



# STRETEWISE

## *Merry Christmas*



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# Tractors of Light

Join us for an exciting new event: a dazzling procession of illuminated tractors parading around Dartmouth on December 14th, 2024!

The location and route are still being finalised, but you can show your interest now by visiting [RiverDartRotary.co.uk/tol](http://RiverDartRotary.co.uk/tol).

Prizes awarded to Best Dressed Tractor/Drivers etc. (see website for more information).

Funds raised will go to support a Farmers Mental Health Charity & other River Dart Rotary causes

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## Donations Welcome

Help us Dress the Tractors!

**Battery Powered Lights**

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Please drop donations to Strete Post office  
or  
49 Start Bay Park, Strete





# FESTIVE EVENTS

**Carols around the Tree, Strete**

**1st December 6.00pm**

**Christmas at Woodlands**

**25th November – 23rd December**

The Woodlands Christmas Grotto Experience is back – bigger and more magical than ever before.

**Dartmouth Steam Railway Train of Lights**

**24th November – 30th December**

Enjoy the multi award-winning Christmas experience and the UK's first ever steam train of lights with Dartmouth Steam Railway.

**Dartmouth's Dazzling 'Tractor of Lights' Procession**

**Saturday, 14th December, 5.30pm**

Parade Route: Starts at Dartmouth Park and Ride, traveling down College Way, along North Embankment, around the Boat Float, Mayors Avenue, and back up College Way to the Park and Ride. Estimated start time of procession is 5:30pm.

**National Trust Coletton Fishacre, Coletton**

Throughout the month of December, Christmas lights and kaleidoscopic spotlights turn the grounds of Coletton Fishacre into a festival of colour.

With a cosy cafe, and well stocked gift shops this is the perfect spot for a Christmas outing.

**Christmas Fayre, Stoke Lodge Hotel**

**Saturday, 7 December from 12pm-4pm**

To kickstart the festive season, we will be hosting the annual Stoke Lodge Hotel Christmas Fayre Saturday, 7 December from 12pm-4pm.

**Christmas at Greenway**

**To help plan your day out, Christmas at Greenway will be open from 11am to 4pm on:**

**Saturday 30 and Sunday 1 December**

**Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 December**

**Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 December**

**Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 December**

**Daily from 27 - 31 December 2024**

This winter fill your lungs with cheer as we 'Rock around the Christmas wreath', a fun festive trail around the garden at Greenway, while inside see the house trimmed in traditional decorations.

# Strete Chapel

Seasons greetings from the fellowship to all in the village!

We are continuing to meet every Sunday at 11am in the chapel building with some slight disruption this month due to some refurbishments going on. The building has been repainted and new flooring ordered. Come along to see the improvements made!

A big thanks to all those that helped make our Harvest thanksgiving service so enjoyable. We had wonderful singing, a strong message delivered with passion by Mr Robert Partridge and a performance by the children to the worship song 'My lighthouse' by the Rend Collective. This was all followed by a delicious lunch at the village hall. Many thanks to those running the hall for use of this lovely space.



The children are now starting to rehearse for a Christmas performance at the carol service. Be sure to put the date in your diary!

C S Lewis so eloquently put it that *"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."*

To learn more about the significance of Jesus' birth please join with us on 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 11am.

## Young Searchers

Young searchers is a children's club that includes games, crafts and teaching of bible stories. We have started to meet again (term time only) from 5-6pm in the Chapel every Thursday. Please come along if interested.

## Sunday School

We are meeting together on a Sunday to learn more about Jesus. If interested please enquire at the start of a Sunday service or email [stretechapel@gmail.com](mailto:stretechapel@gmail.com) for more information.

**Come and join us for our**

**Christmas Carol  
Service**

**Strete Chapel**

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**11.am**

**Followed by refreshments**





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## **St. Michael's**

Dates of forthcoming events

15<sup>th</sup> December Carol Songs of Praise

17<sup>th</sup> December CAROL SERVICE followed by wine and mince pies

22<sup>nd</sup> December No Service here we join the Chapel for their Carol Service

24<sup>th</sup> December Crib Service at 4.00 p.m. with Vicar







The Village Hall is available to hire for events, clubs and activities. Book through Danni Brien on 07841 505797

**Christmas came early to Strete Village Hall when the annual Christmas Market was held on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> November.**

**The Hall was decorated on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> with the final touch being a beautiful Christmas tree decorated in greens and golds. A huge thank you goes to Colleen Seymour for organising and decorating the tree.**

**On the Saturday doors opened at 11.30. There were stalls selling jewellery, soft furnishings, Christmas cakes, charity Christmas cards, cakes and savouries, basket ware and Christmas decorations, hand-carved wooden items, burnt art, flavoured gins, homemade crafts, etc. There was a raffle and tea, coffee and mulled wine for sale. The day went well and there was a steady stream of people through the doors. A big thank you to all involved in any way to help make a successful start to the festive season.**

**The Committee would like to wish you all  
a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and a PEACEFUL 2025.**

**Our next event is the Annual Quiz on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February.**

**The present holders of the trophy are The Platters.**

**There will be pasties and baked beans for supper during the interval and promises have been made that all will go well in the kitchen this time!**

**AT THE RISK OF REPEATING MYSELF THE COMMENTS BELOW NEED URGENT ATTENTION!**

**Without a Committee the Village Hall cannot function and we are reaching a point where, unless villagers come forward to help, the Hall may have to close. Perhaps to some a Village Hall is no longer seen as a valuable village asset but we, on the Committee, feel very strongly that it is, but**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP AND/OR YOUR SUPPORT.**

**PLEASE contact Penny to find out more: 771005  
p.g.penhale@hotmail.com**



**Christmas Market**  
**Strete Village Hall**  
**Saturday 16th November**





Spot the  
Difference



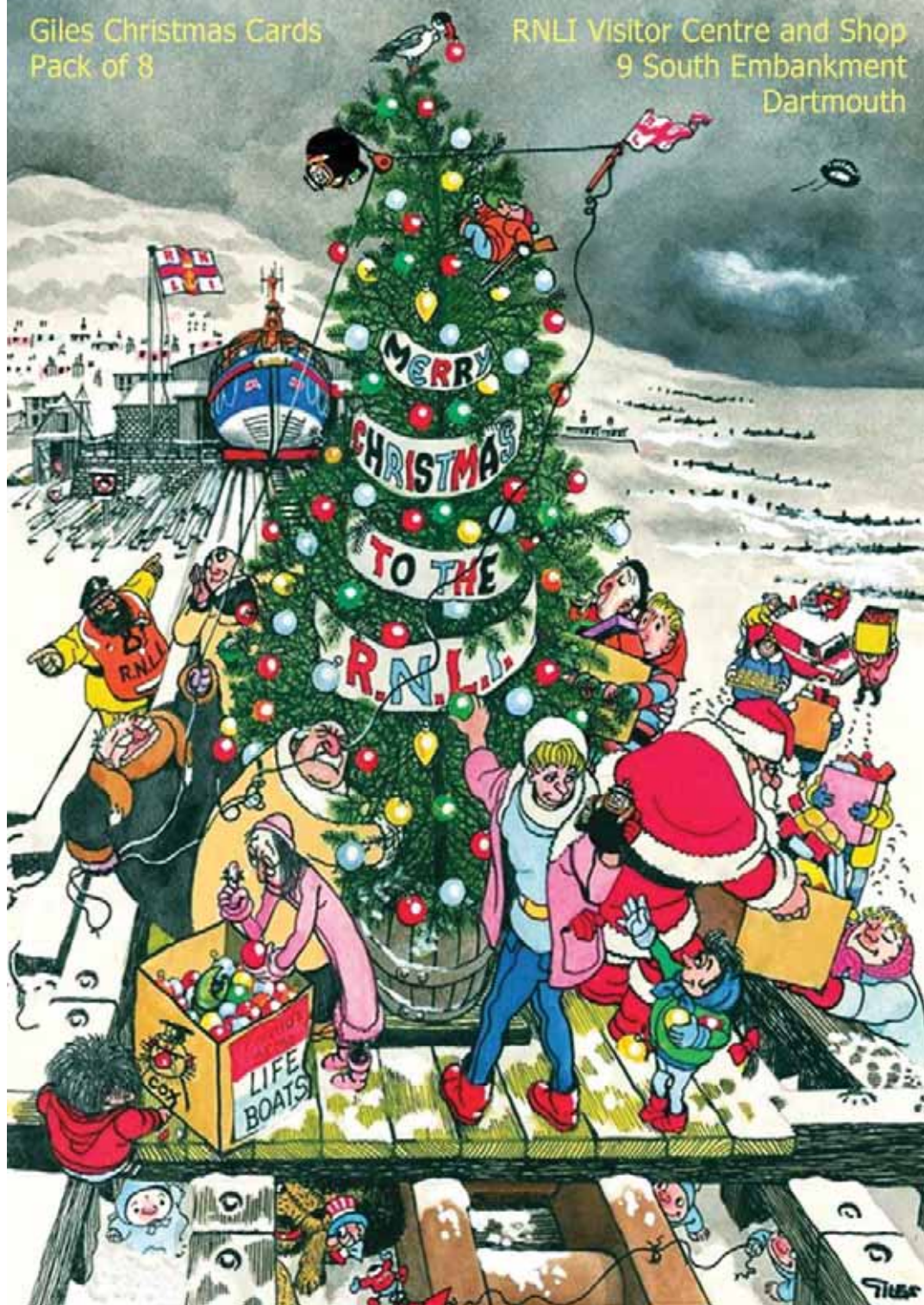
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There's no way of sugar coating it, it's been a difficult period for our community pub but hopefully there

is now light at the end of the tunnel.

Put simply the problems have been:

1. Lack of footfall – not enough people have been using the pub. This has declined this year.

2. Not enough people have been volunteering.

3. Despite some improvements in managing costs, the pub continues to make a loss.

Which is why at the AGM on November 17<sup>th</sup>, the committee proposed that we had to accept that whilst the pub was to be run with commercial discipline it was now clear that it would require ongoing community support.

This is why a subscription model has been recommended, something that for a relatively low cost each month can provide ongoing support, thus avoiding an annual crisis.

The logic is covered in the slide alongside this article. This would dramatically improve planning and increase the chances of the pub surviving for the long-term. As you will see from the Chair's letter, this proposal was supported by shareholders (letter also printed alongside). Many people have already subscribed but more are needed –

so, if you can, please sign up. Since the AGM, a number of new volunteers have stepped up. But more are needed. The committee is too small to do all the things that need to be done. More people are needed to work front of house: this is key to profitability. Robin Staunton and Lisa Lyne are taking this on. The plan is to take a different approach to re-energise this area. If you are interested, please get in touch.

In terms of footfall, next year we plan to do more, more often and with greater variety - *if* we can get the support. In the meantime, there is lots to do in December.

**Christmas Fayre** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 10am to 4pm. A chance to pick up something unique this Christmas, with a range of artisan and homemade gifts from a selection of stall holders.

**Sunday Roasts, Carols & Tree Lighting** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Sunday Roasts continue to get rave reviews despite changes in the kitchen. At 6pm the village tree will be lit with carols singing and mulled wine. Opposite the village shop. There are still spaces available to enjoy the **Christmas Dinner** menu throughout December. Ideal for social groups, company events or family get-togethers. Please suggest this to everyone you know! Call Jon to book or with any queries. For larger parties of 8 or more, there is a pub voucher for the organizer. Don't forget, unlike in Dartmouth, parking is free if you have your Christmas get-together at the Kings Arms.

**Early Doors Opening.** As part of our Winter changes to opening hours, the pub will be now open on a Friday at 2pm right through to 10pm for people wanting to come in for a drink at the end of the working week. Shout out to our builders, farmers, office workers, school teachers and anyone one else who deserves a drink at the end of the week.



For full opening hours, please see below.

It's **Bingo Night** on Saturday 14th from 7pm, no doubt with a Christmas theme. But always fun and lots of prizes.

The **Christmas Village Lunch** is Thursday 19th with an affordable two course lunch a chance to meet people from the village and beyond whilst wearing a Christmas Cracker Crown. For more information, please call or email Jon on [info@kingsarmsatstrete.com](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete.com).

**December's Open Mic Night** is also on Thursday 19th at 7.30pm with, you guessed it, a Christmas theme. We are asking all players to play Christmas related songs. That can be songs about Christmas, Christmas carols or songs that were number one over Christmas. It should be a lot of fun. There's a **Christmas Karaoke** on Saturday 21st from 7pm, a chance to belt out some Christmas Classics. You never know who is going to be the best singer...

The pub will be open for **Christmas Eve** drinks on Tuesday 24th from 5-10pm. Once again, the pub will be opening **Christmas Day** lunchtime 12-3pm for the traditional drink before heading home for the Kings Speech and your Christmas dinners. Last year was a full house, a lovely community get together, with the full array of Christmas sweaters. Closed Boxing Day. On **New Year's Eve** The Kings Arms will be hosting the KA NYE Party. The theme this year is "Grease" The Movie. There will be a disco, a buffet, and prizes for the best T-Birds and Pink Ladies fancy dress. This will be an affordably ticketed evening, £10 for Adults £5.00 for Under 16s, and there will be a special "Kids New Year" at 9pm so the little ones can celebrate early. And don't forget our weekly events. Every Wednesday is Jon's popular Weekly Quiz. The quiz starts at 7.30pm and there seems to be a different winner each week so it really is a quiz for everybody. Wednesday also see the usual **Artisan Pizza Pop-up**, the best pizzas around.

If you are not doing the quiz, pop in for a drink while you wait for your order your pizza. On Wednesday 18th there's the **Big Christmas Quiz** at 7pm, all about Christmas. Every Friday until Christmas sees the popular Friday Night Lucky Number Draw and a lively crowd in the bar. The rules are simple. You have your number, it belongs to you. The prize is a £50 KA voucher. But you have to be in the pub to win, otherwise it is a Rollover.

To book or ask a question just call on 01803 770027 or pop into the pub. Follow on Facebook at [Facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete](https://www.facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete) Or go to the web-site [www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](http://www.kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk)

For other enquiries, please contact [info@kingsarmsatstrete.com](mailto:info@kingsarmsatstrete.com).



**KINGS ARMS**  
**WINTER**  
**Opening Hours**

MON - TUES CLOSED  
WEDNESDAY 5pm - 10pm  
Pizza & Quiz Night  
THURSDAY 5pm - 10pm  
FRIDAY 2pm - 10pm  
SATURDAY 12pm - 10pm  
SUNDAY 12pm - 6pm  
Sunday Roasts



**Strete**  
**Village Christmas Tree**

Advent Sunday  
**1st December**  
**6pm**

Switching on the lights  
by our esteemed resident Pam

Carols  
lead by Karen

followed by  
Mulled Wine  
& Mince Pies  
in The Kings Arms

On the corner  
opposite the Shop

**EVERY ONE IS WELCOME !**

## The Case for Community Subscription

### The Challenge We Face

Turnover dropped, especially over a very poor summer, which saw a year-on-year drop in turnover of £26k.

Despite improving margins and gross profit, the bottom-line gap for the year is likely to be £45k. It has been in the £40ks for the last 3 years, so there is a pattern.

The traditional business model has proved unsustainable, so we must think differently...

### An unconventional business

The Committee now recognises that the pub cannot continue as a conventional business, at least for now - it needs to be supported by the community.

Yes, margins can continue to improve, and yes, grants and fundraising events can help boost funding, but the gap is too significant to be closed by these measures alone.

We have searched for large benefactors from local businesses but have not found any.

We must look to the community to agree a means to ensure the long-term survival of the pub.

### The Subscription Solution

We have introduced a subscription scheme based upon a simple model that if 200 people subscribe at £20 a month, the gap can be closed.

This means people pay a relatively small amount on an ongoing basis (£20 per month being less than Sky or two coffees a week.) For some, this will be largely invisible, and for all certainly less painful as it spreads the cost over time as opposed to a lump sum donation.

For the pub, a subscription scheme brings:

1. Much greater predictability of income, enabling better planning, more accurate budgeting and forecasting, and it creates a financial buffer for unexpected expenses - something that doesn't exist today.
2. Long-term stability, helping to secure the pub's future beyond short-term fundraising, makes staff retention easier given increased security, and possibly enables better negotiation with suppliers.

The subscription solution also has the benefit of being easier to manage than repeated fundraising campaigns, which have proved difficult to progress, as the Committee needs more members to make that happen.

Subscription is not money for nothing. It is a promise to keep a valuable village asset open...

### What do you get for subscribing?

The Kings Arms isn't just a business - it's a considerable asset to the community that...

- ...is the hub of the village
- ...ensures some social life in what is otherwise a very, very quiet village
- ...brings people together who might otherwise be isolated
- ...puts on a range of seasonal celebrations and enjoyable events
- ...gives us a space to celebrate our national teams and national moments
- ...supports local employment and local businesses
- ...keeps Strete on the map and as such a desirable place to visit and live
- ...adds up to 10% to the value of your home or property investment (average price in Strete being £854k)

### Path to Reduced Subscriptions

The level of subscription needed will go down if:

- operating margins improve sufficiently
- volunteers return to work in the pub again
- we have a better Summer
- we have successful grant applications and fundraising activities





# the Kings Arms

## Community Pub

### What's On in December

**Weekly quiz & Pop Up pizza** every Wednesday evening

Win big with the **Friday Night Draw** every Friday

The best reviewed **Sunday Roasts** every Sunday

**Christmas Menu** available all month

**Christmas Fayre** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 10am-4pm

**Bingo Night** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> from 7pm

**The Big Christmas Quiz** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

**Village Lunch** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 1pm

**Christmas Classics Open Mic Night** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

**Christmas Karaoke** Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> 7pm

**Christmas Eve** open for drinks 5.30-10pm

**Christmas Day** open 12-3pm

**New Years Eve Fancy Dress Party** 31<sup>st</sup> 7pm-1am

**Support your community pub.**

**01803 770027**

[Facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete](https://www.facebook.com/kingsarmsatstrete)

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



## **Strete Community Pub Ltd**

### **Results of the Shareholder Resolution November 2024**

Dear Shareholders, subscribers and supporters,

We are writing to inform you of the results of the Shareholder Resolution following Sunday's AGM regarding the future of our community pub. The vote showed overwhelming support for keeping the pub open, with:

- 112 shareholders voting in favour (96.6%)
- 4 shareholders voting against (3.4%)
- Total votes cast: 116

We thank all shareholders who participated in this crucial vote. This strong mandate supports the Committee's plan, with improvements, to ensure the pub's future viability through increased subscriptions, the introduction of a form of discount/loyalty card scheme, volunteering initiatives, and operational improvements, as outlined in the resolution.

The Committee asks *everyone* who has pledged funds to ensure that standing orders are set up and donations paid to maintain operations through the Winter months. Our current cash position is critical for meeting November and December obligations, in particular.

If you haven't yet pledged to subscribe, maybe you will now do so, if you can, and if you have pledged one amount, could you perhaps consider increasing it?

Please make payments to:

**Strete Community Pub Limited**

Sort code **60-83-01** Account number **20428277**

Please give **Your Name** as the reference

If you are able, will you consider volunteering? This could be in a wide variety of ways and we will hold a number of events shortly when you can explore this in more detail. Please contact [lisa.lyne@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk](mailto:lisa.lyne@kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk) in the first instance.

For its part, the Committee will proceed with implementing the proposed plan, including:

- Developing with urgency a new discount/loyalty scheme for subscribers, with the help of those who expressed persuasive ideas at the AGM.
- Organising volunteer recruitment events.
- Enhancing our communication and engagement with shareholders, subscribers and the community generally, including updates on these initiatives.

Whilst we have not yet achieved our target of raising £48k in new subscriptions to bring lasting sustainability to the pub, we have moved closer from a position at the AGM of 54% to 68% pledged for this year.

Together, we are making progress, and with a more viable business model that combines subscriptions with a form of discount or loyalty card, and associated pricing strategy, we are confident that the pub will attract more customers and more subscribers and can stay open for the foreseeable future.

We are delighted that the Kings Arms will be open for us all to celebrate Christmas, and it will be a happy New Year!

Yours sincerely,

Tim Fowler  
Interim Chair Strete Community Pub Ltd



# Support the Kings Arms

Subscribe today!

To Friends of the Kings Arms.

First and foremost, thank you for doing this, your support plays a crucial role in preserving our pub.

Restricted by our bank from offering a direct debit payment route, **we ask that you set up a standing order with your bank.**

This is almost as convenient, and importantly allows you to maintain your generous support while giving you full control over your donations.

A step-by-step guide for setting up a standing order is provided aside, and here is the detail you will need:

**Account Name:** Stretre Community Pub Limited

**Swift Code (BIC):** NWBKGB2L

**IBAN Number:** GB93NWBK60023571418024

**Sort Code:** 608301

**Account Number:** 20428277

Please also include the appropriate reference with your monthly payment, reflecting either £30 (gold), £20 (silver) or £10 (bronze) monthly payments.

**Reference:**

GOLDDONATION

SILVERDONATION

BRONZEDONATION

Payment date: 1st day of each month

Ideally, we ask that you set up the standing order for the first day of each month, continuing indefinitely. If your circumstances change, you can easily modify or cancel your standing order at any time without providing notice - you will be in control.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to keeping the Kings Arms alive. Every contribution helps!

If you have questions or need help with setting up your standing order, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help.

With huge appreciation,

The Stretre Community Pub Limited Committee

## How to Set Up a Standing Order:

You can do this simply by visiting your local bank branch or calling your bank's customer service line, but for those preferring online banking...

1. Log in to your online banking or mobile banking app.
2. Look for an option like 'Payments' or 'Transfer money'.
3. Select 'Set up a standing order' or 'Regular payments'.
4. Enter the details given above, as requested.
5. Choose the amount you wish to donate monthly.
6. Set the payment date (1st of each month) and frequency (monthly).
7. Enter the appropriate reference - e.g., GOLDDONATION - in the reference field.
8. Select the end date as 'Until further notice' or leave it blank for an indefinite period.
9. Review all details - there's a lot of numbers there! - and confirm the standing order setup.

**KINGS ARMS, STRETE**

## *Christmas Menu*



### Starters

**Winter Spiced Roasted Parsnip Soup** – with Parsnip Crisps and crusty bread (V) (PB)

**Chicken Liver Parfait** - in a smoked Pistachio crumb with a Brandy, & redcurrant chutney & toasted brioche

**Whipped Goats Cheese mousse**, Lemon zest & Truffle oil, served with Pickled candy Beetroot (V)

**Classic Prawn Cocktail**, with Salad & Marie Rose Sauce served with Granary bread.

### Mains

**Aune Valley Farm Turkey Breast with all the trimmings** - including Sage, Onion & apricot stuffing, pigs in blankets & cranberry & mandarin jam

**Vegan Nut Wellington with all the trimmings** - including Sage, Onion & apricot stuffing & cranberry & mandarin jam (V) (PB)

**Fillet of Aune Valley Farm Beef** - with Roasted potatoes, Parsnip puree & braised Red Cabbage (Supplement of £10)

**Pan-roasted Salmon fillet** – with a citrus Beurre Blanc, Crushed Cornish baby potatoes & Asparagus

### Desserts

**Rich Dark Chocolate Mousse** – Served with a Black Cherry compote, Chocolate shards & Shortbread Biscuit

**Traditional Christmas Pudding** - with Vanilla Ice Cream or Devon Brandy Clotted Cream

**Baileys Crème Brulée** - with Homemade Amaretti biscuits

**Coffee and a warm Mince Pie**

**Cheeseboard Course Supplement of £10 (v)**

Quicke's Mature Cheddar, Ticklemore Devon Blue, Cornish Yarg & Sharpsham Brie with brandy apple chutney, celery, grapes & crackers

**2 Courses for £32.50 or 3 Courses for £37.50**

*All Christmas orders to be placed and deposit of 25% to be paid at least 1 week before booking date*

*Food Allergens and Intolerances: Before ordering your food and drinks, please speak to a member of the team if you want to know more about the ingredients in any of our dishes.*

*Service is not included. All gratuities are distributed to the team who serve you on the day.*





## *A Festive Yarn*

The Strete Craft group have excelled themselves again with a new festive post box topper. Another fabulous team effort, well done.

# Festive Treats

## Macaroons

### Ingredients:

50g ground almonds  
50g caster sugar  
1 tbsp cornflour  
1/2 tsp almond essence  
1 egg white  
15 flaked almonds  
4 glace cherries  
icing sugar to dust



Preheat the oven 160c. Line 2 baking sheets with non-stick baking paper. Place the ground almonds, sugar, cornflour and almond essence into a bowl and mix well using a wooden spoon. Stir in just enough eggwhite to form a soft piping consistency. Place into a piping bag a 1cm nozzle. pipe the mixture on to each baking sheet, spaced well apart. Press a flaked almond on half the macaroons and glace cherries on the remainder. Bake for 10 - 15 minutes.

## Cinnamon Crisps

### Ingredients:

125g wholewheat flour  
50g rolled oats  
75g sugar  
1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda  
1 tsp ground cinnamon  
75g butter  
1 tbsp golden syrup  
1 tbsp milk



Place the flour, oats and sugar in a bowl, sift in the soda and cinnamon and mix thoroughly. Place the butter, syrup and milk in a pan and heat until the butter has melted. Pour into the dry ingredients and beat until smooth. Shape into small balls and place slightly apart on a greased baking sheet and flatten with a palette knife. Bake in a preheated oven 180c for 15 minutes until golden brown. Cool on the baking sheet.





## Mini Hasselback Potatoes

### Ingredients:

- 20 small new potatoes
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter
- 2 garlic cloves crushed
- 1 ½ cups grated cheddar
- salt and pepper
- 3 tablespoons thinly sliced chives

Preheat the oven 200c. Place the potatoes between two chop sticks and make cuts 1mm apart. The chop sticks will stop the knife cutting all the way through the potatoes. Melt the butter in a small saucepan over low heat and add the minced garlic, cook for about 5 minutes. Place potatoes onto a parchment baking sheet ½ inch apart. Brush the garlic butter over each potato and season with salt and pepper. Bake potatoes for 15 minutes. Remove potatoes from oven and generously baste again with garlic butter. Continue to bake for an additional 10 minutes. Remove potatoes from oven and baste one last time. Top each potato with grated cheese and place potatoes back into the oven and bake for an additional 10 to 15 minutes or until potatoes are tender and cheese has melted. Lightly season each potato with more salt and pepper and finish with a sprinkle of chives.

## Bacon-Wrapped Dates

### Ingredients:

- 8 streaky bacon slices
- 16 dates
- 114 grams goat cheese
- toothpicks



Preheat the oven to 180c. Slice the dates lengthwise on one side to create an opening. Remove the pit. Spoon a small amount of goat cheese into the cavity of each date and press the sides together to close. Cut the bacon slices in half. Wrap each date with a slice of bacon and secure with a toothpick. Arrange evenly on a baking tray and bake for 10 minutes. Turn and bake for another 5-8 minutes, until browned. Remove from the oven and let stand for 5 minutes before serving.



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# Toodles

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# The Glory of Christmas



Conductor - Keith Marshall  
Musical director - Trish Calnan  
Narrator - Conor Magee  
Organist - Ian Curror

## Lyric<sup>★</sup> chamber orchestra

6th December 7.30pm  
St Georges Church, Dittisham

A seasonal programme including carols, with music from  
Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, Handel's *Pifa* and *Winter* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.  
Readings including Rudyard Kipling, John Betjeman and Charles Dickens.

Tickets £18 on the door or from John Wells 01803 722414



# Lyric<sup>★</sup> chamber orchestra

Conductor - Keith Marshall  
Musical director - Trish Calnan  
Soloist - Jez Capey

## Festive Baroque<sup>★</sup> by candlelight



A seasonal programme including Bach, Torelli, Handel,  
Pachabel and *Winter* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.

Great Hall, Dartington  
21st December 6pm





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Children's Hospice South West Friends Group

# Christmas Fair

**Saturday 7th December 2024**  
**10am-3pm**

**Gifts, Cakes, Crafts, Jewellery and more!**

**Dartmouth Rock Choir performing at 11am**

## The Old Market

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## CANDLELIGHT DARTMOUTH A FESTIVE WEEKEND

### November 29th

10am-8pm stalls in RAG  
5.50pm Opening ceremony  
6pm Santa arrives Boatfloat  
Free parking Mayors Ave from 6pm

### November 30th

10am-8pm stalls in RAG  
5.30pm Lantern procession starts at  
The Old Market and ends at RAG  
Free parking Mayors Ave from 6pm

Christmas Market 10.3pm at RBYC



### December 1st

Wreath-making at Christmas Evening  
DYC  
Fair at The Sail Loft  
Wreath-making 4-5.9pm  
6pm at Dylemma

### December 4th

Kids Takeaway  
Suppers at Jenny  
Koo's 4-5.30pm  
pre-booking  
required

### December 5th

Late Night  
Shopping  
Free harbour  
mooring  
Christmas Market  
DYC 5-9pm

### December 6th

Dartmouth & District  
Chamber of  
Commerce Review &  
Drinks at DYC 6pm



### December 7th

Dartmouth Spa  
Shopping Event  
5-8pm  
BRNC Xmas  
Concert at The  
Flavel 7.30pm

RNLI Crab Pot Light  
6pm Switch on  
7pm Shanty band,  
refreshments, stalls  
& Santa til 8pm





### December 8th

Felted Bauble Making 4-6pm at Dylemma

### December 10th

Fatstock Show at The Old Market

Royal Ballet Live: Cinderella at The Flavel 7.15pm

### December 11th

Kids Takeaway Suppers at Jenny Koo's 4-5.30pm - pre-booking required

### December 12th

- Late night shopping
- Free harbour mooring
- Royal Ballet Live: Cinderella at The Flavel 2pm
- Christmas Quiz 7pm at DYC

### December 13th

Riviera Dogs at The Flavel 8pm

### December 14th

- Dartmouth Spa Shopping Event 12-3pm
- Stalls at The Old Market 12-5pm
- Christmas Fair at The Flavel 11-4pm
- Farmers' Fare, food & music at RAG 12-9pm
- Tractors of Light procession 8pm

### December 16th

Family food offers at The Old Market

### December 18th

- Kids Takeaway Suppers at Jenny Koo's 4-5.30pm - pre-booking required
- Dartmouth Rotary Carol Service 6.30pm at St Saviours

### December 19th

- Late night shopping
- Free harbour mooring
- BRNC Passing Out: 10am
- Parade: 7pm
- Christmas Ball
- Christmas Bingo 6pm at DYC

### December 21st

- Christmas Market stalls at RAG 10-5pm
- Kids fancy dress
- Royal Ballet Live: Nutcracker at The Flavel 7pm
- Xmas Karaoke 8pm at DYC



### December 22nd

- Santa Paws Grotto & market with games & raffle at RAG 10-6pm
- Fancy dress dog show 4pm

### December 23rd

Baunty Castle sponsored by Dartmouth Foodbank at Townstal Community Hall 1-3.0-3pm

### December 24th

- Royal Ballet Live: Nutcracker at The Flavel 2pm
- Carols on the Cove, band and mince pies at Dartmouth Arms

### December 26th

Let Dudley's Cafe take the Boxing Day strain - open 9-4pm

### December 31st

- Fancy Dress parties in bars
- Fireworks at South Embankment

All details correct at time of going to press  
to add new events please email:  
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07717 837570.

See you soon!







# GRAHAM CAMPBELL

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October many friends, colleagues and acquaintances of the late Graham Campbell joined Graham's wife Helen and family in Stoke Fleming Village Hall for a celebration of his life. The sudden and unexpected news of Graham's death in mid-September was a shock to the community and brought great sadness, so it felt exactly right to come together and remember all the achievements of this talented and generous man over his whole lifetime.

Some of us knew Graham only as a diligent and caring Parish Councillor. He became a member of Strete Parish Council in 2016 and we soon knew that he had a passion for those in need. He strove to ensure that help and assistance was available to those who needed it from various charity organisations in the area. He was a kind person with a strong sense of social justice that underpinned his involvement with Dartmouth Caring and Citizens Advice. This became evermore important to Graham during the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis.

However, during the Celebration, it quickly became clear to all present that the role of Parish Councillor was but one aspect of his many roles and achievements over the years. Contributions from so many friends and ex-colleagues told us all about his career in teaching, a period working as a craftsman carpenter and cabinet maker and as a trainer for young people to build a champion kayak team. Others spoke warmly about his extensive volunteering activities for social support networks, including Citizens Advice (where it is estimated that he helped more than 500 clients during his tenure) and with the TQ6 Community Social Partnership including Dartmouth Caring.

Graham's family and friends movingly recalled a spell spent living and working in France and his life-long passion for music, beautifully illustrated by musical contributions from fellow players. In short, he truly was a remarkable man.

In Strete Village, Graham arranged and oversaw all aspects of husbandry on the Village Green and Prideaux Lane on behalf of the Community. When the Strete Neighbourhood Plan was being formulated for the village, Graham provided unstinting support throughout its development. He also organised the purchase and fitting of a new roundabout in the Play Park. When the Kings Arms became a Community Pub, Graham stepped forward with his carpentry skills on several occasions to install and repair various timber structures in the garden.

I feel privileged to have known and worked with him on the Parish Council, a feeling that I know is shared by all members of the Council, past and present. Graham was a thoughtful and supportive member of the community and all residents will miss his dedication and commitment to the Village.

**Ralph Clark** Chairman Strete Parish Council

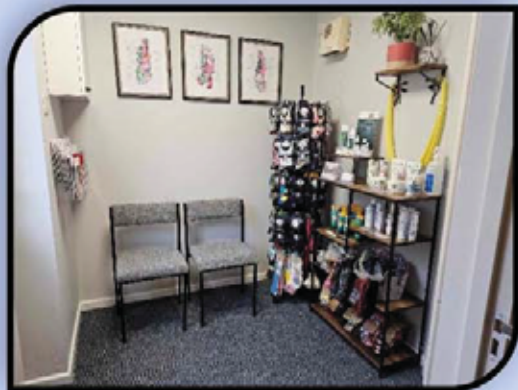
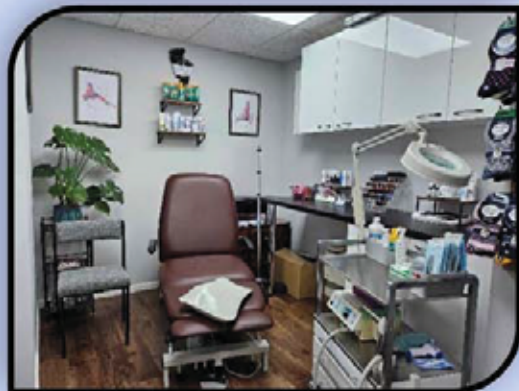


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Conductor - Keith Marshall  
Musical director - Trish Calnan  
Soloist - Jez Capey

# Lyric

chamber  
orchestra



## Festive Baroque by candlelight

**22nd December 3pm**  
Tea/Coffee & cakes also available

A seasonal programme including:

JS Bach - Brandenburg Concerto no.3

Purcell - Chacony in G

Vivaldi - Concerto for violin and cello in B ♭

JS Bach - Air on the G string

Vivaldi - "Winter" from *The Four Seasons*

Giuseppe Torelli - Christmas Concerto

Handel - Concerto Grosso in B ♭

Pachebel - Canon in D



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## Winter at Dart Gallery

Every winter Dart Gallery is filled with new work to brighten the darkest days. This year is no exception and throughout December the gallery will be filled with a richly varied collection featuring new work from many gallery artists.

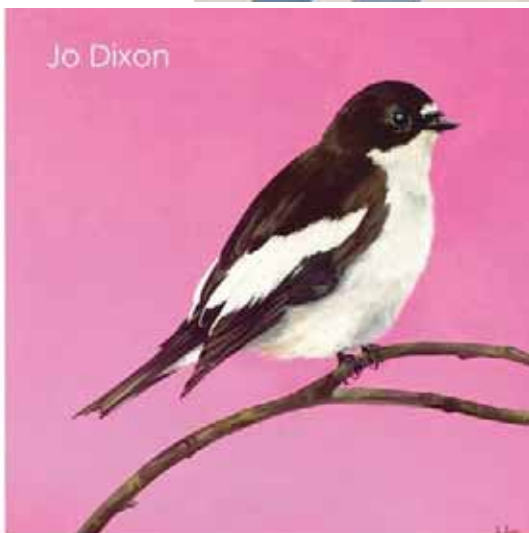
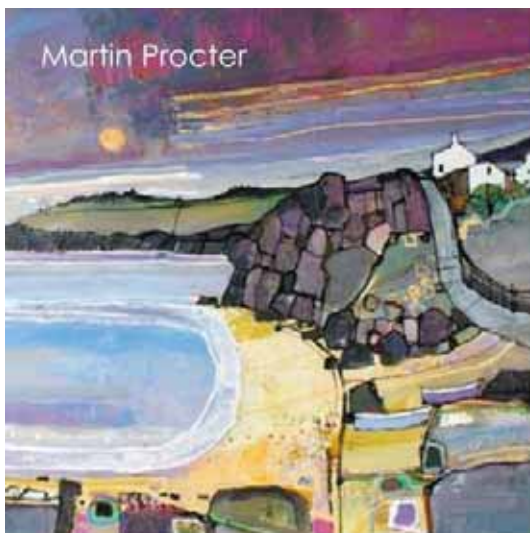
Highlights will include Kit John's ingenious coastal paintings on vintage maps, Jo Quigley's stylised London Street scenes,



Amanda Hoskin's intimate oils, Marie Mills' richly textured florals, Martin Procter's iconic paintings of our location, Robin Mason's plein air paintings of Dartmouth, Nick Mackman's award-winning ceramic wildlife sculptures, Jo Dixon's wonderful birds on monochrome backgrounds and Allan Morgan's magical beach scenes.

All the new artworks can be purchased using the brilliant Own Art scheme, allowing you to spread the cost over 10 months with no interest. The gallery can arrange shipping to any location in the UK or worldwide.

**Discover the winter collection at Dart Gallery throughout December.** Dart Gallery 4 Lower Street Dartmouth Devon TQ6 9AJ More details: [www.dart-gallery.com](http://www.dart-gallery.com) 01803 834923



This winter discover beautiful new work by many of our artists including: Martin Procter, Jo Dixon, Kit Johns, Jo Quigley, Amanda Hoskin, Marie Mills, Nick Mackman, Robin Mason, Allan Morgan and many more!

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Please note that well behaved dogs on a lead are now welcome inside the Restaurant, as long as they are clean and dry! To help with this, we have installed a drying station just outside :)

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Takeaway open 9am – 4pm (weather dependent; we may take orders for takeaway inside the Restaurant if the weather is poor.)



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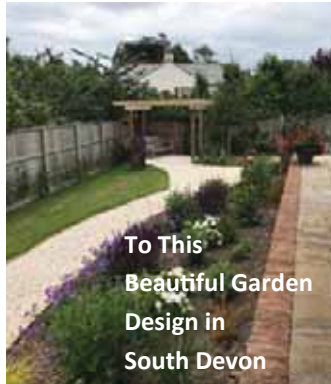
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In 1838, the first bottles of Lea & Perrins Worcestershire sauce were released to the general public and was the first type of sauce to bear the Worcestershire name. The origin of the Lea & Perrins recipe is unclear. The packaging originally stated that the sauce came "from the recipe of a nobleman in the county". Lord Marcus Sandys was well known for his love of food and even had his own book of recipes. Lea & Perrins of Worcester credit Marcus for the production of their famous Worcester Sauce. Legend has it that he travelled to Bengal and enjoyed the fish sauces so that on his return he asked John Wheeley Lea and Henry Perrins, dispensing chemists of Broad Street, Worcester, if they could recreate it. Their attempt ended up inedible and it lay in the barrels fermenting and was abandoned in the basement. Looking to make space in the storage area a few years later, the chemists decided to try it again, and discovered that the long-fermented sauce had mellowed and was now palatable.

The use of similar fermented anchovy sauces in Europe can be traced back to the 17th century and fermented fish sauce called garum was a staple of Greco-Roman cuisine in the first century.



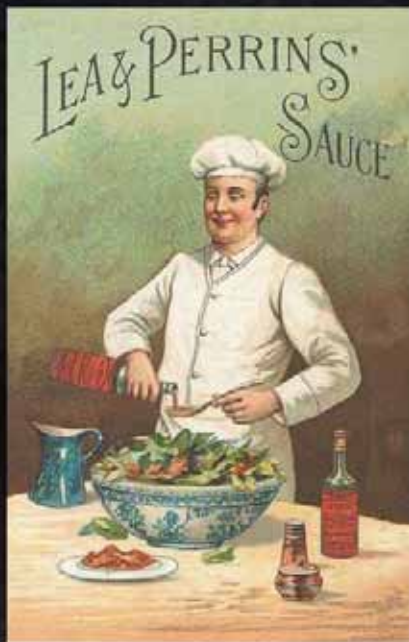
large handful of ice  
100ml vodka  
500ml tomato juice  
1 tbsp lemon juice  
a few shakes  
Worcestershire sauce  
a few shakes  
Tabasco  
pinch celery salt  
pinch black pepper  
2 celery sticks,  
to serve



The precise recipe has been a secret, but an original 19th-century list of ingredients was found in a skip at the factory in 2009 and includes vinegar, molasses, sugar, salt, anchovies, tamarind extract, onions, and garlic and other ingredients which may include cloves, soy sauce, lemons, pickles, and peppers.

The first part of the production process involves maturing the sauce's key ingredients in large barrels in the factory's basement for 18 months. The onions and garlic are packed into the barrels in malt vinegar, while the anchovies are packed in salt, soaking and maturing to take on the instantly recognisable flavour that makes Lea & Perrins different from any other sauce. Once the maturing of the ingredients is complete, they are brought together in a huge mixing vessel as part of the process before transferring to even larger vats for further maturing. Finally, the concentrated sauce is diluted and sterilised, ready for bottling.

Today, Lea & Perrins' famous sauce is exported to over 130 countries around the world, where it has become a much-loved staple in kitchens, restaurants, hotels and bars. It remains as popular today as it ever has been, and is still lovingly made in Worcester in very much the same way as it was when first sold in 1837.





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## **A Very Big Thank You to the Stretewise delivery team:**

Brenda Range, Liane Baldock, Colleen Seymour, Heather Robinson, Joan Kendall, Chris Burne, John Goldring, Carol Wills, David Wall and Trudy Rothwell and not forgetting Monica, Andy, Sally at the Strete Post Office and Stores.



**MINUTES OF MEETING  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE SLAPTON LINE PARTNERSHIP HELD ON  
19TH SEPTEMBER 2024 IN STRETE VILLAGE HALL**

**PERSONS PRESENT:**

Caroline Voaden MP (CV)

Devon County Council (DCC) – Cllr Julian Brazil (JB)

South Hams District Council (SHDC) – Cllr Laurel Lawford (LL)

Strete Parish Council – Cllr Ralph Clark (Chairman), Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC), Cllr Graham Campbell (GC), Cllr Kate Gill (KG), Cllr Peter Hales (PH)

Slapton Parish Council – Cllr Jane Abbey, Cllr Michael Crowson

Stoke Fleming Parish Council – Cllr Tim Mosely

Frogmore & Sherford Parish Council – Cllr Peter Hadley

Also in attendance: Hannah Iles (HI), Parish Clerk for Strete Parish Council

AND approximately 30 members of the public.

**SLAPTON LINE PARTNERSHIP**

**CLLR GRAHAM CAMPBELL – INTRODUCTION**

GC explained who made up the Slapton Line Partnership (SLP). A379 Slapton Line (SL) considered by residents to be a vital connection. Alternative routes require major adaptations. Other routes are not practical alternatives for the volume of A379 SL traffic. SLP have been meeting for a number of years and their purpose was to supervise and plan the protection of the SL and look at alternative routes in the event of SL being breached. The last meeting was in March 2024 and the next meeting has not yet been arranged. At the last meeting there were discussions about the issues for protecting SL and a series of action points was agreed. Members of the group left the meeting under the impression that a new strategy would be moved forward. Dan Field (DF) at SHDC was meant to co-ordinate how the strategy would be put in place. GC contacted DF for an update and was advised that nothing has been done. The second action point was road improvements of alternative routes. Three parish councils put forward their proposals for routes that could be upgraded. Six months ago John Fewings and Josh Mannings came to Annual Parish Meetings and went through their proposals. Nothing has happened since. If we wait to improve the roads after the A379 SL is breached, works to increase and widen passing places will cause further problems for traffic. Local residents were told that a planning application was going to be put in for works for the protection of the SL. Funding is needed. There is a dispute as to whether DCC received £6million funding already. No one has been given the sole purpose of managing the SLP strategy. There is no focal point. An adaptations manager was appointed but left. Seven months ago a councillor was tasked with preparing a job description for the role of adaptations manager. Nothing has been done.

**CLLR JULIAN BRAZIL - UPDATE ON DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL POSITION**

JB shared that after the last realignment the landowner said further works could not come any closer to the ley and therefore there was no option for any further improvement. This was compounded by the location being a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), which prohibited any attempts to protect SL

that used foreign materials. After progression stopped for some time Anthony Mangnall (AM), the then MP started moving plans forward.

#### Plan to save Slapton Line

A plan was proposed to put forward a planning application to install similar defences to Landmarks pioneering cage and large local stone system at Beesands. It was anticipated that the planning application would be refused but this would give AM the go ahead to challenge the SSSI designation (due to the site already having a tarmac road). DCC were responsible for submitting the planning application. When questioned in advance of today's meeting DCC advised they did not have funds to apply for planning. SHDC were meant to look at whether they could obtain funding from the environment agency but so far there was no progress to report.

#### Plan to prepare for temporary closure of Slapton Line

A plan to adapt the existing road network and to add additional parking either side of SL was proposed to run alongside plans to reinforce SL. The plan also highlighted the recommendation to encourage residents to ensure the services they rely on are on the same side of the line to where they live.

JB believes that friction between the two sides – save SL vs adaptations contributed to the appointed adaptations officer leaving the post. JB would like to see the two sides work together and see the value of both views.

LL has organised a meeting on 4th October to move the SLP action points forward.

#### **CAROLINE VOADEN MP**

CV stressed her recognition that this is a live issue, especially heading into winter. CV met with Dan Field of SHDC today and SHDC are looking to appoint a new adaptations manager. CV feels that the most pressing issue is to move forward with the adaptations before they are needed. Adapting the roads after a closure of SL will cause chaos. CV is very keen to move this forward. DF gave CV the impression that he was not optimistic that funding could be obtained to protect the whole length of SL.

PH added he was under the impression that planning was to protect a small stretch of SL that was identified as a specifically vulnerable part and JB wants the planning application to be put forward as soon as possible to get the road redesignated and to open funding avenues.

CV queried DCCs plan to ask the Environment Agency (EA) to fund a planning application that the EA will then reject. JB confirmed that this is indeed the proposal but there are different departments with the EA and added that he does not understand the objection when it is not at present a natural sandbank. It already has a tarmac road sitting on it and it is important to remember sensitivities over the subject of coastal erosion.

People are still concerned that there should be compensation for the irrevocable damage caused to the natural movement of the bay when they removed shingle for the Plymouth dockyards.

#### **QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

A member of the public, who was a former councillor, voiced frustration that he was working on this project twenty years ago and some of the people at the council are foot draggers with no motivation and it keeps going round in circles.





Cllr Peter Hadley discussed the national benefit of the site and, as it will need to be paid to be repaired anyway, it makes no sense not to invest in it now.

A member of the public added that the strategy published in November 2022 was based on not protecting SL and highlighted that it is concerning that in a developed country we are unable to keep our infrastructure properly maintained.

A member of the public raised concerns over the practicalities of increasing traffic, especially large farm vehicles on the lanes following DEFRA pushing farmers into using bigger machinery. He added that concentrating on adapting the lanes will spoil the area. In the 1960s when SL was breached the council workers were out in days and the road was re-opened within weeks.

Cllr Jane Abbey voiced that when representatives from DCC came to a meeting to discuss improvements of the back roads they advised that DCC had already made adaptations on the alternate routes but they were unable to say where. They gave the meeting attendees the impression that they believe the current roads are adequate for any anticipated increase in the volume of traffic should SL be breached. Cllr Abbey also expressed concerns that the proposed passing places do not appear to be in the correct places.

CV supported Cllr Abbeys assertion. When CV spoke with DF he did not know where the money was spent but CV agreed to try and find out.

Cllr Crowson voiced concern that when SL was breached the last time there were difficulties in reaching vulnerable people in the rural community. He recounted how on several occasions his wife, a local GP who was visiting patients at home, had got stuck in mud at the side of the road where she had pulled over to allow vehicles coming in the other direction pass. Cllr Crowson highlighted the aging population and how the closing of the A379 SL will impact care of people in the community.

Cllr Tim Moseley commented that, each time SL closes, people focus on the north south routes and added how vulnerable the area is to other issues that can cause road closure such as wall collapses.

Cllr Cumberlidge felt the enormity of the businesses who rely on SL is not voiced enough and he is also concerned how it impacts the emergency services ability to get to people.

A member of the public queried the objectives of the environment agency in preventing the planning application from being passed. JB explained that the SSSI designation prevents foreign materials been used on SL. He reiterated the role of the refusal of the planning application was to allow the objection to the contradictions that, as there is already a road there, it calls into question whether DCC are relying on the SSSI designation and the Environment Agency as a reason for not funding.

CV understands that this is a heavily used and strategic route and wants to obtain supporting data in the form of counts of vehicles using the road out of the main holiday season.

Cllr Peter Hadley asked how much the planning application would be.

JB commented that he does not believe it to be very much.

There were no further questions and Cllr Ralph Clark closed the meeting.

**All Strete Parish Council minutes are available at [www.strete.org.uk](http://www.strete.org.uk)**





# *Festive Word Search*

R	W	T	H	S	M	H	A	N	O	F	C	L	H	E	B	R	S	C	D
F	O	F	O	E	I	A	R	I	B	B	O	N	S	L	E	O	I	W	U
E	T	I	L	M	O	P	E	N	O	W	R	E	I	O	L	C	E	T	C
S	E	A	L	T	A	I	O	W	W	N	O	P	W	C	I	R	B	E	K
T	I	O	Y	A	O	N	T	I	S	O	B	B	R	E	S	A	O	I	N
I	T	U	R	O	L	E	G	R	O	E	N	I	W	E	M	N	E	B	A
V	E	B	O	M	W	I	A	E	L	O	B	G	E	R	S	B	H	E	S
E	T	E	A	F	Z	S	T	A	R	S	A	T	U	R	K	E	Y	M	O
G	O	O	N	U	T	F	I	C	E	N	E	W	R	E	T	R	N	D	C
F	R	I	G	W	B	C	N	T	U	M	A	T	G	R	U	R	W	T	P
R	U	C	E	T	O	L	S	R	I	B	W	O	Z	S	T	Y	U	N	S
O	E	W	L	D	E	W	E	O	E	A	O	U	D	F	Z	E	O	W	T
L	R	O	B	I	N	O	L	S	T	S	W	M	I	E	S	I	V	L	U
R	I	C	N	E	S	A	M	D	E	B	O	N	A	R	F	E	Z	P	F
S	A	T	S	U	M	A	S	N	O	S	T	E	I	R	H	O	D	U	F
T	A	W	R	Z	O	R	E	I	N	T	E	F	O	T	Z	E	N	W	I
I	E	G	A	I	C	I	N	G	K	N	E	R	R	A	E	I	B	O	N
N	R	I	W	O	F	S	E	C	M	E	A	O	P	B	O	W	P	E	G
S	A	W	E	M	E	L	O	W	A	N	G	S	I	N	G	A	H	A	I
L	E	D	B	O	E	D	E	R	M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	A	N

Bauble Tinsel Star Angel Manger Crib Presents Ribbons  
Bows Satsumas Trifle Turkey Goose Festive Icing Marzipan  
Holly Mistletoe Stuffing Cranberry Frost Duck Robin







I recently called an old engineering friend of mine and asked what he was working on these days. He replied that he was working on "Aqua-Thermal treatment of ceramics, aluminum and steel under a constrained environment"

I was impressed until, on further inquiry, I learned that he was washing dishes with hot water under his wife's supervision.





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# Bonfire Night

The thwarting of Guy Fawkes attempt to blow up the Houses of parliament over 400 years ago was celebrated in style at Cox's barn on November 5th. The owners of Strete Estate, brothers Brendan and Warren Spokes, kindly invited villagers to attend a special bonfire celebration at the large barn which is accessed from Hyne Town Road.




To mark the occasion, the approach was decorated with a pathway of lights before being greeted by a huge bonfire, which was many weeks in the making under the guidance of Pete Barber the Estate manager.

A tremendous amount of work had obviously gone into getting the barn ready for the occasion.



Animals and machinery had to be removed, lights installed, bunting put up and tables and chairs collected from our village hall. Additional seating in the form of straw bales was also laid out around the perimeter. Lily Bertlin collated the numbers and kept everyone advised but unfortunately could not be present for the event. Brendan's fiancée, Kash, handed out the drinks prior to everyone sitting down to enjoy a fantastic lamb supper prepared by professional caterers Dan and Charlie who trade as the Cellar Door. The lamb naturally came from the farm of Strete Estate and was a good advert for the quality of their stock.

Ralph Clark, chairman of the PC, gave thanks to Strete Estate for all their hard work and kindness and also to the attendees for their entry donations which will be used by the PC to benefit our village. Brendan has been invited by the Parish Council to attend the next PC meeting when the donations exact use will be discussed. Everyone remarked how well the event was organised and how much they enjoyed it. Congratulations and thanks are sent to everyone who was involved with this lovely evening.



**Nick Shepherd**

# FRIENDS OF STOKE FLEMING PRIMARY SCHOOL



*Set sail in the world...*



Friends of Stoke Fleming Primary School is the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). We are a registered charity and we work on a volunteer basis, giving up our time to help out to benefit our children.

The PTA has two main functions – fundraising for the school and organising events and activities for the children to enhance their school experience.

With the old adage that it takes a village to raise a child we wanted to use this forum to share with the local community what we are doing, any support required and how the school can give back to the local area.

## Events

This year has got off to a flying start with the silent disco. A big thanks to Stoke Fleming village hall for hosting the event.

Next on the agenda is Christmas card making for the children, the Christmas plays, monthly cake sales and a visit from Father Christmas! Each year rather than a sleigh Father Christmas arrives on a variety of transport. Watch out for this year's choice of vehicle.



## Fundraising update

Items that have been paid for by the PTA this year include football goals, netball goals, bats and balls and books.

The next big project planned is to upgrade the library with an estimated fundraising goal of £2000 needed to achieve this.

In addition, the school are wishing to improve the outside space for the children with new benches and reading/play huts and for the classrooms more iPads are needed.

A big thank you Ribeye for donating the funds for a new bench for the school.

If you think you can help in anyway then please get in touch with the school on 01803 770244

# Strete Social Club

## STRETE SOCIAL CLUB WINTER PROGRAMME 2024-2025

Meetings are usually held in Strete Village Hall on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30PM  
Everyone very welcome to come along!

December	5th	Christmas Lunch at the Kings Arms
	17th	Wine and Mince Pies
January	7th	AGM and Games
	21st	Wildlife - John Walters
February	4th	Gara Valley Tales - Christine Cooke
	18th	Singing Together - Lucy Higston and Karen Hales
March	4th	Gardens from Cornwall to Kent - Keith Mason
	18th	To Be Confirmed
April	1st	Floristry for Easter- Linsay Johns

**1st October:** It was once again a pleasure to meet and enjoy an afternoon of friendship when in the absence of Karen Lisa took the meeting. We were asked to think of a venue to hold our Christmas lunch in. We all took this home and will report back with them.

Our speaker was then introduced a Mrs. Peggy Douglas MBE who is RDA Advanced Coach. Who founded the Erme Valley RDA at Ivybridge forty years ago. Previous to this she had been a P.E. teacher.

The riding school has both outdoor and indoor facilities. Children from 18 month, mainly disabled, are catered for along with all ages offering There are 3 people to one rider and they do rely on volunteers.

Most parents are prepared to pay as do family of the older ones.

The charge is £20 per session but the true cost of each session is £45.

Therefore, fund raising is a part of the

organisation. It cost a staggering £95,000 a year to run the centre. They purchase all their own horses. They cater for all sorts of disabilities including mental health ones. It is very satisfying for them to see how confidence grows as the pupils gradually pluck up courage to mount a horst and then many go onto greater things.

It does not only provide riding but also attend art classes learn all about dressage, how to care for the horse, look after uniform.

Some of gone on to compete in competition riding quality horses and won awards.

They have fun session with cream tea with a pony for dementia patients once a month, along with many more social activities with the students.

She told us all about Jack a handsome black mechanical horse who was a great asset to the centre. A horse has the right rhythm for posture, including live ones.

It was such an interesting afternoon that it was suggested that we run an outing to the centre to look around. Peggy said we would be most welcome.

Lisa gave the vote of thanks and our usual cups of tea and lovely biscuits were served.







*Saw a child who couldn't walk  
Sit on a horse and laugh and talk  
Then ride through a field of grass  
And hush to feel the wind go past*

*Saw a lass (her brain was slow)  
Ride on a horse and make it go  
Up mountain track, thro' tumbling stream  
And places she had never been:*

*- to sit and stare save for a chair -*



*Saw a man who couldn't crawl  
Mount a horse and sit up tall  
He put it thro' the dressage pace  
And smiled at wonder on our face!*

*Saw a child born into strife  
Take up and hold the reins of life  
And that same child was heard to say  
"Thank God for showing me the way"*

*John Andrew Davies*

## *Strete Social Club*

**15th October:** Karen took the meeting and after apologies and the business dealt with, she introduced our speaker for the afternoon. Welcomed back, at short notice, Winston Chubb from Chillington who gave us a wonderful musical afternoon playing his guitar and for some of the songs accompanied himself on the mouth organ.

With each song he told us the origin. Two he had composed himself one of his early life on Exmoor on a farm and the other about his two year old granddaughter who he described as a pickle when that age. You could see the members smiling and nodding as a lot of what he sang they could attribute to their grandchildren. Others by Adge Cutler, Simon and Garfunkel, and others, which I have forgotten the names of.

He got us spontaneously tapping our feet at the last song he played and sang. He was thanked by Joan and as he would take no fee and wished for it to be donated to the air ambulance he was given a tin of biscuits.

Derek as usual manned the draw with an array of useful prizes. Carol and Coleen served our afternoon cup of tea.

I am sure we will welcome Winston back again as he was so thoroughly enjoyed.



---

## *Strete Social Club*

**29<sup>th</sup> November:** Being the Tuesday before Halloween, the theme of our meeting today was 'Halloween' Of course, a small amount of business had to be dealt with firstly apologies. We are having a Christmas stall at our November 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

There were various decorations up for our theme and Karen and Joan donned their witches' hats and one member came with an illuminated head band bearing ghosts.

Members recalled what Halloween meant to them as a child. One of our members who used to live in the village said she didn't have a tale about Halloween but went on to say that at a property that they lived in Strete, they wanted to decorate the outside of the house and cut down a very tall climbing rose. Two sisters at one time lived in the house and from when the rose was cut down, they had strange happenings. Nothing awful but even the dog seemed to sense a presence sitting by a desk for periods on end. When they sold the house, they kept in contact with the new occupants and asked them if they had anything strange happening. They had not experienced anything out of the ordinary, our member and husband thought that the two sisters weren't very happy with them cutting the rose down and came to haunt them. This dwelling will remain a secret with use not to frighten the present owners.

Joan then read two poems about witches and Sandi had organised a quiz on Halloween which we all participated in. The winners being Heather, Lisa and Brenda.

Lisa took photos of events and decorations of the afternoon.

Tea was then served by Dorothy and Joan, enjoying "Colin the caterpillar rolls".



---

## *Strete Social Club*

**12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** Karen Hales greeted a very large number of members to our meeting on a beautiful sunny autumn afternoon.

We were delighted to welcome Liz Westcott a local Beekeeper from Brixham who proved to be a prominent expert on everything to do with bees. She is Chair of Torbay Beekeepers Association. Liz brought along many products from her hives for which she has won many awards at agricultural events. She has for many years run the Bee Tent at Devon County Show.

Liz gave a fascinating talk on the Life of Bees with the aid of excellent slides. We learned so much about different types of bees. It seems there is only one Honeybee which has actually evolved from a wasp. In fact, we were assured that wasps are good for our gardens as in early summer they eat all sorts of insects being carnivorous. It is only in late summer that they are looking for other things to eat such as our picnics – so wasp traps are fine then as they will die at the end of the summer anyway!



Bees are clearly remarkable creatures with a special hairy body to capture pollen on flowers with clever sacs on their thighs to store their plunder. Too many facts were presented for this report and the description of their remarkable mating habits had perhaps best be left for a separate article elsewhere!

But here are a few facts for you although my pen may not have captured them accurately:

- A Honey Bee nest or hive will have a workforce of at least 20,000 bees in springtime to pollinate crops and orchards.
- Bees are valuable to agriculture and the environment. Anything that must be pollinated in spring relies on Bees.
- In 1900 in the UK there were one million colonies yet today we have only 230,000 with virtually no wild colonies.
- A hive can have 60,000 workers in summertime with one Queen Bee.
- The Queen lives 4-6 years and lays 2000 eggs a day in May and June.
- Honey has been found in the pyramids and is still perfectly good enough to eat.
- The sun is 93 million miles away and takes 8 minutes to reach planet earth. Sunlight shines through green cells in plants to produce energy.
- Bees collect pollen/nectar from those plants and process it back at the hive to produce honey.
- So ripened honey is liquid sunshine!
- Without the Queen Bee the world would have no food.

Liz closed her talk by reading one of her delightful poems from her book. She is certainly a lady of many talents. Members enjoyed viewing and buying products from the hive. Tea and biscuits were kindly provided by Rita Mansfield and Janet Fairchild closing an enjoyable sociable afternoon.



The Service was taken by our vicar Matt Gorton with the wreath being laid by the Parish Council Chairman Ralph Clark. Commander Nicola Cullen was in attendance who read a lesson along with Joan Kendall. Philip Harris kindly arranged the playing of the last post with the customary two minute silence.



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## The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming and District Programme September 2024 to February 2025

Lunch/Coffee	Date 2024	Topic Title/ Further information	Speaker details
Lunch	11th December	The South Devon Railway Followed by the AGM at about 12.15	Alan Taylor
	2025		
Lunch	12th February	TBC - First meeting of 2025	

Regrettably, the Ladies Lunch normally arranged in November will not take place this year

There will be no Club meeting in January 2025 due to the unavailability of the Hotel at that time



### The Probus Club of Stoke Fleming and District

*Where friendliness matters above all else*

A lunch meeting and **AGM** will be held  
beginning at 10.30am at the Stoke Lodge  
Hotel, Stoke Fleming on

**Wednesday 11th December 2024**

The meeting will commence with coffee, followed  
by a talk by Alan Taylor entitled

#### **The South Devon Railway**

*Alan Taylor is a Trustee and former chairman of the  
South Devon Railway Trust. He will tell us the story  
of the former GWR branch line and its rebirth as  
one of the nation's premier heritage railways.*

**The Club AGM** will immediately follow the talk at about  
12.15, after which the bar will be open. An optional 2  
course Lunch will follow, commencing at about 1.15pm



*The club is keen to attract new members and a warm welcome  
will be given to guests. If you would like to come along and be a  
guest please contact our Secretary Peter Hales on*

**01803 770739**

<https://stokeflemingprobus.wixsite.com/stokeflemingprobus>

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and to arrange to be welcomed to a trial meeting





## **STRETE PARISH COUNCIL**

# **Local Government Act 1972 Section 87(2)**

## **CASUAL VACANCIES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that two casual vacancies exist in the office of Member of Strete Parish Council (Parish Councillor).

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates, as defined by local government legislation. Further details of qualification and disqualification will be provided upon request.

The Parish Council will also provide further information on the role of a Parish Councillor upon request.

Application will close at noon on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

Candidates should please apply by e-mail to:-

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

Unless ten or more electors of the Parish of Strete on or before the 2nd December 2024 submit a request in writing for an election to be held, the Parish Council will take steps to fill both vacancies by co-option.

Requests for an election must be sent to the Returning Officer, South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, TQ9 5NE.

Hannah Iles, Parish Clerk  
18th November 2024





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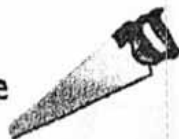
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## Life in the Pond

Disappointing. No frogs in the garden pond this year; not even any frog-spawn. I do love to watch the tadpoles developing. Have you noticed that the more frog-like they become, the more nervous of humans they become? Frightened we'll eat their legs, perhaps! They should be nervous of the large grass-snake I found basking on the bank. She's probably the cause of their current absence. She lived in the garden for a couple of years and left her white and leathery eggs in the compost heap to hatch.

There are often newts in the pond. I read that there are three types of newt in the UK.

Ours are definitely not the Great Crested variety but I am left unsure if the ones in our pond are "Smooth" or "Palmate" newts – they are quite difficult to tell apart. Anyway, it's always nice to see them swimming in the depths. We have few pond snails - not the most exciting animal - but important members of the pond maintenance team, I believe.



I do hope we'll see frogs back again next spring. This one posed for me a couple of years ago. If you want to contact Steve use sjcsmith1@outlook.com

# Directory

Devon County Councillor	Julian Brazil	01548 511109
District Councillor	Laurel Lawford	07908 104473
Doctors (Chillington)	Chillington Health Centre	01548 580214
Doctors (Dartmouth)	Dartmouth Health/Wellbeing	01803 832212
Paul Green	Dart Patients Participation Group	07799 772709
Highways	Devon County Council	0845 155 1004
Kings Arms	<a href="https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk/">https://kingsarmsatstrete.co.uk/</a>	01803 770027
Parish Council Chairman	Cllr Ralph Clark	01803 770954
Parish Council Clerk	Hannah Iles	01548 580449
Village Hall Committee	Penny Penhale (Chairman)	01803 771005
Village Hall Committee	Danni Brien (Treasurer/Bookings)	07841505797
Probus	John Light	johlight1@gmail.com
RSPCA		01803 859695
Short Mat Bowls Secretary	Gary Taylor	garytaylor@hotmail.com
Strete Social Club	Karen Hales	01803 770739
South West Water	Report leaks	0800 230 0561
St John the Baptist Church	Fr Sunny Paul	01803 853406
St Michaels Church	Revd. Matt Gorton	01803 906861
Strete Chapel	Derek & Gill Harris	01803 770256
	Andrew and Lesley Kemp	07774 431109
Stretewise Editor	Dave Jones	01803 770059
Totnes Ring and Ride		01803 867878
Tree Warden	Ian Cumberlidge	01803 770020

## Local Emergency Services

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Non-emergency contact with emergency services	101

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