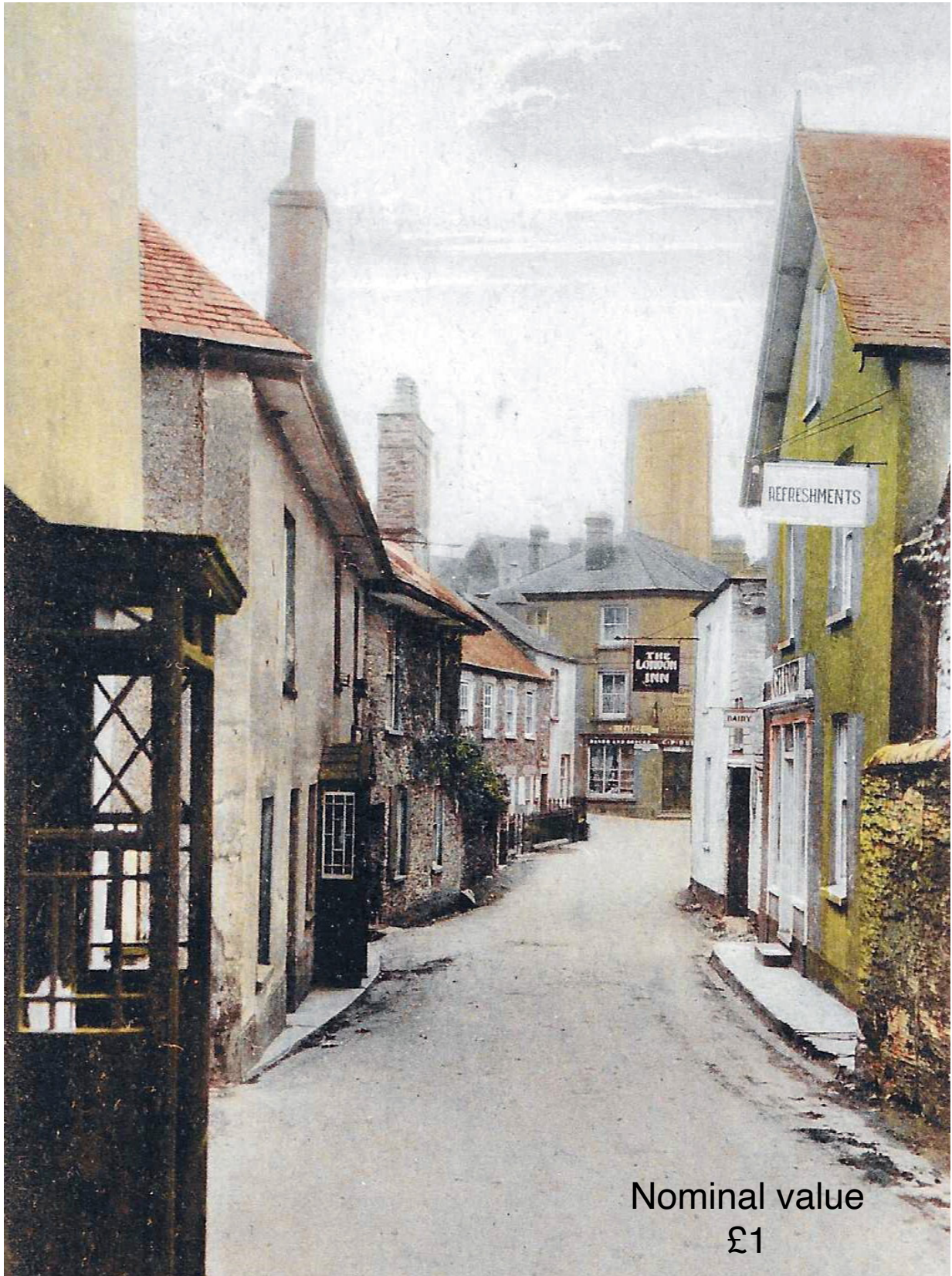


Stoke Fleming Voice

June and July 2026



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Editorial

I recently met up with new resident Chris Donlan (sorry, Chris, for misspelling your name in the May magazine) and we were talking about how much he has been enjoying living in the village. It reminded me that when Sandra and I moved in, we used to speak on a daily basis about experiencing awe here, but I think we stopped doing this during this winter's storms, which I'll admit were, for me, far from awesome! So, I've been trying to ensure I take note of all the amazing things around us. That starts with the village, its residents and its wonderful outlets and groups we profile in the magazine. But there are so many other amazing things all around us too.

In the winter, Sandra and I do some great classes at the leisure centre and we're part of a lively badminton group which meets on Monday afternoon, before we head over to Paignton for a lindy hop dance class. We put our learning into practice at "Hoppin in the Hams" run by Strictly's and SF's Jenny Thomas in the Village Hall last month. All fairly awe-inspiring activities!

Then, for me, early summer is all about the triathlon (7th June, sponsorship page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jon-ingham>). This event is all about exhaustion so other emotions, like awe, don't get a look in. However, once I've got through this, there'll still be plenty of summer left for walking, and kayaking with Dartmouth Yacht Club – and I have been truly awed paddling out to the Mewstone on a flat sea.

I could go on and on. I think the Flavel is fantastic, with so many different opportunities to experience art and culture, and so convenient! I love all the festivals too, and we've got a special report on these on page 39 of this magazine.

However, the most awesome thing I have experienced here is the rest of the *Voice* team – I love working on the magazine with Sandra, Pam, Jenny and Anne, including on this (I think) doubly awesome June and July edition.

Of course, there are just my reflections on life in Stoke Fleming and you'll have your own set of unique experiences. But I hope you also find some awe within them, and can take time to take note of these when you do. Perhaps you'd even like to jot them down and email to us, and we can publish your own highlights in future editions of the magazine?

Jon

If you would like to contribute an article, Reader's View or Letter to the Editor, please email stokeflemingvoice@gmail.com, or see our website www.stokeflemingvoice.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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An article or advertisement in this magazine does not mean that the Magazine Team endorses any of the views expressed, or the goods or services offered.

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

SFV Noticeboard

Dartmouth Leisure Centre

From Monday 1st June Parkwood Leisure will formally be running the leisure centres across the South Hams (including Dartmouth) on behalf of South Hams, after Fusion went into administration last month.



All current memberships and session bookings will continue as normal, with no action required from customers, although the online bookings app will be temporarily unavailable. Bookings can be made at Reception. Updated FAQs are available on the South Hams website to help answer all your questions. <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/leisure-and-outdoor-spaces/leisure-centre-updates>.

Fast Rabbit Farm

Our congratulations to Alan Mort for his well-managed 43 acres at Fast Rabbit Farm Gardens which have been honoured with a 2026 Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Award, ranking it among the top 10% of attractions worldwide and as a premier attraction in our area.

Devon Communities Foundation



Stoke Fleming Voice is grateful to Devon Community Foundation <https://devoncf.com/> for a £1,000 grant towards printing of this and May's magazines. The Foundation distributes grants to tackle inequalities and strengthen communities (you may have read their article on volunteering in March's magazine). Their grant helps us feel confident we can continue publication through 2026 and beyond, supporting the strong community we are lucky to have here in Stoke Fleming.

Nelly Konradi's Cake Shed

The Cake Shed is open at 2 School Road, Stoke Fleming. See Stoke Fleming Community Forum Facebook page for opening times and availability of items.

Personal Announcements

Farewell

David and Marion Holmes moved to Saltash during May. They had lived in Farwell House since 2018, following 18 months refurbishment. David is a former chairman of Friends of St Peter's and set the Living Churchyard project moving. Marion was a founder member of the Community Kitchen team

Welcome

As we say farewell to the Holmes family, we welcome Barry O'Shea, his son Tom and wife Louisa to the village. Barry moved with his family to Torcross in the 80s and is now making his home at East Farwell because the sea has taken too much of a liking to his old house! Tom grew up in Torcross, eventually moved away and now he and Louisa have returned to the area and will be living at Farwell House. Barry has many friends in the village, being a long-time member of Dartmouth Golf Club. Tom, during his student years, worked with Alan at the Start Bay Inn and Alan is looking forward to seeing him again when he returns to the other side of the bar.

Births

Mark and Mary Beth Dunstan welcomed a baby boy, Lowen John Peter Dunstan, on 30th April at 2:15pm, weighing 8lb 7oz. Lowen is a Cornish name which means "joyful". Morwenna, 4 years old, is very pleased to be a big sister.

Marriage

On 14th May at Cockington Court: Bob Shearwood to Rachel Farley. Bob is well-known in Stoke Fleming having been the Village postman for many years. We send them both our very best wishes.

If you would like a Personal Announcement (moving into the Village, a birth, a wedding, graduation, etc) to feature on our Noticeboard page please send details to stokeflemingvoice@gmail.com.



From the Registers

No entries this month.

Little Stars

Summer is here and our Little Stars are blooming like flowers. Watching them growing from unsure toddlers to independent children is a privilege.

The children come well prepared with snacks and are pleased to share with friends. We will be losing a few Little Stars this term, ready for pre-school and beyond. Our Open the Book team who go into school on Tuesday afternoons will be following their progress.

We look forward to seeing regular and new Little Stars, so please come and join us on a Monday morning 9.00am-10.30am in St Peter's church during term time. Everyone is welcome.

Heather, Sue and Peter

Reader's Ramblings



Lyn and I watched the programme on TV from the Royal Albert Hall celebrating the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough – a truly remarkable man. One of the scenes that moved me most was the one in which he was playing with a family of upland gorillas – romping around with the infants while the adults looked on. In that short clip he completely dispelled the myth that the gorillas are aggressive

and dangerous (saying it is we humans who are aggressive and dangerous).

It made me think of how we humans see other humans around the world. I bought a book “Solidarity” by Rowan Williams. A triumph of hope over expectation – it has taken me a week to read the prologue. But I understand bits. There is a distinctly African form of humanism, summed up in the IsiZulu word UBUNTU. It is routinely interpreted as designating a belief in mutuality and interdependence. It can be put simply as “I am because you are”, or “I am because we are”. (Are you asleep yet?).

Back to David Attenborough. He was recently told by one of the West’s best-known political leaders that he “offends Jesus”. Attenborough replied, calm but firm ... “You want to know what actually offends Jesus? Turning your back on the vulnerable – whether they are people in need or the fragile ecosystems that sustain life”. And he went on: “You want to know what else offends Jesus? Ignoring the suffering of others. Treating the natural world as disposable. Forgetting that we are all connected, and that our actions affect generations to come”. And there was more on compassion and responsibility, and what it truly means to care – for one another and for the world we share.

Enough! We are in Christian Aid Week and, I think, Mental Health Awareness Week as I write. I will leave you with a message from Isaiah telling us to listen for God’s voice saying, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine”. And that’s all of us!

God bless you all.

Frank Robinson

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

St Peter's Church Services

June

- Sun 7th 10.15am Prayer Time.
11.00am Holy Communion.
6.30pm Choral Evensong.
- Sun 14th 11.00am Morning Worship.
- Sun 21st **10.00am** Father's Day Service.
- Sun 28th 11.00am Morning Worship.

July

- Sun 5th 10.15am Prayer Time.
11.00am Holy Communion.
6.30pm Choral Evensong.
- Sun 12th Sea Sunday. 11.00am Morning Worship
- Sun 19th 11.00am Communion by extension.
- Sun 26th 11.00am Pentecost Morning Worship.

Hort & Sport Plant Sale and Coffee Morning (see page 8)



Village Life: Lulu Greenhalgh-Jones, Nancy and Rubee

Lulu lives in the centre of the village and her two horses live in the parish too. Nancy is the horse Lulu mainly rides, an 85% Arabian with a splash of Welsh Cob, which accounts for her distinctive looks, friendly and slightly haughty character. Standing at 14.2hh (hands high) and well built, she has a lot of presence. She is also a very striking golden caramel colour, known as palomino, with a white flowing mane and tail.



Formerly kept for breeding, Nancy is now clearly in charge of Rubee, a seven-year-old, grey, 15hh Arabian horse, who has been with Lulu for the last year. When Rubee arrived she was all skin and bone with no muscle, and Lulu was worried at one point she might not make it when her auto-immune system collapsed. However, Rubee is happily now steadily gaining weight and muscle, and she loves to receive attention

from Lulu. Although Nancy and Rubee are friends, a toss of Nancy's head or a change in the position of her ears is a clear indication to Rubee that she needs to get out of the way!

Horse hierarchy aside, it is clear to see it's Lulu who is their leader, loved and respected by both horses; they do as she asks out of respect for her, not because they fear her or she forces them to do anything. Lulu believes in natural horsemanship. She grew up in London learning to ride the traditional way with a bit, a conventional saddle, crop and even spurs sometimes, engaging in show jumping, cross country and dressage. However, after a nasty fall she started to rethink things and then, when her trainer ordered her to give her horse a good whack because he was being naughty, she'd had enough. She refused and from that point onward looked for alternative ways of training horses. As Lulu says, "if a horse can feel a fly land on its skin and can twitch the individual muscle to move it, why would you ever use a crop?"

Lulu trains without force. Both horses are only ever ridden in bitless bridles, treeless saddles, no metal shoes and no use of crops or spurs. Lulu and Nancy participate in endurance riding together and last year they secured Grade Ones in all their competitions – Lulu says their success lies in their partnership, mutual trust and finding a common language between them.

The horses are out all year, but there are two shelters for them to rest in and get out of the elements or for shade. Nancy does not like being confined much but,

as Lulu says, if Rubee was visiting with you, she'd be in your PJs and all over your sofa before you'd know it!

Both horses enjoy being out and roam a diverse hilly pasture that is rotationally grazed to protect the biodiversity, choosing from their pick of a rich choice of herbs, lush grasses and wildflowers, all promoting natural foraging habits.

Lulu has ADHD and plenty of hyperactive energy, so you won't be surprised that she gets up at 5.30am each day to tend to her horses before waking children, walking dogs with her husband Neil and getting on with her working day as a business growth consultant. She often whizzes back down to the paddock for a picnic lunch with the horses, and she is back again every evening to prepare feed, putting rugs on them if it looks as if it might be chilly or raining, and topping up their drinking water from the stream running alongside their field.

You may see Lulu and Nancy out together, sporting neon pink hi-viz for both horse and rider, even Nancy's hoof boots are neon pink too. The hoof boots are needed because she isn't shod, and they protect her hooves and hoof soles from sharp stones and any debris that could bruise or puncture them.

Lulu advises that horses, like any animal, can be unpredictable and both drivers and cyclists should leave plenty of space for them on the road, and to be as patient as possible as she is often out riding with one of her daughters riding young Rubee.

The British Horse Society publishes advice to reduce the number of road accidents and subsequent horse deaths here: <https://www.bhs.org.uk/go-riding-and-learn/riding-out-hacking/riding-on-roads/advice-for-motorists/>.

Above all, Lulu also encourages people to wave and say hi as they pass by!



News from the Hort and Sport

Firstly, the committee would like to thank all who came along and supported our plant sale in May. An amazing total of £1,153.13 was raised! This could not happen without the generosity of all involved, the donations of plants, bric a brac and cakes made this an enjoyable and successful event.

Our thoughts are now firmly on the Show, which takes place on Monday 31st August. The committee are all hard at work, bringing together the main event in the village calendar. This year's theme is "Anniversaries" celebrating 25 years of the Village Hall, and the 100th birthdays of Sir David Attenborough and Winnie the Pooh. More details of the special categories will be available in the show schedule, available late June from the Village Shop, the library and Gardentime.

This year the society has the opportunity to sponsor an individual from the parish on a Royal Horticultural Society two-year online course. Application forms will be available in August and more details will be in next issue of *Stoke Fleming Voice*. The course will enable the candidate to achieve a "Level 2" qualification, ideal for those looking to pursue a career in horticulture, or to stretch and challenge skills for personal interest. More details can be found on the RHS website. The course is being sponsored in memory of Shirley Ruddlesden, our stalwart supporter and secretary for many years.

Please can all trophies won at the 2025 show be returned to Paula Johnston at 2 Postbox Cottages, New Road TQ6 0NR, no later than 1st July for engraving.

Here's hoping for favourable weather in the next couple of months and bumper entries for the show.

Paula Johnston



Friends of Rowcroft

Rowcroft will be having an event in the Royal Avenue Gardens between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Thursday 30th July. There will be the usual cakes, tea, coffee and sandwiches. We hope to have the new Christmas cards by then and there will be a craft stall too. Please come and join us for this fundraiser for Rowcroft; they have to find over 75% of their expenses to look after their patients at home, in the Hospice itself and for all the extra care they give as well.



148th Annual Horticultural & Sports Society Show

to be held on

Monday 31st AUGUST 2026

at the

Playing Field & Stoke Fleming Village Hall

Exhibits

Bar, refreshments, Stalls

Entry from 12.30

Admission: Adults £3.00, Children £1.00

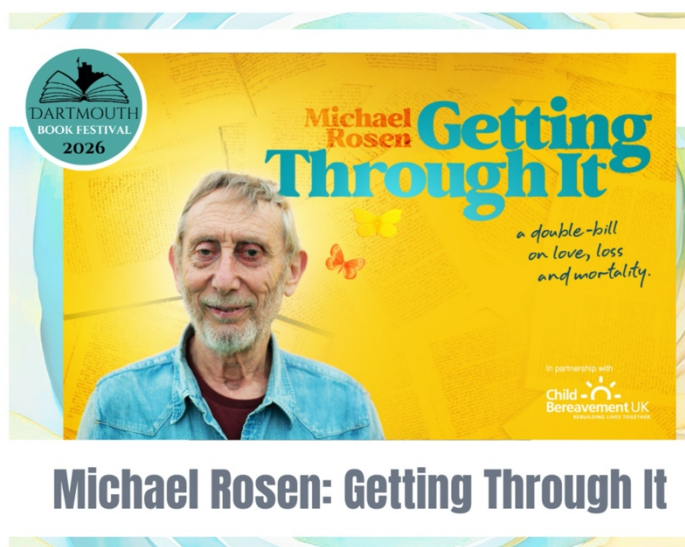
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Start Point Lighthouse

Start Point Lighthouse will be open from 11.00am – 4.00pm on:

Sunday 7th June

Sunday 5th July

Sunday 2nd August

Sunday 6th September

No booking required

Last tour at 3.00pm

Open for private group tours outside these dates for a minimum charge of £75, having given a week's notice.

Step inside this tower, which has guided mariners by its daylight structure and its night time beam and learn of the significance of this building to those who sail the seas.

Nature Notes

On 2nd May, at 8pm, I saw a hobby just arrived from Africa fly over my head. I was walking to Cotton on Venn Lane and the hobby swooped low, to about 3 feet, like a giant swift. It was more brown than slate grey so was probably a female. On 10th May, I saw about ten house martins in a flock of mostly swallows.

The female blackcap, or "brown" cap, was in my front garden again on 11th May. The pair of little grebes came back at Combe Lake, near Great Combe, next to the island on 4th May. Also, a moorhen, a pair and a threesome of mallards (which came to other ponds as well, two drakes and a duck) and I heard Canada geese.



A pair of hedgehogs are in my garden and there may be hedgehoglets in one of the huts. The slow worms are in the village and grass snakes' babies came out at Venn Pools Wood at the end of April. I saw a roe deer doe out of the hedge just yards away on 20th April, but I haven't seen a roe buck during the past two years, might have been shot?

DW

Steve Shakespeare also reports seeing a deer in his garden, in Redlap Lane.

Stoke Fleming Library – Tel: 770076

At the Village Hall: Monday 3.00pm to 5.00pm, Tuesday 10.30am to 12.30pm and Thursday 3.00pm to 5.00pm.

Running from July to September, children aged 4-12 can take part in **The Summer Book Quest** which is all about transport. Join Libro and friends on a new adventure; track your reading, enjoy visits to the library and complete special activities, then collect your medal and certificate! Sign up at your local library in the summer holidays, complete fun activities and enjoy the stories you love to complete the challenge.

Don't forget we have a public computer available for 2 hours free each day that we're open, and we can do A4 photocopying and printing in B&W and colour for you.

You only need a Library Membership and PIN number to borrow a huge range of e-books and e-audio books from Devon Libraries via Borrowbox App. Also, magazines and newspapers – all free – and there's a terrific range for you to choose from.

We're very happy to accept donated books – as long as they are in good condition. Ample free parking when you visit the library.

Thank you for continuing to support the Library and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sue Taylor

Breast Cancer Support Group

Have you been affected by breast cancer??

We know only too well what a lonely place it can be to receive a diagnosis, navigate through treatment or live with the after effects of cancer. Putting on that brave face and pulling yourself through the day, so everything can be as normal as possible, is such hard work. The physical effects can be exhausting and the mental strain takes so much energy. The reality is, it stays with you, months and years afterwards.



That's why our lovely group is so important.

We come together every month, to share our concerns and help each other through, but equally to have those light-hearted moments, a bit of a giggle and try to move forward, with the help of those that have had the same experience.

It has become a special little place once a month on a Wednesday!

Our next meetings are Wednesday 3rd June; 1st July; 5th August 2026 (and continue on the first Wednesday of every month) from 5.30pm to 7.00pm at Dartmouth Caring, Health & Wellbeing Centre, Dartmouth.

Anyone who has been affected by breast cancer will be made very welcome.

For any questions, please call Dartmouth Caring on 01803 835384 or Dawn Whiteley on 07710 622896, or email enquiries@dartmouthcaring.co.uk.

News from the Community Kitchen

Here are our dates for June and July. We have a lunch booked on **Friday 19th June** in the Village Hall and the tickets will be on sale on Tuesday 9th June at 8.30am from the Village Shop.



The July lunch will be **Friday 17th July** also in the Village Hall and these tickets will be on sale on Tuesday 7th July at 8.30am. We will be taking a well-earned rest in August and hope to re-start in September. Tickets remain at £10 with £2 to pay on the day. We do need dietary requirements before the lunch – vegetarian, gluten free or dairy free or anything else. We try hard to cater for everyone, but we don't have magic powers!

One of our chefs left us at the beginning of May. Marion and David have moved to pastures new and we will miss them. Marion was an excellent cook and had imaginative ideas; she was happy to try out lots of different recipes for us. She could be seen frantically carrying trays of food into the kitchen of the hall at 12.30 while we were milling around but she was difficult to prise out of the kitchen to take any accolade. We wish them well in their new home.

We do have several others who cook for us, but we are always on the lookout for more. If you are a confident family cook, we can talk you through the Health and Safety and give you some training. We pay for all ingredients you use. Other gaps in our small team include volunteers to help lay the tables and to make the Hall look welcoming for you all. Someone to don the marigolds and dive into the sink or come with flowers for the tables. If you think you could help in any way, email to houseonthehill661@gmail.com. We would be very grateful.

It hardly seems summer weather yet so thoughts of barbeques, salads and outside living will have to wait. Instead aim for lighter meals using rice and pasta as the days get longer. Aim to eat fish twice a week and less red meat. Remember all those plant-based foods and herbs and spices to make a memorable meal. UK grown strawberries and raspberries are coming into the shops, but they will be much sweeter when we eventually have a spell of sunny weather. Happy eating!

Mary Newman

Stoke Fleming Village Hall

The Hall and its 25th anniversary celebrations have certainly been in the news lately as many of you will have seen. Last month we had wonderful coverage in this magazine, and we also featured in the Dartmouth Chronicle and By The Dart publications, each with some great photos from Barry Morris of the building's construction back in 2001.



Our first event to mark the occasion was the well supported Casino Night in April and thanks must go again to the generosity of all our local sponsors, the team who decorated the hall and the helpers on the night. The evening ended up being a close-run thing with the biggest winner taking away £100 worth of lottery scratch cards.

A second event, our Sunday afternoon concert in May, saw the talented Brass Monkeys entertain a lovely crowd during the Dartmouth Musical Festival weekend. Cream teas and Prosecco were the perfect accompaniment to some great brass playing and our thanks go to the band, who donated their time, and to our event sponsor, McCarthy Stone.

That just leaves our third night to mention – a wonderful cabaret of comedy and singing that's coming up on 20th June. We have three marvellous acts to entertain you including Stan Terry, one of the best Rod Stewart tribute artists around, so make sure you view the advert in this magazine and get your tickets early as this night is sure to sell out fast.

In other matters, we have finally agreed a contract with Mole Energy to commence the Solar Planning Project. Hall trustee, David Bone, is overseeing the project with assistance from another, Phil Elliott, who originally constructed the building. We hope to commence the works over the summer months.

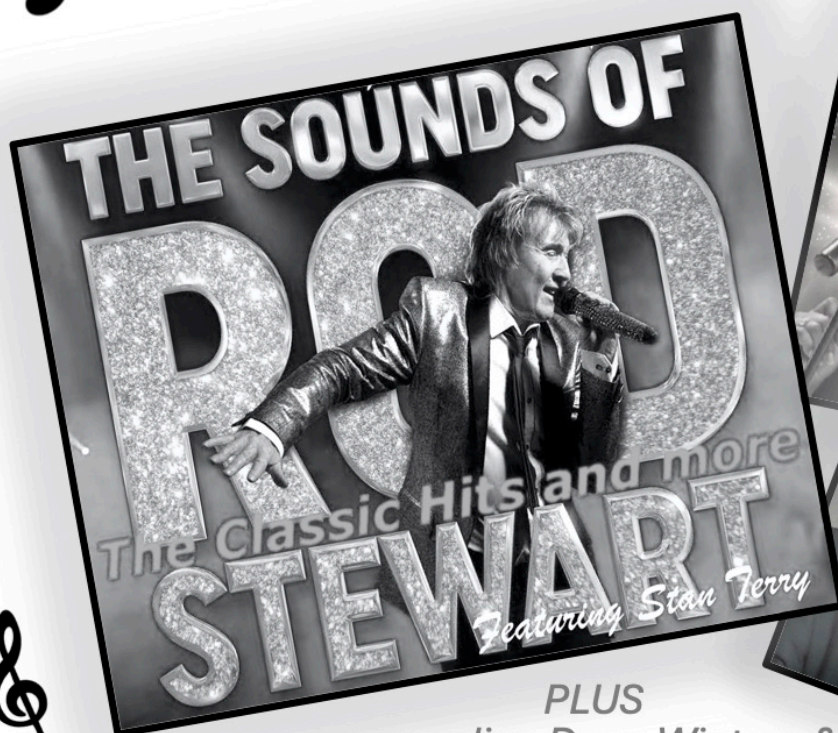
Devon Libraries have also requested a new, five-year, lease for Stoke Fleming Library which would seem to indicate a commitment to keeping this important facility open, albeit with a possible reduction in hours.

Talking of openings, and closings, I would like to end by formally welcoming our new Hall Manager, Drew Young, to the team. Drew, who lives in the village, took over from Kerry Southern earlier this year and has continued to manage the building with the same dedication and commitment as his predecessor.

Gary Rapps

SFVH's 25th Anniversary Fundraising

CABARET NIGHT



PLUS
*comedian Dean Winters &
vocalist Ruby Washington at*

Stoke Fleming Village Hall
Saturday 20th June
7.00pm – 11.30pm

Tickets £25 on sale at The Village Shop
or via Jill on 01803 770045.

Kindly organised by our 'Strictly' locals Jenny Thomas and Darryl Pitt

Stoke Fleming Defibrillators.

There are two Defibrillators in Stoke Fleming. One at the **Green Dragon**, located in the rear yard with access off Rectory Lane. The other is located within the open porch of the **Village Hall**. Both machines are accessible 24/7.

To gain access to a Defibrillator dial “999” and tell the operator you need the code of the Defibrillator at that location. The operator will provide you with a code that can be used to open the box. The Defibrillator can then be easily removed. They are both fully automatic and voice instructions are given for each step of their use.

There may be occasions when a machine is not available, such as when it is already in use, or it is under maintenance. In these situations, the operator will tell you the location of the next nearest Defibrillator that is available. These are very rare situations, and the likelihood is the Defibrillator at your location will be available. They are tested every week.

Please return the Defibrillator back to the box after it's been used. They are an asset to the village and are costly to replace.

Wednesday Ladies

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 10th June. The speaker is Gareth Streeter and his talk is entitled “**1483 – The Year that Changed Britain**”.

On Wednesday, 8th July Phil Badcock will talk about “**The River Avon – From Source to South Brent**”.

Meetings take place in The Village Hall, Ron Harris Room, starting at 2.30pm.

New members are always very welcome. If you would like to join our group, just come to the meeting in June or July, or for more information contact Jill on 01803 771137.

Barbara Goddard

Living Churchyard Project

I would like to start with a thank-you to Gav Whitely who gave a day of his time to cut back the shrubs on the left, alongside the coffin walk. The living churchyard area is in its growing phase now. Another thank-you is due to Kevin Sumner who has been mowing the paths through the area. We're looking forward to seeing what flowers appear this year.

Jenny Hailstone

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.

Every Tuesday, 1pm to 4pm

Health and Wellbeing Centre, Wessex Way, Dartmouth, TQ6 0JL



0808 278 7948
southhamscab.org.uk

Citizens Advice Volunteer Open Day – Wednesday 1st July 2026

Ever wondered what volunteering at Citizens Advice involves? Come and find out!

We are hosting a volunteer open day from **10am to 12pm** on **Wednesday 1st July 2026** at Follaton House in Totnes. Come along to meet the team, learn more about the available roles, and enjoy a slice of cake!

As a community charity, we rely on our fantastic volunteers to help with a variety of tasks, including frontline advice, reception, and administration. Our volunteers are often the first point of contact for people who are anxious and in need of support — acting as a crucial bridge, guiding visitors to the right advisors, managing appointments, and making people feel valued.

We welcome volunteers from all walks of life — students, retired people, those with disabilities, and people from all backgrounds and communities. No previous experience is necessary; we provide all the training and support you need, and you will always work as part of a friendly team under the guidance of our local experts.

Let us know you're coming by emailing recruitment@southhamscab.org.uk – we look forward to meeting you!

Citizens Advice South Hams, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, TQ9 5EZ



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.

Email: thegreedytable@gmail.com

Tel: 07720 764037

Craft Club

The Craft Club is a monthly social club, open to anyone who has an interest in crafts such as, to name a few, embroidery, cross stitch, knitting, crocheting and quilting. We warmly welcome anyone who likes making things.



We meet in the Village Hall at 2.00pm on the first Friday of each month, for tea, cake, chat and time to work on our projects. We all would be interested to try something new, and would love someone to come and demonstrate to us how they do their particular craft. I particularly love embroidery, making felt animals and also paper flowers. We are very open to any suggestions on anything new. If you would like to join us, please do come along. You will be very welcome.

Lorraine Forman

lorraineforman@gmail.com

Loam Rangers



As we enter our 21st year of operation we held our AGM for the year 2025 on 22nd April 2026 and I thought I would share some of the highlights.

- 1,311 visits to site March 2025-April 2026, flat on previous year.
- 1,594 compost bags taken – down 15% (3 months with no compost available).
- 142 members as of April 2026 (122 paid up for 2026).
- 37 volunteers, 21 active for Sunday duty.
- Extended opening Dec to Feb – one additional Sunday per month.
- Wednesday evening opening approved – June, July & August 17:30-18:00.
- 20-year anniversary celebration held at the Green Dragon – combined with volunteer thank-you event.
- Participated in Sustainable South Hams community composting discussions.

- Featured on BBC Spotlight SW.
- Membership remains at £10.



As reported previously, we had a lean spell for compost last year; however, we are now back up to full speed and our fantastic riddling team have been out in force and produced over 430 bags of wonderful compost for our members. We are still sticking with three bags per member, but this should be maintainable throughout the year.

Great effort guys.

A reminder that we will be open on Wednesday evenings 17:30-18:00 starting 3rd June through to the end of August.

Steve Shakespeare – sgshakespeare@btinternet.com 07970137311

Paul Noonan – pnoonan14@gmail.com (Volunteer enquiries)

Loam Rangers Opening Times

The Loam Rangers composting site behind Stoke Fleming School is open during the summer months as follows:

Sundays: 10.00-11.30

Wednesdays: 17.30-18.00



Stoke Fleming Cricket Club

Fixtures for June / July

7th June: Grittleton – Home.

14th June: Kingsbridge – Away.

21st June: Harberton – Away.

28th June: Cavendish Cavaliers – Home.

5th July: Madri Boys – Home.

12th July: Holberton – Away.

26th July: Barberton – Home.

Stacey Gilbert

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For an informal chat about working together, contact Dean on hello@feelgold.studio / 07932 377038

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Caroline Voaden

MP for South Devon



Contact me if you need help with anything that is the responsibility of a national government department, such as pensions, passports or benefits.

If you are unsure, please email or call and I would be happy to guide you to whoever is best placed to help.

✉ caroline.voaden.mp@parliament.uk ☎ 01803658461

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The Green Dragon

Dragon Brew and Bake



Stoke Fleming's new Dragon Brew & Bake café is welcoming customers from 10am-3pm on Thursdays and 9am-3pm every Friday and Saturday. Start your day with a delicious selection of homemade food, including hearty breakfasts, breakfast ciabattas, freshly baked pastries, sandwiches, traditional pasties and coffee. Whether you're stopping by for a quick coffee, meeting friends for a leisurely brunch, or enjoying an early afternoon bite, you'll find a warm welcome and plenty of tempting choices. We also offer delicious home

baked loaves of bread to pre-order – get yours in now!

The pub continues to open seven days a week as usual, serving lunches (Thurs-Sun) and evening meals, homemade pizzas and our ever-popular Sunday roasts.

Summer Events at The Dragon

June and July promise to be especially lively, with plenty happening throughout the months.

“The Greedy Table Summer Supper Club”

9th June – English Garden Party.

14th July – A Night in Provence.

Special summer events

Our annual music festival – **Dragonfest 26 – 10th to 12th July**. Make sure to mark your calendars for Dragonfest 26! With music from Mafia 4, Cool Beanz, an open mic afternoon and children's entertainment with Lez the Fez to name just a few of the things to look forward to! This much-loved village event promises to be a fun-filled family weekend with a fantastic selection of local real ales and ciders.

Live Music

Sunday 26th July @ 4pm. Fraser Morgan – Fraser is a rapidly up and coming Folk/Punk singer/songwriter, having recently played his 1,000th show. He brings high levels of passion, energy and showmanship to the stage and will keep you on your toes with the likes of Billy Bragg, The Levellers and Frank Turner!

Whether you're joining us for breakfast at the café, enjoying a meal in the pub, or celebrating at Dragonfest 26, we look forward to welcoming residents and visitors alike.

Come and enjoy the summer with us at The Dragon!



Georgie, Alan and the Dragon team

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Dartmouth Caring

*Bringing people together, improving
wellbeing, supporting those in need.*



We have many services to help you and your loved ones, including assistance with benefits and housing, hospital transport, and dementia support. Our regular programme of lunch clubs and social activities are for everyone - we support people of all ages in Dartmouth and the surrounding villages. Please contact us for more information or to join our growing team of volunteers.

enquiries@dartmouthcaring.co.uk
facebook.com/dartmouthcaring
Tel: 01803 835 384



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Get Growing this June with Gardentime



June is the month many gardeners look forward to all year. After the steady build-up of spring, the garden now bursts into life — borders overflowing with colour, roses in bud, and tall delphiniums reaching for the sun. With the longest days upon us, it's the perfect time to slow down, take a seat, and enjoy the sights, scents and sounds of early summer.

- Plant out tender crops including **courgettes, sweetcorn, tomatoes and peppers.**
- **Stake tomato plants** and pinch outside shoots to keep plants healthy and productive.
- Sow herbs like **basil** on a sunny windowsill or in the greenhouse.
- Fill **containers and hanging baskets** with summer bedding and feed regularly for long-lasting displays.
- Enjoy your first harvests of **early potatoes, lettuce and strawberries.**
- **Net strawberries** to keep birds from enjoying them before you do!
- Keep on top of maintenance:
 - Hoe weeds regularly.
 - Water in the early morning or evening.
 - Apply mulch to retain moisture.
 - Mow lawns weekly.
 - Support taller plants.
 - Deadhead roses and sweet peas for more flowers.
 - Trim hedges to keep gardens tidy.

At Gardentime, summer is in full swing, with the centre overflowing with vibrant plants and beautiful pots to help you make the most of your outdoor space. Whether you're refreshing containers or simply looking for inspiration, it's a wonderful time to visit — and perhaps enjoy a well-earned break in the café garden too.

Short Mat Bowls

We continue to meet on a Tuesday afternoon at Stoke Fleming Hall between 2.00 and 5.00 pm. We welcomed Sandra from *Stoke Fleming Voice* to make the Draw for the 100 Club recently. New members are always welcome to come and try the game; I'm sure you'll enjoy the afternoon, and the tea and biscuits.

Debbie Morris

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. Address: 5-9 Victoria Road.

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).

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Stoke Fleming Information

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

Bus – Service 93 (at Shady Lane)

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	

Note on 93 bus times

At the time of writing, the timetable for buses between Stoke Fleming and Dartmouth has not changed (see above). Service 93 will be diverting from Kingsbridge Bus Station via the A381 and A3122 towards Strete as they are unable to serve the normal line of route. Buses will continue a normal routing from Strete onto Dartmouth, but Stagecoach is unable to serve the route between Torcross, Slapton and Strete.

Station Taxis in Totnes will be operating a replacement taxi service between Slapton, Stokenham, Kingsbridge and Strete. Journeys must be booked at least 1 working day in advance on 01803 732834. As the situation is evolving, if in doubt, please check Stagecoach's website or app.

June 2026

Mon	1	
Tue	2	
Wed	3	17.30-19.00 – Breast Cancer Support Group – Health Centre 19.00 – Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Thur	4	14.15 – Dartmouth & District Flower Club – Village Hall
Fri	5	14.00 – Craft Club – Village Hall
Sat	6	Dartmouth Open Sea Swim, Blackpool Sands
Sun	7	Dartmouth Triathlon, Blackpool Sands 11.00-16.00 – Start Point Lighthouse open for visitors
Mon	8	14.30 – TASDAK – Flavel
Tue	9	08.30 – Tickets for Community Lunch – Village Shop
Wed	10	Probus “Away Day” – Berry Head Hotel 14.30 – Wednesday Ladies – Village Hall
Thur	11	10.00 – u3a – Flavel
Fri	12	
Sat	13	
Sun	14	
Mon	15	
Tue	16	
Wed	17	
Thur	18	
Fri	19	12.30 – Community Kitchen Lunch – Village Hall
Sat	20	19.00-23.30 – Cabaret Night – Village Hall
Sun	21	
Mon	22	
Tue	23	
Wed	24	10.30 – Probus – Stoke Lodge
Thur	25	10.30-12.00 – Dartmouth Caring Coffee Morning – Village Hall
Fri	26	
Sat	27	
Sun	28	
Mon	29	
Tue	30	

July 2026

Wed	1	10.00-12.00 – CAB Volunteers Open Day – Follaton House 17.30-19.00 – Breast Cancer Support Group – Health Centre 19.00 – Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall
Thur	2	14.15 – Dartmouth & District Flower Club – Village Hall
Fri	3	14.00 – Craft Club – Village Hall
Sat	4	10.00-16.00- Art & Craft Day for CHSW – Royal Avenue Gardens
Sun	5	11.00-16.00 – Start Point Lighthouse open for visitors
Mon	6	
Tue	7	08.30 – Tickets for Community Lunch – Village Shop
Wed	8	10.30 – Probus – Stoke Lodge 14.30 – Wednesday Ladies – Village Hall
Thur	9	10.00 – u3a – Flavel
Fri	10	Dragonfest 26
Sat	11	Dragonfest 26 19.00-22.00 – Ash Rescue Centre Fashion Show – Dartmouth Guildhall
Sun	12	Dragonfest 26
Mon	13	
Tue	14	
Wed	15	
Thur	16	COPY DATE FOR AUGUST MAGAZINE
Fri	17	12.30 – Community Kitchen Lunch – Village Hall
Sat	18	
Sun	19	
Mon	20	
Tue	21	
Wed	22	
Thur	23	
Fri	24	
Sat	25	
Sun	26	16.00 – Live Music – Green Dragon
Mon	27	School Holidays start
Tue	28	
Wed	29	
Thur	30	10.30-12.00 – Dartmouth Caring Coffee Morning – Village Hall 10.00-16.00 – Rowcroft Fundraising Day – Royal Avenue Gardens
Fri	31	

Parish Council Minutes Summary – May 2026

A monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 6th May 2026 in the Ron Harris Room, Stoke Fleming Village Hall at the rise of the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Please note: a full version of these minutes is at the library and on the website.

Prior to this meeting, at the Annual Parish Council Meeting, the council received two resignations: Phil Elliott and Jack Handley. Phil and Jack were thanked for their dedication to the council over the years.

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 Tilly Crowther, Cllr Jay Floyd, Cllr Belinda Duffy.

Also invited: Clerk S A Whelon, Cllr Simon Rake.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: County Cllr Julian Brazil, Cllr Bella Johnston.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 1st April 2026, AND PLANNING SITE MEETING NOTES were signed by the Chairman of the meeting as true and correct records.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Proposed new car park. Members with interest withdrew. Exclusion of press and public for this item.

Report from sub-committee. No update on communication but this will be chased. Funding earmarked must be used for the car park project.

COMMUNITY

Two trees will be planted by the benches on the playing field, and plaques in memoriam of local residents will be installed on the benches and by the trees.

ROADS & TRANSPORT

Slapton Line – meeting report (TM). Adaption Manager at South Hams seems to be “sitting on hands” regarding road repair. Concerns with delays for carers and emergency services due to access difficulties in the vicinity.

MAINTENANCE

- a) Ravensbourne Wall valuation for insurance - £25,000 including road closure.
- b) Village grass cutting contract for approval. **Approved.**
- c) Park dome wood – new dome would be £1700. Alternative double thickness Perspex would be £500 plus fitting – this option was **approved.**
- d) Decking at playpark will be removed.

COUNCIL AND ACTIONS REGISTER

- a) Resignations of Cllrs Phil Elliott and Jack Handley. Notices of Vacancies eligibility for co-option will be announced following communication from South Hams DC.
- b) Files for storage at village hall. Clerk to bring box to July meeting.
- c) Cllrs Belli and Crowther offered to go through files and discard duplications and irrelevance.

PLANNING: All noted.

APPLICATIONS

- a) Reference: 0862/26/HHO. Proposal: Householder application for single storey rear extension & revised front entrance. Site Address: Stone House Farm, Blackawton, TQ9 7DE.
- b) Reference: 0899/26/ADV. Proposal: Externally illuminated fascia sign. Site Address: Land At Sx 855 508 (Premier Inn Hotel), Violet Drive, Dartmouth.
- c) Reference: 0879/26/VAR. Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 1082/25/VAR. Site Address: Ash Cross House, Ash, TQ6 0LR.
- d) Application Number: 0428/26/CLP. Location Address: 48 Cotton Road Dartmouth TQ6 0FF. Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness for proposed rear conservatory. Status: Under Consideration. Application Type: Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Use.
- e) Application Number: 0899/26/ADV. Location Address: Land At Sx 855 508 (Premier Inn Hotel) Violet Drive Dartmouth. Proposal: Externally illuminated fascia sign. Status: Within Consultation Period. Application Type: Advertisement Consent.
- f) Reference: 1000/26/HHO. Proposal: Householder application for the construction of ground floor extension, two rear dormers & addition of windows into garage roof. Site Address: 18 Hockey Fields, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0EW. Cllr Duffy to report back to Cllr Harris whether a visit is required.
- g) Reference: 0941/26/TPO. Proposal: TPO 353, W1; T1: Acer Pseudoplatanus – remove stem A, crown reduction of retained stem B by approximately 1–2m, reduce hyperextended lateral branches on E aspect, issuing from retained stem B and subordinate stem C, to reduce end-weight and rebalance crown. Site Address: 6 Manor Court Stoke Fleming TQ6 0PG.
- h) Application Number: 0956/26/NMM. Location Address: Land At Sx 856 508 (Little Cotton Farm) Dartmouth. Proposal: Approval is sought for a minor repositioning of plot 144 to move the garage and plot forward slightly. The plot has also been shifted slightly further to the east to enable an additional parking space to be provided. Status: Under Consideration. Application Type: Non-Material Minor Amendment.

DECISIONS

- a) Application: 0381/26/TPO. Proposal: T1: Western Red Cedar - remove limb at 1m agl on west side to improve drive access. T2: Himalayan Birch. Removal of

dead/crossing/rubbing branches within crown to prevent further damage to adjacent branches. T3: Camellia - reduce overall crown height by 2m to restore shape. T4: Cherry. Comprises of 2 x regrowth stems. Reduce x 1 stem on NE side to ground level. Weak growth with poor form. Remove to give neighbouring stem space as specimen tree. T5: Bay - reduce crown height by 2m to maintain boundary hedge height. T6: Eucalyptus. Removal of cracked secondary growth from root plate. Crack gradually increasing in width and length. Risk to garden users and vehicles. T7: Beech. Removal of boundary tree with poor form. T8: Beech. Reduce regrowth stem from previous stump to ground level. Weak union on stump, poses increased risk as tree height increases. T9: Leylandii. Remove group of x3 boundary trees with poor form. Location: Molverley, Ravensbourne Lane, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0QR. Works to a TPO Tree: GRANT of CONDITIONAL CONSENT.

b) Application Number: 3669/25/FUL. Location Address: Worden Farm Dartmouth TQ6 0LD. Proposal: Application for installation of 104 ground mounted solar panels with associated infrastructure. Status: Approved. Application Type: Full Planning Application.

c) Application Number: 0343/26/HHO. Location Address: Ash House Ash TQ6 0LR. Proposal: Householder application for proposed rear single storey extension & veranda to the south elevation. Status: Approved. Application Type: Householder Application.

d) Application Number: 0428/26/CLP. Location Address: 48 Cotton Road Dartmouth TQ6 0FF. Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness for proposed rear conservatory. Status: Approved. Application Type: Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Use.

WITHDRAWN

None.

Additionally: Deer Park – scaffolding issue discussed.

Dates of next meetings: 3rd June, 7pm and 1st July, 7pm



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www.michaelsuttonscellar.co.uk

Please text/call before coming so we can make sure we are here to give you a warm welcome

Riversbridge, Blackpool Valley, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0LG

Dartmouth Caring

New Drop-in Support

We are pleased to announce we are partnering with the charitable organisation Phoenix Rising, offering a valuable and supportive Drop-in Group at Dartmouth Health & Wellbeing Centre. This will be a safe space for women who have experienced any kind of domestic or sexual abuse. The Drop-in will run fortnightly on Mondays 11am to 1pm, starting from Monday 1st June. Please get in touch with Dartmouth Caring if you would like more information.



NEW DROP IN



STARTING ON MONDAY 1ST JUNE 11-1PM

A SAFE SPACE FOR WOMEN WHO'VE EXPERIENCED ANY KIND OF DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL ABUSE.

charity number: 1217227



A friendly supportive group





come and enjoy a cuppa with us

Where: Dartmouth Health & Wellbeing Centre
Wessex Way, Dartmouth, Devon, TQ6 0JL

 07754976489 Phoenix Team

 01803 835384 DARTMOUTH CARING

phoenixrisingcio.com

Don't forget the Dartmouth Caring Coffee Mornings at Stoke Fleming Village Hall between 10.30 and 12.00 on the last Thursday of each month. The next dates are 25th June and 30th July.

Ash Rescue Centre

At Ash Rescue Centre we are thrilled that our planning project has been approved.

We can now continue to provide rescue and rehabilitation to elderly horses and carry on our educational and therapy work for the community in a safe, dry, secure and comfortable environment all year round.

Our volunteers will be grateful for their own staff room, our admin team will be pleased with their warm and light office, everyone will be happy with our carpark (not a muddy field!) and all our course members, work teams and visitors can enjoy local food cooked from the kitchen.

We are also building Devon's first wildlife rehabilitation centre. Thanks to the advice and design ideas from many of the largest wildlife rescue charities in UK, including Vale Wildlife and Secret World, this facility will combine years of practical experience with modern sustainable techniques. It will be able to accommodate hundreds of wild animals from tiny song-birds to deer.

Using original ideas as well as natural materials, including fantastic native and medicinal planting schemes (with 250sqm of green roof space and help from an Orchid expert to grow rare orchids there) this centre will have the rescue of wildlife and nature at its core. At the same time, the design has ensured that it is both cost effective to run and low on environmental impact.



Thinking about what you would like to wear and what you can afford this summer? Come to our annual Charity Fashion Show with the Foxx Exchange on Saturday 11th July 7.00-10.00pm at The Guildhall Dartmouth. £20 a ticket to include a free glass of fizz and sharing platters. Our "Mega Sale" rails of clothes for £5 each will be there, as well as clothes from the Foxx Exchange. Have fun and help raise money for our little charity. Tickets available from The Foxx Exchange in the Market Square and at our shop on Higher Street.

ASH RESCUE CENTRE

WITH THE FOXX EXCHANGE

CHARITY FASHION SHOW

NEW DATE

SATURDAY 11TH JULY



The Guildhall,
Dartmouth



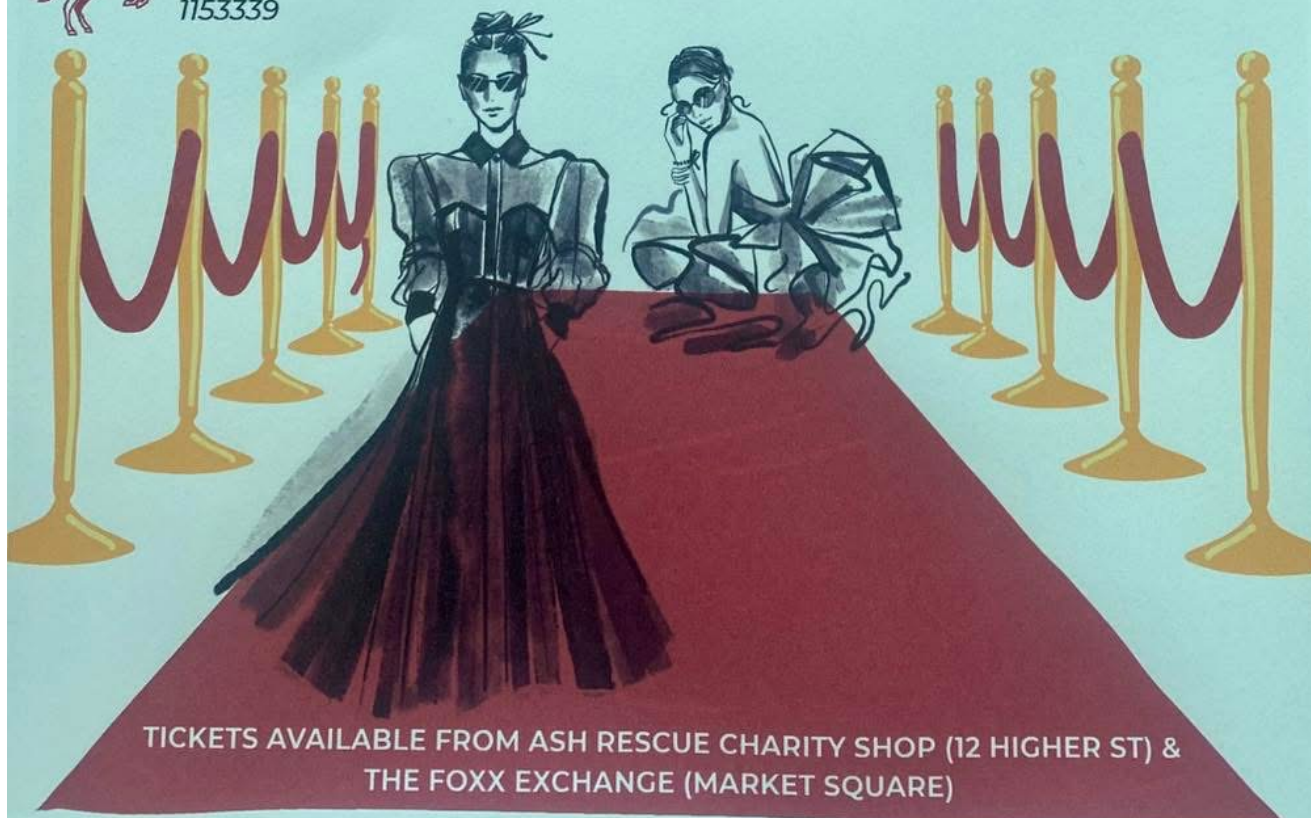
7pm - 10pm



Ash Rescue
registered charity no.
1153339



Join us for a night of
fun, fashion &
dancing. We have a
licensed bar and
lots of new &
preloved items
available to buy on
the night



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ASH RESCUE CHARITY SHOP (12 HIGHER ST) &
THE FOXX EXCHANGE (MARKET SQUARE)

Stoke Fleming Golf Society

There must be something in the air, as once again heavy rain had been forecast, and once again it failed to show up. Instead, we were treated to glorious sunshine – a suspiciously good run of luck that we're not asking too many questions about.

Dainton Park Golf Club hosted the Society for our second gathering in 2026, where we were warmly welcomed with bacon butties and tea/coffee – widely regarded by members as the most important part of the day. We saw another record attendance of 14 players, bringing the Society's membership up to 31 and proving that word is spreading (despite some of the golf on display).

A slight change in format saw us swap individual scoring for a Texas Scramble team event. The final group out – Reg Varney, Steve Roylance, Barrie O'Shea and Ash Hutton – clearly saved the best until last, dovetailing beautifully to take the bragging rights with an impressive gross score of -4. Rumour has it the earlier groups are still checking the maths.

The **standout shot of the day** came from **Reg Varney**, whose soft hands calmly rolled in a 14-foot putt on the 18th in front of a packed terrace – a moment he'll no doubt be casually bringing up in conversation at the Rugby Club.

Longest Drive: Ashley Hutton (wind-assisted, he claims otherwise).

Closest to the Pin: Will Varney (measured with great care, of course).

The Society then retired to its spiritual clubhouse and sponsors, the Green Dragon, for prize giving, refreshments, and a detailed re-telling of shots that definitely happened exactly as described.

We next head to Churston Golf Club on 4th June. If anyone would like to join, please send a message or ask in the Green Dragon to be added to the WhatsApp group – all abilities welcome, from seasoned golfers to enthusiastic participants.



Dart Valley u3a

On Thursday 11th June we will meet at The Flavel Arts Centre to hear a talk entitled “**Putin, Trump and Ukraine**” presented by John Dobson. What were Putin's real reasons for invading Ukraine, an independent sovereign state? What has been the impact on Russia's economy? What is the relationship between Trump and Putin? What are the scenarios for the end of the war? Find out answers to these and many other questions on the conflict from John who spent three years as a Royal Naval attaché in Moscow.

On Thursday 9th July there will be a presentation on wildlife photography entitled “**In Pursuit of the Improbable**” presented by Stephen Powles. In a medley of interesting, amusing, and informative wildlife stories, wildlife photographer Steven describes how he managed to photograph and film some challenging subjects and how an understanding of their natural history and behaviour enabled him to do so. Amongst others, kingfishers, herons, otters, lizards and hedgehogs will be featured.

As well as monthly general meetings where we always have interesting and informative speakers, there are about 39 interest groups in our u3a including the following groups which take place in Stoke Fleming: Archery at the Cricket Club, Book Group 1 (hosted), new Beginners Yoga, iPads for Beginners, and Mahjong at the Village Hall.

Tim Freeman

Dartmouth and District Flower Club

Thursday 4th June. Our demonstrator this month will be Barbara Clatworthy with “**Embellishment**”.

Thursday 2nd July. Vicky Pearce will be leading a Workshop on a small floral arrangement, at which we can all make our own.

A worksheet with anything you need to bring will be available at the June meeting. Or see the next newsletter.

Meetings take place in the Village Hall, starting 2.15pm.

We welcome guests to any meeting at a fee of £8 to include tea/coffee and cake. Should you wish to join the club on the day this charge will be deducted from the annual membership fee. There will be a raffle with lucky prize winners taking home one of the arrangements.

Rosie Cooke
rose@akcooke.co.uk

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 £10. 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 4848. 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



Dart Art Day and Children's Hospice South West (CHSW)

Join us in the Royal Avenue Gardens on Saturday 4th July 2026 (10am- 4pm) for our annual art and craft day. The gardens will be full of individual, creative and unique local art and craft stalls as well as live music and entertainment with something for the whole family. Treat yourself to a homemade cake and cream tea by the glorious river Dart.

This is a fundraising event by the local Friends branch of Children's Hospice South West, a local charity which supports children with life limiting conditions and their families. There are three purpose-built hospices within the South West, ensuring no family is more than an hour away from these amazing facilities and their caring specialist teams.

Have a fabulous day out and support this incredible charity.

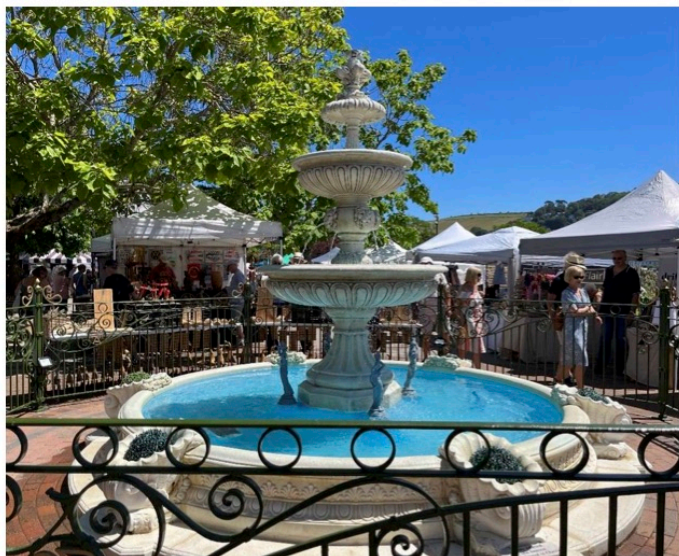
Sue Tweed

tweed833@btinternet.com or 07955 197721

Dart Art Day



children's hospice
SOUTH WEST



**Saturday
4th July
10am - 4pm**

Supporting
 children's hospice
SOUTH WEST

Registered Charity No. 1003314

Royal Avenue Gardens Dartmouth TQ6 9PS

**Beautiful art,
crafts and
gifts to buy**

**Live music
and
entertainment**

**Homemade
cakes and
cream teas**

For more information, please contact:

Sue Tweed: Tel: 07955 197721

Email: tweed833@btinternet.com

PLEASE NOTE: Stallholders by invitation only due to limited numbers



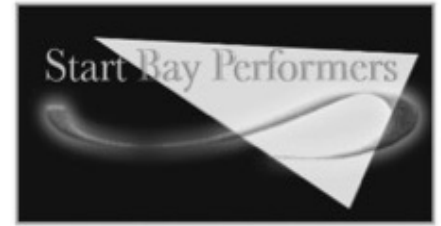
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Start Bay Performers

We are now back refreshed after our last production, and have immediately started to plan and rehearse our next, which will be "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estates Townswomen's Guild Society's A Christmas Carol" by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Junior. It is based on Charles Dickens's "A Christmas Carol." (It is the longest titled play in Devon Libraries!)



We are looking to put it on 27th and 28th of November – in the run up to Christmas.

A cast has been assembled but it requires a complex set and a number of changes of props, so we are particularly looking for help backstage on the nights in question. So, if you think you may be able to help just for those two evenings, please give me a call.

The format of the evening will be slightly different to the last production. Doors will open at 6.30pm and supper will be served at 7.15pm. This will be followed by the play.

The Film Night, in collaboration with the Trustees of the Village Hall, which will be showing "The Graduate" has been put back to September as there are many functions going on in the summer months. We already have suggestions for a follow up presentation involving filming in Dartmouth. If you would like to request a specific film or a specific genre for future events, again please contact me.

We will continue to meet every Monday evening at 7.00pm at Stoke Fleming Village Hall and welcome anyone who would like to see what we do, or think they might like to be involved in future productions, or who just enjoy play readings

John Belli 07538 156864

The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming and District

Our programme of summer meetings is as follows:

On Wednesday 10th June there will be a Partners and Wives Away Day provisionally to be at the Berry Head Hotel, Brixham. Our second meeting in June will be held on 24th June at our normal meeting place, the Stoke Lodge Hotel, where there will be coffee and a talk by Roger Avery, entitled, "**Biological Clocks**".

On 8th July there will be a lunch at the Stoke Lodge Hotel with a talk by John Polley entitled, "**Things we Take for Granted**". We then take a Summer Break until 9th September.

As always non-members and those interested in joining Probus will be welcome to attend the talks, we meet at Stoke Lodge Hotel and talks start at around 10.30am; just give me a call or turn up on the day.

Probus Clubs are local autonomous associations for retired and semi-retired business or professional gentlemen, focusing on friendship rather than service, and exist worldwide to maintain social networks and enjoy guest speaker meetings. Come and join us and make new friends.

John Hosea – 07598 560896

A Summer of Festivals

May is over and with it the Dart Music Festival and Galleries Week. Summer is fast approaching and there are many events taking place between now and August, which ends with Regatta and our own Hort and Sport show on 31st August.

- **The Dartmouth Triathlon (6-7 June)** is a must-see. Set at the award-winning **Blackpool Sands**, this is widely considered one of the most beautiful courses in the UK.
- **Dartmouth Pride (28 June)**: Join the vibrant parade from the Castle to the Royal Avenue Gardens for a day of live music, inclusivity, and community celebration.
- **The Classic Channel Regatta (7-16 July)**: This biennial event is often called "the world's most beautiful regatta", and it's easy to see why. The harbour fills with nearly 100 stunning classic yachts, many designed before 1969.
- **Newcomen Steam Festival (25 July)**: A new event that celebrates the town's extensive steam heritage, and our most famous past resident – Thomas Newcomen who invented the first atmospheric steam engine here in Dartmouth.
- **Dartmouth Shakespeare Week (28 July-1 August)**: This year The Inn Theatre Company will be performing the much-loved comedy "A Midsummer Night's Dream", against the dramatic open-air backdrop of Dartmouth Castle.
- **Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta (26-29 August)**: Started in 1822, there will be gig races, world-class rowing and sailing and spectacular fireworks.

To find out more about what is happening, go to www.exploredartmouth.co.uk and click on "what's on".



walk&talk 

**Walking
for health**



Date	Time	Walk level	Location of walk (F=uses ferry)	Meeting point
4th June	10.30 or 10.55	3+	Strete to Blackpool Sands via coast path with picnic on Landcombe beach.	10.30 #93 bus from Dartmouth Pontoon or 10.55 at Strete (1st bus stop).
11th June	10.00 or 10.25	2	Berry Head, Brixham circular. (F)	10.00 #18 bus from Kingswear Banjo or 10.25 Brixham bus terminus.
18th June	09.57 or 10.40	3+	Totnes to Harbertonford via Ashprington.	09.57 #7 bus from Dartmouth or 10.40 Totnes opp. Seven Stars.
25th June	09.57 or 10.37	3+	Totnes to Staverton return.	09.57 #7 bus from Dartmouth or 10.37 Totnes railway station.
2nd July	09.30	3	Malborough to Salcombe via North Sands.	09.30 #93 bus from Dartmouth pontoon to Kingsbridge, then #164 bus to Malborough.
9th July	10.30	2	Kingswear to Noss Marina via Waterhead Creek and Hoodown. (F)	Kingswear railway station.
16th July	10.00	3	Broadsands to Brixham via coast path. (F)	#120 bus at Kingswear Banjo or 10.15 at Churston Library.
23rd July	09.57 or 10.40	3+	Littlehempston and Berry Pomeroy Castle.	09.57 #7 bus from Dartmouth or Totnes opp. Seven Stars.
30th July	10.30	3+	Diamond Jubilee Way.	Dartmouth Castle tea rooms.

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).

There is no charge for attending these walks, all we ask is that you bring enough money to join us for refreshments at the end if you would like to; and for the ferry where indicated in the “Location” column with (F).

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. Bring a bottle of water on warm days and medication if required. For more information on the walks please call **David** on 07309 090958. All walks are subject to change or cancellation.

Stoke Fleming Bowling Club

The green was opened on 18th April with the traditional bowling of the first wood of the new season by our President, Mr Chris Sutton-Scott-Tucker, followed by the also traditional “spider” (see photo).

We were also joined by Sandra Ingham from *Stoke Fleming Voice* to make the 100 Club draw – unfortunately we didn’t win!

So having welcomed back all existing members, as well as some new bowlers to the club, we’re now looking forward to a full season of bowling. If you fancy coming along to one of the club nights or just want to watch a match, information is now posted on the gate of the green as well as on our website (<https://stokeflemingbowlingclub.co.uk/>)

Finally, this may be the only time I get to say this but as I write, we are top of the Mid Devon League premier division. To be fair, though, we’re the only team to have played their first match as well as the team we beat.

Liz Mallyon



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Live Life in Balance

Stoke Lodge Hotel

We are delighted that Gavin Whiteley (Gav) has recently joined us on a regular basis to support the upkeep and development of the hotel's woodland and gardens. Gav brings a huge amount of enthusiasm and care to the role, and his hard work is already making a very noticeable difference across the grounds. Over the coming months, a great deal of our focus will be on ensuring the front of the hotel looks particularly vibrant and welcoming for both guests and local visitors throughout the summer season.

As part of our ongoing work around the grounds, we have recently removed a number of laurel bushes along the Birdwalk. This has been done specifically to open up the views across the pond and surrounding gardens from the pathway, allowing visitors to better enjoy the natural setting.

Throughout the summer, we will also continue clearing selected areas of the woodland in preparation for additional planting in the autumn, including camellias and other shrubs that will further enhance the landscape in the years ahead.

We are also continuing to explore the best options for clearing the pond; if any members of the local community have experience, suggestions or ideas that may help, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please email us at office@stokelodge.co.uk.

Myles & Alex

The Arts Society Dartmouth and Kingswear (TASDAK)

The Arts Society of Dartmouth and Kingswear invite you to a presentation at 2.30pm on 8th June at The Flavel. Ian Swankie, an official guide at Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Guildhall Art Gallery and St Paul's Cathedral will present a lecture entitled, "**Pots & Frocks – The World of Grayson Perry**".

Ian will explore the life, art, and "unique character inside the flamboyant frocks" of the Turner Prize-winning artist. The talk covers Grayson Perry's challenging childhood, his rise as a "punk potter" to a national treasure, and his work in ceramics, textiles, and tapestries, highlighting his role in holding a mirror up to modern society, tackling themes of class, identity and taste with wit.

Juliet Lambert: 01803 832315

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Mondays

19.00-21.00 Start Bay Performers. Contact John Belli: [07538 156864](tel:07538156864).

Tuesdays

09.30-10.30 Zest Stretch and Reset Yoga. All levels welcome. Book www.zest-yoga.co.uk / Kirsty: 07534 441715.

10.45-11.45 Stretch & Stay Mobile. 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.

12.00-13.00 Beginners Yoga run by Kirsty Bradley for u3a members. Contact Julia Churchley: 07900 321681 / julia.churchley@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

14.00-16.30 Short Mat Bowls. Contact Debbie: 01803 770305.

19.00-21.00 Table Tennis, new players (over 18) are always welcome. Contact Sarah Cooper: sarahcooperreiki@yahoo.co.uk / 07799 311797.

Wednesdays

09.15-10.15 Yoga with Ellie, no experience required. Contact Ellie on 07778 208080.

10.30 Club de Pétanque, Village Hall recreation ground, for all skill levels. New members are welcome. Contact John: 07811 102460 or Valerie: 07368 402112.

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. Contact Elaine French: 01803 832304/frenchfamily1@live.co.uk.

Sundays

10.30 Club de Pétanque, Village Hall recreation ground, for all skill levels. New members are welcome. Contact John: 07811 102460 or Valerie: 07368 402112.

Please check with instructors for any last-minute changes.

For Tiny Feet Yoga contact Thea: 07429 525294, <https://tinyfeetyoga.co.uk>

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Friends of St Peter's (FoSP)

We held an exciting evening of Sea Shanties in the church in May when the Dancing Beggars and Mizzen Link filled St Peter's with their music, and we were reminded of our close connection to the sea. Many people told us how much they enjoyed the event. We have also learnt a thing or two about putting on such events in the church, so thank you for all your feedback. The evening raised £820 towards the church's disabled toilet and kitchen servery project, with thanks to the generosity of those who attended.



Suzie Dodsworth paints on an iPad and she has a series of wildflower paintings which Stoke Lodge is displaying in their new Wildflower dining room. Along with the cards (wildflowers, shells of South Hams and Church windows) Suzie hopes to sell the

paintings and provide further funds for FoSP.

The FoSP AGM was brought forward an hour with refreshments served at 4.30pm on Thursday 21st May, when our supporters gathered in the church to hear the Chair speak about stability and consolidation, our charity status, the status of current projects and the beginning of events in the church.

Our next fundraising event will be when Dr Helen Wilson, the top expert on the famous Pinwill wood carvings, will give a presentation about the beautiful pulpit and altar carvings in St Peter's. Please put the date in your diaries: Friday, 11th September. Tickets will go on sale nearer the time, and we hope to see you at the church.

Peter Barker (FoSP Chair)



Prickles in a Pickle

I have just admitted hedgehog number 151 of new admissions for this year, along with four rabbit kits, a sparrow, a dunnock and two tawny owl nestlings.



We held our open evening to show plans for a new hospital; we had on display a lot of information on hedgehogs, wildlife, rewilding and of course the plans. We had our architect present and two planning experts to answer any questions and concerns. The leaflets were distributed to 620 households, and we catered food and beverages for the same number. Not many people attended, but the information gathered has been collated and forwarded to our planning officer.

By the time you read this, plans will have been submitted. We started planning this three years ago and have been on quite a journey with ecology surveys, percolation testing, topographical survey and much more. The need is great, as our records show. This is not an expansion but rather creating a nicer and more workable space for our volunteers, separating the utility from the animals, and a rest room so volunteers can stop and have a proper break. We also hope that it will give Stoke Fleming something to be proud of, and secure the future for the charity and its work. We have already received awards for our work and are proud of what we have achieved.

This year has so far been yet another bad one for wildlife and hedgehogs in particular. As I am writing this, I have just taken a call about a bat! I feel like we are turning into a version of Dr Dolittle!

So far, we seem to have had a high percentage of poisoned hedgehogs. Sadly, modern poisons are having a huge effect on animals and birds of prey. The “targeted” animal eats the bait, succumbs to it and then either when dying or dead, is eaten by another animal and is just as toxic to them. Poisons take a long time to work too. It is a hideous thing to do and if you feel you have no other choice, do not do this yourself, get a properly trained expert in. Even then it is high risk.

Hedgehogs injured with strimmers is the next most common concern, equalled by dog attacks and netting entrapment.

I feel I need to brighten things up a bit before you all get too depressed! All of our remaining hedgehogs from November-January have gone home, having recovered. Our first two orphans are doing well. Teasel and Thistle were under 15g when they arrived, and are now over 60g, eyes open and starting to explore.

The Tawny nestlings are in front of me in the incubator; I can feel them staring at me needing to be fed. One of the rabbits has come back for a bowl of food,

not ideal but he is currently doing a meerkat impression as I write this! All we need is a couple of blue birds hanging out the washing and Thumper and Bambi skating on the pond and we will be a Disney movie!

Anyway, the pantomime continues here. We need an evening feed person for Wednesdays if anyone is interested.

Judy, Alan and the Team @Prickles in a Pickle

www.pricklesinapickle.co.uk

100 Club April Winner!

May's draw took place on 5th May at Short Mat Bowls and the winner of £27 was **Mary Newman**, membership number 107.



If you'd still like to take advantage of the ongoing opportunity to join the 100 Club, the cost from 5th July will be just **£7.50** for the rest of 2026. This will enable you to participate in July's, and in subsequent monthly draws, quarterly draws in September and December, and shortlist draws for the Christmas bonus draw (giving you a chance of winning this in proportion to your smaller payment and shorter membership).

Half of the value of 100 Club memberships is returned as prizes, the remainder going to the continuation of *Stoke Fleming Voice*. The *Voice's* editorial team hopes that residents who receive and enjoy the printed copy of the magazine – and can afford to do so – will join the 100 Club to provide the *Voice's* main source of funding.

Club Memberships

Yes, clubs, groups and societies can be members of the 100 Club through a nominated representative too. We conduct draws at member group events and so far this year this has included the Community Kitchen, Wednesday Ladies, the Bowling Club and last month, Short Mat Bowls.

We especially encourage all clubs, groups and societies providing content for this magazine to take out membership as a contribution towards our costs. Join now so we can conduct a draw at one of your meetings or events later in the year.

To join... Simply confirm you are over 16 years old and transfer your payment of £7.50 for each membership number to *Stoke Fleming Voice's* bank account, putting 100 Club and your full name as the reference (truncate if necessary):

Stoke Fleming Voice Account number: **19250960**; Sort code: **30-54-66** (Lloyds Bank).

Table Tennis Club

Want to know the secret to exercising?

It's likely that everyone is all too aware of exercise playing a key role in any healthy lifestyle. The elusive part, therefore, often comes down to motivating yourself to doing it. And the answer to that, usually lies in finding the way to enjoy the process.

Here at Stoke Fleming's Table Tennis Club, we offer a great way to do exactly that. Because mixing fun with the playing of sport is at the heart of the club. And because we play every week – with the exception of August and Christmas – you can count on us to provide a regular weekly option for your exercise regime. Great for cardiovascular health, hand eye co-ordination, reaction time, balance – I could go on, but it's possibly best if you find out for yourself.

With no membership fees, or commitment, feel free to come along to the Village Hall on Tuesday nights 7:00pm to 9:00pm(ish).

Table Tennis Club

Stoke Fleming Village Hall
Over 18's
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Tuesdays 19:00 - 21:00
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Secretary - Sarah 07799 311797
Treasurer - Eric 07779 541225

Where are we now?

A great response to the picture last month, we were in Modbury and correctly identified by Josie Hainsworth, Susi Stockbridge, Jean Saunders, Sue Tweed, Alison Shaw, Sandra & Jon Ingham, Clever Clogs, Alex Knight, Liz & David Elliott.



Let's see how you get on with this picture for June and July and going back to 1935 - a lot easier - or is it?

Now the only question is where are we now?



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



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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
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	Micky's Taxis	07812 088935
	Prestige Taxis	714336

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Publishing	Anne Bailey	07885 948254
Distribution	Pam Sanders	07950 740301

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 2026

(Area Code: 01803)

100 Club	Sandra Ingham, sfvh100club@gmail.com	07889 573087
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	07970 137311
Parish Council	Sharon Whelon, clerk@stokefleming.org or see https://www.stokefleming.org/councillors	
Pétanque	John Sparks 07811 102460 or Valerie Ward	07368 402112
Primary School	Christopher Harrison, Head Teacher	770244
Primary School (Friends)	Lisa Callard	770244
Probus	John Hosea	07598 560896
Short Mat Bowls	Debbie Morris	770305
Start Bay Performers	Mary Rimell	07909 970510
Table Tennis	Sarah Cooper, sarahcooperreiki@yahoo.co.uk	07799 311797
Village Hall Bookings	Emily Handley, enquiries@stokeflemingvillagehall.org.uk	07450 075734
Village Hall Management Committee	John Belli, Chairman of Trustees	07538 156864
Walk and Talk	David Myall	07309 090958
Wednesday Ladies	Jill Fell	771137
Youth Club	Rev Matt Gorton, stokeflemingyouthclub@gmail.com	906861