

STOGURSEY NEWS



Photo: IE

January 2024

Deadline for **FEBRUARY 2024** contributions: 10.00am **Monday 15th January 2024**

EDITORIAL

This first edition of the year, reminds us how many groups and clubs are flourishing in Stogursey and the parish. What better indication of this than their efforts in creating such successful displays for the Christmas Tree festival?

But December is behind us, and it's Wassail time again. Be sure to make a note of the details and join in with the procession down to Colepool, led, as usual by the band. Food and mulled cider are promised.

In fact, drinks and food feature very frequently in this month's edition – a Cheese and Wine Party and Sunday Roasts at the Victory Hall, the Creative Tea Party, Sunshine Tea and the delicious community lunches in the Jubilee Rooms. Just what we need to cheer ourselves in the dark days of January.

But perhaps you have other ideas about what you would like to see happen in Stogursey and the parish? Have your say by completing the Questionnaire, "What would you like to see in your village?"

Living as we do at the foot of the beautiful Quantocks it's well worth reading about the newly-renamed Quantocks Hills National Landscape. EDF are funding grants to help local community projects enhance and restore nature and local wildlife. Details in this issue about the Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund suggest how we might get involved and make the most of this opportunity to enhance our environment.

Finally, Jennie Hayman has contributed a lovely article recalling her many happy years spent with husband Bob in Stogursey. We bid her farewell, thank her for all that she has contributed to the village and wish her all the best in her new life in her next home.

Wishing a very Happy New Year to all our readers from the Stogursey News 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.

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.
- Please 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 for 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

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

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Regular Events

Monday	Health Walks (weekly) Contact: https://www.sasp.co.uk/sedgemoor	Steart Marshes Car Park	2.00pm
Tuesday	Core Stability (Pilates-based) Tai Chi Shibashi for over-50s (weekly) (Contact AgeUK 01823 345 624) Stogursey Lunches (weekly) Bingo (weekly) WI (second Tuesday of month) Parish Council Meeting (second Tuesday of month) Meditation (first & third Tuesday of month) Short Mat Bowls (weekly) Contact: Ron 01278 732688 Quantock Tennis Club (first Tuesday of month)	Victory Hall Victory Hall Jubilee Rooms St Audries Centre Victory Hall Victory Hall St Andrew's Church, Lilstock Victory Hall Multi-sport court, Victory Hall	9.00am 10.30am Doors Open 12 noon Eyes Down 2.00pm 2.30pm 7.00pm 7.15pm 7.30pm - 9.00pm 6.00pm - 10.00pm
Wednesday	Forget-Me-Not Café (alternate Wednesdays) Bingo Club Ukulele Sessions (alternate Wednesdays) Sea Shanty Singers (alternate Wednesdays)	Jubilee Rooms Youth Club Greyhound Inn Greyhound Inn	10.30am - 12 noon 7.00pm - 9.00pm 7.30pm - 9.30pm 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Thursday	Mobile Library visit (once every four weeks) Youth Club (weekly) Stogursey Arts Photographic Society- SAPS (second Thursday of month) Film Night (monthly)	Shurton & Stogursey Youth Club Jubilee Rooms Jubilee Rooms	as per schedule 6.30pm - 8.30pm 7.00pm doors open 7.00pm
Friday	Friday Social Café (weekly) Quantock Tennis Club (weekly) Contact John Nicholson 01278 732711 or jfnicholson@talktalk.net Quiz Night (third Friday of month)	Jubilee Rooms Multi-sport court, Victory Hall Victory Hall	10.00am - 12 noon 10.00am - 12 noon doors open 7.00pm
Sunday	Quantock Tennis Club (weekly)	Multi-sport court, Victory Hall	10.00am - 12 noon

DIARY 2024

Weds 3 Jan	Forget-me-Not Café	Jubilee Rooms	10.30am - 12 noon
Weds 3 Jan	Ukulele Session	Greyhound Inn	7.30pm - 9.30pm
Sat 6 Jan	Wassail	Colepool Orchard	Early afternoon
Sun 7 Jan	Sunday Lunch	Victory Hall	12 noon - 2.00pm
Sun 7 Jan	Creative Tea Party	Jubilee Rooms	from 3.00pm
Weds 17 Jan	Forget-me-Not Café	Jubilee Rooms	10.30am - 12 noon
Weds 17 Jan	Ukulele Session	Greyhound Inn	7.30pm - 9.30pm
Thurs 25 Jan	Mobile Library visit	As per schedule	As per schedule
Sat 27 Jan	Sunshine Tea Party	Jubilee Rooms	2.30pm - 4.00pm
Sat 27 Jan	Cheese & Wine	Victory Hall	7.00pm - late
Weds 31 Jan	Forget-me-Not Café	Jubilee Rooms	10.30am - 12 noon
Weds 31 Jan	Ukulele Session	Greyhound Inn	7.30pm - 9.30pm

JANUARY SUNDAY SERVICE ROTA for Quantock Gate Parishes

CHURCH	7 th January	14 th January	21 st January	28 th January
Cannington St Mary	8.00 & 9.30am Holy Communion	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Service	8.00 & 9.30am Holy Communion	8.00 & 9.30am Holy Communion
Combwich St Peter	11.15am Family Service	6.00pm Prayer & Praise	11.15am Holy Communion	
Fiddington St Martin	9.00am Holy Communion	9.00am Holy Communion	9.00am Family Service	9.00am Holy Communion
Stockland St Mary Madalene		11.15am Family Service		11.15am Holy Communion
Stogursey St Andrew	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Rise and Shine All Age Worship	10.30am Holy Communion
	Gold/White	Gold/White	Gold/White	Gold/White

Do be in touch if you would like to marry in one of the churches, or to arrange a baptism,
or if there is anything else we can help with.

Revd Alison Waters, Rector & Revd Jan Church, Curate
01278 652953 / cannington.benefice@gmail.com

The First Stogursey Christmas Tree Festival

"Wow, that is so beautiful ! Where does all that creative thinking come from?"

Feedback in an email from this year's Christmas Tree Festival

We would just like to say a huge thank you to all those who contributed to making the Christmas Tree Festival, in the run up to Christmas, such a brilliant success. We were promised a forest of trees and were entertained with an arboretum of creativity.

Thanks to the sponsors and the donations gratefully received from the Parish Council, with your generous help, we have established a new event for the festive season and the run-up to Christmas. We hope with the investment this year that we will be able to repeat the project with even more groups and individuals, engaging with some creative thinking for the village and other visitors to enjoy.

Particular thanks to our new vicar Alison whose enthusiasm for the project and hands on support were not only welcome, but very encouraging to the team of

organisers. Thanks to key members of the Arts Trust trustees, who, without their dedication to get things right, including their determination to make this a memorable event, none of this would have happened.

To all the stewards who covered the exhibition across the week, you did a fantastic job and we hope you will join us again next year. Without you we could not have opened the exhibition for so many of the days in the busy run-up to Christmas, you gave the village a great Christmas present.

Finally, thank you to all the performers, musicians, artists, designers, signers, photographers, sculptors, artisans, and to you the audience for taking part and attending. We wish you a very happy New Year and hope to see many and more of you returning in December 2024.

The Arts Trust is a charity made up of interested volunteers, if you would like to get involved, do contact us via Stogursey News.

Mike Bradshaw, Stogursey Arts Trust

LIFE IN STOGURSEY . . .

Packing up to leave Stogursey for pastures new, well Wellington actually, has made me reflect on the changes that have happened in the village since we first came here 32 years ago. When we arrived here that July there was an abattoir down the street, a butcher on the corner, a baker in the High Street and a hairdresser as well as other shops and the garage, less traffic and fewer houses.

There was 'grumpy Ken' in the Acland Hood where we joined in with the Quiz nights and the Pantomime. I think the first one we joined in was Cinderella. They were such fun and there were lots of talented young dancers as well as the usual barmy cast of grown men wearing extravagant make up!

Does anyone still play skittles? We had a good team but I think most of the alleys have turned into gites. Still, the craft clubs are still going strong, and all the different aspects of village life are thriving, as well as a lot of new faces and the input from Hinkley Point.

One thing that has remained constant is the strong community spirit, the friendship and care from the local people. During our life here we have been helped by some amazing characters, sadly all gone now. There was Doctor Ruth, Mary Thyne, Dulcie and Tom. The latter looked after our many cats and garden whenever we were away. On one occasion Tom hung his cucumbers up in my greenhouse so at first look it seemed I'd had a really good crop instead of my pathetic finger-sized ones I'd managed to grow!

For three years I went to Bridgwater College with Peggy where we created massive pots and tried to keep up with the youngsters on the various courses. Peggy signed me up for further ceramics lessons when I was away for 3 months in Bolivia so together we had 10 years of happy potting.

Our lives here were very busy and fulfilling, Bob being involved in the Church choir and various musical societies and we both enjoyed a very convivial time with Burn's night and so forth. We also had amazing times with the Twinning Association, the hospitality, which worked both ways, was a great achievement of the Stogursey Twinning Association and one we enjoyed so much.

This is the first year I've not taken part in the Flower Show! But life moves on and I am so thankful for all the help and friendship that has come my way in the last few months. New faces will find Stogursey a really safe and interesting community to be a part of and I will miss it so much.

So I finish this little nostalgic trip with a Big Thank You and wish you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2024.

Jennie Hayman

Thank you

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Market at the Stogursey Victory Village Hall in December. A special mention for Martin who deputised for Father Christmas at very short notice, and also his elf-helper Alisha. A big thank you to Kerry Scrimageour for making a great Santa grotto. A great time was had by all.



STOGURSEY FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ

We would like to wish everyone a **Happy New Year** and looking forward to seeing you soon!

Thank You



Helen and Rose would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the team and EVERYONE who supports us in so many ways – raising funds, giving donations, tea and coffee making, washing up, giving lifts to people, supporting us and our Forget-me-Not friends, shifting furniture, making cakes, making music, poetry, singing, dancing, and just for making the Café a very happy place to be. We are so lucky to have this army of angels.

Upcoming Café Dates 2024:

Wednesday 3rd January 2024 – New Year!

Wednesday 17th January 2024 -

OUR 5th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

Wednesday 31st January – the Café will be in the AFTERNOON from 2.30pm instead of the morning!
in the Jubilee Rooms

For more information please contact:

Helen: 01278 733451 cuttellhelen@gmail.com

Rose: 07507 374234 rosechalk@icloud.com



We are on Facebook and Instagram

Happy New Year from the Strummers of Stogursey!

We'll be meeting on January 3rd, 17th and 31st to strum our ukes and sing our songs and would love it if you can join us. As always, we'll have spare ukuleles and lots of helpful advice and encouragement if you would like to try something new for 2024.

Just come along to the Greyhound from 7.30pm - 9.30pm, you'll be sure of a very warm welcome.

Further information from

Rose: rose.palmer280@gmail.com

Ian: lanelenor@gmail.com

CREATIVE TEA PARTY

Banish the January blues and welcome 2024 with a smile!

Come and join us for a **FREE Creative Tea Party** on **Sunday 7th January 2024** in the Jubilee Rooms, Stogursey at 3pm.

There will be the opportunity to participate in two fun, creative workshops:

- 1) make a wooden bookmark, and
- 2) bring along a clean glass jar to decorate with glass pens to make a tea light holder, small vase or whatever you want!

Or just come for the lovely tea and cakes!

We hope to see lots of people there, all ages welcome!

(Please book in by calling 01278 732149 or emailing us on stogurseycommunitynetwork@gmail.com).

With many thanks to Somerset Community Foundation for funding this event.

Beat the January Blues –



Come to the

SUNSHINE TEA

SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY 2024

2.30 – 4.00pm in the JUBILEE ROOMS

£5 for tea/coffee and a slice of homemade cake

All profits to The Fortress, Uganda

The Fortress is a charity based in Kampala Uganda. We support pregnant and abandoned teens, run education programmes in schools and the community and provide sterile Mama kits for safer births in and around Kampala.

Join us from 2.30pm for tea and cakes that bring the warmth of ginger, pineapple, banana and chocolate.

The sales table with jewellery and fabrics made by the girls will be there with more detailed information about the charity.

VICTORY HALL LOTTERY WINNERS

November 2023 Draw

1 st prize	£25.00	Marge England	No 95
2 nd prize	£15.00	John Baker	No 32
3 rd prize	£10.00	Terry Touchin	No 24

Stogursey Victory Hall



SUNDAY LUNCH

on **SUNDAY 7TH JANUARY**

Served between 12 noon and 2pm

Main course £9.50; 2 courses £12.50

CASH ONLY PLEASE

Booking preferred -

Please contact Denise on 01278 733594 or 07453381844 Stogursey Victory Village Hall

Saturday 27th January

7pm to Late

Welcome 2024

Cheese and Wine Party

Or a pint of cider / beer

£6.00

Tickets from:

- Allen at The Spar
- Allan Searle 01278 732820
- The Bar at the Victory Hall

Any diet requirements please let us know, email heatherranson124@btinternet.com



Happy New Year!

Our first offering for 2024 starts us off in real style.

The Great Escaper stars Michael Caine and the late Glenda Jackson, in her final role for the big screen.

This true life heart warmer is about a Second World War veteran who escapes the confines of his care home. His mission? To make a daring journey across the seas to attend the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

This charming film showcases the talents of these legendary performers to perfection. You will laugh and cry in equal measure. Come and enjoy it amongst friends on **Thursday 18th January** at the Jubilee Rooms. Tickets are available at Spar beforehand or on the door.

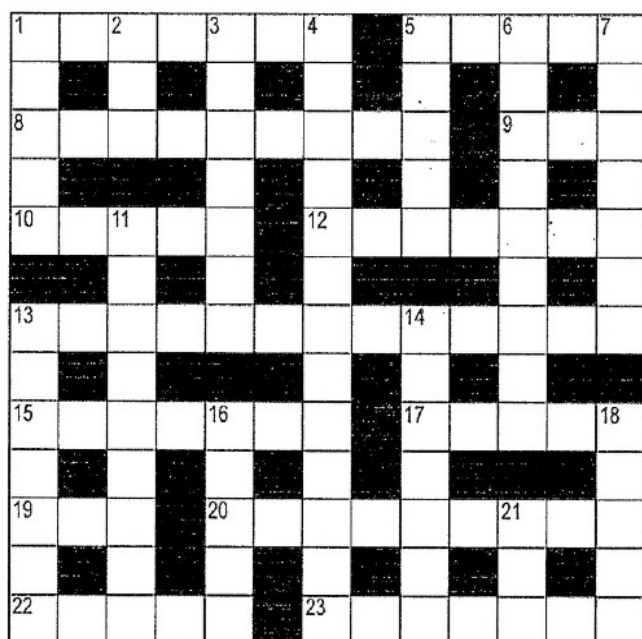
A delicious range of beers, wines, chocolates and snacks will be on sale, all at very reasonable prices.

See you all there from 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

The Soap Factory Team

Quick Crossword No 44

Compiled by Helen Cuttall



CLUES ACROSS

1. Long container filled with water for washing your body (7)
5. Plant sap sucking insect (5)
8. The outermost layer of your skin (9)
9. Royal Agricultural Society (3)
10. Unusually energetic (5)
12. Milk pudding made from crushed cassava roots (7)
13. Building in which you may live or stay (13)
15. Type of car made by Toyota (7)
17. Drummer from the Beatles (5)
19. 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
20. Humorous theatre piece with singing (9)
22. Part of the body that performs a particular job (5)
23. Form an impression without certain proof (7)

CLUES DOWN

1. The queen of British trees (5)
2. New Zealand bird of the honeyeater family (3)
3. Mathematical statement that can be proved (7)
4. The quality of being unpleasantly confident (13)
5. Greek storyteller famous for fables (5)
6. A small wind instrument played by mouth (9)
7. Feeling of contempt for anything considered unworthy (7)
11. Market town in North Yorkshire (9)
13. Capital city of Corsica (7)
14. Solutions (7)
16. Having hair or wool clipped off (5)
18. To fix something in a new or different way (5)
21. Referring to a particular thing (3)

"WASSAIL the trees,

that they may bear

You many an apple and many a pear:

For more or less fruits they will bring,

As you do give them wassailing."

Come, join the throng, warm by the fire, drink mulled cider, enjoy the music and dance among the trees. What better way to embrace the forthcoming year.

There will be a gathering on Saturday January 6th to "wassail" the orchard at Colepool.

The procession will leave Stogursey Village Hall (parking available) at 1.00pm and walk the short distance to the orchard.

Drinks, soup and hot food will be available to buy.

Bring a drinking vessel and something noisy.

The event is organised by Cancer Research UK and Stogursey Twinning Association.

Lambswool with Apple Brandy

This was a drink from the medieval times, traditionally drunk for Twelfth Night or Epiphany. It was also used to bless the apple trees in wassailing ceremonies.

'Lambswool' refers to the fluff of cooked apple that rises to the top of the mulled cider or ale. Bramleys are a good variety of apple to get that fluff.

Ingredients:

6 Bramley apples

1.5 litres of cider or real ale

150g brown sugar

½ a nutmeg, grated

2.5cm piece of ginger root, peeled and finely grated

Apple brandy (optional)

Method

Preheat the oven to 190°C. Core the apples, and put them in a dish, covered with foil. Bake for 30-45 minutes, or until very soft and collapsing. Remove from the oven and leave to cool a little. Put the cider or ale into a pan with the sugar, nutmeg and ginger and heat gently to dissolve the sugar. Scoop the apple flesh out of the skins and mash with a fork then add them to the pot. Cook gently for 10-15 minutes.

Give the mixture a quick blast with a hand-held blender to break up the apple. Serve hot, and top with a shot of apple brandy if desired.

Taken from 'The Almanac - A seasonal guide to 2021' by Lia Leendertz, published by Mitchell Beazley

What would you like to see in your village?

Please take a moment of your time to have your say on what you would like to see in our village.
Your views would be gratefully received.

Once you've filled out this form, please either take it to the Post Office or the Victory Hall,
where there will be a box for you to post it in.

Many thanks in advance.

	PLEASE CIRCLE		PLEASE CIRCLE
Do you have a transport problem in getting to either:		Have you got any skills you would be willing to share with others in a social environment?	
a) The Victory Hall	YES NO		YES NO
b) The Jubilee Rooms	YES NO	
		
Would you attend:		
a) Quiz nights	YES NO		
b) Bingo	YES NO		
c) Musical events (specify what kind)	YES NO		
.....		Would you like to see special events take place at the Victory Hall such as:	
.....		a) Classic car meets	YES NO
.....		b) Motorcycle meets	YES NO
d) Discos	YES NO	c) Specialist clubs	YES NO
e) Dances (Barn/Line,etc)	YES NO		
.....		Do you have any suggestions that will help unite our community together?	
.....		
f) Fairs	YES NO	
g) Car boots	YES NO	
h) Afternoon tea	YES NO	
i) 15+ cinema	YES NO	
j) Saturday morning children's cinema	YES NO	
k) Specialist talk evenings	YES NO	

The deadline for completion of this form is 31st January 2024.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

If you have any questions concerning this questionnaire, please contact:
Stogursey Victory Village Hall Committee Member Heather Ranson on heatherranson124@btinternet.com

Solution to Quick Crossword No 43

December 2023

ACROSS:

1. Prancer, 5. Lupin, 8. Uniparous, 9. Rum,
10. Peppa, 12. Veteran, 13. Fordingbridge,
15. Remnant, 17. Dress, 19. Ist, 20. Bubblegum,
22. Rural, 23. Echidna

DOWN:

1. Plump, 2. Ali, 3. Chapati, 4. Root Vegetable,
5. Liszt, 6. Partridge, 7. Nominee, 11. Perimeter,
13. Farrier, 14. Rudolph, 16. Arbol, 18. Samba,
21. Gad

Victory Hall & Youth Club Lottery

£1.00 per month £12.00 per year

Prizes (10 months) £25 £15 £10

Prizes (June) £60 £30 £15

Prizes (December) £100 £50 £25

12 months subscription £12,
commencing 1st March 2024.

To renew your subscription, or if you wish to join as a
new subscriber, please contact:

Mr Ron Dyer on 01278 732688;

or return the slip below to:

Mr Ron Dyer, 32 Town Close, Stogursey

Victory Hall & Youth Club Lottery Annual Subscription

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Number of tickets required:

Annual Subscription of £12 per ticket

Stogursey Oil-buying Group

The Stogursey Oil-buying Group's next order will be in January. 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 March. If you have any questions about the oil buying group I can be contacted on 0755 261 0692.

Chris Ford

To place an order:

Please leave the form in the Post Office, or

Telephone (01278 732191) or

Email stogurseyford@gmail.com

by **10am Monday 15th January**

with the following information:-

Name

Address

.....

.....

Postcode

Email (if available)

Tel:

Amount of oil required litres

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

Special
instructions.....

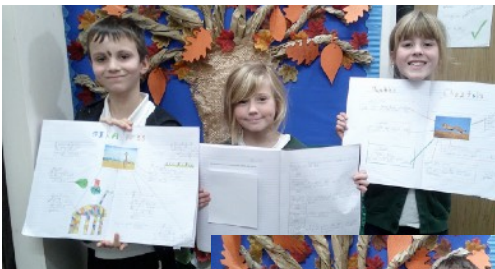
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**Delivery will be in the 2 week period commencing
16th January 2024**

Alfoxton

We have set up a 'Celebrating our Differences' board in class. This allows children to share their hobbies, teams, groups and many other things that they do outside of school. It can be as simple as sharing a book they have read at home, a recipe for something they have made, some writing they have done, an award they have achieved and many other things as well. We are looking forward to filling our board with all of our differences.



Well done

to Oscar,
Kayleigh,
Veronica,
Jasper,
Harry L,
Eugene and
Rupert



on receiving a Head Teacher's certificate for their amazing work on African Animals!

In RE the children worked in groups creating a presentation about either Diwali or Hanukkah. Miss Mold was the pupil and the children needed to teach her about these celebrations. The children really enjoyed standing at the front of the class to deliver their presentations. We discovered that rice or chalk is used to make intricate 'Rangoli' patterns as well as the tradition of lighting candles during Diwali.

Candles are also lit during Hanukkah, there are eight candles to represent the eight days of celebration and a taller ninth candle is used to light all the others.

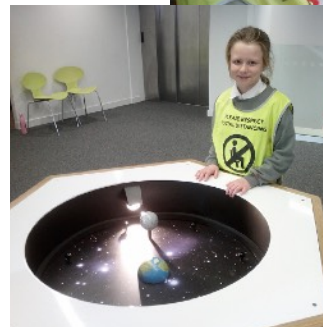
Beacon

Technique was amazing! On Thursday Beacon Class, who were exceptionally well behaved, polite and such a positive representation for Stogursey School, visited Teach-nique Science Centre and Planetarium to enhance their learning about space.

Miss Day was so impressed by the depth of the questions pupils asked about black holes and The Solar System, as well as how much knowledge they had remembered from lessons - they have received a well-earned class star!

The coach journey took almost two hours but that didn't affect the children's excitement when they saw all the exhibits Technique had on offer.

Bella enjoyed a virtual environment cleaning activity whilst Lenny, India and Casey C all competed to burn the most calories on an exercise bike which measured the energy burnt by a human body during exercise.



In the centre there were so many interactive experiences to learn from: a wind tunnel, a theremin (ask the children what this is), slow-motion video capture, lift your own weight, huge moving models of 'night and day' with Earth orbiting The Sun, a ginormous globe featuring locations of native foods from around the world, hurricane machines, robotics, remotely controlled submarine with a camera and SO much more!

Triscombe

Triscombe Class have had a busy two weeks. Recently we began our new science topic on Materials.

The children learned that everything is made of atoms, and explored the difference between liquids and solids.

In Art, the children produced some lovely firework pictures and sculptures as part of our Winter Festivals topic.



The children drew fireworks using pastels on black or dark blue, purple or green paper. The children's use of line colour to create firework effects was really impressive. The children also made firework sculptures out of straws, which they decorated with glitter. The classroom is sparkling ready for Christmas!

With Christmas getting closer, we have now begun to practise songs ready for the Nativity Play. The children are already excited about performing for their families!

Preschool

It is with great pleasure we welcome Mrs Julie Gallimore to our pre-school team. Julie is joining us as pre-school supervisor in January and we look forward to welcoming Julie to Stogursey. She will be sending an introductory piece about herself early next term for parents of preschool children as well as the school.

Out of School Achievements



Congratulations to Beth, Jasmine and Amelia for achieving their latest belts in Kickboxing.

Keep up the good work girls!

Wraparound

The children have enjoyed some baking this week and made mince pies and other creative, craft gifts that they will be taking home next week for Christmas. On Tuesday evening the children had fun playing board games followed by a movie.



The children and adults have been very grateful for the generous donations of games and puzzles. These have been enjoyed by all in the past few weeks, especially as the dark evenings are now upon us.

Important Dates

Wednesday 3rd January - First day back



WELCOME 2024!



Stogursey Community Network (SCN) January 2024

The SCN is a group of volunteers who offer a wide range of services to our community.

STOGURSEY LUNCHES

Delicious 2-course meals, cooked and served in the **Jubilee Rooms, Stogursey on Tuesdays**. Everyone is invited to enjoy our yummy lunches, lovingly prepared by our Food Hygiene Level 2-certified volunteers. All ages very welcome! You are also welcome to bring guests along, just please book in advance (see below).

A vegetarian option is always available, and we can cater for special diets / preferences, on request. Payment is by a cash donation of the diner's choice, cheques also accepted.

Advance booking essential. Tel: 01278 733451 by 5pm on the preceding Friday to book your meal(s). January's menus on this page.

MEDICAL TRANSPORT

For residents in the Stogursey parish, our DBS-checked volunteer drivers can take you to a **medical appointment**, including doctor, dentist, optician, physiotherapy etc, if you are unable to get there any other way. Payment is by cash donation of your choice, cheques also accepted.

In addition, SCN volunteers can collect your **prescription** and deliver it to you at home if you are unable to get to the surgery or the Spar/PO to collect it. Just ask your surgery to add your name to their list.

Medical Transport Tel only: 07485 350560 (phone and leave a clear message please).

FOOD BANK DONATIONS AND DELIVERIES

The SCN is an official outpost of the Quantock Food Bank and Pantry. We can collect and deliver food bags to families and individuals, as required. We are always grateful for donations to the Foodbank collection boxes in our two village shops. If you, or someone you know, needs food assistance contact us or the **Village Agent** (for a Foodbank referral) and/or **Home Start** (for families with young children). You will find their telephone numbers on the 'Contacts and Parish Information' page of **Stogursey News**.

Stogursey Lunches' JANUARY menu

Tuesday 9 January

(book by Friday 5 January - phone 01278 733451)

Braised chicken with carrots & potatoes OR
Vegetable, rice & butter bean cheesy bake

Apricot meringue roulade

Tuesday 16 January

(book by Friday 12 Jan- phone 01278 733451)

Sausage & vegetable casserole OR
vegetarian sausage & vegetable casserole,
both with baked potatoes & green veg

Apple & mincemeat slice with cream

Tuesday 23 January

(book by Friday 19 Jan- phone 01278 733451)

Creamy chicken & leek parcels, OR
Chickpea & vegetable fritters
and home-made tomato sauce,
both with mashed potato & green veg

Baked treacle sponge with custard

Tuesday 30 January

(book by Friday 26 Jan- phone 01278 733451)

Pork meatloaf with tomato sauce, OR
Squash & chickpea casserole,
both with pasta or new potatoes

Lemon meringue & blackcurrant jam pudding

How to contact SCN: Email: stogurseycommunitynetwork@gmail.com ; Tel: 01278 732149

Points from the Parish Council Meeting - 12th December 2023

2024-2025 Parish Council Budget

In light of the dire financial state of Somerset Council, the Parish Council took time at its meeting to consider each element of its planned spending. There is little doubt that if Somerset Council cannot balance its accounts, several services that it currently provides to the parish, may reduce or even be withdrawn. Members have agreed that for the coming year it would be appropriate to increase their contingency reserve to help reduce any effects that the parish may feel if the full extent of any service reductions that Somerset Council may impose. Somerset Council is seeking comment on their budget

www.somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/comms/budget-consultation-2024-2025/ please make your views known by 22nd January.

Paddons Farm Open Space Land and Car Park

In 2006 the developer, along with the then West Somerset Council, agreed that two parcels of land at the entrance to the new estate would be transferred to the Parish Council for a car park and an open space. As 2024 commences at last that is to take place. The Parish Council has agreed to accept the land transfer and will be making arrangements to finally take control and possession of the two areas having waited 18 years for them! It plans to use one area as a car park, which will have a height bar to prevent use by large vehicles, whilst the other area will remain as an open space.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

There is still a vacancy for a Councillor to join the Parish Council. This role which can be filled by co-option of an individual who is: a British subject, on the electoral register of the parish, over 18 years of age and not disbarred from standing. Please contact the Clerk to obtain the necessary form and with any queries you may have about the role. You can speak to any of the current Councillors or the Clerk.

Date of next meeting

The Parish Council is due to meet on the evening of **Tuesday 9th January 2024**, all are welcome to attend.

Please see the agenda and draft minutes of the last meeting on the parish website, www.stogursey-online.uk or any of the parish noticeboards, where you will also find the dates of meetings due to be held until May 2024.

If necessary, please contact the Clerk for any further information ahead of the meeting. My phone number is 01278 652534 or you can e-mail me at clerk@stogurseyparishcouncil.org.uk

Richard Wand, Clerk to Stogursey Parish Council

Stogursey Arts Photographic Society

"It is more important to click with people than to click the shutter."

Alfred Eisenstaedt

We hope that, in giving a mini preview of our proposed exhibition, 'Village Life', at the Christmas Tree Festival, we have clicked with a few more people in the village. We thoroughly enjoyed taking part, constructing the 'Tri-pod Tree' and showing you some of the archive of photos we are gathering from early last century. If we have encouraged a few more of you to join us through 2024 in the project, it will be an added bonus.

Our focus over the next few months will be on people and events. We are also intending to make a record of people in their working environments. So if your group, team, band or venue would like to be 'immortalised' in the archive for future generations to see what Stogursey was like in 2024, please do get in touch with us via Stogursey News or the Arts Trust.

Thank you for following our progress through 2023, we wish you a very happy New Year. It's nice to know we have clicked with the readership and are happy to receive questions and comments.

The Arts Trust is a charity made up of interested volunteers including the SAPS. If you would like to get involved, do contact us via Stogursey News.

Mike Bradshaw, SAPS for Stogursey Arts Trust



Volunteer Visitors Needed

Somerset Sight is recruiting volunteers to befriend visually impaired people on a regular basis. Would you like to help someone in your area?

Join our team of volunteers, who help people to remain independent and overcome loneliness and isolation.

All reasonable and out-of-pocket expenses are paid. For more information please contact Somerset Sight on: 01823 333818 or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk

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Seat Width:
50cm


Max User
Weight:
135kg /
21stone


Wheelchair
Weight:
15kg

Please contact: stogurseycommunitynetwork@gmail.com or Tel: 01278 732149

Grants for community-led nature projects still available from the Quantock Hills National Landscape!

The Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund (GQLDF) is funded by EDF and supports community-based projects that mitigate the impact of the Hinkley Point C development. It is delivered by the Quantock Hills National Landscape Team but covers the area most severely impacted by HPC, so the eligible area is different to the QHNL boundary.

The GQLDF scheme launched in 2014, and we have since supported 55 projects. Although we only have 2% of our original budget left to allocate, we are still keen to develop new projects with community groups looking to deliver tree, orchard and hedge planting, restoration of ponds and wildflower meadows and small-scale woodland management. You could receive a grant of up to £5,000 towards your project, or 75% of your costs.

We have recently supported Enmore parish council to enhance the village jubilee field to promote the site's social and biodiversity value by installing a seating area, planting fruit trees and enhancing species diversity of the grassland. This is part of a wider initiative led by the Parish Council, called 'Wilding Enmore' which has energised the community with several projects targeting the special wildlife and natural beauty of the village.

We have also recently supported the restoration of St Mary's churchyard wall in Kilve. This wall is built from locally distinctive blue lias stone according to traditional methods, but had begun to show signs of structural damage.

Experienced builders will lead local volunteers in restoring the wall using traditional methods and materials, while reinforcing the local building vernacula along the popular route down to the beach along Sea Lane.

Other projects have included the creation of a new multi-purpose pond at Kilve Court, supporting woodland restoration work by the Stowey Green Spaces Group, and the restoration of Hector's Pool by volunteers.

In total, GQLDF projects have planted 2.8km of hedgerow, and managed a further 3.9km. 254 orchard trees have been planted and 12 hectares of woodland brought into management, in addition to planting nearly 2,100 woodland trees. 4,214m² of ponds have been created or restored, 11 hectares of meadow created, and 6 heritage features restored.

If you are involved in a community group in the parishes of Broomfield, Cannington, Chilton Trinity, East Quantoxhead, Enmore, Fiddington, Goathurst, Holford, Kilve, Nether Stowey, Otterhampton, Over Stowey, Spaxton, Stogursey, Stockland Bristol, Stringston, Watchet, Wembdon, West Quantoxhead or Williton, we may be able to help.

Please get in touch with our Landscape Projects Officer, Katie Read, on 07977 412249 or katie.read@somerset.gov.uk to discuss your project.



**Quantock
Hills
National
Landscape**



Change of Name

As from 22 November 2023, all designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in England and Wales became National Landscapes, including the Quantock Hills National Landscape. The new name reflects their national importance; the vital contribution they make to protect the nation from the threats of climate change, nature depletion and the wellbeing crisis, whilst also creating greater understanding and awareness for the work that they do.

This is a significant milestone for the UK and the next step in fully realising the National Landscapes' vision to be the leading exemplars of how thriving, diverse communities can work with and for nature in the UK: restoring ecosystems, providing food, storing carbon to mitigate the effects of climate change, safeguarding against drought and flooding, whilst also nurturing people's health and wellbeing.

National Landscapes teams have been at the forefront of delivering natural solutions to the main challenges facing the nation for many years. The new brand underscores their commitment to redoubling their efforts and engaging with a wider audience. In 2019, teams set themselves the most ambitious targets for nature in the sector and continue to work to meet them.

By 2030, National Landscapes aim that, within their boundaries: at least 200,000 hectares of the most valuable natural areas (Sites of Special Scientific Interest or SSSIs), which equates to 1¼ times the size of London, will be in favourable condition; 100,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside of SSSIs will be created or restored, which is roughly nine times the size of Manchester; and 36,000 hectares of woodland, which is a little smaller than the Isle of Wight, will have been planted or allowed to regenerate. National Landscapes Partnerships will also focus on habitat restoration to ensure the protection of some of our most endangered species and increase their work to help more people to enjoy time spent in beautiful places.

Because of their size and scope, National Landscapes are ideally positioned to address the environmental issues the UK is facing. There are 46 National Landscapes in the UK, covering 14% of England, Wales and Northern Ireland including moorland, farmland, coast, forests, including UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, a Geopark and International Dark Sky Reserves. They are the UK's nearby countryside - 66% of people in England (44 million) live within

30 minutes of a National Landscape and at least 170 million people visit them every year.

Iain Porter, Quantock Hills National Landscape Manager said:

"Since our designation in 1956 (England's first) the Quantock Hills has inspired and enthralled our communities and visitors alike. Renaming to National Landscapes reflects the importance and value we place on these special areas and empower us all to deliver more for nature and climate, for our heritage and culture and for the people who live and work here."



Stowey Gardeners is a vibrant club based in Nether Stowey, drawing members from all around the Quantock area. We meet monthly in St Mary's Church Centre, Nether Stowey, to enjoy a guest speaker, raffle, and garden table.

The aim of the club is to offer gardeners, whatever their enthusiasm, a chance to get together with other gardeners in the locality, to exchange knowledge & information on a huge range of topics to their joint advantage and mutual interest. Novices welcome!

Members free (annual membership £20), guests £5, which includes free tea/coffee & home made cake! All welcome.

Meetings 3rd Thursday of each month
7.30pm at Nether Stowey Church Centre

Coming up:

January 18th 7.00pm AGM, followed at 7.30pm -
'Hostas' – A talk by Peter Savage

February 15th 7:30pm -
'Garden Design' – A talk by Sally Leaney

*For more information about our vibrant club, contact secretary Lucy Haswell 01278 671289
shbassoon@aol.com.*

Or visit - <https://sites.google.com/site/stowey-gardeners>

Stacy's Update

As I write this, in mid-December, I am taking time to reflect on a busy final month of the year, primarily focused on the meticulous preparation for the domed roof to be lifted into position on top of the reactor building. The team are assessing the 10-day weather forecast, looking for the most favourable conditions for the moment when the dome can be lifted into place.

Installation of cables in the first reactor building

In one of the last major milestones of the year Stuart Crooks, HPC Managing Director, took part in the installation of the first power and control cables inside the Electrical Building. This marked a crucial step toward commissioning the power station and will eventually result in the installation of 22 miles of cable. The project has a new cable scanning system where barcodes are fixed to each cable that will be scanned using a tablet to make sure they match the design information. The system verifies that the cables follow the correct path and gives a digital record of every cable installed. Longer term, this makes it easier to identify any cables later, for quality and maintenance purposes.



Reactor Main Control Room

The Main Control Room has been lifted into place, marking another significant moment for the project. Once the power station is fully operational, the control room will be home to a team of highly skilled reactor operators. The operators will be responsible for monitoring and controlling the various systems and processes linked to the power station.

Ring Liner Lifted onto Unit 2

The construction of Hinkley Point C's second reactor is also making progress. Last month, the containment building's second steel liner ring was successfully lifted into position.

The second liner ring is the third of five large sections that make up the steel barrier surrounding the Reactor Building.

The barrier sits between the concrete inner and outer containment walls and is responsible for preventing any radioactive material from escaping in the unlikely event of an incident occurring inside the building.



Wishing you all a lovely new year.

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

Polar crane installed in first reactor building

The Polar Crane has been lifted into the first reactor building.

The crane will rotate 360° on rails at the top of the building and will be used to install heavy equipment during construction, such as the reactor and steam generators. It will also be used when the power station is operational for refuelling and maintenance.

Weighing in at 750-tonnes, it's one of the heaviest lifts ever carried out on site.

The polar crane is one of the final pieces of equipment to be installed in the reactor building before the dome is lifted into place to close the roof.



Equipment Hatch lifted into place

Big Carl was in action again to lift the leak-tight cover for the Equipment Hatch in the first Reactor Building.

The Hatch provides an opening to allow the installation of large pieces of equipment. The equipment hatch sits inside the building and is 8.4m in diameter, 2.5m deep and weighing around 50 tonnes, the cover is larger than the opening.

The hatch was lifted into the building from above and needed to be in place before we could position the Polar Crane.

Golf tournament raises £8,000 for charity

Hinkley Point C team members came together to compete in a Charity Golf Day at Taunton and Pickering Golf Club, raising more than £8,000 for St Margaret's Hospice.

Known as the Purdie Cup, the competition is held each year in memory of a colleague, who passed away in 2015. The money raised will help support the charity, who care for people at the end of their lives.



PluggedIn

Find out about the latest progress being made on site and what's happening in the local community, in the latest edition of Plugged in - go to

<https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/hinkley-point-c/local-community>



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Contacts and Parish Information

Parish Council:

Chris Morgan (Chair), Sue Goss (Vice-Chair), Chris Ford, Julie Jones, Susan E Jones, Greg Millar, Scott Nurton, Jenny Ody, Allan Searle

Clerk: Richard Wand 01278 652534/
clerk@stogurseyparishcouncil.org.uk

Meetings: held monthly in the Victory Hall, Stogursey 7.15 - 7.30pm Public Forum for parishioners to ask questions;
7.30pm Councillors' meeting starts - parishioners welcome to attend and listen.

Somerset Council: Watchet & Stogursey Division
Councillors: Hugh Davies, Rosemary Woods

Site Stakeholders Group Representatives:
Sue Goss, Chris Morgan

Somerset County Council: All services 0300 123 2224

Parish Neighbourhood Welcome Pack

Burton & Knighton:	Sue Goss	01278 733405
Wick & Stolford:	Susan E Jones	01278 652287
Stogursey & Shurton:	Chris Morgan	01278 734887

EdF Main Site Neighbourhood Forum Representatives for the hamlets:

Burton & Knighton

Mike Laver, m_laver@btinternet.com 01278 732069
Sue Jones, suekibjones@yahoo.co.uk 01278 732275

Shurton

Richard Cuttell, cuttellrichard@gmail.com 01278 734818

Stolford

Susan E Jones, suejones279@btinternet.com
01278 652287

Wick

Dick Blomfield, richie.blomfield@btinternet.com
01278 653302

Stogursey Parish Council

Chris Ford and Sue Goss

EdF Contacts

Hinkley Point C Drop-ins/Main Site Forums

Phone 0333 009 7070 or
email: hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com

HPC Hotline for enquiries or complaints: 0333 009 7070

POLICE

Non-Emergencies - Call 101. Emergencies - Call 999

Community Venues

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Jubilee Rooms - sjrbookings7@gmail.com / 01278 732149
(leave message: contact name/number & date/time venue required)

St Peter's Church, Stolford - Susan E Jones 01278 652287

Stogursey Community Network (SCN)

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StogurseySCN

Phone: 01278 732149

Medical Transport: 07485 350560

Homestart - supporting families & young children.

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Village Agent - Sarah Bennett 07985 680269
sarahb@somersetccc.org.uk - NetherStoweyCare

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Defibrillators - 3 in the parish:

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♥ Shurton - side entrance of Babbling Brook

♥ Stolford - church of St Peter.

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Shurton

Babbling Brook Inn 12.05pm - 12.30pm

Stogursey

Greyhound Inn 1.10pm - 1.40pm

Town Close (No 30) 1.45pm - 2.10pm

Next scheduled Visits in 2024

25 January; 22 February; 21 March

For more information, contact Libraries Direct:

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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.**

Please make phone calls at the time of the disturbance. The more complaints that are received, the more likely it is that the police will respond.

Complainants' names are not given to the perpetrators.