

# Ogwell

## Parish Magazine



June/July 2026

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# Ogwell Parish Magazine



Roadworks bring inconvenience and annoyance, but one upside of the current prison-related road closures is the peace and quiet of Rectory Road. Instead of the prison rush hours when shifts change, and the through traffic to Denbury and onwards, there are only occasional delivery vans and local residents using the road for access. There's hardly any litter to pick up on my daily dog walks either. It won't last of course. When the expanded prison is fully operational, the traffic will be heavier, and I'll probably need a bigger bag for the litter!

Let's hope roaming cats and wildlife manage when the road reopens. Not to mention pedestrians and cyclists!

Speaking of wildlife, it's lovely to see and hear our summer visiting birds. Sitting typing, I catch occasional glimpses of the swifts that have returned this year to nest in the boxes we put up a couple of years ago. Fingers crossed some swifts find their way to the boxes recently installed in the church tower. You can read all about that project on page 19, and get involved if you're interested.

With summer nearly here, we're working to get the garden into shape for the Open Gardens weekend on June 13th-14th. There are six gardens to visit, all quite different, with refreshments available in our garden, Rydon Brake. It's all in aid of a number of charities, including Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust and English Heritage. See page 23 for more information.

The Summer Fair follows soon after, on June 27th, and will feature all the usual attractions plus some new ones, including a storytelling tent and a yoga/wellness retreat. Finally, we are still looking for help with the magazine, particularly for advertising sales. See page 13 for info.

**Pauline Wynter, Editor,**  
[opmeditorial@gmail.com](mailto:opmeditorial@gmail.com)



## FRONT COVER

All the fun of the Summer Fair  
this year on 27<sup>th</sup> June

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# Prison News, Annual Review, In Credit

## Parish Council Report for April and May 2026

A further follow-up on Channings Wood Prison – there has been a definite reduction in the light levels at night for which we can thank Teignbridge District Council. Also, Devon County Council Highways have agreed that the back lane leading from Higher Stubbins to the prison should be signed as unsuitable for motor vehicles. This lane apparently appears on some Satnavs and leads to vehicles driving around completely lost and confused which helps no-one. I understand from Highways that because the lane in question is a green lane they can't remove it from Satnavs. With other roads being presently closed, it is not always easy, even for locals, to help motorists get to where they want to be. We have now had our Annual Parish Council Meeting and also the Annual Parish Meeting which enabled the Parish Council to thank all those who have contributed to the wellbeing of our community, including the Memorial Hall, providing a venue for many diverse activities, and the Events Committee who work so hard to give us a Summer Fair, Summer Sundowner and Bonfire Night. Anyone involved knows what a time-consuming and complicated procedure it is to organise and run these events so we can't thank them enough for continuing to make them happen. Thanks were also given to Ogwill for continuing to increase wild flower planting around the parish. There was a setback in the use of Rectory Field which has now reverted to being run by Woodland Trust although still open for residents to use. Ogwell Parish Council now welcomes a new Chair, Councillor Pauline Wynter, who

presently edits the parish magazine. Our previous Chair, Steve Reynolds, is stepping down after seven years in the position and he was warmly thanked for the major contribution he has made to the running of the parish council and the achievements during that time. Councillor Tim Flower continues as Deputy Chair.

We can report that work on the Play Areas is now complete, although there are still a couple of matters to be dealt with which will be addressed in the coming weeks. The council discussed the old quarry area at the back of the Green which is apparently being used for mountain biking. There are concerns about debris dumped in this area and safety issues which we need to investigate and address.

The Annual Financial review was carried out. We need to have a look at the Risk Register at a future meeting to ensure that it meets current risks. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was signed by the new Chair with a majority vote. We ended our financial year with a healthy balance of £58,000 credit which will enable us to continue to work for the benefit of the community.

The next meeting will be an Extraordinary Meeting on June 8th 2026 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall to discuss safeguarding parish land. This will be an open meeting and all are welcome. The next full Parish Council Meeting will be on July 13th at 7pm and as usual we welcome parishioners.

**Rita Hannaford, Clerk,**  
*[ritahannaford@btinternet.com](mailto:ritahannaford@btinternet.com)*  
*[clerk@ogwell.org](mailto:clerk@ogwell.org)*

# What's New At The Memorial Hall

## Upgrades and Replacements

- Some electrical upgrading has been carried out over the past few weeks
- The first stage of replacing our table and chairs has taken place, thanks to funding from the Events Committee
- The first phase of our kitchen remodelling/refit is due to start in May half term and continue during the summer holidays.

## Regular Activities

**Pre-School** has some places available for September, contact Lisa or Claire for more information and a visit on tel: 01626 365894

**Afternoon Table Tennis** now 2-3.30pm on the first Thursday of the month, £3 per person including all equipment and tea/coffee.

**Games Group** now increased to 10.30-noon on the first and third Fridays of the month due to popular demand, £3 per person including tea/coffee.

**Luncheon Club** continues to meet regularly thanks to the new team of volunteers. If you would like to dine, or maybe help the team, contact Anthea on 01626 362003.

**Keep Fit, Tai Chi and Table Tennis** continue to meet weekly at 4pm on Tuesday, 6pm on Wednesday and 7pm on Thursday respectively.

**U3A History and Armchair Travel** continue to meet at 1.45 pm on the second Wednesday and 1.45pm on the last Monday of the month respectively.

**Parish Council** meets at 7pm on the second Monday of the month.

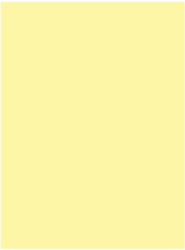
**Gong Bathing** is at 6.30pm on the third Monday of the month.

Spaces still exist to offer new activities, or to accommodate a family event. If you have an idea for a regular group, or a one off event, please contact **Carla** on [carlaglanvilleomh23@gmail.com](mailto:carlaglanvilleomh23@gmail.com) or **07977 281335**

*Peter Farrell, Secretary,*



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# Three Cheers For Volunteers!

## Annual Report of OPC Chair Steve Reynolds

This last 12 months has flown by, and it is good to reflect on what we have achieved during that time.

Despite its geographical challenges, Ogwell always manages to maintain a great community spirit, driven heavily by our wonderful Events Team. The Parish Council owes a huge debt of gratitude to the team for the superb events they organise.

However, our village sadly still lacks a pub, a Post Office, or a shop. Our dedicated Shop Group was unable to progress its plan to acquire suitable shop premises and most of the funds raised through the share sale have been returned to the 280 shareholders. On the plus side, many shareholders kindly waived their refunds allowing the group to keep a surplus of around £9,000 to eventually be donated to a local charity for use with a future village project.

It is now five years since the Jolly Sailor burned down and despite planning permission being granted, we still have no movement on the site. The Parish Council remains in contact with the owner, Heavitree Brewery, which is trying to sell the site, and we need to consider how we can press for some restoration works to commence.

The Memorial Hall benefitted from a significant roof repair project a few years ago and the focus is now on a kitchen renewal project. Our sincere thanks go to the Hall Committee members for their hard work behind the scenes to accommodate the Ogwell Pre-School and the numerous clubs and associations that hire the facilities. The Play Areas on the Green and at Dawes Close received a makeover this spring.

Repairs have been made to the playing surface at Dawes Close and numerous rotten timbers have been replaced at the Nature Park on the Green. The next phase at the Nature Park is to source some replacement and new additional equipment.

Ogwild has continued its brilliant work encouraging biodiversity. Thanks to the team's efforts, we have enjoyed the emergence of many wild flower species and the wildlife that follows them. Thank you to all the Ogwild volunteers who work hard throughout the year.


The Parish Magazine continues to be delivered free to all residents six times a year. Our thanks go to Cllr Pauline Wynter as editor, Paul Wynter for selling the advertising space, and to Cllr Paul Martin for coordinating our dedicated delivery team.

We sincerely hope this vital means of communication will continue as Pauline and Paul step down later in the year.

The Parish Council is made up of volunteers who do their best to keep our village amenities—such as the Green, the play areas, and our footpaths—in good order. We also work hard to represent local views on planning applications and other matters affecting our area.

We are always looking for volunteers to help share the load. If you feel like getting involved, or know someone who might, please get in touch. We would welcome the chance to have a chat.

Finally, I want to say a massive thank you to my fellow Councillors, to our longstanding Clerk Rita, and to every sub-group and community organisation working so hard to help Ogwell thrive.



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# Keep Pets Safe In Summer

Summer is on its way and is the ideal time for long evening walks and fun times with our pets in our gardens.

Here are a few tips to keep your pet safe in warm weather.

**Hydration:** ensure fresh, clean water is available at all times,. Try adding a few ice cubes to encourage drinking during the hotter weather. This helps to keep our pets hydrated and cooler in the heat.

**Exercise:** avoid walking your dogs during the midday heat. Place your hand on the pavement for five seconds - if it's too hot for you it is too hot for your pet's paws, which may result in ulceration and burns. Walk your dog in the early morning and late evening.

**Never leave your pet unattended** in a car caravan or conservatory in these warmer months, even for a few minutes.

Temperatures can reach dangerously high levels quickly, resulting in coma and possible death.

**Fleas, ticks and worms:** summer is the peak time for these pests. Ensure your veterinary treatment is up to date and continued

throughout the summer months when the risks are high.

**Heatstroke:** signs include drooling, heavy panting, restlessness, drowsiness and maybe vomiting. Move your pets to the shade, wet their fur, give them damp towels to lie on and call your vet immediately.

**Grass seeds:** check in between your pets paws, their ears and eyes daily. Brush your dogs when home from your walk, checking them over for evidence of grass seeds. If you are concerned about behaviour such as constant paw licking and ear scratching, get advice from your vet.

**Keep a close eye on your pet rabbits,** check their bottoms daily and ensure they are kept clean and free from matted faeces. Flies will lay their eggs, which can hatch into maggots within 24 hours, causing distress, pain and possible death. Feed a good varied diet of hay, greens and specialist rabbit food.

**Take extra care with flat-faced dogs** such as pugs, French bulldogs, shih tzus, and boxers, as they are at greater risk of health problems in hot weather, including being vulnerable to heatstroke. Make sure you keep them cool. Enjoy the summer!

*The Ogwell Veterinary Nurse*



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# Parish Magazine Needs Help

There has been one offer of help to produce the parish magazine, which the parish council is considering. The offer is from someone outside Ogwell who produces a parish magazine for their village. They would be unable to take on the advertisement sales though, so we are still looking for someone to do that.

Looking after the advertisers involves sending out renewal notices and invoices once a year (currently around October/November), plus dealing with any enquiries about advertising during the year. There is still time to make other arrangements for magazine production to keep it within the village, or if the offered help does not work out. If you value the magazine, and know of anyone who might have the skills and the time to help, please get in contact. As the current editor, I am willing to stay involved within a team, perhaps looking after one or two issues a year, if others would come forward to take on the production of an issue or two. Two or three people sharing the work would be a good way forward.

It would be sad to lose the magazine. It is a part of community life and helps keep people informed. Lots of people are on social media, and keep in touch that way but print magazines still have a place.



For further information contact Pauline Wynter at

[opmeditorial@gmail.com](mailto:opmeditorial@gmail.com) or 07712 673995

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# Learning, Laughter And Adventure

Delphine Knott, Headteacher, Canada Hill School



## David Attenborough's 100th birthday celebrations

One of the most memorable events this term was our whole-school celebration of Sir David Attenborough's birthday, which inspired a fantastic day of nature-based learning and exploration. Children across the school took part in bug surveys, pond dipping, woodland explorations in Baker's Woods, and even documentary making as they embraced the spirit of discovery and curiosity that Sir David has encouraged for generations. Our youngest children in EYFS also enjoyed a very special visit from an exotic animals expert, who introduced them to a fascinating range of unusual creatures and helped bring the natural world to life in a truly memorable way.

## Rotary helping us learn about lifecycles

Our thanks also go to the Newton Abbot Rotary Club, whose generous donation of £300 enabled us to provide Insect Lore butterfly kits for every classroom. This has allowed children across the school to witness the incredible butterfly life cycle first-hand, observing transformation in real time and deepening their understanding of the natural world.

## Keeping traditions alive

At the beginning of May, we were delighted to continue a much-loved tradition with our Maypole Dancing celebration. Parents of our Year 1 and Year 2 children joined us to watch the children



perform traditional dances around the maypole, and the afternoon ended in wonderful style, with many parents enthusiastically joining in themselves.

## Vital swimming and road safety lessons

Our Year 5 children have had a particularly active term. Each Tuesday afternoon, they have been walking to Newton Abbot Leisure Centre for swimming lessons, which have been a real success in helping children build confidence in the water and develop this essential life skill. Continuing our focus on helping children stay safe and independent, our Year 6 pupils have also taken part in a half-day Walkability road safety session, developing their awareness and confidence when navigating roads safely as they prepare for the next stage of their education.





### **Marathon madness all for a great cause**

Ten of our children had the incredible opportunity to travel to London to take part in the Schools London Marathon, running a one-mile course as part of this inspiring national event. They had a wonderful time representing the school, and we were especially thrilled that one of our Year 6 pupils won his race, earning the unforgettable experience of seeing Canada Hill Primary School displayed in lights. Closer to home, the whole school also took part in our own Canada Hill Marathon, with children completing their own two-mile challenge over the course of several weeks by running laps of the playground during PE lessons and other opportunities throughout the school day.

This culminated in a special Marathon Day, when classes headed out to complete their final laps, cheered on enthusiastically by their classmates as they ran past famous London landmarks, kindly printed and supplied by Bayside Signs and Display. Our Marathon running raised £513 for Young Lives vs Cancer!

### **Stover Cross Country**

Sport has been a real highlight this term, with over 70 children taking part in a recent cross-country event at Stover School, either

competing in the main races or joining the fun run. It was fantastic to see so many children embracing the challenge, showing determination and enthusiasm. A huge thank you goes to the many parents who helped make this possible by transporting children to and from the event — we are so grateful for your support.



### **Adventure days!**

As this article goes to print, our Year 5 pupils are enjoying their second Adventure Day at River Dart Country Park, where they are taking part in activities including abseiling, climbing, high ropes, caving and kayaking. These exciting experiences are invaluable in helping children develop confidence, resilience and strong team spirit.

We have also been delighted to welcome the children who will be joining our school in September 2026 for their very first Canada Hill experience at our Teddy Bears' Picnic. It was lovely to see them playing together in the hall, beginning to make new friendships and settling so happily into their new surroundings. We look forward to welcoming them back again next half term. As always, Canada Hill continues to be a place full of learning, laughter, adventure and community spirit, and we are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our families and the wider local community.



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# Lunch Club in the Memorial Hall

We look forward to welcoming diners at our monthly Lunch Club.

The lunches in 2026 will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of the month. The next few dates are:

- Wednesday 17th June
- Wednesday 15th July
- Wednesday 16th September

**Note:** There is no lunch in August

We are open from 12 noon, and we start serving at 12.45pm. Please remember to come in via the side door.

New diners are always welcome, please just let us know that you'd like to come! We serve a 3-course lunch for just £8.

For all enquiries, please contact either:

**Anthea Hoey: 01626 362003 /07816 171473**

**Stella Llewellyn: 01626 906814 / 07966 555416**



## Ogwell 'Third Agers'

Teign u3a is an organisation for those no longer in full-time employment. The local group is based in Newton Abbot and covers the surrounding villages in the area with over 500 members.

We hold a monthly meeting at St Paul's Church Hall, Devon Square, on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2pm. Visitors are most welcome.

We have over 70 groups, two of which, History and Armchair Travel, meet monthly in The Jubilee Suite of the Ogwell Memorial Hall at 1:45pm.

Annual membership of Teign u3a is £30. To find out more please visit [teignu3a.org.uk](http://teignu3a.org.uk)

### Ogwell meetings for June and July

Wednesday 10th June

History: Alice Hawkins and other Suffragettes/Suffragists

Monday 29th June

Armchair Travel: Sri Lanka

Wednesday 8th July

History: Suffragents

Monday 27th July

Armchair Travel: Canada

Janet – Group Leader History

Mike – Group Leader Armchair Travel

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# Swift Action Project

Swifts are arriving in Devon and nesting adults returning to their nest chambers. Younger birds will be looking to bond and nest for the first time and yearlings will be zipping around prospecting for foraging and nesting sites for next year. Fingers crossed that swifts are seen checking out the newly-installed boxes in Ogwell's church tower for a new home.

## Help needed monitoring Swift Action

From mid June through to the end of July we want to survey for any swift activity in and around the church tower and over the churchyard. Observations are best made during calm, dry weather in the day or evening for about 40-60 minutes. We hope to have at least one observation report each week that we will submit to the Devon Swift Project database. This task should hopefully be an enjoyable and relaxing opportunity to connect with nature at St Bartholmew's. If you'd like to join our survey team please get in touch so we can provide you with information and find out what dates and times suit you best.

**Contact** Gwyn Hughes or Louise Sessions: 078148496464 or email [ogwild4@gmail.com](mailto:ogwild4@gmail.com)

## New sites for Swift nest boxes

Ogwilld are working with Devon Swift Project to set up and run a workshop for people to make up and install their own swift box ready for next year. Come and chat to us at Ogwell Summer Fair to see if you'd like to be involved and to learn what the boxes look like and the best types of location. Thanks to Ogwell Events Committee for funding to support this initiative.

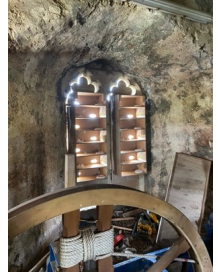
## Bugs matter!

Swifts eat a wide variety of small, airborne insects and spiders caught mid-flight.

Because they hunt on the wing, they rely on the natural abundance of flying bugs to feed themselves and their chicks. Research shows the flying insect population in the UK has declined by 60% over the past 20 years, so anything we can do to encourage more insects can only help. Insects thrive in diverse pesticide-free habitats, so it is easy to make a difference by planting for pollinators, ditching chemicals, mowing less frequently, at least some sections of grass, and providing water and natural habitats and shelters.



*Swift Box prior to installation*



*Boxes attached behind new louvres before being closed*

## Love Your Burial Ground Week / Churches Count on Nature Initiative 6th – 14th June

Join us at St Bart's from 10:30am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June, after the church service, when we hope to take a look at wild-life, plants and insects in the church grounds as part of this celebratory week. Do come and see what we can find. The results will be recorded and submitted to this citizen science project.

By promoting nature in the churchyard, as well as throughout our village, we hope to learn about and identify what is available for Swifts to feed on as well as contribute to this national scheme.



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# Ogwell Tennis Club

Our season has begun well with many of our members continuing to renew their subscriptions to the club. This year we have introduced a new membership category. It's £5 to join for any non-playing person who would like to hear our news, attend our social events and keep in touch and up to date with the club. If you are one of these people please contact the club secretary – details can be found below.



Last month we held an American Style Tournament with 10 members taking part (pictured top right). It was a lovely sunny, Sunday morning and the winners were Steve Harris and Jill Pill (pictured bottom right) after an exciting final. This month we shall once again be helping at the Summer Fair on Ogwell Green on Saturday 27th June with a BBQ stall and a side stall where young and old can practice their ball skills and hand and eye coordination for a small fee and win big prizes! We are holding an Open Afternoon on Sunday 5th July 2-4pm at the tennis court. Equipment will be provided and there will be refreshments available. Please do come along and meet us and see if tennis is something you'd like to find out more about. Please see the poster below for details.



It is not too late to join the tennis club for this season. Please contact the Club Secretary for further details.

*Julia Barton, Secretary*  
**01803 813363**

## Ogwell Tennis Club Open Afternoon

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm-4pm**

**Please come and meet the Tennis Club team**  
**Take the opportunity to try out your tennis game**  
**We look forward to welcoming you**  
**Wear loose fitting clothes and trainers**  
**All equipment will be provided**  
**Refreshments available**



**27TH JUNE 2026**

**12NOON ON THE GREEN**

# Ogwell SUMMER FAIR

## ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES



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# Ogwell Gardens

**Gardens Open For Charity**



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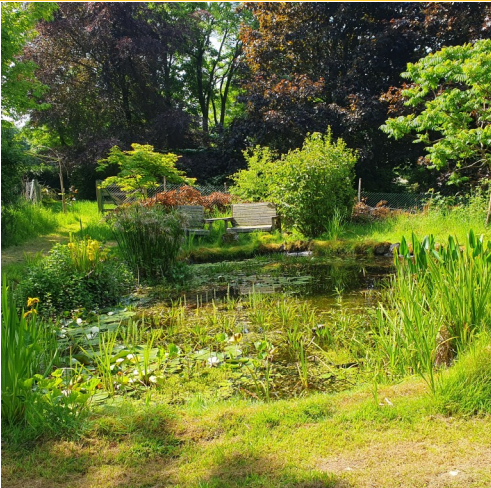
**Combined entry to gardens £8, children free**

**Tickets available at all gardens for cash**

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**Refreshments served at Rydon Brake, Rectory Road, TQ12 6AH**

**A map of the gardens will be provided**



## **Volunteers needed!**

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# The Best Red Wine For BBQ Season

The first properly warm Friday evening changes everything. Windows stay open longer, gardens fill with people, and somewhere nearby somebody is burning the sausages.

BBQ season has begun.

At our regular Totnes Market stall, we spend a lot of time talking to people about what to drink with food cooked over fire. The answer surprises people because it isn't big steak wines or something expensive.

My barbecue go-to is Primitivo.

If there's one red wine I'd always want to have nearby during barbecue weather, it's this.

Primitivo comes from southern Italy, mainly Puglia, where the climate is hot, dry and ideal for producing generous, fruit-forward wines. It's the sort of red that works just as well on a weeknight as it does at a barbecue. It's juicy, full-bodied and soft, with ripe black fruit flavours that work brilliantly with smoky food. You get dark cherries, plums and a little spice, but without the hard tannins that can make some red wines feel drying or aggressive, especially outdoors in the heat.

If you enjoy Malbec, Primitivo tends to hit a lot of the same notes: ripe fruit, softness and plenty of flavour.

Better still, good Primitivo doesn't have to be expensive. Our most popular example is £12.75 a bottle, which makes it the sort of wine you're happy to open with friends.

A lot of people think they don't like red wine with barbecue food because they've been given something too heavy, too oaky or too severe. Primitivo tends to do the opposite.

It's generous rather than demanding.

It also suits the way most people actually cook and eat in summer. Burgers, sausages, sticky marinades, grilled vegetables, lamb kebabs, charred chicken.

Even fish over charcoal. Primitivo

is adaptable enough to handle all of it without becoming complicated.

And unlike some richer reds, you don't have to overthink serving it. Slightly cool is often best. Ten minutes in the fridge before opening on a warm evening does no harm at all.

Our market stall in Totnes has become a regular Friday and Saturday stop for people looking for wines that feel a bit more personal than supermarket shelves. One of the pleasures of Totnes Market is that you can put together most of a weekend barbecue in one place. Burgers and sausages made from locally reared meat, fresh fish from Brixham, proper seasonal vegetables, fresh bread from the bakers, and olive oil and spices brought across the Channel by sail from France and Portugal. Then stop by for a bottle of wine to go with it.

We work with independent growers and family wineries, choosing bottles because they taste good and offer character rather than because they fit a marketing trend.

So now that barbecue weather has arrived, come and see us at Totnes Market.

And if you only leave with one bottle, there's a good chance it should be Primitivo..

***dan@wickhamwine.co.uk***



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# Herring Gulls Are Resilient But At Risk



Herring Gulls are a familiar sight – and sound – in our village. To some people, their loud calls and bold behaviour can feel intrusive. Yet their presence here tells a much bigger story, one shaped by human activity. For millennia, Herring Gulls nested along our coasts, feeding naturally at sea. But industrial overfishing has drastically reduced the marine life they rely on, while coastal development has destroyed many traditional nesting sites on cliffs and shorelines. Faced with dwindling food supplies and fewer safe places to breed, gulls have increasingly been driven inland, using rooftops as substitutes for cliffs.

Far from being a thriving species, Herring Gulls are struggling to survive. Their numbers in the UK have fallen by around 60% in recent decades, placing them on the UK Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern. They are now considered at serious risk of extinction in this country.

In fact, gulls are remarkable birds. Highly intelligent and resourceful, they form strong family bonds. Herring Gulls mate for life and are attentive, devoted parents. They are excellent problem-solvers, able to recognise people, and they also play an important role in the environment by helping to clear waste and carrion from our towns and waterways. Herring Gulls are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is illegal to harm them or disturb their nests, eggs, or chicks without a licence. Offenders can face an unlimited fine and up to six months in prison.

## **Nesting gulls and fallen chicks**

For many households, nesting gulls on the roof cause little or no problem. Difficulties usually arise only if a chick falls to the ground before it can fly, leaving it vulnerable to cars, cats and foxes. In these situations, adult birds may swoop to protect their young, which can understandably feel alarming.

However, help is available. A fallen chick can be safely returned to its parents on the roof, or taken to a specialist bird sanctuary from where it will eventually be released. This protects the chick from predators and normally stops the swooping too – a simple solution that benefits both people and birds. If a gull chick falls from a nest on your roof, you can call 07972 880470 for help (Ogwell area only).

With a little kindness and understanding, we may begin to see these birds differently – not as pests, but as resilient wild creatures adapting to challenges we humans have created.

*The Ogwell Herring Girl*



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# What's In A Name?

One of the joys of rambling is wandering through Devon villages and wondering how they got their quaint names. Celts, Romans, Saxons, and Vikings have all left their mark. Some common endings give us a clue. For example, many Cornish place names are Celtic in origin and incorporate the word 'coombe' a corruption of 'cwm', meaning valley. In Devon, however, there is more Saxon influence, such as 'ham', meaning homestead/village, 'ton' fenced enclosure, 'bury/borough' town (from the Saxon burgh) and 'ley' clearing. Viking endings (much more common in the North and East) include 'by', 'thorpe' and 'thwaite'. The Romans gave us 'castra' meaning camp which changed to 'caster' and 'chester' as common endings.

So we get part of the clue for places like Combeinteignhead, Denbury, Newton, Brixham and Chudleigh.

Sometimes the clue is obvious, as in places like Bridgetown (Totnes), Teignmouth and Dartmeet. Or less obvious, as in Abbotskerswell, which is a corruption of 'Abbot's cress well'.

Torbryan is interesting as while the old English word 'torr' means a hill the bryan

part relates to the de Brienne family who held the manor for over 250 years and illustrates the practice of naming places after the local lords.

Similarly, Bovey Tracey was owned by the de Tracey family.

One place that has always fascinated me is Buckland-Tout-Saints in the South Hams. Apparently Buckland refers to land held by charter and the owners were the Norman 'Toutsaints' family.

Totnes was named after Totta and ness, meaning a headland such as the Ness near Shaldon, while Ipplepen probably refers to Ippela's hill and is of Celtic origin.

An aspect of the local area was often included in a place name, such as Blackpool, Stoneycombe and Heathfield.

Last but not least, what about Ogwell? It originates from Old English and refers to Wogga's spring/stream and was first recorded in 956 as Wogganwylle!

So now you know.



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# Truth Really Is Stranger Than Fiction

Book Review: Operation Mincemeat, by Ben Macintyre (2010)

Years ago I remember watching *The Man Who Never Was*, a film based on a book of the same name written by naval intelligence officer Ewen Montagu in 1953 at the behest of the government. It tells the true story of a WWII operation masterminded by Montagu and Flight Lieutenant Charles Cholmondeley to lay a false trail about invasion plans.

Recently I watched a film called *Operation Mincemeat* which told the exact same fascinating story. So when I came across the book in a charity shop (and knowing how films can project a glamourised version of real events) I was curious to understand what actually did happen in 1943.

I expected a book full of facts, dates and maps, but soon realised truth really is stranger than fiction. The story is filled with eccentric and ingenious characters who revelled in covert work, misdirection and deception. Meticulously researched by the author, it tells the story of *Operation Mincemeat* with real rhythm and pace.

*Operation Mincemeat* was the code name for a plan to convince the Germans that instead of attacking Sicily, the Allied armies planned to invade Greece. It involved depositing a body dressed in military uniform and carrying false evidence of military invasion into the sea off the southern Spanish coast (his plane supposedly having crashed into the Med). The UK intelligence services knew Nazi sympathisers in Spain would pass any information on to German intelligence. They procured and preserved a body which could pass a meticulous autopsy, created a 'man who never was', including a distinct personality, a fiancée and a disapproving

father. There were theatre stubs in his pocket and a demand from his bank to settle his debts. They went above and beyond to ensure the official documents and personal items recovered with 'Royal Marine Major William Martin' would convince the Nazis utterly. The commitment, ingenuity and minute attention to detail of those behind the ruse is staggering. They couldn't be sure it would work but it did, and for years the whole truth was concealed behind the Official Secrets Act.

In the preface Ben Macintyre writes: "The plan was born in the mind of a novelist, and took shape through a most unlikely cast of characters: a brilliant barrister, a family of undertakers, a forensic pathologist, a gold prospector, an inventor, a submarine captain, a transvestite English spy master, a rally driver, a secretary, a credulous Nazi and a grumpy admiral who loved fly fishing."

The book is peopled by these and many more, but above all, there is one person to whom we should all be grateful. He himself never had a say, and never knew he would play such a crucial part in shortening the war, potentially saving millions of lives. 'Major William Martin' rests in Huelva cemetery in Spain, where he was washed ashore in 1943. The cemetery is maintained on behalf of Britain by the German consulate and each April an English woman from the village lays flowers on his grave. As documents were finally released about the deception in 1997, the British government added a carved postscript to the marble slab: Glyndwr Michael served as Major William Martin, RN.

*The Ogwell Bookworm*



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## Test Yourself With The Lunch Club Quiz

- In local place names what is the meaning of 'Barton'?
  - A barn
  - A hill
  - A farm
- What is the name of the taxi company covering the 176 bus service?
  - Price First Taxis
  - First Class Taxis
  - Best Price Taxis
- A Heinkel Cabin Cruiser is what?
  - A bubble car
  - A miniature submarine
  - A bi-plane aircraft
- Which well known local character is Eddy's Well in East Ogwell named after?
  - A bus driver
  - A police man
  - A postman
- Who gave Billy Fury, Tommy Steele and Marty Wilde their stage names?
  - Larry Parnes
  - Brian Epstein
  - Anthony Newley
- How many White Tailed Eagles will be released on Exmoor over the next three years?
  - 10
  - 20
  - 50
- Where in England have White Tailed Eagles been successfully reintroduced?
  - Dartmoor
  - Isle of Wight
  - The Scilly Isles
- What is the wingspan of a White Tailed Eagle?
  - Up to 2.4 metres
  - Up to 2 metres
  - Up to 2.6 metres
- What is the stopping distance at 50mph?
  - 36m (118ft)
  - 45m (148ft)
  - 53m (174ft)
- When did BBC television first arrive in Devon?
  - 1961
  - 1963
  - 1959
- Which of these is the smallest city in the UK?
  - Wells, Somerset
  - St David's, Pembrokeshire
  - St Asaph, Denbighshire
- Salisbury cathedral has the tallest spire in the UK. Which has the second highest?
  - Liverpool
  - Norwich
  - St Walbuge, Preston
- Which Beatle sang 'My Sweet Lord'?
  - Paul McCartney
  - John Lennon
  - George Harrison
- In 1972 which famous US singer sang with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra?
  - Andy Williams
  - Elvis Presley
  - Frank Sinatra
- What did he sing?
  - My Way
  - Burning Love
  - Moon River

For answers see page 35

# Team Jane's Charity Walk for Pulmonary Fibrosis

This summer, Ogwell resident Peter Farrell is taking on an 'Ultra Challenge' walk in memory of his much-loved wife Jane, also known as 'Nanny', Mum and good neighbour, to raise money for everyone affected by Pulmonary Fibrosis, a terminal lung disease that affects around 150,000 people in the UK.

Jane received her diagnosis in early 2023. True to her character, she responded with determination, optimism, and a deep desire to help others. She took part in research studies and drug trials, became an active supporter of Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis (APF), volunteered as a telephone befriender, and set up a local support group in Torbay for patients and their loved ones. Jane continued this work tirelessly until her death in late 2024 and Peter continues to run the group, which provides comfort, information, and companionship to families facing this devastating illness.



Jane Farrell

On 18th July this year, Peter will join members of his family and loved ones of other local patients to walk 25 kilometres on the Gower, the beautiful landscape where Jane and Peter first met over 50 years ago. Their aim is not only to raise funds, but also to increase awareness of Pulmonary Fibrosis and the importance of early diagnosis.

The money raised will be split between the local Torbay support group and the charity Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, supporting research, awareness campaigns, patient services, and national advocacy.

## How you can help


If you would like to sponsor the walk, learn more, or support the local Torbay group, please get in touch with Peter Farrell at [petane@outlook.com](mailto:petane@outlook.com) or visit the team's fundraising page at [crowdfunder.co.uk/p/janes-team-for-apf](https://crowdfunder.co.uk/p/janes-team-for-apf)

More information is also available at [actionpf.org](https://actionpf.org)



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# A Young Person's Guide To Holidays

As the promise of the summer holidays looms closer, you might be thinking about ways to enjoy the long summer break. Unfortunately, holidays are expensive and we can't always experience a trip away. Thankfully, we can still have fun much closer to home. Here are my top, cost free ideas to enjoy the summer in our town. Here in Newton Abbot, we are fortunate enough to be surrounded by parks. Parks are great for soaking up the sunshine (hopefully we get some!), playing football with friends or taking a stroll in nature. It's great to get outside as much as possible to boost your mood – and your appetite. As a treat, you could visit Decoy's ice-cream shack to cool down and refuel your energy, or enjoy a picnic in the shade with your friends and family.



*Decoy Park playground*

We are also lucky to have our library in town. The library supplies lots of free activities and reading challenges to keep you busy throughout the summer. Although the summer holidays are full of exciting adventures, it's nice to switch off and do something more calming. Reading a story is a great way to spend your time and you will be grateful for it in September too!

You may not know but Newton Abbot is bursting with history. 'New Town of the Abbots' grew up around a bustling weekly market, trade in wool and leather, and the growth of the railway industry in the Victorian period. In the middle of our town stands St Leonard's tower, which is all that is left of a medieval church, and on some special days of the year you can even climb it. It's so fun to retrace the steps of the old inhabitants of Newton Abbot – but just be careful not to bang your head!

Another place you can learn about Newton Abbot's amazing history is, of course, our museum, where you can spot the butterfly collection which contains over 3,000 historic specimens, Lethbridge's diving engine (a replica of the world's first diving barrel from 1715) and a Victorian wedding dress exhibit that explains why Victorian wedding dresses weren't always white.

I hope I have given you some inspiration for your holidays and that you have the best time. See you in the August-September edition.

*The Ogwell Junior Writer*

## Answers to quiz questions

- |                          |                         |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. (a) A barn            | 6. (b) 20               | 11. (b) St David's      |
| 2. (a) Price First Taxis | 7. (b) Isle of Wight    | 12. (b) Norwich         |
| 3. (a) A bubble car      | 8. (a) Up to 2.4 metres | 13. (c) George Harrison |
| 4. (a) A bus driver      | 9. (c) 53m (174ft)      | 14. (b) Elvis Presley   |
| 5. (a) Larry Parnes      | 10. (a) 1961            | 15. (b) Burning Love    |



# Sowing The Seed Of The Gospel

Like many of you I have been busy over the last few weeks planting seeds and having the joy of seeing them germinate and grow. We've got runner beans, lettuces and cucumbers, carrots and leeks, chard and red cabbage amongst others. Wonderfully, many of them have got off to a great start, but as all you gardeners will know, that isn't the end of the story.

If I forget to water them, they will soon die. If I plant them where the soil is shallow and rocky, they will not flourish. If I fail to keep on top of the weeds, they will be choked and there will be no crop. But the plants that are planted in the right place, in the right kind of soil, and given the right kind of care almost always produce.

Occasionally the batch of seeds might be poor. Sometimes the weather will be too hot or too cold. But we all know things plants need to survive and thrive, and I'm already looking forward to the autumn when I can enjoy the fruits of my labours. At our Annual Parochial Church Meeting last week, I spoke about our need as churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell to get better at spreading the seed of the gospel of Jesus.

To be more outward facing than inwardly focussed. In recent decades, in the face of increased secularisation, many churches have retreated from the public square and been far too inward facing. If we're honest, our churches have too. We're hoping to reverse that in the coming years and cast the seeds of the good news of Jesus out into our community and beyond.

Jesus spoke about the kingdom of God being as small as a mustard seed but one that like the mustard plant, grows large enough to accommodate nesting birds. Powerful enough to transform lives and families and communities and nations. He also spoke about the Kingdom of God being a place of truth and hope, forgiveness and reconciliation, goodness, peace and everlasting joy. I think our world and our community, and even our own lives, could benefit from a fresh crop of those fruits. So do watch out for the various events and invitations that will start to be scattered over the coming months. Then come along and find out more.

*Rev Dave Brown, Rector  
Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell*

## Church Services in Ogwell

Services are held at 9.30am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.  
The June dates are 7th and 21st. The July dates are 5th and 17th.

### **The Parishes of Newton Abbot and Ogwell**

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Please contact the Parish Office at St Paul's Church on 01626 211346  
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to arrange weddings, baptisms and funerals

# OGWELL'S BIG BREAKFAST



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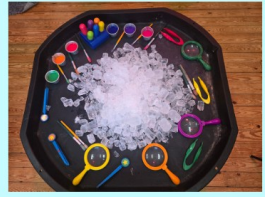
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# Local Residents Lobby MP on Climate Action

Newton Abbot constituents have called on their MP to push the government to bring in a new law to tackle the climate and nature crisis.

This was the top demand of three made at a recent climate and nature focused gathering in Newton Abbot attended by local MP Martin Wrigley, who said he would push all three demands.

He said it was helpful to hear what his constituents want to happen and urged everyone to write to their MP on the topic.

Mr Wrigley told the Climate and Nature Assembly that the environmental crisis was his prime motivation for standing as an MP. "If you look at the projections you see that by 2035 Newton Abbot, Teignmouth and Dawlish will be flooded frequently. We face an existential risk if we don't do more to try to prevent that."

The demands made to Mr Wrigley came out of discussions among the people who attended the Assembly, which was organised by the Newton Abbot Climate and Nature Bill Support Group.

The second most popular demand out of 12 put forward via the discussions was to switch to a "polluter pays" taxation system, so that those who cause harm, via pollution for example, pay for the damage they do. The third was to use the media to inform the public of the climate crisis, along the same lines as during the Covid pandemic. Mr Wrigley said the chances of getting any of the three onto the government's agenda were slim but he would do what he could. People who attended the assembly said it was a worthwhile way to spend a sunny Saturday afternoon! They were asked to discuss two questions, one about their con-



cerns regarding climate change and nature loss, and the second about what demands they wanted to make of their MP, given their concerns. There was then a vote for the top three demands.

"I felt the work was effective in equipping our MP with some valid and pertinent actions to take forward," said Seb Earl. Annette Giroux said: "Like most people I'm extremely worried about climate change but quite often feel powerless about it. I was really pleased our local MP took the time to listen to all our contributions and left feeling hopeful, energised and positive that as a community we really can make a difference."

Jane Camp found the assembly "a motivating and engaging event that left me feeling both hopeful and encouraged and wanting to be more involved."

And Mandy Cole said she was "inspired by the breadth of ideas and diversity of views expressed at the assembly".

The assembly organisers are now running showings of the People's Emergency Briefing film and hosting a touring exhibition, Letters from the Global South, at the Teignmouth Heritage Museum during June.

**Pauline Wynter**

*First published in the Mid Devon Advertiser*

# Recycling Days

Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	8th/ 9th/ 10th/ 11th June	Green Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	15th/ 16th/ 17th/ 18th June	Black Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	22nd/ 23rd/ 24th/ 25th June	Green Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	29th/ 30th June/ 1st/ 2nd July	Black Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	6th/ 7th/ 8th 9th July	Green Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	13th/ 14th/ 15th/ 16th July	Black Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	20th/ 21st/ 22nd/ 23rd July	Green Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	27th/ 28th/ 29th/ 30th July	Black Bin
Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thursday	3rd/ 4th/ 5th 6th August	Green Bin

Please visit [teignbridge.gov.uk/collectionday](https://teignbridge.gov.uk/collectionday) for more information

Remember your bins should be at the kerbside by 6am on collection day.

Please stack your recycling containers.

Textiles are collected weekly. Place your textiles in a carrier bag next to your recycling. You can only recycle clothes (clean and wearable), blankets, sheets, towels, and paired shoes.

Sometimes collections can be delayed due to roadworks, lorry breakdowns and other unexpected events. When this happens, please leave your bins/boxes out and they will be collected as soon as possible.

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## Magazine Contacts

To advertise in Ogwell Parish Magazine,  
please contact Paul Wynter at [ogpmadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:ogpmadvertising@gmail.com)

To submit articles, please contact:  
Pauline Wynter at [opmeditorial@gmail.com](mailto:opmeditorial@gmail.com)

# CONTACTS

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[NewtonAbbot@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NewtonAbbot@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)  
Force Enquiry Centre/Non-emergency calls - 101

## Ogwell Parish Council

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[chair@ogwell.org](mailto:chair@ogwell.org)

Deputy Chair: Tim Flower: 07522 674659

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Michael Lant: 07547 214297

Paul Martin: 01626 365624

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Tim Carey: 07533 600226

Selena Aylett

## Canada Hill Primary School

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## Ogwell Memorial Hall

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## Ogwell Events

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Secretary: Lucy Ash

Treasurer: Catherine Flannery

Email: [ogwellevnts@gmail.com](mailto:ogwellevnts@gmail.com)

## Ogwell Lunch Club

Anthea Hoey: 01626 362003 / 07816 171473  
Stella Llewellyn: 01626 906814 / 07966 555416

## Ogwell Tennis Club

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Secretary: Julia Barton - 01803 813363

## Ogwild

Chair: Paul Martin

Secretary: Linda Chapman

Treasurer: Pauline Wynter

[ogwild4@gmail.com](mailto:ogwild4@gmail.com) or [info@ogwild.org](mailto:info@ogwild.org)

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# Ring & Ride Transport from Ogwell area to Newton Abbot



Every Thursday, **Newton Abbot CTA's Ring & Ride** wheelchair-friendly minibus collects pre-booked passengers from their homes in Ogwell starting at about 9:15am making its way into Newton Abbot by about 10am.

Passengers get off the bus in the town centre (or along the route by request) and have about two hours to shop, visit local businesses and meet with friends.

Drivers can assist with shopping bags, walkers and trolleys, both on and off buses, and help passengers to and from their doors, if requested.

**Ring & Ride** links with **Shopmobility** for wheelchair, mobility scooter and walkers hire, too.

The return fare is £5.50 dependent on area (April 2025).

For more information or to book call us on

**01626 335775.**

Newton Abbot Community Transport Association Registered Charity Number 1124719

www.wignalls.co.uk



kitchens | bathrooms | interiors

**The Dartmoor Studio**  
The Drum Business Park  
Heathfield, Newton Abbot  
TQ12 6RY



**The Wolborough Studio**  
43a Wolborough Street  
Newton Abbot  
TQ12 1JQ

01626 354194