

STOGURSEY NEWS



Q1. Can you identify where this photo was taken?
Answer in next month's edition

PW

May 2020

Editorial

Welcome to our May edition of the News.

This is probably a unique edition for many reasons. We are pleased to be able to bring it to you thanks to the continuing support for the printing by Hinkley B station team and our wonderful group of deliverers who make sure it arrives safely to your houses – keeping us all a bit more informed and entertained than the lock down would otherwise allow. A BIG THANKS to all involved!

We report some major losses to our community, in particular Peter Farmery and Dulcie Touchin. Peter's long term support of our school is to be found in this edition. We see a heartfelt sense of gratitude for everything he has done over the years. We have also lost Dulcie – something of a village legend! Her presence was a special part of our village.

Thanks to Caroline for sharing the wise words from Kitty O'Meara – wonderful thoughts. Also thanks to Nicky Morgan for her piece from the rector in these unusual times, and to Fiona for some timely gardening advice – as we all have the time to act rather than think about it! What about a 'Virtual Flower Show'?

It is heartening to read about the many activities and initiatives suggested in this issue – too many to mention individually. As we all have a lot more time it is well worth reading attentively, and probably re-reading . . .

On a final note, we are lucky to live in a small and supportive community where most of us know just about everyone around, and many have a garden to work on - or even just sit in.

Keep well and safe.
With all our best wishes

Editorial Team

Stogursey-Online.uk

This is the parish website. It hosts pages for events, societies, community links and Parish Council news .

You can post local upcoming events on the parish website www.stogursey-online.uk

Stogursey News is posted every month on the website - useful if the delivery of your paper copy is delayed.

Stogursey News

This is an independent voluntary initiative. It is printed free of charge as a contribution to the community by Hinkley Point B (EdF).

The News offers an extra page monthly for the use of Hinkley Point C (EdF) to keep local residents well-informed.

**Deadline for JUNE contributions:
10.00 am Friday 15th May 2020**

How to contribute to Stogursey News:

a) by email:

- * Prepare your contribution as a 'word' document.
- * Attach it to an email.
- * Send it to stogurseynews@hotmail.co.uk

b) by hand:

- * Write or type your contribution.
- * Put it into the 'Stogursey News' box in the Post Office.

A few points to remember:

- Submit your contribution by the deadline date.
- Keep within the 500-word limit.
- Provide your contact details so that we can get in touch if we need to edit.
(Stogursey News Team reserves the right to edit contributions for length and layout.)
- Send your contribution each and every month you would like it published.
- Your illustrations must be copyright free.
(Stogursey News will not be liable for costs resulting from prosecution if this condition is ignored.)

We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Thank you

Distributors

The magazine is distributed to every household in the parish by a team of magnificent volunteers. We are most grateful to our distributors:

Belinda Crowther	Linda Brown
Catherine Hawkins	Liz & Ron Dyer
Deborah Robins	Paul Welbourne
Dick Blomfield	Pauline Webber
Heather Hallett	Peter & Barbara Oates
Jan Ford	Sue Spicer
Jane Cassidy	Terry Touchin
Janet Mitchell	and others who wish to remain anonymous.
Joy Burt	

Editorial Team

Annie Rivers
Catherine Hawkins
Paul Welbourne
Steve Stoneham
Teresa Miller

Stogursey on-line

Gillian Orchard
Jenny Ody
Jo Cavill

Archive

Paul Welbourne

Directory

Phil Griggs

Reflections from the Rector

Back in September 2018 Dr Winifred Kingsbury, longstanding GP and partner at the Williton surgery passed away. Her husband, Gordon Anderson, whom she had married in their twilight years, both of them being widowed, had died a couple of years previously. As their home in West Quantoxhead was being prepared for clearance, I was asked if I would like to look through and select from their theological bookshelves and Gordon's extensive CD collection. I didn't want to appear greedy with the CDs, so I made a modest selection. Amongst them were some Beethoven symphonies that I was not familiar with. As I write I am listening to one, Symphony No 7, and I am reminded why, generally, symphonies are not to my taste. For me there is too much noise: too much going on. Now there are probably some of you throwing up your hands in horror at my philistine comment. But the fact is, as the saying goes, 'it takes all sorts!' and 'all sorts' have different opinions on, and reactions to, things.

At this moment in our country, and indeed around the world, we are all responding differently to the situation in which we find ourselves. Some will be able to find little peace in the midst of anxiety; others may appear to embrace this time of lockdown and enjoy the space it gives. Many of us will be a mixture of both, and going back to my symphony analogy, whilst I may not be enjoying Beethoven's 7th, his 6th is one of my most played pieces on car journeys.

Many of us in one way or another will be affected by the death through this disease of someone known to us, or loved by us. Unusually, the Queen broadcast a message to the nation this Easter where she spoke of the hope of the light of Christ that shines in the darkness. She remarked how a single candle lit in the darkness and shared around the gathered congregation in church spreads a light that conquers the darkness of the night. Whatever our faith, or none, we can be lights to those around us. And more so than ever in this crisis people are supporting and looking out for one another in practical and emotional ways, whilst maintaining the necessary social distance.

In Stogursey, a good team has come together to provide a network of support at this strange and difficult time. The absolute and fundamental purpose is that no one in the village lacks the support and care they need. Food is given to the Quantock Food Bank in Watchet, food comes back to Stogursey from the Food Bank. Prescriptions are delivered, and groceries from the shops brought to the door of those who cannot go out. There is always someone to speak to at the end of the phone. In these and many other ways we are working together as a

village to be lights to each other in the darkness and anxiety of this time. My thanks are to all those who have worked hard together as a team to make this happen. Sometimes we don't know our strengths until 'our backs are against the wall' as the saying has it. People in Stogursey have rallied together well to serve us all not just at this time of need, but to show our potential to be a village stronger together into the future.

My prayers and thoughts to you all at this time.

Nicky

Wise words from Kitty O'Meara an American teacher and chaplain, now retired

"And the people stayed home. And the people read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being and were still.

And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows.

And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, mindless, dangerous and heartless ways, the Earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the Earth fully, as they had been healed."

sent in by Caroline Hawkes

VICTORY HALL LOTTERY

MARCH 2020 DRAW

1 st Prize	£25.00	Barbara Langley	100
2 nd Prize	£15.00	Rose Nurton	168
3 rd Prize	£10.00	Karen Reeves	78

Tributes to Two Well-Loved Stogursey Characters

In the past month Stogursey has lost two longstanding, well-known and well-loved public figures, Dulcie Touchin and Peter Farmery. In normal times St Andrew's Church would have been full to capacity as the village came together to celebrate their lives, to give thanks for all that they have given to us, and to share with their families in mourning their deaths. Unfortunately that has not been possible. Dulcie's funeral was the last to take place in church on Friday 20th March, just before the lockdown was implemented, and her funeral was attended by close family only. Peter's took place in Stogursey cemetery on Tuesday 14th April on a beautiful day with the birds singing, again in the presence of immediate family only. Although not able to be present at the services, villagers from Stogursey lined the streets on both occasions to pay their respects to these two well-loved village characters, and we thank Sarah and Sam of Grandfield's for enabling this tribute to be possible.

Memories of Dulcie Touchin

Dulcie's funeral was the first to suffer the social effects of the Coronavirus, and we were all reeling at the fact that what we had expected to be a massive service was reduced to a handful. But as I said to the family, as I posted the notifications of the restrictions on Stogursey Pulse, I could just hear Dulcie in my head saying, 'Well it's gotta be, an'it.' And Dulcie had it exactly right.

Dulcie June Touchin, née Withers, was born into a longstanding Stogursey family, in a house opposite the school, on 27th June 1936. She was one of three children, her sisters being Kathy and Sandra. Her parents moved to Shurton when she was young and she grew up with Iris (later Searle) as her best friend.

Dulcie was always a hardworker. As a youngster she did pea-picking and spud-picking, as she recounts in 'Stogursey Voices', the oral history book of the village. And later, amongst other jobs, she took on the early morning paper round, which she did until a couple of years ago when she had a stroke. She always brightened people's morning with her cheery smile and greeting. After leaving school she and Iris worked at Van Heusen's shirt factory in Bridgwater (which is where Iris met Allan Searle). Dulcie Withers found her soul-mate and life-partner in Tom Touchin, a Fiddington man, who worked at Honeybere Farm, whom she married in Stogursey church. After they married Tom and Dulcie moved to Peadon Farm Cottages, where Tom was a herdsman to Metford Jeanes, and that was where the family was raised, Francis, Terry and Melanie.

Dulcie did a lot of walking, and a lot of biking. She did a lot of walking with various children sitting on the bike. There are stories of grandchildren and bikes and fish 'n' chips; of tipples of lager and lime; of skittles and Dot's Girls. She was a good wife to Tom with always a meal on the table, high teas for the family, trifles, cakes and all the goodies even into the latter times. Throughout her life she enjoyed coach trips out, in the days when coach trips were memorable with cider and beer stashed in the boot of the bus.

Speaking in 'Stogursey Voices' she recalled:

'We went on boozing trips, skittles; they used to have all the beer, cider, whatever in the boot of the bus. We'd go to Weston, all over the place, mums and dads and kids.

With her bright red lipstick on and dog biscuits in her pocket for any four-pawed person that she encountered, her bright character and her cheeky humour, Dulcie could always be seen around the village, doing jobs, helping people out, generously giving chocolate bars to all the local children. Someone said of her, 'I always used to meet Dulcie at 6.00am as I was going to work and she was delivering the newspapers. She was always so cheerful and it meant that I started the day with a smile.' That is a beautiful tribute to the lady who many have described as 'an absolute legend.'

Thank you Dulcie and God bless.

Nicky Morgan

When I first moved to this village almost 15 years ago I was taken by the friendliness of the locals. One of the first people I met was Dulcie who was very welcoming and helpful.

Sadly Dulcie is no longer with us having passed away on 11th March 2020. The invidious invasion of our lives by the coronavirus prevented people other than immediate family being able to give this wonderful character and village stalwart the farewell she deserved.

Dulcie was the sort of person who I am sure saw the whole of Stogursey as her family. Personally I will miss her and the banter and teasing she always took in good humour, apart from presenting me with the occasional clip round the ear! I hope that some time in the future when all this isolation is behind us we will be able to pay tribute to Dulcie and any other villager who might unfortunately succumb at this difficult time.

Rest well Dulcie, your presence will be missed.

John Bown, Meadow Gardens

Dulcie Touchin Last Farewell

Francis, Terry and Mel would like to thank everyone who lined the streets of Stogursey on Friday 20th March to wave farewell to our Mum (Dulcie) on her last trip through the village.

Thank you very much.

Memories of Peter Farmery

Peter and Liz Farmery arrived at Grove House, Shurton, fifty-one years ago, when Peter was in his late twenties. Although a working man with a family, Peter immediately immersed himself in the life of Stogursey, and took the village to his heart, just as the village has taken Peter to its heart. He led a Cub Scout pack in the village, and he got involved in the school. Indeed Peter was an ongoing influence in Stogursey school through many times of change from the time when his own children, Tim, Virginia and Kate attended there, to his becoming a Governor, to his taking on the Chair of Governors for many years. In addition he was instrumental in setting up the Friends of Stogursey School. In the years since his retirement he has regularly been in school listening to children read, and encouraging them all in everything they do. Many, many children in the village over the years have been influenced by Peter's support and encouragement.

Peter has had a very full life, he was content with all that he had done and had no regrets. He was incredibly generous in all respects: he would do anything for anyone; he would talk to anyone; he saw good in everyone and liked nothing better than to help people achieve their best. He was fun to be with, his cheery voice and broad smile brightened a room and he always made everyone feel welcome, everyone feel special. He was infinitely patient and with wide-ranging knowledge. He had a great love of poetry, of church music and a passionate love of the outdoors, engaging in every kind of exciting hobby: sailing, climbing, walking. In retirement he took a mountain leader's course and qualified in First Aid so that he could lead walks from Kilve Court and also assess young people doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award

Scheme. He loved storytelling and made the walks fun by telling tales of Quantock legends.

Peter was a Yorkshire man, born in Pickering on the edge of the North York moors. On leaving school he did an apprenticeship in Manchester, and attended college in Salford studying Electrical Engineering. He and Liz arrived in Stogursey by way of a scooter across the Peninnes, an old caravan in Ffestiniog, with two cats, a dog, a horse and a donkey; a cottage in the Welsh mountains with presumably still two cats, a dog, a horse, a donkey and in addition, at various stages of arrival, three children and piglets called Maimie and Semolina. Liz will fill you in on the exact details at another time.

Jack, his grandson, said of his Grandad that Peter made him believe anything was possible and always helped him make it happen. Whether it was 'belaying' him at the climbing wall or setting up his own golf course in the orchard, Grandad was Jack's 'greatest supporter'. I am sure that there are many children in Stogursey, past and present, who would echo that sentiment too.

Thank you Peter and God bless.

Nicky Morgan

Thank you

We would like to thank the villagers of Shurton, Burton and Stogursey for paying tribute to Peter en route to his funeral on 14 April. We were very moved and know how much he would have loved to see you all. He would have been especially touched by the beautiful banners and signs made by the children he knew from the Primary School.

Thank you also for the many cards and notes you have sent. We read them out to each other after the ceremony and it was lovely be reminded how many people he has connected with over the years. We are lucky to live in such a caring community.

Thank you

the Farmery family

Both Dulcie and Peter were generous-hearted, welcoming people with broad smiles, a sense of humour and a word for everyone. And those of us who are new-comers to the village are especially thankful for the hand of friendship that they extended to us.

The village also remembers and gives thanks for the lives of Pat Brewer, Ron Cable and Peter Fry, and offers our condolences to their families at this time of loss.

THANK YOU

These dark days are brightened by acts of kindness and generosity. To borrow from Leonard Cohen:

**"There is a crack, a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in"**

Thank you for the great response to the appeal put out on Stogursey Pulse and NextDoor for hand cream for the staff at Musgrove. If your hands, like mine, are getting rough from all the washing and sanitizing we are advised to do, imagine what it must be like for hospital staff doing it many more times daily.

Last week I handed over two heavy bags of hand creams donated from all over the parish and from Nether Stowey and Kilve. There is more ready to go once a bulk order arrives, funded by the residents of Stogursey Park.

Stogursey Football Team and Spar Shop customers have made a generous joint donation to the Love Musgrove Covid-19 Response Fund.

A personal thank you to the considerate person who found my telescopic walking pole and hung it on the church gate. It had been in my backpack when I was delivering Stogursey News to outlying homes and must have fallen out as I crossed the field above the Church. I would love to know where you or your dog found it as I retraced my steps several times in vain!

Jane Taunton

STOGURSEY AFC NOTICE

We are sorry that we have had to cancel our Easter Bingo and our presentation from Lydia's Legacy to the Rowan Suite Maternity Unit at Musgrove Hospital.

A cheque for **£5817.60** was to be presented to them!

We now have to rearrange a new date and venue for this. You will all be informed in due course.

The two Tote winners from the race and presentation night will be drawn out of a hat. Winners will be posted in Stogursey News in due course.

Thank you for all your support.

C M Palmer

Saying "Thank you"

Perhaps there is someone who you would like to thank for a kind act or for helping at this difficult time. If so, (using first names only) drop a line or an email to Stogursey News and we'll publish all your "thank yous" in the June issue.

Musings from the potting shed

During this difficult and worrying time one of the things that we have been fortunate with is the weather; it has allowed us to go out and enjoy our gardens. Many people have suddenly found that they have time to tackle the jobs that they have been planning for a while, whilst others are having a go for the first time. The gardening year rolls along whatever else happens in the world, and the only thing that affects it is the weather!

So I have put together some jobs that need doing in May:

- *Keep earthing up potatoes as the leaves appear so that the tubers are kept under the soil. Apparently removing the flowers helps to increase your potato yield as the plant puts its energy into them rather than the flowers.
- *Support pea plants with twiggy sticks on both sides - they help the plants climb and also make it difficult for birds to reach the young plants. Mangetout peas only crop on one side of the plant so it's best to grow them in a single, straight row.
- *Thin out direct sown seedlings. Thinning carrots is best done in the evening as disturbing the foliage releases a strong scent that attracts the carrot root fly.
- *Protect crops with enviromesh or an old net curtain, or plant strongly-scented crops like onions and leeks near leafy crops to deter aphids. Also herbs such as basil, mint, sage, lavender and rosemary help to confuse pests whilst attracting pollinating and beneficial predatory insects.
- *Bedding plants and hanging baskets should be safe to put out in late May when frosts shouldn't be a problem!
- *Prune spring-flowering shrubs after flowering, but don't touch evergreens until Derby Day (1st June).

I hope that when the Flower Show returns, probably 2021 now, all the experience that you have gained sowing and growing this year will encourage you to enter some flowers and vegetables in the show.

Happy gardening, keep weeding and watering!

Fiona Johnson

Stogursey Arts Trust

As everyone tries to distract them selves from the awfulness of the world, a clever social media campaign has sparked a new interest in Art.

TNW 8 April 2020

Imagine a Peter Kaye look-a-like, his head sideways looking over his left shoulder. A touch of rouge has been cheekily applied to lift his pale complexion, he is wearing a scarf pulled tight across his head and if you look carefully you can see an earring on the lobe of his left ear. Not quite as alluring as Scarlett Johansson, who starred in the film inspired by the original painting by Johannes Vermeer; this is Sam Haller, who posted his image dated March 25th, on Facebook.com, as the 'Girl with a Pearl Earring'.

Sam and his flat mates are in lock down in Connecticut and have been passing the time reposing famous paintings and photographing the results titled 'Covid Classics' since March 22nd. They are not the only ones. The Dutch Instagram account Tussen Kunst & Quarantine (Art Between Quarantine) started posting images on March 14th and has been reported as the inspiration for the Global challenge posted by the Getty Museum.

If you want to have a go yourself the Getty Museum have produced some very simple instructions:

We challenge you to recreate a work of Art with objects (and people) in your home.

- Choose you favourite artwork
- Find three things around your house
- Recreate the artwork with those items

Sadly if you don't have a computer you will have to wait to see the range of fabulous images, which have already been created. For those who do however, start by Googling: @covidclassics or view 'Images' at the Getty Museum challenge. There are also many virtual Gallery tours on the internet worth experiencing.

For those of you who do not have a computer, but can access the TV, there are some great programmes on BBC4 and if you have not spotted it already, catch up with Grayson's Art Club. Scheduled for Thursday evenings at 8pm on Channel4, Turner prize-winning sculptor Grayson Perry creates a work of art in his studio, has phone-ins from other artists and encourages viewers to make their own pieces. Viewers can submit their work for the chance to be exhibited when life as we now know it returns to something less surreal.

There are many other creative projects that the community can get involved in whilst staying safe at home. Next time you are out for your daily exercise, just count all the beautiful rainbows all around the village and get inspired to produce and exhibit one of your own. Wouldn't it be a wonderful tribute to have every window in the village displaying a rainbow, as additional visual support to our weekly applause for the NHS.

If you have any ideas you would like to share for positive stay at home creative challenges, do contact us and let us know about them.

Follow us on Stogursey Arts Festival Facebook.

Additional information on future events will be posted at www.stogurseyartsfestival.co.uk as and when circumstances enable us to resume activities and plans.

Mike Bradshaw for Stogursey Arts

New Honesty Shop at Yellow Door Cottage, Shurton

Here at Yellow Door Cottage we believe in good, honest, fresh food. We grow our veggies and rear our animals in the most ethical way we can and believe that things taste best in season and without having to travel miles. That's why we have extended our honesty box to a shop stocking our produce and Amanda's cooking alongside quality produce from other local producers and farmers.

We currently sell homemade pork scratchings, eggs, in season veggies, preserves and freshly-baked treats. As it becomes ready, our lamb, hogget and pork will be available direct from the shop.

We stock the delicious pies and puddings made by Quantock Steamers in Stogursey (www.quantocksteamers.co.uk), and apple juice made in Bicknoller.

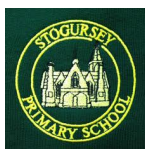
Our stock varies depending on the season and what's available and we are working to make this a place where local producers can sell their items if they would like to.

So, if you would like to eat very local and support our small businesses, come and see us. We are currently cash only and self-service so provide a contact-free method of shopping in the current climate.

To keep up to date or contact us, follow us on Instagram @yellowdoorcottage or visit our new website www.yellowdoorcottage.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Amanda & Stan



School in lockdown

Mr Tucker describes what has been happening at the school since it "closed" on 27th March:

"During the lockdown, the school has been open to certain children whose parents are key workers and so we'd like to tell you about what they've been up to whilst everyone else is having lessons at home with parents and carers.

"During the last part of term, some children came in to work with Miss Bushill and a rota of other staff, being careful to keep 2 metres apart. The children did some work and even had a daily PE lesson by taking part in the Joe Wicks' lessons on YouTube. The children seemed to enjoy it and even the staff had a go at this exhausting but fun activity! They even did some junk modelling, coming up with ideas for a redesigned playground. Maybe FOSS will be interested in their ideas as they are looking to raise money to revamp our playground!

"The children coming in took part in some of their folder work that everyone else got but then went on to work outdoors on our beautiful school field.

"Ryan managed to plant some tomatoes in the greenhouse and even set up a new allotment box for him and Max to tend to in their years ahead in the school.



"Isaac and Amelia have been in school quite a bit and have continued to attend during the school holiday and have done some work on the allotment boxes as well. Mr Tucker even grafted to dig out weeds and turn the soil. He was very tired afterwards. We have started to work on restoring the allotment boxes that are

unallocated. That's 2 down, another 25 to go! In these uncertain times, maybe we will get the boxes all ready for whenever the school re-opens."



Here is an account of one day at school during lockdown:

"To begin the day we got our bodies moving by watching Joe Wicks' PE workout. Some of the exercises were tough but they got our heart rate up!

Then the children went onto the Chromebooks to practise their timetables. Isaac was really enthusiastic to beat the timer and enjoyed it when he earned lots of coins. After some more maths games, we had a go at solving some puzzles that Mrs Wall printed out.

Amelia enjoyed the crosswords and was interested to learn new words that she hadn't heard of.

We then spent the afternoon on the field playing games and digging out some of the gardening boxes.

To finish the day, the children wanted to make a kite so we spent time designing and creating a kite. We then went onto the playground to see if our kites would fly."



This is what the children think of this bizarre scenario of being the only children in school at the moment:

"I like playing with the bikes." "I have really enjoyed helping out and doing crafts." *Isaac*

"I have helped gardening, but it was tricky."

"We like that it's just us." *Amelia*

Thank you to the staff for coming in during their holidays to work, and for also being key workers during this difficult time.

Peter Farmery

Titles come in and out of fashion, and perhaps the idea of a 'gentleman' is a little out of fashion these days, but from first meeting Peter in the village I have always felt in the presence of a gentle man (one word or two equally appropriate).

John Henry Newman's definition of a gentleman was

One who never inflicts pain

One who never speaks of himself except when compelled

One who is never mean or little in disputes

One who is patient and forbearing

One who submits to pain because it is inevitable and to death because it is his destiny.

Peter contributed so much to village life, especially that of our young people.

Thank you Peter for your friendship, your smile, your encouragement, and for making everyone who knew you feel that much better for your presence.

Tony Smith



I am so grateful for the life of Peter Farmery. He has been a tremendous supporter of the school and of me personally since I took over from him as chair of Governors several years ago. We frequently bumped into him walking our dogs in Shurton, and he always had a kind word for the children and showed such interest in their lives.

I know he has been committed to supporting school life for many, many years and in many, many ways: with FOSS, preschool committees, and the Governing Board. Long before I moved to the village, or became involved in school life myself, there he was to be found reading with children, fundraising, making good decisions, and most of all, being chief cheerleader for Stogursey School. He never forgot to offer his help when things were challenging.

His commitment to the children's wellbeing never wavered. Right to the end of his life they were in his thoughts. We are so grateful. Even a few weeks before his death, he was able to come into school, attend meetings, and most of all, spend time with the children of Alfoxton class, listening to them read.

He had a particular passion for ensuring the success of pre-school at Stogursey. He understood how important getting it right for our youngest children is: setting them up for a successful future.

Peter was an inspiration to me. His dedication to the school was extra-ordinary.

Thank you for your service to our school, the children, and the people of this parish, Peter.

Anna Hammond

Q2 a) **SPOT THE DIFFERENCE** - Circle the differences between the two photos

Q2 b) Can you remember in which year this event took place on Stogursey playing field? And what the event was?

Answers in next month's issue





SCSN

April/May 2020

Stogursey Community Support Network (SCSN)

The **SCSN** has been set up to support everyone in our community, especially those who are self-isolating or 'shielding' for a longer period during the Covid-19 crisis.

We can help with:

- Organising a shopping delivery from the local shops (see below)
- Collecting your prescription and delivering it to you (see next page)
- Calling you for a friendly chat or to organise some other help
- If you live alone and need someone to contact you daily by phone to make sure you are okay, just ask
- Are you an NHS, Emergency Service, or other Key Worker?

Do you need practical help from your community so that you can carry on delivering your service to us? Please just ask.

If any of the above applies to you, call the Helpline Numbers below and we will put you in touch with a volunteer who will be able to help:

- **07485350560** (Sukey & Steve)
- **07947238566** (Hilary)
- **07579765201** (Sue)

Or you can message us on our **Facebook** Page: **Stogursey Community Support Network** if you need help; we can put you in touch with a local volunteer. The **SCSN Facebook Page** contains lots of useful information on how to access various types of support, etc. Do have a look.



Shopping from Stogursey village

Allen & Deb at the Spar/Post Office and Vijay & Sutha at the Corner Shop are happy to take orders over the telephone and to arrange delivery.

Both shops can take card payment over the phone.

SPAR/PO: 01278 732304

Corner Shop: 01278 733247

Prescriptions

Both Cannington and Nether Stowey Health Centres can deliver repeat prescriptions to you through the volunteers. Your Health Centre will contact you to explain what is happening when your medication is due.

IMPORTANT

In the extraordinary circumstances we are all living through, many people who have never needed or asked for support before will need it now.

There is a lot of help available to us all from a wide range of sources.

Please do not hesitate to ask for the support you need.

If you need advice about the **Benefits** you are entitled to, or the assistance of the **Quantock Food Bank** (see below for more information), call our Village Agent, Izzy Sylvester, on **07931018045**.

The Quantock Foodbank serves our community

You may have never used a Food Bank; you may have generously donated to them in the past. If you need their help now, it's your turn. Do not hesitate to ask. Contact Izzy Sylvester or call the Helplines for a referral to the Foodbank. Your parcel will be delivered to you discreetly or you can collect it in the village, if preferred.

Food donations for the Food Bank are also very welcome, these should be left in Revd Nicky Morgan's garage please.

*As always, if you wish to talk to Revd Nicky Morgan about anything you can call her on **01278 732873**.*

Home-start ~ here to help families

Home-start is an organisation ready to support families in Stogursey, especially in these very challenging times. This support is available to any family with children under-7.

Home-start can offer food boxes, other shopping, phone calls to support parents or just a chat that doesn't involve Coco Pops and CBeebies! They are also running online ante natal classes and a Zoom ante natal session. Anything reasonable considered, just ask.

Contact Clare Pound on 10643 707304 / 07826326055, or
email: manager@homestart-westsomerset.org.uk



somerset **village & community agents**

Viney Court,
Viney Street,
Taunton,
TA1 3FB

Tel: 01823 331222

Email: info@somersetccc.org.uk

Website: www.somersetccc.org.uk



somerset
carers

A note from Keeley Rudd, CEO of Community Council for Somerset (Village Agents)

First and foremost I hope you are well, keeping safe and managing to access the support and essential supplies you need in these difficult times. You may be aware CCS, as a county-wide provider, is very much part of the response for both communities and individuals. I want to let you know what we are doing to ensure that we can continue to serve you the best we can.

All CCS staff are able to work remotely, so that we do not put them at risk. We have set up telephone systems to enable staff to be able to receive calls promptly and action them in the best way possible. We have set up a specific web-form which will enable you to complete it with details of the support you require and your request will be given to the best person to help you with your query or problem.

As you can imagine, demand for our Agent staff is extremely high and in the first week of this new system we have handled 2,500 calls. Our Agents provide practical support in many ways and they have unrivalled contacts in local communities who they can mobilise to assist vulnerable and people, including for our BME residents – if you need Agent support please USE THE CALL-BACK form which is on our website www.ccslovesomerset.org

In addition, we have experienced and knowledgeable staff who can support you if you are part of a Parish or Town Council, a Village Hall Committee, social or community enterprise or community group or charity. Again, advice is available on our website or you can still call the main CCS number on 01823 331222 for help. We are committed to helping you as much as possible but I would urge you and others you know to follow government guidelines for social distancing – if we all cooperate and work together we can minimise the impact of this unprecedented situation.

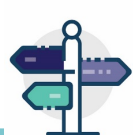
If you are a carer and look after a family member or dependent in an unpaid capacity, you may need additional support, so please call our Freephone number on 0800 31 68 600 or visit the website <https://somersetcarers.org/> where we have a web chat facility. If you are concerned about a neighbour or someone you know in your local area who is a carer and they do not have access to the internet, then please give them the advice line number. I hope you will also join me in thanking the dedicated and professional staff at CCS who are working tirelessly, often trying to juggle their own family and caring situations; please bear with us and be patient whilst we try to find the best solution for you.

Thank you for your understanding. If you have positive comments about how our staff have helped you we would be really grateful to receive this feedback as it will make a huge difference to us to know that we are doing the right thing. Please submit your feedback here: info@somersetccc.org.uk.

WHO TO CONTACT THROUGH THE CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN FOR SUPPORT:

- Contact CCS via the usual website and our COVID-19 response form www.ccslovesomerset.org
- This will get an agent to contact you with the relevant local volunteers, shops, restaurants that are delivering etc. And any other support regarding benefits, housing etc.
- Contact Somerset Direct if you have safeguarding concerns or care plan issues 0300 123 2224
- Somerset County Council on their dedicated helpline: **0300 790 6275**
- Contact the **Stogursey Community Support Network** for doorstep support
- Contact your GP, NHS 111, and pharmacy or well-being advisors for medical concerns

Our amazing communities in Somerset have all risen to the challenge of providing support to those that need it very quickly, and our agents can help put you in touch with your local group. If nothing else this crisis has shown how people in Somerset have endless compassion, kindness and community spirit. I feel very proud to be part of Somerset.



CCS
people • place • enterprise

Somerset Village Agents
Funded & in Partnership with:



COMMUNITY FUND
Somerset West and Taunton

Hastoe
Group

NHS Somerset
Clinical Commissioning Group



Points from the Parish Council – April 2020

Stogursey Community Support Network (SCSN)

A community support network has been set up by residents (led and administered by Revd Nicky Morgan, Sukey Elstob, Hilary Jones and Becky Endicott). The network now has a team of willing volunteers who are looking out for our friends and neighbours in our community. The Parish Council thanks the team and all the volunteers for their hard work and tenacity in getting the scheme off the ground and has supported, and will continue to support, the Network by providing administration assistance and funding. Full details of the help and assistance provided by SCSN can be found in this newsletter.

Stogursey Neighbourhood Plan

Unfortunately, following the coronavirus (Covid-19) lockdown, the planned meeting of the working group was cancelled. However, although it is not possible to obtain resident input during the lockdown, it is proposed that the working group will continue to work on the plan: planning and scoping its content; identifying what information may be needed to feed into the plan; looking for images and plans, and planning what engagement to have with the wider public when restrictions are lifted.

Highways Issues

Somerset County Council (SCC) is responsible for all highway matters, from potholes to street lights and even dead animals in the road. In addition, blocked drains, and overgrown hedges, can all be reported directly to SCC. You may have the opportunity to note the condition of the roads while you are out walking. Residents are encouraged to report all issues directly to <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/#problems-on-the-road>. If however you are unable to access the website to report an issue please contact the Parish Clerk.

VE DAY Street Party

It is unfortunate that we have had to cancel the Street Party to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day. It is hoped that VJ day will be celebrated instead later in the year. (See separate article on next page.)

AED (Defibrillator) Awareness training

An additional defibrillator has been installed at St Peter's Church, Stolford, and another will be installed in the Babbling Brook, Shurton when the lockdown has been lifted.

A date for the Free AED awareness training carried out by the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust will be promulgated when known.

Parish Clerk Vacancy

After 6 years in the Parish (3½ of them as Parish Clerk) I will be leaving the parish and will therefore have to give up my role as Parish Clerk. A vacancy notice will be placed on the parish website, in the local press and in this edition of Stogursey News. I have enjoyed working with the Parish Council and for the parish, and I have made good friends during my time here.

Annual Assembly

The Annual Assembly was cancelled this year – also due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) lockdown. The Parish Council have been given authority to make decisions by emails and to hold meetings remotely – the 2019/2020 Parish Council accounts, the Chairman's report and Report of the Stogursey Charities was circulated by email to councillors. They will also be displayed on the parish website. The Parish Council also voted and approved the re-election of the Trustees for the William Paulett Charity.

At the time of writing, details for the next Parish Council meeting are not confirmed, but will be promulgated on the parish website when known. In the meantime, I look forward to hearing from you on any issues you wish to discuss. My phone number is 01278 653824 or you can e-mail me on stogurseyppclerk@gmail.com

Gillian Orchard, Clerk to the Parish Council

Riparian Owners responsibilities

Parishioners who are riparian owners are reminded of their responsibilities. If you are a riparian owner, your responsibilities include the maintenance of the bank and bed of your section of watercourse, in order to avoid any obstruction of flow in the watercourse. Under common law you are the riparian owner of any watercourse within or adjacent to the boundaries of your property. Where a watercourse is sited between two or more property boundaries each owner may be equally responsible. Further details can be found on the Somerset County council website <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>. The following link provides information on reporting noxious weeds to Somerset County Council. <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/report-noxious-weeds/>

CLERK TO STOGURSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Stogursey Parish Council seeks a Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer with effect from 1 July 2020. This post is part-time, averaging 14 hours per week and working from home. Some evening meetings will be required.

The successful candidate is not required to have local government experience but will be expected to handle the finance, formal minutes, agendas, and correspondence of the Council. Training will be available.

Pay is in accordance with the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) Scale Points 7 (£10.16 per hour) to SCP 17 (£12.39 per hour) depending on experience. In addition, an allowance towards office and travelling costs will be made.

You should submit your application (including a CV, reasons why you are applying for this post and your experience) to the Clerk by **29 May 2020** (interviews will be held early June),

For an information pack and/or informal discussion please contact the Clerk (Gillian Orchard) on stogurseyccclerk@gmail.com or telephone 01278 653824

Stogursey Oil-buying Group

The Stogursey Oil Buying Group's next order will be in May.

The scheme is open free of charge to all households within the Stogursey News distribution area except those whose oil delivery has to be made through the house. The minimum order is 500 litres. We usually get oil for 3 to 4 pence per litre less than the price quoted for individual orders..

The next order after this one will be in September. If you have any questions about the oil buying group I can be contacted on 732191.

Chris Ford

To place an order please:
telephone **01278 732191**,
or email: **stogurseyford@gmail.com**
by Monday the 11th of May

When you 'phone or email, please provide the following information:

- ☒ Name
- ☒ Address and Postcode
- ☒ Telephone Number
- ☒ Amount of oil required litres
Note. Please specify an amount and not an unknown quantity such as 'top up'.
- ☒ Any Special instructions

**To avoid unnecessary journeys during the Coronavirus restrictions
do NOT leave a form in the Post Office.**

**Delivery will be in the 10-day period
commencing 18 May.**

VE DAY 75

VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations
**STAY AT HOME
STREET PARTY!**
Friday 8th May 2020

DECORATE YOUR HOUSE RED, WHITE
AND BLUE AND ENJOY A PICNIC
IN YOUR FRONT GARDEN



The Coronavirus emergency and consequent Government guidance means that we must cancel the VE Day 75 community celebrations due to take place on Fri 8 May 2020.

It is very important that we remain safe and healthy. It is hoped that the celebrations can be moved to the weekend of 15th – 16th August when we will be able to celebrate VE Day and VJ Day, both momentous points in our history.

In the meantime parishioners can still commemorate at home. Why not hold your own VE Day 75 Garden Party?

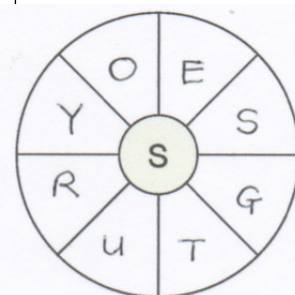
You can join with households all over the county and a raise a glass to toast the nation at 3pm.

A copy of the Toast to the Nation can be found on the Parish Website.

**Q3a: How many 3 or more
letter words can you make
from these letters?**

Every word must use the letter in
the centre. No plurals allowed.

Q3b: Can you find a word using
all 9 letters?



UPDATES . . .

from the Quantock Medical Centre

I would just like to say a massive thank you to those volunteers supporting the community; they have been a massive help and it feels like the community really cares when they are helping to deliver medication and food for people in need in their community.

Dr Stone, unfortunately, following his hip operation has had an infection in his hip joint and has had to have further surgery and will be unable to provide a Stogursey branch surgery for a while yet due to ill health.

Finally, a reminder for anyone needing advice or care: Please contact us, we are still operating and will do all we can to help.

Helen Stacey, Practice Manager

from Hinkley Point A Site

“Although decommissioning activities have paused on our site, many of our staff are still carrying out essential work and helping to maintain safety and security until we are able to restart our activities.

“I want to extend my thanks to the Magnox workforce for their professionalism and resilience at this really difficult time.”

Pete Montague, Closure Director at Hinkley Point A Site

Magnox is committed to playing its part to support the country in the response to the coronavirus pandemic. That's why we have been donating as much personal protective equipment (PPE) from Berkeley, Oldbury and Hinkley Point A sites as possible to those on the front line.

To date the three Magnox sites in the South West have donated more than 17,000 items, to support priorities established by the network of local resilience forums across the country. These items include disposable respirators, suits and gloves and comes from both Magnox and our contractors and suppliers.

Along with other businesses, we are keen to do all that we can to support doctors, nurses and care workers to respond safely.

All the PPE can be spared without impacting on nuclear safety or emergency preparedness. It would ordinarily be used to support the delivery of work and projects on the Magnox sites, however much of this work has been temporarily paused while the country focuses on responding to the pandemic.

Gwen Parry-Jones, Magnox Chief Executive Officer said: “A key part of our response to COVID-19 is to help other organisations deal with the pandemic wherever we can. Clearly the need for PPE across the UK is urgent and our sites have done a fantastic job to identify PPE in Magnox stores that could safely be shared to support front line response work.

“The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has given us their full support in passing this stock to local resilience forums in the communities in which we operate, while retaining enough to deal with any emergency that might arise at our sites.”

UPDATE

from Hinkley Point B site

The safety of everybody who works at Hinkley Point B and who lives in the local community is of paramount importance to us. Back in January, we put our pandemic response plans into place as a precautionary measure, and the station's executive team, trade unions and local pandemic working group have worked tirelessly since to combat the COVID-19 threat.

Hinkley Point B plays a very important role in the country's critical national infrastructure, and we must always maintain the nuclear safety status of our plant and protect our emergency arrangements. We must also not lose sight that the Government's definition of a key worker includes staff working in the civil nuclear sector.

As well as following Government advice and guidance, we have implemented a large number of preventative countermeasures to protect our workforce. These include:

- Introducing remote working and split shift arrangements in a safe and controlled way, which has reduced the overall daily footfall on the site by over 50%.
- Determining the level of risk associated with our vulnerable and high-risk employees and bringing in appropriate measures to support them (in some cases by sending people home, and in others applying greater social distancing at the workplace).
- Increasing hygiene and cleaning arrangements in high footfall areas, including making it mandatory for every person on site to use the anti-bacterial hand gel before using the turnstiles at the site entrance. We have also installed additional hand wash facilities in the old reception area.
- The introduction of social distancing measures across the entire site, to reduce the chances of catching the virus and spreading it to our loved ones, our work colleagues and within our community.
- One of the common symptoms of COVID-19 is a fever, so to safeguard the health and wellbeing of everyone working at the site, we have installed thermographic cameras in the security reception building. These cameras are now operational, and help us to identify people with elevated temperatures at the site entrance.
- The purchase of COVID-19 immunity test kits which allow us to confirm whether critical workers who have returned to work following symptomatic self-isolation for suspected COVID-19 were infected, and whether or not they now have a level of immunity to the virus.

This list above is by no means exhaustive, and just gives you a flavour of some of the things we are doing to keep us safe. In addition, EDF has launched a new internal well-being programme called 'Alongside You' to support employees and their loved ones during these difficult times. These sudden changes to both work and personal lives can be overwhelming, and each individual will be managing this in different ways.

We hope this offers your readers some reassurance that we are doing everything we can, and more, to keep our workforce and local community safe, and we will provide a full update at the next Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group meeting.

Finally, our thoughts are very much with those who have been affected by COVID-19.

Hinkley Point C Coronavirus Update & Critical Works Areas



The safety of the community we work in is of paramount importance to us. We've introduced a series of social distancing measures to keep both our workforce and community safe, using Government guidelines to inform our decisions.

We are continuing to listen to feedback and concerns from local residents and work with parish councillors to address worries. We appreciate your patience and support during this time.

Our colleagues on Hinkley Point B are working hard to generate electricity to power our homes. Key activities at Hinkley Point C need to continue today to ensure the UK has adequate power resource to do just that in years to come.

Whilst workforce numbers on site have reduced significantly, the remaining workforce are focusing on 4 critical areas of work:

- Nuclear Island Unit 1 (1)
- Nuclear Island Unit 2 (2)
- Conventional Island Unit 1 (3)
- Tunnelling (4)



Whilst we can't meet in person for our forum meetings, we will run them by telephone conference as we did for the Transport Forum. The Community Drop In at the Babbling Brook on the 17th April has been cancelled.

If you have any concerns, please do get in touch via our contact details. We wish everyone the very best during this difficult time.

Immy, David & Ross
Community Relations – Hinkley Point C

Summary of Social Distancing Measures

Details correct as of 15th April. As this is a fast moving situation, please visit our website for the latest updates.

On Site we have:

Significantly reduced the number of workers on site from over 4,000 to around 2,000. All workers who are able to work from home have been doing so.

Added 60 new buses to the fleet to reduce the number of workers on each bus – buses now only 30% full. Screens are also fitted on buses to protect the drivers.

Increased our cleaning regime across site, including regular antibacterial cleaning on buses and on touch points.

Introduced floor markers across site (including for queuing in canteens/ at bus stops) to mark 2m between each person. In the canteens, allowing only one person to sit per table of 4 chairs.

In the Community we have:

Stopped servicing individual bus stops and instead pick workers up from the Park & Ride's / Campuses where social distancing can be managed.

Opened the campuses free of charge for non home based workers, to increase the safety of the community.

Introduced temperature checks (using thermal cameras) on all workers at the Park & Ride's and site entrance.

Community Support

The Hinkley Point C Project is supporting the NHS and local initiatives during this time. For example, Somerset Larder have donated food to two local care homes and produced hundreds of meals for Fair Share South West. The project has offered 5,000 facemasks to the NHS and given 1,000 facemasks to Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue.

We are also building a database of volunteers from across the Project. If you need support or are looking for volunteers, please get in touch via the details below.

Contact Details:

Visit: www.edfenergy.com/hpc

Call us on our 24/7 hotline: 0333 009 7070

E-mail us at: hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com

Contacts and Parish Information

Parish Councillors:

Chris Morgan (Chair) 01278 734887 or 07966-697460

cmorgan195@icloud.com

Sue Goss (vice-Chair)

Judy Bastick, Rebecca Calvert, Eileen Chave, Chris Ford, Susan E Jones, Steve O'Driscoll, Jenny Ody, Helga Staddon

Clerk: Gillian Orchard 01278 653824

Meetings: monthly date & venue as published

7.15 - 7.30 Public Forum - for parishioners to attend & ask questions,
from 7.30 pm Councillors' meeting - parishioners may attend and listen.

West Somerset & Ward Councillors:

Chris Morgan cllr.c.morgan@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

Site Stakeholders Group Representatives:

Sue Goss, Chris Morgan

Somerset County Council

All Services 0300 123 2224

Parish Neighbourhood Welcome Pack

Burton & Knighton: Sue Goss 733405

Wick & Stolford: Susan E Jones 652287

Stogursey & Shurton: Chris Morgan 734887

EdF Main Site Neighbourhood Forum

Representatives for the Hamlets:

Burton and Knighton

Mike Laver m_laver@btinternet.com 732069

Sue Jones suekibjones@yahoo.co.uk 732275

Shurton

Peter Farmery peterfarmery@btinternet.com 732503

Richard Cuttell cuttellrichard@gmail.com 734818

Stolford:

Susan E Jones suejones279@btinternet.com 652287

Wick:

Dick Blomfield. richie.blomfield@btinternet.com 653302

Parish Council Member: Chris Ford

West Som District & Ward Councillor: Sue Goss

EdF Contacts:

Hinkley Point C Drop-Ins

at the Babbling Brook, Shurton, Fridays, 12 noon - 1.00 pm

2020: 21st August; 11th December

HPC Hotline

for enquiries or complaints 0333 009 7070

Community Venues

Victory Hall & Youth Club - Allan Searle 732820

Church Rooms - Belinda Crowther 734695

St. Peter's Church Stolford - Susan E Jones 652287

Community Car Scheme

Stogursey Parish Stagecoach. 07908 239 609

Health Centres

Cannington 01278 652335

Quantock (Nether Stowey) 01278 732696

Out-of-hours (for both centres) 0845408800

The surgeries held in Stogursey at the Church Rooms and St Audries Centre are temporarily cancelled during the Covid-19 pandemic.

♥ Defibrillator

♥ is located on the wall between Stogursey Motors
♥ and The Corner Shop.

Mobile Library: Route G

The library visits on Thursdays - every 4 weeks

Shurton

Babbling Brook 12.20 pm - 12.50 pm

Stogursey

Greyhound Inn 1.30 pm - 2.00 pm

Town Close (No 30) 2.05 pm - 2.25 pm

Next Visiting Dates: Not known at present

For more information, contact Libraries Direct by

Telephone 0300 123224, or

Email at www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries

POLICE

Non-Emergencies- Call 101 Emergencies - Call 999

Community Policing & Speed Watch Volunteers

Jamie Munro PC 4376 Neighbourhood Beat Manager

Williton & Watchet (AW052). Mobile: 07889 659436

Email: jamie.munro@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Criminal Damage

If you see any ASB or criminal damage incidents, please **phone the Police on 101**. Give as much information, including names, as you possibly can. These are Police matters, and the Police need our help to stop them. The number of complaints made from an area are noted. The more complaints received, the more justification to allocate police time and manpower to deal with problems.

Complainants' names are not released to the perpetrators.