update will be requested from Cllr Simon Rake, additionally grant for play area repairs to be researched.

PLANNING: All noted.

APPLICATIONS

a) Reference: 1990/25/LBC. Proposal: Listed Building Consent to attach a church noticeboard to the exterior boundary wall next to the gate.
Site Address: St Peters Church, Church Road, Stoke Fleming.

b) Application Number: 2220/25/VAR. Location Address: Barn At Sx 844 512 (adjacent Woodbury Farm) Norton. Proposal: Application for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 0122/22/FUL. Status: Within Consultation Period. Application Type: Variation or Removal of Condition.

c) Application Number: 2266/25/FUL. Location Address: Land Off Townstal Road Sx 858 508, Townstal Road, Dartmouth. Proposal: Change of use of Mewstone Place from extra care apartments (Class C2) to retirement living apartments (Class C3) with associated communal facilities. Status: Within Consultation Period. Application Type: Full Planning Application.

d) Reference: 0721/25/VAR. Proposal: READVERTISEMENT (additional supporting information). Application for variation of condition 21 of planning consent

0479/21/VAR. (Application for variation of conditions 18, 19 and 20 of planning consent 2609/19/VAR and 15_51/1710/14/O) in order to amend the area of local centre land or employment land to be used for Class E(a), E(b) or hot foods takeaway uses. Site Address: Land At SX 853 510 adjacent to Townstal Road, Dartmouth.

e) Application Number: 2376/25/NMM. Location Address: Rosedene, Bay View Close, Stoke Fleming TQ6 0QQ. Proposal: Non-material minor amendment to planning consent 2858/22/HHO for various amendments to window fenestration, front cover over entrance & boundary wall to front. Status: Under Consideration. Application Type: Non Material Minor Amendment.

f) Enforcement 029301: Leonards Cove holiday park – wording incorrect. Clerk to contact Planning to advise change enforcement to recreational use only.

DECISIONS

a) Application Number: 1605/25/ADV. Location Address: Land At Sx 855 508 (Premier Inn Hotel) Violet Drive, Dartmouth. Proposal: Advertisement consent for 3 x internally illuminated, high level building fascia signs, 2 x internally illuminated, high level building projecting signs, 1 x internally illuminated, ground mounted, double sided totem sign, 1 x internally illuminated, wall mounted, double sided projecting roundel, 1 x internally illuminated, entrance fascia sign & 1 x non-illuminated, ground mounted, double sided directional sign. Status: Approved. Application Type: Advertisement Consent.

b) Application: 2152/25/TCA. Proposal: T1: Pieris - Reduce height by 1m, T2: Crinodendron - Reduce height by 1m & T3: Variegated Holly - Reduce height by 1m. All works to improve light levels into building. Location: The Causeway Dartmouth Road, Stoke Fleming TQ6 0NU. Status: No Objection.

c) Application Number: 1941/25/TPO. Location Address: Melverley Ravensbourne Lane, Stoke Fleming TQ6 0QR. Proposal: T1: Lawsons Cypress - Fell dual stem tree, one stem dead, poor form. Status: Approved. Application Type: Works to a TPO Tree.

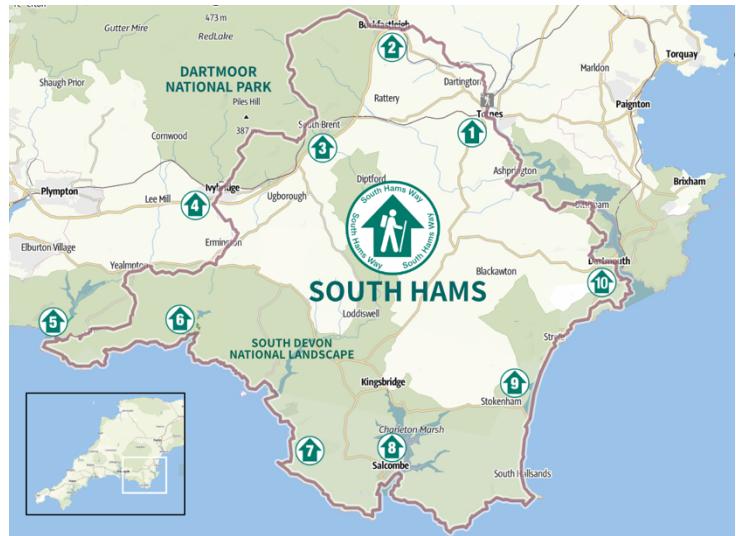
d) Application Number: 2376/25/NMM. Location Address: Rosedene, Bay View Close, Stoke Fleming TQ6 0QQ. Proposal: Non-material minor amendment to planning consent 2858/22/HHO for various amendments to window fenestration, front cover over entrance & boundary wall to front. Status: Refused. Application Type: Non Material Minor Amendment.

TPO application for Legion oak has been refused. Council still has concerns that TPO not granted. Cllr Moseley will pursue matter. Tree needs to be trimmed.

Date of next meeting: 1st October 2025

The South Hams Way

Have you heard about The South Hams Way? It is a new 100-mile hiking trail split into ten sections that circumnavigates the South Hams area of South Devon. Created for walkers by South Hams Ramblers, it incorporates a range of diverse landscapes: moorland, coast path, river valleys and countryside. Its highest point is 1,281ft, just above the Avon Dam reservoir on Dartmoor, and its lowest is sea level.



The sections of this walker-friendly trail are roughly ten miles each and are deliberately centred on community hubs where there is public transport access, shops, refreshments and accommodation.

At the time of writing, the opening ceremony of the South Hams Way will take place at Borough Park, Totnes at 10.30am on Saturday 11th October. This will be followed by a mass walk of section one from Totnes to Buckfastleigh.

To find out more about these arrangements and about the South Hams Way visit <https://www.southhamsway.org.uk> and <https://www.southhamsramblers.org.uk/>.

Festive Lunches at Stoke Lodge Hotel

9th November – 19th December

Gather your colleagues, friends or club members and celebrate the season with a festive lunch in our cosy dining room.

Perfect for office parties, local groups or simply getting together before Christmas.

2-courses for £23 | 3-courses for £28 (+ a half bottle of house wine for just £12 per person).

Group Perks

Book for 10 or more and the organiser dines for free.

Book by 15th Oct and enjoy a complimentary glass of fizz on arrival.

01803 770523 / hello@stokelodge.co.uk

The Arts Society Dartmouth and Kingswear (TASDAK)

Our lectures take place in The Flavel Arts Centre and cover a wide range of historical and arts-related subjects.

The next TASDAK meeting will take place at 2.30pm on Monday 13th October when Harry Venning will give a presentation on the **Art of the Cartoonist**. He will trace the history of cartoons with examples from early cartoonist like Cruikshank and Hogarth to more contemporary artists such as Giles and Schulz, bringing events right up to date with cartoons produced straight off the page. And Harry Venning will be drawing live!

Juliet Lambert

Breast Cancer Support Group – Dartmouth Caring



Breast Cancer Support Group
Informal, friendly drop-in group for all those affected by Breast Cancer.
A space to come and relax, have a coffee with others, share, listen and get support and guidance.

Upcoming 2025 dates:
Wednesday 1st October
Wednesday 5th November
Wednesday 3rd December
Wednesday 7th January
5:30pm to 7:00pm

Dartmouth Caring, Health & Wellbeing Centre



For any questions, please call Dartmouth Caring on 01803 885384 or Dawn on 0710 622896 or email enquiries@dartmouthcaring.co.uk

Group will be facilitated by Dawn Whiteley Dip (HE)
Specialist Counsellor, BACP Reg No. 381657
Breast Cancer Survivor

Dartmouth Caring
Supporting Our Community
CHARITY REG NO. 1187326

We welcomed six lovely visitors to our first group in September and are looking forward to welcoming anyone who has been affected by breast cancer to our future meet-ups. It is a time to have a coffee, chat to others, share experiences and hopefully gain some useful guidance and information.



Our next group will meet on 1st October where we will welcome Andie Day, Cancer Specialist Liaison and Palliative Care Nurse, who will join us for coffee and be available for any questions the group may have.

Wednesday Ladies

We meet this month on 8th October at 2.30pm in the Village Hall, Ron Harris Room. **“An Audience with Lady Katherine”** given by **Rosemary Griggs**.

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

Dartmouth & District Flower Club

All meetings are held in Stoke Fleming Village Hall. 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 meetings are:

2nd October: AGM at 2:00pm, followed at 2:30pm by **Tracy Johnson** from Torquay – **“Artistic Licence”**.

Contact: **Geraldine**: geraldine22@sky.com

Friends of Rowcroft

Come along to the Friends of Rowcroft coffee morning and enjoy our delicious cakes in the Avenue Gardens, Dartmouth on Tuesday 28th October from 10.00am – 1.00pm. This will also be an opportunity for you to purchase Rowcroft Christmas cards and diaries. We look forward to seeing you there.



Rosemary Minshall

Dart Valley u3a

How the Brain Works presented by Tony Davis on Thursday 9th October.

This month's talk will take place on Thursday 9th October at The Flavel Arts Centre. Tony Davis will explore how the brain works. In his talk he will explore some of the methods used and the results they produce.

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

Dartmouth and Kingswear Society

This society supports community, social and economic interests in Dartmouth and surrounding villages and coastline and, in particular, planning matters, parking and transport issues, heritage and conservation protection. Single membership is just £7. The next meeting is at The Flavel on 14th October: **Commodore Jake Mores** (High Sheriff of Devon).

More details at www.dandksociety.org.uk/



A couple more Hort & Sport pictures from Sarah Moseley



Dartmouth Walk & Talk

Designed to suit all abilities, come along and join our sociable group, and enjoy walking in some of the most scenic areas in the country! Walks are graded Level 1 (easy) to Level 3 (more challenging).

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 **John** on 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
2 Oct	10.22 or 11.05	3+	Totnes to Harbertonford via Ashprington	10.22 no. 92 bus from Dartmouth Pontoon or 11.08 at Totnes 7 Stars bus stop.
9 Oct	10.00	2	Clennon Valley to Goodrington (£)	10.00 no. 120 bus from Kingswear Banjo to YMCA bus stop.
16 Oct	10.00	3	Cockington Country Park (£)	10.00 no. 120 bus from Kingswear Banjo to Paignton Bus Station then no. 12 bus to Livermead.
23 Oct	10.22	2	Blackpool Sands via Bugford	10.22 no. 92 bus from Dartmouth Pontoon to Sportsman's Arms bus stop.
30 Oct	10.30 or 11.05	3	Torcross to Beesands circular	10.30 no. 93 bus from Dartmouth Pontoon or 11.05 at Torcross Post Office.

Volunteering in Stoke Fleming

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

There really is no excuse for being bored in Stoke Fleming!

- Simon Dowden will not be running the 100 Club beyond the end of this year so if anyone is interested in taking it over please email him at sfvh100club@gmail.com as soon as you can, and before 30th November 2025 to express an interest.
- The Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) are seeking new members to carry forward work on the church and the living churchyard. Contact Peter Barker latrator@btinternet.com.
- The Voice is seeking volunteers to help with special projects. Our contact details are on the inside back cover.
- The Village Hall is looking for two people, one to act as Secretary and Administrator to the Board of Trustees and one to run a Film Club.
- Barry and Linda Morris need one more volunteer to witness the takings of the Poppy Appeal: barry219morris@btinternet.com.
- If you can help Prickles in a Pickle in any way, including looking after the hedgehogs, please contact Judy on 01803 771086.



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South Hams

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Every Tuesday 9.30am to 12.30pm.
Call us on: **0808 278 7948** southhamscab.org.uk



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✉️ enquiries@dartmouthcaring.co.uk

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Live Life in Balance

Dartmouth Food Festival – 24th to 26th October

The Dartmouth Food Festival is a vibrant celebration of food, drink and culinary talent, set against the stunning backdrop of the River Dart. Over three unforgettable days, we bring together top local and national chefs, food writers, local producers, and enthusiasts for a packed programme of events.



From Drinks Seminars and Food Matters, talks exploring the big issues in the world of food, to hands-on Cookery Demos and Spirit Masterclasses, there's something for every taste. There are plenty of activities to engage children too. Wander through bustling trade stands, sample the region's finest produce, and soak up the atmosphere of one of the UK's most loved food festivals. "Come hungry, leave inspired!"

Sign up to the newsletter at dartmouthfoodfestival.com to keep up to date with everything that's going on.

If you would like to volunteer over the weekend or enquire about how you could get involved generally please send an email to:
office@dartmouthfoodfestival.com.

Suzie Sutton (07768 813855)

Stoke Fleming Outdoor Bowling Club

Well, the outdoor bowling season is over for this year. Phew! It's been a long hot summer, with matches played mostly in glorious sunshine, the odd howling wind and just the occasional shower. The bowling green and grounds have looked fabulous throughout, the social events have been and gone and the club competitions completed in a cheerful and friendly competitive way. The icing on the cake though, is that the club has achieved promotion to the Mid Devon League (MDL) Premier Division.

So, what now? The closed season will see club members volunteering their time to carry out maintenance on the green, grounds and buildings to ensure that everything is at its best for 2026 to welcome back returning and, hopefully, new members.

Liz Mallyon

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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. New players always welcome. Contact Erica: 07807 948020.

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.

17.00-18.00 Outdoor Yoga on the Playing Field. Contact Tegan on 07490 731087.

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. 1st and 3rd Friday each month. New players always welcome. Elaine French. 01803 832304/frenchfamily1@live.co.uk.

17.00-18.00 Outdoor Yoga on the Playing Field. Contact Tegan on 07490 731087.

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.*

Stoke Fleming Library News

The public computer here is available for 2 hours free each day we are open, and we can also do A4 photocopying and printing in both B&W and colour for you.

Did you know you only need a Library Membership card and a PIN number to borrow a huge range of e-Books and e-Audiobooks from Devon Libraries via Borrowbox App? Also magazines and newspapers – this is all free – and there's a terrific range for you to choose from. Also, plenty of jigsaws for you to borrow here at the library.

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.

And if you're looking for a good home for those books you've finished with, please think of donating them to us.

Sue Taylor

The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming and District

The Probus Club has organised two meetings in October. Probus is essentially a lunch and social club for gentlemen who have retired from business or a profession but are keen to remain socially active. We meet together at the Stoke Lodge Hotel twice a month and we always have interesting speakers. The hotel bar opens after the talk and once a month we have a communal lunch together.

The Club has a lunch meeting planned for Wednesday 8th October commencing at 10.30am. Prior to lunch, local historian Jon Turner will deliver a talk about "**Captain John Bulley**", a distinguished Dartmouth sea captain and sometime mayor of the town.

On Wednesday 22nd October at 10.30, we plan to meet again for a coffee morning, where David MacVeigh will tell us all about "**How Britain Became an Island**".

The club is keen to have some new members, so if you are interested and feel you are eligible, please come along and experience a trial meeting. You will be given a very warm welcome.

Peter Hales

Prickles in a Pickle

What an amazing day the Hort and Sport was. The sun shone, the crowds came and a good day was had by all. Shirley would have been proud of the incredible team that put it all together while missing her so much. Thank you all.



Although it is good to raise money at these events, it is the bigger picture we look for. Meeting people and answering their questions, giving advice on how to give nature a hand.

This year we have had a wide variety of creatures needing help, from a bullfinch to tawny owl, ducklings to foxes and everything in between.

Thanks to our intrepid fundraiser, Janice, we have almost reached our match funding target of £25,000 and we still have a month to go. When you think that last year's figures show it cost £70,000 to run, to raise another £25,000 is phenomenal and takes a lot of hard work and generous people.

We have certainly had our fair share of oddities. A hoglet that fell into an inspection pit at a local garage, "Penelope Pitstop"! A hedgehog caught up underneath a roundabout at Woodlands. A hoglet who walked into a Barnardo's shop in Ivybridge, called "Barnardo"! One found in the beer cellar of a pub, "Stella"! (Other lagers are available!)

I say that hedgehogs find a new way to hurt themselves every year and this year has been no exception.

I have reached the final four of the BBC Make A Difference Awards and the interview aired for the first time today, 8th September. Lots of positive feedback which is always nice and of course it all helps get the hedgehog awareness out there.

Anyway, I am under a word count curfew, so I will leave it there.

Thanks for your support.

Judy and Alan

@Prickles in a Pickle / www.pricklesinapickle.co.uk

Martial Arts

Martial Arts: gentle exercises and well-being for adults to help improve balance, flexibility and muscle strength. By appointment with Caroline on 07492 681677.

Karate classes for Year 2 children will be held at Stoke Fleming Primary after school. Call/message Caroline on 07492 681677 to book.

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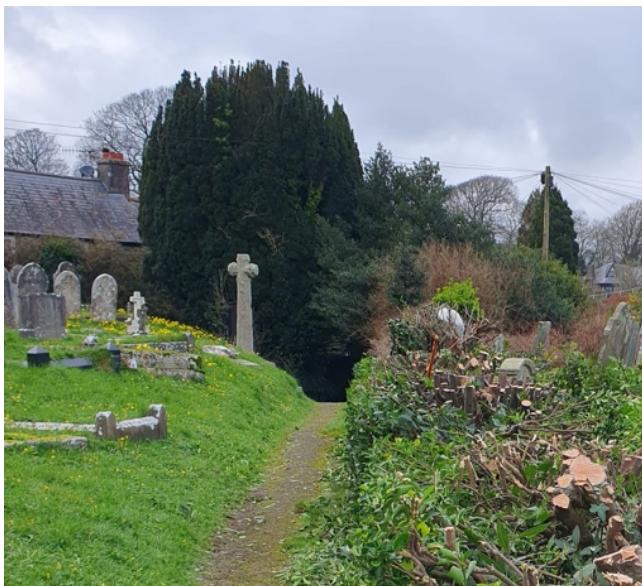


Friends of St Peter's

For some years FoSP has been pursuing a project to upgrade the churchyard path from the War Memorial past the east end of the church and on down to the gate leading through to the path to New Road. Much work was done on this, originally by David Holmes among others, and latterly by Suzie Dodsworth. We were excited at the prospect of a resin bonded, granite cobble edged path all the way.



This was supported by the church PCC and seemed to have found favour with the Diocesan Advisory Committee until the intervention of the South Hams Planning Department. The planning officer visited the site on 5th September and, despite the efforts of Revd Matt, John Dietz and Ali Girardot, he remained adamant that this scheme would require a full planning application based on an architect's drawings and a structural engineer's advice etc, etc. This would clearly mean another long delay and a lot of extra costs. The issue seems to be that a slightly wider path in a different material counts as a "new" path and is thus subject to all the latest regulations. This is even more the case for the sloping section which at present resembles a stony rut more than a path.



However, he also said that, without planning permission, we were allowed to "tidy up" and "repair" the existing path. In reality this means trimming back the overgrowing grass and laying more tarmac on the first tarmac section from the war memorial, and laying some shingle on the sloping section (but without using machinery to bed it in) to create a rather more even and safer surface.

At the meeting on 8th September the PCC was happy to support whichever option FoSP (which is paying for the project) should choose. Subsequently the FoSP Committee

regretfully decided to abandon the full scheme (at least for the present) and go for the immediate "repair" option, with a view to improving the path before the onset of winter. Ali Girardot, on behalf of the PCC, is already working on obtaining quotations from suitable contractors. We are very grateful to her, and to all who have worked so hard on this project.

I sincerely hope that FoSP members will understand and support the committee's decision, and that all villagers will soon be able to enjoy walking through our lovely churchyard more easily.

Peter Barker
(Chair of FoSP)

FOSP Fun at Hort and Sport

What a lovely day for the annual Hort & Sport Show. The sun was shining, many people visited, the events were great and the various displays truly wonderful. The village pulled together to create a great community experience.

The Friends had a stall for the “fun” games of Shove Half Penny (old pub game with genuine ½ penny pieces) and Quoits (played on cruises). It was only £1 to play both games. We had 88 visitors and a wonderful donation of £10. The winners of the day were presented with a tub of chocolate Heroes

We enjoyed meeting people and helping with the games. We also showed off our projects and handed out leaflets explaining what we do.

Many hands helped with transporting and erecting the gazebo, bringing the displays and tables as well as the games, chairs, instructions and prizes. Thank you all.



Suzie, Rosemary and Mike taking a well-deserved break. Thank you for the photo, Teri.

Suzie Dodsworth

Signs of Autumn

The May to September parking restrictions in Dartmouth will be lifted on 1st October.

Dogs are allowed on Blackpool Sands from 1st October.

ALADDIN'S CAVE



Lost

Found

Wanted

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 38. 20 Well Park Place.	Judy: 07891 657104 Alan: 07970 983608 01803 771086

Stoke Fleming Voice does not make a charge for advertising in "Aladdin's Cave" but if your advert is successful we would much appreciate a donation. See inside back cover for our bank details.

BeWild half-term events – Autumn Wild Week

BeWild have a collection of events planned for half-term, around autumnal themes. We'll be looking at links between pollinators and food at the Dartmouth Food Festival, with a kids' creative workshop – catch us on Sunday 26th October 12-2pm.

And we're continuing our collaboration with Dartmouth's Coastal Trail Café to host **Wild Week**: a series of fun and inspiring talks and hands-on events (all free to attend), helping connect us to the amazing natural world on our doorstep.

From Monday 27th to Friday 31st October, drop into the café at 2pm to find out more from local experts about bird migration; the wonderful world of bats; the extraordinary life in our rock pools, or that prickly favourite, the hedgehog.

On Tuesday 28th the café will be the venue for "**Fungi Frida and the Myco Heroes**": a delightfully fun and silly show with songs, clowning and interactive bits, alongside mind-boggling facts about the astonishing properties of our fantastic fungi. For children of all ages and their families. Can fungi save the world? Come along and find out!

Details of the week's events will be on our website: <https://bewild.uk/news/>.

Where are we now?

Alex Knight, Clever Clogs, Jean Saunders, Jack Hanley and Emily Bridge all knew we were at the Crabshell, Kingsbridge for the September picture.



So, let's see how you get on with this month's picture, going back to 1958. Now the only question is where are we now?



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



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Useful Contact Details

(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	https://www.southhams.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling	861234
Taxis (Dartmouth)	Kestrel Taxis	832526
	Micky's Taxis	07812 088935
	Prestige Taxis	714336

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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 or use the QR Code.



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
Craft Club	Lorraine Forman, Lorraineforman@gmail.com	
Cricket Club	Stacey Gilbert	07931 384017
Dart Valley u3a	Suzie Dodsworth	770134
Friends of St Peter's	Peter Barker	770556
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	John Belli, Chairman of Trustees	07538 156864
Wednesday Ladies	Jill Fell	771137
Youth Club	Rev Matt Gorton, stokeflemingyouthclub@gmail.com	906861