

# Bridestowe & Sourton Extra



Community News and Events April 2024 Edition 263

Save the date: Saturday 3rd August - Bridfest 24

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/378839894858757/>



## CALLING ALL PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE QUEEN BEES!

Bridestowe Queen Bees is a social group for ladies from Bridestowe and the surrounding area. Prior to Covid, the group met on a regular Thursday evening at the village hall for craft demonstrations or a talk with a guest speaker.

We struggled to regain our pre-Covid membership numbers and so over the last year, we have moved away from hosting these regular monthly events but have continued to organise occasional social outings.

We now need to consider how we want to go forward ... or even if it is time to disband the group altogether.

Therefore we would like to invite anyone with an interest in Bridestowe Queen Bees to a meeting at the Bridestowe Village Hall on **Wednesday, 3rd April at 7pm** to discuss the future of the group. We are very keen to hear the views of both past and present Queen Bees, as well as anyone else who might be keen to get involved.

Please feel free to come along to find out more, or to contact me if you are unable to attend in person.

Diane Brook (Chair) -  
[dianebrook40@gmail.com](mailto:dianebrook40@gmail.com)

## CREAM TEAS

Cakes and Savouries



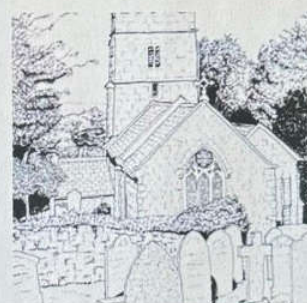
Easter Monday

1st April, 2024

1:30 – 5:30pm

## SOURTON VILLAGE HALL

In Aid of  
Sourton Church



## A date for your diary

**Call My Bluff - Can you spot the antique from the fake?**

Find out if you can on Wednesday 26th June.

This ever-popular format should ensure an evening of fun for all the family. It will be held at Lewdown Cricket Pavilion.

Full details in next month's BaSE

## Contents

Howard Barkell *pages 6 - 7*

Cricket news *pages 8 - 9*

Sourton Church news *page 10*

Movie Watch *pages 11 - 12*

Okehampton u3a *page 13*

Chair's annual report *pages 14 - 15*

Museum of Dartmoor Life *page 18*

Bridestowe Churches Partnership *page 19*

News from Lydford Gorge *page 21*

## The Vicar writes...

We all like a good story. For some it may be Shakespeare or the classics, for others Harry Potter or Star Wars, sadly some like Coronation Street or Emmerdale (which I no longer watch on principle since they changed it from Emmerdale Farm). One year we even spent a holiday in Yorkshire because her indoors wanted to visit the location of Heartbeat, her favourite TV programme at the time. Our lives are stories, we like to tell our story although we may not always want to hear other people's. I remember walking away from a man in a pub who was telling me in great detail about the best types of paint to use for painting mobile homes, leaving my polite and unsuspecting friend, to endure a full forty minutes of listening to paint drying. I still carry a bit of guilt from that; plus, the resentment I hold about Emmerdale Farm, I really ought to go to confession.

Some of our most enduring stories are religious ones but, in a time when people are cynical and dismissive about religion, it can be difficult to see the relevance. Take for example the Easter story. It's tragic when something bad happens to someone, maybe less tragic if they deserve it, but what about when something really terrible happens to someone who clearly doesn't deserve it? The most tragic story is the worst possible thing happening to the person who least deserves it. In the story of Christ's Passion (crucifixion) we see the worst of all punishments visited on the least deserving person. Jesus wasn't just innocent he was as good as it's possible to be.

He was tortured and killed at a young age at the hands of his fellow man as a consequence

of betrayal by one of his best friends, he was deserted by his followers, persecuted by the authorities who knew he was innocent, condemned by a mob of his own people who knew he was innocent and chose to punish him instead of someone they knew was a criminal. On Good Friday at the Stations of the Cross, we put ourselves in the story, are we Mary, the mother who has to give up her child to the suffering of the world, or Judas who betrays his friend for financial gain, Pilate who is uncertain of truth and afraid to go against the crowd, Peter who denied knowing Jesus to protect himself, are we one of the mob, the criminal...? As we look hard into the story, we see the sum total of all our fears culminating in death itself. But death is not the end of the story, the resurrection is. We look harder and if we look far enough into the abyss we see the light. We all experience the reality of pain and suffering, pain is undeniably real, the question is; is that which overcomes pain even more real? That's the idea behind the resurrection. As we face the tragedies of life head on, we find the thing that calls out the best in us. Confronting the dragon yields the treasure but that's another story.

Happy Easter and St. George's Day.

*Adrian Brook*

## BRIDESTOWE THURSDAY MORNING GROUP

Thank you to the volunteers at The Ark for looking after us so well over the winter. Eight members enjoyed meeting there in March, when we finalised the programme for the summer, which is as follows (all except the June meeting are coffee mornings) :

### **April 18th - Bow Garden Centre**

May 16th - Country Lanes Garden Centre

June 20th - Bring and share lunch at 11  
Crandford Close

July 18th - Lydford Gorge (the first entrance)

August 15th - The Ark

September 19th - Roadford Lake

October 17th - to be arranged

For our outing in April we shall leave the village at about 10 o'clock. Cynthia or I will be in touch shortly before to organise lifts.

Contact person: Ann Allan on 861551

## Libraries Unlimited - Home Library Service in Devon



Have you just moved into the area and would like to find some way of meeting people and helping your new community?

Or are you unable to get to the library?

Devon Libraries has a wonderful free service for readers who are unable to get to the library because of health, mobility or caring responsibilities (this could just be a temporary or long-term situation). It is called the Home Library Service, where volunteers deliver books and audiobooks to the client in their own home or care setting, then collect and return them to the library.

I have been co-ordinating this service in the Okehampton area for many years now and my team and I are always happy to see if our service will help new clients. Those interested in becoming a volunteer have an informal chat with myself and a member of staff at the library to talk through the role. There is then an application process which will include a DBS check as the role does include regular contact with vulnerable groups. Then following the volunteer application process, a prospective volunteer would have the opportunity to shadow one of my team on a Home Library visit.

Many clients are able to choose and order their own books online. But for those that are unable to do this, the Home Library volunteer will discuss client preferences with them, the genres of books and authors they like and choose items from library stock or order titles from the library catalogue for them.

One benefit of being with the service is that you can borrow books and audiobooks for six weeks at a time and there is no charge for ordering titles from Devon Libraries stock. Devon Libraries also offer a 'Good Neighbours' membership for friends, neighbours and family wishing to choose and deliver books to people not able to get to the library. Good Neighbours membership has various benefits ensuring library services are available to all - for more details contact your local library.

Our Home Library team are a small and friendly group and we would love to help more people, so we welcome volunteers and clients. Visits are very individual, some clients may need a visit every fortnight, some may only need a visit every few months. We liaise to suit both the client and the volunteer

**Jan Goffey**  
**HLS Co-ordinator**

To receive the service or become a Home Library Service volunteer contact Okehampton Library either by email [okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk) or phone 0183752805

Libraries in Devon and Torbay are run by Libraries Unlimited, an independent staff and community owned charity. Join the library for free by filling in the online form at [devonlibraries.org.uk](http://devonlibraries.org.uk) or [torbaylibraries.org.uk](http://torbaylibraries.org.uk). Follow Libraries Unlimited on Facebook.

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**Bacon Baps** will  
be served on  
**Saturday 27th**  
**April** from 10 -12  
noon at  
Bridestowe Village  
Hall. There's a takeaway option too.



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.

## Look what's on at Bridestowe Village Hall in April!

Date	Time	Description
Mon 1st	9.30	Stretching for Seniors
	18.30	Keep Fit Aerobics
Tues 2nd	18.30	ODCS Ringcraft
Wed 3rd	19.00	Queen Bees
Thurs 4th	18.30	ODCS Obedience
Sat 6th	All day	Wedding
Mon 8th	9.30	Stretching for Seniors
	18.30	Keep Fit Aerobics
Tues 9th		ODCS Ringcraft
Thurs 10th	18.30	ODCS Obedience
Sat 13th	All day	Wedding
Mon 15th	18.30	Keep Fit Aerobics
Tues 16th	18.30	ODCS Ringcraft
Thurs 18th	9.30	Treetops Toddler Group
	18.30	ODCS Obedience
Sat 20th	19.00	Dartmoor Pony Society
Mon 22nd	9.30	Stretching for Seniors
	18.30	Keep Fit Aerobics
Tues 23rd	18.30	ODCS Ringcraft
Thurs 25th	9.30	Treetops Toddler Group
	18.30	ODCS Obedience
Sat 27th	10.00	Bacon Baps
Sun 28th	All day	Christening
Mon 29th	9.30	Stretching for Seniors
	18.30	Keep Fit Aerobics
Tues 30th	8.15	Aspiris
	18.30	ODCS Ringcraft

If you would like to hold an event or assist in the running of the village hall, please get in touch. You can check on availability on the online diary.

[www.bridestowe.org.uk](http://www.bridestowe.org.uk)

### Bridestowe Village Hall Pool Hill, Bridestowe, EX20 4EW



The hall is a fantastic facility, that can be used for a wide range of events, from small meetings to large scale wedding receptions and parties. The venue is divided into a number of units, including meeting rooms, kitchen and a large hall which can be hired out separately. Also the venue can be hired in its entirety. The hire charges are reviewed annually and there is a special discount scheme for local residents (within a 4 mile radius of Bridestowe). Please contact the Bookings Clerk for more information  
Esther Winter Mob: 07946 992200  
Visit the website  
[www.bridestowe.org.uk/village-hall](http://www.bridestowe.org.uk/village-hall) to see prices and view the calendar for availability.

### Open Garden... Andrew's Corner, Belstone, Okehampton, EX20 1RD

**Sunday 7th & 21st April, 2.00-5.00pm** in aid of the National Garden Scheme.

The garden is home to wide range of unusual trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, giving year-round effect – including a snowdrop collection, alpiners, rhododendrons, bulbs, and maples which provide spectacular autumn colour.

Woodland plants, including erythroniums, arisaemas, ferns and many spring bulbs, are at their best in April and May – followed on by the beautiful blue Meconopsis and irises. Heathers, alpine beds, dry stone walls, herbaceous borders and gentians add to the mix and extend the season of interest through to the autumn.

**Admission** £5, children free. **Refreshments:** Cream teas

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair access difficult when wet.

<http://www.andrewscorner.garden>

## 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](http://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 will meet again on Saturday 27th April at 9.30am at the cemetery gates. New volunteers are always welcome.



### Thank you!

I wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who made March's quiz at The White Hart such a fantastic success.

**£550** was raised for Koalaa Foundation, an absolutely amazing total that will go a long way to providing a young person with a prosthetic arm.

A couple of special thank you's must go to Jackie Butler for writing the quiz, there were lots of compliments for the range of questions, Gideon for being a fun and fair quiz master and Sally Maddaford (and the generous bidder) for securing the star prize from The Manor Hotel which was auctioned for £100.

Thank you to everyone who donated a prize, came along on the night, donated to the cause and of course to Mike and the team for hosting.

### 59 Lottery Club - raising funds for Bridestowe Village Hall

The March prize result comes too late for April's BaSE. And talking of lateness, I **should** be contacting existing members hoping they will renew their membership. There really is no pressure to renew though. What would be cheering would be to add to our crew, so if you fancy joining, please contact me for full details and an application form.  
Alison Young 01837 861157  
[ali.young53@btinternet.com](mailto:ali.young53@btinternet.com)



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### ***A date for your diary..***

***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.***

## Three Generations, Three Villages by Howard Barkell

Those of us who have lived most of our lives in a rural environment may still remember when several families had lived in the same place for many years and most people were at least on nodding terms with each other. The availability of work was the determining factor in most cases. The majority of men would have been employed in some sort of manual labour, several in jobs connected with agriculture.

When work was scarce at home but was available elsewhere whole families would move to different parts of the country or even to other countries to seek opportunities there. For example, my own family were miners in west Cornwall who came to work in the copper mines in the Tavistock/Mary Tavy area. When that work drew to a close, members of the greater family went as far afield as America and Australia while others ended up in the coal mines in South Wales and the north east of England.

Skilled tradesmen often trained at least one of their sons to follow in their footsteps. The Whites in Bridestowe were masons, the Weeks family were carpenters while the Huggins family in Lydford were also masons. The Alfords were blacksmiths at Coombow for over a hundred years, the last being Willie Simmons, a grandson.

The Millmans were blacksmiths for at least three generations, but they had the distinction of working in all three local parishes. In 1840 Thomas was working as a blacksmith at Lake, Sourton, although he had been born in Bridestowe. Ten years later he was living at Lydford and his son, another Thomas, was working with him. They worked together for at least ten years. An older son, John, was also a blacksmith but he moved to Latchley where new mines were being developed. There were two smithies in Lydford, one at Southgate, another at Rowell's Cross, but whether they were in operation at the same time I don't know. I remember Mrs. Warn, an elderly lady who lived with her daughter at Crossfield, telling me how as a teenage member of Palmer family she used to ride cart horses in from Reddaford Farm behind Willsworthy Camp, to be shod in the village.

Thomas, senior, retired to Tavistock, first to live with a son at his lodging house and finally at the Workhouse, where he died in 1885.

Thomas, junior, married Grace Pellow whose family lived at Southerley in 1862 and briefly moved to Sourton Down before taking on The Forge at the bottom of Pool Hill, Bridestowe. While their two sons trained as blacksmiths, although later they called themselves farriers. Much of their work would have been shoeing horses, but would also have involved making tools and repairing agricultural machinery.

The Alfords at Coombow actually manufactured horse drawn implements like harrows and cultivators. I remember coming across one abandoned in a hedge above Woodhead. On the oval plate it was marked Alford Bros Coombow Bridestowe.

The elder of the two sons, John, had already gone to Greenwich to work as a journeyman farrier by 1890 and ended up employing men of his own. His brother Thomas may have joined him because he married his first wife at St. Alfege, Greenwich in 1897, although their first child appears to have been born back in Bridestowe. His mother, Grace, died in 1900, so perhaps they made the permanent move to Hammersmith after that. His father appears to have gone with them because he died in 1908 and was buried at Camberwell Cemetery.

Thomas worked for Pickfords Removers as a farrier for some time, but eventually became self employed. He and his large family actually lived in a mews at Hendon, so would have lived near the smithy and been surrounded by stables and horses.

What of the next generation? Thomas's eldest son joined the R.A.F. early in 1918 when he was described as a Blacksmith's hand, but on release worked for the G.P.O. as a postman. The second was apprenticed to his father but ended up as a gardener and the third worked as a welder at an aircraft factory.

The site of the smithy at Bridestowe is all that remains of that enterprise. It joined the two rows of cottages, but gradually fell into disrepair and when the adjoining cottages were demolished after being damaged in a fatal road accident a detached house was built in their place. The present Forge House has no connection with the smithy. The blacksmith always lived in the premises on the higher side of the forge. It was a single

storey building approached through a typical stable door. The forge was against the back wall, latterly fuelled by coke. A large set of hand-pumped bellows was by the left-hand side and the anvil was between the forge and the outside wall. Nearby was a large granite trough filled with cold water and against the wall was a bench filled with a vice and hammers and tongs of various sizes along with any other useful tools. A wheelwright's stone was let into the pavement outside. The blacksmith always wore a long leather apron as protection from the heat and red hot sparks that flew from the anvil. The two buildings at Lydford still survive, but are now part of private properties.

By the end of the Second World War tractors were becoming more common and fewer work horses were being kept on farms. The blacksmith's trade dwindled until the inevitable happened and the shop and its tools and equipment became redundant. When riding horses for pleasure became popular the mobile farrier was able to replace the blacksmith and keep the traditional skills alive.

### **Fun, Friendly Fitness for all ....**

#### **FITNESS CLASS**

**Every Monday  
Bridestowe Village Hall  
6.45 -7.45pm**

Top to toe fitness for mixed ages & abilities (over 12yrs)  
Cost £6 per session (reduced rates for multiple family members).

Mats & motivation are provided!

Run by Emma Jefferies, a fully qualified, Experienced & Insured Fitness Instructor

For further information please feel free to text or call **07817 954 498**  
If you use Facebook then please look up Emma Jefferies Fitness to see what we're all about! It would be great to welcome some new members!



### **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.

**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.

***New advertiser..***

### **Seth's Grass Cutting Services**

Reliable and energetic local young person offering lawn mowing in Bridestowe.

Own mower and tools used.

Competitive rates - please contact for a free quotation visit.

**01837 861114**





### **Exciting news for the 2024 season!**

We have some very exciting news and a few firsts to share about the upcoming cricket season in Bridestowe.

### **Men's 1st and 2nd XI update**

Both senior men's teams had a hugely successful season last year, both securing promotion within their leagues. This success means that the 1st XI will be playing in the A Division this year, a first for the club since its inception in 1922, and the 2nd XI will be playing in E Division West. Both teams kick start the season on Saturday 4th May with the 1st team playing at home against North Devon CC and the 2nd's travelling to Chagford CC.

### **Bridestowe's first ever women's cricket team**

Joining the men's teams this year are Bridestowe's first ever Women's side, playing in the Women Softball North Central Division. Following the success of Wine & Wickets, which has been run on a Wednesday evening at the club over the last few years, there has been growing interest to play matches. The ladies attended a softball festival at the end of last season, playing 3 games and absolutely loving it, and are very excited to be taking part in the league this year. The team is very much in a development phase and welcome new players, no experience necessary.

### **Youth Development & Hardball opportunities**

Bridestowe Cricket Club has always been passionate about ensuring cricket continues in the village, and one of the priorities for this is making sure children and young people are encouraged to enjoy the sport. Our popular Friday evening kids' softball sessions often see over 30 children at the club joining in with fun cricket-based activities, games and generally enjoying the atmosphere at the club. This year we are very excited to share that we have joined forces with Belstone Cricket Club to be able to offer hardball training and games for those young people who are ready to take the next step in their cricketing career. An

Under 11's and an Under 13's team will be taking part in the West Devon Youth League this season providing opportunities for boys and girls in school years 5 – 8 to play. Hardball training will be held in Okehampton on a Friday evening (see poster for more details), led by our very own star cricketer Leon Horn, who is also a qualified teacher and cricket coach.

The 2024 season is set to be one of the best yet for the club and everyone is welcome to enjoy it with us. Spectators are always welcome to support the teams. Come on down anytime on a Saturday afternoon to enjoy the atmosphere and cheer the teams on. Look out for full fixture lists for the men's teams, as well as the ladies and youth matches, in May's BaSE.

We continue to allow access to our beautiful ground for locals to enjoy throughout the year. Please remember to pick up all dog waste, even round the edge, and take it away with you and please remember that first and foremost it is a cricket pitch so PLEASE KEEP OFF THE SQUARE - the middle bit with shorter grass.

If you are interested in playing or supporting the club in any way, please do come on down to the ground or get in contact via our secretary Jo Pritchard (861114 / jcw\_101@hotmail.com).

As a self-funded community club, we appreciate any donations to support the upkeep of the ground, however big or small. We would also welcome any new vice-presidents who are willing to commit to regular donations. For more details or to make a donation please contact Jo. Here's hoping it starts to dry up soon ready for a great season of cricket for all the teams!

#### **Bridestowe Women's Soft Ball Cricket**

Wednesday 1st May (weather allowing)

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Bridestowe Cricket Club

£3 per session (£10 membership if playing league games)

**Contact** Jo Pritchard (Captain) 07825512154

Kelly Green (Vice Captain) 07960877086

#### **Upcoming Training Dates**

Monday 22nd April

Thursday 2nd May, 7pm - 8pm

( both at Tavistock College Sports Hall)

# Bridestowe and Belstone Youth Cricket



**Hardball Cricket for**  
**Under 11s**      **Under 13s**  
**Year 5-6**      **Year 7-8**



**Sunday 14th**



**2pm - 4pm**



**Okehampton Sports Hall**



**First Session free - after this £2 per player**



## **Contact:**

### **Under 13s**

Richard Drake  
richarddrake1980@live.com

### **Under 11s**

Jackie Butler  
jackiebutler128@gmail.com



## Indoor Training dates

**Sunday 14th April,  
2pm - 4pm**

**Sunday 21st April,  
2pm - 4pm**

**Sunday 28th April,  
2pm - 4pm**

**Outdoor training dates to  
follow**

## **Bridestowe Soft Ball Cricket for ages 5+**

Date: Friday 3rd May (weather allowing)

Time: 6pm - 7pm

Venue: Bridestowe Cricket Club

Cost: £2 per child

## **Information**

- \* All children must be accompanied by an adult
- \* No experience necessary
- \* Cash and Card accepted.

**Contact:** Jo Pritchard 07825512154





### **ST THOMAS à BECKET CHURCH**

**The Thanksgiving Service for the late Ray Rattenbury** took place on 22nd March .

The church was full to standing as a mark of respect to Ray, who was brought up at Sourton and so much part of the wider community. Members of the The Royal British Legion and Standard Bearers paid tribute to him as well as many family and friends. His ashes will be laid to rest with his beloved wife, Mary, at Sourton.

### **SOUP LUNCHES**

Thank you to all who helped and came to support our Soup Lunch on March 10th . £275 was sent to Boasley School from the proceeds, going towards their new outdoor play equipment. This was the last Soup Lunch for the winter. We hope that we will be starting them again in the autumn.

### **FUTURE DATES**

#### **CREAM TEAS**

#### **EASTER MONDAY APRIL 1st**

1.30- 5.30 p.m. in the parish Hall  
Cakes and Savouries will be served as well as the traditional Cream Teas.

**Next Dates will be May 6th and May 27th Bank Holiday Mondays.**

#### **APCM**

**Our Annual Meeting will be held on 16th April at 7 p.m. in the church, followed by a PCC meeting.**

### **SERVICES FOR EASTER and April**

Good Friday Service An Hour before the Cross 12.00

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

April 7th Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.

April 14th Service at Bridestowe

April 21st Service at Bridestowe

April 28th Morning Prayer at 9.30 a.m.

**Jenny Batten**

### **Sourton Village Hall - a venue for all occasions**



Sourton Village Hall is a popular venue for special events such as wedding receptions, birthday parties, concerts, family parties and wakes following funerals. It is also an ideal function venue for conferences, meetings, training seminars and exercise classes.

The hall has good facilities; it offers a large hall that can seat 120 and 220 standing comfortably; a well appointed kitchen that has recently been refurbished and a small meeting room . There is a male, female and disabled toilet off the main hall. Outside there is a patio to the right hand side of the hall and this is often used to have a covered bar. The hall has disabled /wheelchair access with ramped entrances. There is a small area to the front of the village hall for parking but often extra parking can be made available for a large function on request.

For prices and to book, contact

Paul Alford 07799 778 779

Alison Ewen 07990 981 826

Visit the website to see prices and view the calendar for availability

[www.sourtonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.sourtonvillagehall.org.uk)

Facebook - Sourton Village Hall SourtonVH

### **A very big thank you from Amy Pearce**

to all those who donated to the mental health charity *Mind* by attending and supporting the coffee morning held in The Ark on 23rd March. The total was boosted by the generous donation from the Methodist Church committee of £147. A magnificent total of over **£500** was raised. There will be an update in BaSE on how Amy gets on in the London Marathon on 21st April.

## Movie Watch March 2024

Tremendous excitement last weekend as yet another local resident spontaneously identified themselves as a regular Movie Watch reader. At this rate we could make double figures by Christmas.

The leading March topic invariably covers the Oscars ceremony, but this year proved something of a foregone conclusion, with **Oppenheimer** cleaning up. As widely predicted, it claimed the key awards for Best Picture, Best Actor (Cillian Murphy), Best Supporting Actor (Robert Downey Jr) and Best Director (Christopher Nolan).

As mentioned last month, we opted out of the full cinema experience, settling instead for the domestic screen. It's a fine film, well deserving of the numerous accolades bestowed upon it and very definitely recommended. At the time of writing there's no sign of an extended local showing, so maybe the Okehampton public voted with their feet?

Meanwhile, I rather sniffily dismissed **Wicked Little Letters** in last month's column. Despite a superb cast (Olivia Colman, Timothy Spall, Jessie Buckley), the early reviews were not positive. Interestingly, on re-checking before writing this piece, I noted that the broadsheet assessments of the film have been revised and are now far more upbeat.

To be fair, this is quite a tough one to judge. Out of respect for the BaSE readership, I generally try to avoid recommending films containing significant amounts of what I judge to be gratuitous violence, sex or foul language. **Wicked Little Letters** contains no sex or violence but a veritable barrage of extraordinarily foul language.

The fact that these prolonged and highly imaginative expletives emanate from the usually saintly Olivia Colman only add to their impact.

We found this a funny and thoroughly enjoyable film. Based on a scandalous episode that stunned 1920's England, the story centres on neighbours Edith Swan (Colman) and Rose Gooding (Buckley) in the

genteel Sussex seaside town of Littlehampton.

A series of obscene handwritten letters begin to target Edith and a few other local residents, with suspicion falling upon Rose, seen as a rowdy Irish migrant. As the increasingly outrageous letters continue to flow, Rose risks losing her freedom as well as custody of her daughter. Local Police Officer Gladys Moss (an excellent portrayal by Anjana Vasan) is determined to uncover the culprit and, along with a group of other local women, seeks to solve the mystery. Edith's father Edward (Spall) is suitably outraged, but unable to offer any worthwhile assistance.

The film opens with the intriguing disclaimer, *'More of this is true than you'd think.'* Be that as it may, it certainly won't be for everyone but we think you might enjoy it, as long as you're prepared to leave your verbal sensitivities at the door!

**Wicked Little Letters** runs at the New Carlton until late-March but the big title, certainly if based on the number of showings, is **Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire**.

The heavily-promoted **Dune: Part Two**, starring Timothy Chalamet and Florence Pugh, will run until at least the end of March while, certainly on past form, **Drive-Away Dolls**, the first Ethan Coen comedy to be made without his brother alongside, could be absolutely anything. The Times gave it four stars, with a description of 'a joyous lesbian road movie.' So who knows? **Back to Black**, due for release on 12th April, is a celebration of the life of the much-missed Amy Winehouse but otherwise pickings at the New Carlton once again look thin.

With the weather remaining generally dismal, March presented a series of decent TV options, the best of which was **The Gentlemen** (Netflix). A very welcome personal recommendation, for which many thanks, this is an 8-part Guy Ritchie comedy-drama, starring Theo James and Joely Richardson. Aristocratic Eddie (Theo James) inherits the family estate only to discover the property is actually home to a vast underground weed empire

through the proceeds of which his father has been paying the substantial upkeep bills.

In equal parts violent and funny but highly watchable throughout, with terrific contributions from the two named stars, the biggest shock was a performance of real sensitivity from Vinnie Jones, of all people. Yes, I know, we were taken aback too, but he really is pretty good. The critics didn't much like it, but we did. Over to you.

I mentioned **One Day** (Netflix) last month as by that stage we'd watched the first few parts. It ran to 14 short episodes and we both stuck with it for the full duration, a commendation in itself. **One Day** is a romantic drama following the 20-year relationship of Emma and Dexter, who meet at an Edinburgh graduation ball in 1988. I made it perfectly decent but hardly outstanding viewing, so was stunned to read it had become globally the most-watched Netflix series. Each to their own.

It was firmly on my 'to watch' list and sure enough, the best full-length Netflix film we saw in March, by some distance, was **The Outfit**, described by one US publication as 'gripping and masterful' while the New Yorker went with, 'not a stitch out of place.' Mark Rylance's presence on any cast list has become a by-word for quality and this one delivers at every turn. A crime drama about a Savile Row tailor, although he prefers to be referred to as a 'cutter,' Rylance nevertheless finds himself in 1950's gangland Chicago. Very confidently recommended.

To close, a few programmes at least one of us has enjoyed.

**Perfect Pub Walks with Bill Bailey** (C4, More4) does exactly what it promised. In each of the four episodes, the comedian (although that description hardly does him justice) is accompanied on a leisurely country walk by a different guest. I saw him chatting with Alan Davies (Peak District) and Paul Merton (Jurassic Coast), but missed Shaun Ryder (Somerset) and Sir Trevor McDonald (Essex/Suffolk border). Very enjoyable and the epitome of easy viewing.

**Betjeman Goes by Train** (Talking Pictures TV). An exquisite short, black and white BBC East Anglia film shot in 1962 which follows the great man on one of his beloved train journeys. This trip takes him from King's Lynn on to the Norfolk coast at Hunstanton, pausing en-route at Sandringham. Very British, very quirky and very lovely.

**Hotel du Lac** (BBC4 and now on the iPlayer). First shown in 1986 as an episode of BBC2's Screen Two series. Anna Massey, Googie Withers and Denholm Elliott head an all-star cast in this story about a romance novelist who goes to stay at a Lakeside Swiss hotel following an ill-fated romance. Nominated for nine BAFTA's, with great locations while remaining faithful to the original novel.

That'll do for now. I'll spare you my account of the thrilling **FA Cup quarter-finals**, all of which, wonderfully and quite rightly, were shown free-to-air. In fact ITV's coverage of the Liverpool v Manchester United epic attracted a peak audience of 8.6 million, the largest TV audience on any channel so far this year. If you're interested, the semi-finals will both be played at Wembley and broadcast live, over the weekend of 20/21 April.

Oh, you're not.....

**David Harrison**  
**March 2024**

— — — — —

**Saturday 27th April**

**Peggy Seeger in Conversation**

Church Hall, 4 Market Street, Okehampton

Come to hear Peggy talk about her formative years, her experience in a musically rich family and her collaborations with major figures in the folk scene. Now in her late 80s, Peggy's light burns as brightly as ever. This is an unmissable event for fans of folk music, and anyone inspired by the power of art to drive social change

Doors open at 7pm, event at 7.30pm

Tickets £12.50

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peggy-seeger-in-conversation-tickets-818454699037](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peggy-seeger-in-conversation-tickets-818454699037)

**On Tuesday 16 April our speaker will be Lizzie Carr. Lizzie will be talking about Medical Detection Dogs, the super sniffers who use their incredible sense of smell to save lives each and every day.**

There are different roles for the dogs to play. Bio detection dogs use their nose to find illnesses such as cancer, Parkinson's disease, malaria, and now even Covid-19! These wonderful dogs are working to diagnose disease much earlier, through less invasive and less expensive methods. While Medical Alert Assistance Dogs support individuals with complex health conditions who have limited awareness of an impending life-threatening medical event. Using their amazing sense of smell, these dogs can be trained to identify minute odour changes emitted prior to an emergency and alert the person to take preventative action.

To find out more why not come along to our meeting on Tuesday 16 April when Lizzie Carr, who has worked with Medical Detection Dogs since November 2022 will tell us about what these dogs can do and how plus why she joined the association. There will be a chance to ask Lizzie questions at the end of her talk.

**Please note a change to the venue.** This meeting will held at Fairplace Church, 3 Fairplace Terrace, Okehampton, EX20 1DT (opposite the Post Office) starting at 2.00pm with a short AGM followed by Lizzie's talk at 2.30pm. Admission is £1.00 to members and guests with tea/coffee and



### **Live music at The Wharf, Tavistock**

#### **The Nashville Sounds Experience ..... Wrecking Ball Friday 12th April at 8:30pm**

This band is fronted by multi award winning UK country singer, Mark Hills, who puts his own edgy stamp on country songs, old and new, with a few originals. Covering some of your favourite country songs from Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, even Dolly Parton, to the big names of today's country music stars, such as Eric Church, Luke Combs, Alan Jackson, Midland plus many more. So if you love the Nashville experience, come and see why Mark is one of the best vocalist on the UK country scene and why Mark and his band fill venues around the UK.

"Wrecking Ball" is the Number One UK Country band playing top tunes from Texas and Tennessee.

#### **Tickets**

From 6pm on the night	£19.00
In Advance	£17.00
Seated+Standing	

# **Bridestowe Parish Council**

## **Chair's Annual Report**

### **April 2024**

Reflecting on the past year, one issue stands out: the proposed planning application by Leander Developments, for the construction of 28 dwellings at Town Meadow.

A well-attended public meeting was held in August allowing parishioners to air their views on the proposal. The opinions fed into the council's formal response to the application and the refusal decision by West Devon Borough Council, which was surprisingly comprehensive, came as a great relief for those who strongly opposed the scheme. Needless to say Leander has lodged an appeal against the decision.

On a lighter note, one of the highlights of last year was the celebration of the coronation of Charles III in early May. The community came together for a 'Big Picnic' to celebrate the historic event. The council funded commemorative mugs for all children up to the age of 16 who live in the parish.

The precept - the tax that parish councils charge their local electors to meet their budget requirements - was raised in line with the inflation rate as the council felt it prudent to do so, bearing in mind the rising costs of services. The council continues to maintain the churchyard, cemetery and Sporting Green. Grass cutting is a major outlay but the contractor offers an excellent service.

The council's finances are audited both internally and externally. The external audit can be viewed on the Bridestowe website.

We ensure that the council complies with the latest codes of conduct, data protection and financial regulations; relevant documents that demonstrate this can also be found on the website.

A safety check by ROSPA of the Sporting Green play equipment is carried out annually as well as weekly checks by a volunteer who reports any issues to the council.

Repair of the fissured surface under the multiplay is in hand but the council hopes to progress the project to replace the play equipment entirely.

The council is aware of the inadequacy of local public transport and a bus survey was carried out to determine if there was support for a service that would link with both Okehampton and Tavistock, with buses actually coming into the village. There was a good response and the collated data was submitted to our county councillor and to Michael Tucker Principal Transport Officer, Devon County Council.

The council has awarded grants to local services; both Okehampton Citizen's Advice and the Community Transport 'Ring and Ride' service received £200.

The council has overseen the development of Bridestowe's community orchard that now boasts 30 varied fruit trees. The trees have been planted and tended by dedicated volunteers. A planned hedge for the southern border will be planted in November 2024. It is hoped that in time the hedge will shelter the fruit trees and be a boon for wildlife.

The council has contributed to the cost of transforming the telephone kiosk in the village centre into a popular 'book swap' facility.

There have been some frustrations; the long standing problem of water streaming down Station Road at Bridhayes for one. When temperatures drop this becomes a sheet of ice. In January extensive work that lasted for several days was carried out by Devon Highways but has failed to rectify the problem.

The council continues to provide sand and sacks for flood defence and the sand is stored in a large, black plastic storage bin in the White Hart car park with the kind permission of Mike and Sarah. Although there is no formal flood response team, the council is confident people most affected are well prepared.

General advice and contact details for flooding and other possible emergencies is given in the Emergency Home Plan on the Bridestowe website and this will continue to be updated annually

The council monitors footpaths in particular condition of stiles and signing

within the parish and is grateful to the local volunteers who do the leg work.

The council is very grateful to the many volunteers from the community who are always there to lend a hand to keep the village looking spruce either by carrying out general tidying tasks or by waging war on litter.

And last but not least, Bridestowe Parish Council bids goodbye to Pete Daniels, who has served as clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for 43 years and has now decided to retire. Hardworking, diligent and with a wealth of experience to call on, his contribution to the smooth running of the council goes without saying. We wish him a very happy retirement.

My thanks to fellow councillors for their contribution and for their support, advice and encouragement.

Alison Young

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## **News from Sourton Parish Council**

### **Potential purchase of field for community use**

An important part of pulling together a neighborhood plan for Bridestowe and Sourton was finding out the communities aspirations for their own parishes. Various surveys were sent out and then those findings were put back to the community for discussion and approval.

One of the items that became clear for people living in Sourton parish was that there were no play facilities for children and that the nearest, in Bridestowe, could only be accessed along busy roads making it unsuitable for children from our parish to walk to.

One of the questions asked was would you support the provision of a play area/ picnic area in Sourton. 90% of those that responded said yes.

The list of Community Aspirations sits at the back of the Neighbourhood Plan document and it is for the respective parish councils to implement those aspirations where opportunity allows.

Also we have been trying to locate land for a community orchard, much like Bridestowe's, by the village hall. This was one of the goals in our Green Plan until recently, but we had not been able to find a way to

provide it.

An opportunity to buy two fields between the hall and the churchyard has now arisen. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to purchase a field in the centre of the village for use by the community for generations to come. The parish council has considered options available to it to meet this aspiration. Obtaining grant funding is the preferred option, although at the time of writing we have not had responses from all the bodies we approached. The opportunity to acquire the fields is only available for a limited time, and the council held a special meeting on 28th March to make a final decision. An update will be provided in next month's BASE.

In the event that we were to decide to proceed and also that we were to be successful in acquiring the land, there are many other opportunities to consider for use of the land, and it would be great to hear your ideas. Whether the land is acquired or not, we always welcome your ideas on how to help make the parish a great place to live. Our annual general meeting is on 15th May at 7.30pm. Do come along.

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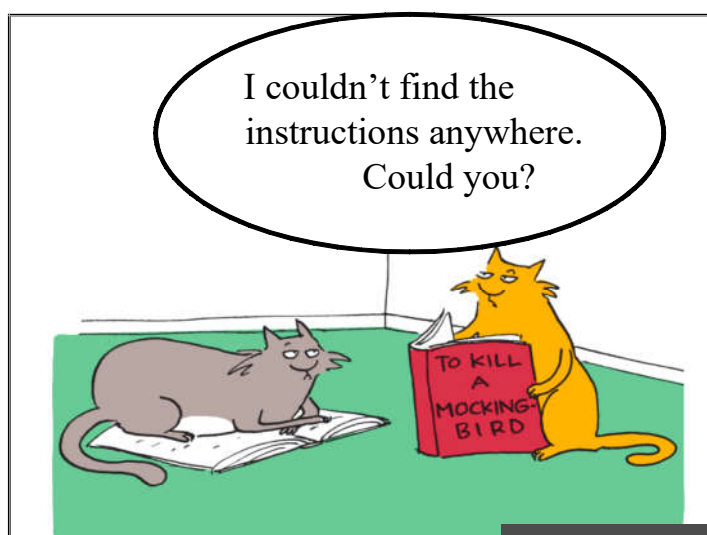
### **BRIDESTOWE READING GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 4th April** at Sanctuary, Pig's Leg Lane.

We will be discussing Robert Harris' *The Second Sleep*. an elegant, post-apocalyptic thriller according to The Guardian. New members are always welcome

**01566 783529**

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



# Cold Days, Warm Libraries

Libraries  
Unlimited



Supported by

Devon  
County Council

TORBAY  
COUNCIL

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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.

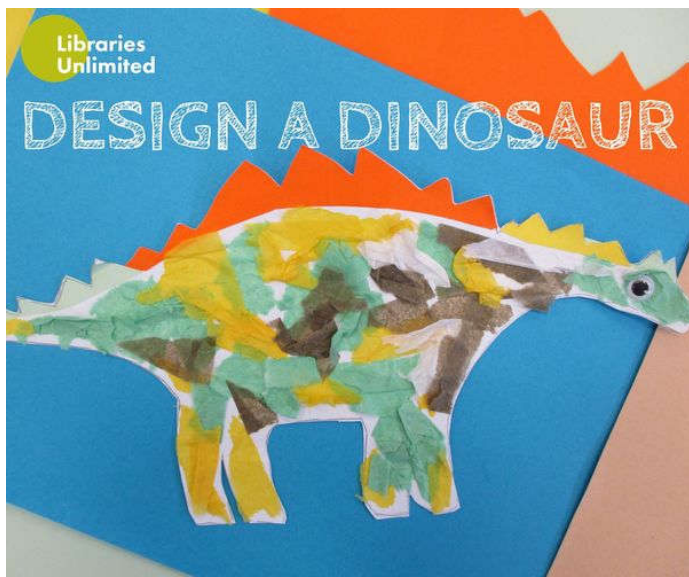
Our *Reading Well* titles are a range of books covering physical and mental health, and include titles aimed at children and teens. And don't forget if you're housebound or struggling to get to the library, our Home Library Service can deliver not just books but a friendly chat too!

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.

## Help us create a dinosaur display at Okehampton Library!



Design, create and name your dinosaur.  
2nd -13th April during library opening hours.  
Free activity, donations welcome.  
Suitable for ages 5+  
We have been inspired by the Jurassic Zone from The Secret Book Quest reading challenge - find out more at the library.

### 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



**BEARSLAKE INN**  
DINE • STAY • RELAX

## **Offers & Events**

### **Inaugural Supper Club -**

£50 per person

Friday 12 April 6:30pm for 7pm

An Exclusive Evening of Culinary Excellence  
Join us for a memorable night at Bearslake Inn, celebrating

Dartmoor's finest local produce with a specially curated menu

by our Head Chef, Dolton Lodge.

Each course is paired with exquisite wines, offering a journey through the tastes and tales of the region

Pre booked tables only

### **'Pub Classics' Afternoon Tea**

**£21.95 per person**

**Between 2:30pm and 4:00pm**

Our 'Pub Classics' Afternoon Tea is back and available every day between 1 April to 30 September. It includes a selection of delicious homemade cakes, scones and our chef's take on a classic Ploughmans.

Pre booked tables only

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

**(1st April to 30th September)**

Summer's rolling around, and guess what?

We're flipping the open sign to "heck yes, come on in" every single day for lunch and dinner from April Fools' (no joke!) through to the end of September.

That's right, you can get your Bearslake fix any day of the week, because why limit happiness to just the weekends?

\*T&C's apply

For all our offers and the terms and conditions please visit

[www.bearslakeinn.com/offers](http://www.bearslakeinn.com/offers)

# Magic & Myth at the Museum of Dartmoor Life



Dartmoor is rich with folklore and customs, witchcraft and legends, piskies, ghosts and the Devil. It is these stories that connect us to this land, our land, Dartmoor. At the Museum of Dartmoor Life, they are exploring the relevance of these tales to our contemporary society. Folklore is not dead, in fact it is growing in popularity every year for example the raising of Old Crockern, a spirit of the moors, to fight with the right to roam and wild camping protestors. You may have seen this giant walking over the moors, but now he is at the Museum in all his glory, created by community workshops to continue his story.

This exhibition has been created by many co-curators. Mark Norman of the Folklore Library, author Helen Bruce from Solstice Storytelling Circle, artist Ethan Pennell of Crow Man Crow, Dartmoor witch Suzi Crockford, Tim Sandles of Legendary Dartmoor, Lewis Winks from Right to Roam and Stars are for Everyone, Harry Key and Ant Veal of Beltane Border Morris, storyteller Lisa Schneidau, Ruth Webb of The Lost Giants, Dartmoor's Daughter Emma Cunis, herbalist Jenny Carden, Denise Rowe of Earth Dances, moor guide and editor Paul Rendell, artist Phil Clark and photographer Glavind Strachan. They have each added their unique voices and some wonderful exhibits to enjoy. Items from the museum's archive are also on display such as original handwritten spells, a 120 year old Piskie souvenir and a photo of the white witch's stall at Okehampton Market selling tablets and blessings.

Everything has been pulled together by Museum Manager and Curator Kristy Turner who said:

'We are so grateful to the amazing people who responded to our call for co-curators. The result is an exhibition we are all proud of and our visitors will love. Everybody is looking for connection and a sense of belonging and maybe a little magic during these times that are difficult for many and these stories give us that. We hope people will visit with an open

mind and leave enchanted and wanting to learn more. We are hoping to have events on during the year with talks, storytelling sessions, meet the artist days, walks and competitions. Check out our website at [www.dartmoorlife.org.uk](http://www.dartmoorlife.org.uk) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep updated.' Crediton Museum is also running a folklore exhibition this year so why not make a day of it and take the Dartmoor Line and visit both exhibitions by train. Do check opening times for Crediton Museum.

**The Museum of Dartmoor Life reopened for the season on the 18th March. The Museum is open from 10am – 4pm Monday to Saturday.**

The Magic & Myth Exhibition will run all year until the Museum closes at the beginning of November.



## *Black Shuck by Jane Barnett*

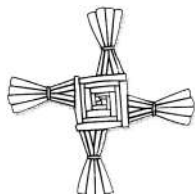
In English folklore, Black Shuck, Old Shuck, Old Shock or simply Shuck is the name given to a ghostly black dog which is said to roam the coastline and countryside of East Anglia, one of many such black dogs recorded in folklore across the British Isles.

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## **The slippery slope..**

Bridestowe Parish Council is aware that the multiplay equipment in the Sporting Green is very dirty and slippery. The exceptionally wet winter has added to the problem. The Council is looking into hiring a robust pressure washer and giving it a good going-over. Until this has been carried out, please take care.

# Bridestowe Churches' Partnership



## Sunday Worship for April

### Sunday 7th

9.30am See Sourton BaSE entry for details

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

### Sunday 14th

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Bridgets

11.00am Morning service at the Methodist Church led by Barry Searle

### Sunday 21st

11.00am Joint service with St Bridgets at the Methodist Church led by Barbara Dalton & Vicky Penfound

### Sunday 28th

9.30am Family Service at St Bridget's. A few songs, a bible story and refreshments.

11.00am Morning service at Methodist Chapel led by Gary Yates

### Jesus Loves us; Easter Tells us so

Jesus loves us, this I know;  
The Easter story tells us so.  
He died to bear our every sin;  
He opened heaven that all may go in

The Easter story brings much joy  
for man and woman girl and boy.  
Jesus is our Saviour now;  
Heaven and earth to Him will bow.

Jesus' came back from the dead  
Witnesses in the Bible said.  
Let Jesus be your Lord and King;  
This Easter time to Him we sing!



The monthly Coffee Morning in March raised £147 for the charity MIND. Many thanks to all who supported this.

Our Coffee Morning in April will be held on **Saturday 13th**, 10 am to 12 noon. Coffee, teas, biscuits and a cake stall. Money raised this month is for ShelterBox.

'ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity established in 2000 in Helston, Cornwall, UK, that provides emergency shelter and other aid items to families around the world who have lost their homes to disaster or conflict.'

*Wikipedia*

Please come and support this.

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.

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

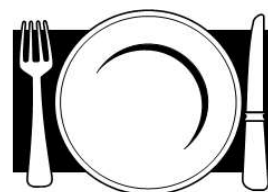
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You can also hire The Ark for birthdays/meetings etc. Please contact Brian Maddaford (861402)

### The Over 60's Lunch

**Club** will meet on **Tuesday 9th April.**

Gather at 12.15 for lunch at 12.30.

Apologies to Jennifer on 861592. Thank you



## Red Spider News

Following the success of *Entertaining Angels* and the youth theatre production of *A Christmas Carol*, the stage at Lewdown is getting ready to host our next production.

**Cinderella** is on stage on **Friday 12th and Saturday 13th April** - Lewdown Victory Hall at 7pm. Tickets available on the door, or online in advance from [seaty.co.uk/April2024](http://seaty.co.uk/April2024).

**23rd April - social playreading**  
**Wyrd Sisters** from Terry Pratchett.  
**Lewdown Victory Hall - 7pm**

**30th April - Auditions for the autumn adult show.**  
A comedy murder mystery.  
Lewdown Victory Hall - 7pm

Perhaps you would like to help with our forthcoming shows in any way - whether on stage or not. As well as actors, we need a crew of front of house, costume, backstage, technical, set building or publicity. Please do get in touch.  
[RSYTheatre@gmail.com](mailto:RSYTheatre@gmail.com) or  
Martin Perry (membership) 01409 221376



MOUNT KELLY Choral Society

Karl Jenkins'

# The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace

Saturday 20 April 2024 19:30

St Eustachius' Parish Church  
5a Plymouth Road  
Tavistock PL19 8AU

Mount Kelly Choral Society & Orchestra  
Conductor: Daniel Robson



Tickets

£14 TicketSource or Bookstop in advance or  
£15 cash on the door. Free for under 18s

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/mount-kelly-choral-society](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/mount-kelly-choral-society)



*Cinderella*  
By Peter Bond

**12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Lewdown Victory Hall**  
**7pm**

**TICKETS: Adults: £8.00**  
**Under 12s: £4.00**

**Online: [Seaty.co.uk/April2024](http://Seaty.co.uk/April2024)**  
**Email: [RSYTheatre@gmail.com](mailto:RSYTheatre@gmail.com)**  
**Tel: 07423 705088**

Tickets on the door, subject to availability  
By arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts



### Lunar cycle for April

New moon 8th  
First quarter 15th  
Full moon 24th  
Last quarter 2nd

Northern Native

Americans call April's full moon the pink moon after a species of early blooming wildflower. In other cultures, this moon is called the sprouting grass moon, the egg moon, and the fish moon.



### Okehampton Recycling Centre

0345 155 1010

### Opening times

### April to September

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am - 6pm



## News from Lydford Gorge

### National Trust

Rose Cooke, Visitor Experience Officer

After a very wet February and a damp March I'm hoping for a little more sunshine in April. I love spring in the gorge, and after the long winter spring is very welcome, with a little sunshine making it even more special. The wildflowers will be putting on a show well into May, always worth a walk to see the gorge at its most colourful. Bluebells are an important source of nectar for woodland butterflies, bees and hoverflies. But did you know, bees can 'steal' the nectar from bluebells by biting a hole in the bottom of the flower, reaching the nectar without the need to pollinate the flower.

April has a reputation for rain showers, but it's actually one of the drier months. We possibly just notice the showers more because of their heavy and fleeting nature. April days often start warm and sunny but then the clouds build and drop a heavy shower before dispersing and the sky is blue again. This pattern occurs when there is a contrast between warm surface air and colder air higher up, and this often happens in April, when the sun warms the earth, but cool air is blowing in from the north.

Listen out for the first cuckoo as we go through April. I usually hear my first one while in the Waterfall car park! Female cuckoos lay eggs that closely match the bird species they are targeting for foster care. This is determined by the genes of the female bird, and different cuckoos will target different species and so lay eggs of different colours and patterns.

The Trampler off-road mobility scooter is available to hire every day (*photo*). The Trampler can be driven to the base of the Whitelady Waterfall and back up again and can also be driven along the railway path to the bird hide and back the same way. It can be used by anyone who struggles with walking, and who can use handlebar steering and hand controls (a short introductory session is given before use). To use the Trampler you'll need to become a member of Countryside Mobility, we can sign you up on the day, and then you also get access to Trampers at 50 other hire locations. This costs £15 per year, £5 for a two week 'taster'

membership, or £3 for a single day hire.



### Easter trail

Running until Sunday 14 April, 10am to 4.30pm, with last entry at 3.30pm

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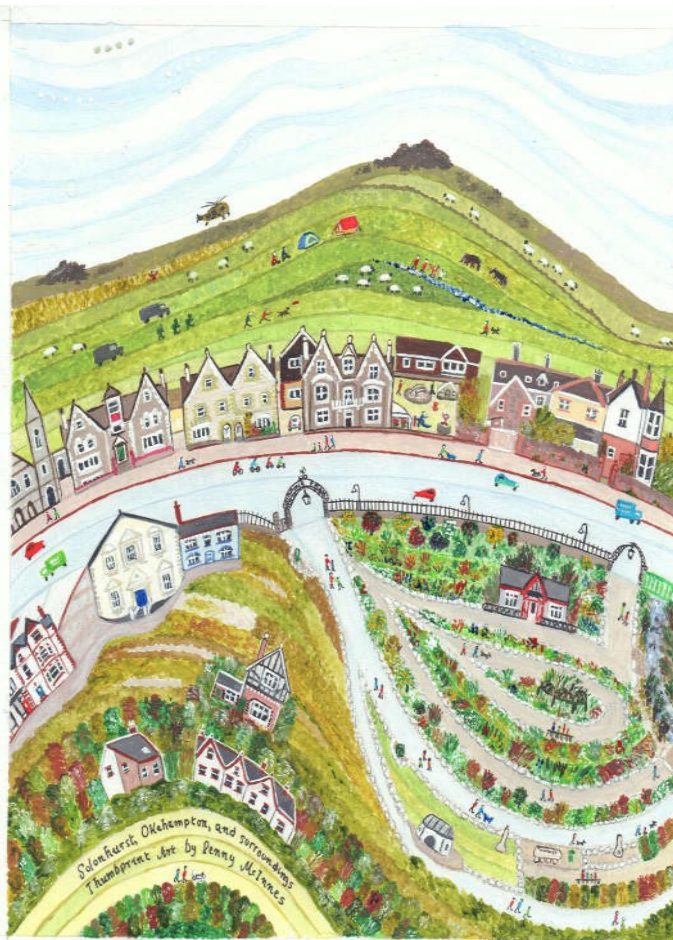


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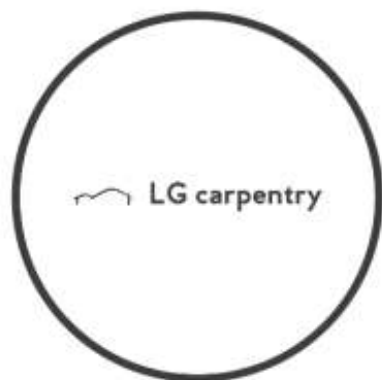
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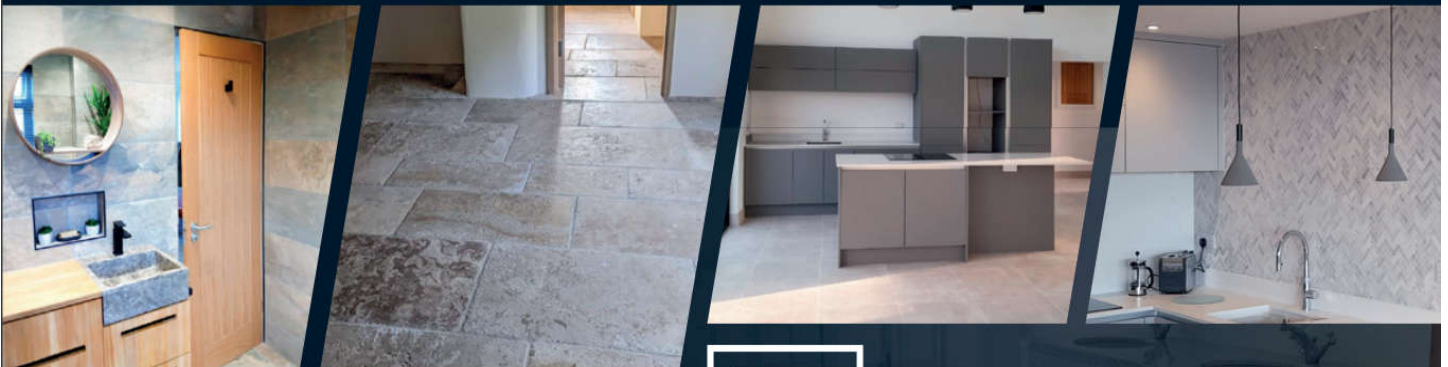
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## Forthcoming Events for April

Monday 1st	1.30 - 5.30pm, Sourton Village Hall, Cream teas
Wednesday 3rd	7pm, Bridestowe Village Hall, Queen Bees' meeting
Thursday 4th	7.30pm, Sanctuary, Reading Group
Sunday 7th	2- 5pm, Andrew's Corner - Open Garden
Tuesday 9th	12.15 for 12.30pm, The Ark, Over 60's lunch
Wednesday 10th	8pm, White Hart, Quiz in aid of Friends of Bridestowe School
Friday 12th	7pm, Lewdown Victory Hall, <i>Cinderella</i>
Saturday 13th	10am - 12noon, The Ark Coffee Morning in aid of Shelterbox 7pm, Lewdown Victory Hall, <i>Cinderella</i>
Monday 15th	8pm, Blue Lion, Lewdown, Open Mic Night
Tuesday 16th	2pm, Fairplace Church, Oke u3a AGM + talk
Thursday 18th	10.00 departure, Thursday Morning Group trip to Bow Garden Centre
Saturday 20th	7.30pm, St Eustachius' Parish Church, choral concert
Sunday 21st	2 - 5pm, Andrew's Corner - Open Garden
Thursday 25th	7.30pm, Belstone Village Hall, Garden Club talk
Saturday 27th	9.30am, cemetery gates, Volunteer Group session 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 in May to create more space but will preserve the essential information.**

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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.