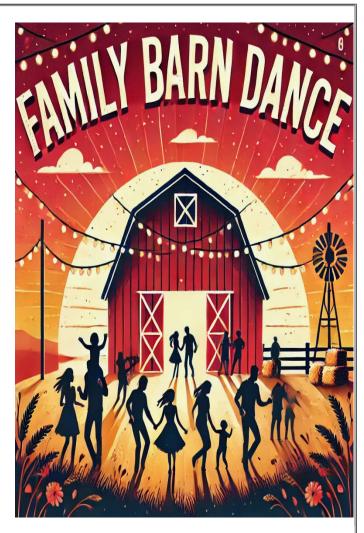
Bridestowe & Sourton Extra



Community News and Events September 2025 Edition 280



Bridestowe Churches Partnership Free Family Harvest Barn Dance with

Walter Shortage and the Hosepipe Banned

Saturday, 27th September (7pm start) Bridestowe Village Hall

Admission by ticket only (available from Riverside Stores).
Please bring your own food and drink.

Please join us for a Brew it Fair Coffee Morning

Saturday 20th September at the start of Fairtrade fortnight 10 - 12 noon at Fairplace Church



Fairtrade Tea and Coffee and tasty bites
Fairtrade stall. All welcome



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



There will be another Fairtrade Fortnight event on

SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER,

a Fairtrade Community Feast is taking place at the Ockment Centre Okehampton 7-9 pm.

All are welcome to this bring and share event.

As this year's campaign is BREW IT FAIR to encourage more sales of Fairtrade Tea there will be a tea tasting, a short video about Fairtrade Tea production and a Fairtrade Stall.

The Vicar writes...

This time of year, we celebrate the harvest. Some farmers have struggled this year, not just with the weather but with politicians, supermarkets, the media, environmentalists and just about everybody that eats their produce but isn't a farmer. The mini harvest from my garden wasn't too great this year either but for different reasons; mostly bad decisions on my part. Having never been one for using pesticides I have usually managed quite well with old fashioned ways using the: "Four seeds in a row,

One for the mouse, And for the crow, One to rot,

And one to grow." gardeners' philosophy. I keep the edges of the garden a bit wild to encourage birds which in turn eat a few pests and there's a little pond to encourage toads to do the same.

Earlier in the year I picked up one of those gardening magazines that you only see in doctors waiting rooms, and read an article about butterflies and how to encourage them in our gardens, it also mentioned how ragwort was a lovely wild flower and good for moths which, in hindsight, should have been a warning. Suitably inspired, I decided to tolerate a few caterpillars this year, maybe even sacrifice a cabbage or two for the greater good of the butterfly population and do my bit to save the planet.

When a few caterpillars appeared, I let them munch away on my lovingly cultivated greens, when there were a few too many they were carefully removed and taken to the bottom of the garden where they could find something else to eat or become bird food.

All was well, the planet was safe; until one morning my cabbages were gone! Just a few shreds of stalks like trees after the Battle of the Somme and thousands of caterpillars devouring them. It was too much, I declared war on the caterpillar army, no carrying to another part of the garden now, just instant squashing. After an hour or so of caterpillar genocide the cabbages were pest free, I am hoping their roots are deep enough to make

a recovery.

And where were the birds, why weren't they enjoying a caterpillar feast? They had been too busy eating the peas and raspberries to bother!

Lesson learnt; tolerance and empathy aren't virtues unless tempered by reason, and my enemy's enemy is not my friend. It reminded me of a song by Stompin' Tom Connors called Poor, Poor, Farmer:

I came from the city many months ago Sold almost everything and it gave me quite a stake ya know

I bought me self a section of the finest farmin' land

But how they make a fortune I don't understand.

Adrian Brook

FRIENDS OF ST BRIDGET'S PHOTO COMPETITION

Thank you to everyone that took part, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did putting the photo's together!

We raised £42.50 which will go to the Church Tower Fund.

After our feed back from last year we have printed the photo's with the answers. So if you would like to check where they all are you will find the answers on the notice board just inside the church porch on the left.

The winning entries are:
1st Kelly Green
2nd Brian & Rosemary Stanbury
3rd Lisa Pearce
4th Sarah Jenkins

A **BIG** thank you goes out to the White Hart, Farmer Luxton's, Country Lanes & Castle Drogo for their generous prizes. We hope you had fun taking part, discovering things you had never noticed before. And those of you that missed out, perhaps you would like to join us next year! Thank you

Bridfest 2025

A huge thank you from Bridfest 25! We just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who joined us on Saturday 2nd August - it was an absolutely fantastic day! Be sure to check out the amazing photos captured by our official photographer, Sam Smith, now live on the Bridfest 25 website.

Our incredible committee members and volunteers are taking a well-deserved rest before we dive into planning next year's event. We couldn't have done it without you—your support gives us the perfect excuse to keep Bridfest alive and thriving!

Thank you once again for making it so special.

Lisa Peace

Bridfest 2025

Congratulations to the people who organised the Bridfest. What a wonderful day, so many people, young and old, enjoying all the entertainment, food and drink in our community space.

The music was great, something for everyone. So a big thank you to you all, it's such hard work.

We, the cake/tea ladies, made £546, we donated £300 to the Devon Air Ambulance the rest we gave to Bridfest.

Janet Rattenbury

Ann and Alison would like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the tombola stall at Bridfest. We raised a record amount and this will go towards Bridfest 26. The children were a particular delight. Next year we might split the stall having separate adult and children tombolas.

BRIDESTOWE THURSDAY MORNING

GROUP Our meeting this month will be a trip to Lewtrenchard Manor for coffee and cake. That will be on **Thursday**, **September 18th**, leaving the village at about 10.15. As they require numbers a week in advance, could you please let me know whether you can come, and if you need a lift or are able to offer one. Hoping lots of you will be able to come.

Ann Allan on 861551





Established in November 2001



Tuesday 16 September 2.30pm at Fairplace Church Our speaker this month is Sean Jones

Sean is a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Devon and Cornwall police and is based at Okehampton police station.

As a uniformed, civilian member of the police force he will talk about his vital role in community policing including; crime prevention, supporting police officers and victims of crime.

His role also covers community safety which includes contributing to a sense of safety and security in the community by addressing local issues and providing reassurance to the people of Okehampton and carrying out high-visibility patrols in designated areas to deter crime and anti-social behaviour.

So, if you want to know about policing in our area why not come along and hear what Sean has to say.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of his talk.

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

For further information please contact Dee McVey 01837 658590

Outstanding Headteachers by Howard Barkell

It used to be said that the three most important men in a village were the Squire, the Parson and the Schoolmaster. Several inhabitants would have been employed by or tenants of the squire, similarly the parson, but the schoolmaster was usually the one that actually organised and got things done. Some schoolmasters came from humble backgrounds, so theirs was a big step up in social standing. No wonder they sometimes chose to stay for so long.

William Henry Kenner, the first headteacher of Lydford School, was born at Devonport in 1853, but by the time he was a teenager the family had moved to Soho, London. His parents were working as a tailor and tailoress and William was at school as a pupil teacher. He progressed to college to train as a teacher and once qualified, in 1875, he was appointed as headteacher at St. Magdalene's National School in Barnstaple. He married Bessie Sargent in 1878 and the following year they moved to Lydford where at first they lived in a cottage near the Old Post Office. The school soon began to receive good reports from the Inspectors and the pupils were said to be a credit to Mr. Kenner. He remained in post until his retirement c. 1920. They moved back to Barnstaple where he died in 1927.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Kenner were good singers, the former often accompanying himself and in 1879 both took part in a very successful variety concert in the school, the first of many to be held in Lydford. He trained and conducted the Lydford Band and for many years played the harmonium for Sunday worship at St. Petroc's. In 1897 he was organist at the Choral Festival where choirs from Lydford, Princetown, Postbridge and Huccaby combined and the Lydford Band entertained at the following Bazaar held in the Rectory grounds. He was an early member of the cricket club and the first secretary of the Men's Club committee. In 1915 he received the clock presented to the Club by the men of the National Reserve on behalf of the Chairman and made a suitable speech of thanks.

When the semi-detached houses were built next to the school the Kenners moved into one of them. When Daniel Radford's Lydford estate was put on the market in 1912 that house was bought prior to auction by Devon County Council for £300. It continued to be known as Torr Park.

In 1924 Mr & Mrs Kenner were in failing health and by the following year had moved back to Barnstaple where two of their children were living. William died on Good Friday 1927. The funeral service was held at St. Magdalene's. Several wreaths had been sent by organisations and individual families from Lydford. A Memorial Service was held in Lydford at the same time.

Another long serving headteacher at Lydford was Doris Michell. She was born at Calstock in 1900 and remained at school there as a pupil teacher until she was able to go for further education. She then qualified at St. Katherine's College, White Hart Lane, London, which had been one of the first 'new' training colleges for teachers.

By the time she was appointed to Lydford c. 1930 she was head at Tetcott School and had been married for three years to James Michell, also from Calstock, a mining engineer who spent a lot of time in the Gold Coast (now Ghana). On his travels he always gave his address as School House, Lydford.

Mrs. Michell broadened the curriculum and the children regularly won singing and elocution prizes at Tavistock and Plymouth festivals. She also introduced the first annual sports day in 1933. For the Coronation Celebrations in 1937 she organised a children's procession followed by a play and then a sports afternoon. After the war it was largely through her enthusiasm and leadership that the village now has a sports field.

She retired to Tavistock, but died shortly afterwards aged 65. Her ashes were interred 'back home' at Albaston Cemetery.

When Tom Sly was appointed as headteacher at Bridestowe in 1887 education in the village was at a low ebb. Various problems had caused standards to be well below those expected. His sister, Laura, was appointed as assistant mistress, probably unqualified. Tom was born in Lamerton and stayed on at school there as a pupil teacher until he went to St. Luke's Training College in Exeter. Soon after his appointment at Bridestowe Lucy Tickell from Bude became the Infant Mistress, a post she held for forty years. With the

help of various pupil teachers the fortunes of the school improved until Tom's untimely death in 1915 at the age of 50. His funeral was held at Lamerton, but all six bearers were from Bridestowe. A memorial service was held at St. Bride's, as it used to be known. It was said he led with a clear head and a quiet manner, the most helpful of people, one of Nature's gentlemen. He had been at the school for 27 years and is remembered by a brass plaque on the choir stalls in the church. He was followed by a fellow St. Luke's trainee, John Rendle Westcott, always known as J.R. He came from a farming family near Sandford and was a pupil teacher until passing the exam to enter St. Luke's. After qualifying he taught at Cheriton Fitzpaine while still living at home and was then appointed as headteacher at Calstock. In 1915 he was married at Witheridge and later that year was appointed headteacher at Bridestowe and his wife was appointed as an Elementary Schoolmistress. Lucy Tickell was already in post as Infant Mistress. She retired in 1931 and Mrs. Westcott followed in 1932 due to ill health. J.R. continued until retirement in December 1942 after 27 years at Bridestowe. He was a keen gardener and beekeeper. The large school garden occupied the strip from Coppins down to the Launceston road. This is where the older boys learned how to grow vegetables and fruit. He also served the Church, the Men's Club, the Parish Hall, the Carnival, the War Savings Group, the Agricultural Association as well as acting as pianist at various village events. He lived in retirement at Whipton for over twenty years. The four headteachers I have singled out served the local villages with long service, energy and distinction. As strict disciplinarians they may not have always been remembered with affection by their former pupils, but they certainly were with the respect of most.

NICHOLLS HALL LYDFORD

BACON BUTTY, CAKE AND COFFEE MORNING

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

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

Bridestowe Parish Council

The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 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

Tree work will be carried out in mid-September in the Sporting Green. The height of certain trees that border the river will be reduced. The branches will be cut into lengths and can be taken by villagers. The PC would appreciate a donation for the wood.

Donations will go towards funding the project to provide new play equipment in the Sporting Green. Donations can be left at Riverside Stores in the appropriate collecting box. Thank you

Okehampton Recycling Centre

0345 155 1010

Summer opening times
April - September

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



Live music at the Wharf, Tavistock....

.The Zac Schulze Gang Sunday 28th September 7:30pm

Known for their old-school blend of 70s classic blues rock and modern alternative influences, the Kent-based band have steadily built a loyal following who are fans of energetic, raw-to-thebone live shows. Their exciting sound combines classic British R&B with punk energy, great musicianship, and dynamite.

Formed in Gillingham (south-east UK) in 2020, The Zac Schulze Gang are an electrifying bluesrock trio built on the playing of front man Zac Schulze, joined by bassist Ant Greenwell and drummer Ben Schulze. The gang create their signature sound by blending rock and blues with influences from punk, funk, country, jazz, soul, metal and pop.

Fronted by guitarist/vocalist Zac Schulze and backed up by bassist Anthony Greenwell and drummer Ben Schulze; the Gang's sound and work ethic harks back to the much-loved live dynamic and relentless touring schedules of 70s icons including Rory Gallagher and Dr Feelgood. Their unique sound also embodies elements of heritage classic rock acts including AC/DC and Thin Lizzy, while giving a firm salute to contemporary influences like Royal Blood and Queens of the Stone Age.

The Gang have made lasting impressions at esteemed festivals including Eric Clapton's Crossroads in LA, Planet Rock's Winter End in

2023 and Fairport's Cropredy Festival, and the Rory Gallagher Tribute Festival in Ballyshannon where the band first exploded onto the scene.

The Zac Schulze Gang won 'UK Emerging Artist of the Year' at the UK Blues Awards 2024 and followed this by winning "Young Artist of the Year" at the UK Blues Awards 2025. With sold out shows in Netherlands, Germany, and most recently sold-out shows on their first headline UK tour, it's clear the band are going places. Forthcoming headline festival appearances include Rory Gallagher Festival in Ballyshannon, Ireland, and the UK's Broadstairs Blues Bash.

After earning a reputation as one of the hardest working bands in the country, they are now touring internationally across the UK, Ireland, mainland Europe and North America. They have toured and shared the bill with artists such as Samantha Fish, Jesse Dayton, Eddie 9V, Nine Below Zero, Aynsley Lister, Band of Friends and The Cinelli Brothers.

The gang have been nominated multiple times in both the 2023 and 2024 UK Blues Awards, winning the UK Blues Emerging Band of the Year award for 2024. They were also invited to play at Eric Clapton's Crossroads Festival 2023 in Los Angeles and made an appearance at Fairport's Cropredy Convention in 2024 to large acclaim

Tickets prices

From 6pm on the night £22.00 Adult in Advance £20.00

New advertiser..

Interior Design Consultants based near Lydford...

from running your entire project... to a bit of guidance to keep you on track of your own renovation or revamp of a small project - we can help...

www.bayleyskinner.com. studio@bayleyskinner.com.

Tel: 01665 661199



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

Gravestone Inspection at St Thomas a Becket

As part of routine safety checks, an inspection of the closed graveyard at St Thomas a Becket has recently been carried out in line with safety guidance. The inspection was necessary to ensure that all memorial stones are safe for parishioners, visitors, and maintenance staff.

During the inspection, 12 gravestones were found to be unstable and failed the safety test. The Council is now reviewing measures to make these memorials temporarily safe while efforts are made to trace and contact the families responsible for their upkeep.

In the long term, it is the responsibility of the families or descendants of those commemorated to arrange for any repair or permanent work to the gravestones. The Council will do all it can to support families in this process.

The following stones were identified during the inspection, and the Council is asking for descendants or relatives of these families to get in touch:

- Richard Woodrow 1906
- Joseph Bell 1922, Selina Ball 1923
 Herbert Pellow France 1918
- Gertrude Ellis 1924, WW Ellis 1948
- Kenneth Ellis 1915
- Betsey Pellow 1929, Richard Pellow 1932, Thomas Pellow 1961
- Henry Fleuss 1933
- Edgar Alfred 1977 Hilda Alfred 1989
- Betsey Alford 1922 Walter Alford 1928
- Emma Alford Walter Alford 1967
- Stephen Daniel 1915 Anne Daniel 1918
- William Hill 1930, Ellen Hill 1933
 Herbert Hill 1923
- John Brook 1924

These are all located in the newest closed area of the graveyard. If you are a family member or have information that may help

us contact the relevant families, please contact Clerk.

In the meantime, temporary measures will be put in place to reduce any immediate safety risks while the longer-term repairs are arranged.

Grass Cutting Tender - Village Green and Churchyard

The Council will be discussing the grass cutting tender for the Village Green and the closed areas of the Churchyard at its September meeting.

Anyone interested in quoting for this work is invited to contact the Parish Clerk for further details.

Boasley Chapel

Happenings in September



Sunday 7th *Cream Teas* 2.30-4.30pm **Sunday 14th Service** 2.30pm with Rev. Chris Jackson

Thursday 18th Soup and Sweet 12-2pm

Wednesday 24th

Macmillan Coffee Morning

10.30-12.30pm

Sunday 28th 11am *Service* with Mrs Bridget Down

Everyone always very welcome!



Bridestowe Volunteer Group

The group helped tidy the village prior to Bridfest by clearing as many of the gutters of weeds as they could. If cars are parked the weeds remain but you can see from the photograph the improvement that's achieved by hoeing the weeds.

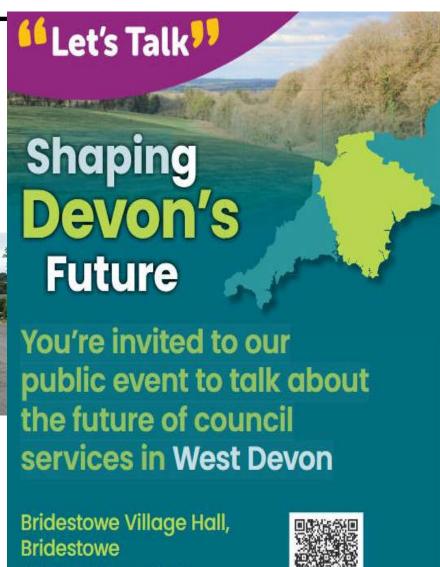


More photos of the group hard at work can be seen on Bridestowe & Sourton Facebook page.

BVG are grateful to all those who supported the pub quiz back in July that raised £270.

The next session will be on Saturday 30th September, meeting at 9.30pm at the cemetery gates. New volunteers are always welcome





10 September 2025 6:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.



Help shape the future of Devon

Event information www.westdevon.gov.uk/lgr-events



West Devon **Borough Council**

Sutton Mead Moretonhampstead, Devon, TQ13 8PW Friday 5th, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th September, 12-5pm

A large garden with splendid views of Dartmoor. Remote yet only a dozen miles from Exeter, Okehampton and Newton Abbot. A constantly colourful garden. May numerous varieties of rhododendron, azalea and

late spring bulbs. September hydrangeas, dahlias, agapanthus and much more. Mature orchard,

productive vegetable garden, substantial tree planting, croquet lawn. Wander through tranquil woodland. Lawns surround a granite lined pond with a seat at the water's edge. Elsewhere unusual planting, grasses, bog garden, granite walls, rill fed pond, secluded seating and an unusual concrete gothic greenhouse all contribute to a garden of variety that has been developed and constructed over 45 yrs by the current owners. Plants from the garden for sale and teas, cream or otherwise, are a must. Dogs on leads welcome.





St Thomas à Becket Church -September CREAM TEAS

A very big THANK YOU to everyone who has helped us over the summer to raise so much to support our lovely church. It enables us to keep it open and also to contribute to the repair fund. We hope to start essential routine repairs before the winter.

It has been lovely to see the hall so busy during August. Many of our regular people are local, coming from Sourton,

Bridestowe, Lewdown ,Stowford, Boasley, Okehampton and Tavistock. We have had groups of Ramblers and also folk dancers

from Tavistock .We have also had holiday people and cyclists and walkers and passers -by . It would not have been possible without our hardworking team of bakers, kitchen-workers, waitresses and waiters- and those that work behind the scenes, with preparation and publicity and clearing up afterwards. We would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs who have kindly allowed us to use the field for parking.

If you have a few hours available and enjoy meeting people and taking part in this friendly community regular event please get in touch with Jenny Batten Tel .07879 253903 or Ruth Humphry 07967 357505 so we can plan for next year.

FUTURE DATES Harvest Service Sunday October 5th at 5.30 p.m.

Our Harvest Service and Buffet supper will take place in the church followed by a buffet supper.

Remembrance Sunday Service November 9th

Sunday Services for September

September 7th Holy Communion at

9.30 a.m.

September 14th Service at Bridestowe September 21st Service at Bridestowe September 28th Morning Prayer at

9.30a.m.

Jenny Batten

A sincere thank you to all those who responded to my plea for early submissions for September's BaSE and apologies to those I continued to chivvy even **after** they had sent in their pieces! Shame on me. AY



no abrasive particles

· no anesthetic

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



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Euros in stock, other foreign currency to order in as little as 24 hours Parcel Force, Royal Mail, Amazon & UPS Drop off & pick up point Gift Cards: One for All, Amazon & John Lewis

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We deliver 7 days a week every morning.
We welcome new customers who would like to setup an account.

We can deliver;

Daily newspapers, (with or without vouchers), milk, fresh breads & groceries. (Groceries to be paid for in advance of delivery)

Thank you for your continued support.

Michaela & Colin

SHOP: Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm, Saturday 9am – 12 noon, Sunday Closed.
POST OFFICE: Monday to Friday 9am to 5.45pm, Saturday 9am – 12 noon, Sunday Closed.

Riverside Stores & Post Office Part time driver required

We are looking for a part time driver, to start ASAP, for early morning deliveries of newspapers, milk and groceries around the Bridestowe and Sourton area. You'd need to be Self Employed and own your own vehicle for which we would pay mileage. Hours are 4 mornings a week, Sunday to Wednesday inclusive, from 6am to roughly 8am.

If interested, please call Michaela or Colin on the above shop telephone number.

New advertiser..

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Movie Watch - August 2025

Somewhat against our better judgement, but once again enthused by the prospect of a prefilm Indian, a small group travelled to the New Carlton to take in **The Naked Gun**, the latest offering in the long-running Police Squad! series.

Liam Neeson plays the son of Leslie Nielsen's Lt Frank Drebin, appearing opposite his now real-life partner Pamela Anderson in this enjoyable, and occasionally very funny, slapstick spoof of 1980's LA action movies. Both Neeson and Anderson demonstrate hitherto unsuspected comedic talent. Neeson in particular deadpans his way through the whole ludicrous piece.

Drebin is a hapless police detective who lurches from one puerile gag to the next. The Guardian describes the film as 'amiably ridiculous, refreshingly shallow, entirely pointless and guilelessly crass,' descriptors with which it would be impossible to take exception.

If you choose to take in this film, you'll need to be in the right frame of mind and prepared to laugh, at pretty much everything. Some of the US-based jokes sailed straight over our heads although many hit the spot. One poor-taste visual gag in particular, relating to OJ Simpson, was outstandingly funny.

The film is very short, with a run-time well under an hour and a half, although the makers have compensated for that with probably the longest set of credits ever recorded. Not a great film then, but it will make you laugh.

No screening details as yet for **The Roses** but general release is scheduled for 29th August and, with some heavy promotion planned, that one should reach Okehampton early in September. Olivia Colman and Benedict Cumberbatch star in a remake of 1989's acclaimed **The War of the Roses** which featured Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny DeVito.

The promotional blurb reads, 'Life seems easy for picture-perfect couple lvy and Theo: successful careers, a loving marriage, great kids. But

beneath the facade of their supposedly ideal life, a storm is brewing. As Theo's career nosedives while Ivy's own takes off, a tinderbox of fierce competition and hidden resentment ignites.'

With a seriously strong cast, this should be one of the better recent remakes.

As ever, you'll need to keep an eye on the New Carlton's 'Coming Soon' page but **Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale** is due to be released on 12th September and is sure to be popular. Hugh Bonneville, Laura Carmichael and Jim Carter star, as the next generation prepares to lead Downton Abbey into the future.

An equally impressive cast, headed by Leonardo DiCaprio, star in **One Battle After Another** which should arrive here in mid-September, while Colin Farrell, Margot Robbie and Phoebe Waller-Bridge feature in **A Big, Bold, Beautiful Journey**, an American romantic fantasy scheduled for release around the same time.

I don't know whether anyone out there might be able to help, but we're on the lookout for a long-term viewing project. We've done Breaking Bad, Better Call Saul, Mad Men, Tin Star and Ozark (possibly the best of the lot), but have nothing on the viewing agenda for this winter. Any suggestions will be gratefully received.

best drama series on television is unquestionably the award-winning Horses, brilliantly adapted from Mick Herron's series of thrillers and starring Gary Oldman. The new TV series launches on 24th September. The problem is they're still only available on AppleTV+ and so suffer from limited distribution. If ever you need to replace an Apple phone, or some other Apple device, you can get a free 3-month trial subscription to their TV service. You won't regret it.

Meanwhile August has seen some tremendous televised sport. The largest TV audience of the month was attracted by the final of the **Women's European Championships** between England and Spain. The BBC

audience peaked at 12.2m, with BaSE Page 11

another 4.2m opting for ITV coverage of the game.

Suggesting that winter is just around the corner, **Match of the Day** (BBC) is back, now overseen by likeable presenters in the form of Kelly Cates, Gabby Logan and Mark Chapman while, having blotted his BBC copybook once too often, Gary Lineker has departed, no doubt to nurture his burgeoning podcast empire.

Personally speaking, the sporting highlight came on the cricket field. The **England v India Test** series built to a tremendous climax, with more than a million UK viewers watching the gripping final 56 minutes, played out on a Monday morning. Sadly we were not amongst them as we were crawling past Stonehenge at the time. Radio listening figures are harder to come by, but over 500,000 digital listener requests (whatever that means) were made in that final hour. The global TV audience was estimated at an eye-watering 170m. Those Indians love their cricket.

If you don't much like cricket, then as an accessible entry point you might usefully try **The Hundred** (BBC and Sky) which is competitive but good, knockabout fun, aimed primarily at a family audience, without taking itself too seriously.

Recommendations to view have been gratefully received from various sources. These include **The Two Faces of January** (BBC), described by The Times as a cool, crisp thriller, **In Flight** (C4) which I've not yet seen but apparently is very watchable, although the Bulgarian Tourist Board will disagree, and **Ridley** (ITV), starring Adrian 'Line of Duty' Dunbar, which is described as 'solid Sunday night crime.'

Hostage launched on Netflix towards the end of August, starring the invariably excellent Suranne Jones, playing a Prime Minister whose husband is kidnapped. She must manage the situation while caring for their daughter along with her elderly father.

This month's equally appreciated 'Recommendations to avoid at all costs' list is headed by **Destination X** (BBC1), hosted by a

bewildered-looking Rob Brydon, **Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins** (C4), featuring a group of people who are not, by any stretch of the imagination, celebrities and also ITV's dismal **The Fortune Hotel**, in which 11 couples compete to win an obscene sum by lying to one another, whilst holed up in a luxurious hotel in Grenada.

Masterchef (BBC) has become an amusing watch as the programme-makers frantically attempt to edit out those contestants sufficiently distressed by the accusations levelled at the presenters, that they want no part of the show. See if you can spot the joins.

Finally, a kindly, and dare I say unusually sensitive, BaSE reader has submitted a list of 'Feel Good' films, as a counterpoint to the sex and violence prevalent in many contemporary releases.

Hunt for the Wilderpeople, in which Sam Neill heads an otherwise largely unknown cast, tells the story of a young boy and his foster father who become the subjects of a manhunt after becoming stranded in the New Zealand wilderness.

The World's Fastest Indian tells the story of New Zealander Burt Munro, a motorcycle enthusiast who spends years rebuilding and perfecting his 1920 Indian bike. He puts everything on the line and amazingly sets a world land speed record. Anthony Hopkins plays the lead role in a delightful film.

The Dish, stars Sam Neill and is described as 'an unashamedly sentimental account of Australia's role in producing signals necessary to broadcast the Apollo 11 moon landing.'

The Peanut Butter Falcon stars, amongst others, a young Dakota Johnson. A man with Downs Syndrome runs away from a residential nursing home to pursue his dream of becoming a wrestler.

All these films are available to view on at least one of the various streaming services and all come heartily recommended.

David Harrison August 2025

Bacon Baps will be served on **Saturday** 27th September 10am - 12 noon in **Bridestowe Village** Hall.



Warning, we have increased our prices. The large packs of bacon used to cost around £14 from Martins in Okehampton but and are now £19.50.

Mike Bidmead, our 'Plant Man', will be there of course. There will be a reduced selection of secondhand books to browse through as we've had a good prune and those that had been here sometime found a new home at Lydford Gorge's secondhand book shop. If you have any books you'd like to donate, please bring them along.

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

01837 861157

BRIDESTOWE READING GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4th September at 11 Trescote Way at 7.30pm. We will be discussing Clare Mackintosh's A Game of Lies.



About the book..

A sordid reality TV show turns deadly in this compelling case for Detective Ffion Morgan, as a murderer starts picking off contestants one by one in the Welsh mountains.

Seven reality show contestants arrive in the Welsh mountains to compete for a life-changing prize, not realising what they're truly signing up for. Each stranger has a secret - and the show will force them to expose one another live on air. It's not long before things take an even darker turn, and Detective Ffion Morgan is summoned to untangle the truth behind the scenes.

And when a murderer strikes, every one of Ffion's suspects has an alibi . . . and a secret worth killing for.

Longlisted for the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year www.waterstones.com

About the author

Clare Mackintosh is an award-winning New York Times and international bestselling author. She spent 12 years on the police force in England and has written for The Guardian, Good Housekeeping and other publications. Translated into 40 languages, her books have sold more than two million copies worldwide. Clare lives in North Wales with her husband and their three children.

New members are always welcome.

01566 783529

email: neil@neiledgson.com

Lunar cycle for September

New moon 21st 30th First quarter Full moon 7th Last quarter 14th



Partial Lunar Eclipse:

A partial lunar eclipse will be visible on September 7 - 8. The eclipse's maximum will be at 7:33 pm BST, as the Moon gradually moves out of Earth's shadow until 9:55 pm, according to Royal Museums, Greenwich



Bridestowe Churches Partnership





Sunday Worship for September 2025

Sunday 7th Sept

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 14th

9.30 am Morning Prayer at St Bridget's11.00am Morning Service at the MethodistChapel with Angela Banfield

Sunday 21st

9.30am Harvest service at St Bridget's – this is a United Service with the Methodists

Sunday 28th

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

11.00am Bridestowe Worship Group

Poem: A Priceless Gift

Friendship is a priceless gift that cannot be bought or sold, But its value is far greater than a mountain made of gold.

For gold is cold and lifeless, it can neither see nor hear And in the time of trouble it is powerless to cheer.

It has no ears to listen nor heart to understand, It cannot bring you comfort or reach out a helping hand.

So when you ask God for a gift Be thankful if He sends Not diamonds, pearls, or riches But the love of real true friends.

Helen Steiner Rice



The Ark

The Coffee Morning in August was very well supported, Thank you all. We made £270 for the charity Blood Bikes.

Our Charity for the September Coffee Morning is The Shoe Box Charity to help pay for transport of the boxes.

It will be held on Saturday 13th September. Do Come.

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 9th September.



Gather at 12.15 for lunch at 12.30pm.

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

FREE 6 modern dining chairs.

Wooden with dark brown/ black seat and back.

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At Okehampton Library

Okehampton Library offers so much more than books. It's a warm, welcoming space with free WiFi and computer access, people to chat to, groups and activities. 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 libraries unli

discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk Follow us on Facebook (Okehampton Library) and Instagram (@okehampton.library).

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

The Summer Book Quest: until 12 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. There's still time to collect all your stickers and finish!

Storytime & Craft: Wednesday 3 September, 10:00-10:30

This month's theme is dogs - come along to listen to some stories all about dogs and make one to take home! Suitable for all ages.

Suggested donation 50p per child, drop-in.

National Energy Foundation Information Stand: 9 September, 10:30-13:00

Struggling with your energy bills? If you're worried about your energy bills or need advice on accessing financial support, Better Housing Better Health is here to help. A free energy advice service working to improve well-being and improve the energy efficiency of your home. Their trained advisers are ready to provide:

Personalised home visits to assess your energy needs and offer tailored advice. Clear, practical bill advice to help you understand and manage your energy costs. Debt management support to guide you through challenging financial situations. Access to financial assistance and schemes you may be eligible for. Energy-saving tips and accessories to help you reduce costs and stay warm. You may also be eligible for additional support, such as the Winter Fuel Payment, a yearly tax-free payment to help with energy costs. No matter your situation, they're here to offer expert advice and practical solutions to help you feel more confident about your energy usage and household expenses.

CAB & Healthwatch Information Stand: Tuesday 23 September, 10:00-12:00

Kathy Fogerty, Healthwatch Champion, will be here to talk about CAB's work with Healthwatch, one of their specialist services partners as well as answer any questions about the work of Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon or, indeed, volunteering with them.

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

Thursday09:00-17:00

Friday 09:00-18:00

Saturday 09:00-13:00

Okehampton Library, 4 North Street, EX20 1AR Okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

01837 52805

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity (1170092)

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



As I'm writing this, we're entering the fourth heat wave of the summer. The prolonged dry weather won't be good for some species, especially the moisture loving plants in the gorge. A bit of good news however, on a recent survey in the orchard, volunteers from Devon Moth Group recorded 133 different species of moth in one night. Including a couple of nationally scarce species and lots of others of interest. They found 21 rosy footman moths, a less common species that as a caterpillar feeds on lichens growing on trees. (photo: pink & yellow colouring)



I have another Devonian word for you, and one of my favourites. 'Scriddick' means a tiny morsel, and when you've been out on the moor all day and ask if there's anything more to eat you might hear 'you'm ate it awl, t'idden a scriddick left'. I regularly post a Devonian word or phrase on the National Trust Dartmoor social media channels. I think it's lovely to keep the old words and expressions, many of which I have grown up hearing, alive and share them with new and old audiences.

A huge thank you, again, to everyone who has bought or donated books. We have so far raised over £11,000 which will all be used to help look after Lydford Gorge. If you have any books to donate please bring them down when we're open or get in touch as we can also arrange to collect. We're especially looking for novels and children's books, but all books, and puzzles, are welcome.

<u>Free entry for all with Heritage Open Days</u> in September 2025

Cotehele – Wednesday 17 to Sunday 21, 10am-5pm

Castle Drogo – Wednesday 17, 10am-5pm Lydford Gorge – Friday 19 and Saturday 20, 10am-4.30pm

Buckland Abbey – Friday 12 and Sunday 21, 10am-5pm

Castle Drogo's Hydro Turbine – Sunday 21, 11am-3pm

Finch Foundry – Saturday 20, tours at 11am, 12 noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm.

Please book to guarantee entry www.nationaltrust.org.uk/finch-foundry

Apple day

Saturday 27 September, 11am-2pm. Help press the apples from the orchard.

Connection Café

Wed 24 Sep, 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 2 November 2025

Devil's Cauldron trail, Waterfall trail, and Lyd Link path open every day 10am-4.30pm (3.30pm October).

Second-hand bookshop 10am-4.30pm (3.30pm October).

Devil's Cauldron tea-room 10.30am-4.30pm (3.30pm October).

Waterfall tea-room 10am-4pm (3pm October).

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

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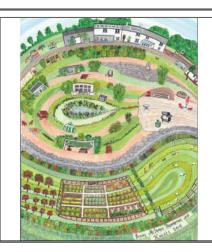
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Forthcoming Events - September 2025

Thursday 4th 7.30pm, 11 Trescote Way Reading Group,

Friday 5th,6th, 7th 12 - 5pm, Sutton Mead Moretonhampstead, Open garden

Tuesday 9th 12.15 for 12.30pm, Over 60's lunch

Wednesday 10th 8pm, The White Hart, Quiz in aid of Bridestowe Scouts

Saturday 13th 10am - 12noon, The Ark, Coffee morning in aid of the Shoe Box

Charity

Tuesday 16th 2.30pm, Fairplace Church, u3a talk

Wednesday 17th 7.30pm, The Ark (Methodist Church) Bridestowe PC meeting

Saturday 20th 10 - 12 noon, Fairplace Church, Fairtrade Coffee Morning

Saturday 27th 10am - 12pm, Bridestowe Village Hall, Bacon Baps

9.30am, Cemetery gates, Bridestowe Volunteer Group

7pm start, Bridestowe Village Hall, Barn Dance

7 - 9pm, Ockment Centre, Fairtrade feast

Sunday 28th 7.30pm The Wharf, Tavistock, The Zac Schulze Gang



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

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