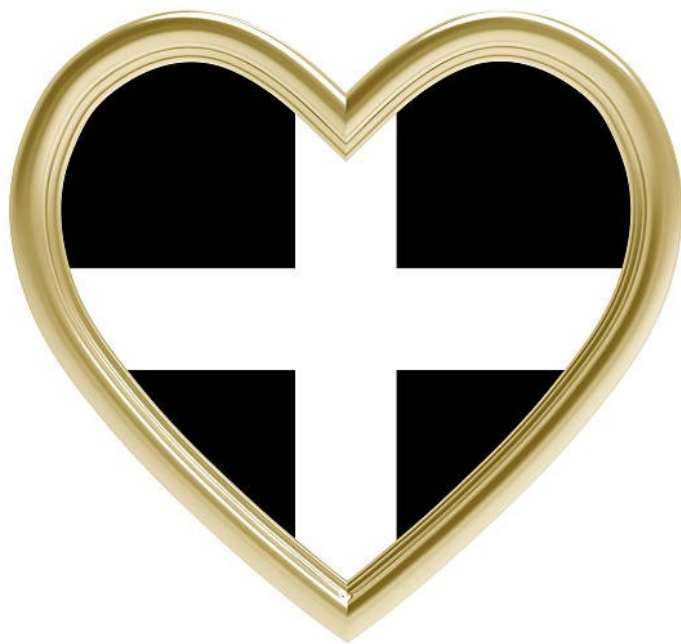


# St Martin-by-Looe



# News



## Summer 2025

Published and funded by  
St Martin by Looe Parish Council.

*Delivered FREE throughout the Parish and online.*



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[www.stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk](http://www.stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk)

# **St Martin By Looe Parish Councillors Contact Numbers.**



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If you would like to include an advertisement in the next edition please contact The Clerk, Charles Hyde on 07763 364809 or by email [clerk@stmartinbylooepec.org.uk](mailto:clerk@stmartinbylooepec.org.uk) Costs: £20 for a full page, £10 for a ½ page, £5 for 1/3 page: Contract discounts are available. The magazine is printed quarterly and has a circulation of 350 printed copies delivered throughout the Parish and is also available online on our website and Facebook page.

## **Contributions**

We always welcome contributions from people living in the Parish. If you would like to air your views on a particular subject or have a photograph or piece of artwork for the front cover please get in touch with The Clerk.

## **Statutory Disclaimer**

All articles and advertisements are published in good faith, St Martin By Looe Parish Council cannot check all details in the articles and any views expressed may not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council. Neither can we be held responsible for the actions of any advertisers now or in the future.



## Parish Council Update



### Welcome to the Summer 2025 Edition

Well what a wonderful start to summer 2025, its been glorious out there, my garden is loving it. Inside this edition you will find some great articles from our regular contributors, a tasty strawberry tart recipe, news from No Man's Land Hall with photos from their VE Day events and much more. The next issue is the Autumn edition due out in September, so please send in anything of interest you wish to see published by August 10th. Have a wonderful summer.

### County Councillor Armand Toms

After over 20 years service to the community Armand has retired, he will be missed, his commitment to the job was above and beyond and he will be a hard act to follow. The Parish Council will miss his support and friendship, we wish Armand a long and happy retirement (although we hear his wife has other ideas!!). We welcome County Councillor Mark Gibbons and look forward to working with him.



## Group Travel

Day Trips & Coach Holidays

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### Coach Excursions & Tours 2025

11th June	Marwood Hill Gardens, Barnstaple
24th June	Mount Edgecombe & Harbour Cruise
<b>14th - 18th July</b>	<b>Visit Chester</b>
29th July	Port Eliot Estate with Kernow Mill
30th July	Tiverton Canal Barge & Bickleigh Mill
5th August	Legoland (book early for tickets)
13th August	Plymouth Firework Championships
18th August	Dawlish Rail / Exmouth Coastal Cruise
2nd September	Paradise Park, Hayle
<b>5th - 7th Sept</b>	<b>Burghley Horse Trials</b>
<b>21st - 25th Sept</b>	<b>Herefordshire &amp; Worcestershire</b>

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## Parish Council Update



### Planning Applications

**PA25/02910. Proposal:** Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of the property in breach of the agricultural occupancy condition imposed upon planning consent 00/00889/FUL, continually and without break for a period more than 10 years prior to the date of this application. **Location:** Millpark Farm Cottage, Millendreath, Looe, Cornwall.

**PA25/03028. Proposal:** Re-development of existing beach resort to create new flood alleviation channel, replacement of 103 units of holiday accommodation (existing and extant) and the addition of up to 87 units of holiday accommodation. Construction of a restaurant building, a central facilities building, a tennis court, car parking, passing places, re-alignment of the coastal path, hard and soft landscaping, fixed surface infrastructure and other associated works. **Location:** Millendreath Holiday Village, Millendreath, Looe, Cornwall.

### Elections 2025.

The Parish Council had an uncontested election, however Councillors Lankston and Spicer stepped down and their places filled by two new Parish Councillors, Paul Matthews is from a well know local family and Louise Western is a local business woman who is active in the parish. We welcome them and look forward to working with them.



# K9 STYLE

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## **A personal message from former County Councillor Armand Toms**

Firstly I wish to thank the clerks to the parish for their work over the last twenty years both Sue and Charles have been great to work with and for. I know that whoever takes on the roll of Cornwall Councillor to this area will have a safe pair of hands to help them with this parish. Your current clerk Charles has been excellent and his work with the parish magazine has kept residents informed of the issues in the parish and raised money towards infrastructure (Notably the bus shelter). You are lucky to have such a good man working for you. Can I also thank the Chairman to the parish over the last twenty years as the meetings have been managed in a very professional way.

To the current Councillors my thanks for being the eyes and ears on the ground keeping me informed and I can say it has been a pleasure to work with and for you. During this time decisions have been made in a clear and open way and there is a good method of allowing residents to come and speak to the council and make their feelings known. My wish is that you all consider staying on the council as experience counts but this may not be possible. Let's hope that the new Cornwall Council keep the popular scheme of Highways local improvements going.

*Continued on next page*



PLEASE COME TO OUR

# **Strawberry Fayre**

on **Sat 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE** @

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**From 12 – 3pm.**

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## **A personal message from former County Councillor Armand Toms**

These have brought changes welcomed by residents. Yet housing is still a concern and the scheme for 12 Affordables on the Duchy land behind the allotments at No Man's Land may one day come to fruition, The largest legacy of this council will be the highways improvement, footpaths and reduction in the local speed limits.

For me it is retirement and the opportunity of working for my family and having time with my grandchildren. I promise I will always be available to help with working for the community with litter picking, grass cutting and community events. Can I lastly thank the community for the kindness shown to me over these twenty years, I will miss my work and the people I have served. I ask that this note is published in the minutes and the parish magazine as these thanks to you and residents should not go unnoticed.

***Regards Councillor Armand Toms.***

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# Parish Council Update



**Please note new Website Address [stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk](http://stmartinbylooe-pc.gov.uk)**

## Parish Council Monthly Meetings

They take place at the Memorial Hall, No Man's Land at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month, but this may vary, so please check our noticeboards, social media or website for dates.

Requests to speak during Public Participation need to be made to the Clerk, 48 hours in advance by email: [clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@stmartinbylooe-pc.org.uk).

### Looe Banking Hub

Sardine Factory next to the Heritage centre  
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Wednesday - **Lloyd's**

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to 1pm

Thursday - **Santander**

1pm to 5pm

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## Monthly Producers Market.

Please don't forget our local producers market on the first Saturday of each month 9.30 till 12.30 in the hall.

We have some fabulous stalls, a lovely fresh veg stall with eggs, fruit and veg all very reasonably priced. O Keeffe's meat is always a pleasure to see with everything you can think of at this time of the year plus lots of delicious barbecue goods. Last month we welcomed a new stall Downderry Spice which I think the people that came found very interesting and spice lovers went home with the odd little pot of something new. Our regular crafters always have a great selection of crafts knitting, slate work, soaps and some lovely home made jams and sauces along with some very nice plants

And don't forget the cake stall which raises money for our Xmas display and a little get together after we have switched on the lights. So please try and pop along and support the market we are very lucky to have such a facility in our lovely village hall



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## No Man's Land Village Hall

The Hall was decorated with balloons and bunting etc on V.E. Day as the Hall hosted a coffee morning which raised £222.00 for the charity Help for Heroes. It was well supported, and the cakes were delicious! The Hall sent a donation to Armand Tom's chosen charity in appreciation of his support for the Hall in his capacity as our local Cornwall Councillor. Many thanks Armand. On June 18th from 11am until 3pm we are hosting a coffee morning in which a member of the South West Ambulance Service Community response team will be available to give CPR defibrillator training. This event is free to attend and any donations will go towards their response vehicles. We have a defibrillator at the Hall and it is crucial people know how to use it. Even if you are not interested in the training, please come for coffee and cake to help support the response team as, one day, your life could depend on it. On 21st June 2.30pm the Hall is having a HUGE Jumble Sale in aid of the charity Refuge 4 Pets. This charity depends on the generosity of the public, through donations, to help fund vital work helping



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## No Man's Land Hall

people and animals escape from domestic abuse, which sadly is all too common in our part of the world. Mary from Refuge4Pets is hoping to come to explain the work they do. Please come and help support the vital work this charity does and grab a bargain while you're here! Visit our Facebook page for more info.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Produce Market:** 1st Saturday of every month.

**18th June 11am-3pm Coffee Morning** in aid of S.W.Ambulance Service Community Response Team's response vehicles plus optional Defib training.

**21st June 2.30pm Jumble Sale** in aid of Refuge4Pets.

**Summer Flower Show** Saturday 2nd August 2.30pm.

**Harvest Festival** Date to be confirmed.

**Remembrance Sunday** Service 2pm 9th November followed by a Faith Tea.

**Christmas Fayre** 22nd November 2.30pm

Christmas Bingo 12th December 7pm for 8pm.

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# No Man's Land Hall

## VE Day 2025 Photo Gallery.



## PAINTING AND DECORATING



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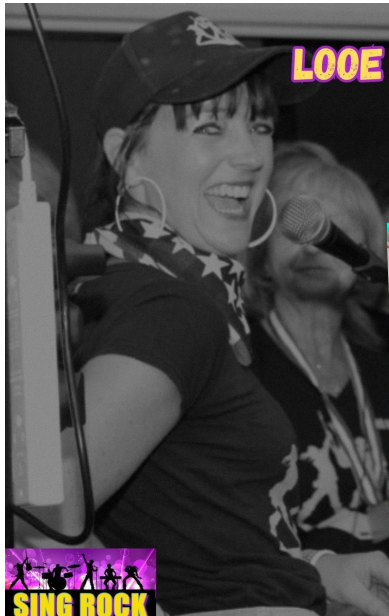
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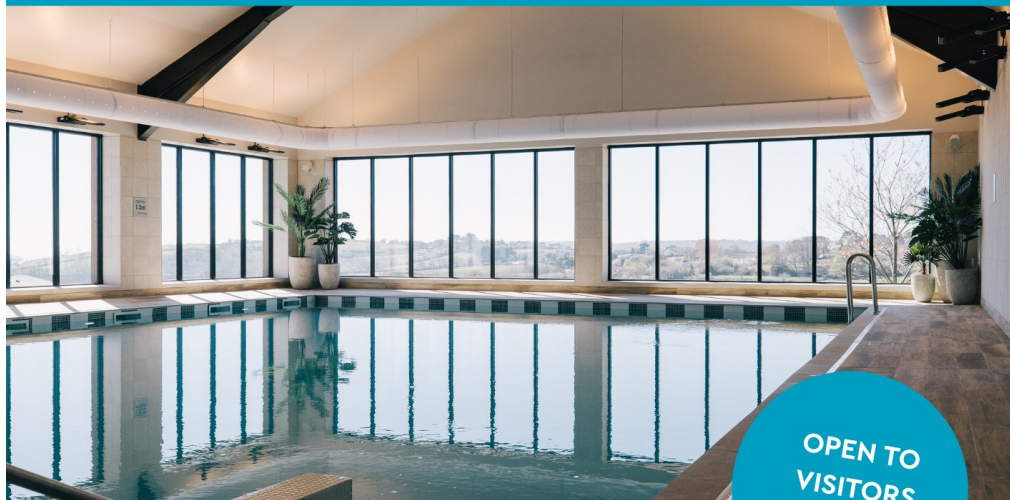
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# **Tregoad Holiday Park News**

## **Advertisers Announcement.**

Tregoad Holiday Park in Cornwall, part of the award-winning Water-side Holiday Group, is now welcoming guests and locals to its new £2.4 million indoor leisure facility - *The Barn - featuring a luxury swimming pool, sauna, and steam room.*

The state-of-the-art facility opened with a celebration attended by local MP, Anna Gelderd and Chair of Visit Cornwall, Jon Hyatt, and has since become a popular attraction for holiday guests, holiday home owners and the local community. The development reflects Water-side's ongoing investment in premium experiences, following the success of the on-park Stargazy Bar & Grill and other recent park enhancements.

In addition to offering a relaxing retreat with high-end coastal interiors and eco-conscious design, The Barn is home to local children's swimming lessons through a partnership with Swimtime. Tregoad has also expanded its team to support year-round and seasonal operations.

Group Operations Director, Matt Way, said *"This is a great investment for the park and local community. Not only does it elevate the experience for our guests and holiday home owners, but it also creates more opportunities for the local community."*

The Barn is powered by air source heat pumps and solar-ready infrastructure, and was one of the UK's most ambitious pool builds using off-site sectional shell technology. The Barn is now open to the public, as well as Tregoad's holiday guests and holiday home owners. For more information or to book a visit, please call 01503 262718.

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# Looking For John Smith

**History Snippet by Jenny Wallis**

I've been investigating a family who lived in troubled times when Henry VIII demolished the monasteries and cut ties with Europe and Rome. All seats of learning had gone. No one was left to write the record. Cornish Catholics tried in vain to keep their lands, titles, - and heads! One such family were the Smiths of Tregunnick.

Tregunnick had belonged to Launceston Priory and Thomas Smith bought his leasehold land.

Tregunnick is between Downton and Hensford. The Smiths had been acquiring land by marrying heiresses. They had estates in St. Minver (Rock!), Lavethan, Blisland, Trewint and Lanwarnick in Duloe. They married Mayows, Mayors of Looe. They had the title of Esquire, but no coat of arms.

The family were connected to Sir George Smith, MP, Mayor of Exeter who married a Beville of Killigarth near Polperro. His family were London goldsmiths who had branched out into banking. They had a coat of arms. They were armigerous!

Society was strict about coats of arms. Messages were conveyed, - like imogees. This Smith family had martlets on their shield. A martlet was a mythical bird like a martin or swift. Folklore believed that they had no legs, so martlets have feathers underneath. They symbolised a family without any land to land on. Most upperclass families were given land in 1066, so it looks as if the Smiths were intent on upward mobility!

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# Looking For John Smith

**History Snippet by Jenny Wallis**

But they fell foul of ruthless Tudor anti-Catholic laws. Robert Smith was a rebel captain in the Cornish Prayerbook Rebellion of 1549 - routed at Fenny Bridges. His son, Robert, with his wife, were chained in the dock in Launceston with the Martyr, Cuthbert Mayne who was hung, drawn and quartered. Cousins were married to cousins to protect estates by inheritance.

Walter Smith bought buildings from Totnes Priory to create a guildhall for the town. He then bought part of St German's Priory in Saltash to create a guildhall there. This meant that the Guilds could monitor the skilled tradesmen needed to boost the economy. (Good thinking!) There is still a Smithfield Road in the town -and the Guildhall..

But back in Tregunnick, John Smith, son of John Smith, uncle of John Smith, was promoting a design for their coat of arms. George Smith had 3 martlets; they had 4!

In 1620 the Herald's Visitation approved John Smith's coat of arms and he had it put on his gravestone in Sheviock. It also features on the coffin slabs of Margery and Ann Smith in Lansallos and Duloe.

Last week I was sent a 1570 map of Westwivelshire (our first post-code). There, bang in the middle, was "John Smith of Lanwarnick"! The map is in Looe Museum - once our local Guildhall. The Smiths must have arrived - but their story has never been told.

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# Strawberry Tart

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**Prep:** 35 mins

**Cook:** 45 mins

+ chilling

## Ingredients

125g unsalted butter, softened slightly

85g icing sugar

1 egg

200g plain flour, plus extra for dusting

100g strawberry jam

500g strawberries, (small hulled, large sliced)

**Easy.**

2 tbsp apricot jam

300ml milk

150ml double cream

1 tsp vanilla extract

3 egg yolks

60g caster sugar

3½ tbsp cornflour

50g butter, cubed and softened



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# Strawberry Tart

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- 1, Beat the butter and sugar together until smooth, but not fluffy. Mix in the egg until combined, then add the flour. Bring together with your hands to form a dough. Wrap and chill in the fridge for 30 mins.
2. Dust a surface with flour and roll out the pastry to a 26cm circle (or 3cm bigger than your tin). Line a 23cm fluted tart tin with the pastry, leaving an overhang. Prick the base with a fork to stop any air bubbles forming. Chill for 30 mins.
3. Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Line the pastry case with a scrunched up sheet of baking parchment and baking beans, then bake for 15 mins. Remove the parchment and beans and bake for 15-20 mins more until crisp and golden. Leave in the tin to cool.
4. To make the crème pâtissière, heat the milk, cream and vanilla in a pan over a medium heat, stirring occasionally. Bring up to a simmer. Meanwhile, whisk the yolks and sugar in a bowl for 3 mins until pale,

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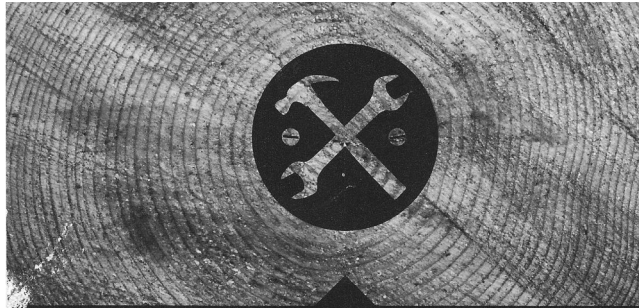
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## Strawberry Tart

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then stir in the cornflour until combined. Pour a quarter of the hot cream over the egg mix, whisking continuously, then pour the warm egg mix into the pan with the rest of the cream. Stir over a low-medium heat for 5-8 mins until the crème pâtissière thickens. Transfer to a large bowl and cool for 15 mins, whisking occasionally. Gradually whisk in the butter until smooth, cover and put in the fridge until needed.

5. Beat the strawberry jam to loosen it, then spread over the bottom of the pastry case. Put the crème pâtissière into a piping bag and pipe in a spiral on top of the jam. Arrange the strawberries on top in a pattern. Heat the apricot jam in a small pan with 1 tbsp water until warm. Whisk to loosen the jam, then leave to cool slightly. Brush over the top of the strawberries.



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see your job listed please make contact with your  
requirements for a free quote.

# Something To Crow About

By Dave Keeble

In the Winter of 2023 I noticed one of my avian visitors to the garden, a Carrion Crow, had what appeared to be an injured wing. Two or three primary feathers on the right wing were missing. As the bird could still fly quite well I thought that in a few months they would be replaced. In March of that year I realised that the bird had a partner and observing the pair together it turned out that it was a female – the pair returned to the garden on a daily basis to feed on the seeds and other food that had dropped from my feeders. On closer observation, it was clear that they had a nest site in an Elm tree just 150 metres from the house, and as the Elm tree is one of the latest to come in to full leaf the nest itself was very visible. Visits to the garden by the female were less frequent – the male bird still very regular. It was quite clear that the male bird was feeding the female who was now incubating their eggs. While carrying out its paternal duties he became very aggressive towards other birds that were deemed too close to the nest site.



After a few weeks the female started to visit the garden – both birds would fill their pouches with food to carry back to the now hatched chicks. Both the adult birds could be seen searching for food in the nearby fields and as the weeks went by the chicks began flapping around in the nest and on one occasion were heard calling to the parent birds when returning to the nest with food.

On a lovely day in early July we were in for a treat as not only did the parent birds visit the garden, they brought with them three healthy fledglings, still demanding feeding after leaving the nest. These birds were with us all Summer, coming and going, but never far away as Crows are very territorial. By this time it had become obvious that the female was not going to regrow her primary feathers so an injury was probably the cause of the loss.

# Something To Crow About

By Dave Keeble

In the Winter and Summer of 2024 the birds behaviour was the same as the previous year with regards to the nest site location as Crows often return to the same nest site year after year. In June the pair started to visit the garden feeding many times during the day but not taking any food away. Because the pair were such regular visitors I deduced that there were no fledglings this year – the cause was probably predation by an avian predator of some kind.

Now fast forward to the Winter of 2025 – the pair now had started to build a nest in our small copse of trees just 25 metres from the house. The pair were so easily identifiable by the females deformity so I was able to positively say that they were the same birds. We are now in May and both birds can be seen close by, the male doing most of the foraging. During the searches for food I have seen it return to the garden on three occasions with slow worms which it proceeds to eat while sitting on the edge of my bird bath necessitating it to be refreshed two or three times a day. Other food that has been identified while being eaten are frogs and the remains of a small rabbit – all these foods have been eaten after being dunked in the bird bath. Unfortunately they have also collected food from a source and dunked this in the bird bath – items include white and brown mouldy bread and on one occasion a sausage roll!!! While this may seem of no consequence, you should **never** feed wild birds any processed food of any kind as this is detrimental to their health – mould can cause lung disease in birds so any such items should be disposed of in the correct manner as it will most certainly attract vermin to the site of distribution.

I have been observing these birds now for several weeks and now that I have to send this piece to be included in the Parish Magazine, I can report that the birds behaviour is as before – they are frantically going to and fro to the nest to feed what I now know to be three large healthy chicks. I do hope the outcome for this Crow family is favourable as you can never be certain – nature can be both cruel and wonderful.

One last observation from the garden at this time – Unfortunately I have seen a rabbit with what I believe to be Myxomatosis – this viral disease is nearly always fatal and the affected animal can take around two weeks to die.

Life and death in nature can be observed at a glance.

## Useful Telephone Numbers

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Or 101 Emergency 999

### Coastguard (Emergency 999)

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Brixham 01803 884002

### Home Emergency

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