

# Bridestowe & Sourton Extra



Community News and Events March 2024

Edition 262



Amy Pearce is taking part in the London Marathon in April, running 26.2 miles in aid of Mind. There will be a Coffee Morning and Cake Stall in The Ark on Saturday 23rd March, 10 -12 noon



All money raised will go to Mind

## What do Mind do?

**We change minds** across England and Wales by making mental health an everyday priority. By standing up to the injustices – in healthcare, in work, in law – which make life harder for those of us with mental health problems.

**We support minds** – by offering help whenever you might need it through our information, advice and local services.

**And we connect minds.** Bringing together an unstoppable network of individuals and communities – people who care about mental health to make a difference.

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## The Vicar writes...

Pancake day has been and gone and we are well into Lent. Lent is traditionally a time for fasting, and like a lot of religious practices it has more than just a spiritual benefit. Fasting is recognised as being good for our health, there are lots of trendy diets that incorporate fasting out there at the moment. The human body has adapted to periods of fast as a natural part of life for when there are things like famine for example, or a really bad day's hunting. At this time of year the larder would be running low which makes it a convenient time for fasting. Fasting can help to increase our awareness, for example, am I eating because I'm hungry or because it's dinner time? This year I have decided to give up carbohydrates for Lent and as a consequence I have become acutely aware of how all of my favourite foods are high carb and how many bakeries there are. I realised chips, pasties and cake would be off the menu but forced abstinence has made me realise how much I even enjoy a humble slice of bread and butter.

Fasting is meant to train us to help resist temptation, my attempts this Lent have made me realise the power of cakes and pastries to reduce my breaking strain to that of a Kit-Kat. This power has been understood and harnessed by wicked men (and women) since the beginning of time. It has been portrayed in art and literature throughout the ages, a wonderful example being Benjamin Hill's classic ballad, 'Ernie. The fastest milkman in the West.' In this poetic romance Ernie fights his rival Ted for the hand of 'a widow by the name of Sue, who lived alone in Lily Lane at number twenty-two':

*"Now Ernie had a rival, an evil looking man;*

*called Two-Ton-Ted from Teddington,  
and he drove the bakers van.*

*He tempted her with his treacle tarts,  
and his tasty wholemeal bread,  
and when she saw the size of his hot meat pies,  
it very near turned her head!*

*She nearly swooned at his macaroon,  
And he said 'Now if you'll treat me right,  
you'll have hot rolls every morning,  
and crumpets every night.'*

*He knew once she'd sampled his layer cake,  
he'd have his wicked way;  
And all Ernie had to offer was a pint of milk a day!  
Poor Ernie!"*

A lot of people give up chocolate for Lent, which I am beginning to think may have been easier. I am not convinced by the chocoholic claim, real chocoholics would go for the high cocoa dark chocolate, I suspect it's the sugar they are really craving. Anyway I take comfort in the fact that Sunday's throughout Lent are feast days so I am looking forward to piece of Simnel Cake on Mothering Sunday and an Easter egg on Easter Day.

**Adrian Brook**

## Clean up Day

All welcome at St Bridget's church for general labours of love to spruce up the church yard.

When? **Saturday March 16th** at 09.30 until 12.30

Cakes and coffee to thank you for your hard work.

Please bring **garden tools** and **gloves** and **waste bags** if possible so you are doubly rewarded by take home compost! Free!

Look forward to seeing you all there - please also bring the sunshine!!



## Bridestowe Parish Council News

Pete Daniels has served as clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Bridestowe Parish Council for 43 years and has just announced he plans to retire. He has always been very diligent and conscientious in carrying out his duties and it is suspected works far more hours than his contract states. He carries out the administration of the council's financial affairs punctiliously. Over the years Pete has supported new Chairs of the Council, helping them to find their feet in their new role. His wealth of experience is invaluable and he will be sorely missed.

### **Bridestowe Parish Council is inviting applications for the position of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.**

Bridestowe Parish Council has 7 councillors who work together in a positive atmosphere to improve the quality of life and wellbeing of their 656 parishioners. The precept for 2024/2025 is £8600.

This is a part-time permanent position of 4.5 hours per week. The salary will depend on experience and qualifications but is anticipated to be between SCP scale 10 to 17 (currently £13.28 to £14.95 per hour).

The Parish Council generally meets on the third Wednesday of every other month. The Parish Clerk is required to produce the agenda for each meeting, attend the meetings in person and record and publish accurate minutes of the proceedings. The Clerk will also be responsible for ensuring the Council conducts its business correctly and will be expected to provide independent and objective advice to councillors. They will be expected to provide the necessary administrative support to allow the Council to function in an effective manner.

As Responsible Financial Officer, the successful applicant will manage the administration of the Council's finances, prepare budgets, track expenditure, produce accounting statements and work with auditors for annual audits.

When not attending the bimonthly council meetings, the clerk will work from home and must have an acceptable internet and telephone connection. You will be expected to be computer literate. A suitable laptop and printer will be provided by the Council.

The Council will be fully supportive of the clerk's career progression and will ensure all necessary training is given, including working towards CiLCA qualification where appropriate.

For further information please contact our current Parish Clerk, Peter Daniels, by email [bridestoweparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bridestoweparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk) or by telephone on 01837 861244

To apply, please send a CV and a covering letter outlining why you are interested in the role to the clerk. The closing date for applications is **15th March 2024**. Interviews will take place, where possible, during the week beginning 25th March 2024.

**Bridestowe Parish Council** will be holding its **Annual Parish Meeting** on **Wednesday 20th March at 7.30pm in The Ark**. This offers the parishioners the opportunity to raise any parish matters that concern them and to ask questions of councillors.

A full meeting of the parish council will follow immediately afterwards.

Agendas and also minutes from the previous council meeting are displayed on the noticeboards in the parish, and on the Bridestowe website at [www.bridestowe.org.uk](http://www.bridestowe.org.uk)

Contact details for Bridestowe Parish Council: Pete Daniels (Parish Clerk),  
4 Trescote Way, Bridestowe. EX20 4QB.

Tel: 01837 861244. and Email: [bridestoweparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bridestoweparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)



## White Hart Quiz – 13th March, 8pm

This month's quiz is in aid of a brand new charity - **Koalaa Foundation**.

As some of you will know my daughter, Marina, was born missing both her legs above the knees and her right arm below the elbow. She is now 15, about to ace her GCSE's, and absolutely nothing gets in her way. However upper limb prosthetics have always been a tricky subject, they are heavy, not very functional and she has found them to often hinder rather than help. Until we found **Koalaa!**

Koalaa was started by a design student who wanted to create a light-weight, comfortable, affordable and functional prosthetic for all. Now a successful start-up company Koalaa provide prosthetics around the world helping many people with limb differences to achieve their goals.

Since 2020 Koalaa have provided prosthetics for children and young people 18 years and under, living in the UK, completely **FREE** of charge, through **Project Limitless** thanks to a very generous donation.

Marina has received 4 arms over the years, which have helped her to draw, drum, access the gym and achieve a better posture while studying for her upcoming exams – they haven't cost us a penny!!

This project needs to continue so that all children and young people in the UK, and beyond, can easily access a functional

prosthetic without it costing them anything.....this is where the **Koalaa Foundation** comes in. I have been working with Koalaa to set the charity up with the aim of **providing prosthetics free of charge** to those that need them.

The foundation is currently being registered with the Charities Commission and we are very excited to continue and expand Project Limitless to make sure more young people like Marina get the chance to achieve whatever they want to.

Please come along to support us at the quiz and if you can't make it, any donations of raffle prizes of funds for the foundation would be amazing.

Thank you,  
Jo Pritchard

You can also support by registering with **Easyfundraising** and choosing **Project Limitless** as your chosen charity – it is free and raises funds when you shop online. **The retailers donate a % of your purchase at no cost to you.**



**St Bridget's Church Easter Sheep Trail**  
**9th – 30th March**  
Purchase your trail sheet from Riverside Stores for a chance to win a basket of Easter goodies and chocolate!

All proceeds will go to St Bridget's Church

BaSE Page 4



### **Tavistock Memory Cafe**

provides locally based support and information to those living with dementia, their family, carers and friends. Memory Cafe runs two bookable meetings on the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month.

AM session 11.00-12.30

PM session 14.00-15.30

Trained volunteers greet members old & new, after an initial chance to chat over tea & biscuits/cake, carers can join a peer support group in a separate room, to share experiences, exchange information or hear from a guest professional, always in strict confidence. Meanwhile those living with dementia get involved in a variety of stimulating activities supported by our volunteers, quizzes, art & craft, live music, singing & celebratory events are often in the programme.

Care & Share sessions are on the 3rd Thursday of each month providing carers & family a spell of time for themselves for 1-4 hours from 10.30-14.30. Those living with dementia & attending will be involved in a variety of stimulating activities.

Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) is a course of structured therapeutic sessions that are based around a topic with talking, music & pictures, all leading to a stimulating, fun & beneficial experience. Run by trained facilitators. The sessions are for an hour, once a week over 12 weeks.

For more information visit our website:-  
tavistockmemorycafe.co.uk  
or our Facebook page  
or contact Heather on **07436 008 281**  
or email [info@tavistockmemorycafe.co.uk](mailto:info@tavistockmemorycafe.co.uk).

### **The Bridestowe Volunteer Group**

The group met at the end of February and tidied round the triangle at the entrance to the village, removing the branches left behind by BT (dig dig). They collected 8 bags of litter and weeded the village hall car park. The group will meet again on Saturday 30th March at 9.30am at the cemetery gates and the plan is to tackle the footpath that runs parallel to the village hall up towards the Trescote Way turning. New volunteers are always welcome.

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### **Bacon Baps will be served on Easter Saturday 30th March**

from 10-12 noon at Bridestowe Village Hall.

A secondhand book stall is now a regular feature of Bacon Baps. and Gill may well be there too with her free range eggs and honey.



February's session was very convivial. The team appreciates the help given putting away the tables and chairs at the end of the morning. In total, including £21 of donations for books, £156 was raised for hall funds.

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### **BRIDESTOWE THURSDAY MORNING GROUP**

will meet at The Ark on Thursday, March 21st at 10.30. This will be our last meeting at The Ark this winter, when we shall finalise our spring/ summer programme. Hoping to see lots of you there, Ann Allan on 861551

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*Very advanced notice...*

***Bridestowe Village Hall Management Committee will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at 7.30pm at the Hall.***

***Do consider coming along to find out how your community building is faring.***

## A Remarkable Lady continued by Howard Barkell

When it may have been that the farm at Bidlake Vean was no longer large enough for her to expand as a pony breeder. There is anecdotal evidence that at some stage she had she planned to build a new home at Glebe Park. For some reason that only got as far as the semi-circular entrance gateway still in existence and the driveway beyond. It may have been that she had made new contacts and friendships during the war years. It may have been to do with her religious persuasion or perhaps she was a restless spirit. For whatever reason in 1922 Bidlake Vean was on the market and she moved to Pearroc Vean at Buckfast.

It is likely that the property belonged to Norah Dawson. She came from a wealthy family who lived at Holne and owned property in the Buckfast area. She also bred ponies and was Sylvia's companion for many years.

It had long been recognised that the traditional Dartmoor pony was being replaced on the moor by the ancestors of those we are used to seeing today and some breeders realised that the pedigree might soon be lost. They had been recorded as being on the moor at least since the Middle Ages, thought to have been used as pack horses by the tin miners, and were recognised for their hardiness and usefulness as work horses as well as their single colours, good temperament and usefulness as driving, show and riding ponies. In 1924 the Dartmoor Pony Society was founded to protect the integrity of the breed. Both ladies were probably members of the Society from the beginning. Sylvia became the Honorary Secretary in 1931, a post which she held until 1960 when she resigned over a difference of opinion the direction the Society was taking. Miss Dawson was already the treasurer in 1931, probably until her death in 1945 at the age of 62. After her resignation Sylvia remarked that between them they had just about run the society while in office, especially organising the annual Show at Brimpts. In 1961 she was awarded the British Horse Society's Medal of Honour.

Given her work for women during the war it is not surprising that she took a great interest in the fledgling Women's Institute movement

which started during the war, the National Federation was formed in 1917. Its initial aims were to encourage women to grow food and preserve where possible for use during the winter. Its later aims were to provide places where all classes of women could meet, learn together and enjoy one another's company. The W.I. was sometimes referred to as Jam and Jerusalem. The latter was William Blake's poem set to music by Hubert Parry in 1916. It was adopted as a battle hymn first by the Suffragette movement and later by the W.I. both with his approval. The Devon Federation was formed in 1920 and it seems that Sylvia was the chairperson from the outset. At the 1921 AGM Emma Retallick, also living at Buckfast, was added to the committee. As chair, Sylvia had already steered through a motion banning any speakers promoting a particular political party and in 1924 she resigned because she felt strongly that working women had no voice in policy or decision making as all the Executive were what she called 'County' ladies.

In 1934 the two companions bought Little Bidlake from John George Northcott and returned to Bridestowe. They built Cedar House and lived there while continuing to keep Jersey cows and breed ponies. During the Second World War both my parents worked for them part time. My father milked the cows after milking his own. The ladies gave him a Jersey called Juno and an Ayrshire called Rose at different times, very different from his small herd of motley red rubies. My mother made cream and butter from the milk. She had been used to scalding milk over a paraffin stove to make cream at home, but at Little Bidlake there was a milk separating machine which made the process much easier. She probably used a hand whisk to make butter. I remember the mixture in a muslin bag hanging over a bowl in the larder to catch the remaining butter milk as it drained. I still have the butter bats used to shape the butter into blocks, but the decorative stamps pressed into the ends of the butter rolls have succumbed to woodworm.

Frederick Woodgate, a partner in Woodgate Brothers at Tiverton, made a fortune out of puncture repair kits. When the early solid tyres on vehicles were replaced by an inflatable tube inside the tyre



punctures were frequent. Repairs could only be made by a garage equipped to vulcanise the damage. The "world renowned" Patchquick kit was one of the first reliable methods for do-it-yourself repairs. He briefly lived at Millaton and after the war had bought old army huts and had them erected in Tanyard Court as a communal meeting place called The Institute. Before this the only meeting room in the village was at the school. He retained ownership but eventually offered to sell it to the village for £300. At a public meeting in 1938 chaired by Lord Carrington, a later owner of Millaton, it was decided to accept his offer. A couple days later Miss Hamlyn and Miss Dawson offered to buy the premises and extensively repair them before handing them over to the village for recreational and educational purposes. It was actually a rebuild with the community only having to pay for the heating and lighting equipment. It was handed over on 30th November 1938 with responsibility for its management vested in 5 trustees and a committee of villagers representing 12 named village organisations. Many locals trod the boards of the stage in various productions, but by far the most famous performer was the British born, American superstar Bob Hope supported by Frances Langford and others. On 14th July 1943 they entertained both U.S. servicemen and some lucky villagers. In 1942 Little Bidlake was sold to John Down, formerly of Ebsworthy and the two companions returned to Pearroc Vean. My mother and I accompanied them for a few days while they settled in and that was the last time we saw either of them. They continued to breed Dartmoor ponies and sold several to other breeders, including at least one to the U.S.A. It travelled by ocean liner! Prince Charles was also presented with one soon after his birth.

I still have a handful of greetings cards from them, always a postcard, usually of Dartmoor ponies, sometimes railway engines, always signed S C H. She could not understand why I preferred engines to ponies. I think she was justly proud to be presented to the Queen when the Royal Show was held at Newton Abbot in 1952. She sent us a fully mounted photograph of her chatting to the Queen while holding a rosette adorned Dartmoor

mare with suckling foal at foot.

After her death at Paignton District Hospital on 10th June 1962 it was rumoured that the considerable fortune that she inherited from Norah Dawson ended up at Buckfast Abbey.



## **North Dartmoor Garden Club**

The North Dartmoor Garden Club is a friendly group of garden lovers – but not necessarily gardeners – that meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month, 7.30pm, in Belstone Village Hall. We have a wide range of speakers on a variety of topics.

The Club welcomes new members, guests and visitors to our meetings and at £15 for the year it is very good value or just £4 for an evening visit.

### **28th March at Belstone Village Hall at 7.30pm - 'Designing Show Gardens' by Andree Davies**

Chelsea Show People's Choice Award Winner - 'Gardens With Nature In Mind.' Andree is an experienced landscape architect who has been guest lecturer at the Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture.

### **25th April at Belstone Village Hall at 7.30pm - (incorporating our AGM and a garden-themed raffle)**

"Adventures with Fancy Foliage' by Julian Sutton

The subtleties of form and colour in leaves which make the difference between an average garden plant and a great one, all illustrated by interesting perennials and bulbs.

Julian gives interesting talks to the Hardy Plant Society, Plant Heritage, AGS and other 'planty' groups, as well as garden clubs of all types.

## Lewdown Past

*The Lewdown and area local history  
group*

### Travelling through Devon in 1782- a crisis year!

An illustrated talk by Kevin Dickens  
7.30 pm on **Tuesday 19th March**  
at Stowford Parish Hall

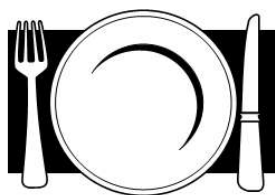


Travels in or on a coach must have been very uncomfortable at times, especially given our local weather. Kevin spoke to us a while ago about 17th century Devon and now moves on a century in his research. Evidently every '82 year, since 1682, was one of crisis! Sorry, no spoilers- you will have to come to this meeting to find out why. We are pleased to welcome this interesting and informative speaker again.

Visitors are very welcome: charge £2 for members, £3 for visitors including refreshments. Parking in front of the hall or opposite by the church.

**The Over 60's  
Lunch Club** will  
meet on Tuesday  
12th March.

Gather at 12.15 for  
lunch at 12.30. As  
usual apologies to Jennifer on 861592  
Thank you



### **ADVANCE NOTICE OF CLOSURE 23rd & 24th March**

We would like to inform you that Bridestowe Cricket Ground will be closed to all members of the public for the weekend of the 23rd and 24th of March.

This is to allow for pre-season work to be carried out on the pavilion and grounds. Millaton cricket ground is privately owned and the committee welcome local residents to freely access and enjoy the beautiful setting.

We would kindly ask that everyone making use of the ground continue to show respect by not walking on the cricket square (the shorter cut bit in the middle), picking up after their dog (even if it's on the very edge) and make contact with a member of the committee if you come across any damage or issues at the ground.

We are very much looking forward to a full season of excellent cricket, including youth and ladies fixtures this year, and welcome spectators to come and cheer the teams on!

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### **Sourton Village Hall's Big Quiz**

A massive thank you to Graham and Jenny Crocker for being quiz master and score collector at the recent quiz held at Sourton Village Hall. 20 teams pitted their brains against each other. It was fantastic to see the hall full and we raised an amazing £581.10 towards hall funds. Thank you for your support.

### **Sourton Lottery results January 2024**

1st Jude Boxell  
2nd John Hockridge  
3rd Ness Pearce

### **February**

1st Jenny Batten  
2nd Tony Batten  
3rd Linda Jewell

**Alison Horn**





## **ST THOMAS à BECKET CHURCH SOUP LUNCHESES**

We were delighted to welcome so many to our soup lunch last month. It was great to see the hall full of people enjoying their lunch and catching up with friends and family. We had a record number and nearly all the soup and cheese had gone!

**We shall be making more this month for our special Soup Lunch on March 10th – MOTHERING SUNDAY, when we will be raising money for Boasley Cross School for their much needed play equipment. Do come and support them.**

## **CREAM TEAS**

Our first cream tea of the season is on **EASTER MONDAY** April 1st from 1.30 – 5.30 p.m. If you would like to help or bake please contact Jenny 01822 820391 or Ruth on 01837 861470

## **SERVICES FOR MARCH and Easter**

March 3rd Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.  
March 10th **Mothering Sunday Service** at Bridestowe

March 17th Service at Bridestowe

**March 24th Palm Sunday Service 9.30 a.m.**

**March 29th Good Friday Service  
An Hour before the Cross at 12.00**

**March 31st EASTER DAY COMMUNION at 9.30 a.m.**

We will be decorating the church on Saturday 30th at 10 a.m. Offers of help or donations of flowers and greenery would be welcome. Please contact Cynthia Higbee if you would like to help. 01837 861194

**Jenny Batten**

## **FOR SALE**

Light Oak Circular Dining Table and 4 Matching Upholstered Chairs; 104 cm diameter, extends to 145 cms. Excellent Condition. Buyer to collect. £60.

**01837 861560**

Southcott, Sourton Down, EX20 4HR.



**Coffee Morning and Cake Sale**  
at the

All Saints Church Hall in  
Market Street

on **Saturday 16th March**  
9:00 am – 12:15 pm

2443 (Okehampton) Squadron  
Royal Air Force Air Cadets  
are to host a coffee morning and  
cake sale to raise funds for the  
Squadron.

There will be tabletop sales and a  
tombola stall.

Please come along for a tea or  
coffee and a slice of cake to support  
your local  
Royal Air Force Air Cadet Squadron.



## Movie Watch -February 2024

I'm breaking with tradition this month. Every February, having meticulously researched the runners and riders, I've dutifully given you my idea of the Best Picture winner at the forthcoming Academy Awards ceremony (this year to be held on 10th March). Then, just as predictably, every March I sheepishly admit that my selection finished hopelessly tailed off, way behind the winner.

But this year things will be different. I'll still give you my choice but this time it will sweep the board. That film, of course, is **Oppenheimer** which surely will not be beaten.

Having said that, last year appeared to be a fight between **The Fabelmans**, **Top Gun: Maverick** and my choice, **The Banshees of Inisherin**, only for an unconsidered (and seriously weird) film, **Everything Everywhere All at Once** to come with a late run and beat them all.

That one told the story of a middle-aged, permanently bewildered, Chinese immigrant who, along with her husband, runs an American launderette where she attempts to connect different versions of herself in a parallel universe. At least I think it did.

This year's contenders don't appear to include anything of that ilk, leaving a series of well-made, fairly conventional titles although, having said that, **Barbie** has also been nominated although she seems unlikely to trouble the judges to any great extent.

You may recall that we chickened out of watching **Oppenheimer** when it appeared at the New Carlton, on the admittedly flimsy basis that, with a running time of more than three hours, it was just too long. However we duly rented the film on Amazon Prime, to view in the comfort of our own home, with lavatory and drinks breaks as required. It is, needless to say, an exceptional piece of work, well worth the £4-99 rental price.

Billed as a biographical thriller based almost entirely around the subject, ('the father of the

atomic bomb'), the film features a superb cast. Alongside the Best Film accolade, Cillian Murphy may well be voted Best Actor, while Robert Downey Jr, in a welcome return to top form, looks a certainty to collect Best Supporting Actor honours. Christopher Nolan will presumably win Best Director in what, to be honest, looks something of a non-vintage year.

The Guardian made **Oppenheimer** 'the ultimate monster movie' with the subject 'an atomic-age Frankenstein, a man captivated by the endless possibilities of science, realising too late that his creation has a limitless capacity for destruction.'

It's certainly not entertaining and it's not particularly enjoyable, but this is a significant film which, despite the running time, never dragged. Recommended with confidence.

Our only February cinema visit was to see **Argylle** and we quickly wished we hadn't bothered. A puerile spy action comedy, directed and produced by Matthew Vaughn, one of the broadsheets described it, not unreasonably, as 'a colossal, cumbersome dud.'

This is another of those films proudly boasting an ensemble cast, enabling the distributors to bill the likes of Bryan Cranston and Samuel L Jackson alongside a reluctant-looking Bryce Dallas Howard and Sam Rockwell. Quite why Dua Lipa allowed herself to get dragged in is a mystery. I'd suggest you put a line through this one.

However we do have some interesting titles headed our way. **Oppenheimer** will no doubt be granted additional showings at the New Carlton, but disappointing early reviews of **Wicked Little Letters** (Olivia Colman, Jessie Buckley, Timothy Spall) suggest a film that fails to do justice to a terrific cast. That one opened locally at the end of February but may not run long into March if the critics have their way.

The same comment applies to **Madame Web**, another big budget Marvel Comics piece, this time starring Dakota

Johnson. A more positive reception has greeted **Bob Marley: One Love**, a film produced in partnership with the Marley family and celebrating the life and music of a much loved and iconic figure.

**Dune: Part Two** is scheduled to reach Okehampton on 1st March. The next chapter of Frank Herbert's novel, this one will require advance booking. Otherwise, we'll just have to wait until the Oscar winners are announced and the schedules amended accordingly.

As ever when the weather is bad, television options become pretty good. Much TV talk recently seems to have centred on **One Day**, the Netflix drama series based on the bestselling book by David Nicholls. This one is based around two young people who meet on their Graduation Day at Edinburgh in 1988 and spend the next 20 years as best friends, narrowly missing becoming a couple. As I write, we've only watched the first four episodes so I can't give a considered opinion, but it's been very positively reviewed and already rattles along at a nice pace.

The lead roles are filled by Leo Woodall, last seen in **The White Lotus**, and Ambika Mod who played the junior doctor in **This Is Going To Hurt**. It would appear to be an easy watch, with 14 episodes of roughly half an hour each. Well worth a try.

If **One Day** looks an easy watch, **Breathtaking** (ITV) emphatically doesn't. A drama set in a Covid ward and shown over three consecutive nights, this is tough viewing. Based on a memoir by a real doctor, Rachel Clarke, you will be enraged by the lack of equipment. The main doctor featured (Joanne Froggatt) was informed there weren't sufficient powered respirator masks to go around, but that she could buy one herself on Amazon for £300.

As ever, plenty of recommendations from all sorts of people, for which many thanks.

**The Durrells** has been on Netflix for some time now but still earns a strong recommendation. Four seasons with between six and eight episodes in each. Comfortable

wet Sunday afternoon viewing, I'm reliably informed.

**Decline and Fall** (Netflix) also comes highly recommended. Three one-hour episodes telling the story of a Divinity student expelled from Oxford due to a misjudged prank. An excellent cast including Jack Whitehall, Eva Longoria and David Suchet.

High on my feature film 'To View' list is **The Outfit** (Netflix). An expert Chicago tailor crafts bespoke suits for his clients, who turn out to be dangerous gangsters. Mark Rylance stars, making this as close to a quality guarantee as you'll get.

A few other titles you might choose to check out. **After the Flood** (ITVX), **Alice and Jack** (C4 drama) and **Alexander: The Making of a God** (Netflix) have all been recommended by various local correspondents, if I might be so bold as to describe them that way.

Finally, should you wish to watch **Oppenheimer** being crowned Best Film by the Academy, you should turn to ITV1 or ITVX at 10.30pm on Sunday 10th March.

If it loses.....no, it won't lose.

**David Harrison**  
**February 2024**





On 19 March we have a change to the previously publicised speaker as David Ramsden is unable to attend and will be welcoming Deb Fullbrook and Elmo instead who will be representing "Hearing Dogs for Deaf People". Due to Elmo being taken ill earlier in the year he and Deb were unable to attend the January meeting so we are delighted that Elmo is now well again and able to take David's place.

"Hearing Dogs for Deaf People" is a UK charity which trains dogs to alert deaf people to a variety of sounds. As well as the practical support of alerting their deaf partner to life-saving sounds like the fire alarm or baby monitor, Hearing Dogs bring other more subtle but equally important benefits. When out and about in uniform they highlight their partners invisible disability. This gives the deaf person more confidence and enables them to go out more thus freeing them from the social isolation deafness often brings. Deb is deaf and was partnered with Hearing Dog Elmo in 2015. Deb will describe what Elmo does and how he helps her. As a deaf person Deb will speak of the important role Elmo plays in her life and has done for the last 8 years. Do come along as this promises to be a very interesting and insightful meeting about the work of this charity and how the dogs they train help save lives and allow deaf people to live fulfilling lives.

### **Please note a change to the venue.**

This meeting will be held at Fairplace Church, 3 Fairplace Terrace, Okehampton, EX20 1DT (opposite the Post Office) at 2.30pm. Admission is £1.00 to members and guests with tea/coffee and biscuits at the end of the meeting and a chance to find out a bit more about u3a.

Please contact Dee McVey on 01837 658590 for further information.

### **59 Lottery Club**

February's prize was won by June Hewer who has generously used half her prize to renew her membership.



Here's where I deliver my pitch for the Club.

The 59 Lottery Club is a money raising scheme run by Bridestowe Village Hall Management Committee that gives you a chance to have a flutter and at the same time support your village hall financially. It's based around the National Lottery's bonus ball.

It offers a single monthly prize of **£100**.

Each member is allocated a number from 1 to 59 and pays £1 a week for the privilege. If your number corresponds to the bonus ball drawn in the National Lottery Draw on **the final Saturday** of the month, you win a **£100** prize. If an unallocated number comes up then there will be a rollover, so £200 in prize money. Should that in turn fall to an unallocated number then the prize will be awarded according to the bonus ball drawn the previous week. We have had a couple of rollovers.

You can make one annual payment of £52 or two half yearly payments of £26. Payment can be made by cheque or BACS transfer or cash.

All profit goes to hall funds and will help pay for maintenance projects and new equipment.

I will be contacting existing members hoping they will renew their membership, but there really is no pressure to renew. If you fancy joining our merry band, please contact me for full details and an application form.

Alison Young 01837 861157

ali.young53@btinternet .com A.Young

01837 861157.young53@btinternet.com

## **'Probus' - Have you heard of us? If you haven't, please read on!**

Probus Clubs were formed in the United Kingdom in 1965. The Probus movement had its beginnings in two community-based social clubs, both created by members of Rotary at Welwyn Garden City who were mostly ex-commuters. The original description of Probus was that *"A Probus club is a local association of retired and semi-retired professional and business people, and others who have had some measure of responsibility in any field of worthy endeavor, who are of character and respected in their communities."* That sounds a bit dated now, but it gives some idea of what we are about!

In 1974 Probus expanded into New Zealand and by 1976 the idea had spread to Australia. Although Probus membership has its greatest concentrations in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand, around 4,000 clubs today exist in all parts of the world.

The local Probus Clubs are the Okehampton and District Men's Probus Club, and the Okehampton and District Ladies' Probus Club. They meet at the Old Drill Hall Kempley Road Okehampton on Monday mornings at 10.30 throughout the year - but not on the same Monday! Be assured, neither has anything to do with any political party and members are from all walks of life.

If you are retired or semi-retired, you will be very welcome to join the appropriate Club which meets at 1030. Most members arrive beforehand for chat and exchange of news. Meetings last an hour and a half with time given over for a chat and socialising over coffee and biscuits.

Both Clubs have interesting speakers and get-togethers, such as Lunches in the Summer and at Christmas, perhaps a Coffee Morning or the occasional Ploughman's Lunch. If this sounds like a club where you would like to be a member just turn up for a friendly welcome to meet everyone, should you decide to join after coming to two or three

meetings there is an annual subscription. You can contact Bob and Sheila Hines 01837 53892 or Michael and Janet Scutt 01837 861121 for further information.

The next three meetings are:

### **Men's Probus Club**

#### **4th March - Silent Films of Dartmoor**

18th March - A talk by The Mayor

3rd April - Dartmoor Rivers

### **Ladies' Probus Club**

#### **11th March - Tales of the Dormouse**

8th April - Seated Yoga

22nd April - St Petrocks

Anybody without transport who would like to attend, please contact me and I will help if available.

Mike Scutt 01837 861 121

*Bring your mothers for  
a chat and enjoy*

**SOUP, ROLL & CHEESE**  
**Tea/Coffee £6.00**



5 or 6 different soups to  
choose from  
Vegetarian, Gluten Free  
and Vegan options  
White/Brown Bread  
Assorted cheeses  
Fruit

*Fundraising for Replacement Playground  
Equipment for Boasley Cross Primary School*

**at**

**SOURTON VILLAGE HALL**

**Mothering Sunday**  
**SUNDAY 10th March, 2024**

**Between: 12:00 – 2:00pm**

# Cold Days, Warm Libraries

Libraries  
Unlimited



Supported by



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## At Okehampton Library...

Okehampton Library offers so much more than books. It's a warm, welcoming space with free WiFi and computer access, people to chat to, groups and activities. Enjoy a natter with other customers or have a go at our community puzzle.

Free refreshments are available as part of our 'Libraries for Life' winter campaign.

Our Reading Well titles are a range of books covering physical and mental health, and include titles aimed at children and teens. And don't forget if you're housebound or struggling to get to the library, our Home Library Service can deliver not just books but a friendly chat too!

Keep an eye out for more events and activities at Okehampton Library.

Visit our Website:

[www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/okehamptonlibrary](http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/okehamptonlibrary) Follow us on Facebook.

## EVENTS

### Friends of Okehampton Library Chocolate prize draw

A chance to win a chocolate prize and support the Friends of Okehampton Library.

Tickets available from the library, only £1 each, to be drawn at the coffee morning on Saturday 23rd March.

### An Evening with Jim Causley and Friends – Saturday 2nd March 19:30

Join the Friends of Okehampton Library at the Ockment Centre for a night of great music and stories from ever popular local musician and songwriter, Jim Causley. Support by 'Crossing Borders', featuring Annie McGee and local instrumental trio, 'Speranze Perdue'.

Tickets £7 in advance from Okehampton Library (cash only) or book online through Eventbrite.

Bring your own refreshments. Doors open 7pm. All proceeds in aid of the Friends of Okehampton Library. Raffle on the door.

### World Book Day Celebrations – Book Tasting Cafe – Saturday 9th March 10:00-12:00

Drop in anytime during these hours, take a seat at our Book Tasting cafe, browse our menu of books, 'taste' a few and find your next read!

A fun event for children & families, with free refreshments.

### British Science Week 8-17 March

#### • Stay & Play – Monday 11 March

10:00-11:00

Learn how to make play dough. Free event, just drop in.

#### • Make & Play session - Saturday 16

March 10:30-11:30

Come and take part in our fun scientific Make & Play session.

### Farewell Jamaica – Thursday 14 March 19:15-20:15

'Farewell Jamaica' is a captivating and heartwarming play based on Neville's Windrush journey, as he leaves Jamaica in search of a brighter future to help rebuild England after WW2.

This interactive tale is filled with joy, emotion and laughter, promising an unforgettable theatrical experience. Highlighting the history, and challenges encountered by other migrants either living or travelling to Britain. It provides an engaging, thought



provoking and multi-sensory interactive performance.  
Tickets only £3 through Okehampton Library or Eventbrite

**Spring Coffee Morning – Saturday 23rd March 10:00-12:00**

Join the Friends of Okehampton Library for hot drinks and biscuits, there will also be a last chance to buy draw tickets in their chocolate raffle.

**South West Water – Tuesday 26 March 09:00-13:00**

South West Water will be at the library to offer support and advice to customers regarding their bills and how they can help them further. Find out if you are eligible for a tariff that could save you money. Free water saving devices will be available.

**REGULAR EVENTS**

**ADULTS:**

Friends of Okehampton Library – meet monthly, ask staff for next date  
Are you interested in becoming a friend of your library?

Anyone is welcome to get involved and support the library, organising or helping with events, encouraging use of the library, and supporting fundraising activities.

**Cuppa & A Chat - Tuesdays 13:30-15:30**

Enjoy a natter with other customers.  
Refreshments will be available. Just drop in.

**Read Easy – First Tuesday of every month 10:00-12:00**

Come and chat with Richard from Read Easy, the charity that helps adults learn to read. Richard would love to talk to you, particularly if you are interested to know more about what Read Easy do and/or if you would like to introduce someone to their free 1:1 and confidential service.

**CHILDREN:**

**Stay & Play – Mondays**

10:00-11:00 (term-time only)

A fun, free play session for under 5s. Come to play and socialise.

Just drop in.

**Read to a Dog – Tuesdays 15:45 -16:45**

To help and encourage children and teenagers to read, book on to a 'Read to a Dog' session with 'Rafa' who has been

assessed by and is registered with Pets as Therapy (PAT). All children can benefit from this activity and are welcome, however, it is particularly beneficial to those children who find reading challenging, are worried about reading aloud in front of others or lack self-confidence and self-esteem. Each reading session lasts up to 15 minutes. Booking is essential.

**Bounce & Rhyme - Tuesdays 10:00-10:20 & 11:00-11:20**

Suitable for under 5s. FREE, no booking necessary.

**Baby Weigh – Tuesdays 09:30-11:30**

FREE self-weigh facilities for parents to weigh their babies, are available in a screened area within the library. This is in partnership with Devon Public Health Nursing. No booking necessary. Parents and babies welcome to stay for Bounce & Rhyme!

**Duplo Builders & Storytime - Wednesdays 09:30-10:15**

Suitable for under 5s. FREE, no booking necessary.

**Lego Builders - Saturdays 10:30-11:30**

Suitable for ages 5+. FREE, just drop in.

**The Secret Book Quest**

A completely FREE year-round reading challenge for 5-12-year-olds across Devon. To take part, children sign up in the library, read 50 library books at their own pace, and collect stickers to solve the secret code. Finishers will receive a certificate and a small prize.

Children under 8 must be accompanied to all events by a responsible adult

Please see our library website or Facebook page for any additional events and library services [www.devonlibraries.org.uk](http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk)

**Opening Hours**

Monday 09:00-17:00

Tuesday 09:00-18:00

Wednesday 09:00-13:00

Thursday 09:00-17:00

Friday 09:00-18:00

Saturday 09:00-13:00

Riverside Stores & Post Office  
Bridestowe,  
Okehampton,  
Devon, EX20 4EG

01837 861321  
[riversidestores@hotmail.com](mailto:riversidestores@hotmail.com)

Riverside Stores  
& Post Office

At the heart of Bridestowe

## Local Venison back 4th March

All of our venison is local, naturally wild, no supplemental feeding, no park deer and ALL harvested from their natural environment.

Our venison is processed from our custom-built processing unit which has the FSA 5\* hygiene rating to accompany our Riverside Stores existing 5\* food hygiene rating.

We are able to offer the following, at fantastic prices and with our philosophy of low food miles, sustainably and sensitively managed, and LOCAL to you, our customers.

- Venison Burgers x 4 @ £6.00
- Venison Loin Steaks x 2 from £7.00
- Venison Haunch Steaks x 2 from £9.00
- Venison Tender Loin Steak (finest fillet) from £11.00
- Venison Mince 500g approx from £4.00
- Venison Diced 500g approx from £4.00
- Venison Haunch 1.4kg approx from £16.00
- Venison Shank from £12.50 (fantastic slow roasted/casserole)
- Roasting Joints from £25.00

### Venison Selection Box @ £45.00

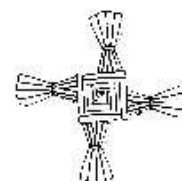
1 x Pack of Burgers (4)  
1 x Pack of Loin Steak, 1 x Pack of Mince  
1 x Pack of Diced, 1 x Roasting Joint

**Many thanks for your continued custom and loyalty.  
Michaela, Colin and our valued team of drivers.**

## ST. BRIDGET'S FLOWER FUND EASTER LILIES

Once again, we are asking if people would like to contribute to St. Bridget's Flower Fund in memory of loved ones? This fund provides not just lilies at Easter but also flowers for the rest of the year which keep our church looking beautiful and loved. The fund enables us to buy lilies but also to give each of our wonderful band of flower arrangers £10 towards the cost of their flowers if they want it. A special card is placed on the altar at Easter with the names of those you wish to remember on it. If you would like to be part of this, please pop your contribution into an envelope, **WITH THE NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO BE REMEMBERED**, hand it to me at Close Hill, or to Georgina Hodgson at Logan Stone Cottage, Launceston Road, Jonathan Whiteley or The Vicarage. Please mark the envelope 'Easter Lilies'. Cheques should be made out to Bridestowe PCC. Alternatively, if you prefer to pay by internet transfer, you can ring or email me for St. Bridget's bank details and to tell me the names.

Jenny Reynolds 01837 861678 Email [jenneo78@gmail.com](mailto:jenneo78@gmail.com)



## **News from Sourton Parish Council**

**MARCH 2024**

### **Celebration of D Day landings in June**

We are being encouraged by government to celebrate in some way the 80th anniversary of the D- Day landings in June. We wondered if there are sufficient folk who have old photographs of Sourton from that long ago. If so, we could put on a side show of the pictures as part of our celebrations.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The parish Annual Meeting will be held in May - if you would like to have a say on life in the parish do please come along.

### **Aggressive dogs on Granite Way**

Concern has been expressed about aggressive dogs on the Granite Way. Have you had a similar experience?

Commonsense should suggest that the Granite Way is not a suitable place to walk aggressive dogs given the number of walkers and cyclists that use the track. Also there are plenty of other routes to walk a dog where it is quieter.

Contact Devon County Council if you have any concerns.

---

### **Community Open Weekend**

### **Visit RHS Garden Rosemoor for just £1 on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March and experience spring in this special place.**

At this time of year, our beautiful garden is literally bursting into life. Relax on a peaceful lakeside stroll and admire the sunny swathes of daffodils as you go. Marvel at our magnificent magnolias and smell the subtle scent of wisteria blooms opening.

Take in the first burst of blossom in our Cherry Garden and follow our Woodland Walk to see an amazing variety of rhododendrons and camellias. Catch some colour as our spring bulb season starts in our different 'garden' rooms - we plant thousands of them every year.

Families can follow our fun leaf-rubbing trail and let their imaginations run wild in our dedicated adventure play and den building areas.

There is also the opportunity to learn what makes this garden so special, hear about the work we do to care for it and how we share our love and knowledge of gardening and nature with the communities near us.

There has never been a better time to visit!

**Please note: Tickets to this event are limited and must be booked in advance.** If

you do not have a booking, normal garden admission will apply. Garden entry for the Open Weekend is just £1, which will be returned as a catering voucher on arrival. Open 10am - 5pm

[www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor/viewevent?EFID=151&ESRC=CMS](http://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor/viewevent?EFID=151&ESRC=CMS)

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### **BRIDESTOWE READING GROUP**



Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th March**

David and Rosemarie are our hosts at Millaton Cottage.

We will be discussing Belinda Bauer's *Rubbernecker*.

Belinda Bauer grew up in England and South Africa and now lives in Wales. She worked as a journalist and a screenwriter before finally writing a book to appease her nagging mother. For her debut, *Blacklands*, Belinda was awarded the CWA Gold Dagger for Crime Novel of the Year. She went on to win the CWA Dagger in the Library for her body of work. Her fourth novel, *Rubbernecker*, was voted Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year. Her eighth novel, *Snap*, was a Sunday Times bestseller. It was longlisted for the Man Booker prize and voted Crime & Thriller Book of the Year at the Specsavers National Book Awards.

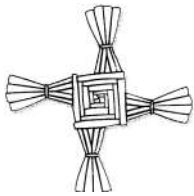
New members are always welcome

**01566 783529**

email: [neil@neiledgson.com](mailto:neil@neiledgson.com)



## Bridestowe Churches' Partnership



### Sunday Worship for March

Friday 1st

2.00pm World Day of Prayer at the Methodist Church. All welcome.

Sunday 3rd

9.30am See Sourton BaSE entry for details

10.30am to 12.30pm Cafe Church in The Ark.  
(Worship, Coffee, Tea, Chat, Children's activities)

Sunday 10th

11.00am Mothering Sunday Service at the Methodist Church led by Bridget Down

Sunday 17th

11.00am Joint service with St Bridget's at the Methodist Church led by Vicki Penfound

Sunday 24th

9.30am Family Service at St Bridget's. A few songs, a bible story and refreshments. The Family Service will conclude by a Palm procession to the Methodist Church

11.00am Palm Sunday at the Methodist Church led by Rev Chris Jackson & Rev Adrian Brook

Thursday 28th

7.00pm Agape meal and reflection in The Ark  
Friday 29th

10.00am Good Friday Service at the Methodist Church led by Rev Chris Jackson.

Sunday 31st

9.30am Easter Day service at St Bridget's

11.00am Easter Day service at the Methodist Church led by Angela Banfield

Rain, Rain, Rain I am sure many of us are saying, but the reservoirs are now full after a couple of years of being low and the promise of spring is all around. Spring is a time of renewal and new beginnings. It is a reminder of a new season. God is in the business of making things new, new life, new hope, new starts. He's in the business of transforming old to new. God wants to move in and through us all to accomplish His perfect plan for the world. Seasons pass, sometimes we wish the next season would come quicker! It

is the same with the seasons of our life. If you are currently in a hard season, remember that the seasons change and remember that God will be with you in it if you ask Him, He is there already He has never left you. Robert H. Schuller said this: "Never cut a tree down in the wintertime. Never make a negative decision in the low time. Never make your most important decisions when you are in your worst moods. Wait. Be patient. The storm will pass. The spring will come."



Remember that The ARK is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm. offering a warm space and a warm welcome World Day of Prayer service on Friday 1st March at 2pm. All welcome.

Many thanks to all who attended the Coffee Morning in February. £129 was raised for the Methodist Church heating improvements.

The **Coffee Morning in March** will be held on **Saturday 9th** from 10 to 12, with coffee/Tea and cakes and the fund raising is for MIND a mental health charity. Do come, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

The recently started 'Laugh and Craft' on a Thursday, 10 to 12, is being well supported. Why not drop in with or without your latest project.

Remember you can also hire The Ark for birthdays/meetings etc. Please contact Brian Maddaford (861402)



MED Theatre Presents



# THE EXPERIMENT



**Touring Dartmoor March 2023**

Part of MED Theatre's 'What If...' project, supported by  
The National Lottery Heritage Fund

For more information:

01647 441356 / [info@medtheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@medtheatre.co.uk)



\*The matinee show on Saturday 16th will be a **relaxed** performance

## What is a relaxed performance?

For many people, a trip to the theatre can be a daunting experience.

The relaxed performance style varies from show to show, and company to company. Changes might be made to lighting, sound levels, seating arrangements, or the length of the show. Primarily, a relaxed performance is exactly what it says on the tin: relaxed!

Everybody is welcome at all MED Theatre performances, but we know that sometimes it can be easier when you feel you can relax. Whether you have a young or noisy child, struggle with sitting for too long, are neurodiverse, prefer not to leave the house at night, or have any other reason to choose this performance – we'd love to see you there!

Because MED Theatre tours in community venues our work is inevitably differently accessed than standard theatre venues. If you would like to find out what changes we are making specifically, or would like to discuss your own needs, please email [helengilbert@medtheatre.co.uk](mailto:helengilbert@medtheatre.co.uk) or call 01647 441356.

For queries or more information please contact MED Theatre: [info@medtheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@medtheatre.co.uk), or call 01647 441356

[www.medtheatre.co.uk/projects/the-experiment-2024/](http://www.medtheatre.co.uk/projects/the-experiment-2024/)

## What's it about?

A group of children are dropped off at a location on Dartmoor excited to enjoy a fun week of camping, when their leaders have an accident and have to be rushed to hospital leaving the children alone and unprovided for. Unbeknown to them, they are part of an experiment that their parents secretly signed them up for: is the hunter-gatherer instinct still intact? Can humans survive with only the land to live off despite the present-day short cuts to food and a reliance on technology? The scientists and parents watch on hidden cameras as the dangers get more and more extreme until eventually they need to step in, but for one child does their intervention come too late?

## Performance dates in March

The dates of the performances are :

**Friday 15th**, 7:30pm & Sat 16th, 2:30pm\* –  
Manaton Parish Hall

**Tuesday 19th**, 7:30pm – Winkleigh Village Hall

**Wednesday 20th**, 7:30pm – Buckfast,  
Southpark Community Centre

**Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd**, 7:30pm –  
Moretonhampstead Parish Hall

**Thankyou** to those people who have brought the Phone Box Book Swap into being. I have enjoyed some good reads from the collection including *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, *My Friend Henry*, *The Last Foundling* and *The Fault in our Stars*. Many thanks to those who have already swapped books and to Ann Allan who keeps this little library in order.



**Cynthia. Higbee**



**At The Wharf, Tavistock...**

**THE FIRST CORNISHMAN TO CLIMB  
EVEREST By Ed Buckingham**

**Monday 4th March at 2pm**



Ed Buckingham was born and raised in Cornwall, where he still lives today. He is the first Cornishman to climb the highest summit on each of the world’s seven continents and the first postman to achieve this amazing feat. Rightly proud of his mountaineering achievements as of working for over thirty-four years for the Royal Mail. He was awarded the Cornish Gorsedh award for Exceptional Endeavour in 2013 in recognition of being the first person to raise the St Piran’s Cornish flag on the summit of Everest. He is the author of two books titled, ‘7 Summits’ and ‘Toby Goes Extreme In Antarctica.’

After seeing a newspaper article when he was recovering from a football injury, Ed was inspired to start climbing. His first climb was Mount Kilimanjaro and since then has completed the Seven Summits, including Everest, a world mountaineering challenge. Hear how Ed used 5 bottles of oxygen in total and spent nine hours from camp three to the peak of Everest. He passed eight preserved bodies of previous climbers on the way down who had not

made it. “You’re already aware of the risks you take but you just think “I just hope that doesn’t happen to me”, he said.

All tickets £6

**New home needed**

Can anyone offer 3 German Pekin ducks a new home? 2 ducks and 1 drake - just over a year old.



**Tel: 01837 861157**

**Lunar cycle for  
March**

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| New moon      | 10th |
| First quarter | 17th |
| Full moon     | 25th |
| Last quarter  | 3rd  |



February’s typically cold, snowy weather in North America earned its full moon the name ‘snow moon’. Storm moon and hunger moon are other common names.

**Okehampton Recycling  
Centre**

0345 155 1010

**Opening times**

**October to March**

Monday - Friday 9am - 4.30pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4.30pm





## News from Lydford Gorge

### National Trust

Rose Cooke, Visitor Experience Officer

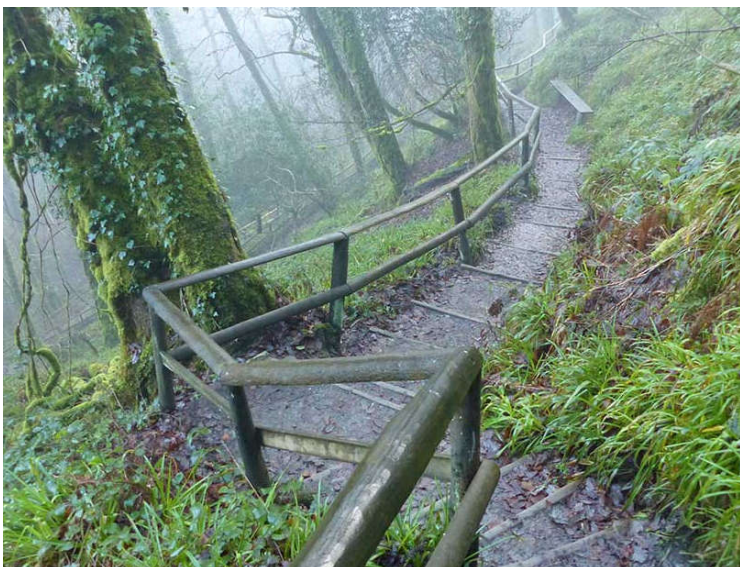
#### Update on the walking routes for 2024

We've had to take proactive action against the effects of climate change at Lydford Gorge. A new operating model will start from Saturday 16 March with two feature trails, the Devil's Cauldron trail and the Waterfall trail, available for visitors.

The higher path through the woodland, that links the Devil's Cauldron entrance and Waterfall entrance (renamed the Lyd link), and the path to Tucker's Pool will open as two-way routes during quieter times. This is mainly due to the narrowness of the paths and means that these routes will currently be closed during bank holidays and school holidays.

This new operating model means that we've had to make the tough decision to close the river path. It has required increasing costly interventions, in both time and money, to open safely to visitors each year. Plus, the river path has recently suffered several significant landslips due to changes in climate and more extreme weather patterns. Extended periods of drought and heavy rain have taken a toll on the thin soils and steep slopes in the gorge.

We will continue to look after Lydford Gorge and maintain access to as much of it as possible. However, we must adapt to the changing climate, and this decision is one that was not taken lightly. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the gorge when we reopen.



#### Easter trail

**Saturday 23 March to Sunday 14 April, 10am to 4.30pm, with last entry at 3.30pm**

Make your way around the orchard to discover more about the River Ly and the animals and plants that call it home.

£3 per trail which includes an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and dairy or vegan and Free From\* chocolate egg. \*Suitable for people with milk, egg, gluten, peanut and tree nut allergies.

#### Opening Times 16 March to 3 November 2024

Devil's Cauldron trail, Waterfall trail, and second-hand bookshop open every day, **10am-4.30pm**. The Devil's Cauldron tea-room serves hot and cold drinks, light bites, hot lunches, bakes, and cream teas.

Dogs welcome - please keep them on a short lead at all times and out of the river

Check on site for when Lyd link and Tucker's Pool are open. Please check the website before travelling - [nationaltrust.org.uk/lydford-gorge](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/lydford-gorge)

Email: [lydfordgorge@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:lydfordgorge@nationaltrust.org.uk) Tel: 01822 820320

Facebook: LydfordGorge Instagram: [lydford.gorge.nt](https://www.instagram.com/lydford.gorge.nt)

Registered Charity Number 205846  
Facebook: LydfordGorge Instagram: [lydford.gorge.nt](https://www.instagram.com/lydford.gorge.nt)  
Registered Charity Number 205846

Supporting individuals with all their concerns, historic and current.

West Devon



Therapies offers Counselling, Hypnotherapy & EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique) face to face and online in the Okehampton and Tavistock area.

For more information or to book a FREE 20 minute consultation please call Melika on 07824882224 or visit [westdevontherapies.co.uk](https://westdevontherapies.co.uk)  
Explorative and Wellbeing workshops starting soon, please see website for further details.


*"Therapy should never add to the distress that someone has experienced, I try and make every session as positive and uplifting as I can."*





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or call 01837 861387 / 0759 759 4076

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Okehampton



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An experienced and passionate team committed to improving your dog's quality of life. We treat a variety of conditions and injuries, including:

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- Spinal Disease or Injury
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- Patella Luxation
- Lameness
- Obesity
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- Osteoarthritis
- Neurological Disorders

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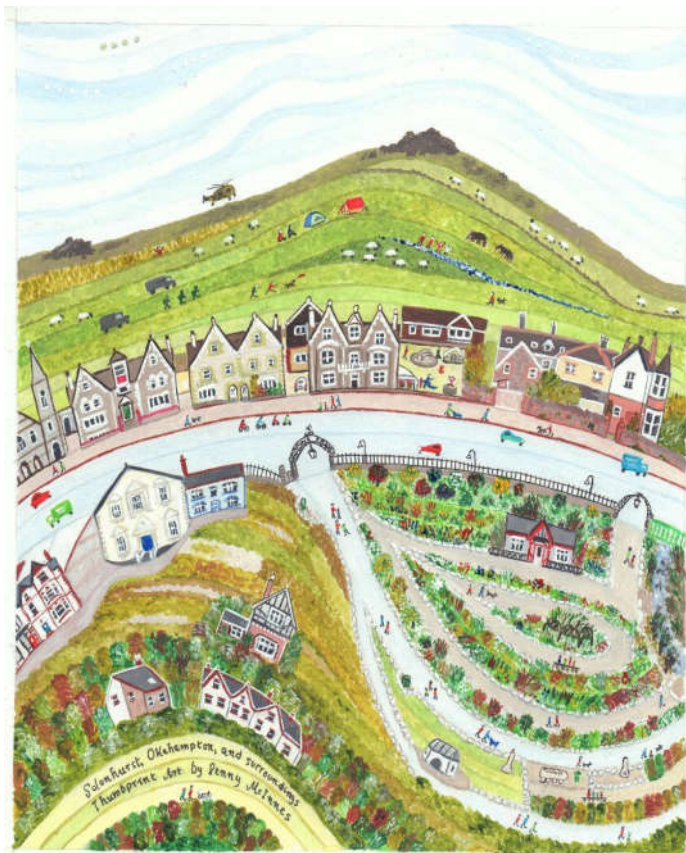


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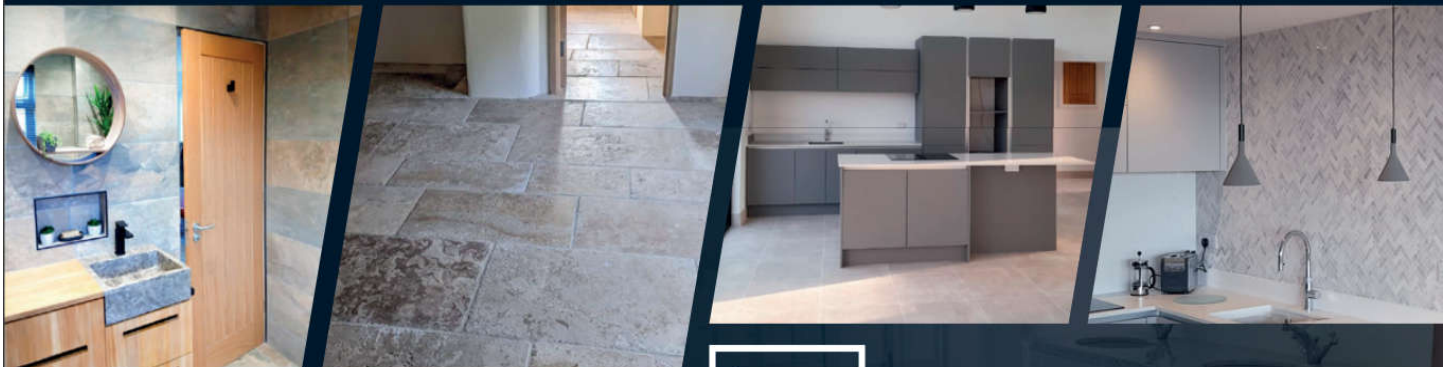
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|                |   |
|----------------|---|
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| Saturday 2nd   | 7.30pm, Okement Centre, Jim Causley & Friends<br>10am - 5pm, Visit RHS Rosemoor for £1                            |
| Sunday 3rd     | 10am - 5pm, Visit RHS Rosemoor for £1   |
| Monday 4th     | 10.30am, Old Drill Hall, Kempley Rd Oke, Men's Probus talk  |
| Thursday 7th   | 7.30pm, Millaton Cottage, Reading Group   |
| Saturday 9th   | 10am - 12noon, The Ark Coffee Morning in aid of Mind  |
| Sunday 10th    | 12noon - 2pm, Sourton Village Hall, Soup, roll & cheese   |
| Monday 11th    | 10.30am, Old Drill Hall, Kempley Rd Oke, Ladies' Probus talk  |
| Tuesday 12th   | 12.15 for 12.30pm, The Ark, Over 60's lunch   |
| Wednesday 13th | 8pm, White Hart, Quiz in aid of Kaolaa  |
| Thursday 14th  | 7.15 -8.15, Farewell Jamaica, Okehampton Library  |
| Saturday 16th  | 9am - 12.15pm, , All Saints Church Hall, Coffee and cake sale<br>9.30am - 12.30pm, St Bridget's, Clean up session |
| Monday 18th    | 8pm, Blue Lion, Lewdown, Open Mic Night   |
| Tuesday 19th   | 7.30pm, Stowford Parish Hall, <i>Lewdown Past</i> talk<br>2.30pm, Fairplace Church, u3A                           |
| Wednesday 20th | 7.30pm, The Ark, Annual Parish Meeting followed by full PC  |
| Thursday 21st  | 10.30am, The Ark, Thursday Morning Group  |
| Saturday 23rd  | 10am - 12 noon, The Ark, Coffee morning + cake stall in aid of<br>Mind  |
| Thursday 28th  | 7.30pm, Belstone Village Hall, N. Dartmoor Garden Club talk   |
| Friday 29th    | 7pm (doors open), Bridestowe Village Hall, Bingo  |
| Saturday 30th  | 9.30am, cemetery gates, Volunteer Group session<br>10am - 12 noon, Bridestowe Village Hall, Bacon Baps            |

Remember all advertising is free in BaSE so do take the opportunity to promote your local business. When you no longer want your advert to appear in the newsletter, PLEASE let us know. We will be shrinking adverts next month to create more space but will preserve the essential info

Friendly, family run company aiming to provide a range of high quality arboricultural services Services include: Tree removals, tree pruning, reductions, thinning, shaping and dead wood removal, hedge trimming, stump grinding and tree planting. Call now for advice and a free, no obligation quote

Tel: 07398 26 8877

Email: [adamofedentrees@gmail.com](mailto:adamofedentrees@gmail.com)

Adam of Eden  
Tree Care 

Contact details for BaSE:- Alison Young, Glebe Park, Pig's Leg Lane, Bridestowe, Okehampton, Devon EX20 4ER Tel: (01837)861157 or [ali.young53@btinternet.com](mailto:ali.young53@btinternet.com) (please put BaSE in the subjectline)

Deadline around 25th of the month but can be flexible. It's always worth getting in contact after the date. The newsletter can be read online via the Bridestowe website, just follow the link for BaSE.