

## DITTISHAM VILLAGE VOICE JUNE 1, 2012

I have had some lovely telephone calls from readers about Sammie the Seal. One caller told me that apparently the higher ferry stops for no vessel but they do keep a look out for Sammie and slow down if necessary. The Devon Wildlife Trust has recently launched a Wildlife Helpdesk service in Exeter it is open to the public so if you have a question on identifying a species or information on habitat call 01392 279244.

In 1948 Jenny Wynne-Jones, long time resident of Dittisham Court, was at Wembley Stadium for the opening ceremony of the Olympics attended by King George VI. She remembers going up from Bromley, Kent by train, then taking a bus with her sister, mother, aunt, cousin and a French friend. When it came to the lighting of the Olympic torch by English athlete, John Mark, chosen apparently for his good looks, everyone stood up and no one could see him. Jenny's Aunt Molly shouted 'Sit Down' and everyone did and then they all got to see this momentous thing. Being so soon after WW11 there was no new stadium, no new buildings, no new transport. It was known as the *austerity* Olympics. That adjective seems familiar, somehow. If anyone has any Olympic anecdotes, or memories of meeting the Queen watching the Coronation do get in touch. The amazing Jubilee celebrations start tomorrow. There is a lovely commemorative programme in the Red Lion, the Ferry Boat Inn, the Anchorstone Cafe and the Sportsman's Arms and this will tell you all you need to know. One of the events not to be missed is the Saturday afternoon Catwalk Fashion Show to iconic music through the decades starting at 4.00pm in the marquee. All afternoon there will be a flotilla of boats on the river making their way from Dartmouth to Totnes so do look out for them and see if you can spot the Queen on board each vessel. If you want to join in get yourself to the Dartmouth Upper Ferry by 2.00pm. On the Monday there will be a trade and craft fair in the marquee. If you wish to trade yourself there is no fee and a table will be provided.

Now that summer is here (the swallows are back in the church porch, four nests this year) you might be interested in Jeremy Robinson and Piers Ballard's new Dart Adventures. Jeremy and Piers can arrange outings of mountain biking, kayaking on the river, rock climbing and coastering (apparently this means climbing up a cliff and jumping off into the water below). If you go to the Malster's Arms, Tuckenhay next Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 6.00pm you can meet stand up paddle boarders, watch them go up the creek and sign up to learn how to do it. For more information on these wonderful madcap activities look at [www.dartadventures.co.uk](http://www.dartadventures.co.uk) or call Piers on 07870659259 or Jeremy on 07774605426. May the sun shine on our Jubilee Parade.