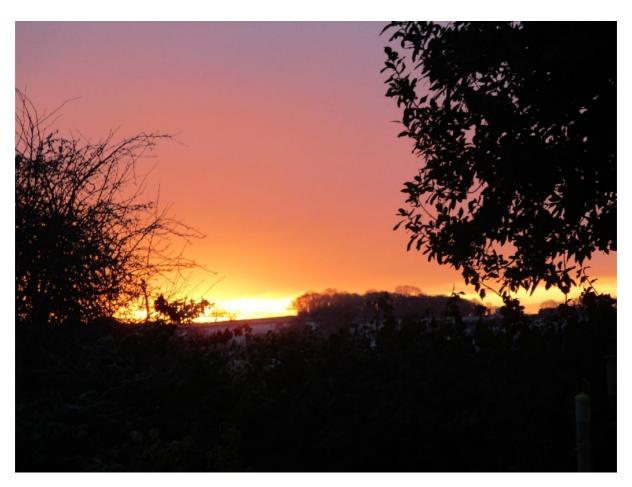
STOGURSEY NEWS



A New Dawn PW

March 2021

Editorial

In spite of the terrible time we have all been living through, there are a number of items in this edition of Stogursey News that show how productive these past months have been within our community.

There are some photos of the youngsters from the school enjoying their opportunities to be outside and gain from the experience of activities in the fresh air. Memories of this time in their lives will surely stay with them long after this time has passed.

Time to reflect while we have been "locked in" has given some members of our community the opportunity to write poetry putting the thoughts and feelings of many of us into words.

As always there is useful information about help that is available through Stogursey Community Network and other organisations. There is a contribution that fills in the background history of the Church Rooms and people and events that took place there. Did you know why one of the rooms is called the Graddon Room? Looking ahead there are some helpful gardening tips with spring not far away.

So looking at the image of a New Dawn on the cover of Stogursey News and to quote briefly from the poem by Angela Gorman,

> "... yet the dawn is ours before we knew it Somehow we do it Somehow we've weathered it . . . "

The Editorial Team hope all our readers will enjoy this edition of the magazine and that we will all enjoy a better time soon.

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 $\underline{www.stogursey\text{-}online.uk}$

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 **April** contributions: **10.00** am **Monday 15**th **March 2021**

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 Catherine Hawkins Deborah Robins Dick Blomfield Jan Ford Jane Cassidy Janet Mitchell Jen Glover Joy Burt

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Sue Spicer
Terry Touchin
and several others who

and several others who wish to remain anonymous.

Stogursey on-line

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Thank You

I wish to say thank you for the many get well cards and kind messages that I received during my recent illness, I am pleased to say that I am now feeling much better and making a good recovery. We are so fortunate to be living in a caring community that looks out and cares for each other. This has been more evident during the past year when many of our residents have gone the extra mile during this awful Covid-19 pandemic making sure that our more vulnerable residents were safe and well. Thank you all once again for your very kind messages.

Allan Searle

VICTORY HALL LOTTERY WINNERS JANUARY 2021 Draw

1st Prize	£25.00	Bob Crowther	No	20
2 nd Prize	£15.00	Gillian Orchard	No	72
3 rd Prize	£10.00	Deborah Cole	No '	118

SCN Voluntary Transport for Medical Appointments

While the Covid-19 restrictions continue, the Stogursey Community Network is able to provide Covid-safe lifts in private cars for local residents to attend <u>medical</u> <u>appointments only</u>.

Please phone **07485 350560** and leave a message; we will do our best to respond to your request.

If any drivers feel they could help out from time to time, we would be pleased to hear from you. We are now becoming quite busy as appointments for vaccinations increase. Reimbursement for fuel is available. Please ring the SCN number 01278 732149 if you think you might be able join the group of volunteer drivers.

Thank you.

Solution to Quick Crossword No. 9 February 2021

Clues Across

1. hangdog, 5. expat, 8. bluetooth, 9. our, 10. yahoo, 12. lectern, 13. Quantock Hills, 15. archaic, 17. larch, 19. kyu, 20. amaryllis, 22. ditch, 23. manatee

Clues Down

hobby, 2. nou, 3. Detroit, 4. good luck charm
 ethic, 6. propellor, 7. thrones, 11. headcount
 quacked, 14. halcyon, 16. awash, 18. haste, 21. lot



Stogursey Community Network (SCN)

March Update

Stogursey Community Network (**SCN**) is here for you. We provide the following support:

Lunch Club Deliveries ~

On **Tuesdays**, we can deliver a delicious home-cooked 2-course meal to your door if you are not easily able to cook for yourself and fancy a change from 'ready-meals'.

On **Thursdays**, we offer home-made Soup & Cake, same conditions apply. (Diners may make a cash donation if they like, but this is not essential at the moment, as we have funds to cover the costs.) Please remember, you can recommend someone for this; with their permission we will contact them to arrange.

- Fareshare Food Supplies ~ we have been given a supply of packaged food from the Fareshare charity to distribute to anyone needing extra help at this time. Many families and individuals have already benefited from this support. Get in touch if you, or someone you know, could use a delivery of supermarket-standard food.
- Collecting your medical prescription and delivering it to you at home, if you are unable to get to the Surgery or the Spar/PO to collect it.
- Driving you to a medical appointment, including doctor, dentist, optician if you are unable to get there any other way. This will be under Covid-safe guidelines in a volunteer's car. Please see SCN Voluntary Transport information.

How to contact us

Numbers to call:

- 07485 350560 (Medical transport only)
- 01278 732149 (all other requests)

Or you can message us via Facebook: StogurseyCN Facebook.

All information and requests are treated in accordance with standard Data Confidentiality Policy.

Rosemary's Recollections

My husband Paul Welbourne took a phone call the other evening from a woman currently living in North Petherton who wondered if readers of Stogursey News might be interested in some first-hand memories of life in Stogursey from the 1930s and 1940s - and particularly the Church Rooms - following on from the article in last month's Stogursey News.

The following piece is the result of our phone conversations:

I was born Rosemary Graddon at 18 Church Street in 1933. My Gran lived there back in the 1800s with an aunt and an uncle. I lived and worked in Stogursey until I married in 1955. I worked in the shop and Post Office, then owned by Mr Slater.

I remember very clearly regularly visiting what are now called 'The Church Rooms' as it was where we went every week to Church and Sunday School. The Congregational Church was the larger room on the left and the small room with the big semi-circular stone step was always known then as The Sunday School Room.

I remember going to Congregation on Sunday evenings. There was always a blackboard proclaiming the times and Lay Preacher for the Service – names such as Mr Arthur Whitefield, Mr Evans who came from Cardiff, accompanying the many Welsh evacuees, Mr Arthur Chidgey who also lived in Church Street - I used to visit his sons - and Mr Chappell who came from Nether Stowey.

During the War nearly every household had evacuees – sometimes children with their mother – many from Cardiff - but we had Londoners. The children would all come to Sunday school so it was always full. We were all keen to go and looked forward to it. One little boy walked up from Fiddington and other children walked from Shurton. During the afternoon Sunday School my mother would take out the little ones who might be starting to fidget to read them stories at the back of the Church.

I remember in the Sunday School Room there was always a stage towards the back with red curtains. There was a door that went straight into the Church. At the back of the Church there were two steps up to a dais or raised platform where the lectern stood with a wooden bannister in front. There were pews on either side and open space at the road end. The Congregational Church and the Church of England Church were definitely

separate at that time. There was a Rev Tucker down at the Church – him and a Mr Cridge made lots of changes and it upset a lot of the local people. I used to go to Church in the morning and then in the afternoons we'd go over to Sunday school.

The Sunday School room and its stage provided the venue for concerts and live entertainment and every year we had a big Christmas party. I remember Miss Queenie Warner (everyone called her Aunty Queenie) who played the piano, Mr Cooper played the trumpet and Mildred Warner sang songs. My father, Stan Graddon, sang with a lovely tenor voice and Mrs Brown remarked how much she missed his lovely singing at the Church after he'd passed away. Mr Quick, the cobbler who lived near to the Fox and Hounds pub, used to do amusing monologues. He would laugh so much and everyone would be in hysterics.

Another source of entertainment was when Mr Howe came to the Acland Hood Arms (then owned by the Belcher family) and used to show real films. I also remember a gentleman bringing a magic lantern show to our Church. He stood near the back and you could see pictures which was wonderful. Stanley Graddon was my father and his brother Bert and wife Grace used to fundraise – things like whist drives and outings.

During the War many American soldiers were stationed around Stogursey – the white Americans were in Nissan hunts at Paddons while the black Americans were billeted at the Alfoxden Hotel in Holford. The former put on entertainment in the village too, but one Sunday evening black Americans came to the Congregational Church and sang some Gospel hymns. My Mother invited them across the road to our house for tea and cake. One of them played the piano and gave me a badge. Two wrote in my autograph book – it was April 1944 and I still have it. I wonder what happened to them?

Many Thanks to Rosemary Rich and perhaps she'll share some more memories in the future.



Caroline Hawkes 04/02/2021

Stogursey Arts Trust

"People will say, 'I'm not an artist I don't draw things', but I think actually everybody can, once they get going."

Antony Gormley in The Guardian 28th January 2021

Gormley (the artist probably best known for his sculpture: The Angel of the North) was introducing the first theme for the 'Great Big Art Exhibition', which has been conceived to get people across Britain to create art, in response to themes posed by famous artists. It is open to everyone and all you/they have to do is, again quoting from the same article, "turn their front windows into a gallery as part of a nationwide initiative to create a 'magical patchwork of creativity'".

I wonder if Gormley or the organiser Sally Shaw, director of Firstsite, a Colchester-based arts initiative, had been visited by the 'Angels' of the South West . . . who are obviously based in Stogursey? It's always nice to be ahead of the curve!

The Chelsea Flower Show are ahead of our next curve though, and the Arts Trust are currently considering following their example and looking at the feasibility of running the 'Gardens' Festival project in September. There may still be restrictions in late summer, but we will let you know our plans in due course. It is more than likely, that whatever happens, we will reopen the Outside Gallery, where it was great to see so many more villagers and people across the parish engaging in creativity and producing such fantastic results.

Grayson Perry's Art Club is back on Channel 4. The Independent says: "Grayson's Art Club might be just what some of us need to turn the telly off and pick up a paint brush. It communicates a simple message we might have forgotten: creativity is in us all – and it's good for our minds and spirits".

The first programme was screened on Friday 26th February at 8pm, where the theme of the work sent in was Family. Future themes are Nature, Food, Dreams, Work and Travel. If you want to find out more or submit some work, you will need the internet (or a friend who has it) and search (or get them to search) for Grayson's Art Club, Swan Films (www.swamfilms.tv productions > graysons-art-club).

And finally a huge thank you for all the positive responses we received about the 'blank box' last month. We would particularly like to thank Claire Heath for her wonderful

poem 'The Crow's Flight', a copy of which features in this month's Stogursey News.

It was returned to us hand written in the 'blank box' and the landscape of memory it illustrates is so recognisable to where we live. The 'box' for many of us is now no longer 'blank'. Thank you Claire.

However, if you would like to send in further thoughts and continue to populate (the idea of) the 'blank box', we would love to hear from you. It can be anything from a piece of writing or notes for a composition to illustrations or photographs, which can be formatted for future publication.

In addition to the 'blank box', if you have some 'news' about your own creativity in lockdown or you want to share your responses or indeed if you have any questions about this month's article, do get in touch (call us on 01278734550).

Mike Bradshaw for Stogursey Arts

The Crow's Flight

Further into the distance,
An old field, thorn edged
Merges into woodland.
Shades where wild birds sing –
And fly between the branches.
Often a single crow
Interrupts this eventide,
Its own steady line
Of breaking wings
Drawing my attention;
Then gone:
A flight of purpose
Beyond the boundaries
Of supposition.

Claire Heath

Clear Bright Dawn

by Jan Ford

Now our winter is retreating. Not many up when daylight breaks! Lying awake maybe, in bed; Hoping for a clear, bright dawn.

But January's been so uncertain; Just wet and dark and ever gloomy. Few golden, slanting, warming beams To herald in a clear, bright dawn.

The New Year did bring snowdrops With other bulbs appearing; Early promise of a bold, new start; Just waiting for a clear, bright dawn.

Approaching Spring brings rays of hope With promise of more light to come. The dawn chorus will soon awake us Ready for that clear, bright dawn.

Looking forward to the sun arising From a cloudless, star-filled night; Faint glow and silver streaks appearing, Promising a clear, bright dawn.

At last a golden sunrise beckons; Sky tinged with silver, pink and blue; Bright sun from patchy cloud emerging. Is this to be a clear, bright dawn?

Yet murky clouds are ever looming, Not long before the rain could come. The signs are there for hopes to flourish. The promise of that clear, bright dawn.

The rainclouds then soon drift away; All is bright and hills are clear; A sunny morning lifting spirits, Late legacy of that clear, bright dawn.

Embrace each new day as it burgeons, More promise now of golden days. Remember the age-old 'red skies ' warning. Stay safe to catch each clear, bright dawn.

A new dawn-goddess is emerging. Not the Roman-named Aurora! But Vaccine out there to protect us. The whole world waiting for that clear, bright dawn.

INVITATION TO ALL



Above is the logo of Stogursey's historical Twinning Association which is open to all-comers 18 years of age or over who are interested in promoting links and friendship with like-minded people in the town of Lonlay L'Abbaye in Normandy France. There's no requirement to speak French or even to visit or host guests here and there are usually several village events each year open to both members and non-members. Families and their children of any age are always welcome.

Last year we just managed to hold our Annual General Meeting - on March 14th - before the first lockdown, but this year it looks like this won't be possible. This would have been an opportunity for members to meet socially, elect officers and committee members, pay the annual subscription but most importantly to socialise, usually with some light entertainment, perhaps a quiz, a sketch, some music or singing and of course to share food and drink together. Also non-members interested in joining would have been most welcome and had the opportunity to find out more about this active village Association. Our annual subscription is currently £5.00 per individual member or £10 for a family and payable by the end of March.

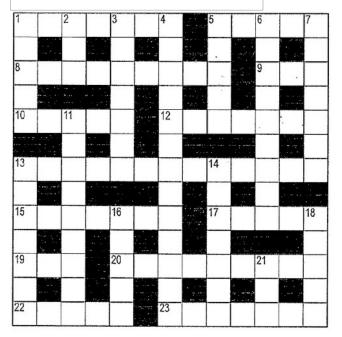
As it happens none of the Committee members are at the end of their terms this year and all are willing to remain in post, but if anyone out there wants to get more involved please get in touch and I can send more details or have a chat, or you may want to nominate someone else. We'll go ahead with a virtual meeting, ie, connected online via 'Zoom'— and can send a link for members and potential members to join us for a short virtual

Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 17th March at 7.30pm.

Further details from STA Secretary Caroline Hawkes carolinemayhawkes@gmail.com 01278 733162

Quick Crossword No.10

compiled by Helen Cuttell



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Saturday & Sunday (7)
- 5. A Fenland town in Cambridgeshire (5)
- 8. Located on top of a fish or marine mammal (6,3)
- 9. Ant and - (3)
- 10. Himalayan country (5)
- 12. A Kingdom in the Persian Gulf (7)
- 13. 17th March (2,7,3)
- 15. A tool used in the kitchen (7)
- 17. Detection system that uses radio waves (5)
- 19. Edgar Allan --- US writer & poet (3)
- 20. Of or relating to whales & dolphins (9)
- 22. Repairs socks (5)
- 23. Arch of colours in the sky (7)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Make broader (5)
- 2. To make a mistake (3)
- 3. Ornamental cloth pad worn on the shoulder (US)(7)
- 4. There are three of these in our Parish (13)
- 5. Asian bird of the starling family who can talk (5)
- 6. Caught --- in the act of doing something wrong (3,6)
- 7. ----- carriage, a car for hire (7)
- 11. Someone who controls marionettes (9)
- 13. Drank tea noisily (7)
- 14. Largest city in Pakistan (7)
- 16. Andrew - - best known as actor from Fawlty Towers (5)
- 18. Plant seeds again (5)
- 21. - web spider, common in the garden (3)

Stogursey Oil-buying Group

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

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 May.

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 10.00 am on Monday 8th March with the following information:-

- □Name
- Address
- Postcode
- Email (if available)
- Telephone Number
- □Amount of oil required, in litres

Note: Please specify an amount and not an unknown quantity such as top up.

□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 15th March 2021



Stogursey C of E Primary and Pre-School



Hello from Lianne and Sarah at Little Acorns Stogursey Preschool





February was a jam-packed month with so much going on. The Big Garden Bird watch encouraged the children to take notice of the wildlife around them spotting a volary of pretty long tailed tits on our bird feeders. We made our own bird feeders recycling coconut shells, a little lard, and bird seeds – not too messy!











Facebook (7)











With Children's mental health week at the beginning of February it has been a time to reflect and focus on our wellbeing. Stogursey is such a beautiful area at the foot of the Quantock Hills we are nestled in beautiful countryside and best of all, we are so close to beaches we are so lucky. Research highlights the importance of physical exercise and it is needed more than ever during these difficult times and lockdown. Physical exercise produces endorphins and endorphins trigger a positive feeling in your body. So, a long walk in a muddy field, along a sandy beach, not only connects you with nature but it is good for you and best of all it is FREE!

STAY SAFE LOVE LITTLE ACORNS

It was Children's Mental Health Week last week, so we had a focus on the different aspects of mental health for some of our remote learning lessons.

Every day the children listened to a story being read that had a theme of wellbeing such as anxiety, fear and sadness. The children commented each day on the story that they had listened to and shared their thoughts about the issues. It was great to see the children talking about their own wellbeing and sharing ideas of how to take care of themselves.

Then on Thursday we had an afternoon of activities that focused on the theme of this year which was 'Express Yourself'. The children had the opportunity to choose how they would like to express themselves and take part in an activity that showed off their uniqueness.

Some children chose to express themselves through art and created some lovely drawings. Others chose to express themselves through singing/music and recorded themselves singing some of their favourite songs.

Miss May



"I like to do drawing. I have drawn some of my favourite things to do".

Maddison

Our daughter is still attending Stogursey School during lockdown 3 as she has an Education, Health and Care Plan, which means she is a vulnerable learner.

In the spring, she struggled with the remote learning and we struggled to know how to help her learn. Making the decision about the best thing to do this time was difficult. Of course, we want to keep her safe, and we also want her to learn and not fall behind.

She has enjoyed this last half-term in school. She is benefitting from the small group learning. This is an opportunity for her to focus on her own abilities, and work at her own pace and she has been telling us all about what she is doing in school.

We have been impressed with the range of activities that the school is able to provide for the children attending: art, cooking, PE, as well as Maths and English and we are confident that school is a safe place for her to be.

Anna Hammond

The Triscombe bubble have all really enjoyed spending time together at school this half term.

We have loved getting outside and exploring the school. We have visited the school field lots- investigating floating and sinking and going on a snake hunt!

Our favourite days are when it's cold and there is lots of ice. We have discovered different ways to melt the ice and have carried out lots of experiments to test our theories!

I have been very proud of how focused the class have been, especially with their Maths where they have all made great progress.

Miss Turner

"I like learning in Maths.
5 and 5 is 10!"

Callum

" I like ice- I like making it melt and I liked making Chinese lanterns".

Michael

Points from the Parish Council – February 2021

Increase in workforce for HPC

The Parish Council was informed on 28th January that HPC is seeking to increase its workforce from the planned 5,600 to 8,500 (53% or 2,900). The Parish Council is concerned at the lack of local consultation, as there appears to be a very limited time for any examination of their proposals: the likely impacts locally on accommodation as the numbers rise under their plans from 20 to 150. The rental prices in the parish are already at premium rates compared with other parts of the county. The workers' vehicles already parked locally put huge pressure on residents as well as on emergency vehicles attempting to navigate the narrow streets of the parish, what would another huge increase do to that situation? The Parish Council will continue to lobby the decision makers to ensure that its objections are heard and considered.

Planned daytime roadworks

As updated last month, Tower Hill, High Street and Church Street in Stogursey are to be closed during 0930-1800 daily between 3rd and 9th March. The Parish Council sought some amendments from Somerset County Highways, but they are referring all enquiries on to the Contractors. So, if you have any concerns, please make contact direct with Barden Network Engineering on 01454 281627.

We also understand that Shurton Road is to be closed by Wessex Water between the Shurton Lane turning and the new HPC Emergency Exit turning between 19th and 23rd April, with a diversion via Stogursey.

Riparian Owners responsibilities

Recent weather has once again highlighted the duties of parishioners who are riparian owners. 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 this website -

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday 9th March 2021

The next Parish Council meeting will be on the Zoom platform again. Members of the public are welcome to attend the whole meeting, but may only speak and ask questions during the Public Forum on matters listed on the agenda in according with the <u>Parish Council Virtual Policy</u> and <u>Parish Council Standing Orders</u>. Please contact the Clerk for the joining instructions.

My phone number is 01278 652534 or you can e-mail me at stogurseypcclerk@gmail.com

Richard Wand
Clerk to Stogursey Parish Council





MACULAR SOCIETY EXMOOR SUPPORT GROUP

Here is another one of our members' contributions:

I first became aware of the local branch of the Macular Group about two years ago, and have attended nearly all of their monthly meetings ever since.

Until Covid prevented us having our meetings, they were attended by about twelve or more, some of whom travelled from as far as Blue Anchor, Monksilver and Wheddon Cross as well as many from Dulverton and Brushford.

I know all who attend these meetings will readily agree with me when I say we all owe a great debt of gratitude to both Marion and Royce Lindsey-Noble. Marion is herself visually impaired. They make all the arrangements for our

meetings and liaise with the Dulverton Surgery, who make a room available to us and let us use their technological facilities for the speakers which Marion organises. These include ophthalmic consultants from Musgrove Hospital, representatives from organisations such as the RNIB, The Macular Society and Somerset Sight etc. We have all been able to learn of the wonderful facilities and equipment which are now available for the sight-impaired.

I conclude this very brief note by thanking Royce, who provides transport to a few of us who would otherwise find difficulty in getting to the meetings, and of course, Marion who provides a free cup of tea or coffee and a cake on our arrival. We just look forward to the day when we will overcome the wretched virus and be able to meet again.

John Organ







Somerset Sight is a local charity which has been supporting sight impaired people across Somerset for over a hundred years and in 2019 won the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

One of our services is the Volunteer Visiting Service whereby volunteers are matched locally with a sight impaired person for regular visits for company and support, and also help alleviate loneliness and isolation.

Volunteers help with a variety of tasks such as reading, correspondence, making appointments, going out for a drive or just a cup of tea and a chat. Many volunteers get great satisfaction and enjoyment from their voluntary work, many friendships are formed and the people they support very much look forward to their visits. At the current time as face-to-face visits are not permissable, the service continues with regular phone calls until such time as a visit is allowed again.

For anyone who is sight impaired and would like to know more about our services, or if anyone would like to volunteer for the Visiting Service, please contact us on 01823 333818 for further information.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

To E or not to E

Did you realise that you can receive your copy of Stogursey News by email?

This is how all our overseas readers receive theirs - and most of our readers who live beyond the parish boundaries. Some of our local readers have opted to have an e-version rather than a paper version. This does make it easier for our distributors - one less letterbox to push a Stogursey News through.

Another thing which makes delivering Stogursey News easier for our distributors is a pipe in the hedge or a mailbox at the roadside. Thank you to all of our readers who have such a pipe or mailbox. This is especially helpful when your home is in a slightly awkward-to-reach spot or at the end of a bumpy track.

If you would prefer to receive your copy of the Stogursey News by email, please get in touch with us, by email, at stogurseynews@hotmail.co.uk.

For all contributors - you should receive an automated reply when you send an email to us. If you don't receive this, your email may not have reached us, so please try again.

The Editorial Team

GET GARDENING IN MARCH!

This is the month to get busy in the garden, especially if you held back in those very cold days we had in February.

March is good for sowing seeds:

INDOORS

Flowers: Sow <u>half-hardy annuals</u> such as: aster, brachychome, cosmos, gypsophilia, nicotiana and petunia.

Herbs: sow basil seeds on a warm windowsill, but use a sandy compost which drains easily.

Vegetables: Brassicas such as brussel sprouts, cauliflowers and cabbages; chillies, cucumbers, sweet peppers and tomatoes can all be sown inside. Start chitting (sprouting) seed potatoes.

OUTDOORS

Flowers: From March onwards you can sow <u>hardy</u> <u>annuals</u> outside into a sunny spot or in pots: clarkia, cornflowers, eschsholtzia, larkspur, poppies, sunflowers and sweet peas.

You can also sow wildflower seed mixes into raked soil in sunny spots. Great for the bees and butterflies!

Vegetables: Once the risk of frost has passed, plant garlic, onion and shallot sets. Sow broad beans seeds and early peas directly into your vegetable plot. You can plant outside early varieties of potatoes if they have chitted.

Other tasks for the garden in March:

Fertilise your soil. Once your soil is workable, dig a 5cm (or more) layer of compost or well-rotted manure into your beds You can also add a general-purpose fertiliser, such as pelleted chicken manure, or fish, blood and bone.

Put supports in. If any of your garden plants need supporting this year, put the supports in now, so that the plants can grow up through them. Adding supports afterwards is much trickier and can look less attractive.

Feed roses as they come into growth - use either a special rose feed, or a well-balanced fertiliser.

(From: https://www.thompson-morgan.com/what-to-do-in-the-garden-in-march)

March Village Agent News



Hopefully by now the weather has started to get warmer! That was a very cold February!

Staying Warm and Well

Being home a lot more over the past couple of months has bound to have bumped up your fuel bills - and March could still surprise us with bitter weather, so please do get in touch if you are struggling with fuels costs. We help distribute the Surviving Winter grants which are available for older people living in Somerset, who are unable to adequately heat their homes https://

<u>www.somersetcf.org.uk/winter</u> – we want everyone to be warm and well this winter!

Alternatively you can contact the Centre for Sustainable Energy and their Home Energy team who are on hand to deal with fuel debt, help find cheaper fuel, aid in switching suppliers and much more – just watch this Talking Café they co-hosted with our Village Agent Wendy Rudd to see why it is so important to stay warm & how they help: https://youtu.be/Xjmwl0nk9C0.

You can also complete their online referral form on their website: https://www.cse.org.uk/advice

Don't forget you can also join our Community Oil Scheme and save in bulk orders of oil!

www.ccslovesomerset.org/oil. 50% of the small annual fee goes into our Crisis fund to help people in need in Somerset.

Somerset Food Resilience Taskforce

We are proud to be part of the county-wide initiative, and we organise, co-ordinate the delivery of food boxes and pre-cooked meals to those in need via our Agents, community groups/kitchens – over 20,000 items of food a WEEK are delivered – 200,000 since lockdown began last March – a staggering number!

Would you benefit from a free food box?

No one should go hungry in Somerset, and our boxes are not means tested, simply for people in need whether you're struggling to cook or obtain food. If you are an unpaid carer and would benefit from respite from cooking, we can provide some meal packs for you and the person you care for. If you need help with any of this, please do contact your local Village Agent on 01823 331 222 or visit https://somersetagents.org/help-with-food/

Want to get involved? Our Smart Communities team can help get your community set up with equipment such as fridges & freezers, and food to stock them! Visit https://ccslovesomerset.org/food-resilience/ for details.

Crisis Fund

The Crisis Fund is distributed by our Village and Community Agents to help people in crisis situations and for whom a small grant can make a huge difference in their lives – at this time of crisis and hardship for many in our communities, this need is greater than ever.

We help when others can't, won't, or don't.

We have never actively fundraised before for the Crisis Fund, but this has been an unprecedented year, and our important 'pot' of funds has almost depleted due to unprecedented demand due to Covid-19.

We would love to raise £5,000 in 2021 for the Crisis Fund in West Somerset, and are asking YOU to get involved in anyway you can with sponsored runs, bake sales (after lockdown!) - setting yourself any kind of #CrisisFundChallenge – or by simply and very kindly donating! Follow us on social media @RuralSomerset for updates and how to get involved.

Some examples of how these grants have been used recently:

- To pay for a donated phone to be upcycled and given to a low income carer when their old one stopped working
- To pay for two donated bikes to be renovated for children's Christmas presents for a family who had recently lost mum to cancer
- To buy an energy efficient radiator for a lady with a chronic health condition who was struggling to heat her home - this meant she had one warm room.
- Paying for donated freezer to be PAT tested and moved to help a struggling family so they could manage their food budget more efficiently
- To buy a washing machine for a carer who is struggling to keep up with washing demands
- To buy fresh food for a family when both parents lost their job due to Covid-19 while we helped them with benefits
- To buy electric for a card meter for an client who was sitting in the dark and cold because he was overcome with anxiety and had problems with his pension payment

Please visit www.ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-crisis-fund/ to find out more. You can donate to the district you live in: West Somerset: https://localgiving.org/charity/somersetcrisis-fund/ somersetcrisis-fund/www.ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-crisis-fund/ live in: www.ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-crisis-fund/ live in: www.ccslovesomerset.org/somerset-crisis-fund/ somerset: https://localgiving.org/charity/ somersetcrisis-fund/ project/westsomersetcrisis-fund/

Contact me Izzy Silvester on 07931 014045 izzy@somersetrcc.org.uk for confidential advice and support.



Immy's Update

Since my update in last month's edition, we've been working with local communities to ensure residents understand how our workforce numbers will grow in the coming years. Following these discussions, I've answered some of the frequently asked questions we've received.

You can also visit our dedicated webpage for more information – edfenergy.com/hpc-workforce

When will your peak workforce be on-site?

We anticipate reaching peak towards the end of 2022, with a steady increase in workforce between now and then, as Covid- 19 conditions allow.

How will Covid-19 affect your workforce numbers?

During the pandemic, the number of people on the Hinkley Point C site will be limited by the many measures in place to ensure the safety of workers and the community. The peak in numbers is not planned until the end of 2022, with this increase in workers only possible when we assume normal conditions without Covid-19 constraints.

How will you ensure that as much benefit as possible stays local?

Hinkley Point C is already providing substantial benefit to the local area. Almost £3 billion has been spent with regional businesses and thousands of jobs and apprenticeships are helping local people to start and develop new careers - something that is especially significant as the country faces the economic challenges of the pandemic.

The Hinkley Point C Jobs Service works with it's partner Jobcentre Plus, as well as other support organisations and training providers, to promote vacancies to local people. If you would like to receive job notifications or get support with your CV or an application, contact the HPC Jobs Service via their website hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com.

What about fly-parking?

Monitoring fly parking will remain an ongoing focus for the project throughout construction. Whilst we've noticed a significant drop in fly parking enquiries since moving to a bus service which focuses on our Park & Ride's, our dedicated team remains on hand to look into reports of fly parking and take appropriate action.

What are you doing to help manage workforce accommodation?

Our experience shows that a higher proportion of workers than initially expected are local enough to stay in their own homes. At the peak of construction we are expecting around 50% of workers to be locally based. The £7.5m Hinkley Point C Housing Fund, provided to the Local Authorities, is successfully helping to increase the amount of accommodation available and increase the pool of affordable homes for local people. Using these funds, the Local Authorities expect to create more than 4,000 new bed spaces in the local area and we will continue to support them to achieve this.

How can I stay up to date with what's happening on the project?

The best way to stay up to date is by signing up for our community magazine, our monthly progress update or registering to attend our Main Site Forum meeting. Get in touch via the details below for more information.

Next Main Site Forum: 4th March 2021

Get in touch

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

Hinkley Point C - Monthly Update

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





The outlet water pipes for our cooling water system on Reactor 2 have been installed ahead of schedule. These pipes will ferry water between the Pump House and the Turbine Building.

Focus for the Conventional Island of Reactor 2 now turns to the construction of the Turbine Building and Galleries.

The tall red tower that can be seen on the South Plaza is being used to complete trials for our grouting works. It will help us prepare for pumping grout into the deep dig, at big distances and heights.





Thousands of people from across the Project joined our interactive virtual Dome '22 conferences in January. At these events, we talked about all the elements which will be accomplished by the end of 2022, including:

- Tunnels complete
- Turbine Hall complete
- Connection to the Grid complete
- 90% of Reactor 1's equipment and 70% of Reactor 2's equipment delivered to Site



The next edition of our community magazine, Plugged in, is due out soon. Sign up to receive either a digital or paper copy using the details below.

Telephone: 0333 009 7070

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: Richard Wand 01278 652534

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. Read Parish Council notes within for details of how to join the Parish Council's video-meetings.

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

<u>Shurton</u>

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 /Main Site Forums

Main Site forums currently being held on-line: **4 March; 24 June; 21 October.** Phone 0333 0097070 or email: hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com

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

Stogursey Community Network (SCN)

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StogurseyCSN

Phone: 01278 732149.

Medical Transport/voluntary driver: 07485 350560

Health Centres

Cannington 01278 652335 Quantock (Nether Stowey) 01278 732696

Out-of-hours (for both centres) 111

The surgeries held in the Church Rooms and St Audries Centre in Stogursey are temporarily cancelled.

♥ Defibrillators - 2 in the parish:

- on the wall outside Stogursey Motors, Stogursey

- side entrance of Babbling Brook Inn, Shurton

Mobile Library: Route G

The library visits on Thursdays - every 4 weeks

Shurton

Babbling Brook 12.15 pm - 12.45 pm

Stogursey

Greyhound Inn 1.25 pm - 2.20 pm Town Close (No 30) 2.25 pm - 3.00 pm

Next Visiting Dates in 2021:

postponed until further notice

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)

If you see any ASB or criminal damage incidents happening in public spaces, **phone the Police on 101.**

If you are disturbed by out-of-hours noise problems or ASB relating to businesses, **phone 01823 351411.**

Give as much information, including names, as you possibly can. The more complaints received, the more justification to allocate staff to deal with problems.

Make phone calls at the time of the disturbance.

Complainants' names are not released to the perpetrators.

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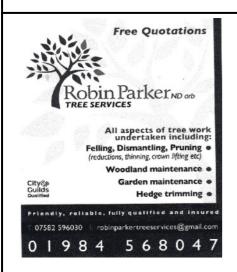
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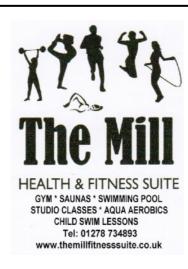
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