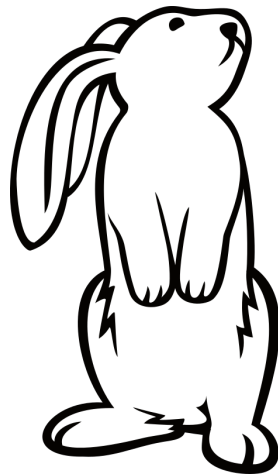
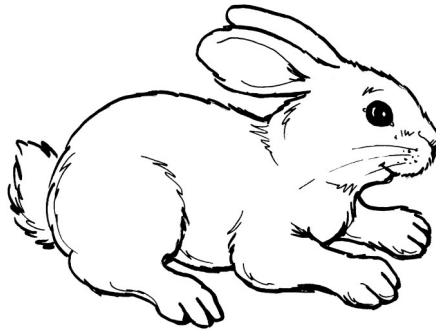


# SOUTH HUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

## February—March 2024

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Now available online at [www.southhuish-pc.org.uk](http://www.southhuish-pc.org.uk)

For comments or suggestions for this newsletter

please contact the above

Free to residents of Hope Cove,

Galampton and South Huish

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Welcome to the February/March edition of the South Huish Parish Newsletter. It feels too late to wish you a happy new year but slightly too early to be talking about spring, especially with the high winds we've been experiencing lately!

A couple of things to note in this edition of the newsletter:

1) Not only is this year the 50th anniversary of Hope Cove Weekend, it is also the 50th anniversary of the South West Coastal Path (SWCP). The Prawle Point Watch station stands 200 feet above sea level at the most southerly point in Devon. You can call into the watch point and get your SWCP passport stamped and then collect other stamps along the 630-mile route of the Path. There's a new year resolution for you!

2) We have a new feature!! I'm calling it 'Spotlight On'. From time-to-time I will focus on a particular person or place in South Huish and try and tell you (at least some of you!) things you may not know. In this issue I've had a chat with Piotr Wisniewski, who runs the newly named, Beach Shop, in Hope Cove. If you can think of someone or something you think would make a good feature for April/May, do please drop me an email or stop me on my daily dog walk.

Juliebeaconcottage@outlook.com

### Hope Cove Weekend 50th Anniversary



So here we go again! The Committee are starting to plan Hope Cove Weekend 2024, which will run from Friday 23rd August to Monday 26th August.

This is the 50th year of our much-loved Family Fun Weekend so we want to make it special!! We are hoping to compile a souvenir programme full of people's memories of 50 years of HCW dating back to 1974. So, if you have photos you would like to share or could spare a few moments to write a few lines about your memories please email [hopecovese secretary@gmail.com](mailto:hopecovese secretary@gmail.com)

We had so many positive comments about the beach-based activities and fun and games in the Square last year that we will be drafting a similar schedule of activities for this year, possibly even bringing back some events that were popular in years gone by!

We will of course be looking for lots of willing volunteers to help with the weekend. If you've not volunteered for HCW before and fancy getting involved please drop us a line on the above email address. There is always lots to do in preparation and over the whole of August Bank Holiday!

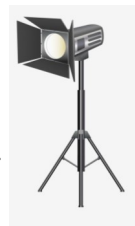
### Spotlight on..... The Beach Shop Hope Cove



For the first of our series of articles on places and people of interest in Hope Cove I chatted to Piotr Wisniewski, owner of The Beach Shop.

*J. How long have you been running the shop and what were you doing before that?*

P. It will be 10 years in June! Before that I was Head Chef at the Hope and Anchor and my wife Zofia, was the Assistant Manager, so we knew Hope Cove very well. We would go into the shop most days and got to know Adrian, who ran the shop before us.



*J. Is this the first shop you have run?*

P. Yes it is. We were both used to dealing with customers but this is our first business venture. At the beginning we both worked in the shop, but now Zofia does most of the background work such as accounting, paperwork etc

*J. Do you know much about the history of the shop?*

P. I know Adrian ran the shop for many years and his family before him. Apparently, most village shops grew out of cottage front rooms, the shop in its present position became a proper shop around the turn of the 1900's, there were shops in Inner Hope and the first Post office was in Inner Hope (in Devonia, then May Villa and then Orchard Cottage) it came to Outer Hope in 1934 when the Cox family took over the shop. (Thank you Maz Morris, from the History Group, for supplying this additional information).

*J. Can you remember your first day? What is it you like about running the shop?*

P. Our first day was June 21st 2014 and it was a lovely sunny day. I was so excited to be taking it on. Adrian was kind enough to work alongside us for that summer. What I really like about running the shop is seeing and dealing with customers, both locals and holiday makers. In my last job I was often in the kitchen. For the most part people are happy and smiling when they come in.

*J. Can you remember any funny incidents that have happened while you've been working in the shop?*

P. Often it's the things you say, mostly by accident. For example, I was looking at a magazine with a customer as another lady (who was quite large), was leaving the shop. I called out goodbye to her but I also read out the title of the magazine, so it came out as 'goodbye! lose weight and feel great', the lady left before I had a chance to explain!

Another member of staff had two sayings when replying to customers, one was 'no problem' the other was 'you're welcome' but once she said 'you're problem', it was quickly put right with a few smiles around the shop.

*J. Have you ever been asked for something unusual in the shop?*

P. There was one particular lady who wanted nail varnish and suggested we should stock cosmetics! Another asked for Costa Coffee!

*J. The Post Office has obviously been in the press a lot lately, can you tell us why it is no longer part of the shop?*

P. Yes, 10 years ago when I first ran the shop the Post Office was used a great deal for pensions, postcards, stamps etc and over time it just became a cash-point. Whilst we didn't experience the problems some people had running a Post Office the paperwork involved was still a burden. Now there are mobile

phones, email etc people just don't send postcards and mail like they used to and we can't compete on price in terms of sending larger parcels.

*J. The shop is currently undergoing refurbishment why are you doing that?*

P. We want to improve people's experience of shopping here and of course, improve the way the shop runs. We have put in a new ceiling, floors and cupboards and the whole place looks and feels much brighter.

In the peak holiday season, we are very busy and are open 7 days a week. Our biggest sellers are ice creams and pasties, although we have seen an increase in the sale of toys, puzzles and craft kits, perhaps for when the weather is not so good.

*J. Talking of pasties, do you ever feel tempted to eat them yourself?*

P. Not very often now, but when I took over in June 10 years ago I had a pasty every day from June 21st until Hope Cove weekend at the end of August. Obviously, that couldn't continue!!

*J. I believe you were away visiting your family over Christmas?*

P. Yes, it was my first time back in Poland for Christmas for 17 years. We took our girls who are 8 and 10 and were able to spend time with Zofia's and my family which was lovely.

*J. Thank you Piotr for taking the time to talk to me and for all you hard work!*



### **Hope Cove Lifeboat**

As a member of the National Independent Lifeboat Association (NILA) we are asked to provide information for them to use when they represent us and the other independent lifeboats to various bodies such as the UK Search and Rescue group.

For 2023, the highlights were that we assisted/rescued 64 people and 1 dog. To do this we spent 205 hours of crew time on the water performing the rescues. This was done by our team of 15 operational crew supported by 18 non-crew, trustees, fundraisers etc. who along with the crew logged 1648 hours of their time training and maintaining the boat and tractor.

There were also many hundreds of unlogged hours supporting them, by all of the other members of our team. I dealt with 1959 emails to do with lifeboat business and the other trustees gave a lot of their time dealing with the admin and other tasks associated with running the service.

The other significant event for us was a recent visit from Baron Byron Davies of Gower, who is the Under Secretary of State in the Department for Transport and is currently focussing on Marine interests. He came to us as we were the instigators of NILA, which was supported and driven forward by our local MP Anthony Mangnall. This was the ministers first experience of an independent lifeboat and he was very interested in our history and how we operate. He met with some of the crew and trustees and was very impressed that such a small team from a small village could keep the service running. He then went on to meet the Harbour Wall team and some local fishermen.

### ***Could you be part of the lifeboat team?***

Are you looking for a new challenge for 2024? Do you want to learn some new skills, or maybe put your experience to good use to help others? Everyone who works on and with Hope Cove Life Boat is a volunteer. They give up their time as above to operate the boat, and to keep it afloat. Maybe you could be one too?

\* We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team in a number of different roles. Don't worry if you get seasick – we don't just want crew for the boat. There are lots of ways that you can get involved.

\* Being part of our crew is a unique and enormously rewarding experience. Not only are you saving lives and doing something for the community, you're part of a unique team of people. You'll learn new skills, learn more about yourself, and learn more about your community.

\* We believe that everyone has skills and experience that can benefit the lifeboat. You don't need any special training – we do that bit. So, whatever your background there are lots of ways to get involved.

\* We need people to keep the lifeboat afloat, whether that's boat crew to pull on a drysuit and respond to a shout, shore crew to maintain and prepare our boat and equipment, or fundraisers to help us spread the word about Hope Cove Life Boat.

\* We also need trustees to help manage the whole operation now and for the future.

\* We're looking for digital marketing gurus and graphic design geniuses who can help us spread the word on staying safe on the water. We want to find someone organised enough to take on the role of managing our kit. And if you like a good chat on the beach, in the sunshine, then can you spare a couple of hours on the beach over the summer to help sell our hoodies?

\* We believe that everyone has skills that we really value on Hope Cove Life Boat. This is your chance to show them off, do something amazing and volunteer. We'll be hosting an open day during the Easter holidays when you can visit the station, meet the current crew, and find out more about volunteering.

To find out more please email [volunteer@hopecovelifelifeboat.org](mailto:volunteer@hopecovelifelifeboat.org)

Steve Baguley



### **The Cove**

What a fantastic Christmas and New Year we had! Thanks to everyone who came in and got involved with the festivities, including the fabulous Christmas dinner and the New Year's Eve party. Lots more events and fun to be had over the next month or so including Comedy at the Cove and our next Pop Up Greek night. Keep your eyes peeled on our social media, and thanks again to all our brilliant customers who support us all year around!

Cove

Shelley Robinson-Major, The Cove



The Cottage Hotel

The Cottage Hotel is looking forward to re-opening on 11th February from 12 noon.

We will only be serving a limited bar menu on Sunday lunch-time, and afternoon cream teas and dinner as usual in the evening. If you would like to book or enquire further please telephone 01548 561555, if the

answer phone is on please leave a message and we will return your call, or email [info@hopecove.com](mailto:info@hopecove.com). We are look forward to welcoming you for the 2024 season, this will be our 50th year at the Cottage Hotel. - From William, Sarah and all the 'Team' at the Cottage Hotel



We have a valentines dinner on 14th February served from 700pm - 8.30pm last orders, advance booking advised. Commencing with a valentine cocktail and a delicious menu planned, 3-courses £39.00, or 5 - courses £47.00 per person as below:

**Valentine's Dinner Menu To Commence: A Valentine Cocktail will be served**

Broccoli & Watercress Soup, Mozzarella Cubes

Lamb & Haggis Kofta, Potato Salad, Mint Yoghurt

Arancini Stuffed with Stilton Cheese

Pan-fried Scallops (in shell) Beetroot Puree, Salsa Verde



Salcombe Dairy Fruit Sorbet



Beef Fillet Steak, Sauce Diane

Pan-roasted Guinea Fowl Supreme, Butternut Squash Risotto & Sage

Grilled Halibut Steak, King Prawn, Lobster Sauce

Stuffed Aubergine, Ratatouille Couscous, Melted Brie Cheese (v)

A Selection of Cold Meats and Poultry or a Vegetarian Platter (v)

with Salad and Assorted Accompaniments

Served with Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables



A Selection of Home-made Desserts



English Cheeses



**History Group**

Since the last newsletter, the History group has purchased a model of HMS Ramillies, which was wrecked off Bolt Tail in 1760, and once a display case has been made will be displayed in the Cottage Hotel. At the moment we are adding to the information given to us by Mr Quester who built the model, by going back through contemporaneous accounts as well as other records.

Robin has made two more splendid road signs which are in place. A sub group, assisted by people with decades of knowledge of Galmpton, have started on a re-write of the Galmpton book. In the next six weeks we will be contacting every house in the village asking for help in piecing together the growth and changes to the village.

We are urgently looking for somewhere to keep our growing archive of parish history. It must be secure, dry, and ventilated. Any ideas please let us know. Phil is now our new Life President, Maz chairperson, Jan secretary and Robin is treasurer and chief sign maker!



### **Community/Bowling Lunches**

We shall all be glad to be able to enjoy our monthly lunches at The Cottage Hotel and wish William and Sarah all the best for 2024. The first one is on February 22nd at 12.30 and the next one is on March 21st at 12.30.

All are welcome and it would be lovely to see any newcomers. Playing bowls is not a condition of being able to join in the lunches!

Short Mat Bowls at Hope and Galmpton Village Hall are on Wednesdays at 2.30 pm

Cost per person £2 to include tea and biscuits at half time. We don't take it too seriously and have lots of fun, so new players would be made very welcome.

Juliet Thompson



### **Inner Hope Methodist Chapel**

I wonder how many people have never really explored the thatched square in Inner Hope or realised the little Methodist Chapel is still an active hopeful and peaceful space available to anyone. Our services are currently at 4pm every Sunday. This will change to summer 6pm opening in March when the clocks go forward.

Many tourists actually call in when they are walking on Bolt Tail and pass our door. We are usually open except when the nursery Adventure group have tenure on Mondays.

Easter services will be as usual, but anything extra will be on posters around the village. We hope to have a coffee morning in the Fisherman's Reading Room during the school holidays. We are raising money for the Leprosy Mission which is this years charity.

There are also plans for the Spring to have a musical event with Salcombe Larks and others. Look out for the posters!

Sue Morgan

### **KATS - The Wind in the Willows**



We are delighted to let you know that Kingsbridge Amateur Theatrical Society will be performing The Wind in the Willows for their March 2024 production.

Based on the novel by Kenneth Grahame, the musical is written by Julian Fellowes (Downton Abbey), with music and lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe (Honk!, Mary Poppins, Half a Sixpence).



With an incredibly talented cast, professional Musical Director and Choreographer and an amazing Stage team this is packed full of toe tapping tunes and plenty of humour and a feel-good show you won't want to miss.

Toad's need for speed creates an array of mischief and winds him up imprisoned for theft. With his existence under threat from the dangerous Wild Wooders, Toad must attempt a daring escape to defend Toad Hall. Ratty, Badger and Mole join the eccentric Toad to embark on a series of adventures.

Keep an eye on our website([kats-kingsbridge.co.uk](http://kats-kingsbridge.co.uk)) and social media pages for more details for this spectacular, family friendly production.

Poop, poop!

Wednesday March 20th - Saturday March 23rd 2024 At 7.30pm—(Matinee on Sat 23rd at 2pm)

Malborough Village Hall

Tickets available from Friday January 5th

Visit [www.kats-kingsbridge.co.uk](http://www.kats-kingsbridge.co.uk) or call 07584 905810

Raked Seating. Licensed Bar. Parking. Disabled Access





### **Friends of Redfern Centre (FORC)**

There will be a committee meeting on Tuesday 20 February commencing at 7.30 pm in the Annexe of Malborough Village Hall. For further information please contact the Secretary, Jan Carter on 560086 or email [tides.view@btinternet.com](mailto:tides.view@btinternet.com)



### **Wednesday Writers Online**

New and experienced writers are welcome to attend our creative writing workshops.

Zoom sessions start at 10am and continue (with writing and comfort breaks) until 12.30pm or thereabouts. We're usually finished by 12.45pm and always by 1pm. For the 2024 dates and full details, visit <https://www.scrivenervirgin.com/wednesday-writers-online/>

Topics: 28 February = Psychogeography. 27 March = Finding your Voice.

Any questions? Please ring Anne on 07721 695044 or email [anne/rainbow@btinternet.com](mailto:anne/rainbow@btinternet.com)

### **HOPE COVE WRITERS' RETREAT** at the Cottage Hotel 14-17 November 2024

Join Anne Rainbow for 72 hours of writerly escapism in beautiful surroundings, discussing the writing process, and gaining a greater understanding of how other writers write. Enjoy opportunities to share your writing and listen to that of others, giving and receiving helpful feedback. Most importantly, meet new writers and forge friendships that can help your writing to progress.

Full details at <https://www.scrivenervirgin.com/hope-cove-writers-workshop-weekend/>.

Any questions? Please ring Anne on 07721 695044 or email [anne/rainbow@btinternet.com](mailto:anne/rainbow@btinternet.com)

Anne Rainbow



### **SMASH - Make or Break Meeting**

Monday 5th February. 4.30 -5.30 at Malborough Village Hall Annexe

The Sustainable Malborough And South Huish nature and climate group is under pressure due to falling numbers. We are asking for support from the community in order to carry on with our work on behalf of the two parishes. Our work includes:

Beach Cleans

Tree planting

Home Composting

Home Energy reduction

Creating Wildflower Areas

At the meeting we will be discussing how we move forward.

Do we continue?

Should we reset as an independent group working alongside the Parish Councils?

Do we have the numbers to carry out all our plans?

If you think what we stand for is worth supporting please come along and take part in the discussion. It would be great to see you. If you can't be there please contact me if you think you can spare just a few hours over the year. [tony@sussh.org](mailto:tony@sussh.org).

### **SMASH (Sustainable Malborough & South Huish) - Update on the Community Compost Scheme**

So as the storms blow in and out and back in again, I keep hoping to get into the garden to do some pruning but either the ground is too wet from the rain or too frosty! Hey ho, the joys of gardening at this time of year. In truth, many insects, bees and hedgehogs like a bit of mess to settle down in, so perhaps it's a good thing that we can't tidy up too much.

SMASH have now presented small reports on the Community Compost Scheme to both Malborough and South Huish parish councils on the work we have done so far to get the scheme up and running. We have a possible site - SWW's treatment plant in Galampton. Ben Bryant from Sustainable South Hams (Compost mentor) and I met with the site manager in December to discuss the possibility of sharing some of the site with them. He is very positive about it and has asked us to send a report to him to give an outline of what we would need and some of the technical bits, such as licences, permissions, etc that will have to be sought from SHDC, which will go to the Estates Team for approval. The report will be going to SWW by the end of this month and then we wait to see.

The site will be based on the one at Ashprington which is a small site, approximately 300m<sup>2</sup> with three open-sided compost bins, an area for a small storage container for tools, etc and reasonable space for cars to get in and out and the SHDC tractor and trailer to come every few months to crunch any big stuff up so it composts more quickly. It will be for garden waste only. Next steps – I'm looking for a couple of people to form a small community compost group to manage the scheme, going forward. Are you good with form filling? Good at recruiting volunteers or organising a volunteer roster to manage the scheme once it is open? If you would be interested in getting involved, please do get in touch – details below.

Home Compost Roadshow – As some of you will know, we had to cancel last year's because of poor weather! So, here is the new date – Saturday 2nd March – 1-4pm at Malborough Village Hall. This free event is open to all parishioners of Malborough and South Huish. This great, interactive roadshow will be run by Ben Bryant and Stuart Saunders, Sustainable SH compost mentors. Place are limited so you will need to book – see below!

So, if you're interested in helping with the Community Compost Scheme or want to book a place on the Home Compost Roadshow, please contact Kathy Harrod, Parish Clerk at [malboroughparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:malboroughparishclerk@gmail.com) or call 07704 941150.



Kingsbridge Estuary u3a

Our various interest groups are up and running after the Christmas break and we have two open meetings to look forward to in February: On the 2nd—

Listening to the Enemy- War comes to a Cornish village Mike Griffiths will relate the fascinating story of the Bletchley Park outstation in St.Erth. His father was a radio operator there

during WW2 and left a 'code book' full of secret call signs and codes which encapsulate the role of Bletchley Park in the war effort February 23rd.

Roger Kendall, now of Churchstow, was a fire-fighter in the Westminster-Soho area and has many an entertaining tale to tell about his life in the service.

Both meetings are at Malborough Village Hall at 10am. Visitors are welcome.

## **Babysitting**

Ella and Charlie are a reliable young couple offering babysitting services at a rate of £15 per hour. One of us is Level 3 First Aid certified, and has undergone enhanced DBS checks for your peace of mind. We live in Galmpton and can work anywhere in the South Hams. Contact Ella on 07742 453298. We can provide references if required.



The National Trust

With a short beautiful cold snap to dry the ground out we could crack on with some tasks we haven't been able to access for a while, like collecting the rubbish from Soar Mill Cove - a huge thank you to all the volunteers and 'Til the Coast Is Clear' team for their hard work cleaning this beach and South Milton Sands. Otherwise the wet windy weather has meant another session of track repair at South Milton and more tidying up on the sites from windblown trees and branches.

We are carrying out Harvest Mouse surveys around some of the sites including Bolberry Down, as part of the Devon Mammal Group county survey to increase the understanding of this tiny mammal. We hunt through grassy tussocks for their nests which are only used during the breeding season so there is no disturbance to them, we then report back the details of any finds. They need thick grassy tussocks to have enough cover, so benefit from areas which are left fallow and are often found near wet areas.

There is a tree planting event at East Soar Farm for a few hours on Saturday 17th Feb 10-12.30 to plant up the edge of a field with hardy scrubby plants. Booking is essential on [nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/east-soar/events](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/east-soar/events)

Looking ahead we will be starting to plan further archaeological investigations on Bolt Tail at Easter including digs and guided walks so we can learn more about the Scheduled Ancient Monuments through this area.

For information regarding the work of the South Devon National Trust team please call Emma Reece on 01548 562344 or email [emma.reece@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:emma.reece@nationaltrust.org.uk)



## **Prawle Point Coastwatch**

A very Happy New Year to all from everyone at Prawle Point NCI.

Now a bit of news for walkers. If you are passing our lookout you can now call in and have your South West Coastal Path (SWCP) passport stamped. The passport is a great opportunity to connect the Way Makers who have agreed to be stamping points along the 630 mile route of the South West Coastal Path. In this, the 50th anniversary of the SWCP, we hope that it

brings more walkers to the lookout and raises the profile of NCI.

Roger Odell was the first in our class of 2023 to qualify before Christmas. Now we are waiting for a further seven to help boost our numbers. With lots of Covid and various nasty coughs and colds around we have struggled to double-man the shifts at Prawle Point and the floods and high winds have sometimes made even getting there problematic. Roll on the Spring!

The bad weather has resulted in very few vessels to keep an eye on, but we did have one bizarre incident just before Christmas, when our watchkeepers spotted a large, red, Wall's ice cream fridge, floating 0.4nm SE of the lookout. As we didn't imagine it was an early Christmas present for the watchkeepers we reported it to Falmouth Coastguard who advised that they would issue a local navigational warning as it was deemed a potential shipping hazard. Our website is [www.nci-prawlepoint.org.uk](http://www.nci-prawlepoint.org.uk). We broadcast the local conditions every two hours from 09.45am on VHF Channel 65 during daylight hours. Call us on Channel 65 for AIS and radio checks. Lookout telephone 01548 511259. Dee White

### Diary of events February – March 2024

2nd February	Kingsbridge Estuary u3a Listening to the Enemy War comes to a Cornish village — Malborough Village Hall	10am
5th February	SMASH - Make or Break Meeting Malborough Village Hall Annexe	4.30-5.30pm
17th February	Tree planting East Soar Farm Booking is essential on <a href="http://nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/east-soar/events">nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/east-soar/events</a>	
20 February	FORC Malborough Village Hall Annex1	7.30pm
21st February	Mobile Library Weymouth Park, Galmpton	12:30 & 1:30
22nd February	Community lunch—The Cottage Hotel	12.30
23rd February	Roger Kendle, Firefighter Kingsbridge Estuary u3a Malborough Village Hall	10am
2nd March	Home Compost Roadshow Malborough Village Hall	1-4pm
9th March	Black Tie Ball/ Friends of St Clements Tickets and info: Jill Beavis, 07710904938, 560968, <a href="mailto:j.beavis23@btinternet.com">j.beavis23@btinternet.com</a>	7pm
20th – 23rd March	KATS Wind in the Willows Production Malborough Village Hall	7:30pm

### Future dates

Hope Cove Writers' Retreat at the Cottage Hotel 14-17 November 2024

**Copy deadline for the April/May issue: Tuesday 26th March 2024**

### The Village Hall

People have been using the village hall without making a booking. This has issues in that there are Health and Safety and insurance implications. The hall also loses revenue sorely needed for its upkeep. Please contact Juliet Thompson 07971 883056 for all village hall bookings.

## Nature Notes

What a strange winter—started off unusually warm foxing some plants (daffodils), then really wet causing roadside banks to collapse. Many of the soils here are rich in clays, clays can accommodate water and as such swell when soaked. It does not require an advanced understanding of mineral chemistry to realise absorbing water makes you— or indeed clays expand. Expansion requires somewhere to expand to and that is why banks and escarpments collapse. Clays are fascinating and have interesting properties; they are very small averaging 500th of a millimetre—that is small! Being 'sheet like' they have a very large surface area which means they absorb all manner of substances including water. They are often used to 'clean' mineral and biological contaminants. In ancient times they were used to clean wounds relatively successfully. They can be used to either protect or damage humans - we refer of course to bricks. Bricks are fired clays where the heat has driven off waters leaving a hard brittle object. Used to build shelters they are a benefit to society; picked up and lobbed at opponents is less constructive and desirable.

'Yes' I hear you say 'but what about the wildlife these two past months?'

Hold on - I am not finished with clays; most of those pots you have in the garden are made of fired clay—and have been for centuries. One can date many archaeological sites by the pottery fragments encountered. A successful 'dig' leads to a nice cup of tea—usually out of a mug—not the fine bone china of more genteel society. And where—I hear you ask does 'fine bone china' come from? Well very locally—the granites of Dartmoor! Some of the finest 'china clay' derives from weathered broken down Dartmoor granite. Witness the many china clay pits in and around Devon and Cornwall. So next time you get muddy boots don't complain because you are only treading on what in another form you drink out of, eat from, plaster over your face or use as a crucible for the smelting of gold.

OK wildlife seen, a woodpecker on the bird feeders, other birds too—the usual suspects. Seagulls—seen seagulls...![Your heart isn't really in this—is it ed.] ...

'Well it is all the same same isn't it?' [So the extent of your natural environment observational prowess this past two months is 'seagulls' ed].

Well then we had a nasty cold spell which attracted all of the spiders into the headquarters. This is where the male of the species comes into his own (not the male spider —he is likely to be eaten) —the human male is assigned the task of hunting for bath spiders... cupboard spiders... boot spiders.. armed with only a stiff piece of card and a clear drinking glass.

Spiders are amazing (mind you everything is 'amazing' on telly now); with eight legs and four eyes and most importantly the web-creating spinnerets. Who cannot marvel at the precision, variety and strength of a spiders web. I defy anyone not to look in awe at a dewy cloaked web on crisp autumnal morning. Wikipedia (yes Wikipedia!) informs me that there are 51,673 species of spiders arranged into 136 families. They occur on all continents except Antarctica and have exploited all environments from deserts to water. Currently at Nature Notes International we are researching the possibility that there is a 56,674th species of spider living in the lifeboat house in Inner Hope. Funding for this research has come from the Natural History Museum in London and was delivered in a brown paper bag which curiously enough had a spider in it.

Apparently there are 650 species of spiders in Britain—though others are trying to gain entry by hiding in bunches of bananas—I kid you not. There are 12 species that bite and inject venom, only 2 species are like-

ly to cause any real pain. Australia has the most venomous spiders some of which can kill. Mind you they are not the only thing that can kill you in Australia.

The collective term for spiders is ***arachnids***. Why such a funny name I hear you ask?

Well as with many taxonomic terms it comes from classical Greek and Latin. Whilst many of you will know this it is worth reminding ourselves of the origins of the arachnids. Arachne was a Lydian girl who gained a reputation for weaving and embroidery so perfect that Nymphs gazed at her work in amazement. Rumour was that she had gained her skill from the goddess Athena. However Arachne refuted this suggestion and emphatically said her skill was self taught. This irritated Athena who visited Arachne in the guise of an old crone and advised her not to cross the goddess. Arachne was having none of it and replied with insults. Infuriated Athena threw off her disguise and a weaving contest ensued. Arachne came out the victor but was murdered by Athena who (in the spirit of all gods and goddesses) would not let Arachne die but turned her into a spider condemned to spend all eternity weaving webs. And you thought you had a hard life.

To answer a question we have been asked recently, do we know who or what is the aged shadowy figure lurking around lower Galmpton dressed in a peplos (ancient Greek dress) enquiring about the local sewing bee?. We do not know who or what this apparition is but we advise should they join the sewing bee—do not to challenge their weaving ability if asked.

If you have any fascinating stories or observations relating to nature and would like to share them—please feel free email or phone NNI headquarters at [tom@ariadnebc.co.uk](mailto:tom@ariadnebc.co.uk) Tel: 01548562021.

No double glazing salesmen please!

And yes the correct scientific name for clays is hydrous aluminium phyllosilicate minerals

**Emergency Contact Numbers:****Police, Fire, Ambulance or Coastguard****999****Police Enquiry Centre****101**

Water Supply and Sewage

0344 346 1010

Electricity Supply (general enquiry)

0800 096 3080

Electricity power cuts

105

South Hams District Council

01803 861234

Devon County Council (main switchboard)

0345 155 1015

Neighbourhood Watch

To be advised

Highways issues report to: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/>

Other useful contacts:

Action Fraud

03454 040506

Police – Salcombe Harbour Office

843791

Redfern Health Centre, Salcombe

842284

Redfern Car Co-ordinator

Terry Andrew

843842

“ “

Sue Dobson

842784

Norton Brook Medical Centre, Kingsbridge

853551

Norton Brook Car Co-ordinator

856490

County Councillor

Rufus Gilbert

856659

District Councillor

Samantha Dennis

01803 861 284

District Councillor

Mark Long

843828

Parish Clerk

Kathy Harrod

Mob 07704 941150

Parish Councillors

Jo Hocking (Chairman)

561275

“

Anne Rossiter (Vice Chair)

561210

“

Jan Carter

560086

“

Darren James

562632

“

Alan Rundle

560117

“

Steve Pearson

561597

“

Tom Windle

562021

Footpath Officer

Richard Pollard

561526

Tree Warden

Jamie Rundle via parish clerk

07704 941150

Chairman to the Harbour

Commissioners

Dave Clarke

561825

Harbourmasters

Sean Hassall

07970859992

“

Alastair Watson

07967 661521

Village Hall Bookings

Juliet Thompson

07971 883056

Bowling

“

“

Reading Room Bookings

David Morgan

560237

Hope History Group

Phil Worth

561415

Line Dancing

Lindy Sinnott

843944

Hope Cove Weekend

Sandra Keith hopecoveseecretary@gmail.com

South Huish Churches

Parish office

842626

Hope Cove Methodist Church Sue &amp; David Morgan

560237

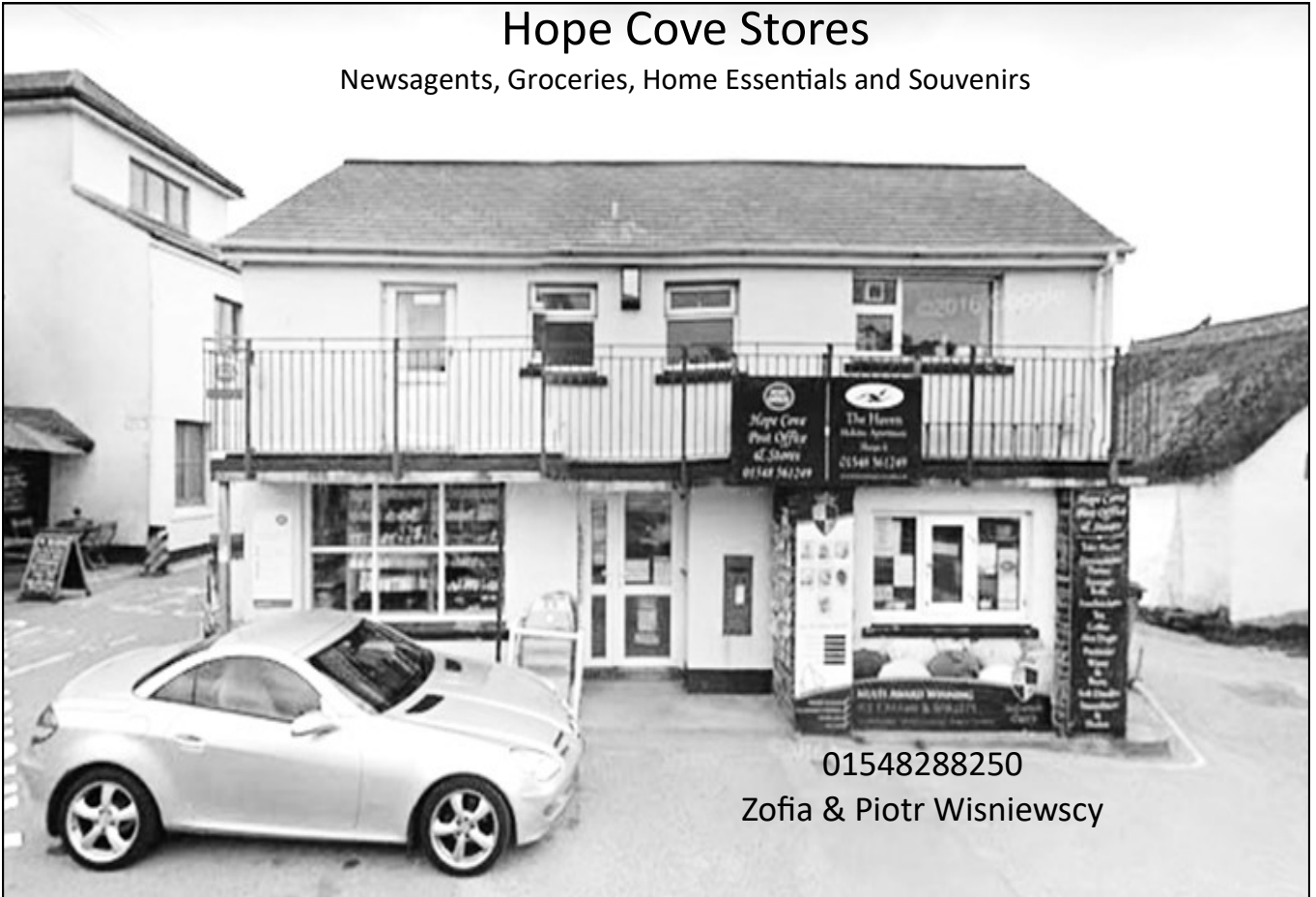
Methodist church minister

Rachel Mitchell

852073

# Hope Cove Stores

Newsagents, Groceries, Home Essentials and Souvenirs



01548288250

Zofia & Piotr Wisniewscy

**The Village Hall** available for community functions, fitness and dance classes, exhibitions, jumble sales, complete with tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, cooker and heating!

