



At the time of writing my report we were looking forward to travelling further afield for a new collection day at Tesco Axminster on Saturday 19th April to promote our branch of the RNLI and national RNLI. There will be a report in the June issue of the Beer Parish News.

Once again our branch of the RNLI will be taking part in the RNLI Mayday Appeal that goes from the 1st to the 31st May. I will be starting the campaign from outside our Shop at Jubilee Gardens on the 1st May and will be walking a mile a day or more locally, on days out and even on holiday. Some of our volunteers will be taking part too. We would love for additional walkers to take part and Mayday Miles Record Sheets and sponsor forms are available. Please call in to our Shop or email to me at wac500@hotmail.co.uk Our Mayday Appeal Welly Walk Day is on Saturday 24th May and we will be collecting at various locations and walking along the East and West Walks at



Seaton. Register at Fisherman's Gap at 9.45 and we walk between the hours of 10am to 6pm. People can also walk at a preferred time. We are having our Colour-in-a-Wellington Boot Poster Competition and entry forms will be available for this at various locations or please send an email. Entries will be displayed at Seaton library and judging of the entries will be at 1.30pm at Pebbles Coffee House. I have a donation page www.justgiving.com/page/wendysmaydaymiles or donations can be given to us on our travels.

It's only two months until our Beer Lifeboat Weekend. On Saturday 5th July we will be having our Street Collection from 10am to 6pm. Our Table Top Sale will be at the Mariners Hall. Tables are available for hire at £6 for one and £10 for two and the doors will be open to sellers at 8am and for buyers from 9am until 12.30pm. Please telephone message to 07790861531 or email for details. There will be Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Bacon Baps, Cake, a raffle, card tombola and a variety of stalls.

On Saturday 6th July we will be having our Annual Duck Race Day and it is nineteen years since our first one. The Lyme Regis Water Safety Team and the F2F team will be attending and also the Coastguards and the Lyme Regis and Exmouth lifeboats will be attending (subject to weather and operational requirements) We will have duck themed and other stalls. The lifeboats will be due to display at 2pm and the Duck Races to start at 3pm.

Let's hope the weather is better than last year!

We still need additional volunteers for our Shop and if you can help please telephone our Shop Manager Richard Hare on 07752393640 or if you can help with collections, at our events or events we attend please email wac500@hotmail.co.uk



Take care and best wishes and looking forward to seeing everyone as the year progresses.

Wendy Cummins, Secretary, Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

Beer WI



It's been quite a busy month for the WI. To begin with we had a talk at the beginning of the month about Medical assistance dogs or Super Sniffers, from Keith Hayman. He, sadly, couldn't bring a dog with him but gave an informed talk about how they are used.

Medical dogs are specially trained companions that can detect a variety of medical conditions through their sense of smell. These dogs have an extraordinary 220 million olfactory receptors compared to 5 million in humans! They go through rigorous training to be able to spot medical conditions like Cancer, Diabetes, infections and seizures.

It was a fascinating talk, thank you Keith.

The next event was the Spring Group Meeting of local WI at the Mariners Hall on April 10th.

There was a good attendance and we had a very enjoyable afternoon with a visit and talk from The Taxi Poet, James Haddow who was a very entertaining person who delivered nearly the whole talk in verse! He has given over 300 talks over the



years, published books and had us spellbound with his knowledge of poets, reciting many classics. These were interspersed with poems he had created.

He started writing poetry when he was waiting for fares as a taxi driver. He would create a poem, recite it while he worked and the demand grew. He has written over 1400 poems over twenty five years.

The afternoon concluded with a cake display and tea.



Our next meeting is May 7th with a talk by Derek Dexter called Fuchsias My Way at 7.30 in the Congregational Hall. Do come and join us!



Thank you to all who attended the Sailing Club coffee morning on Wednesday 26th March which raised £164.10p. A special mention to The Sailing Club for the use of the club house and facilities to raise money for worthy causes in the local community.

Monday 14th April - Annual Charity Donation - 'Balloons'

The lodge were delighted to present a cheque for £2750 to Nasim Hartmann representing 'Balloons', an organisation providing support to youngsters who have experienced severe trauma.



Seen here presenting the cheque, brothers Colin Lewis, Brian Grant, Dave Hutchings, Dave Mutter and John Brewer.

The lodge charity for 2025/26 is 'Sutton Hospice Care At Home'.

Thursday 17th April - Craft & Arts Committee to visit 'The Fountain Head'. Leaving at 10.30am from the Scout Hall members will walk to Branscombe and return via public transport at 3pm.

The lodge welcomes new members. Contact the secretary at EnquireBeerLodge@outlook.com

VE80

You are invited to a Picnic at the Jubilee, Beer on Saturday 10th May 2025 between 2pm & 5pm to celebrate VE80.

Children's Face Painting

1940's Dress Optional

VE DAY
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80 Years

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1945-2025

A FRIEND IN NEED



At the beginning of March there was a facebook post stating: “A walk home through the village yesterday evening. Such a warm feeling you get looking at how proud our church stands.”

The appreciative person who wrote those words eloquently expresses what so many of us feel when we look at St Michael's Church. Our church is more than just an architectural gem where worship takes place, it is the HEART of our community. We have all gathered inside it for joyful celebrations or in sadness to say goodbye to loved ones. It is also the place where we get our hearts ready for Christmas, or stand in somber reflection on Remembrance Day. It is fair to say that our Church is always there for us whatever the occasion. However, in recent years the number of people attending services has diminished significantly. On a good

day there might be almost forty, on others barely twenty. We all have busy lives, with many commitments pulling us in every direction, and it is easy to skip church a Sunday or two; soon weeks become months, then years. I'm certainly guilty of that! We all assume there are others attending, so our absence would not matter...until it does.

The steady decline in support and attendance means that a small handful of people keep the Christian fire burning and have shouldered the financial burden of keeping our Church running. The most recent set of accounts highlights the steep running cost: an eye watering £58,199 to be precise. However, the total annual income is “only” £34,336, which means there's a shortfall of almost £24,000. At the current rate, our Church will not be able to survive more than 7 years.

Let that sink in. If we as a community do nothing to support the church, we will lose it in less than a decade! Imagine having a block of flats or terraced houses instead of St Michael's Church. Would we experience the same “warm feeling” walking past them?

I'm fully aware that our village is small, but what we lack in size, we make up for in community spirit! So let's do all we can to help St Michael's Church remain the heart of Beer. Attend a service, we'd love to see you! Become a Friend of St Michael's by placing a regular donation, volunteer to help in any of the many activities that take place every week, spare a prayer or, better yet, all of the above!

This is the time to stand up and be counted, otherwise we'll have to explain to future generations how we did nothing when St Michael's needed us.

Mónica Weber-Butler

Parish Council Newsletter May 2025

At the time of writing, Spring has definitely sprung and the village has woken up from its Winter slumber. Many thanks, as always, to our amazing Horticultural Society, the display of daffodils in all the planters certainly made us all feel that Spring/Summer may finally be on its way!

Many of you will be aware that after a major revamp The Dolphin is back open again as are Beer Head Caravan Park and their Bistro, Beer Quarry Caves, Pecorama and all the beach cafes, Ducky's, Chapple's and High Tide (formerly Kennos).

May will be a busy month for the village kicking off on May the 1st with our local Elections to choose a new Devon County Councillor to represent our village. Fingers crossed the next one won't go AWOL like the last one did!

Friday the 2nd of May sees Beer Eats Boutique back with us again on the Jubilee Hardstanding bringing with them a delicious array of eats and drinks to suit all. As per last year, they will be with us on the first Friday of every month during the Summer months, let's hope the sun shines for all the outdoor events to be held.

Thursday the 8th May will be the VE Day Celebrations as it will mark 80 years since the end of WW2 in Europe. The day will be marked with a Service at St. Michaels Church in the morning. Early evening the Church Bells will ring out across the village and a Beacon will be lit in the evening on or near the Jubilee.

Beer being Beer, has its own timeline, so on Saturday the 10th of May we will be holding, weather permitting, a huge Community Party on the Jubilee Hardstanding to finish off the VE80 Day Celebrations. We do hope as many of you as possible, young and old will join us. There will be Children's Face Painting, a band and 1940's Fancy Dress if you wish but this optional. All you are asked to do is bring along yourselves plus your own picnic! If it rains the Party will take place in The Mariner's Hall.

The weekend of the 16th to 18th of May sees the brightly coloured Buggies in Beer back with us. As always you may see and hear them buzzing around the village before they all park up on the Jubilee

Hardstanding on Saturday the 17th in the afternoon so you can all get a closer look at them. They are a great bunch of people so if you should see them in or enroute to the village, do smile and wave as they pass by.

On Sunday the 18th May we have the BeerBlazer for the more athletic amongst you who like to do a 10 mile, multi terrain run as a competition or purely for fun!

I think it fair to say that any 'events' held in the village do not just 'happen' overnight! In many cases there can be up to a year of planning, involving monthly meetings, copious phone calls and emails or even arranging fund raising events to help pay for staging it by that particular organisation's dedicated small team of volunteers. Therefore, could I please ask, that you attend and support as many events as possible or even offer to help out if you can!

The Sunday Team aka the Community Payback Team continue to work hard on behalf of the Parish Council to help tidy areas to keep our village looking respectable and inviting for all to enjoy. It comes as no surprise therefore that the Sunday Team have recently received an award for the best Community Payback Team in the South West. They are now entered into the National Finals and am sure we all wish them the best of luck as they are making a great difference to our village daring to tread where EDDC won't or can't!

We continue to work hard behind the scenes on behalf of the village and should you have any complaints, concerns or better still an idea which may improve the village please do contact our Parish Clerk, Mrs Nicky Ingarfield, clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk or pop a letter into the box on the wall outside of The Mariner's Hall, who will speedily deal with any questions or queries.

Before I go, I should give an update on the affordable Transfer of Assets. Sadly, we did not hear from EDDC by the 5th March as they promised with answers to very pertinent questions to enable the Asset Working Group to compile a Business Plan. So, in a nutshell, they have had the majority of these questions since February 2024, and we've not even an answer to one question yet, so the wait continues

Cllr Karen Stevens

YOUR “LOCAL” CONTACTS

Parish Council

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Angela Smith	cllrasmith@beer-pc.gov.uk
Simon Whitelock	cllrswhitelock@beer-pc.gov.uk
<i>Clerk to the Council:</i> Nicky Ingarfield	
	clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk

Internal Auditor: Jacqui Peskett - Aalgaard Renshaw Business Solutions Ltd.

East Devon District Councillor

John Heath 07966 089257

Devon County Councillor pending result of election on 1st May.

Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Parliamentary matters -

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Constituency matters - richard.foord@libdems.org.uk

c/o 118 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1JP

Points to Ponder

- Energy flows where your attention goes. Whatever you pay attention to grows. Be aware of where your thoughts go.

- Sit still and be silent for a few moments, it brings you back from where your thoughts have taken you – back to your essential self, here and now.



- Your unhappiness and the Present Moment cannot co-exist. Holding your attention here and now displaces sadness.

- Can you find your enthusiasm? What fires your energy? What arouses your passion? See what is the essence of you.

- In this world surface appearances are fleeting. You do not need to add anything to yourself, you are whole and complete in your Being. All Doing passes. Being is eternal.

- “*At this moment in the day...*” is all there ever is. It’s where your life is lived. Everything that happens in your life happens in this moment. Be conscious of it.

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Beer Parish News

BEER PRIMARY SCHOOL'S BEER BLAZER!

Beer Primary PTFA invites you all to the "Beer Blazer" for a BBQ and cake (made by the fabulous Beer WI) at Beer Primary school's playing field on May 18th, 10:30am until 12:30pm.

Bring along a camping chair/picnic rug and cheer in the runners to the finish line with a hot drink and good grub.

ALL WELCOME!

Cash and card accepted.

Thanks for supporting our wonderful village school.

Copy for June to be with the Editor
by **Wednesday 21st May, at very latest please.**

henryjaggers@btinternet.com
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Reading this in the black & white printed edition?

Visit www.beerparishcouncil.org.uk and click on "[Latest News](#)" then on "[Parish Newsletter May 2025](#)" to find this
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