

# February 2023





# QUANTOCK For Nether Stowey & Over Stowey

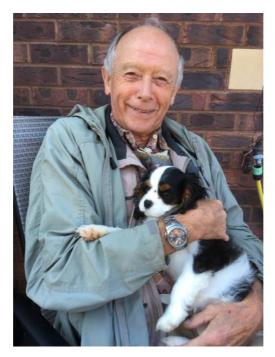




# Messenger



50p



Phil Peckham 1941-2022



Peacock Butterfly Article on page 28



"A New Year - A New Read" Second Hand Book sale table at The Thomas Poole Library

# Phil Peckham 1941-2022

Phil lived over fifty years on Lime Street, coming to the village when he took up a position as Planning Engineer at Hinkley Point in 1971. He and Kathy had two children Chris and Rachel who both went through Nether Stowey School and Haygrove and will be remembered by many. Phil took early retirement from Hinkley and being ahead of the curve in computers he was able to set up in business doing digital graphic design in the 1990s but it was the Quantock Messenger which in the end took up much of his retirement.

The Messenger at the time was the Church Magazine for the Stowey's, consisting of typewritten pages copied by photostat and stapled at the corner. Phil became Editor, transferring the layout onto the computer screen, establishing the A5 booklet format with colour pages and expanding the content to include every aspect of village life along with a useful directory of paying advertisers so that the award-winning Messenger not only funded itself but donated annually to the Church and to charities. He was often to be seen at village functions with his camera round his neck and the pockets of his Daktari jacket filled with lenses and notepads as he recorded events and gently and with considerable charm persuaded people to submit articles, notices and obituaries for the magazine. He wasn't one to blow his own trumpet but every village club, committee and business benefited from his infectious enthusiasm, and he enriched the lives of all of us who live here.

Tim Whittingham

# From Kathy:

Thank you to so very many of you who have supported Philip and I (and our family) with prayers, visits to Philip when he was moved to his nursing home last May and in many practical and thoughtful, caring ways since his first stroke in December 21.

You have continued to support me since Philip's death and I am so grateful.

# **CLUBS & SOCIETIES IN NETHER STOWEY & OVER STOWEY**

Allotment Association

Bruce Roper 732 043

**Coleridge Probus Club** 

Philip Comer (01984) 656 720

**Coleridge Cottage** 

Tel: 732 662

Friends of Coleridge

Helen Boyles helenmboyles@gmail.com

**Friends of Over Stowey Church** 

Christopher Stone 732 907

Friends of Quantock

Mary ter Braak (01984) 656 633

**Friends of Nether Stowey School** 

Lisa Rendle 732 508

**Nether Stowey Art Group** 

Mac Muir 01278 732382

**Nether Stowey Football Club** 

Chair: Nigel Waterman 732 310
Seniors: Steve Fasden 07788 370014

Juniors: Nigel Waterman 732 310

Minis: Richard Marriott 07890 451694

**Nether Stowey Playing Fields Committee** 

. - .. -

Jane Erskine 732 025

**Nether Stowey Short Mat Bowls** 

Cath Roberts 732 789

**Nether Stowey Twinning Association** 

Open to everyone. Ian Pearson 732 228

Nether Stowey & Fiddington Women's

Institute

Margaret Harris 734 613

Terry Binding 732 710

Over Stowey Bellringers

**Over Stowey Bowls Club** 

Wendy Hill 732 194

**Over Stowey Cricket Club** 

Les Biffin 732963

Over Stowey Rights of Way Group

Richard Ince 733 237

**Over Stowey Social Club** 

Sue Thomas 732 905

**Over Stowey Tennis Court** 

Liz Onions 732 195

**Over Stowey Village Hall** 

Jackie Barrow 07891 720565

**Quantock AONB Office, Fyne Court** 

Tel: (01823) 451 884

**Quantock Beekeepers Association** 

Ken Edwards 671 544

**Quantock Players** 

Wendy Hobbs 733 197

**Quantock Quilters** 

Anna Boulton 652309

**Quantock Tennis Club** 

Robin Bendall 732 633

**Royal British Legion -** N/Stowey &

District

Viki Fielder 238 691

**Stogursey Forget-Me-Not Cafe** 

Helen Cuttell 734 818

**Stowey Bears** (pre-school)

Tina Miller 734 636

**Stowey Book Club** 

Alison Whittingham 732 446

**Stowey Gardeners** 

Lucy Haswell 01278 671289

**Stowey Green Spaces Group** 

Roy Osborne 734604

Stowey Walking

Lynne Abbott 732 228

Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey

Sian Stafford 732 741

Wednesday Club

Maggie Harrison 732 532

# February 2023

Happy New Year everyone and our best wishes for a healthy and happy 2023.

During the last few months we have experienced many bitterly cold and icy days, so we hope that you have been able to keep warm and safe during this time. Hopefully February will bring some warmer weather!

This edition has many informative articles as well as activities and events to keep you busy during February. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Happy Valentine's Day! Sian

# **Your Messenger Team**

Please email articles/photos to:

# edtor@quantockmessenger.org.uk

# Please email adverts to: advertising@quantockmessenger.org.uk

Edwina	Editor	By email	Jan	Editor	734561 & email
Siân	Editor	By email	Richard Beer	Printer	732 412
Sally Dymock	Advertising	732 298	Molly Bradner	Assembly - Distribution	732 166
Sally & John Dymock	Collating	732 298			

Front Page Photos - Retirement of Wendy Hill from Over Stowey Village Hall Committee (see article on page 23).

Stowey Green Spaces planting the new Platinum Jubilee Wood (see article on page 18).

Nether Stowey Health Walks enjoying a snowy pre-Christmas walk in the Quantocks followed by lunch at Combe House Hotel, Holford.

Quantock Quilters who have recently celebrated their 10th birthday.

# **DIARY DATES 2023**

Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) - Toddler Storytime - 11am - TPL

2nd & 4th Monday each month - Quantock Quilters - 10am-1pm **NSCC** 

Every Tuesday - Walk for Health - Quantock Medical Centre

Every Tuesday - Short Mat Bowls 2-5pm - NSCC

Every Wednesday - Nether Stowey Wednesday Club - 10am-2pm -NSCC

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month - Evening talk at the Library 7.30pm - 9pm - TPL

1st & 3rd Thursday each month - Art Group - 2-4pm - NSCC

Every 2nd Thursday each month - Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI - 2pm - NSCC

Every 3rd Thursday – Stowey Gardeners - 7.30pm - NSCC

Every Friday - Knit & Natter - 10:30-12:00 - TPL

Wednesday 8th February - TPL - Evening talk 7.30pm - Behind the scenes at a National Trust property

Wednesday 15th February - Quantock Medical Centre Patient Participation Meeting - 10.15am - TPL

Thursday 16th February - Gardeners Question Time - 7.30pm - NSCC

Friday 17th February - Crowcombe Village Hall - 7pm - "Community Green Spaces" A talk by Roy Osborne

OSVH - Over Stowey Village Hall

NSCC - Nether Stowey Church Centre NSVH - Nether Stowey Village Hall

TPL - Thomas Poole Library,

**Nether Stowey** 

# Happy New Year from all of us at The Thomas Poole Library!



It's been a cold couple of weeks recently so a reminder that the library is registered as a Warm Welcome Space and during opening hours, we will provide free hot drinks and a warm, welcoming and safe place for you to go. All are welcome!

Our second hand book sales are now a regular event. Every Saturday the 'shed' will be open between 10am and 1pm for you to browse our fantastic collection of books. We also have a table of second hand books in the library, these are great for gift's or just because!

And we have some good news! We now have additional opening hours on Thursday evenings and extended hours on Saturdays. See below for our opening hours.

### \*\* MONTHLY TALKS FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH\*\*

- Wednesday 8th February National Trust Coleridge Cottage Behind the scenes
- Wednesday 8th March 'The Sound of One Hand' A reading by the author Satyadasa

Start time is 7.30pm and entrance fees are £3.50 for members and £4.50 non-members.

# **Opening Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, 10am to 1pm, Thursday 4pm to 7pm Friday 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm, Saturday 10am -1pm

### **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

# Yorick the Confessions November's Talk at The Thomas Poole Library

Good friends of The Thomas Poole Library, Dennis and Juliet Harkness, visited on the evening of 9th November to present excerpts from Dennis's book 'Yorick the Confessions'.

His book, with delightful illustrations by Juliet, is in three parts. It begins with a spoof 'Translator's note' which would have us believe that a manuscript had been found at the Abbey at Roskilde in Denmark. The manuscript provides the twenty short chapters which follow. They are the autobiography of the court jester in Shakespeare's Hamlet, Yorick, who happens to feature in a total of ten of the Bard's dramas.

Before reading excerpts from the book Dennis said he was going to leave out the racy bits (what a pity) but there was still much to titillate the senses thanks to the boundless imagination of the author. Each chapter of the autobiography took us through a different phase of Yorick's eventful life, during which he strangely seems to have crossed the paths of numerous characters known to us through the plays – Macbeth and Malvolio, Romeo and Juliet, Iago and King Lear.

The third section of the book consists of the script of Hamlet Act Six, Dennis's (or Shakespeare's?) hugely inventive Act VI. The writing is surely the product of a lifetime of reading, acting and listening to the works of Shakespeare, to the extent that the style and language is perfectly believable as the work of the Bard of Avon. It questions the notion that the play we know is the final version. What if it was an early draft?

Act VI is one of revelations, revealed by a mysterious Priest who barged into Hamlet from another play, and it makes us ask if the play is not a tragedy but a comedy - or both. As the Act proceeds, and without giving away the general thrust of the action, we are shown that nobody has behaved in quite the way we thought they had.

Geraldine James, in a review on the back cover of the book, says

that it "is a brilliantly inventive scamper through half of Shake-speare's canon". Absolutely right. You can fight for a copy in Thomas Poole's Library.

An article about The Science of Climate Change (January's monthly talk) can be found on page 34.



If you love gardens or gardening, enjoy hearing about or visiting beautiful gardens, want to pick up lots of tips or add to your garden knowledge, enjoy a social gathering of enthusiasts like listening to experts on a wide variety of gardening subjects.....

# then come and join our monthly club!

We meet at the Church Centre, St. Mary's Street, Nether Stowey, TA5 1LJ, every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.00 for 7.30. Come as a visitor to try us out. £5 for a talk including tea/coffee & cakes and there is a raffle and garden table too. Annual membership is £20. Car sharing available for visits.

<u>Contact Lucy Haswell, Secretary</u>. Phone: 01278 671289 website: https://sites.google.com/site/stoweygardeners

# **Spring/Summer Events 2023**

Thursday 16th February - Gardeners Question Time

Thursday 16th March - A talk by Michael Smith Hanging Baskets and Containers

Thursday 20th April - A talk by Josh Hartnell Orchids

Friday 21st April 2.30pm - Car visit to Barford Park, Spaxton TA5 1AG

Saturday 29th April - Plant Sale at The Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey

Thursday 18th May a talk by Dr Gavin Haig Creating a Wildlife Garden

Tuesday 23rd May - Car visit to Hillcrest, Curload, Stoke St Gregory TA3 6JA

Thursday 15th June - A talk by Margaret Adams, Living with the Boss (Tales of a Farmer's Wife)

Thursday 22nd June - Car visit to Vexford Court, Higher Vexford, Lydeard St Lawrence TA4 3OF

Tuesday 11th July - Car visit to Avalon, Higher Chillington, Ilminster TA19 0PT Thursday 20th July - A talk by Claire Hart, Poultry Keeping for Beginners - you can have hens and a nice garden

# QUANTOCK QUILTERS (Including Textiles) We meet 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month 10am – 1pm Nether Stowey Church Centre



Come & Join Us Beginner's Welcomed

No experience necessary





Contact: Anna Boulton 01278 652307

Gill Griffiths 01278 733709

Meg Smith 01278 671837

The Nether Stowey Quantock Quilters Group have just celebrated their 10th Birthday and our membership is still growing. All Sewing and Quilting ladies (or Gentlemen) are welcome, experienced and beginners.

We are a friendly village group with many activities and workshops planned for the next 12 months.

Pop in for a coffee and chat to see what the group if about.





# Nether Stowey Wednesday Club - Volunteers Needed |

A social gathering of over 70's for coffee & lunch.

We urgently need volunteers to help with the club for 4hrs per month to assist making coffee and preparing in the kitchen/dinning tables for lunch, which is provided by the school along with generally chatting to the members and assisting anyone with a quiz or game.

Also drivers who can spare 10-15mins before 10.00am to collect a member to take to the Church Centre and return home at 2.00pm.

This will be on a voluntary basis. Term time only.

The Wednesday Club is a very friendly village group so please call Maggie 01278 732532 or Tina 01278 732382 if you can help.

■ Thank you.

# Hinkley Point C - Monthly Update

# A round up of the latest news from Hinkley Point C



### 2022 End of Year Film

2022 was a year of substantial progress and success at Hinkley Point C. Amongst a wealth of milestones we saw the completion of the power station's water-cooling tunnels, delivered a hugely complex marine engineering operation successfully placing the seawater intake structures into the Bristol Channel and opened our reactor simulator and training centre.

In the final weeks of 2022, Big Carl lifted the final 11-metre prefabricated steel ring into place and added key internal components to the reactor building itself. Hinkley Point C's first reactor building now stands at over 40m and is ready for the installation of its iconic domed roof.

The progress of the year is reflected in our end of year film - You can watch it at **www.edfenergy.com/hinkleypointc** 



### Hinkley Point C's reactor completed

The first nuclear reactor built for a British power station in more than 30-years is complete and ready for delivery to us here in Somerset. The "reactor pressure vessel" is the high strength cylinder that contains the nuclear fuel and the chain reaction needed to make heat.

At just 13m long and weighing in at 500 tonnes, each of the two reactors at Hinkley Point C will help power around 3 million British homes. The reactor has been built in France by Framatome; the same nuclear engineering company which built Britain's last nuclear reactor, at Sizewell B in 1991. Teams have spent 80,000 engineering hours on its construction.





### Supporting our community at Christmas

Teams from across Hinkley Point C stepped up to show their support for local charities over the Christmas period. Our campus restaurants opened their doors for charities and vulnerable people whilst the projects main civil engineering partner BYLOR helped the Bridgwater Salvation Army with their "Be a Star" appeal. Meanwhile, Unite the Union South West branch donated to the Bridgwater foodbank and mechanical and electrical teams lent a hand to Open Door Taunton, a day centre for the homeless community.

Website: edfenergy.com/hpc Email: hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com Telephone: 0333 009 7070

# GARDENING WITH NICK

# February 2023

Once we get into February, longer days, spring and warmer weather do not seem so very far away and we should be planning for the coming season. However, this month and March can still produce some unwelcome weather and it is always better to keep off wet soil and avoid compacting it. Early sowings and planting can be tempting but if your soil is cold and too wet germination and growth will be disappointing

Some jobs such as winter digging, general border maintenance and pruning may have fallen behind and they should be completed providing ground conditions are suitable.

**Vegetables:** One of the advantages of raised beds in the vegetable garden is that drainage is generally better and you are working from the paths rather than standing on the soil. Covering with black polythene or cloches will help to warm the soil and allow early sowings of broad beans, peas and early carrots to germinate more successfully. Lettuce and salad leaves are also worth sowing under a cloche or fleece. Make sure that the varieties chosen are suitable for early sowing otherwise summer varieties tend to 'bolt' i.e. run up to seed. Seed potatoes should be purchased, and the tubers placed in egg boxes or seed trays to 'chit'. It is a good idea to check through your old seed packets. Carrots and parsnip quickly lose their viability especially if the packet has been opened and it is better to start with fresh seed. Peas, beans and lettuce should be fine even after two or three years. Old wellowing leaves on overwintering brassicas can be removed and composted.

**Pruning:** Complete any pruning of tree and soft fruit that is still outstanding, and it is a good month to carry out any renovation pruning of old shrubs including out of control climbers. Hard pruning may cause loss of flower in the first year but it does allow the shrub to be rejuvenated and re-shaped. Shrubs that flower late in the season

such as Buddleja davidii, Lavatera and Hydrangea can be pruned now. They benefit from being pruned hard to where dormant leaves/buds can be seen and the result will be strong new growths that will carry abundant flower in mid-late summer. Dormant Wisteria side-shoots can be pruned back to two or three buds. At the end of the month late flowering Clematis such as the Viticella and Texensis types can be pruned hard to encourage quality growth from the base. Late winter is a good time to prune hybrid tea, floribunda and shrub roses.

**Ornamentals:** summer flowering plants such as pelargoniums, begonias, antirrhinums, gazanias, lobelia and sweet peas can be raised in the warm from seed. Lenten hellebores will be starting to show their flower stems and old leaves can be cut off in order to see their flowers better. Once winter flowering heathers have finished blooming trim them lightly to prevent them becoming woody and leggy. A good month to visit gardens and enjoy snowdrops and winter borders.

**Propagation:** utilising a propagator it is a good month to start chilli peppers and tomatoes and cucumbers if they are to be planted in the greenhouse. For outdoor tomatoes wait until next month.

Nick Rigden



# **Nether Stowey & Fiddington WI**

We hope you all had a Happy Christmas and wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year. Our year ended with a very pleasant Christmas lunch at The Kitchen, a first for us, which was very well attended and The Kitchen did us proud. Members were so pleased to get together for a Christmas lunch after 3 years. Our first meeting of the year, on 12th January, was a social afternoon, with a Beetle Drive and a Quiz, with "half-time" tea and cake, an afternoon well attended and enjoyed. In February the Free Wheelers Emergency Voluntary Service will be visiting us on the 9th. Our March meeting on the 9th will be our AGM, but then we will be back to normal with a full programme.

This year will see the nation celebrating the first coronation in 70 years and our WI's 100th anniversary, so this should be a very busy year for the WI, with two major events to celebrate; details to be supplied later. Our meetings take place on the second Thursday afternoon in the month so this could be your very own "warm space" to enjoy. New faces are always welcome. Our meetings start at 2.00 pm and entrance includes refreshments and a raffle ticket.

AB

# Charity Collection Coffee morning at the Church Centre 10th December 2022

On behalf of the South & West Somerset branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, can I thank you for raising £350.72.

At any one time there are 33 people suffering with MND in South West Somerset. This local branch is able to provide sufferers with support and advice on a personal level with home visits and help with supplying aids which help them cope each day. We help also with providing information as to what financial benefits may be available from the government and equipment from the NHS.

We meet monthly in Monkton Heathfield where those with MND and those who have lost family, like myself, can share knowledge. Your contribution will help our work greatly, thank you.

David Ainscough

# **Forthcoming Event:**

Community Green Spaces: Quantock Eco has invited ex-diplomat Roy Osborne to introduce us to the Stowey Green Spaces Group, a small community organization which leads the way in a community response to Climate Change. The event will be held in Crowcombe Village Hall on Friday 17th February and start at 7 pm. Entry free. SGSG looks after the green spaces in and around Nether and Over Stowey, including the recreation ground and surroundings. It also manages, under license from Somerset County Council, the Stowey Millennium Wood, the Diamond Jubilee extension, Stowey Wood itself and the Stowey A39 Bypass Wood. Over the past few years SGSG volunteers have planted some 1500 new native trees. Our speaker, Roy Osborne spent his entire career working for the Foreign Office in countries as diverse as Norway, Pakistan, Cameroon and Nicaragua (where he was ambassador). On retirement in 2009 he moved to Somerset Over Stowey. Having had a lifelong interest in birds, wildlife and habitat creation, he became at volunteer warden for the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust at Steart Marshes, a volunteer for the National Trust and the Quantock Hills AONB, and for the past few years has led the Stowey Green Spaces Group. Roy will explain how Stowey Green Spaces have made themselves a good force for nature in and around Nether Stowey and Over Stowey and how it helps beat back Climate Change.

Quantock Eco hopes that this will lead to other communities to do much the same. Roy has offered to give advice to any team that takes up the challenge.





Playing Field 50:50 Lottery (formerly PFR Club)

Thank you to everyone for continuing with their subscription to our village Lottery which is supporting the building of a new Community Centre on the Playing Field. Things are moving behind the scenes and we hope you will see our hard work come to fruition in 2023. Welcome to our new subscribers, which means that the prizes have increased a little. Details of winners for December and January can be seen here. Best wishes for 2023 from Jane Erskine 732025 and Sharon Mayell 732311.







# NEW PLATINUM JUBILEE WOOD PLANTED!

Many thanks to everyone who came along on Saturday, 26 November (the first day of the UK National Tree Week) to help Stowey Green Spaces Group plant sap-

lings to create a Platinum Jubilee extension to Stowey Millennium Wood. Almost fifty people arrived during the morning, and it was great to see families with young children. A variety of native broadleaved trees were planted over almost half an acre on land at New Stowey farm (which is owned by Somerset County Council). Saplings comprised 12 different woodland species, including oak, beech, hazel, birch, horse chestnut, holly, rowan and walnut. Our District and County Councillor Michael Caswell planted an oak and our Rector, Eleanor King, brought along a hazel sapling which was presented to her at the enthronement of the Bishop of Bath and Wells! Hopefully, by the time you read this, the footpaths into Stowey Millennium Wood and towards Stowey Wood itself will have been reopened. Work will then begin, over the next month or so, to "thin" some of the trees in the Millennium wood, so please take care when walking nearby. Our thanks to the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme for their support.

# **Over Stowey Parish Council**



Welcome to 2023 and understandably, many may be wondering what it will bring. From a Parish Council perspective, councillors are looking to make further improvements to the parish for the benefit of all. Please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk if you have anything you would like to be considered to improve facilities and opportunities for the community.

The last meeting of the year was held on December 14th 2022 and the Clerk was able to confirm that the grant available for the play equipment at the recreation ground has been agreed and it is hoped that installation will take place in the early spring. The items of concern regarding Highways issues are still ongoing, however, Cllrs Bolt and Caswell have been communicating with

the relevant Highways officer who has committed to contacting the Clerk in early 2023 to discuss and progress the requests. The Clerk will update further at the next meeting.

With regards to the verge/hedge cutting service currently provided by Somerset County Council, the Parish Council are hoping with the new unitary authority taking effect from April 1st 2023 that this is a service that can be taken over by them within the parish. The draft proposal is as follows: You have probably all read about the big changes happening next year with Somerset County Council and the services it provides.

With this in mind Over Stowey Parish Council is working hard to see what areas of responsibility can be undertaken for our parish that we find very frustrating when going through the current County or District Councils. This will give us the chance to improve our local area, whilst giving the community as a whole more control over how this achieved. One project we would like to 'take on' is the highway verge/hedge cutting programme.

We constantly find that the hedge cutting programme is below what is required to keep our roads safe and working with you, we wish to improve this for all road users. Currently there is a 1 metre splay cut undertaken by Somerset County Council usually at the end of July. By this time, the hedgerows and verges up to the 1 metre are already encroaching into the road. The Parish Council are hoping that this can be devolved to them and work can be undertaken earlier in the season, to ensure an effective cut is achieved before problems occur. Depending on the growing conditions, another cut may then be necessary later in the year. However, if the initial cut is done efficiently, it may be that a second cut is not required. We aim to use local contractors with good local knowledge to do this.

The other issue is that foliage above the 1 metre cut that is allowed to grow without being maintained effectively, causes problems. This is taken from the SCC Travel Somerset website page:

The majority of hedges bordering the highway are privately owned. Landowners and occupiers are responsible for maintaining their boundary, except between 1 March and 31 August (bird nesting season), to make sure their hedge, tree or shrub does not obstruct highway users or lines of sight at junctions. Landowners must also remove any debris from the road surface to prevent nuisance and to stop it blocking surface water drainage systems. If however, overgrown hedgerows and/or trees are creating unsafe conditions to the highway at any other time, they can be cut during the bird nesting season.

It is vital that your boundary is cut back up to a height of 4.6 metres, where and when necessary and should be undertaken before the end of February to ensure a good start for the upcoming growing season. It would be preferable if landowners could do this at the end of the bird nesting season (from September 1st) wherever possible, from this year onwards, particularly if there are safety concerns.

It is hoped that the contractor used for the 1 metre cut (which would be paid for out of the precept) may be able to provide the service (under a private agreement paid for by the landowner) to anyone who would like to take this option.

The above is a draft proposal and open discussions with the parish will help form the plan for taking over this service in whatever way is possible. To this end, the above will be considered at the March 2023 meeting and the Parish Council would like all those landowners in the parish who have responsibility for a boundary adjacent to the highway to attend and all ideas and suggestions given will help formulate a way forward.

The Parish Council would like to take this responsibility on for the benefit of the parish and all road users and hope that the community of Over Stowey will be able to help make this happen.

Please contact the Clerk if you would like further information or would like to attend the March 2023 meeting.

For details on the upcoming unitary authority, please visit the New Somerset Council website.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 15th 2023 and the following one will be held on Wednesday 15th March. Please check the website and notice board for details.

If you have any concerns or issues you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk in the usual ways:

Website: https://www.overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk

Email: clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 07391 313740 (please leave a message if there is no reply) If you could leave your contact details, we can then ensure any concerns raised are on the agenda for the next meeting.

# **Coleridge Cottage – February 2023**

January and February roll around and the cottage becomes very quiet with no volunteers or visitors. The cold and dark days make the cottage feel very cosy and creates an authentic atmosphere. You really get a sense of what it would have been like for Coleridge and Sara arriving at the Cottage in winter! This time of year, we are busy preparing for the new season ahead. Do check back for any updates on upcoming events.

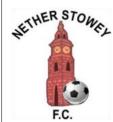
In February, we do some conservation work, which gives the opportunity to care for our collection and potentially learn something new! Last month Tim Pye, a National Trust Curator, came to visit the cottage and was particularly interested in Sara's bedroom. Apparently, it is lined with political pamphlets and has been stamped with a pattern. He mentioned an academic from Oxford is doing some research on objects that have been lined with text so hopefully we will learn more about the origins of the trunk soon. If you would like to learn more about the work we do whilst the cottage is closed, I am doing a 'behind the scenes' talk at the Nether Stowey Library on 8th February at 7.30pm.

In other news, we have appointed a new Site Manager! Charlotte Bailey will be joining the team at the end of February. Charlotte has been a teacher for over a decade and has decided to move into heritage management and is excited to join the team at Coleridge. She has a very keen literary mind and already knows far more about Coleridge than I do! Charlotte is full of great ideas so 2023 is going to be another exciting year for the Cottage.

Our volunteer team are a lovely group of people who are committed and passionate about sharing Coleridge's story and making sure our visitors have the best experience, the place wouldn't run without them. It was lovely to host a Volunteer Party for all of them last month to show our appreciation for all the hard work they have put into the Cottage over the years. There were volunteer awards, raffle, great food, and a challenging quiz.

If you fancy trying something new this year, Coleridge Cottage is hosting two volunteer recruitment days on Wednesday 22 February and Saturday 25 February, 11am-3pm. We are recruiting for House Experience, Tearoom, and conservation volunteers. Why not come along to the cottage and have a chat with the team and learn about how you can get involved with the team.

Charlotte Hall Visitor Experience Officer



# **Nether Stowey Football Club**

With the mid-winter break behind us, football is back in full swing, despite waterlogged pitches and cancellations. Thankfully the MUGA ena-

bles the club to keep training.

Women's Football - The interest in women's football at the club has increased so much that they have entered the Somerset County League next season. This is a huge achievement for the club, as 12 months ago there wasn't even a women's team.

With so interest in women's football, Rich Broome is the new coach, with Steve Easden overseeing things.

Seniors - With so much bad weather about hardly any football has been played. However, the Reserves side bowed out of the Gardener cup at the quarter-final stage, losing to a very talented Minehead Colts team 3-2. Curtis McGuinness and Bertie Kelly netting for Stowey.

Sponsorship - The football club are always on the lookout for more sponsors, in particular a main club sponsor and a "away" kit sponsor for the seniors. If interested please contact myself, Mark Sells 07896 644636 or Steve Easden, 07788 370014.

That's about it for now from the football club, hopefully there will be some football to report next month. New players, at whatever age and standard are aways welcome, contact Steve Easden on the above mobile. Or come down to the training sessions during the week, more information on the club's Facebook page.

Mark Sells

# **The Marion Evered Trust**

Firstly a big thankyou to all that donated prizes and had a go on the Christmas raffle. We managed to raise over £1200.00 which is a fantastic addition to start this years fundraising.

Also a new year of the 200 club raffle is about to begin, Contact Sara on 01278732942 if you want to join, existing members will receive invites shortly.

# **Dates for your Diary**

Easter Monday Easter bingo, always very well attended so arrive in time, Eyes down 7.30

April 2nd Annual Tractor run email terstractors@icloud.com for details and booking

July 15th -16th Big Bash cricket weekend in conjunction with Over Stowey Cricket club

# **A Well Earned Retirement**

For the past 37 years Over Stowey Village Hall has been "blessed with a treasure"; however, all good things must come to an end and Wendy Hill has made the decision to retire, whilst she can still enjoy life.



Wendy and her late husband Kelvin joined the Over Stowey Village Hall and Recreation committee in 1986, shortly after the Village Hall was purchased from the County Council after the school closed and the Charity was formed.

Wendy recollects many changes over the years with the management of the Hall, Campbell Rooms and Recreation Ground. Original-

ly the bar was run from the kitchen with a licence via the Cottage Inn and profits went to the Village Hall. The Social Club opened in 1994, Wendy and Kelvin took on the management and running of the Social Club, this continued until Kelvin died in 2015.

They tirelessly raised funds and worked to upkeep the village hall and recreation ground, encouraging the cricket teams to come back to the social club rather than go to the local pubs for their after game drink to mull over the positives and negatives of the game.

Together with the Charity, various grants, Village Hall Committee Wendy and Kelvin raised enough money to achieve the dream and the millennium project saw the building and opening of the extension, where the new bar is now sited. 2009 saw Wendy & Kelvin awarded with Somerset County Councils "service to the community" award.

Over the years Wendy has taken on many roles within the Community and Village Hall from cleaning the hall, taking hall bookings, running the social club and bar, in addition to score keeping for the Over Stowey Cricket Team.

Wendy was presented with a cheque and bouquet of flowers from the Village Hall Committee and Parish Council to thank her for her vision, huge contribution to the Village and on going hard work; to ensure the success of the Charity taking care of the Village Hall, Campbell Rooms and Recreation Ground.

## In Remembrance

My father, Mr Alec Page of Spinners, Plainfield, Over Stowey, sadly died on Sunday 15th January, peacefully at home, aged exactly 99 & a half. I thank the carers for the excellent care & help he received and who made it possible for him to stay in his own home until the end.

Denise Nicholas

# **News from the Quantock Medical Centre**

I want to start by wishing all our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year!

We have had a very busy few months seeing a huge increase in cases of Flu, Chest infections and Strep Throats. We still have Flu vaccinations available, if anyone over 50 years old would like to book an appointment please call reception on 01278 732696.

Unfortunately, Helen Every our Advanced Nurse Practitioner has had to step down from her role due to ill health. She has been an amazing member of our team since 2015 and helped so many patients over the years. I know her patients will want to say a HUGE thank you to her and we will be organising, with our Patient Participation Group a Thank you event for her in March so please look out for the Date and Time.

Our Patient Participation Group has been resurrected following all the Lock downs over the last 2 – 3 years, and we had a very interesting meeting in December with over 12 attendees at the Nether Stowey Library. If you would be interested in joining our Group or coming along to find out about what's happening, you are welcome to join us. We will be meeting at the Nether Stowey Library at 10.15 am on the following dates: 15th February, 21st June, 13th September, 6th December 2023. We discuss many issues affecting the Health Service and our Local Practice. We would also like to raise awareness about the variety of different Health Professionals we have working with us at the Practice.

We have a First Practice Physiotherapist (FPP) who is available for patients to book directly into see him on a Tuesday afternoon, with any NEW Musculo skeletal problems (not to be confused with ongoing Musculo or Orthopaedic problems you are already being seen and treated for). He is able to assess your NEW Problem, and treat you; through specific exercises, joint injections, organise x-rays and scans and refer on to the Orthopaedic Team if required. If your NEW problem is likely to require Physiotherapy support, you would be advised to book in with our FPP rather than see a GP as this will help get you seen and treated a great deal quicker.

We have a new Health & Well Being Coach on a Wednesday Morning at the Practice, who is able to spend time with you; exploring what you would like to change or improve on, able to find out what motivates you, and help you access services and groups you might be interested in. This process helps you look at all aspects of your health including your mental and physical health, and can help with pain management, weight management, loneliness and isolation, as well as getting fit and back in to being more active. To find out more about what Health Coaches are able to offer https://www.sasp.co.uk/ or call us and book into an appointment with our Health Coach.

I would also like to mention that we have been having a number of supply issues with obtaining medication stocks (as have the rest of the country) so we are requesting that patients order their repeat medications at least 3 working days in advance (not including weekends and bank holidays) in order for us to make every effort to complete your request. We hope you are able to understand and appreciate your support with this change.

I would also like to remind people that there are many ways to order your repeat medications:



Drop off your request to the Dispensary Box, or over the counter, these are collected twice a day, doors to the surgery are open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday & Saturday 8.30am to 11:30am.



Call dispensary: on 01278 733385, Monday to Friday from 10:00am to 11:30am and 4pm – 5pm

Email: somicb.quantock.mc@nhs.net



Patient Access online: ask for an application form, the go online to order your repeat medication. www.patient.co.uk/patient-access

To collect your Prescription:

Monday to Friday from: 10.00am until 12:00pm and 4.00pm until 6.00pm, Saturday 8.30am – 10am

Thank you for your support

**Helen Stacey - Practice Manager** 

### STOWEY SHUTTLE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Could you be a driver with Stowey Shuttle? Stowey Shuttle is a local community car scheme, providing car journeys at cost to its registered members. It is run entirely by volunteers who manage the scheme, receive and allocate requests for travel, and drive passengers using their own cars. Our drivers receive a mileage allowance for each journey, and we are supported by Somerset County Council and the scheme is linked to the bus pass scheme. We always welcome more volunteers and at present would like to increase the number of our drivers.

If you have a few hours to spare and would like to help please call Stowey Shuttle on 07943923742.



# Thank you on behalf of Barbara Carter (Margaret Harris)

A big thank you from Barbara Carter of Nether Stowey, for all the people who purchased her knitted toys and those who gave her a donation at Stowey church centre recently. Barbara raised £150 in total which she has now sent to St Margaret's Hospice.

# Thank you on behalf of Quantock Stores

Quantock Stores would like to thank those who supported the Poppy Appeal in the shop. This has raised £86.03 for Royal British Legion.



The Quantock Messenger Team are looking for one or two people who could offer a couple of hours a month, usually a weekend, to help put the Messenger together. This is a mechanical process and you would be working with at least one other person. Full training will be given. If you think you could help please contact Richard on 1732412 or email r.beer852@ btinternet.com.

# **Butterflies on the Quantock hills**

Like so much of the wildlife we know and love in our countryside, our butterflies are in decline. This seems to be due to a combination of a changing climate and loss of the specialised habitats that many require. Over the last few years, fired up by a desire to tackle the problem of falling butterfly numbers, I have learned about our 50-odd species of UK butterflies and volunteered on surveys in Somerset which feed into the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS). In this scheme, from Spring to early Autumn, groups of volunteers walk regular routes and record the species of butterflies they see. These routes (referred to as transects) are fixed so that the results of the surveys can be compared on a year-by-year basis, giving environmental scientists indicators of change and providing local information to guide land management. The data is fed to the UKBMS and is added together with the records from other surveys such as the very popular annual Big Butterfly Count which many readers will already know about.

Friends of Quantock (FoQ) are a charitable organization that have responsibility for Over Stowey Custom Common, grazing land on the Quantock hills that sits alongside the Crowcombe to Nether Stowey road. FoQ are building up knowledge about the wildlife on their patch and asked me if I would look at the butterflies there. During weekly walks over the past year, I was delighted to find 20 species of butterfly. With the help of Fred Giles, an expert from the Shapwick nature reserve, I have worked out a transect route and plan to start a regular UKBMS butterfly survey in April 2023.

We are looking for more volunteers to join the regular survey team. You don't have to be experienced, training is given and identification aids provided. We plan to do a series of escorted walks in February and March when we can describe in more detail what is required. If you wish to book a place, please contact me either by phone, text or email.

Simon Davies simon.quantockbutterflies@gmail.com / 07984627267

# **COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**

Police (emergency: 999 or non-emergency: 101)

Email somwestnptsedgemoor@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk PC Claire Allen, PCSO Jason Wyatt, PCSO Jeremy Pidgeon Jake Dade (Hinkley issues only) @avonandsomerset.police.uk

Antisocial behaviour call 0800 298 2009

Vandalism on the Quantock Hills call 101

Household noise problems (Environmental Health) call 0845 408 2540

County Councillor:

Michael Caswell 01278 652 043 MCaswell@somerset.gov.uk

District Councillors

Michael Caswell michael.caswell@sedgemoor.gov.uk

Julie Pay 01278 732 956 julie.pay@sedgemoor.gov.uk

Nether Stowey Parish Council / Over Stowey Parish Council

Clerk: Caro Slaymaker Clerk: Amanda McMurren

01278 733 779 01278 734 689

clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk

Bookings secretaries

N/Stowey Church Centre Pat Stacey 01278 732 518

(9am—9pm)

O/Stowey Village Hall Jackie Barrow 07891720565

Quantock Medical Centre (if closed call the NHS on 111)

Reception 01278 732 696 / Dispensary 01278 733 385

Centre open 8am - 6:30pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary phone line 10am - 12pm & 4 - 5pm (Mon-Fri) Pick up from Dispensary 10am - 12pm & 4 - 6pm (Mon-Fri)

quantock.mc@nhs.net https://quantockmedicalcentre.gpsurgery.net

Cannington Health Centre (if closed call NHS on 111)

Reception 01278 652 335 Prescription line 01278 651 311

Other Community Facilities

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline 03454 040 506

**Thomas Poole Library** 732 741 (Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-1pm / Fri 2-5pm / Sat 10am-12)

Quantock Hills AONB, Amanda Sampson - 01823 451 884,

quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk

Community Car Scheme Stowey Shuttle - 07943 923 742 (48

# **CHURCH SERVICES FEBRUARY 2023**

	5th February	12th February	19th February	26th February
	3rd Sunday before Lent	2nd Sunday before Lent	Sunday next before Lent	1st Sunday of Lent
Nether Stowey	11:00am Morning Worship (C/Centre)	11:00am Holy Communion (C/Centre)	11.00am Morning Worship (C/Centre)	11:00am Holy Communion (C/Centre)
Over Stowey	6.30pm Evensong	9.30am Holy Communion	9:30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship
Aisholt	11.00am Matins	3.30pm Evensong	11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am Matins
Enmore	11:00am Holy Communion	11.00am Family Worship	11.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Morning Worship
Goathurst	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)
Spaxton	9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Morning Worship with Baptism	11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship

# Dear Everyone,

If you visit churches at this time of year, you may still find a nativity crib somewhere inside! It's not that we have forgotten to put it away but rather that Christmas season continues until 2<sup>nd</sup> February. On this day, often called Candlemas, the church recalls the story of two older people, Anna and Simeon, who met Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the Temple in Jerusalem. Simeon takes Jesus in his arms and proclaims Jesus to be good news for all people everywhere. He also warns Mary that there is sadness ahead for her. Candlemas is a turning point in the church's year. It is the point at which Christmas finally comes to an end and we turn to look towards Holy Week and Easter; the death and resurrection of Jesus. Our preparations for Easter begin in Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> February this year). Please look out for opportunities to share time together during Lent – for study groups and also for Lent Lunches which are held throughout the Benefice. These will be starting in March so please do come along and enjoy the excellent soups and the warm spaces too.

February is often seen as the turning point from the dark days of early January (though the evenings are already lengthening), to seeing the first signs of spring. The first bulbs of colour breaking through the wet or solid ground are signs of hope that spring and new life are on their way. The birth of Jesus coming amongst us at Christmas and Christ's journey to the cross and resurrection at Easter also give us new life and fresh hope for something better for all.

In between Ash Wednesday and Easter Day, we celebrate Mothering Sunday on 19<sup>th</sup> March and all the churches in the Benefice will be holding special Mothering Sunday services with posies to hand out as well as refreshments and probably cake too!

Happy spring!

Eleanor

# **CHURCH CONTACT POINTS**

# ST. MARY'S, Nether Stowey with ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, Over Stowey

**Rector** Revd. Eleanor King Tel: 734 777

The Rectory, 25 St Mary St, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ

eleanor.king@hotmail.com

Associate Priest Revd. Kate Sax Tel. 671 168

The Vicarage, Church Road, Spaxton TA5 1DA

kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com

Working days: Sun, Tues, Wed

Curate Revd. Nicki Bradford Tel. 733 360

nicki.bradford@hotmail.com

**Readers** Mrs Viv Chesterton, B.A. Tel: 733 568

3 Bishop Road, Nether Stowey TA5 1NP

Mrs Maggie Harrison Tel: 732 532

32 Old Farm Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1PE

Mrs Alison Hoare Tel: 732 350

2 Park Cottages, Over Stowey

Mrs Jeanette Bole Tel: 741 297

Putsham Mead, Kilve TA5 1DZ

**Church Wardens - Nether Stowey** 

Mr. Alan Simson Tel: (01984) 632 773

Weacombe Gate, West Quantoxhead, TA4 4EB

Mrs. Gerry Wright Tel: 734 584

1 Mount Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1LU

Church Warden - Over Stowey

Mr. Peter Higginson Tel: 732 102

Bincombe Tops, Over Stowey

**Church Centre Contact:** 

Mrs. Barbara Beer Tel: 732 412

**Church Centre Bookings:** 

Mrs. Pat Stacey Tel: 732 518

Benefice Office: Mrs Alison Hoare

Church Centre, 27 St. Mary Street, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ

Office hours Monday—Friday 9am - 11am

Otherwise phone & leave a message or email Tel: 732 855

Email: qv.benefice@gmail.com

# **Warmth and Welcome in Nether Stowey**

There are many ways to find company and warmth in Nether Stowey during the cold weather.

# St Mary's Church Centre:

Wednesday Welcome: weekly from 3-5.30pm: An opportunity to get together in a warm space for hot drink, toast and social time. All ages welcome for as little or as long as you wish.

Wednesday Club: weekly in school term time from 10-2. Social activities and lunch for older members of the community. Please contact Maggie (732532) or Tina (732382) for further details

# Thomas Poole Library:

The Thomas Poole library is registered as a warm space. All are welcome to come in during opening hours for free tea and coffee, warmth and signposting advice. You do not need to be a member to use this facility.

# **Quantock Deanery Singers**

Following Stainer's Crucifixion last year, the group of singers from Quantock Deanery will be meeting again to prepare for a service of words and music on the Monday of Holy Week (3rd April).

Rather than prepare a single piece this time, we will be rehearsing a wide range of seasonal music – hopefully something for everyone! The first rehearsal will be held on Thursday 9th February in the Church Centre in Nether Stowey at 6.30pm.

Roger Stacey will be conducting the singers and music will be provided. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Sarah King (sarahrking14@hotmail.co.uk) or phone 01278 734777 to let us know you're coming and so we can make sure we have sufficient copies.

# The Thomas Poole Library - Wednesday 11th January 2023 **The Science of Climate Change** – A talk by Terry Abbiss

The talk was well attended in spite of the atrocious weather. We were pleased to be welcomed with a warming cup of tea on arrival.

Terry has had a varied career working as an analytical chemist; for much of his working life he worked as an environmental chemist.

He thanked Sian Stafford, the Library's Events Manager, for preparing the Power Point presentation. He started his talk by illustrating what is meant by the "greenhouse effect". The Earth is in effect a "greenhouse planet" where energy is retained by the atmosphere rather than by glass.

"Climate" is different from "Weather" in that Climate happens year on year whereas Weather is day on day.

Studies on the atmosphere started with Fourier in 1827 who realised that the Earth was much warmer than it should be. He calculated it was +15 degrees when it should be minus 15 degrees but he had no idea why. Tyndall carried out further investigations in 1857 and found that water vapour, CO2 and methane absorbed nearly all infra-red rays from the Sun – he had in effect found "greenhouse gas". It was actually a woman by the name of Eunice Foot in 1856 who discovered this first but she published her findings in a very obscure journal! She observed that concentrations of CO2 in the air could affect global temperatures.

Burning all fuels releases CO2 into the atmosphere – in effect it is "bottled sunshine". Burning wood, releases CO2 which was captured during modern times (the previous 200 years). However, burning fossil fuels releases CO2 captured 30 to 60 million years ago! Fossil fuels such as coal, gas, oil, burning tropical rain forests and energy released from some volcanoes produce CO2 which stays in the atmosphere for 1,000 years.

2022 will probably be found to be the hottest year ever recorded. The hundred years between 1880 to 1980 showed an average global temperature increase of 0.08 degrees C per decade. Between 1981 and 2020 global temperatures had risen by 0.18 degrees C per decade. Global records demonstrate a new dramatic weather event every 13.5

years. This has now reduced to every 3 years i.e. the highest temperature, greatest windspeed, highest rainfall. On July 19th 2022 the UK recorded its highest ever daytime temperature of 40.3 degrees (previous record 38.7).

It is generally considered that global temperatures started rising with the Industrial Revolution (1780 onwards) with the steady increase in use of fossil fuels. More rapid increase was shown after 1950 with the greater use of oil. CO2 levels do rise and fall naturally but have never approached the levels we have in the present day. We know this because of the work of Charles David Keeley who set up infra-red gas analysers in various places. These demonstrated the Keeling Curve. In 1950 CO2 was found in concentrations of 310 ppm. In 2022 this had increased to 419ppm.

Various studies can prove the increase in CO2 including studies of ice from great depths in the Antarctic. In interglacial periods CO2 existed at 200 to 280ppm. In 2013 for the first time CO2 levels exceeded 400ppm.

Methane is also a powerful greenhouse gas – it is 80 times more potent than CO2 but it is removed from the atmosphere over 20 years as opposed to around 1000 years for CO2. Terry said we could well be breathing in carbon dioxide exhaled by the Normans! Methane is responsible for about 25% of the current greenhouse effect. Methane is released through thawing of the permafrost, fracking, landfill and agriculture.

Other gases involved in the greenhouse effect are Nitrogen Oxides which are produced from diesel engines, lighting and fertilisers.

The Earth's current atmosphere greenhouse gases consist of 84% Carbon Dioxide; Methane 10%; Nitrogen Oxides 4% and fluorinated gases 2% (used in old fridges). The latter have been phased out but are still around.

Terry finished by saying the Earth is getting hotter and Climate Change is real. He then invited questions from the floor and a lively question and answer session ensued.

Roger Stacey thanked Terry for his very detailed insight into the science and the audience for their pertinent questions.



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Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March



We had our Christmas Party on December 21<sup>st</sup> in the Jubilee Rooms. The Strummers of Stogursey treated us to Christmas carols on the ukulele, then Santa and his Naughty Elf – (aka Nick & Jim from Somerset Passenger Solutions) brought presents for everyone. Then we all had a festive turkey lunch. In the afternoon we were entertained by the lovely Polka Dot Peaches from Daisy Chain Entertainment. Everyone joined in the singing and dancing and lots of fun was had by

As always a BIG THANK YOU from Helen & Rose to everyone who supports us, you are all wonderful!



For more information please contact:Helen: 01278 733451 <u>cuttellhelen@gmail.com</u> Rose: 07507 374234 <u>rosechalk@icloud.com</u>

#### **QUANTOCK FOODBANK**

The Quantock Foodbank at Watchet - collections of your donated non-perishable (and in-date!) foods, toiletries, and cleaning products are taken by a team of volunteers every Monday by 11am from the doorway of the Church Centre in Nether Stowey.

No-one likes to admit they are in need, but with a voucher from a GP, a Health Visitor, a Social Worker or Citizens Advice Bureau, arrival at the Foodbank is dealt with kindly and professionally - and always non -judgmentally.



Community Council for Somerset (CCS), Viney Court, Viney Street, Taunton, TA1 3FB. Tel: 01823 331 222 Web: www.somersetagents.org / Email: info@somersetrcc.org.uk

#### February Village Agent News - What is a Village Agent?

The Village Agent service is part of the Community Council for Somerset (CCS). It offers free, confidential, practical support to anyone in need, including community groups.

CCS Village Agents are local, problem-solving solution finders. There are over 60 Village Agents all over Somerset.

Sounds interesting but WHO can they help? A Village Agent can help if:

You are an unpaid Carer or looking after someone else informally and need a little help and support – for you and the person you care for.

You are struggling with a problem, big or small, but don't know where to turn.

You are feeling lonely and isolated.

You are part of a community with a collective problem and need a kick start to solve.

It does not matter how big or small the problem is, CCS Village Agents are here to help.

If you think your local CCS Village Agent help you in any way, please call 01823 331 222 or visit www.somersetagents.org/agent-call-back and request a call back.

### St Mary's is holding a

## Quiz 'n' Chips

evening at the Church Centre, Nether Stowey on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.45 for 7.00pm

Tickets £10 each includes fish and chips and dessert plus tea and coffee

Bring your team(s) of 4 to 6 people to enjoy the fun.

NB: Please bring your own bottle of wine or soft drinks, plates, cutlery and glasses (even nibbles if desired).

Please book your table so that we can cater for you and your team, or for further information, contact
Gerry Wright Tel: 734584 or at 1 Mount Road,
Nether Stowey,

Many thanks to everyone who contributed from the village towards the Christmas hampers this year. This was hugely appreciated. We were able to distribute a Christmas meal with all the trimmings to some families and more traditional boxes to others across the village. Next year we hope to supply even more. Many thanks again and a belated Happy New Year to you all. GW



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If you are interested please send your CV and cover letter to stoweybearspreschool@outlook.com as soon as possible

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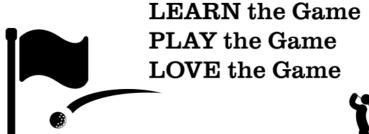
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## Pascall Fitness

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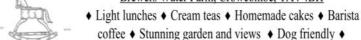
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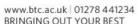


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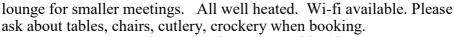
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