

Bridestowe & Sourton Extra



Community News and Events June 2025 Edition 277



Something in the offing....

Mr and Mrs Rofe of Pittsworthy Farm, Thorndon EX20 4NG will be holding their annual Championship Sheepdog Trial (one man & his dog) on 5th & 6th July. Competitors come from Norway, Sweden, Germany, Wales and England and include the International champion. The trial starts at 7.30am but spectators can come along at any point and **there's no charge**. Full details in next month's BaSE.



Friday 6th June
Sourton Village Hall

7:30pm start

Maximum 6 people per team

£4 per person

§ Bar available §

§ Raffle §

§ Snacks §

All money raised to

Epilepsy Action

Please contact Allana to book a team

07967 962 783

Teams **MUST** be pre-booked

Bridfest 25 page 8

Movie Watch pages 11-12

The Vicar writes...

In the church calendar we have just celebrated Rogation, when we ask for God's blessing on the land. The Bible is optimistic about the earth; it is a gift from God for our use. These days most people are pessimistic about the future; they think the future for humanity and the natural world is getting worse. We have a tendency to raise our threshold for success as we make progress. To quote Harvard psychologist Daniel Gilbert, "When problems become rare, we count more things as problems...when the world gets better, we become harsher critics of it and this can cause us to mistakenly conclude that it actually hasn't got better at all."

If you learn about the world through the BBC and social media, you have probably missed the greatest stories of our time. Here's a few snippets from a recently published book: "Ten Global Trends and many others you will find interesting" Bailey and Tupy.

As late as 1820, nearly 84% of the world's population lived in extreme poverty (roughly on less than £1.90 per person per day) by 2018 that number had fallen to 8.6%.

Humanity has not yet run out of a single supposedly non-renewable resource. Predictions that world oil reserves were about to peak and begin declining have proved wrong. While oil production has increased, global oil reserves have tripled since 1970. World population will likely peak at about 8.9 billion by 2060 and decline to 7.8 billion by the end of the 21st century.

Agricultural productivity has greatly improved so that now famines have all but disappeared outside of war zones. Since 1961, the global average population food supply per person per day rose from 2196 calories to 2962 calories in 2017. (A moderately active adult man requires about 2200-2800 per day). The greatest famine of all time occurred between 1958 and 1962 when the Chinese communists used brute force to nationalize the country's farmland, causing 45 million deaths. Today the world's poorest region enjoys access to food that is roughly equivalent to that of the Portuguese in the 1960's.

In the Roman Empire farmers grew about 540kg wheat per hectare. In the UK in 2018

farmers harvested about 8 tons per Ha. More than 50% of our daily calorific intake comes directly from cereal grain consumption (20% wheat and 21% rice)

To light the night our ancestors burned wood and later vegetable fats and tallow, lamps fuelled by coal gas and kerosene until electric lighting arrived at the end of the 19th century. A candle produces about 0.1 lumens of light whereas a fluorescent bulb produces 68 lumens. Our stone age ancestors would have laboured 58 hours, mostly by gathering wood, to 'buy' 1000 lumens of light. Today 1000 lumens requires 0.0001 hours of human labour – a reduction of close to 100%.

Only 12% of the world's freshwater use is for household use, 69% is used in agriculture and 19% in industry. Water use costs money and therefore it is in the interest of water intensive industries to limit water use. Israel is one of the driest places on earth and yet they export agricultural produce including watermelons. They have developed innovative water treatment systems, which recapture 86% of the water that goes down the drain and reuse it for irrigation. The second most efficient country in the world is Spain which recycles around 19%. Another Israeli innovation is in desalination making fresh water consumed by Israeli households 48% cheaper than that consumed by the people of Los Angeles.

Forests are expanding, the global tree canopy increased by 865,000 square miles between 1982 and 2016. And finally, from Psalm 24 "The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it."

Adrian Brook



The Plant Sale on 24th May was a great success and proved that the revival of this popular annual event was worthwhile. Most of the plants were sold and will now flourish in their new homes. The Plant Sale raised £250 for St Bridget's Church Tower Appeal. A big thank you to everyone who supported us with plants, we had some really generous donations.

A Royal Visit by Howard Barkell

In 1909 it had been had been arranged for the Prince and Princess of Wales to visit Devon and Cornwall in their role as Duke and Duchess of Cornwall. On 8th June they boarded the Royal Coach at Waterloo Station and at 10.45 left on the journey to the West Country. The train was a normal London and South Western Railway express to Plymouth, but the Royal Couple were not going to travel quite that far.

At 2.45 p.m. the sage green locomotive pulled up on the down platform at Bridestowe Station near milepost 204. It wasn't a T9 'Greyhound' as might have been expected, but number 174, another Dugald Drummond design, a 4-4-0 L11 built at Nine Elms in 1906. It survived right through the Southern Railway period before being scrapped in 1951 when in British Railways ownership.

After a bit of manoeuvring it shunted its train back onto the up line and stopped so that the Royal Coach was opposite the station buildings. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon and the station had been decorated with red, white and blue bunting and shields showing the Prince of Wales feathers. The approach to the station was draped with flags and festoons. Red carpet had been laid on the platform as far as the station entrance. Awaiting the royal train crowds of local people were supervised by a large police presence, but were kept off the station premises. The station entrance was lined by boys of the Kelly College Cadet Corps. After alighting from the carriage the Duke and Duchess, as they were known during the Duchy Tour, were welcomed by Earl Fortesque, the Lord Lieutenant of Devon and were introduced to Mr. Barrington, the Duchy Steward at Princetown. Also on the platform were other members of the royal party and the Calmady-Hamlyn family from Leawood. Two royal cars were waiting to take them on the next stage of their journey, both bearing the Prince of Wales crest. The back-up was a Daimler with a chauffeur and mechanic. Princess Mary, followed by Prince George, stepped into a new car recently delivered from the factory, a Sheffield Simplex.

They proceeded down the road towards Bridestowe where the village was decorated, the church bells were ringing and the crowd was waiting expectantly. On the granite-built

arch of West Bridge the pupils of Bridestowe School were wearing their Sunday best, the girls wearing red, white and blue sashes and the boys waving flags. When the cars stopped at the sharp left turn onto the A30 the children started singing God Bless the Prince of Wales, under the stern eye of the headmaster, Tom Sly.

As the cars headed towards their first stop at Launceston, to be followed by further engagements at Bodmin and Newquay before the day was over, the villagers made their way to the Sporting Green where a splendid tea had been prepared followed by sports. This despite the fact that several of them had already Beast the Bounds earlier in the morning.

So ended the brief Royal Visit, believed to be the first since Charles I was supposed to have passed through the village.

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Saturday & Sunday 10am - 6.00pm

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BACON BUTTY, CAKE AND COFFEE
MORNING**

Last Saturday of each month

10am - 12.30pm

Well behaved dogs welcome

Card payments accepted

Bridestowe Parish Council

Bridestowe Parish Council met on Monday 19th May. Chris Proctor was elected Chair of the parish council with Alison Young as Vice Chair.

Amongst subjects discussed was the need to have the trees that border the Sporting Green assessed by an arborist. Concern was expressed by parishioners living in Tanyard Court that the trees are now too tall and pose a danger to buildings and play equipment.

The next full council meeting will be Wednesday 16th July.

Clerk's contact details:

Kayleigh Walker

Little Kellacott Farm, St Giles on the Heath,
Launceston PL15 9SW

Tel: **07854 275 955**

Email: clerk@bridestowe.org.uk

ACE Archaeology Club

Spring has certainly sprung but by the time you read this it will probably be pouring with rain, or we will have a drought. The upside of droughts for archaeologists is that it can show up buried sites, through parch marks/ roughly speaking, if there are buried walls they show up as drier lines but if there are ditches, they stay greener. The trouble is that you do really need a 'plane to see the full effect, or now a days, a drone! ACE's finances don't run to either of these things. So, we continue to dig. We very much hope that we can continue our dig at Moistown this year, but actual dates will have to be flexible, if you are interested keep an eye on our website or Facebook page.



We have reinvigorated our routes project with a meeting in May (*photo*) and details of this can also be found on the website. It was a positive meeting, and



we were joined by Terry Green from North Devon Archaeology Society who knows a lot about Devon place names and transhumance, the movement of animals to and from pasture, seasonally. We also had cake which always helps.

The cake is the representation of a green lane with sheep being driven! We like the idea of cake matching the themes of our ACE days!



Talking of ACE days, we have planned the following –

August - Moistown dig 2nd to 17th.

13th September - we are hoping to arrange a visit to Uppacott long house on Dartmoor.

11th October - to be decided.

8th November – ACE AGM. A planning day with talks.

13th December – Looking at and working with some of the finds from Moistown.

ACE dates are always subject to change so do check the website and Facebook page for updates.

Erica Williamson

acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com

Bridestowe Village Hall

Chairperson's Report

The past twelve months have been another busy and successful period for the Village Hall. The Village Hall Trustees and Committee members continue to meet monthly to discuss the smooth running of the Hall and discuss the programme of improvements and maintenance to keep things in as good an order as possible as funds and time allow.

Firstly I would like to thank all the Trustees for their ongoing commitment to keeping the Hall running effectively.

The current team has continued to commit time and energy to run this important community facility. Much of the work and time commitment provides a very meaningful contribution to Community life in the village and I am sure that everyone (particularly former Trustees and Committee members) appreciate the support that they continue to give on a completely voluntary basis.

I would also like to thank Committee members and volunteers who help to keep the Hall going and in particular Terry Pritchard for continuing to be chief cook at bacon baps and Ali Young for making sure the Hall is ready and supplies are in as well as overseeing the session. Thank you too to Debbie Pritchard and the other volunteers who support this event.

Another big thank you goes to the regular Hirer's of the Hall whose continued support has ensured that we can continue to keep things going and provide the all-important income stream. In addition the Hall has had a record number of wedding parties in 2024 and going into 2025 which makes a huge difference to cash flow which helps to keep the Hall in good order and also means we have been able to hold our hire charges unchanged for the third year running.

In 2024 some of the money raised was used towards the kitchen refurbishment and a very useful glass washer was added to the bar in the Margaret Moore Suite. The bar area was further enhanced by the bar itself being stripped down and revarnished. Some new windows were also fitted at Treetops. Also the heating system needed a complete overhaul and this alone cost c £3,000

In the last twelve months a defibrillator has been fitted on the outside wall between the entrance to the Main Hall and the Treetops entrance. This was funded by a very generous

anonymous donation plus additional monies from both the Village Hall and Treetops.

The fire alarm panel has been replaced, at a cost of c £500 and is now working smoothly.

The sewerage system has had a complete overhaul – sadly wet wipes being flushed down the toilets had caused the mechanics to jam so the whole system had to be lifted, away for cleaning and refitted. This cost an additional c £500

The stage curtains were finally altered – these had been a bit of an eyesore for a number of years – and now look very smart indeed – this drew many compliments from hirers and other users – and has certainly enhanced the overall ambiance of the main hall.

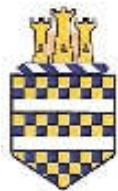
The Hall Floor is still in need of a complete overhaul at some point but given the cost (c £30,000) it has been decided to keep the old floor going for as long as possible. The cost of this has to be borne in mind but it was agreed at the last meeting to replace the flooring in the entrance lobby and the Margaret Moore Suite at a cost of some £5,000 and this work will now go ahead.

The Hall was also revalued for insurance purposes and unsurprisingly it was found that the insurance was inadequate in these days of rising prices. A valuer from the insurance company came to the Hall and estimated what a rebuild would cost and this has resulted in an increase in the annual premium but it was agreed it was essential to have proper insurance in place.

It was decided that owing to dwindling numbers the 59 Lottery Club (a monthly lottery to help raise funds for the Hall) would be disbanded at the renewal date of April 2025. We would like to thank everyone who supported this initiative over the years.

Most of the existing Trustees have now been supporting the Hall for over seven years so we would really love to welcome some new members. Any contribution, no matter how small would be welcome as there are often odd jobs or simple tasks that need to be done so do please consider being either a volunteer or a Trustee. If you are interested why not come along to one of our meetings – we would be delighted to have you join our team.

Esther C Winter
Chairperson



Okehampton u3a

Established in November 2001

Tuesday 17 June

2.30pm at Fairplace Church

Our speaker this month is Ashley Jones MBE
Douglas Bader - Reach for the Sky & Beyond

This talk focuses on the life of perhaps the most famous and enigmatic fighter ace in the history of



the Royal Air Force. Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader became an icon for the nation during World War Two as one of the highest scoring fighter pilots during the Battle of Britain after losing both his legs in a life-shattering air accident years before. Bader became synonymous with overcoming adversity and taking the fight to the enemy in the sky. But he was much more complex than his public profile suggests with an abrasive personality which made enemies as easily as friends.

Admission - £1.00 to help towards the cost of the speaker, hiring the venue and refreshments.

For further information please contact Dee McVey 01837 658590

Brentor Playing Field

IN AID OF VILLAGE FUNDS



Car Boot Sales 2025

29th June

27th July

31st August

28th September

Brentor Playing Field

Burn Lane, Brentor PL19 0ND

Sellers: Cars £5 Vans £10 Buyers Free!

Early Bird Buyers £2.00

Sellers to arrive From 8.30am Buyers from 10am

Dogs on leads very welcome

Contact Details

07706 972906

or email: belarusness@hotmail.co.uk

Loo on site and Refreshments will be available

Flower of the month...Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus minor* An annual about 30-50cm tall with simple or branched stems bearing narrowly lance-shaped, nettle-like dark green leaves and tubular, 2-lipped yellow flowers. It flowers May to September.

When the flowers of yellow-rattle fade, the brown calyxes (containing the sepals) in which the tiny seeds ripen can be seen and heard - they give a distinctive 'rattle', hence the common name.

Yellow-rattle thrives in grasslands, living a semi-parasitic life by feeding off the nutrients in the roots of nearby grasses. For this reason, it was once seen as an indicator of poor grassland by farmers, but is now often used to turn improved grassland back to meadow; by feeding off the vigorous grasses, it eventually allows more delicate, traditional species to push their way through. Yellow-rattle is the foodplant for the larvae of two rare moths, including the grass rivulet.





St Thomas à Becket Church

Easter

Our services on Good Friday and Easter Day and the Easter fire by the labyrinth on the Saturday, were well attended, despite the early time of 8 a.m. on the Sunday. The church was beautifully decorated. Thanks to all the people who helped or donated flowers. We have had a lot of visitors to the church too.

CREAM TEAS

The cream tea in memory of Rose Dashper was a wonderful occasion when all Rose's family and friends including her church friends worked together to raise an amazing amount for Marie Curie.

We are hoping for good weather on the 26th May when we do our next tea in aid of the church.

After that there will be a break till August 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th

The Shed in the churchyard

Mark Spry has now finished repairing the shed with a very nice door which he has made and fitted. We are extremely grateful to him for his skill and time.

Sunday Services for June

June 1st Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.

June 8th Service at Bridestowe

June 15th Service at Bridestowe

June 22nd Morning Prayer at 9.30 a.m.

June 29th Team Service to be arranged

Jenny Batten

Sourton lottery results

March

1st Lainey Bayley-Skinner

2nd Josh Drury

3rd James Ewen

April

1st Joanna Pardon

2nd Sally Gibson

3rd Alison Young

May

1st David Dashper

2nd Tracey Seymour

3rd Dan Foggerty



Thank you so much to everyone that baked, made sandwiches, waited tables, washed up, made posters or gave their time to help out at the Marie Curie Cream teas in memory of Mum. We raised a fantastic £1600 to support the end of life care for loved ones. Thank you to our wonderful community that supported the event and ate literally everything! Apologies if you didn't get to savour the delicious food. I just didn't expect so many people to come. It was so lovely to see you all and Mum would have been over the moon! Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Alison Ewen

What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfilment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade.

Gertrude Jekyll

1843 -1932

Gertrude Jekyll was a British horticulturist, garden designer, craftswoman, photographer, writer and artist. She created over 400 gardens in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States, and wrote over 1000 articles for magazines such as Country Life and William Robinson's The Garden.



This year's event is even bigger than last year. You don't need to worry about the weather because of the fantastic support last year, we were able to invest in another large marquee for the event. So, rain or shine the show will go on!!

This year's event has a circus theme and prizes will be given for the best fancy dress. So come dressed to impress!!

Emazdad returns to mesmerise the young and old with his magic tricks.

We also have a stilt walker and a circus act from **Queenie and the Jester** who will be demonstrating their skills.

The incredibly popular hog roast will be returning again this year, bigger and better along with the evening BBQ and a vegetarian special.

The tea, coffee and cake tent will be making a pleasant return with proceeds going towards a charity of the ladies' choice.

The music this year is on another level. We have headlining **The Dockney's**, who have a very large following throughout Devon. This fantastic covers band will definitely end the evening with a bang!!!

We also have in the afternoon **Longshore Drift** an energetic, upbeat duo. A contemporary acoustic folk band blending traditional and modern-day themes.

Also **Dave Thomas** a fantastic solo performer playing eclectic music from the last 30 years with an unique style that will prepare you for partying all night long.

Hatherleigh Silver Band will also be performing their rousing tunes to start the event off.

The bar will be back but joining it this year will be a Gin Cocktail and Prosecco Bar.

The games will be on throughout the day and the popular game stalls will make a fantastic return.

We are on the lookout for stall holders.

Please email the address below if you're interested.

We are always looking out for volunteers for the event. If you would like to help erect the marquees, run a games stall or sell popcorn please contact us at the email below:-
Bridfest@yahoo.com

It all starts at 12.30pm on 2nd August. Please come along and enjoy the fun!!

Free entry once again!!!



Friends of St Bridget's Church Photo Competition

Where in Bridestowe 2025?

Identify **where** the photos have been taken in Bridestowe for a chance to win one of our great prizes!

**Competition sheets will be available at Riverside Stores from
Wed 11th June to Wed 30th July - £2.50**

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO ST BRIDGET'S CHURCH TOWER APPEAL

South Zeal and South Tawton Open Gardens

There are approximately 14 gardens open to visit on **Sunday 8th June**, 10.00am to 5.00pm

We have wonderful gardens open this year in our charming village with Dartmoor



views.

A full day out with ploughman's served in the village hall plus our very popular homemade puddings.

Garden teas also available throughout the day. *Two Choirs* to entertain visitors as well as a 0-Gauge model railway to delight young and old.

No dogs please other than assistance dogs. All proceeds go to the Victory Hall.

Plant sales

There will be a plant sale, tool sale and gardening books to browse through.

Cost £5.00 adults, accompanied children free. Cash only please.

Tickets will be available on the day from the Victory Hall opposite the green.

Directions / Parking

South Zeal is approximately 4 miles East of Okehampton.

Parking behind the Kings Arms Pub.

Toilets are available at this event.

To contact the organisers

Phone: number not supplied

Email: opengardens.sz@gmail.com

Web:

<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Zeal-Open-Gardens-100092541582542/>

Sourton Parish Council
www.sourtonpc.org.uk
parishclerk@sourtonpc.org.uk
07792958675

As the parish council enters a new financial year, we would like to encourage further public engagement. We would like to see more residents on the PC to enable the three WDBC Cllrs to step down.

Many rumours have been spread about why the previous council resigned and this has been discussed before. We would like to move past this and see a new council thrive and represent the views of residents. We would like to hope this is a sentiment supported by the previous council.

Training is available for new and current councillors and the council will pay for the cost of the courses. If you would like more information about being a councillor – come along to a council meeting or speak to an existing councillor or the clerk.

There are currently 2 vacancies on the PC and details can be found on the website or via the clerk on parishclerk@sourtonpc.org.uk

Sourton Parish Council will be undertaking routine inspection of memorials in its cemetery adjacent to All Saints Church in August 2025.

Sourton Parish Council is obliged to undertake this work to ensure that its Churchyard is a safe place for the public to visit.

Grants: The parish council has £325 budgeted for grants for local groups and organisations. These will be considered by the council at the September meeting. The application form and grants policy can be found on the council website *Grants - Sourton PC* or contact the Clerk for more information.

Bridfest's tombola is a popular attraction and will be run by the usual suspects who now are appealing for prizes. If you could set aside a tin, a bottle, a packet, in fact anything to which you could attach a ticket, we'd be grateful. These can be left with Ann at 11 Crandford Close or dropped off at Glebe Park from 1st July. Many thanks. Ann and Ali.



A Charity Cushion* Concert

Saturday 14th June at 7.30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay

by the augmented church choir - Director Roger Cleverdon

&

the Two Rivers Orchestra - Conductor Richard Edwards

Programme to include music by Morley, Purcell, Bach, Handel
(organ Concerto No 13 in F), S.S. Wesley, Bairstow and Bullock

Proceeds to be divided between

Force Cancer Charity

&

The Children's Hospice South West

Admission on the door (to include an Interval glass of wine)

£15 (students in full-time education £7.50)

**the church chairs are wooden - feel free to bring your own cushion!*



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Movie Watch - May 2025

Despite limited expectations, May became a good month for cinema visits.

It began in rewarding fashion when nothing more than a random spare evening led us to **The Amateur**, which sounded interesting but about which we knew nothing. Released in April, this turned out to be a terrific action thriller starring Rami Malek, last spotted sporting an uncomfortable-looking mouthful of prosthetic teeth for his compelling portrayal of Freddie Mercury in the Queen biopic, *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

On this occasion Malek plays Charlie Heller, a nerdish but brilliant CIA cryptographer whose wife Sarah leaves home on a business trip to London, only to be killed in a terrorist attack that goes horribly wrong.

A distraught Charlie is hopelessly ill-equipped to undertake such a mission but with no help forthcoming from the authorities, takes matters into his own hands as he seeks revenge for the senseless loss of his wife.

What follows is a convoluted but extremely watchable chase as Charlie, revealing hitherto unconsidered skills and depth of character, eventually tracks down Sarah's killers.

Malik, who also produced the film, gives an excellent performance in what we both found a thoroughly entertaining film. You've probably missed **The Amateur** at the cinema but it would be worth keeping an eye on the various movie channels. Recommended.

Towards the end of the month we joined a packed cinema to catch up with the long-awaited film adaptation of Raynor Winn's best-selling biographical drama, **The Salt Path**. The story will already be familiar to many, with the book having sold in excess of two million copies. It tells how married couple Raynor and Moth Winn, played by Gillian Anderson and Jason Isaacs, faced up to a series of overwhelming personal issues, including the loss of their home and a desperate medical prognosis delivered to Moth.

With no property or possessions of their own,

the couple choose to walk the South West Coast Path, leaving from Minehead before heading, without any certainty, towards Land's End and potentially beyond. Moth, hobbling painfully, is in no fit state to walk to the Post Office, let alone embark on what could develop into an epic 630-mile trek, but they set off and make agonisingly slow progress over demanding terrain.

The film was shot, mostly on and around the Coast Path, although apparently some Welsh venues were also used. I sat there, vainly trying to identify a series of stunning coastal locations but, apart from instantly recognisable glimpses of Lynton, Clovelly and, much later, Padstow, generally struggled. Hopefully you'll have more success.

The Salt Path is beautifully shot, superbly acted (both Anderson and Isaacs are excellent) and, despite some brutal weather, will do no harm to Cornish tourism, but ultimately we both found it slightly disappointing. I suspect the impact would be greater had we not read the book prior to seeing the film, but there were no surprises and the film faithfully followed incidents and characters outlined in the book.

Mostly it hangs together well, although a few issues jarred. These included an entirely unnecessary interlude in which Moth is mistaken for the Poet Laureate who happens to be touring Cornwall at the same time. More troublingly, we found the fact that both children effectively ignored their penniless parents, leaving them to their own devices, struggling desperately to survive.

I'm also unsure that the medical profession would endorse Moth's decision to cast aside his prescribed medication and instead rely purely on the benefits of walking and a minimal, deeply unhealthy, diet. But hey, it worked for Moth and he's still around, extolling the virtues and confounding the experts.

We saw an advance screening but **The Salt Path** arrived at The New Carlton on 30th May and should stay for a few weeks. You really should see the film and decide for yourselves. Early reviews are

overwhelmingly positive.

The next big title headed our way will be **Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning** in which Tom Cruise, not unlike Moth, continues to ignore medical advice and defy the aging process. This is the eighth film in the franchise with the title suggesting it will be the last. But then again the previous iteration was **Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One** so who knows? By the way, Tom Cruise is 62.

There doesn't appear to be much of interest on the New Carlton's Coming Soon page until July, when we can expect **Jurassic World Rebirth** (the mixture as before, with Scarlett Johansson and Co), followed by the latest version of Superman, should you be that way inclined.

There were two major TV events during May with both taking place on the same day. **The Eurovision Song Contest** (BBC1) attracted an average audience of 6.7 million viewers, around 20% below the 2024 equivalent. Unfortunately the UK's entrant, Remember Monday, failed to trouble the judges to any great extent.

The peak TV audience to what became a thoroughly entertaining **FA Cup Final**, between Manchester City and Crystal Palace (BBC1 and ITV1), was around 6 million, but a combination of an afternoon kick-off and glorious weather will have suppressed the number of viewers.

We also spotted a few TV shows you may be interested in checking out. Or possibly not.

Phoebe Waller-Bridge was reported in 2019 to have been paid around \$20m a year by Amazon Prime in a 'Golden Handcuffs' writing deal, as they sought a follow-up to the outstanding Fleabag. Six years later she delivered their first dividend in the form of Octopus, a two-part documentary. It would be safe to say this was not what the people at Prime will have been anticipating.

The Anniversary (BBC1) is a mystery drama set on an island off the coast of Australia that looks worth watching.

The Four Seasons (Netflix) looks at what happens to three middle-aged couples and

long-standing friends, when one couple divorce.

Unforgotten: The Bradford City Fire (BBC2) is a well-made documentary telling the awful story, 40 years on, of the dreadful fire that claimed 56 lives.

The Assembly (ITV) features a neurodivergent panel interviewing a series of famous personalities, with no topics off-limit. Early subjects included Danny Dyer, Gary Lineker and David Tennant. Sounds unlikely but very highly recommended.

Oh and that's the last time Lineker will be mentioned on these pages!

DAVID HARRISON
May 2025

BRIDESTOWE THURSDAY MORNING GROUP will this month be going to Alder Vineyard for coffee and snacks, That will be on **Thursday, June 19th**, leaving the village at about 10.15.

Please let me know if you can come and if you need, or can offer, a lift. New members always welcome. Contact person; Ann Allan on 861551 or annallan1948@gmail.com

Seth's Grass Cutting Services

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

Own mower and tools used.

Can take cutting away for small additional fee.

Competitive rates - please contact for a free quotation visit.

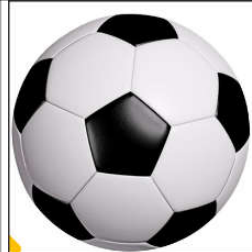
01837 861114



LYDFORD FOXES AFC Football Club are looking for new players!!



LYDFORD FOXES F.C.



Would you, or someone you know like to play first team regular football every Saturday? If the answer is "yes", then come and join us!! We are currently looking for players in school years 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8* (as of 1st September 2025).

Come and be a huge part of our small, friendly local football club. We focus on football development and learning skills to improve both as an individual and as a team, all whilst having fun and enjoying the beautiful game. There is far too much pressure put on youngsters these days, so we try and offer something different as a club whilst still being competitive. Our aim is to focus on enjoyment, self confidence, fun whilst learning skills and inclusion of not just our players, but their families too!

We are a small club based in Lydford, only 15 minutes from Okehampton with many players from rural surrounding villages. We train on a 3G pitch at Ashbury on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings with the Devon Junior & Minor League, with our matches being in places like Tavistock, Callington, Plymouth and Launceston. Our home matches take place at our own ground in Lydford.

Please contact us if you would like more information or to come for a trial, as we are looking for new players to add depth to our current squads:
play@lydfordfoxes.com or contact Jade on 07854 206 400 or Jo on 07492 233 838. We look forward to welcoming you to Lydford Foxes!

Two dates for July...

Lydford Summer Fair

5th July 11am-4pm
Evening Entertainment from 7pm

Hot Air Balloons
Viking re-enactment
Birds of Prey
Live Music - 'The Jazz Pirates'
Emergency Services Display
Dog Show
Stalls
Bar, Barbeque
Cream Teas, Cakes
Games and Raffle prizes
Live Evening music - Smokin' Pilchards (7pm - 9.30pm)
Pasties and Bar open all Evening

£2.50 per adult children under 16 free

Pub Walk

SATURDAY 12th JULY 2025 EVENT BEGINS AT 2pm
Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult

Your Route
Register at Bridestowe Village Hall
White Hart
Cross Roads
pop up tent with pints and pasties
Avenue of trees - cycle path
Pop up bar, ice creams and disabled portaloos
Lydford School
pop up with drinks and sweet treats
The Castle Inn
Lydford Sporting Green
All profits to Treetops Preschool, Lydford and Bridestowe Primary Schools

**£5 per adult
£3 per child
Under 5 free**
Pushchair and dog friendly

Cash and card payments

Evening party in the park
Can't make the walk?
Free for registered stamped pub walkers
Come and join us for our after party Disco followed by our special guests.
The Wreckords
£6 per adult
£4 under 18s
Under 5 free

THE WRECKORDS

treetops

Bacon Baps will be served on **Saturday 28th June, 10am - 12 noon in Bridestowe Village Hall.**



Mike Bidmead, our 'Plant Man', will be there and Jill with honey for sale. There will be the usual selection of secondhand books to browse through and donated books are always welcome.

May's session was buzzing. As we were running in tandem with the Plant Sale, the whole building was in use. We certainly had more customers than usual and the extra helpers were really appreciated. £180 was raised for hall funds. A big thank you to the team that helped run the show and to those that came along to support it..

A. Young

BRIDESTOWE READING GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 5th June** at 7.30pm, at Len and Sheila's, 15, Trescote Way. We will be discussing Dennis Lehane's *Small Mercies*



About the book..

In the summer of 1974 a heatwave blankets Boston and Mary Pat Fennessey is trying to stay one step ahead of the bill collectors. Mary Pat has lived her entire life in the housing projects of 'Southie', the Irish American enclave that stubbornly adheres to old tradition and stands proudly apart.

One night Mary Pat's teenage daughter Jules stays out late and doesn't come home. That same evening, a young Black man is found dead, struck by a subway train under mysterious circumstances.

The two events seem unconnected. But Mary Pat, propelled by a desperate search for her missing daughter, begins turning over stones

left untouched - asking questions that bother Marty Butler, chieftain of the Irish mob, and the men who work for him, men who don't take kindly to any threat to their business.

Set against the hot, tumultuous months when the city's desegregation of its public schools exploded in violence, *Small Mercies* is a superb thriller, a brutal depiction of criminality and power, and an unflinching portrait of the dark heart of American racism.

About the author

Dennis Lehane grew up in Boston. Since his first novel, *A Drink Before the War*, won the Shamus Award, he has published thirteen more novels that have been translated into more than 30 languages and become international bestsellers: *Darkness*, *Take My Hand*; *Sacred*; *Gone, Baby, Gone*; *Prayers for Rain*; *Mystic River*; *Shutter Island*; *The Given Day*; *Moonlight Mile*; *Live by Night*; *World Gone By*; *Since We Fell*, and *Small Mercies*.

Four of his novels – *Live by Night*, *Mystic River*, *Gone, Baby, Gone*, and *Shutter Island* – have been adapted into films. A fifth, *The Drop*, was adapted by Lehane himself into a film starring Tom Hardy, Noomi Rapace, and James Gandolfini in his final role. Lehane was a staff writer on the acclaimed HBO series, *The Wire*, and also worked as a writer-producer on HBO's *Boardwalk Empire* and the Netflix series, *Bloodline*. He was a writer-producer on the television adaptations of three Stephen King novels—*Mr. Mercedes* and *End of Watch* for DirecTV and *The Outsider* for HBO. He wrote and produced the acclaimed limited series *Black Bird* for Apple TV+ and is currently developing his next series for Apple.

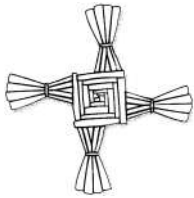
Lehane and his family live in California.

New members always welcome.

01566 783529

email: neil@neiledgson.com

Bridestowe Churches Partnership



Sunday Worship for June 2025

Sunday 1st

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 8th

9.30 am Morning Prayer at St Bridget's
11.00am Bridestowe Worship Group

Sunday 15th

9.30am United service at St Bridget's

Sunday 22nd

9.30am Family Service at St Bridget's. Songs and a bible story.
11.00am Morning Service at the Methodist Chapel with Barbara Dalton.

Sunday 29th

11.00am Circuit Service at Fairplace
6.00pm Evensong at Sourton

'God comes to us in quiet and simple ways. He is there when the breeze rustles the leaves on a quiet, lazy, sunny afternoon. When the raindrops softly patter on the thirsty ground, he is there. Look for him behind the laughing eyes of a child. Hold his hand when you take your love by the hand. feel the warmth of his tears as you console a grieving friend. He is there in a baby's first cry and in the dying's last sigh. When the waves break on the golden sands and the seagulls fly into the white clouds. God comes to us only in quiet and simple ways. Never his presence in violence will you find; never look for him in words of anger or cowardly actions. His love and his peace surround us, above and beyond. And only in those simple, everyday things when we look with our eyes filled with his love can we find him.'
Yasemin Raymondo *"He Is There"*



The Ark

The Coffee Morning raised £190 for our 'Open the Bible Project'. Many thanks to all who supported this.

The Coffee Morning for June will be held on **Saturday 14th**.

The charity this month is Children's Hospice South West which is celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Most hospices need extra funds to pay extra costs, including NI for staff.

As usual we will have Coffee/Teas/ Biscuits and a cake stall. Do come along.

Opening times

Tuesdays 10 - 12 with coffee, cake and a friendly chat, and 2 - 4, when you can play whist. Thursday 10 - 12. Laugh and Craft or just pop in for a chat.

Jennifer Thorne is handling bookings.

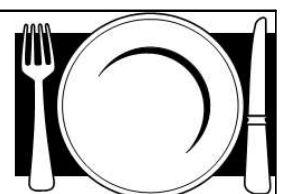
Phone **01837 861592**

Email: j.thorne2013@btinternet.com

The Over 60's Lunch Club will be held on **Tuesday 10th June**.

Gather at 12.15 for lunch at 12.30pm.

Please let Jennifer know if you cannot come. 861592. Thank you.





HERITAGE EXHIBITION



Dissenting voices is a touring exhibition celebrating the diverse history and life of the Methodist church in WESTDEVON.

Come and be immersed in the story, explored through writing, art and song, surrounded by artefacts and photographs celebrating Methodist life.

Open from 10am followed by a concert at 4pm with JIM CAUSLEY & friends refreshments available throughout.

June 28th **Bridestowe**
July 26th **Winkleigh**
August 30th **Northlew**

Thank you

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to you all for your incredible kindness and generosity in raising money at the recent coffee morning in The Ark. Your support has made it possible for us to purchase a specially adapted trike for our grandson Kye.

As many of you may know, Kye was left with physical disabilities and a brain injury following a motorcycle accident. This trike will not only help him regain strength and mobility, but it will also bring him immense joy and a renewed sense of independence. We are truly touched by the compassion and care shown by our community.

With many thanks,
Julie, Gary and Kye



**Youth Softball
 Cricket - Pay &
 Play
 Friday 9th May -
 Friday 27th
 June, 6 - 7pm
 £2 per session**



At Millaton Cricket Ground, Bridestowe ALL WELCOME - 5yrs+ (under 8's to be accompanied by an adult)
 No experience necessary, no need to book, just come along and have fun! Bar and Tuck Shop available - cash and card accepted.

Dates for your July diary...

Friends of Bridestowe School and Bridestowe & Belstone Cricket Club invite you to FAMILY ROUNDEES on **Friday 4th July** - at 6pm at Bridestowe Cricket Ground BBQ, bar & rounders fun
 Free entry, everybody welcome

Lunar cycle for June

New moon 25th
First quarter 3rd
Full moon 11th
Last quarter 18th



21 June – The summer solstice

The Northern Hemisphere will mark the summer solstice on 21 June, the 'longest day of the year', when there will be around 16.5 hours of daylight.

The exact moment of the solstice is at 3.42 am BST, which is the point at which the Northern Hemisphere is tilted farthest towards the Sun. From here on out the days will get progressively shorter until the winter solstice on 21 December.

22 June – 350 years since King Charles II founded the Royal Observatory

In June 1675, King Charles II founded the Royal Observatory Greenwich.

John Flamsteed's task as the first Astronomer Royal was to observe and record the positions of the stars in order to "find out the so-much-desired longitude of places".

This search for a way to measure longitude – a person's position east or west - led to the world's first Prime Meridian, laying the foundations for Greenwich Mean Time and the global time system we still use today.

RHS Garden Rosemoor EX38 8PH *Festival of Roses*

14th June - 13th July, 10am - 5pm

Revel in the scent and sight of thousands of rose buds and blooms, immersing yourself in the fragrance and spectacle of thousands of roses in bud and in bloom in two dedicated gardens at RHS Garden Rosemoor.

Brought to their peak by the ideal conditions in North Devon, there is no better place to admire the breadth of colour, shape and habitat of these national favourites in early summer. Boasting one of the UK's largest collections of roses, Rosemoor is home to more than 200 different varieties and over 2,000 specimens, ranging from traditional cottage garden climbers to modern varieties, all planted in different settings and combinations in the heart of the garden.

Join one of the weekly tours scheduled for every Tuesday at 12pm throughout the festival to learn more about these beautiful blooms. You can also speak to the friendly RHS Advisory team every Thursday to get expert advice on how to care for your own roses at home. Whether you are gardener or not, it's a sensory experience that is not to be missed! Join us on our Rose Weekend 20–22 June where you can also enjoy family entertainment and an artisan craft and food fair.

www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/rosemoor

Father's Day Weekend

at Bearslake Inn

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th June



Saturday Afternoon Tea from 2pm &

LIVE MUSIC in the Garden with Dave Rich from 4pm

Sunday Lunch FREE pint of Otter Brewery Beer for all Dads

Boasley Chapel Happenings in June

Sunday June 1st Service at 11am with
Jerry Cook

Sunday June 1st Cream Tea 2.30 - 4.30pm

Sunday June 15th Service with

Rev Chris Jackson at 11am

Thursday June 19th Soup and Sweet 12-2pm

Come and chat and make friends....or meet old

ones ...everyone welcome...always a great choice of soup and puddings...no charge but a donation is appreciated.

Our Saleroom of interesting items, books, china, pews(!), gardening and DIY things, etc will be open too!

Any queries ring 07841836018



"I guess we'll never know why they beach themselves"

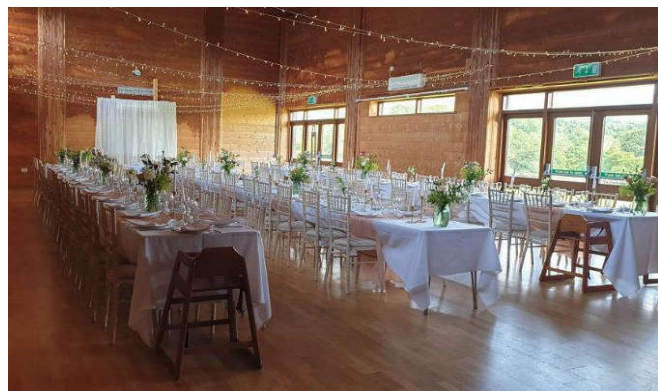
Bridestowe Village Hall Pool Hill, Bridestowe, EX20 4EW

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).

Visit the website www.bridestowe.org.uk/village-hall to see prices and view the calendar for availability Please contact the Bookings Clerk for more information

Esther Winter Mob: 07946 992200



Libraries Unlimited Okehampton

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 hot drinks available.

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!

EVENTS - June

Storytime & Craft:

Wednesday 4 June, 10:00-10:30

This month's theme is Butterflies - come along to listen to some stories all about butterflies and make your very own butterfly to take home! Suitable for all ages.

Suggested donation 50p per child, drop-in.

NHS App Support Session:

Thursday 12 June, 10:30-15:00

Need help with the NHS App? Support is on offer at this drop-in session. Get set up and learn how the NHS App can help you! Bring your own devices and photo ID if you can.

Police Community drop in:

Thursday 12 June, 15:30-16:30

Police Community Support Officer, Sean Jones will be here if you would like to come in and chat. He said: "It will be a good chance for us to engage with the community and answer any questions or concerns people have, as well as passing on advice if they would like it. I will also bring along some finger printing kits for any children to take part in."

Devon Carers Awareness Stand:

Saturday 14 June, 9:00-13:00

Do you look after someone? Do they have an illness, disability, frailty, mental health problem or drug/alcohol addiction? Would they struggle to cope without your support? If yes - you are an unpaid carer! Find out more about caring. Devon Carers will be here to offer support and information. Free drop-in.

Stay Protected & Safer Online:

Friday 20 June, 10:00-14:00

A member of Devon & Cornwall Police's Cyber Protect Team will be available to assist with any concerns you have about online safety and security. You will be advised to take relatively simple non-technical actions that, if followed, will reduce the chances of your email and social media accounts being 'hacked' and your devices being compromised. This is a free service, no appointment necessary, although please be prepared to wait a short while if others are being advised.

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Music by **Alan Menken** Lyrics by **Howard Ashman & Tim Rice** Book by **Linda Wolverton**

TAVISTOCK TOWN HALL
19TH JUNE - 21ST JUNE 2025

Adult: **£15.00**
Concession: **£12.50**
Family: **£50.00**
(2 Adult, 2 Conc.)

Thu Evening: **7.30pm**
Fri Evening: **7.30pm**
Sat Matinee: **2.00pm**
Sat Evening: **7.00pm**

Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth
Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

THEATRE TRAIN DANCE ACT SING www.ticketsource.co.uk/exetertt

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

Volunteer Reading Coaches required - Okehampton area

Read easy is a charity that provides free 1-1 confidential coaching sessions for adults that wish to improve their reading. If you could spare one or two half-hour sessions a week and have a friendly, patient manner, you could help someone with their reading. Fill training and reading materials provided



Interested? Please call or message Shirley on 07396 813489



News from Lydford Gorge National Trust Rose Cooke, Visitor Experience Officer

I am very much enjoying the sunshine we're having, as I write this in May, but I am wondering how long we've got until it breaks. I'm sure the rain and wind will return soon, probably just in time for the May half-term holiday! The sunshine has made the wildflowers and new leaves of May really sing though, and it's been delightful.

You may have already seen online but a few lucky visitors spotted an otter while walking at the gorge at the end of April. In the video they shared with us the otter can be seen swimming and running about amongst some fallen moss-covered logs in the stream that flows over the waterfall, until it hears a visitor, then it dives underwater and swims away. They were also lucky enough to see it again, eating a fish on a rock. It's great to have confirmation that otters are around and using the river here.



We have a new pin badge, designed by the very talented Wendy of the welcome team, it features a dipper sitting on a mossy rock with swirls of white and blue representing the water below. It's available from the welcome areas for a recommended donation of £3. All profits are used to help look after Lydford Gorge for everyone, for ever.

Off-road mobility 'come-and-try' day at Castle Drogo

Wednesday 11 June, 10am-4pm

Unique Mobility are bringing together the latest models in off-road mobility so you can see them in action and try them out for yourself in the orchard at Castle Drogo. Booking is recommended to try out the vehicles on offer - uniquemobility.co.uk/pages/off-road-day

Carers week runs from 9 to 15 June. Devon carers have a range of events running including free entry to some National Trust places for registered carers. They do some great work so if you want to find out more head to devoncarers.org.uk

Connection Café

Wednesday 25 June, 10am-12 noon.

Drop by to chat to the lovely volunteer or others that are attending, a great way to connect with people and make new friends. This is a free event, tea, coffee and more are available to buy from the tea-room.

Opening Times to 30 September 2025

Devil's Cauldron trail, Waterfall trail, and Lyd Link path open every day 10am-4.30pm.
Second-hand bookshop 10am-4.30pm.
Devil's Cauldron tea-room 10.30am-4.30pm.
Waterfall tea-room 10am-4pm.

As always please check the website before travelling in case of closures
- nationaltrust.org.uk/lydford-gorge

Email: lydfordgorge@nationaltrust.org.uk Tel: 01822 820320
Facebook: LydfordGorge Instagram: [lydfordgorge.nt](https://www.instagram.com/lydfordgorge.nt)
Registered Charity Number 205846



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Explorative and Wellbeing workshops starting soon, please see website for further details.

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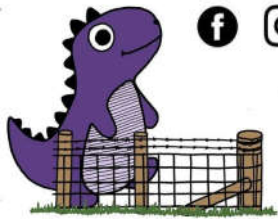
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Abbey Mead Natural Health Centre, **Tavistock** PL19 8AU **01822 854758**



THE WHITE HART INN, BRIDESTOWE

Nr Okehampton, Devon Tel: 01837 861318

Quiz on
Wednesday 11th June
in aid of the Museum
of Dartmoor Life



Every Wednesday
12-2pm, OAPs Fish &
chips with peas and
bread and butter
£8.95

Opening hours:

Open daily

12 - 3pm 5pm - close

Open all day Saturday and Sundays and Bank holidays
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We are open 7am to 7pm. Rates are £15 per day for day care (between 7am - 7pm) and £20 per 24 hours or part thereof to include overnight boarding, effective from 1st January 2024

Please call **07787 687 309** for more details and availability,
or email **peterdeacon@btconnect.com**

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John and Angie

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Forthcoming Events in June 2025

Sunday 1st	2.30pm - 4.30pm, Boasley Chapel, Cream tea
Thursday 5th	7.30pm, Reading Group, 15, Trescote Way
Friday 6th	7.30pm, Sourton Village Hall, Quiz in aid of <i>Epilepsy Action</i>
Sunday 8th	10-4pm, South Zeal, Open gardens
Wednesday 11th	<i>Where in Bridestowe?</i> photo competition begins 8pm, White Hart quiz in aid of the Museum of Dartmoor Life
Tuesday 13th	12.15 for 12.30pm, Over 60's lunch
Saturday 14th	10am - 12pm, The Ark Coffee morning, for Children's Hospice SW 12-4pm, Bridestowe Primary School, Summer Fair 7.30pm, St Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay, concert
Tuesday 17th	2.30pm, Fairplace Church, Okehampton u3a, talk
Thursday 19th	10.15am leave village, Alders, Thursday Morning Group 12pm - 2pm, Boasley Chapel, Soup and Sweet
Saturday 28th	10am - 12pm, Bridestowe Village Hall, Bacon Baps 9.30am, Cemetery gates, Bridestowe Volunteer Group
Sunday 29th	10am, Brentor Playing Field, Car boot sale



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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.