

# Bridestowe & Sourton Extra



Community News and Events August 2025 Edition 279

**FREE ENTRY** **SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AUG 2025** **FREE ENTRY**  
**1PM TO 11PM**  
**BRIDESTOWE SPORTING GREEN**  
**EX20 4EL**

**LIVE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY**

Headliners,  
**THE DOCKNEYS**

Supported by  
**LONGSHORE DRIFT**  
**DAVE THOMAS**  
**HATHERLEIGH SILVER BAND**

**CRAFT STALLS**  
**CARNIVAL GAMES**  
**HOG ROAST**  
**EVENING BBQ**  
**BEER & CIDER TENT**  
**GIN & PROSECCO BAR**

**CIRCUS ACT DEMONSTRATIONS,**  
**MAGICIAN & STILL WALKERS**

**TIN CAN ALLEY**  
**SKITILE ALLEY**  
**COCONUT SHY,**  
**CROCKERY SMASH**  
**& LOADS MORE FAMILY FUN**

**BRIDFEST 25**  
WHERE WE COME TOGETHER

**CIRCUS THEMED**

**SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT**  
**FANCY DRESS TO IMPRESS**

More details on page 3

# The Vicar writes...

## Letter From America

The church encourages its parish priests to meet up with colleagues in what are known as chapter meetings. The idea is to catch up with happenings in the wider church and prevent us from becoming too isolated. Now and then we even connect with fellow churchmen from outside of Devon.

This letter from an American author and priest, under the heading: 'Questions for the Church of England' – 'The Cost of Moral Cowardice', made me realise how different life can be beyond the shire and to appreciate the type of issues some of my colleagues are faced with. It also poses a question for all of us. Spare a thought for those who aren't lucky enough to live in our peaceful part of the world.

## Delaware. Wednesday, July 16, 2025

The greatest scandal in modern British history is the cover-up of the Northern grooming gangs' activities for over twenty years. The victims were young white British girls, many as young as 10, who faced ordeals so harrowing I cannot describe them here (.....)

This great evil was then superseded by an even greater one: the cover-up of the crimes by British society at all levels. When the rapes were reported to the police, social services, MPs and the media, all turned a blind eye, and in some cases blamed the young girls themselves for what had happened. The reason? They were all afraid of being labelled "racist."

Eventually, due to the industrial scale of the rapes - thousands of girls were victims - it was no longer possible to suppress or ignore the story. A few brave reporters took up the girls' case and the truth, at last, became widely known.

Members of some of the gangs were arrested, tried and sent to prison. Last month, the British Home Secretary Yvette Cooper shared the summary findings of the report on grooming gangs by Baroness Casey. The report makes chilling reading. The government has since ordered a national enquiry.

Where was the Church of England when all of this was going on? Sadly, the Church joined in the conspiracy of silence. Last month, the Bishop of Blackburn, Philip North, wrote an article for the Church of England Newspaper, in which he asked why the leaders of the Church had not spoken out earlier.

In his article, Bishop North writes, "I have heard directly and on many occasions of the anxiety of

working class families that their daughters are vulnerable to well organised gangs. Why did I so readily believe the voices that claimed that calling for an inquiry was a collusion with the far right?"

The bishop admits that agreeing with anyone on the "far right" carries a far greater stigma than failing to protect young children from sexual abuse. This is evidence of serious moral confusion. While he is proud of the Church's commitment to fostering close relationships with Muslim communities, his fear of offending his Muslim brothers and sisters closed his ears to the cry of the victims. "Raising an issue that so directly impacts one ethnic group could appear to sit ill with our commitment to racial justice," he writes.

Underlying this meek observation is the modern notion of the unquestionable good of multiculturalism. Unfortunately, it overlooks what happens when large numbers of immigrants settle in a country whose cultural values and assumptions are very different from their own. The gangs were clearly operating on racist principles, but no one had the courage to call them out. To do so would mean attacking the entrenched narrative that all Muslims are potential "victims" of racial injustice. By failing to identify the true victims, society condemned the girls to their fates.

The bishop concludes his article with these words: *"I am doing some serious reflection about my fear-driven silence when it comes to grooming gangs. I hope other church leaders will do the same."* What is missing from the bishop's article is a sense of righteous anger. He talks only of "working class neighborhoods." Depersonalizing the problem - discussing it in classist terms, along with "benefits dependency, asylum seekers and energy costs" - minimizing the gravity of these horrific crimes and the failure of the Church to witness to them.

Sadly, so many leaders in the Church resemble the priest and Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan who, seeing the beaten body on the road, pass by on the other side. In this matter, the Church of England has exchanged the God of love and compassion for the god of "social cohesion." Could the Church as a whole repent of its failure to stand up for its most vulnerable members in their hour of need? The bishop has made a start. The Church now needs the courage to admit its mistakes and seek forgiveness.

Father David Beresford

*Adrian Brook*

## Bridfest 2025

Just days to go to before a proper Summer Celebration !!

Saturday 2nd at 1pm on the Sporting Green is when and where all the fun starts. The weather outlook looks good too.

Hatherleigh Silver Band will set the ball rolling and all the fantastic bands are lined up and ready to go, so get your dancing feet ready! The hog roast will be cooking from very early in the morning ready for you to enjoy. The burgers/sausages are all ordered and there's a vegetarian chilli on offer. The Main Bar and Carnival Cocktails will quench your thirst.

(Prices have been kept the same as last year.) Cakes, soft drinks, ice cream and popcorn will ensure you don't go hungry.

All the games are primed and ready for you to enjoy throughout the day. Our fantastic circus acts and magician will be roaming the festival throughout the afternoon to amaze you with their skills

There's the trusty favourites of course - the coconut shy, tombola, crockery smash. We welcome the return of 'tin pan alley', remembering with affection that this was the late John Burgess' contribution to the Ram Roast. The children will be enjoying the games and races. There's the tug o war and the infamous egg throwing competition. There will be several stalls to peruse. There's a cash prize of £50 amongst the raffle prizes, as well as other generous contributions by local businesses. Cards and cash are welcome. So, much to enjoy and remember entry is **free**. We have all the ingredients for a wonderful family day, bringing the community together. We look forward to seeing you there.

### How you can help?

- Extra pairs of hands to assist with setting up are always appreciated on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- Contributions of tombola prizes would be welcome; just a can, a jar, a packet, a bottle or perhaps something for the children to win. These can be dropped off on Friday at 11 Crandford Close or brought to the stall on Saturday morning. (Thank you from Ann and Ali)
- Bring a few books for the book stall; again these can be brought along on Saturday morning.

**Warning about forthcoming road closures in Okehampton which may make it difficult for you when visiting Okehampton Medical Centre..**



There will be roadworks with traffic lights on Exeter Road from **28.7.25 to 15.9.25**. Road closures will be in place from **15.9.25 to 6.10.25** on Exeter Road and along East Street from **6.10.25 until Feb 2026**. Please allow plenty of time to arrive for your appointment and consider walking to your appointment where possible and / or parking off site

### Save the date...

**Bridestowe's Village Barn Dance on Saturday 29th September in the Village Hall.**



### NICHOLLS HALL LYDFORD BACON BUTTY, CAKE AND COFFEE MORNING

Last Saturday of each month  
10am - 12.30pm  
Well behaved dogs welcome  
Card payments accepted

### Okehampton Recycling Centre

0345 155 1010

### Summer opening times

**April - September**

Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm  
Saturday & Sunday 10am - 6.00pm





## The Three R's

### by Howard Barkell

From roughly the middle of the nineteenth century politicians began to accept that it would be better to educate young children rather than send them out to work at an early age. Before that education had been a matter of luck, did you happen to live in a place where one of the churches had been enlightened enough to build a school and were your parents willing or able to send you. Anglicans, Catholics and Nonconformists all ran schools financed by their denomination.

When the matter was debated in Parliament there were those who thought all Voluntary schools, i.e. those financed by religious organisations, should be abolished as their opponents suggested they were guilty of their own form of indoctrination, others maintained they were already serving a useful purpose and should be retained. When the Elementary Education Act was passed in 1870 it decreed that Voluntary schools should continue unchanged, but local Boards could build and maintain elementary schools where there were none. They would be funded by local rates and would concentrate on teaching the three r's Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic. A fourth might be added to those as Religious Knowledge could be taught, but it was to be non-denominational.

By 1870 there had already been a school at Bridestowe for some time. The core of the present building dates from 1862, so the sign on the cloakroom told us. There has never been a day school at Sourton, although the idea has often been put forward. The reply has always been that there have never been enough children to warrant a school in both villages, even though children from Sourton had to walk all the way to Bridestowe. At Lydford a Board was set up to build and run an Elementary School. Although it would be non-denominational the Rector, the Rev. Fuller, who at the time was living at Princetown, managed to be elected chairman of the Board and the Curate, the Rev. Chafy-Chafy, had a big say in the siting of the school. In October 1875 the Board was inviting tenders for building the new school and the following month the contract was awarded to Messrs. Blatchford and Sons of Tavistock. The only snag was that

the proposed site somewhere near the church and castle had been rejected as being unsuitable. It wasn't until the following August that the Board agreed to purchase a quarter acre of Higher Park Meadow from Mr. Edmund Powell. In November 1877 the contractors hoped that the roof would soon be completed. In May 1878 William Kenner was appointed as the first Head Teacher. His salary was to be £90 per annum. The opening of the school building was arranged for July 1st. Various alterations and additions have been made since then to keep the building fit for purpose. Bridestowe School has survived some traumatic moments, not least in 1972, when a runaway lorry loaded with potatoes heading for Cornwall crashed through the playground wall and into the school building. Fortunately the accident happened in the early morning when the school was empty, sadly the driver was killed. The result was that the school was closed, pupils eventually returning to temporary buildings in what had been the adjoining garden and the authorities were finally persuaded that Bridestowe really did need a bypass.

Although the original building may have been started in 1862 it didn't actually open until June 3rd the following year. It consisted of just the part that faces the road and was built to house 70 children. Designed by S. Hooper of Hatherleigh, who incidentally also designed the addition of the north aisle and vestry to St. Petroc's a few years later, it was built by the local firm of Lintern Brothers at a cost of about £450 excluding the purchase of the site. It was soon ascertained that the building was too small and in 1872 a new classroom was added to give the building its L shape.

It wasn't much different when I started there in the early nineteen forties. The infant room at the front had been made larger by removing an internal wall and the long room was divided into two by a sliding screen. Heating was provided by three solid fuel stoves during the winter. The infants sat at wooden tables and chairs, older children sat at double iron framed desks complete with holes for the china ink wells!

In 1880 an Act made it compulsory for children between 5 and 10 to attend school. In 1893 the age was increased to 11, in 1899 to 12, but not until 1918 to 14. It stayed thus

until 1944 when it was increased to 15 and separate secondary schools were introduced. Before that pupils stayed at the same elementary school until they were old enough to leave.

The increased numbers of children at school resulted in a shortage of trained teachers because teacher training was haphazard and mainly done at diocesan level. The monitor or pupil teacher system was widely used. Pupils that teachers thought suitable were encouraged to stay on until the age of 18 combining their own education with teaching younger children. Some then went on to train as teachers which originally would have been done locally, which is why most of the early head teachers here in Devon were trained at St. Luke's, Exeter. The title Assistant Teacher often meant that person was unqualified, but was cheaper to employ. Village schools were often staffed by schoolmaster and his wife or sister helped by a couple pupil teachers. In 1902 local board schools were abolished and taken over by Local Education Authorities where experts in all aspects of education were available and problems could be promptly shared and solved. This was the case until the government of the day introduced the LMS (Local Management of Schools) scheme as part of the Education Reform Act of 1988 when each school was given its own pot of money, previously managed by the L.E.A., and left to spend it as they saw fit. What changes we have seen since then! Have they always been for the better? How many have managed to live up to that wonderful school trotted out on all those training days called Copingwell School?

---

**Bridestowe Volunteer Group** has been busy. If volunteers are not picking up litter then they are clearing the gutters of weeds throughout the village. The orchard needs regular upkeep and the grass is kept clear around the fruit trees. The group will meet again on **Saturday, 30th August** at 9.30am, congregating at the cemetery gates. Then there's the option of retiring to the hall afterwards for well-earned refreshments.

## *New advertiser..*

### **Chloe Elkins Freelance Groom and Pet Services**

BHSQ Level 3 Groom

BHSQ Level 2 Rider and Coach

Holiday cover, pet sitting and checking, dog walking, general yard duties, etc.

Contact Chloe on **07922 423219** or email

[chloeelkinsfreelancegroom@gmail.com](mailto:chloeelkinsfreelancegroom@gmail.com)



### **Open Gardens**

#### **'Mowhay'**

Merton, Okehampton, Devon,  
EX20 3DS

**Open Saturday and Sunday  
3rd August, 10am - 4pm**



A developing 3 year old,  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre garden with countryside views featuring ornamental ponds linked by a waterfall. Planted in a broadly cottage style interspersed with some unusual plants. A variety of native/non native trees, a white garden, bonsai collection, roses, recycled structures/ornaments, areas managed for wildlife, a Courtyard garden, and vegetable patch.

#### **Adults £6, children free**

Home made teas available

For this open day you can book your tickets in advance.

**<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/47192/mowhay>**

## Bridestowe Parish Council Report

At the full parish council meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July, the Council accepted a tender for the planned tree work on the edge of the Sporting Green, opposite Tanyard Court. The work will be carried out between 17-19 September.

The timber will be available for local people to collect and a donation for the wood would be appreciated; this would be in aid of the play equipment refurbishment.

And talking of play equipment, the council would like to progress the refurbishing of the play equipment in the Sporting Green. See Cllr Jo Pritchard's appeal below.

The Parish Council is delighted with the repair to the church wall that was carried out by Bakers Building. They also sorted out the wobbly seesaw to the delight of the children. The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **17th September** at 7.30pm in The Ark ( Methodist Church)

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

## Help needed to upgrade the Play Equipment.

The play equipment in the park is in need of an upgrade and we are looking for some help to get the project off the ground!

The parish council have some funds to kick-start the project and we are looking for a small group of people to help with working out what the village would like in the park and source the funds needed.

Have you got time to help with this project?

Please contact Jo Pritchard - 01837 861114/jcw\_101@hotmail.com

## Rural telephone services

The parish council was sent an informative bulletin from David Boocock, Projects Officer, Conservation and Communities for Dartmoor National Park Authority in which he addresses the impact of the removal of public telephone kiosks in remote rural areas.

Bridestowe's was disconnected a good few years ago and now serves as a well-used book exchange. However, as David points out, loss of a landline during power cuts can have serious consequences for some, particularly in rural areas who have poor mobile signal.

Here is an extract from his email:

*As you know, many Public Call Boxes (PCBs) have been removed from many rural villages of Dartmoor. This is adding to the justified concerns of many residents who are worried about the new 'Digital Voice' telephone system that BT / EE are rolling out.*

*As a recap, 'Digital Voice' is a replacement to the landline phone service, and will only work using broadband. This means that in a power cut situation, the landline will not work – and in many areas with little or no mobile signal, this would cut off potentially entire villages. This is very serious as it could make emergency calls unavailable.*

*The other important information I found is regarding the Digital Voice switchover. Although they do not publicise it widely, there are criteria for getting the 'Digital Voice back-up battery' (normal cost £105) for free. They publicise it as 'Additional Needs', which as you would expect covers people over the age of 75, and people with certain disabilities, Telecare pendants etc. However, 'additional needs' also means 'landline dependent', so if you are in an area with little or no mobile signal, you can qualify as that. This means that if you are pre-registered with BT, you can get the battery back-up and have an engineer come to install it all for you for free. To register, you must call **0330 1234 150** - the webpage is this one **Here For You | Help for customers with an impairment | BT Help** If you are a BT phone customer and have access to the 'Openreach Portal', apparently you can register there too*

**BRIDESTOWE  
VILLAGE HALL**

**DATE - 23RD AND 24<sup>TH</sup>  
OF AUGUST**

**TIME - 10M TILL 2PM**

• perform  
words  
skills  
teamwork  
learn  
dance  
props

# DANCE WORKSHOPS

**WITH ESME LOVELL**

AGE GUIDE 5 TO 16

**COST**

**2 DAYS=£45 / 1 DAY=£25**

**SIBLINGS -**

**2 DAYS=£40 / 1 DAY=£20**

DISCOUNT OPTION AVAILABLE

TO BOOK AND FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION CONTACT:  
**ESMELCREATIVE@GMAIL.COM**  
**07762920955**

The two days will be full of creating, games and learning. The dance will be dynamic, energetic and expressive. Using props, words, paints and more. Then creating your own dance with what you have learnt.

Esme teaches through fun, and highlights the strengths of all who participate. Girls and boys of all abilities are welcome. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Esme is a certified Rambert grades teacher, has an enhanced DBS and is safeguarding trained.

paints  
socialise  
fun  
craft  
create  
dance  
share  
contemporary

These workshops are all about having fun through creativity. Esme is a professionally trained contemporary dancer and Rambert Grades teacher. She trained at London Contemporary Dance School and since graduating she has been teaching in the South West at dance schools, community groups and schools. She will be sharing her knowledge with the participants. They will learn dance routines, explore tasks using props and craft to create movement for themselves.  
To book please email [esmelcreative@gmail.com](mailto:esmelcreative@gmail.com) or message **07762 920 955**





## **St Thomas à Becket Church - August**

### **From the records**

On 12th July

Wedding of Donna and John of The Old Rectory at Sourton

On 17th July

Funeral of Bill Hills of Linnacombe

### **CREAM TEAS**

Cream Teas , savouries and cakes will be served from 1.30 pm – 5.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall in aid of Church Funds on

**August 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th**

All are welcome. Please contact either

Jenny on 07879 253903

or Ruth on 07967 357505 if you can help in any way by baking, or serving or helping in the kitchen on any of the Sundays.

### **Sunday Services for August**

August 3rd Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.

August 10th Service at Bridestowe

August 17th Service at Bridestowe

August 24th Morning Prayer at 9.30 a.m.

August 31st to be arranged

**Jenny Batten**

## **News from Sourton Parish Council**

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

[parishclerk@sourtonpc.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@sourtonpc.org.uk)

**07792958675**

We are still looking for new councillors to join the team. Becoming a parish councillor is a rewarding way to contribute to your community. You don't need any special qualifications – just a willingness to get involved, share your ideas, and help make decisions about local services, facilities, and future projects. If you care about the parish and want to make a difference, we would love to hear from you.

### **Grant Applications**

If your group, club, or organisation would benefit from a financial boost, don't miss out! Grant applications must be received by the Parish Clerk by 25th August in order to be considered at the September Parish Council meeting. These grants are a great way to support local initiatives, events, or improvements that benefit our community.

### **Shaping Next Year's Budget**

In the coming months, the Parish Council will begin the budgeting process for the next financial year. This is the time when we plan what projects, maintenance, and improvements we can fund.

We'd love to hear your suggestions for what the council could focus on.

Please send your ideas and grant applications directly to the Parish Clerk

### **Who to Contact for Local Issues**

Just a reminder, some issues are handled by other authorities by reporting these issues to the correct authority, they can be dealt with more quickly and efficiently.

---

## **The 117th Okehampton Show - Dartmoor's largest Agricultural Show** **Thursday 14th August at Stoney Park Showground, Okehampton**

All day entertainment from 9am to 5.00pm (Horse classes start at 8am)

Join us on the northern edge of the beautiful Dartmoor National Park for a traditional agricultural show with a wide range of prize winning animals, delicious local food & drink, plenty of shopping, displays, childrens' entertainment and much more. Gates open at 9am. Dogs welcome. Free car parking Free shuttle bus from Okehampton Station and the town centre

### **Ticket information**

ADVANCED ONLINE DISCOUNT TICKETS: Adults £18 Children 16 and under go free

Advanced Online discount ticket offer will end 13th August at midnight.

ON THE DAY AND ON THE GATE TICKETS: Adult £20 Children 16 and under go free.



Riverside Stores & Post Office  
Bridestowe,  
Okehampton,  
Devon, EX20 4EG  
01837 861321  
riversidestores@hotmail.com

Riverside Stores  
& Post Office

At the heart of Bridestowe

**We will see you all at Bridfest 2025**  
***Saturday 2nd August, where we all come together***

**Ice Creams, Cold drinks, Crisps and Sweets.**

Look out for our Walls Ice Cream sign.

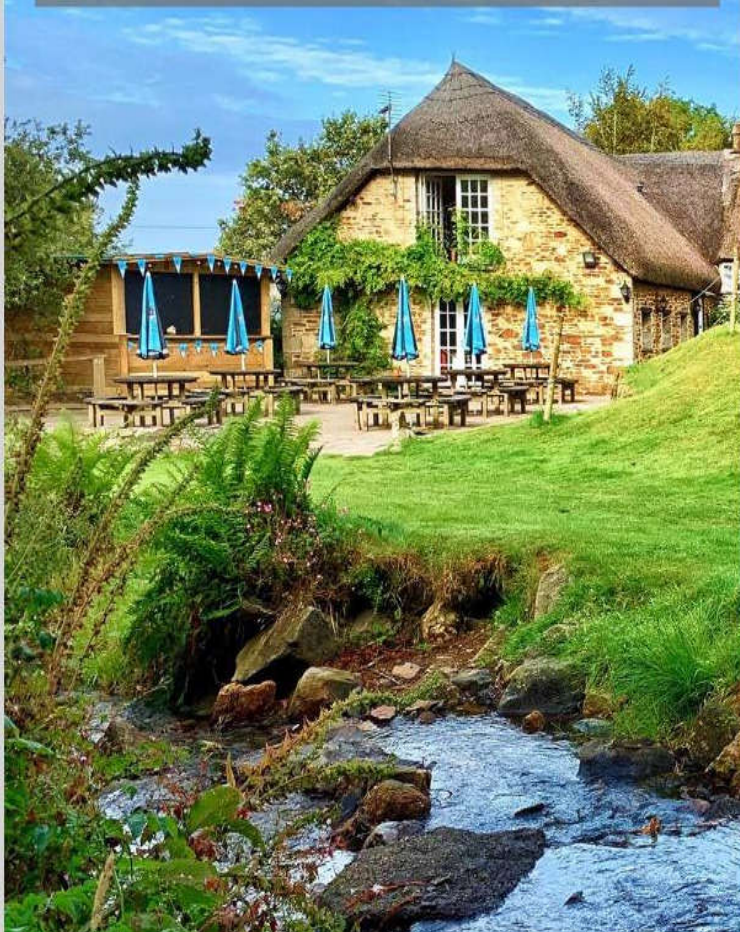
Let's hope the weather holds and we will enjoy a day together as part of our great community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Michaela & Colin

Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm, Saturday 9am – 12 noon, Sunday Closed

 **Bearslake Inn**



**LIVE MUSIC**  
IN THE GARDEN

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

LIVE MUSIC from 4pm

Chilled Acoustic with Milly May

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August

LIVE MUSIC from 4pm

Country Folk with Dave Budd

**COCKTAIL HOUR**

Two Cocktails for £15

Every Day 3pm - 5pm

We are looking for musicians to play here  
at Bearslake Inn

email [enquiries@bearslakeinn.com](mailto:enquiries@bearslakeinn.com)

## Movie Watch - August 2025

Can't really start with anything other than **The Salt Path** this month. Or The Pinch of Salt Path as Caitlin Moran cruelly, but not unreasonably, retitled it in The Times.

Regardless of whether you read the book, saw the film or ignored all the fuss and did neither, you'll be aware of the subsequent furore surrounding Raynor Winn's nevertheless extremely readable memoir.

The book, which has sold two million copies, covers the supposedly true story of a couple (Raynor and Moth Winn) who decide to walk the SW Coast Path after losing their 'forever home' as a result of some calamitous financial dealings, closely followed by a potentially fatal medical prognosis delivered to Moth (an abbreviation of Timothy, which hadn't dawned on me).

Their story was made into a feature film starring Gillian Anderson and Jason Isaacs which we discussed here last month. The film was lovely to look at and generally decent enough, without being anything special.

However the veracity of their account was cast into considerable doubt when The Observer broke a story claiming serious inconsistencies in the book, including the fact that the couple actually lost their home after Winn had allegedly defrauded her employer of £64,000. The newspaper also revealed that while the couple were supposedly homeless, they actually owned a property in France

Regardless of the strength and validity of the allegations, some supporting charities immediately cut ties with the couple, while some bookshops have already offered refunds for pre-publication orders of Winn's next book, On Winter Hill, scheduled for release in October.

It's tricky to pinpoint exactly where the responsibility lies, but when an author signs a contract with a publisher, there are usually covenants that include clauses about the truthfulness and integrity of the material, to

the best of the author's knowledge and belief. The publisher is then entitled to cancel that author's contract, should a book's legitimacy be called into question.

I suspect this story will run and run, probably considerably longer than the film.

As I write, the big titles showing in Okehampton are **Jurassic World Rebirth** and **Superman**. The cast of the former is led by Scarlett Johansson who stars in 'an action-packed new chapter which sees an intrepid team racing to secure DNA samples from the three most colossal creatures, across land, sea, and air.'

My devotion to the BaSE readership stops short of actually going to see films like this. However proper critics suggest it suffers from 'a weak story, forgettable villains and a messy narrative, but is saved thanks to great visuals, fun action, good performances and nice nostalgia.' As ever, the choice is entirely yours.

Meanwhile the latest iteration of **Superman** sees director James Gunn take on the original superhero in a newly imagined DC universe, with a blend of epic action, humour and heart, delivering a hero driven by compassion and an inherent belief in the goodness of humankind.

When Superman gets drawn into conflicts at home and abroad, his actions are questioned, giving tech billionaire Lex Luthor the opportunity to get the Man of Steel out of the way for good. Will intrepid reporter Lois Lane and Superman's four-legged companion, Krypto, be able to help him before it's too late? Who knows?

Look, my task here is simply to tell you what's on at the cinema, in case you fancy an evening out. Normal service will hopefully resume in the autumn although, to be honest, I can't spot anything of particular note in the August releases. **The Roses** (Olivia Colman, Benedict Cumberbatch) is a modern

reimagining of The War of the Roses and certainly has a fine cast. That one should arrive here late in the month but June, July and August last year delivered nothing, so this year is merely following that pattern.

My scribbled television notes, on the other hand, show plenty of material that at least one of us has greatly enjoyed during July.

I'll get live sport out of the way early on, as I sense there's not huge support in the village but my word, these last two England v India **Test Matches** (Sky), at Headingley and Lord's, have made for compelling viewing. And with England now 2-1 ahead in the five-Test series, the final two games should be equally exciting.

The **UEFA European Women's Football Championship** (BBC, ITV) provided the usual highs and lows we endure whenever national teams are involved, while it's not my specialist subject but I gather an exciting **British Grand Prix** (Sky) delivered something of a surprise winner in Lando Norris. Then there was **Wimbledon** (BBC) and the **Open Golf** (Sky). A Great Summer of Sport, as the promotions suggested would be the case.

Last month I chose not to mention Series 4 of **Clarkson's Farm**, mostly as this is only currently shown on Amazon Prime which, with around 19m monthly UK viewers, enjoys less than universal reach. That's a great shame as Clarkson has created an outstanding TV series, entertaining and educational in roughly equal measures. In 2008 Clarkson purchased, and now actively runs, a 1000-acre farm in West Oxfordshire. One local sheep farmer suggested that Clarkson had done more for farming in one series than BBC's Countryfile had achieved in 30 years.

Clarkson has made celebrities of his co-workers, most notably the remarkable Kaleb Cooper who he appointed Farm Manager and who has subsequently toured the country with his one-man show. Cooper, still only 27, was recognised at the recent British

Farming Awards. Hopefully Amazon might agree terms with one of the major broadcasters, enabling a wider audience to enjoy the show.

**Glastonbury** was extensively covered as usual by the BBC, although this year not without controversy. Rod Stewart, Pulp, Neil Young, Lewis Capaldi and Olivia Rodrigo were some of the high-profile performers but the most publicity (and not in a good way) was generated by an entirely avoidable antisemitism row, provoked by punk-rap duo Bob Vylan. In a statement, the BBC was forced to confirm there was 'no place for antisemitism' in its output, and that it was taking action to 'ensure proper accountability for those found to be responsible' for the broadcast. Not a good look for the BBC.

Recommendations include **Attack on London: Hunting the 7/7 Bombers**, an acclaimed four-part Netflix series, and three crime drama series all worthy of your attention, **The Waterfront** (Netflix), **Shetland** (BBC) and **Bookish** (U&Alibi).

Finally, last month I promised to mention Noel Edmonds: Kiwi Adventure (ITV) but it looks like I forgot, again.

**DAVID HARRISON**  
**July 2025**

**Lunar cycle for August**

New moon	23rd
First quarter	1st & 31st
Full moon	9th
Last quarter	16th



**Perseid Meteors - August 12/13**

The Perseid meteor shower is usually one of the most active and brightest meteor showers of the year. This year, the Perseids coincide with a bright waning gibbous moon, which will reduce the overall number of meteors that can be seen.



**Bacon Baps** will be served on **Saturday 30th August 10am - 12 noon** in **Bridestowe Village Hall**.



It was a lively, well-attended session in July and it was lovely to see some new faces, although there's nothing wrong with the old ones. £135 was raised for hall funds.

The new flooring in the foyer was admired by those who noticed it. The Margaret Moore Suite has also been recarpeted and looking very smart.

A big thank you to everyone who supports this event and to those who help tidy away at the end when we all begin to flag a little. Mike Bidmead, our 'Plant Man', will be there in August and Jill, with honey for sale. There will be the usual selection of secondhand books to browse through and donated books are always welcome. We are taking all the books down to the Bridfest book stall where we will simply ask for donations for the Village Hall. Remaining books will go to Lydford Gorge's secondhand book shop as it's time for a prune.

If you would like to have a table at a bacon bap session, either as a one-off or on a regular basis, please get in touch.

**01837 861157**

---

## **BRIDESTOWE READING GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th August** at 7.30pm at Neil and Linda's, Wheatley Park Barn, Lewdown. We will be discussing Una Mannion's *Tell Me What I am*.

### **About the book..**

*"Please don't hang up. I don't know if you remember. You used to live with me. You and your mother."*

*Ruby lives with her father in an old farmhouse at*



*end of a dirt road. He teaches her to hunt, to forage for mushrooms, to gut a fish. She learns to tiptoe around his temper - and never to ask about her absent mother. Ruby has no idea that, hundreds of miles away, a woman she barely remembers is desperate to answer those same questions.*

*CaptCaptivating, tender and deeply moving, 'Tell Me What I Am' is an unforgettable portrait of the indelible bonds of family - and how far we will go for the ones we love.*

*(Winner of the CWA Gold Dagger 2024)*  
*Waterstones.com*

### **About the author**

Una Mannion was born in Philadelphia and lives in County Sligo, Ireland. She has won numerous prizes for her poetry and short stories including the Hennessy Emerging Poetry Award and Cúirt International Literary Festival short story prize. She edits The Cormorant, a broadsheet of prose and poetry and teaches on the Writing + Literature BA at Atlantic Technological University, Sligo. Her debut novel A Crooked Tree was shortlisted for Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards and for the Dalkey Emerging Writer prize and was winner of the Kate O'Brien Prize 2022.

-----  
New members are always welcome.

**01566 783529**

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

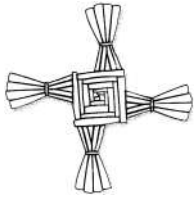
---

## **BRIDESTOWE THURSDAY MORNING GROUP**

will be meeting on Thursday, August 21st for coffee at The Ark. Our official start time is 10.30 but please turn up at any time from 10, when The Ark opens. I can't make it to that one, but would love it if you could discuss where to go for our meeting on September 18th and let me know your suggestions.

Ann Allan on 861551

## Bridestowe Churches Partnership



### Sunday Worship for August 2025

#### **Sunday 3rd**

9.30am See Sourton BaSE entry for details  
10.30am to 12.30pm Cafe Church in The Ark  
(Worship, Coffee, Tea, Chat, Children's activities)

#### **Sunday 10th**

9.30 am Morning Prayer at St Bridget's  
11.00am Morning Service with A Banfield,  
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

#### **Sunday 17th**

9.30am United service at St Bridget's followed  
by a coach trip to Buckfast Abbey – details  
below.

#### **Sunday 24th**

9.30am Family Service at St Bridget's. Songs  
and a bible story.

11.00am Morning Service at the Methodist  
Chapel

#### **Sunday 31st**

11.00am Morning Service at the Methodist  
Chapel with Jerry Hill

6.00pm Evensong at St Bridget's (tbc)

On **Sunday 17th August** we will have a short  
service at St Bridget's followed by a coach trip  
outing, leaving Bridestowe at around 10.15am  
going via Tavistock across the moor possibly  
calling at Two Bridges for coffee arriving at  
Buckfast Abbey for lunch at 12-12.30,  
returning around 4.00pm. You can choose to  
take a picnic lunch or have lunch in the café.  
Cost £8 per person for the bus if we have a full  
bus. To book a place please contact Dean  
James on deanmjames0@gmail.com or speak  
to Adrian Brook.



### **The Ark**

The Coffee Morning in July raised £205 for  
SSAFA. Georgina, the local ambassador for  
SSAFA, said that she would make sure it  
was used for families in Devon.

The Coffee Morning in August is on  
**Saturday 9th**, 10am to 12 noon.

Money raised will go to Blood Bikes.

*Our mission as Blood Bikes is to support our  
member groups in providing a professional  
rapid response medical transport service to  
the NHS, free of charge.*

It would be great to have your support, as  
usual.

Thank you

### **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 handles bookings.

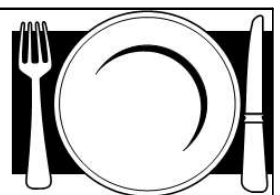
Phone **01837 861592**

Email: j.thorne2013@btinternet.com

**The Over 60's Lunch  
Club** will be held on  
**Tuesday 12th August.**

Gather at 12.15 for  
lunch at 12.30pm.

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





## Boasley Chapel Happenings in August

**Sunday August 3rd 9.30am Communion Service**

with Chris Jackson

**Sunday August 3rd 2.30-4.30pm Cream Teas**

**Sunday August 17th 11am Service** with Daisy Bray

**Thursday August 21st Soup and Sweet 12 - 2pm**

The usual excellent choices of at least 5 different soups and many different puddings...no charge but donations welcome! Come and sample for yourselves, especially if you still haven't been...we would love to see you.

**Sunday 31st August 11am Service** with Ruth James



Whether you're a LEGO® enthusiast, a curious visitor, or a family looking for a fun day out, this event has something for everyone. What can you expect? LEGO® model displays, interactive activities, traders and vendors and a quiet session (3pm - 4.30pm). You need a valid ticket. Prices £4.61 - £14.79 [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/okehampton-bricktacular](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/okehampton-bricktacular)



### **MOORLAND GARDEN CARE & MAINTENANCE**

Please text or call for a free quote!

07845758702 // 07718220309

Based in Okehampton & Surrounding areas

#### **Services we offer:**

- Grass/hedge cutting
- Domestic fencing
- Landscaping
- Strimming
- Turfing
- Weeding
- Garden clearance
- Pressure washing

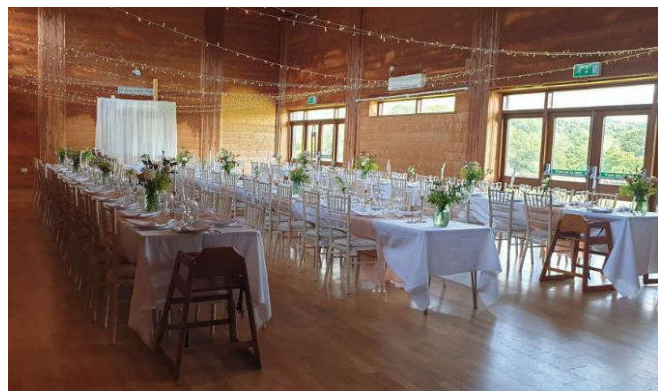
## **Bridestowe Village Hall**

**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](http://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







### **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. Refreshments are 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!

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

Visit our website:

[discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk](http://discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk)

Follow us on Facebook (Okehampton Library) and Instagram (@okehampton.library).

## **EVENTS**

### **AUGUST**

#### **The Summer Book Quest: 12 July – 6 September**

Join us to sign up for our brand-new FREE reading challenge, The Summer Book Quest, exclusive to Devon & Torbay! This year's inaugural theme, The Deep Sea Adventure, awaits you; collect stickers for each one of the three tasks you complete, and receive a certificate and reward when you have completed the three challenges. Sign up from 12th July and keep an eye out for our Summer Book Quest events!

#### **Summer Bookish Quiz: 2 June – 30 August**

Pick up your quiz sheet and test your book knowledge to be in with a chance of winning some lovely summer prizes! Suggested donation £1 per entry; all proceeds will go to Libraries Unlimited, the charity that runs libraries in Devon & Torbay. With thanks to Dogberry & Finch Books for donating a book bundle and The Friends of Okehampton Library for our other prizes.

#### **Storytime & Craft: Wednesday 6 August, 10:00-10:30**

This month's theme is the Deep Sea Adventure inspired by the Summer Book Quest - come

along to listen to some stories all about sea creatures and make one to take home! Suitable for all ages.

Suggested donation 50p per child, drop-in.

#### **Pirate Mayhem: Monday 11 August, 11:00-12:00**

Become a pirate for the morning - join our pirate crew, find lost treasure and much more!

Dressing up welcome but not essential.

Tickets £2 per child – book through the library or Eventbrite.

Suitable for ages 5+.

#### **Shark Attack! Craft & Game Workshop: Friday 22 August, 15:30-16:30**

Come along to Okehampton Library to craft your very own Shark Attack game to take home!

Suitable for ages 5+, bookable via Okehampton Library or Eventbrite, £2 per child.

#### **Sea Science Adventures: Tuesday 26 August, 10:00-11:30**

Hands-on science workshop with Devon Science. Join them for a deep sea science adventure where children will make a bubbling deep sea chemical lava lamp, fluffy seaweed slime and a magnet fishing game. Suitable for ages 4-10, £16 per child, bookable through [www.devonscience.co.uk/for-parents/seascience/](http://www.devonscience.co.uk/for-parents/seascience/)

REGULAR EVENTS full details on website.

Recycling for Good Causes: Okehampton Library have taken some inspiration from other Devon Libraries who are doing their bit assisting in tackling the climate crisis and we are proud to say that we have also teamed up with Recycling For Good Causes to offer a recycling point in our library! You can now drop off certain electronics, stamps, currency or jewelry at the recycling point in front of the customer service desk and these items will get sorted and recycled, whilst also raising money for our charity Libraries Unlimited.

#### **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**

Okehampton Library, 4 North Street, EX20 1AR  
[Okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:Okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk)

**01837 52805**

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity (1170092)

## News from Lydford Gorge

### National Trust

Rose Cooke, Visitor

Experience Officer



July brought a mixed bag of weather from extreme heat to some high winds, luckily we only had one dead tree fall down, from a neighbouring property, so the rangers could clear it in time to reopen as usual. The grass in the orchard is looking very dry in places so we'll be happy with a little rain too. The Lyd Link path will be staying open all year, however, the path to Tucker's Pool has now closed for summer. We plan to reopen it from Monday 8 September.

The bank below the picnic area, outside the Devil's Cauldron tea-room, has been a sea of colour this summer. There have been several different species appearing since the rangers cleared it and seeded it with a wildflower mix. Blue cornflowers have been most prolific, and the yellow rattle has done really well too, although most of that has now gone to seed. Beautiful pink corncockle has popped up now and again and a large clump of corn marigold took pride of place through July. There were also a couple of red poppies at the start of the season. We're already looking forward to seeing what appears next year.

We had three lovely work experience students with us for a week in July, and they got a taste of all the roles here at the gorge. They spent a day with me, I had unfortunately finished painting all my chalkboards ready for the summer trail so instead, after an induction and tour, we spent a couple of hours in the orchard searching for interesting wildlife to photograph

and film. Then they each had two days with the rangers, making and putting up some more dormouse nest boxes, and even going off site to help with fencing at Cadover Bridge. Their other two days were filled in Visitor Welcome and the tea-room. It's great to give these students a taste of working life, although it definitely makes me feel old!

### Choose your own adventure trail

Running every day until Sun 7 Sep, 10am-4pm  
Follow the free trail around the orchard, answering questions and playing games, to follow your own path on this temperate rainforest adventure.

### Connection Café

Wed 27 Aug, 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. This event runs on the last Wednesday of every month.

### 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](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/lydford-gorge)

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

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

Registered Charity Number 205846



## Residential Lettings

- Experienced and knowledgeable team
- Tailored management services from 5%
- Pre qualified, database of potential tenants providing tenant choice
- Members of the Association of Residential Lettings Agent

**01822 619818**

email: [rentals.westdevon@stags.co.uk](mailto:rentals.westdevon@stags.co.uk)



Local, home-grown, grass-fed lamb and pork available to order now.

Whole and half lamb boxes and half pig boxes available, as well as individual joints and sausages.

For prices and more information, contact Alyse 07514 943 239 or Isaac 07908 430 236

### Wendy's Sewing Box

I offer the following services but am not limited to:

Clothing repairs and alterations • Curtain making and alterations • Soft furnishings, cushions, throws, etc • Pet beds • Upholstery and furniture recovering. I am also happy to discuss bespoke requests. If you have any projects or requirements you need looked at, please feel free to contact me. **Wendy Hannaford** on **07960 026385** or via email **wendyhannaford@yahoo.co.uk**



Supporting individuals with all their concerns, historic and current.

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

For more information or to book a FREE 20 minute consultation please call Melika on 07824882224 or visit [westdevontherapies.co.uk](http://westdevontherapies.co.uk)

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

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



## kate cornfield SPORTS MASSAGE

Weekday appointments £40/hr

email: [kate@katecornfield.com](mailto:kate@katecornfield.com)

mob: 07913 855 231

Based in Meldon, Nr Okehampton



### **Morris Bros(Tavistock) Ltd**

#### **Your Local Independent Funeral Director**

Services start at £1500 for a direct cremation,

£2995 for a simple cremation, to a full tailor made funeral service with "The Morris Way"

**01822 612023 (24 hrs)**

The Old Bedford Foundry, Lakeside Tavistock, PL19 0AZ

[www.morrisbros.co.uk](http://www.morrisbros.co.uk)



### **SAM ALLUM Boiler Maintenance**

#### **FOR SERVICING AND BREAKDOWN OF OIL BOILER**

Call: **01822 610 668** Mobile: **07832 024 948** Email: [samallum@gmail.com](mailto:samallum@gmail.com)

• Competitive rate • Friendly, tidy and efficient • Call now for a quote





**The Grooming Sanctuary**

**Professional Dog Groomer**

**Susannah - Sourton**

**07930 303760**

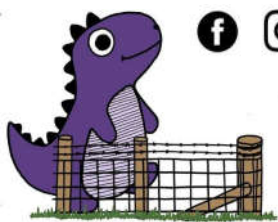
## Services

**Grooming:- Bath and brush - Pet Groom - Breed Standard groom - Puppy intro - Hand Stripping - De-shedding - Ear Cleaning - Nail Clipping**

## Other Services

- Ultrasonic Teeth Cleaning - Noise-free Motion-free - Stress-free
- Emmett Technique Therapy for Dogs - Light touch muscle release - Soft tissue relaxation - Relieve discomfort, improve movement, flexibility and overall well-being

For further details, please visit my website: **[www.thegroomingsanctuary.co.uk](http://www.thegroomingsanctuary.co.uk)**



## **Dino Fencing**

Specialising in all aspects of agricultural, equestrian and garden fencing. Please ring for free quotes

Mobile 07730436329

Home 01837861223

Email: [dinohorn1@gmail.com](mailto:dinohorn1@gmail.com)

**Based in Bridestowe**

## **ANIMAL MICROCHIPPING**

Home visits by arrangement also.

Call or text Jane **07809 747 379**

**£16.80p inc. VAT per animal**

## **SBG Plumbing & Heating Services**

Renewables - Air source, Ground Source

Natural Gas, LPG and Oil Central Heating

Boiler Installation & Upgrades

Gas Boiler Servicing Gas Safety Checks

Bathroom Installations

All aspects of general plumbing **07811 490 356**



[sigilbert@btinternet.com](mailto:sigilbert@btinternet.com)

## **Moorcare Gardening & Home Maintenance Services**

Grass cutting & lawncare • Hedge trimming & pruning

Weed control & maintenance • Planting beds & pots

Garden clearance • General tidying

DIY jobs and home maintenance

Call **07530 365125**

Martin

Sourton - Okehampton



## **L Knight Event Catering**

Weddings - Parties - Wakes - Holiday Cottage Catering - Corporate Events and Meetings.

Large and Small events catered for with bespoke menus to suite every catering need.

Full staffed service or Delivery only also available

Please call Leanne on **07706 767 831**

## HYDROTHERAPY AND PHYSIOTHERAPY FOR YOUR DOG

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

- Hip and Elbow Dysplasia
- Patella Luxation
- Spinal disease or Injury
- Cruciate Ligament Injuries
- Lameness
- Obesity
- Pre and Post Op Rehab
- Osteoarthritis
- Neurological disorders

**9 X 4 METRE POOL UNDERWATER TREADMILL PHYSIOTHERAPY MASSAGE**

The Retreat, Canine Rehabilitation Centre, Tavistock Road, Okehampton, EX20 4LR

Tel: **07711 492689**

W: [theretreatrehab.co.uk](http://theretreatrehab.co.uk)



### For all things Usborne

For more information on Usborne books, please contact: **Jackie Butler**, Independent Usborne Organiser

**07828323473** [elsiesbookcorner@gmail.com](mailto:elsiesbookcorner@gmail.com) Find me on Facebook  
- Elsie's Book Corner

## Recycling old duvets..

If you have any unwanted clean, non feather duvets that you would like me to transform into pet beds..... could you kindly contact me on **07855-830668**, I can then make arrangements for their collection.



## CHIROPODIST AND PODIATRIST

Whiteley Podiatry Bsc (Hons) Pod. MCPod

Clinic in St James Street, **Okehampton** EX20 1DJ **01837 338672**

Also at :

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



## THE WHITE HART INN, BRIDESTOWE

Nr Okehampton, Devon Tel: 01837 861318

**No quiz in August**  
**September's quiz on**  
**Wednesday 10th will**  
**be in aid of the**  
**Bridestowe Scout Group**



**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 from 12 midday. Home-cooked food available

**Sunday food** Roast dinners served 12 - 2pm and from 6pm. Last orders for food at 7.45pm

Our Sunday roasts are as popular as ever. Booking is advisable to avoid disappointment. Mike, Sarah and the team

## Itechmonster LTD

IT Support  
Domains

Website Design

Custom Software/Programming

Business E-mail

Web Hosting

**0330 043 0735**

Sales@itechmonster.com    helpdesk@itechmonster.com

## MUTTLEY MANOR DOGGY DAY CARE BOASLEY CROSS

We offer an animal friendly doggy day care service on the edge of Dartmoor some 10 minutes from Okehampton, 5 minutes from the A30, on an 8 acre smallholding with plenty of open space for regular walks normally every 3- 4 hours. We are a small licensed kennel with West Devon Borough Council, and able to offer a personal service to care for your treasured pet whilst in our care.

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**

## Haldon Wood Farm Plants ....

*At the top of Pool Hill*

*We have plenty of bedding and container plants plus lots more on offer, all very competitively priced. Our polytunnel is open so why not drop in to see what we've got.*

*John and Angie*

*01837 861866*



## TORS TRAVEL

An independent travel agent for all your travel needs

Hotels, flights, self catering, package holidays, activities, car hire, airport parking, hotel and airport transfers and travel insurance.

Contact Louise                    **07968 019 409**

Louise\_lavis@hotmail.com

Facebook- tors travel

## Gilbert Stephens LLP Solicitors

### Agricultural Law

- Farm and land sales
- Partnership matters
- Tenancy issues
- Environmental issues
- Wills and estates
- Health and safety
- IHT and APR advice
- Sporting rights

Call our Okehampton office **01837 51 21 00**

9 Red Lion Yard, Okehampton EX20 1AW

Visit [gilbertstephens.co.uk](http://gilbertstephens.co.uk) for more information

## R&B REMOVALS

**friendly & efficient service 24/7**

- regular trips to London
- local/long distance
- secure storage

CALL ROB ON

**01837 880336 or 07583 220243**



## Magna Maintenance Emergency Repairs

Complete Property Service

07540956379

Commercial and Domestic  
Work Undertaken

[www.magnamaintenance.com](http://www.magnamaintenance.com)  
[info@magnamaintenance.com](mailto:info@magnamaintenance.com)



## MAGNA CARPENTRY

Malcolm Head

[www.magnacarpentry.com](http://www.magnacarpentry.com)

Tel: 07540 956379



## B&B Studio Barn Conversion Accommodation



**Studio Barn Conversion B&B close to the main A30 with  
stunning views over Dartmoor**

**Large living/dining area, modern bathroom, double bedroom  
with king size 4 poster bed.**

**Dog friendly. Private fenced garden. Ample parking. Fast WiFi  
Comprehensive breakfast menu. Tea/coffee provided. Cooking  
facilities, Fridge and microwave.**

**Self catering cottages with hot tubs also available.**



**Luddon Farm, Boasley Cross, Okehampton. EX20 4NQ**

**Tel: 07787687309**

**Email: [peterdeacon@btconnect.com](mailto:peterdeacon@btconnect.com)**

## Raw Meat Animal Feed for Dogs & Cats

Convenient 400g blocks Frozen to preserve No preservatives  
and no artificial colourings - both can be harmful to your animal

### Raw Rations Plus

For information or to order:

website: [www.rawrationsplus.co.uk](http://www.rawrationsplus.co.uk)

Phone: \*07831 309 666 or 01566 783079 (\*Mobile number now  
corrected)

Email: [sales@rawrationsplus.co.uk](mailto:sales@rawrationsplus.co.uk)

Post: Fairview Bungalow, Lewdown, Okehampton EX20 4DL



## Mike Bailey Odd Job Man

Oke Odd Job Man & Van

*Any jobs considered, big or small*

18 Hare Tor Close, Okehampton EX20 1TS

07855 402143 or 01837 338029

# MOOR

## INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS

6, East Street, Okehampton EX20 1AS 01837 748218 [www.moorifa.co.uk](http://www.moorifa.co.uk)

**NO UPFRONT FEES      NO OBLIGATION      HIGHLY COMPETITIVE**  
**PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS | PROTECTION | ESTATE PLANNING & INHERITANCE**  
**TAX | TRUSTS | BESPOKE INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

*Moor Independent Financial advisers Limited is an Appointed Representative of ValidPath Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).*

*ValidPath Ltd is registered on the FCA register under Reference Number 197107*

## THE TOY SHOP

Your local, independent  
toy supplier

*We look forward to seeing you again soon!*

A small independent toy shop, stocking all the popular brands such as Lego, Orchard Toys, Green Toys, Lottie, Schleich, Smart Games, Djeco & Nerf. If you're looking for something a little bit different, then come and see our range of toys that you won't see anywhere else in town!

Receive a warm welcome and helpful advice.



[www.thetoyshopoke.co.uk](http://www.thetoyshopoke.co.uk)

18 Red Lion Yard, Okehampton EX20 1AW | 01837 52368 | [the toyshopoke](https://www.facebook.com/thetoyshopoke)



## THE GIFT SHACK



Gifts & Lovely Things | Personalised Gifts | Jewellery | Dog Gifts & Stationery

Order online & pick up locally from Treetops using coupon  
**ttopsfreepost** at checkout.

Greeting Cards | Wrapping Service | Local Products | Gifts for Children

Gift Wrapping Service Available. Hand illustrated paper, 100% eco. Made in GB



@thegiftshackuk



TheGiftShackuk



[thegiftshack.uk](http://thegiftshack.uk)



[hello@thegiftshack.uk](mailto:hello@thegiftshack.uk)

### Ian Cann

Professionally installed....kitchens.....bedrooms..... bathrooms

- Full supply and fit service
- Replacement doors and worktops
- Bespoke painted kitchens
- Made to measure bedrooms
- Wall and floor tiling
- Free quotes and advice

Tel: **01837 861480** Mobile: **07841043718** Email: **iancann007@yahoo.com**

### Tony Day - Plumbing and Gas services

Main and LPG gas appliances serviced and repaired

Phone **01837 83702** Mobile **07773 966 201**



## The Moor Hair Co at 3 St James Street, Okehampton

In the heart of the town, our experienced team of stylists is always pleased to see you. We pride ourselves on offering a high standard of hairdressing in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere, so come in and talk through your hair needs.

**To make an appointment, call 01837 658696**



### A traditional approach to window cleaning.

Please call John Butler on

**07426 134 957**

for a **FREE**, no obligation quote.

Taking on new customers in the local area.



Traceable • Authenticated • Nutritious • 100% grass-fed • Sustainable

Grass - fed Beef Boxes available

**01822 820699 moo@warsonbeef**

Warson Barton, Coryton, Nr Lydford, Okehampton EX20 4PQ  
com [www.warsonbeef.com/beef-boxes](http://www.warsonbeef.com/beef-boxes)



**Fiona Stacey Tel: 07870 632395 / 01566 783418**

Stewardship applications

Water regulations

Farm Assurance

Payroll

Waste Exemptions

Book keeping & VAT Returns

Basic Payment Scheme

Grazing Licences

Farm Record Keeping

Email: [fiona@staceyruralbusinessadmin.co.uk](mailto:fiona@staceyruralbusinessadmin.co.uk)

### Unusual 'Thumbprint Art' by Penny McInnes

Greetings cards Available from Riverside Stores.

Commissions accepted

Do you have an interesting home/garden/business premises which would look good as a 'thumbprint', with personal features and quirkiness? For a chat about a possible commission, or details of the full range and prices of products, ring me, Penny McInnes, on 07535 049623 or email [pennymcinnnes@aol.com](mailto:pennymcinnnes@aol.com)



### Broadwood Boiler Services

Quality oil fired appliance maintenance at competitive prices

Call Mark: **0781 4976 076** or **01566 784298**



**Bathroom - Kitchen - Floors & Walls  
Interior & Exterior Tiling**

a professional finish is guaranteed fitting ceramic, porcelain and natural stone tiles to your property

7 Day Turnaround Quote Guarantee - City & Guilds qualified - Fully insured - All Work Guaranteed



## **THE VILLAGE VALET** - Car valeting by M. Amhof

**0792 607 5341**

Covering a wide range of vehicles • Competitive rates offering a range of services

• No job too big or small

Email: [Thevillagevalet@yahoo.com](mailto:Thevillagevalet@yahoo.com)

## **Bramhill**

***Bramhill Traditional Specialist Builders***

Cob, Lime and Stone Laying, Eco Buildings, Barn Conversions, Lime plastering, Tadelakt & Venetian, Extensions, Repair, Restore & Renovate Listed Buildings, Repointing, Construction Skills Certification Scheme reg. FMB and TrustMark Approved.

Email: [bramhillbuilders@gmail.com](mailto:bramhillbuilders@gmail.com) Alister Polhill: **07518 908876**



Friendly, family run company aiming to provide a range of high quality arboricultural services Services include: Tree removals, tree pruning, reductions, thinning, shaping and dead wood removal, hedge trimming, stump grinding

and tree planting. Call now for advice and a free, no obligation quote.

Tel: **07398 26 8877**

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

## **Stokes & Co Accountants**

A One Stop Shop for all your bookkeeping & accountancy needs

• Sole Trader, Partnership & Limited Company Accounts • Project Management, Budgets and Analysis • VAT, Payroll and Month End Accounts

Free initial consultation - Please call to find out much we can save for you!

Tel: **01837 861176**

[www.stokesaccountants.co.uk](http://www.stokesaccountants.co.uk)

## **Okehamptonplumber.co.uk**

Gas boiler servicing from £50 (incl.LPG) Gas boiler replacement and repair Landlord certificates. Bathrooms and kitchens

Tel: **01837 658907** Mob: **07870 305 880**

Plumbing Heating Renewables



## **T.M. Maintenance & Construction. Affordable, friendly help**

Tony Matthews, experienced in maintenance & construction

No job too big or too small. Great prices on slate and marble cut to any size and shape Tel: **0797 226 3780** Email: [tonymtthws8@gmail.com](mailto:tonymtthws8@gmail.com)

## **DIY Supplies homehardware®**

17 St. James Street, Okehampton • Tel 01837 52130 • WE DELIVER

- Cleaning
- Cookware
- Decorating Supplies
- Electrical
- Gardening
- Housewares

- Ironmongery
- Key Cutting
- Paints & Mixing
- Plumbing
- Sharpening Service
- Timber
- Tools

Quality Goods • Competitive Prices • Service Second To None

## Champion Tree Services

All aspects of Tree Surgery and Garden maintenance undertaken :- Felling, Reductions, Hedge trimming, Strimming, Grass cutting, Ground maintenance, Also quality firewood supplied Fully insured  
Thrushel View, Lewdown Tel: **07881 288093**

## NAILZBYLOTTIE

Custom made press on nails

@Nailzbylottie +447743367874

Charleyjones199@gmail.com



Something to celebrate?

Want to tell someone how much you care?

## "SAY IT WITH BOOKS!"

Locally based in Bridestowe, we offer an extensive and ever increasing range of handmade designs.....newborns, expressions of love, family, animals and many more. Contact us now for a copy of our current catalogue.

For orders and enquiries: Email: kristinaalbon@hotmail.com or call **07426 771301**

## C. DA -VIEW

Window Cleaning Service in your area

Tel: **0777 333 0762** or **01837 659449** and ask for Paul



## Alistair Kinsey Hearing & Mobility

Independent Hearing Aid Audiologist

Ear wax removal service

Tel: **01822 617883**

Email: info@hearingmobility.co.uk

www.hearingmobility.co.uk

1A Pym Street, Tavistock, PL19 0AW

## Experienced carer

Has various days and hours available. Excellent references. To enquire, please contact Belinda **07534 711357**

## R.H. GARDEN AND HANDYMAN SERVICES

Lawn mowing and strimming  
clearing Power washing

Hedge trimming

Gutters cleared

Digging and planting Leaf

Car washing

Painting and decorating

Over 20 years experience

Call Richard on **01837 861220**

or mobile 07939574767

Email: kellyhaggar@hotmail.co.uk



Are you tired, overworked, overstretched and under pressure? Is your business out of control and you're missing deadlines? Have you fallen into the entrepreneur's trap? I create space and time for you to focus on the priorities of your business allowing it to grow and function more efficiently. My name is Chris Heron. and I offer Virtual PA and Business Administration Support. I'm passionate about supporting small businesses and in particular. women in business, to reach their full potential. So, if you want to get organised and get stuff done, let's have a chat

Tel: **01837 214667** Email: chris@time-well-spent.co.uk www.time-well-spent.co.uk

## **Richard's Time Machine**

Mobile Disco :- Wedding and Family Party Specialist, Personal, Memorable - and Fun!!

[www.richardstimemachine.co.uk](http://www.richardstimemachine.co.uk) **01837 811172**

## **SGC ELECTRICAL**

Sam Coward                      Electrician                      Bridestowe  
sgcoward@yahoo.com

**07914 750 728**      Okehampton



## **[www.TomFosterArchitecture.co.uk](http://www.TomFosterArchitecture.co.uk)**

Specialist in new, old and historic buildings for work or home.

Expert in Eco-Building, 'Passive House', DNPA, Planning Permission, Building Regs, build-contract admin, or just some can-do advice.

Ring **01647 24436** to bring your vision closer.



**BAKER'S BUILDING**  
Telephone: 01837 861 509  
**07789354435/ 07748344978**  
Woodhead, Bridestowe,  
Okehampton

## **Golden Leaf Landscapes**

Garden Construction, Design and Maintenance

Fully qualified with over 15 years experience

[www.goldenleaflandscapes.co.uk](http://www.goldenleaflandscapes.co.uk)

Louise and Robert Mogridge

**01837 89285    07811781137**

## **NORTHMOOR GARDEN MACHINERY**

Sales, service,      repairs & parts                      Collection service                      available

No VAT on labour charges    Tel: **07591 655072**                      Email: [info.northmoor@gmail.com](mailto:info.northmoor@gmail.com)

## **River Walks**

House/Pet Sitting

Over 16 years veterinary experience      Dogs, cats, small animals to  
small holdings and special needs pets cared for. Also dog walking and  
cleaning available                      Please call Louise on                      **07968698641**



## **DARREN PHARE, MOTOR ENGINEER, BRIDESTOWE GARAGE.**

Cars, Light Goods and 4X4s – servicing, repairs, welding, MOT preparation and MOTs arranged.

Tel: **01837 861770** or Mobile: **07773 669097**



**Caroline Harris, ALAB, Bookkeeping Services**

- Bookkeeping • Accounts preparation • VAT • Secretarial services
- Many years office and business experience

Tel **01566 783 502** Mobile **07866 953708** Email:cmhbookkeeping@btinternet.com

**The Old Chapel, Portgate Hill, Lewdown, EX204PX**

**P.S. Electrical****All electrical work undertaken**

**Office 01837 8811112 Mob: 07792 163156 Email:** Okehampton.pselectricians.co.uk66

**Spears Fishleigh, Sanctuary Lane, Hatherleigh, EX20 3LH**

**Chimney Sweep A J Musgrove**

Clean, professional service, maintenance and repairs

Certified and insured **07449 111 940**

**Dog walking and pet sitting**

Qualified dog behaviourist. BSc Hons degree.

Training, or walk and train. All sizes and types. Reactive dogs a speciality.

Individual or small groups of dogs, (no more than 4 compatible dogs walked together).

Ring me on **07568 537 532** for a chat.

**Heaecology**

Ecological Consultancy and Management - Specialists in Protected Species and Mitigation

Thrushel View, Lewdown, Okehampton EX20 4QP

Tel: 01566 783183 Mobile :07866 467 892 Email : office@heaecology.co.uk

Website: www.heaecology.co.uk

**Scrap cars collected**

**Reliable service guaranteed**

**Top prices paid**

**Secondhand tyres for sale.**

**Call Michael on 07831698676**

**Michael Lashbrook Any job undertaken!**

Garden Services - Treework - Hedge cutting

Tel: 0751 397 5711

Email: mlashbrookgardening@gmail.com

**MAN & VAN****Call Handy Van****01837  
811172**

Windows, doors, conservatories and joinery,UPVC, timber & aluminum supplied and fitted,Fascias, glazing & trade counter

Tel: **01837 54019**

**www.okehamptonglass.com**

## Forthcoming Events in August 2025

Saturday 2nd	1pm - late, Sporting Green BRIDFEST 25 4pm onwards, Live music at the Bearslake Inn
Sunday 3rd	10am - 4pm, Mowhay, Merton, Open garden 1.30pm - 5.30pm, Sourton Village Hall Cream teas
Thursday 7th	7.30pm, Reading Group, Wheatley Park Barn
Saturday 9th	10am - 12noon, The Ark, Coffee morning in aid of Blood Bikes
Sunday 10th	1.30pm - 5.30pm, Sourton Village Hall Cream teas
Tuesday 12th	12.15 for 12.30pm, Over 60's lunch
Thursday 14th	9am - 5pm, Stoney Park Showground, 117th Okehampton Show
Sunday 17th	1.30pm - 5.30pm, Sourton Village Hall, Cream teas 10.15am, Trip to Buckfast Abbey
Saturday 23rd	10am - 4.30pm, 'Bricktacular' Made-Well, West Fishleigh Farm, EX20 3QA
Sunday 24th	4pm onwards, Live music at the Bearslake Inn 1.30pm - 5.30pm, Sourton Village Hall, Cream teas
Saturday 30th	10am - 12pm, Bridestowe Village Hall, Bacon Baps 9.30am, Cemetery gates, Bridestowe Volunteer Group



### **POW PATIOS**

#### ***General outdoor services***

- Patio laying, Restoring, Cleaning & Pointing • General garden clearing,
- Tree cutting & logging, • Hedge & Grass cutting,
- Fencing & Fence repairs • General groundworks.

ALL JOBS CONSIDERED

If you require our service, please call Pow on **07355803908**

Or Les on **07591761096**

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.