

# Beer Parish News

## 2023 April

*Christ is risen!*



*Easter*

**St Michael's... ..and Village**

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

[www.coastalchurch.org.uk](http://www.coastalchurch.org.uk)

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**ST MICHAEL'S ...**  
**Churchwarden:** Mrs G. Chapple 07794 838219  
**Treasurer:** Mr K. Izzard, Sunningdale, Common Hill, Beer 625181  
**Secretary:** Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245  
**Sacristan** Mrs L. Bees 21723  
**& Head Server:**  
**Altar Guild:** Mrs P. Bewick 21954  
 Mrs Y. Hawker 22191  
**Choir:** Dr G. Butler (Practice Tuesday 6-7pm) 21375  
**Organist:** Dr G. Butler, Mullions, New Road, Beer 21375  
**Children's Society:** *vacant*



**Families Worker** Linda Joy [lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com](mailto:lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com)  
**Children's Team:** Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245  
 Mrs J. Ross  
**Worship Team:** Mrs G. Chapple, Ms M. Hirons, Mrs L. Bees  
**Pastoral Team:** Mrs G. Chapple (sec) 07794 838219  
 Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs S. Aplin,  
 Mrs P. Bewick, Mrs E. Singleton,  
 Mrs S. Anderson



**ANNA CHAPLAIN.** Rev Ali Finch email [AnnaChaplainsCMC@hotmail.com](mailto:AnnaChaplainsCMC@hotmail.com)  
 Phone: 23656 or 07762744977  
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Area code for all phone numbers above is 01297 unless shown otherwise

**In an emergency, parishioners should contact the Churchwarden (see above for phone number).**

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[www.coastalchurch.org.uk](http://www.coastalchurch.org.uk)



## St MICHAEL'S CHURCH

 [St Michaels Church Beer](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchBeer)  
[www.coastalchurch.org.uk](http://www.coastalchurch.org.uk)

### Calendar for April 2023

<b>Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	9:30am Morning Praise with Baptism	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	9:00am Morning Prayer at SEATON 12:30pm "Soup for the Soul" ~ A simple meal and reflection at BEER 6:00pm Compline Service at SEATON	
<b>Tues 4<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Morning Prayer at SEATON 12:30pm "Soup for the Soul" ~ A simple meal and reflection at BEER 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Compline Service at SEATON	
<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Morning Prayer at SEATON 12:30pm "Soup for the Soul" ~ A simple meal and reflection 6:00pm Compline Service at SEATON	
<b>Maundy Thurs</b>	9:00am Morning Prayer at SEATON 10am ~ CTIS Easter Mission Bus @ Seaton Amphitheatre 12:30pm "Soup for the Soul" ~ A simple meal and reflection 1:30pm Holy Communion at BEER 6:30pm Holy Communion at SEATON	
<b>Good Friday</b>	12noon "Walk of Witness" starting at Tesco's All Day "Stations of the Cross" at BEER 2:00pm "Reflections at the Cross" at SEATON	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30am "SonRise" service on Top Cliff ((by RNLI Hut) followed by breakfast at Congregational Hall 9:30am Family Communion	<b>EASTER DAY</b>
<b>Tues 11<sup>th</sup></b>	6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell ringing	
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am Communion Service at BEER	
<b>Thurs 13<sup>th</sup></b>	2:00pm "Questions of Life & Faith" St Greg's Church Centre	
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30am Morning Praise	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter
<b>Tues 18<sup>th</sup></b>	2:00pm Play reading group 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing	
<b>Fri 21<sup>st</sup></b>	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
<b>Sun 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9:30am Family Communion Service	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter
<b>Tues 25<sup>th</sup></b>	6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing	
<b>Wed 26<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am Communion Service at SEATON	
<b>Fri 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
<b>Sat 29<sup>th</sup></b>	10 ~ 12 noon Seriously Occasional Singers	
<b>Sun 30<sup>th</sup></b>	9:30am United Communion Service+Baptism	4 <sup>th</sup> Sun'day of Easter
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8:00am Coronation Prayer Breakfast 9:30am Morning Praise	

Our Sunday services in Beer are often broadcast on Facebook.  
 If you can't come to church, you can watch and hear them there, either  
 live or later at a time convenient to you!

From Justin...

### Rev's Ramblings

I used to live near a World's Strongest Man (WSM) competitor and former British champion. As a big fan of the annual WSM competition shown on Television each Christmas, often from rather exotic locations, it was quite surreal having this real-life strongman living round the corner. I recall seeing him as I returned home from a run feeling really worn-out but imagining he had probably been pulling trucks around a car park somewhere.

The final event of the WSM competition is the Atlas Stones, a race to lift 5 huge awkward globe like stones weighing from 100-160kg each onto ascendingly higher platforms. The current world record is a whopping 273kg, currently held by Scotland's Tom Stoltman! It's exhausting thinking about it.

Easter Sunday we are reminded of another giant stone. A giant stone that had been mysteriously rolled away. A stone that opened the way to a tomb, a tomb where the body of the crucified Jesus had been laid to rest just 3 days before.

Put yourself in that scene, that distant Sunday morning. Two women rose early, the horrors of the cross still etched in their minds, as they took a walk to the tomb and they are met by a mysterious stranger sat on top of that great stone saying; "He is not here, he is risen"! Shock and terror, you can feel the intensity of their emotions, fear and great joy, could it be true? And they are told to "come, see", to look for themselves the place where he lay.

In the rolling away of that stone, you too are invited to "come and see". Not simply to see the cross where Jesus had died. Not simply to see the empty tomb where Jesus lay.

Not simply to see a church, people singing and praying.

Not simply to see hear the Easter story, "he is risen, he is risen indeed"!

But to actually come and see for yourself, to come to see the risen Jesus, to meet him for yourself.



And as the two women were met along the road by the risen Jesus, you too will be met by Jesus in your seeking of him, in your prayers, in your desire to know him personally.

The stones of doubt, Jesus wants to roll that aside and step into that place. Those parts of you that are broken, Jesus wants to roll those stones aside and step into that place and restore you.

The stones of pain and of grief, Jesus wants to roll those stones aside, and bring comfort and strength, walking with you through that journey.

The stones of fear and uncertainty about tomorrow, Jesus wants to roll those stones aside and breathe his peace into that place and say with the authority only he can assert; "do not be afraid, for I am with you always".

At Easter we look to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, because he has ultimately defeated death. Because he wants to roll away the stones in front of our hearts that are stopping us from living life in its fullness. To breathe life in those places, to come and dwell in those places through the Holy Spirit that is promised for all that place their trust in him and what he has done.

Happy Easter.

Rev. Justin Montague

## ALTAR GUILD NEWS

AGM and Ordinary Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March in St. Michael's Church

All officers were willing to stand again and duly re-elected Pat Bewick (Chairman) Yvonne Hawker (Vice Chair) Jenny Ross (Treasurer) and Haze Barber (Secretary).

Events -Soup for the Soul Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>



April to be held in St. Michael's church @12 midday please come and join us.

Coffee morning in aid of St. Michael's planned for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - 10am – 12midday – refreshments with cakes / Raffle / Tombola /Guess the name of the Easter Bunny ....  
. all good fun .....it will be lovely to see you.



HAPPY EASTER

**Date of next meeting: April 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 @10.00am**



## Village Clock

Do you ever look at the clock on the church? Would you miss it if it ceased to work? What you may not be aware of, is the fact that, although it is situated on St Michael's Church, the clock actually belongs to the village, and whilst the church organises access for servicing etc., it is the Parish Council that pays for servicing etc.

Unfortunately, the most recent service has shown that extensive work is now required to keep it running for the next hundred years or so, and it has been suggested that the clock face itself would also benefit from restoration.

The amount quoted to undertake all the work is in the region of £10,000 which neither the local parish council, nor the church can afford. Is there somebody out there who would be willing to launch an appeal to raise such an amount? I am mindful that this wonderful village managed to raise an enormous sum for a new church roof back at the turn of this century, so hope some enthusiastic person may say "Let's do it!" and organise something to help raise funds? If you think you may be able to help then please contact anyone from the church, numbers can be found at the front of this magazine.



## ANNA CHAPLAINCY- Where we are

Thank you everyone for supporting us with our Anna Chaplaincy worship at Seaton on Sunday 26 February, and Beer on Sunday 5 March. God was in competition with The Grizzly on the 5<sup>th</sup>, but HE still came in first! If you missed our worship (the same in both churches), go to St Michael's Beer Facebook page and view the recording. You just catch the end of our warm up, Guess that Tune, before the worship begins. The Hymns, readings, sermon and poems were all chosen by us, to reflect our work as Anna Chaplain's

We are currently visiting four care homes in the Seaton area. We've joined in with the home activities, spoken to residents and recently by request, offered simple worship in a group setting. We have also been asked to visit a few people one to one in their own homes. If you know someone elderly living on their own at home, please tell them about ANNA CHAPLAINCY. We have left our contact details in both churches, small business style cards on the information tables.

Our next step is to introduce ANNA'S PLACE. Café style worship with refreshments and activities, specifically aimed at the elderly and those with dementia, and their carers. A friendly space with music and laughter. We hope to introduce this at St Michael's Beer in the first instance. So watch this space!!

As with everything we do, we need your support and prayers and practical help. So if you feel helping out at Anna's Place (Beer or Seaton) for an hour is something you could do, or fund raising for us, please get in touch with Ali or Mary.

Mary Casey Mob: 07805655335. Ali Finch Mob: 07762744977.

Email: AnnaChaplainsCMC@hotmail.com



## Fine Foundation Centre

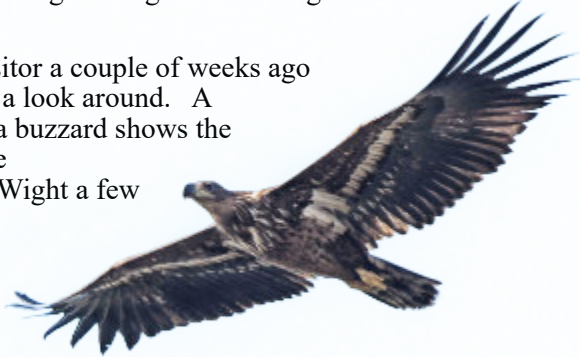
### Beer Village Heritage

Reg. Charity No.1087162

After such a dry month – February didn't live up to its description of "fill ditch" – March has had more than its fair share of rain, and we're currently experiencing the equinoctial gales.

March came in "like a lamb" so we should expect it to go out like a lion. Once it stops raining it will be good to get out in the garden with some seeds.

Beer had a very special visitor a couple of weeks ago when a sea eagle came for a look around. A photograph of it dwarfing a buzzard shows the size of this bird. They were reintroduced to the Isle of Wight a few years ago, and some have subsequently moved to Poole Harbour. Another name for them is erne, or ern – very useful for crossword puzzles!



We went for a wander along the side of the Exe recently and watched a spoonbill arrive and preen himself. There are a number of breeding pairs in the Exe estuary, but they still appear as rather exotic animals! At home, the bird feeders are attracting blue, great, and long-tailed tits along with chaffinches and goldfinches. The robins and sparrows prefer to collect food which has fallen from the feeders and wrens hunt in the flower pots. The pigeons have been joined by a hen pheasant who presses her beak to the glass door if there's no seed in the ground feeder. She's taken to sleeping right up against the door. The green woodpecker has been busy on the trunk of the palm tree.

Beer Village Heritage has agreed to join other history groups in the area to make an exhibition of life over the past 60 years to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the East Devon Area of Natural Beauty. We collected a few ideas for themes to research at our recent coffee morning, and any more thoughts or relevant pictures that we could use to illustrate our presentation from you would be most welcome. The exhibition will be in the summer, and we'll give more details in due course. The coffee morning gave us the opportunity to show the collection of postcards of Beer which has been given to us. As there are several duplicates, we were happy that people wanted to take some of them.

Once again, we enjoyed a day in the open air handing out water to the Grizzly runners. The weather was cold and dry, at least until we had packed up and sorted out the recycling. The atmosphere is always so uplifting, with the camaraderie and good spirits of the runners infecting us all.

The Fine Foundation Centre will be open for Easter and we are currently refreshing some of the exhibits. We plan to fill the fish tanks before opening and will organise a rock-pooling session when the tides are suitable. Hopefully we'll be able to find some beasts to occupy the tanks. Keep an eye out for posters giving details.

At the March Branscombe talk Professor Naomi Sykes gave us a very different slant on the re-wilding debate by looking at what is "native" and what is not. Professor Sykes is a zooarchaeologist who specialises in examining and interpreting animal remains at archaeological sites, and she showed us that many of the animals which we might assume are native to Britain originated elsewhere. Even the humble chicken has only been here for 5000 years or so, was originally revered and definitely not eaten for dinner! If we go back before the last Ice Age, bears lived here, retreating southwards before the ice and not returning. So, should we reintroduce everything? Or only the "good" animals and plants? The next Branscombe talk, on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April is about the Burnt House at Weston, so will bring us back to more local events. Please note – this talk is on Easter Monday.

Even though the centre is closed, you can still see the exhibits in the display cases underneath the building and you can also access the Beer Village Heritage walks and I-Spy online via our website: <http://www.beervillageheritage.org.uk/>. You can telephone us on 01297 20858 or via [beervillageheritage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:beervillageheritage@yahoo.co.uk). You'll find litter pickers outside the Fine Foundation Centre which you are welcome to use. There are recycling bins by the Centre and general rubbish bins outside Charlie's Yard.

Beer Village Heritage is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers. As well as running the Fine Foundation Centre we head up and support projects suggested by you as well as offering walks and talks on the local area. Do get in touch if you have any comments or ideas to take forward.



CINEMA  
FOR ALL

# Beer Film Society

[www.beerfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.beerfilmsociety.org.uk)



Thursday 20th April  
at the Mariners' Hall

"LIVING"

(2022)  
Cert. 12A



In 1950s London, a humorless bureaucrat decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis.  
Starring: Bill Nighy, Aimee Lou Wood, and Alex Sharp.  
Directed by Oliver Hermanus.

Doors open at 6.45pm. Film starts 7.30pm.

Bar available.

Members £5. Non members £7

Numbers limited - to book tickets email  
[beerfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:beerfilmsociety@gmail.com)



CINEMA  
FOR ALL

## Beer WI activities

Wednesday 15th March : **Coffee Morning 11 am ( Janet Crisp )**

Thursday 23rd March : **Birthday Lunch / Skittles 11 am  
( The Hind, Musbury )**



Friday 31st March : **Lyme Regis "Film Locations" Guided walk**

Wednesday 5th April : **Monthly Meeting 7.30 pm  
"Tim Hyslop "Car Tax and Toy Boys"**

Wednesday 19th April : **Spring Group Meeting Musbury, Village Hall  
2.30 pm**

Thursday 20th April : **Lunch and Skittles. The Hind, Musbury**

Wednesday 26th April : **Spring Council Meeting, Torquay**



New members or guests  
always welcome.

For more information  
please contact: -

01297 21864  
or 01297 599157



Just a very few of the many things to do in Beer!  
...ask the Editor for more details

## TABLE TENNIS

MARINERS HALL

EVERY THURSDAY

(EXCEPT Film Night)

6.30pm – 8.30pm

£3.00 per person



Beer Men's Shed

Web site: [www.beermensshed.uk](http://www.beermensshed.uk)

Facebook group: Beer Men's Shed

Email: [info@beermensshed.uk](mailto:info@beermensshed.uk)

Tel: 07775 768172

**BEER BEST YEARS CLUB** - alternating with  
**BIZZY BEES** on Tuesdays 2 - 4 pm  
At Mariners' Hall



**BAGS**  
Beer Arts Group(s)



**Beer Mariners Short Mat Bowls Club**

The friendly short mat bowls club for all ages and abilities

**MARINERS' HALL**  
**TUESDAY EVENINGS 7:30 - 9:30 pm**

Locals 2 free visits! then £3 per night -

Tea/coffee/biscuits included

*New players welcome!*

Bowls provided - bring some flat shoes

Contact COLIN TIMS 01297 23565 or HENRY JAGGERS 01297 20858

or just come along and have a go!

Spring 2023

## WELCOME TO THE TOWNSEND HOUSE NEWSLETTER

### STAFF CHANGES AT TOWNSEND HOUSE

We have welcomed some new staff members; Natalie—  
Lead Nurse, Holly—Operations Manager

### TRAINEE DOCTOR SUCCESS

This year we have welcomed a number of trainee doctors  
to the practice. They have given us excellent feedback on  
our supervision and enjoyed working with our team.

### PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Following COVID, we have now restarted our Patient Par-  
ticipation Group (PPG) meetings. We are welcoming new  
members to join our group; we will review patient feedback  
and discuss ways to improve patient experience.

If you would like to join our PPG, please contact us on  
01297 20616.

### RE-OPENING OF BEER SURGERY

We are pleased to announce that we are  
focusing on opening our Beer Surgery  
on a more regular basis. There will be a  
clinic in Beer each morning and on three  
afternoons each week. Latest opening  
times are on our website.



THANK YOU—TEAM AT TOWNSEND-  
[WWW.TOWNSENDHOUSESURGERY.CO.UK](http://WWW.TOWNSENDHOUSESURGERY.CO.UK)

**NHS**



### REFURBISHMENT

Please bear with us whilst  
the refurbishment is com-  
pleted, we apologise for any  
inconvenience.

### NEW WEBSITE

Visit our new website for  
updated information, open-  
ing times and online enquir-  
ies. We welcome e-consults  
via here as a way of con-  
tacting a doctor quickly and  
easily.

[www.townsendhousesurgery.co.uk](http://www.townsendhousesurgery.co.uk)

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

- \* social prescribing
- \* mental health team
- \* Midwives
- \* Physio
- \* Pharmacist
- \* Paramedics

### BOUNDARY CONSULT

We have an extensive rural  
catchment area. In order to  
provide safe care for all pa-  
tients we are planning to  
make a small revision which  
would mean that we will no  
longer accept new patients  
from Northleigh. Existing  
patients are unaffected.



## Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March volunteers from Seaton Beer and District Branch together with Beer Village Heritage had a great time doing the drink station during Grizzly Race Day at Beer Head Caravan Park. This year the weather was fine but there was a chill wind. Keith cooked bacon for Bacon Baps and there was cake and sweets provided by the the helpers. We were there from approximately 9am to set up until 4pm and we cheered on the runners and provided water as they ran past during the day.



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March we held our Annual General Meeting at the Congregational Hall. Gemma Baker our RNLI Community Fundraising Manager for Area 17 attended. Gemma supports shops and branches from Weymouth along to Exmouth plus to and including the Channel Islands. Gemma provided news from the RNLI. Mark Colley the Lifeboat Operations Manager from Lyme Regis talked about procedures and rescues that have been provided locally. We reviewed 2022 and looked forward to 2023 that has all our regular and favourite events that we organise and attend with our fundraising and sales stall.

Our Chairman and Vice-Chairman John and Shirley Holder retired from the Committee and for their work and support were presented with a Certificate of Thanks and a bouquet of flowers. However, sadly at the meeting we were unable to fill their positions and additional volunteers are still needed and welcome. We are small friendly team and meet once a month at various locations to review our events that we have organised, been to and to come.

Our Shop at Jubilee Gardens will be re-opening before Easter and additional volunteers are also needed. As well as selling RNLI gifts and souvenirs people ask us for information when visiting Beer and the area plus ask for sea safety and for advice walking near the coast.

Looking forward, once again we will be taking part in the RNLI Mayday Appeal. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we will be having our Seaton Mayday Welly Walk and collection along Seaton Seafront and around Seaton. Walkers can also do other routes and other dates if preferred and sponsor forms will be available..

Our Beer Lifeboat Weekend is on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. On the Saturday we will be having our Street Collection and Table Top Sale and on the Sunday our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Duck Race Day.

If you would like to volunteer or know anyone who can help please contact us for our Branch Information Letter by email to [wac500@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wac500@hotmail.co.uk), telephone a message to (01297) 23040, see us at our Shop when we are open or at the events we attend. All help that can be given will be greatly appreciated.

*Wendy Cummins*

Secretary

Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI





## BEER PARISH COUNCIL

In our previous report in the March edition of the Beer Parish news it was reported that the donation from Beer Parish Council had been given to support the repairs to the church clock, please could we just clarify that it is not the church clock it belongs to the village and is just housed in the church, please accept our apologies for any misunderstanding caused.

The Council are also delighted that they will be supporting Beer Horticultural Society again this year, with a donation of £275.00, all the Councillors commented on what an amazing job they do in keeping Beer looking beautiful!

The Parish Council are looking for volunteers! Beer Parish Council and East Devon District Council are super excited to begin our plan for Jubilee Gardens in Beer to achieve Green Flag status in 2024. The Green Flag Award scheme recognises the highest accolade of a green space, and sets the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world. Our intention is for Beer Jubilee Gardens to be the 5th Green Flag site in East Devon, joining Seaton Wetlands, Seafeld Gardens (Seaton), Connaught Gardens (Sidmouth) and Manor Gardens (Exmouth). This will mean that 3 out of the district's 5 Green Flag sites will be in the east of the district. Green Flag status will require EDDC to produce a sustainable management plan that seeks to preserve the site's historical beauty and ecological diversity while simultaneously laying the foundation for sustainable, low impact maintenance. Successfully gaining Green Flag status will not only help bring our beloved Jubilee back up to full repair but could also provide access to heritage funding to assist with the restoration and improvement of the Gardens' features and facilities, such as its hard landscaping, to restore the Gardens' former glory. For more information on what Green Flag status is all about, please use the link below.

<https://www.greenflagaward.org>

Gaining a Green Flag requires a plan that shows local regular community volunteer engagement. So, let's create a big list of

volunteers that demonstrates how keen we are to see the Jubilee receive the attention it deserves. Then, when EDDC are ready to call on us, we are ready to help. Please follow the link below to sign up.

[https://eddc-self.achieveservice.com/.../Green\\_Space...](https://eddc-self.achieveservice.com/.../Green_Space...)

Paul Fealey, EDDC's Horticultural Office, who you may have met last year, is creating a dedicated page on their website akin to the ones already in place for several other popular green spaces. Once this is up and running, we will share the page.

**Are you looking for or do you know someone who is looking for local housing:**

### **2 Houses for Shared Ownership Sale**

2 beds + Cot room/dressing room/office over 3 floors - £315,000 purchasing 50% to 75% + 2.75% interest on balance.

### **1 Flat for shared ownership sale**

2 beds over one floor - £260,000 purchasing 50% to 75% + 2.75 interest on balance.

All have allocated parking space, bike storage and communal area underfloor heating and air source heat pump.

Rental allocation based on 'local connection' and housing need. If no Beer applicant's qualifications expand to Branscombe, Seaton, Southleigh and Colyton.

Potential buyers must have mortgage offer, allocation then based on 'local connection' and housing need.

For purchase interest please contact Beer CLT Directly: [Project 2 \(beerclt.org\)](https://beerclt.org)





**COFFEE MORNING  
MARINERS HALL, BEER  
SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2023  
10AM – 12 Noon**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE, TEA, CAKE  
AND BACON BAPS  
STALLS & RAFFLE**

**All proceeds to King Charles III  
Coronation Street Party in Beer**

**STREET PARTY TO BE HELD ON  
SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023  
2pm – 5pm**



Beer Arts Group(s)  
Presents a

**Very QUIRKY QUIZ?**

Mime  
Free Entry  
Tableaux  
Live Music Round  
Question Master Sam  
All welcome!  
Prizes  
Use of Hooter!  
Recitation  
Performed Questions  
More fun than you can shake a stick at!

**Wednesday 19th April  
7.30pm  
Dolphin Function Room**

## On Death

*"I don't want to spend any time thinking about death. If it's my own, it means an end to everything I love. And if it's other people then it brings grief, loss, heartbreak. So, no I don't contemplate death."*

Is this you?

Mark Twain wasn't bothered. He remarked that he had been dead for billions and billions of years before he was born and had not suffered the slightest inconvenience from it.

Maybe you're comfortable with it. You might welcome an end, if yours is or has been a troubled and a painful life. Or maybe you take the lesson from the natural world. Cycles of germination and decay and rebirth. Life appearing in this world in multiple forms, and then disappearing. It is both wonderous and heart-breaking. Life requires us to see that, and feel that, so that it deepens you. So that you become wise.

Away from the surface of this earth, the beautiful mystery of death comes close to the properties of Infinite Space that surrounds us.

\* \* \*

In the unimaginable vastness and timescale of the unfolding universe, nothing dies. There is only continual transformation. In deep space giant gas clouds give birth to stars that burn through their lives with heat and light. They form, live through a nuclear fusion-cycle, then they fade and disintegrate, only to give their material to the formation of new stars. They do this over billions upon billions of years, but which in the timeless dimensions of the universe is eternity.

We lose those we love and we grieve the loss. Yet even as we grieve for what was close to us here on the microcosmic scale, we can still acknowledge a dimension in the vastness of the universe where 'death' is no more than an essential stage in the cyclical appearance and disappearance and reappearance of stars. We are the Universe and the Universe does not die, it simply reforms.

## YOUR "LOCAL" CONTACTS

### Parish Council

Geoff Pook	07966 490429	
James Green	07714 328352	Vice Chair
Alex Adkin	07811 178731	
Emma Molony	07773 399025	
Rick Dormor	07970 217267	Chair
Mandy Graham	01297 20369	
Adam Brewer	07874 051689	
Tim Stevens	07855 023482	

[timstevensbpc1@aol.com](mailto:timstevensbpc1@aol.com)

Sean Greig 07971 294201

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**Devon County Councillor** Marcus Hartnell

Mobile: 07515 285725

**Member of Parliament** Richard Foord

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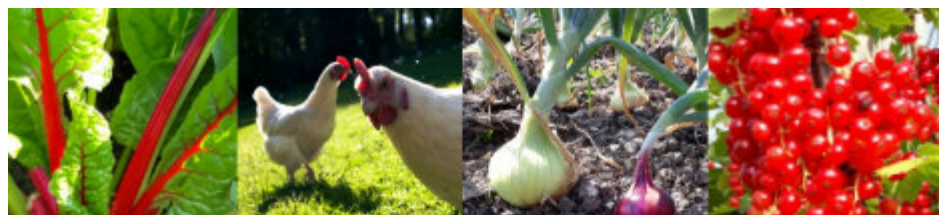
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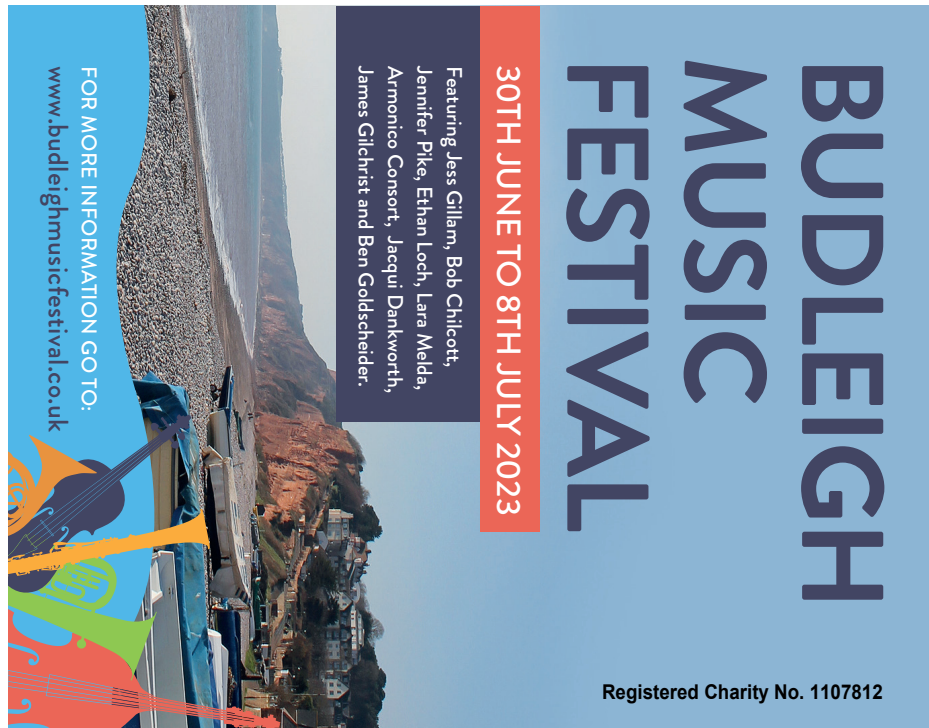
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Copy for May to be with the Editor  
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**April 2023**

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