

July & August 2025



QUANTOCK
For Nether Stowey & Over Stowey



Messenger 50p



Front page: A recent workshop for the Quantock Quilters making a Dresden Village.

Norma Frood and Lynn Scales (representing The Thomas Poole Library), with the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff at the King's Award nominees reception. Article on page 7.

Page 2: The Wednesday Club Group having lunch at Blackmore Farm. Stowey Walking Group walking from Crowcombe Heathfield WSR Station to Stogumber Station.

July & August 2025

We have a combined edition for you this month and it's full of news, events and some delicious summer recipes from Evan on page 33 and top gardening tips from Nick on page 17. We hope you enjoy reading it.

We are still looking for new editors to join the team so if you have an eye for detail, some IT skills and, ideally, some knowledge of MS Publisher, we would love to hear from you! Please email editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk for more details.

Have a lovely summer and we will return in September.

Best wishes from the QM team.

Your Quantock Messenger Team

Please email articles/photos to:

editor@quantockmessenger.org.uk

Please email adverts to;

advertising@quantockmessenger.org.uk

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES IN NETHER STOWEY & OVER STOWEY

Allotment Association

Bruce Roper 732 043

Coleridge Probus Club

Geoff Parle 01278 653681

Coleridge Cottage Tel: 732 662

Friends of Coleridge

Helen Boyles helenmboyles@gmail.com

Friends of Over Stowey Church

Christopher Stone 732 907

Friends of the Quantocks

Mary ter Braak (01984) 656 633

Friends of Nether Stowey School

Lisa Rendle 732 508

Music on the Quantocks: Fay Chilcott
quantocks@live.co.uk 07938 728829

Nether Stowey Art Group

Rob Potter 07855546883

Nether Stowey Football Club

Chair: Nigel Waterman 732 310

Seniors: Steve Easden 07788 370014

Juniors: Nigel Waterman 732 310

Minis: Richard Marriott 07890 451694

Nether Stowey Playing Fields Committee - Jane Erskine 732 025

Nether Stowey Short Mat Bowls

Mark Howells 01278 733215 Chairperson

Terry Binding 01278 732710 Secretary

Email: nssshortmatbowls@gmail.com

Nether Stowey Twinning Association

Open to everyone. Ian Pearson 732 228

Nether Stowey & Fiddington Women's Institute

Ruth Andrews 734 613

Terry Binding 732710

Over Stowey Cricket Club &

Over Stowey Recreation Ground

Les Biffin 732963

Over Stowey Rights of Way Group

Over Stowey Social Club

Patrick Tully 732944 or 07802697595

Over Stowey Village Hall

Jackie Barrow 07891 720565

Bridget Tully 07970781087

bridgetjtully@gmail.com

Quantock National Landscape Office Fyne Court

Tel: (01823) 451 884

Quantock Beekeepers Association

Ken Edwards 671 544

Quantock Players

Wendy Hobbs 733 197

Quantock Quilters

Anna Boulton 652309

Quantock Tennis Club

Robin Bendall 732 633

Royal British Legion - N/Stowey &
District Viki Fielder 238 691

Stogursey Forget-Me-Not Cafe

Helen Cuttell 734 818

Stowey Bears (pre-school)

Tina Miller 734 636

Stowey Book Club

Alison Whittingham 732 446

Stowey Gardeners

Kate Houghton 07940 836139

SGSG (Stowey Green Spaces Group)

Roy Osborne 734604

stoweygreenspaces@stowey.org.uk

Stowey Walking

Lynne Abbott 732 228

Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey

Sian Stafford 732 741

Wednesday Club Barbara (732412) or

Tina (732382)

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

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

Email somwestnptsedgemoor@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk

PC Claire Allen, PCSO Jeremy Pidgeon

Jake Dade (Hinkley issues only) @avonandsomerset.police.uk

Antisocial behaviour call **0800 298 2009**

Vandalism on the Quantock Hills call **101**

Household noise problems (Environmental Health) call **0845 408 2540**

Somerset Councillor:

Michael Caswell 01278 652043

mike.caswell@somerset.gov.uk

Brian Bolt 07970 855990

brian.bolt@somerset.gov.uk

Nether Stowey Parish Council / Over Stowey Parish Council

Clerk: **Caro Slaymaker**

Clerk: **Amanda McMurren**

01278 733779

01278 734689

clerk@netherstowey-pc.gov.uk

clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.co.uk

Bookings secretaries

N/Stowey Church Centre

Pat Stacey 01278 732518 (9am—9pm)

O/Stowey Village Hall

Jackie Barrow 07891720565

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

Reception 01278 732696 8am - 6:30pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary 01278 733385 10am - 11.30am & 4pm - 5pm (Mon-Fri)

Dispensary Collection 10am - 12pm & 4 - 6pm (Mon-Fri)

somicb.quantock.mc@nhs.net

<https://quantockmedicalcentre.gpsurgery.net>

Cannington Health Centre (if closed call NHS on 111)

Reception 01278 652 335

Prescription line 01278 651 311

Other Community Facilities

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline 03454 040506

The Thomas Poole Library 732741 (Mon & Wed 10-1, Thurs 3.30 - 6.30, Fri 10-1 & 2-5 / Sat 10-1)

Quantock Hills National Landscape, Amanda Sampson - 01823 451884, quantockhills@somerset.gov.uk

Community Car Scheme Stowey Shuttle - 07943 923742

Village Agent: Sarah Bennet, 07985 680269,

Email: sarahb@somsetrcc.org.uk

DIARY DATES 2025

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

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

Every Tuesday—Stowey Singers all welcome 6.45pm-8.15pm at NSCC

Every Tuesday - Walk for Health - Quantock Medical Centre

Every Tuesday - Short Mat Bowls 2-5pm - £4 session, annual subs £20 - NSCC

1st and 3rd Tuesday each month - SGSG (Stowey Green Spaces) work groups 2.30pm - 4.30 pm

2nd Tuesday each month - SGSG meeting 2.30pm

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

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

Every Thursday - Chess Time at the Library - 5pm-6.30pm - TPL

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

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

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

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

Every Saturday - Second-hand book sales 10am—1pm TPL

3rd Saturday each month - SGSG litter picking 10am

1st & 3rd Saturday each month - Dungeons & Dragons - TPL

2nd Saturday each month - Dungeons & Dragons DM Workshop - TPL

Saturday 5th July - Party in the Park and FONSS Summer Fair

Saturday 16th August - Nether Stowey Flower Show

NSCC - Nether Stowey Church Centre

OSVH - Over Stowey Village Hall

TPL - Thomas Poole Library

SGSG - Stowey Green Spaces Group

The King's Award for Voluntary Service

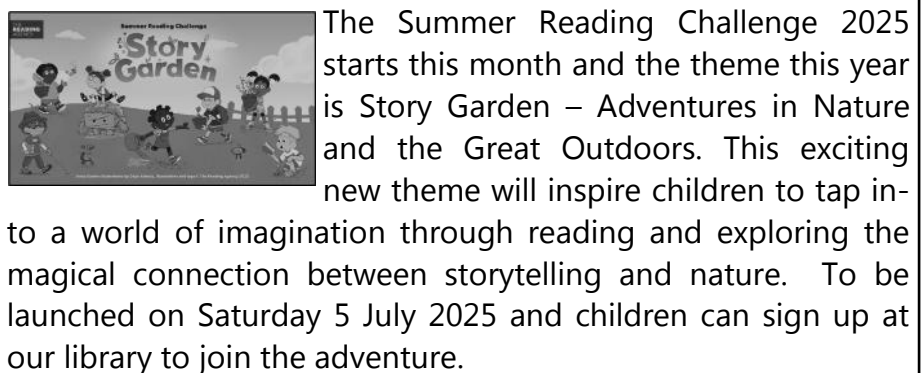
The Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey is proud to have been nominated for the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Service 2025.

Created in 2002 to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee, and previously known as The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS), the award has been shining a light on the excellent work of voluntary groups from across the UK.

A total of eleven charitable organisations from across Somerset were nominated. Though the outcome of the nomination will not be known until the King's Birthday on 14th November, it is an accolade, and a recognition of the thousands of hours contributed each year by our wonderful library volunteers, both in front of and behind the scenes.

Lynn Scales and Norma Frood represented The Thomas Poole Library at a reception at the Bath & West Show on 29th May. The photograph shows Norma and Lynn with the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff.





STORYTIME - Mondays (except bank holidays), 11am to 11.30am. Aimed at babies and toddlers, Join us for a fun half hour of stories and nursery rhymes.

KNIT AND NATTER - Fridays, 10.30am to 12 noon. All ages and abilities are welcome! Just bring your own project which could be knitting, sewing, crochet, embroidery etc. or just come for a natter and see what others are working on. It's a terrific way to get inspired, pick-up new tips and make new friends.

SECOND HANDBOOK SALES IN "THE SHED" - Saturdays, 10.30am to 1pm. We have a wide range of good condition fiction, non-fiction, and children's books. All donations contribute to the running costs of the library

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS – 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am to 12.30pm. No experience necessary and all equipment provided

BOOK GROUP – Enjoy reading? Come and join the Library Reading Group - all are welcome! This is a fun, low key reading group that meets in the library at 3pm on the last Friday of each month. Some of the books that we have read include Major Pettigrew's Last Stand, The Africa House, The List of Suspicious Things and The Salt Path.

The books for the rest of the year are as follows, do join us!

25 July The Summer Book by Tove Jansson

29 August The Precipice by Robert Harris

26 September Where the Crawdads Sing by Delilah Owens

31 October Fermat's Last Theorem by Simon Singh

28 November A House Unlocked by Penelope Lively

MONTHLY TALKS - Please note there will be no monthly talks during June, July and August. Talks will return in September.

OPENING HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, 10am to 1pm, Thursday 3.30pm to 6.30pm, Friday 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm,
Saturday 10am -1pm

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



"YESTERDAYS.....IN NETHER STOWEY"

In the Old Gaol on The Cross

Thomas Poole's legacy to Stowey
- The Stowey Female Friendly
Society.



The Latest from the Cricket Club

The Big Bash weekend this year(7th/8th June) was a great success, the weather stayed dry, everyone had a good time and more importantly much needed money was raised for both the Marion Evered Trust and the Cricket Club.

It is impossible to thank all those individuals who helped over the two days, (you know who you are) but it goes without saying that we are very grateful for your support.

The Saturday saw the annual Presidents XI play the Chairmans XI for the Neil Sortwell cup and a keenly fought contest ended dramatically in a tie!! so, the trophy will be shared for the next twelve months.

On the Sunday the traditional 8-a-side tournament took place

with 4 teams taking part, game 1 was between 'The Misfits' lose to 'Panesar Tinkers and in Game 2 (which was played for the Ray Poole Memorial Trophy) S.W.P were defeated by Juan Stag 6ers. The **final** played between Panesar Tinkers and Juan Stag 6ers was won by Panesar Tinkers.

Our league teams continue to perform well with the 1st XI currently 8th in Division 1 and the 2nd XI lying 4TH in Division 4.

The Under 13's have had some memorable victories against strong town sides and sit in 3rd position having a playing record of PLAYED 8 WON 5 LOST 3.

The Under 11's are struggling a little in their league and have yet to win a game but as the saying goes it's the taking part that counts!!. Both our youth sides play in the Taunton and District Youth League and you can follow their progress on the TDYCL web site.

As a club, we are always glad to welcome new faces both on and off the pitch so, why not wander up to our beautiful Marsh Mills ground and pop in for a chat?

Senior net practice is at the ground on Wednesday evenings 6pm.

Over and Out
SP



FONSS AND PARTY IN THE PARK

Summer fair

**12PM
TILL
LATE**

**SATURDAY
5TH JULY**

**FREE
ENTRY**

**FANTASTIC STALLS
LIVE MUSIC
FOOD STALLS AND BAR
ENTERTAINMENT
FUN DOG SHOW
AND MORE!**

**NETHER STOWEY RECREATION GROUND
TA5 1JR**

FONSS-PTA[AT]HOTMAIL.COM



A new season of talks and outings for 2025

- If you love gardens or gardening
- Enjoy hearing about or visiting beautiful gardens
- Want to pick up lots of tips or add to your garden knowledge
- Enjoy a social gathering of enthusiasts
- Like listening to experts on a wide variety of gardening subjects...

then come and join our monthly club!

We meet at the Church Centre, St. Mary's Street,
Nether Stowey. TA5 1LJ
every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.00 for 7.30

Come as a visitor to try us out. £5 for a talk including tea/coffee &

cakes and there is a raffle and garden table too. Annual membership is £25. Car sharing available for visits.

A car visit is planned on Tuesday July 29th to Hangeridge Farm, Wellington. A stunning 1 acre plantsman's garden. Rural countryside surrounds the garden, and with a cottage feel you will find a plethora of different plants to suit all tastes, island beds with unusual perennials, shrubs, old roses and specimen trees.

Contact Kate Houghton, Secretary. Phone: 07940 836139 or email: stoweygardeners@yahoo.com

website: <https://sites.google.com/site/stoweygardeners>

Diary 2025

29 July	Car visit. Hangeridge Farm, Wellington
August	SUMMER GARDEN PARTY
18 September	Talk. Pruning. John Addison
16 October	Talk. Gertrude Jekyll's Planting Plans. Claire Greenslade
20 November	Talk. Chelsea or Bust. Claire Hart
12 December	MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Welcome to the Coleridge Cottage program of events planned for the summer months.



Firstly, we are excited to announce that the Walking Festival, that was sadly postponed due to rather inclement weather, is planned to take place during the coming weeks. It will take the form of three guided walks, of differing lengths and challenge, to cater for all abilities. They are all circular walks, starting and finishing at the cottage, including two trail walks around the village of Nether Stowey

and countryside nearby and a longer walk onto the Coleridge Way, where the beauty of surroundings inspired some of the poet's greatest works. Dates to be confirmed, but booking will be essential.

We continue to host the S.S & L creative workshops in our vibrant (usually) sunny Garden Room. This is a small, friendly group who meet to create collage work, inspired by the surroundings and poetry. Once again booking is required.

Our resident volunteer poet John will be giving poetry readings and stories of Coleridge's most well-known works and his time in Nether Stowey.

For Further information and bookings please go to our website: coleridgecottage@nationaltrustonline.org.uk

Or telephone: 01278 732662



Just a reminder... Local Residents Passes are available for just £10 per year (proof of local address required) giving entry to the cottage.

The cottage Tearoom is available to all, without National Trust membership or admission fee, Wednesday to Sunday, 11am- 4pm so pop in for a quick coffee and sweet treat when you're passing or we're a great place for a catch-up with friends!

Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to welcoming you!



STOGURSEY FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ
JUBILEE ROOMS, CASTLE STREET, STOGURSEY TA5 1TG
FORTNIGHTLY ON WEDNESDAYS 10.30 – 12.00

Café Dates:

Wednesday 2nd July

Wednesday 16th July

Wednesday 30th July

Wednesday 13th August

Wednesday 27th August



FORGET-ME-NOT NEWS We had a wonderful day at Burton Fete and raised an amazing amount for the Café. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the organisers, Jennifer, Gareth, Amanda and Stan for a fantastic event. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and money, your generosity is so much appreciated. And thank you as always to all our helpers, supporters and friends.

FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉS provide support, companionship and a warm welcome to those who are recognising issues with their memory, as well as their family, friends or carers.

There are a variety of activities, some involving existing local groups, such as music, singing, arts, crafts, poetry, bingo, quizzes, or just a quiet chat over a coffee. We are a voluntary group, financed by donations and fundraising events.

The Café runs twice a month, planned so that the café is open the alternate week to Watchet Forget-me-Not Café.

Many friendships have been made over the years.

Please come along and see what we do, you will receive a warm welcome.

VOLUNTEERING

We have a lovely group of friendly volunteers, but we always need extra help at the Forget-me-Not Café, chatting to people, making teas and coffees or washing up. Why not pop in one Wednesday for a cuppa and say hello and see if you'd like to volunteer.

All are welcome from the neighbouring villages.

For more information please contact:

Helen: 01278 733451 cuttellhelen@gmail.com

Rose: 07507 374234 rosechalk@icloud.com



Nicks Gardening Notes

July and August 2025



With July and August we start to see what our hard work has produced. The flower borders are colourful, and we should be enjoying good quality home grown vegetables and soft fruit. However, writing this in mid-June we have experienced an unusual spring with long dry periods and water butts running dry. Do remember that when watering it is better to give plants a generous amount rather than too little which encourages shallow rooting. Drying winds have been numerous, and they can easily break extension growth such as new shoots on roses. Get them tied in!

Vegetables: Often July and August weather can be quite damp, and a watchful eye should be kept on potatoes and tomatoes for any sign of potato blight. Foliage affected with brown/black markings should be removed and burnt rather than put onto the compost heap. As you use early crops, clear the ground so that it can be prepared for a succession crop. Carrots, lettuce and salad leaves, spring cabbage, turnips and oriental leaves together with mangetout peas can still be sown to maintain a succession of vegetables. Ensure that brassicas already planted are protected from cabbage white butterfly by using small mesh netting supported above the crop and not resting on the foliage. It is important to be sensible and not waste water. Priority should be given to crops such as courgettes and squash, peas which are responsive to extra moisture at the flowering and pod swelling stage, potatoes when the new tubers are marble size and runner and French beans ensuring the roots do not become stressed. Keep root crops moist to avoid stop/start growth resulting in tough and tasteless vegetables. As always weeds have

continued to thrive and regular hoeing between crops minimises weeds competing for water and nutrients.

The greenhouse: Ensure that tomatoes and cucumbers are regularly fed, watered, trimmed and trained. At this stage feed should be applied weekly with a proprietary tomato feed which favours the nutrient potassium, essential for good flower and fruit formation. This is also suitable for cucumbers, peppers, chillis and aubergines.

Fruit: Once strawberries have finished fruiting it is an opportunity to rejuvenate the crop. Old straw should be raked out and composted and the foliage cut down to about 2 to 3 inches (50-75mm) and any weed removed. Apply a general fertiliser and water in, or liquid feed, and in no time quality new foliage will appear. This all helps to remove pests and diseases. Strawberries are not long-lived plants and quality declines after four to five years. Runners provide an opportunity to propagate new plants but only take them from strong healthy plants. Excess runners can be removed.

New growth on cordon, espalier and fan trained apples and pears should be summer pruned to restrict size and build up fruit bud for next year. Thin heavy crops of apples, pears and plums to increase fruit size. Branches can be susceptible to breakage if the crop is too heavy and a prop to support the branch can be useful.

Ornamentals: Wisteria should be pruned, and the new whippy growth cut back to a bud at about 6 inches (150mm). This will encourage the build-up of flower bud for the following year. Keep regularly deadheading blooms for continuity of flower and with some such as lupins, poppies and delphiniums they

can be cut back hard down to the basal cluster of leaves to produce new growth and some late flower. Bearded iris that have flowered can be lifted and old rhizomes cut out and young vibrant sections replanted with their foliage cut down by half. Apply a fertiliser dressing or well-rotted manure and water well in. This will ensure good bloom next year.

Wall trained shrubs such as Pyracantha and Chaenomeles (Japonica or Japanese quince) can be summer pruned in a similar way to fruit. Roses have been really excellent this year and old blooms should be dead headed.

During August many shrubs can be propagated by semi-ripe cuttings – more plants for free!

Nick Rigden

The Marion Evered Trust

The weather tried to ruin the Big Bash weekend but it cleared up in time to make a great weekend. Big thankyou to Over Stowey CC for their help and support in this event.

Keith at the Kitchens has kindly offered to do another Posh tea in September, this was a very popular afternoon last year, details on booking will be available on their website soon and will post here as soon as agreed.

If your interested in joining the 200 club and want to be in the draw then please contact Pauline Barrow on 01278 732522 for details.

April and May 200 club draw
£20 Libby Habberfield and Sian Stafford
£10 Jim and Archie Porter
£5 Sharon Barrow and Sally Holt

Dates for the diary

28th September Posh Tea at the Lakes, more info to follow

FARMING NEWS



They say: 'Oh to be in England in May.'
Never more so than this year!

The multitude of greens has been particularly notable with trees of magnificent colours a sight to behold. They say that blue and green should never be seen, but the greens of the trees with beautiful blue skies as the backing have been especially pleasing.

Farmers have been blessed with good weather for silage making and maize sowing with a drop of rain at suitable times. A happy bunch for a change!

Let's hope for a good, warm summer now. Most flocks of sheep shorn already and prices holding up favourably.

Kind regards to you all,

John Merchant

QUANTOCK QUILTING & SEWING GROUP

We meet 2nd & 4th Monday each month

10am – 1pm

Nether Stowey Church Centre, TA5 1LJ



**All Aspects of
Needlework & Textiles
in a relaxed and
friendly environment**



Come & Join Us

No experience necessary

Beginners Welcome

Contact: Anna Boulton 01278 652307

Gill Griffiths 01278 733709



Free Drop-in IT Support Sessions at the Library



*Perhaps you
know the
basics but
would like to
know more ...*

Then come along to our **FREE
workshops on the first Wednesday of
every month (10.30 am to 12.00) and
be enlightened and reassured!**

Having trouble with your smartphone? Need help setting up an email account? Or guidance to using online services?

No problem, our knowledgeable volunteers are here to assist you – no appointment necessary, just turn up!

Delivered in partnership with Spark IT, these relaxed and welcoming sessions are open to everyone, regardless of skill level. Bring your questions, devices, or curiosity, and we'll do our best to support you.

Come along, learn something new, and take your next step with tech!

NETHER STOWEY & FIDDINGTON WI



The speaker arranged for our meeting on 12th June, Ann White from Mary's Meals, unfortunately had to cancel due to a funeral. This talk, however, will be re-scheduled for early in 2026. Instead, we held a "getting to know you" session, where members were invited to tell us a little about themselves, and since a few new members have joined recently, it seemed a good way of getting to know "who's who" in the group. It was interesting to hear from whence the different people had come and for the various reasons, and how we all ended up in this lovely friendly village in Somerset!

On **10th July**, we will be visited by Wing Commander Anji Scofield ARRC, who will talk about her various roles in the Forces - **"My Life in Uniform"**, which should prove to be very interesting.

Monday 21st July will see us heading down again to the very popular Sidmouth. There may be spare places available to non-WI members on a "first come, first served" basis. The cost is **£14**, so if you are interested in coming, please contact **Margaret Harris**, on **01278-734613**.

The role of a **Village Agent** will be the subject of our speaker on **11th September**, which is a role that we have all heard of, but probably not all are quite sure of exactly what they do.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 2.00 to 4.00 pm at the Church Centre. Admission for members is £1.50 which includes refreshments and a raffle. Visitors are always welcome and we hope to see you at one of our meetings.

AB

Nether Stowey Art Group
St Marys Church Centre, Nether
Stowey, TA5 1LJ

1st & 3rd Thursday every month

2pm – 4pm



£3 per session



Beginner's welcome



For more information about our group

Contact Robert 07855546883

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AMPC) were both held on the 28th May 2025. At the AMPC, Cllr Tully was re-elected as the Chair and has stated that this will be his last year in the position. Cllr Barrow stepped down as the Vice-Chair and Cllr Lindley accepted the nomination made for the role and was duly elected.

Cllr Lindley also requested that the refurbishment of the Fingerpost Signs, completed last year, be highlighted as a successful project. The following outlines the journey from initial concern to completed restoration:

This began when a local resident raised concerns about the deteriorating state of several fingerposts across the parish in January 2024.

These distinctive signs, part of the rural charm and a valued piece of local heritage, are not only important for wayfinding but also contribute to the character of our village for both residents and visiting holidaymakers.

Recognising their cultural and historical value, the matter was brought before the Parish Council, where councillors unanimously agreed that action was needed. The Council resolved to explore options for restoring these iconic signs and to seek financial support to ensure the work could be carried out to a high standard. We are extremely grateful to the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme for awarding the necessary grant funding of 75% of the total cost of the work that made this project possible. Their support enabled us to proceed with the careful refurbishment of the fingerposts, preserving their traditional design while ensuring their long-term durability.

The grant application process was straightforward and the works

were completed before the end of 2024. The restored fingerposts stand proudly once again, offering both practical guidance and a beautiful nod to our local history.

Their transformation has already drawn compliments from residents. This successful project demonstrates how a single voice in the community, supported by the Parish Council and funding partners, can lead to meaningful and lasting improvements.

Our thanks go to the resident who first brought the issue to our attention, to the councillors who all supported the initiative and also to our funding partner for making this restoration possible.



Before



After

On another note, after over nine years in the role, the Clerk has decided that due to other work commitments to resign from the position.

If you are interested in finding out more or applying for the vacancy, please see the Parish Council website for more information <https://overstoweyparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/parish-clerk-vacancy/> or phone on 07391 313740.

The June meeting will have been held on the 25th June 2025 and the July meeting will be held either on either the 16th or 23rd July 2025 (to be confirmed at the June meeting – please check the website for details). The Parish Council do not meet in August, so the next meeting after the summer break will be on Wednesday 17th September.

If you have any concerns or issues you would like to bring to the

attention of the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk. If you provide your full contact details, we can then ensure appropriate and relevant items raised are on the agenda for the next meeting.

Problems on the highways can be reported online at [Fix My Street](#) or on the Somerset Council web page [Report A Problem on the Road](#)

Please report any missed waste collections at [Missed Waste Collection](#) if you do not get a satisfactory response, please contact the Clerk.

If you experience any problems when using a footpath or bridleway, you can inform the Clerk or access the online reporting tool at [Somerset Council – Report A Problem With a Public Right of Way](#)
Website: [Over Stowey Parish Council](#)

Email: clerk@overstoweyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 07391 313740 (please leave a message if there is no reply)

Forth Coming Events @ OVER STOWEY VILLAGE HALL

BURGERS

Friday 11th July

Friday 25th July

Friday 8th August

Friday 22nd August

Fete – 24th August (more details to follow) At the Recreation Ground-

Ferrett Racing, Morris Men, skittles, tug of war, trade stands

Pumpkin Carving – October 25th

Big Breakfast - November 2nd

Sunday Roast – November 23rd

Bingo – December 6th

Hinkley Point C Ready for Dome Lift

This summer, Hinkley Point C is hitting major milestones that show just how far the project has come – and how much faster and smarter we're now building.

Prefabrication now accounts for nearly 60% of civil construction, turning Hinkley Point C into what's effectively a "Large Modular Reactor."

More work is happening off-site, leading to faster assembly and big productivity gains – including recent mega-lifts like a 170-tonne staircase and entire rooms installed in one piece.



The results are clear: Unit 2 is being built significantly faster than Unit 1. At dome lift, it will be 40% further ahead with fewer people on site.

Structural steel installation has jumped from 10 to nearly 300 tonnes, and assembling the polar crane is 40% quicker.

These improvements don't just benefit Hinkley Point C – they pave the way for future projects like Sizewell C to be more efficient from day one.

Supporting inclusive social events for adults with learning disabilities

An inspiring initiative breaking down barriers for adults with learning disabilities has received £10,000 from Hinkley Point C Community Fund.

Since receiving funding, Loveable CIC has launched monthly social events in Bridgwater, beginning at Allstars Sports Bowl and now continuing at the Admirals Landing pub.

In just 2 months, the project has connected 25 local people with learning disabilities, helping to reduce loneliness and isolation.

Research by Mencap shows that 82% of people with learning disabilities experience loneliness, with more than 1 in 10 leaving their homes just once a week or less. "We're not interested in creating separate spaces that further marginalise people with learning disabilities," said Anoushka Cross, CEO and Founder of Loveable CIC.



CHURCH SERVICES – JULY 2025

	NETHER STOWEY	OVER STOWEY
6th July 3rd Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	6.00pm 'Hymns and Pimms'
13th July 4th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	9.30am Morning Worship
20th July 5th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	9,30am Holy Communion
27th July 6th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	No Service
<p style="text-align: center;">COFFEE MORNING Saturday 12th July St. Mary's Church Centre 10.30am – 12.00noon This month we are raising funds for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance</p>		

CHURCH SERVICES – AUGUST 2025

	NETHER STOWEY	OVER STOWEY
3rd August 7th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	6.30pm Choral Evensong
10th August 8th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	9.30am Morning Worship
17th August 9th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	9,30am Holy Communion
24th August 10th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	No Service
31st August 11th Sunday after Trinity	11.00am Benefice Service at Stringston	

There will NOT be a COFFEE MORNING in the CHURCH CENTRE in AUGUST. The building will be closed for redecoration at the beginning of the month.

Dear All

As you will have read last month, Revd Kate has retired from her role as Associate Priest in the churches of the Quantock Villages Benefice. I would like to thank Kate for all she has done for the parishes including setting up the Coffee Shop in Spaxton and re-establishing the Toddler Group; for her support of Celtic Morning Prayer at Goathurst and for the Sunday services she has taken throughout the nine churches of the benefice. Her work as leader of the Open the Book team for Spaxton and Enmore Schools has, I know been, much appreciated. She has also supported many parishioners pastorally and has championed projects overseas. We thank you, Kate, for all you have given us during your time in these parishes.

Retirement will (or should!) bring Kate a rest from the demands of daily work – we'll see! The summer months bring us all the invitation to do things differently. The days are longer and the weather warmer. Some of us will go away for a holiday and others will holiday at home – but whatever you do, I hope and pray that you can find some rest and relaxation from the everyday.

Christ calls us to come to him for rest - "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest."

It is an invitation for us to explore and to RSVP. Christ doesn't just offer us a couple of weeks' time away from daily routines. He offers us more than rest from the physical burdens - he offers us a new way of living and being in following him. He shares the loads we carry; he can lead us through the complexity of our daily lives, and he promises to be alongside us in the joys and challenges of life.

However, you respond to Christ's invitation, or take a break this summer, be it like Kate in retirement, or a holiday at home or away, may I wish you a good summer.

Eleanor

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The Rectory, 25 St Mary St, Nether Stowey TA5 1LJ
eleanor.king@hotmail.com

Readers Mrs Viv Chesterton, B.A. Tel: 733 568
3 Bishop Road, Nether Stowey TA5 1NP

Mrs Alison Hoare Tel: 732 350
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 Mr Nick Harrison Tel: 732 532
32 Old Farm Road, Nether Stowey, TA5 1PE

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 Mr. Peter Higginson Tel: 732 102
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Church Centre Contact:
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July 2025



Am writing this on a rainy June afternoon, finding it a bit challenging to write a summer recipe to be frank. A glass of rose and a day of sunshine has helped. So here are some great ideas for a summer lunch.

I first tasted the broad bean and prawn salad (salade de fèves et crevettes) in the medieval French town of Carcassonne. Podding the fresh broad beans is a little fiddly but definitely worth it. Eat on its own as a light lunch with crusty bread or as a starter.

Broad bean and prawn salad

Ingredients – serves 4

Fresh broad beans (Approx 1.6kg gross / 575g net)

100g Pancetta cut into cubes (lardons will do)

20 raw, frozen and peeled prawns

60ml Olive oil

Pinch dried chilli flakes (optional)

Squeeze of lemon juice

Method

Podding the broad beans is done in 2 stages. First remove the beans from the outer pod.

Then in a large saucepan, half fill with salted water, bring to the boil, tip in the podded beans and blanch for a minute and a half.

Remove with a slotted spoon and place into a bowl of cold water to stop them over cooking.

You will notice that the beans have a “root end”. Take that between thumb and forefinger and pinch off a section of the pale skin and squeeze the bright green pod out. It’s a knack but an easy one to master.

In a heavy bottomed frying pan, add a glug (60ml) of olive oil. Allow the oil to heat up for about a minute, add the pancetta or lardons and colour to a gentle golden.

Now add the double podded broad beans, toss through for a couple of minutes, add the prawns (and chilli flakes if you are adding). The prawns are cooked when they turn pink.

Divide into small bowls, add a squeeze of lemon and a pinch of salt.

In the 1950s the revered English food writer Elizabeth David, along with Constance Spry and Fanny Craddock brought many Mediterranean influenced dishes to the UK when generally you could only buy olive oil at the chemist! This is a recipe I discovered in one of my many Elizabeth David books called Italian food. It’s a great quick lunch served with a green salad.

Piedmonte peppers – Serves 4

Ingredients

4 red peppers

4 anchovies in oil (rinsed under cold water)

2 garlic cloves sliced

1 fresh tomato, diced with seeds removed

60ml olive oil

Method

Cut the peppers in half length ways to create a small boat like shape. Take out all the seeds. If they are quite large, cut in half again.

Into each piece, place 2 slices of garlic, 2 slices of tomato and an anchovy cut in small pieces, a small knob of butter.

Place on a baking sheet and drizzle lightly with olive oil. Place in a pre-heated oven at 160 degrees C for about 20 mins. Serve with warm crusty bread.

A summer frittata – Serves 2

Another fabulous Italian light lunch or early summer supper. Any soft herb will work with this.

For the vegetables I have used the last of this season's asparagus, some young broccoli and some precooked potato that I had to hand.

There are no rules ! You could use tomatoes, courgettes. You could also grate in Parmesan or pecorino.

Ingredients

Asparagus, trimmed and cut into small sections

One small clove of garlic finely chopped

One shallot finely sliced

6 eggs beaten and seasoned with salt and pepper

60 ml Olive oil

New potatoes cooked and cooled

Soft herbs roughly chopped (Parsley, Basil, Dill, Oregano)

Method

In an oven proof non-stick pan add olive oil on a medium heat. Add the potatoes along with the asparagus and stir fry for about 2 minutes. Now add the shallot and the garlic. Cook again for 2 minutes.

Now add whatever herbs you are using (a good handful of each)

Now pour in the beaten egg. Stir in all the herbs and vegetables. When everything is semi set, finish in a pre-heated oven at 160 degrees C for 6-7 minutes.

Serve with a crisp green salad

Enjoy!



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Paul Brierley, on behalf of the committee of Stowey Shuttle.

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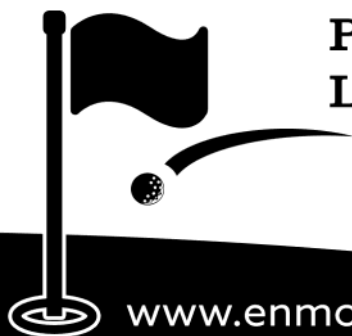
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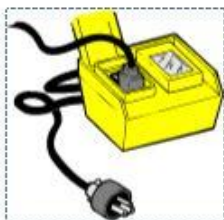
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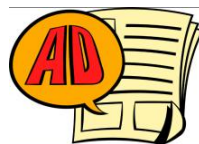
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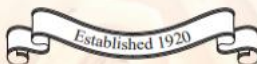
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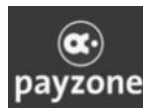
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