

# Sutcombe Parish Newsletter March 2016

## Sutcombe Parish Memorial Hall

After inviting members of the St Andrews Church and FOSS (Friends of Sutcombe School) to join us, the hall hosted a big breakfast in January. It was a great community event with over 160 breakfasts cooked! A huge thank you to all of those involved.

This year the hall committee have secured lottery funding, which has enabled us to purchase a new stage system. This will be much lighter, more stable and easier to use.

In the next year, we will be holding a photographic competition; the winning entries will then be used to make a village calendar to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hall. More details to follow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the hall committee for their hard work and support over the last year.

Alistair Cawsey.

To book the hall please call: Rosemary Rowe on 241732



## St. Andrews Church

### **Resurrection Now**

I wonder if you watched the recent drama series based on one of the Great Russian novel 'War and Peace'; it reminded me of the other great series some years ago based on Crime and Punishment.

In the book the central character, Raskolnikov, is a strange perverted creature who wants to be above good and evil. He wants to be a Napoleon figure, able to disregard the loss of an army or to sacrifice thousands of men without a twinge of conscience; an amoral superman. So, for no other reason except to show that he is beyond good and evil, he decides to murder two old ladies. The book is about his discovery that despite what he thinks, he cannot live with himself afterwards. It is also the story of Sonia, whose faith and love help to redeem him. When we first meet her Sonia is being forced to earn her living as a prostitute in order to keep her orphaned brothers and sisters alive; a degradation she hates.

There are two key points in the book. The first is at an early meeting of Raskolnikov and Sonia when for no apparent reason he asked her to read him the story of the raising of Lazarus.

***'Jesus saith unto her, thy brother shall rise again,' she read with great intensity. 'I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.'***

Sonia longed that Raskolnikov would really hear these words and believe them. She trembled with joyous anticipation. In the event after a five-minute silence he jumped up saying loudly and frowning, 'I came to discuss some business.'

The second passage is at the end of the book. Driven by events and his uneasy conscience Raskolnikov gave himself up and was sentenced to Siberia. Sonia followed him, and while there they realised they loved each other. The moment of recognition is described in these words.

***"They wanted to speak, but could not; tears stood in their eyes. They were both pale and thin; but in those sick and pale faces the dawn of a new future, of a full resurrection to a new life, was already shining. It was love that brought them back to life: the heart of one held inexhaustible sources of life for the heart of the other."***

It was love that brought them back to life, yes, but in the case of Sonia it was a love defined and suffused by her faith. Shortly afterwards Raskolnikov takes up a New Testament - the one from which Sonia had first read to him. He doesn't open it, but a thought flashed through his mind. 'Is it possible that her convictions

can be mine too? Her feelings, her yearnings, at least . . . ?'

Sonia and Raskolnikov had to wait seven years in Siberia. This was a time, as the author wrote, 'of the gradual rebirth of a man, the story of his gradual regeneration, of his gradual passing from one world to another, of his acquaintance with a new and hitherto unknown reality.'

In recent years the Orthodox churches, the Russian, Greek and others, have drawn a little closer to their brother Christians. What the rest of us greatly need to benefit from is the centrality of the Resurrection in their thought. So often people think of the resurrection of Christ as something that happened a long time ago; something that we remember on one day in the year and then forget. How different is the Orthodox outlook? For them the resurrection is not so much an event of past history as a living eternal fact - the fact in which the rest of life has to be lived. It is no accident that the resurrection was central to Dostoyevsky's novel and to the outlook of Sonia. For Christ is even now, and for ever, the resurrection and the life, able to raise us from every kind of hopelessness, weakness, sin and despair.

O' Holy God, who raised Jesus from the dead,  
And will make us anew for eternity,  
Quicken us now with new life.

God Bless,  
Richard (The Rector)

### **Church Fundraising**

The Church fundraising committee has been active with 2 coffee mornings, a skittles tournament and the joint venture of the Big Breakfast all helping to swell the coffers and get us closer to having the funds needed to renovate the bellframe. We now need just about another £10,000 to be safe and the work has been commissioned to start later in the year.

Thanks to all who have supported us so far. We must keep up our efforts and the following events are planned:

**Easter Saturday** – serving breakfast to Land's End Trial competitors. Do come and join us for a bacon bap and/or slice of cake while you watch the cars and bikes make their way up Roachdown. We expect to start about 3.30am and will be serving breakfast for at least the next 6 hours

**1st May – Rogation** – we are having a United Benefice service in the field by the Village Hall (weather permitting) followed by lunch in the Hall – Cottage Pie then fruit crumble or pie. All welcome but please book in advance. **Tickets from Brenda Horn (01409 241754)** £7.00 adults; £4.00 children at school. Service 11.30, lunch following about 1pm

**20 May – Pudding Night – 7pm in Church** – come along for a feast of lovely homemade puds + tea/coffee. £5.00 per person. This will be a trial night and, if successful, we plan a regular Pudding Club with themed evenings quarterly. Proposed future dates - third Friday in August, November and February. Put it in your diary now.

**16 July – Teddy Bears' Picnic/ Fete and Parachute Drop.** On the Village Green/Church tower. You will have a chance to make a parachute for your teddy and there will be cream teas and the usual stalls. Watch out for posters for more details of this and all the events.

### **St. Andrew's Church Bell Ringing**

Bell ringing practice has continued from the autumn. Two new recruits are showing great potential and dedication.

We have had the go-ahead from all the necessary parties to restore the bell frame. This should begin to happen at the end of the year. The process is quite a long one, with the dismantling taking about a week. The bells and frame then get taken off to Loughborough for their restoration work and then the job of reconstruction takes place a few months later. This part will take a further 3 weeks. When we have a better idea of a time frame we shall be looking for volunteers to help with the process. This will help to keep the

cost down, as well as being an interesting project to be part of.

Fundraising is going well. However, we are still £10,000 short of our target. Together with a number of fundraising events in the pipeline and a few grants to apply for, we hope to be on track by the time the work is due to start.

Please continue to support us.

John Daniel. 01409 261226

### **Sutcombe Parish Council**

**March 2016**

Members of the Council: Councillors S Horn (Chairman), C Quance (Vice Chairman), J. Daniel, Mrs C. Furse, J. Shepherd, B. Galbraith-Marten, M. Wonnacott.

Meetings are held every two months with the addition of the annual Parish meeting in April and the A.G.M in May; the agendas for the meetings are displayed on the notice board and advertised on the web-site three clear working days before the meeting.

Dates for future meetings will be posted on the web-site, as soon as they are arranged.

If you have any issues or concerns you would like to raise with the Parish Council, residents can do so during a public comment session which takes place at the start of every Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm, alternatively please put them in writing and send to the Clerk at the address below or speak to the Chairman of the Parish Council, Stephen Horn, on 01409 241810.

It must be pointed out that although residents are welcome to all meetings they may not take part in any discussion.

### **Dates for your Diary**

The annual Parish Meeting will be held **on 18th April 2016 commencing at 7.30pm. Guest Speaker will be Councillor James Morrish, Deputy Leader of Torridge District Council**, All residents of Sutcombe are cordially invited.

If you have any issues you might want to discuss, now is the time. Representatives of local organisations will also be invited to give a short report regarding their successes of the past year.

**9<sup>th</sup> May 2016: Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council**, this is the meeting where the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council are elected.

**11<sup>th</sup> June 2016: HRH Queen Elizabeth's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration.** This will commence with sports events at 6pm, followed by a BBQ and entertainment at the Memorial Hall, further details will be delivered to all households nearer the time.

### **Projector/Laptop**

The Projector, laptop and projector screen purchased in conjunction with Milton Damerel Parish Council is available for local organisations to use in presentations for information, raising funds or any other suitable reason. The equipment can be used at the Memorial Hall or other premises provided that the presentations are for the local community. For example if there was a family celebration and the organiser hires the Memorial Hall the equipment would be available as part of the hall facilities, but an individual could not use it in their own home, nor can it be used by other Parishes (except Milton Damerel who are joint owners). If in doubt, or for any further information, please do not hesitate to contact any Councillor or the Parish Clerk.

### **T.A.P. Fund**

This year's allocation was used to cut verges and hedges previously cut by Devon Highways. Since severe cutbacks the work is not being carried out by them, except if the hedges/verges become a danger to road users on the main highways. The safety of all residents and visitors that use our roads is very important, the Parish Council will continue to do what it can to keep the hedges and verges tidy that would otherwise impair the visibility of vehicles.

### **Annual Grants 2015/16**

At the meeting held on the on the 9th November 2015 it was agreed that grants would be awarded to Sutcombe Free Church Cemetery, St Andrews Church, Citizens Advice Bureau and Holsworthy Rural Community Transport (Ring & Ride).

The Parish Council have a budget each year to award grants to local organisations. If your organisation missed out last year please send your request in writing to the Parish Clerk for consideration by the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016. Requests will then be considered at the Parish Council Meeting in November. Please remember the Parish Council is unable to provide grants to any individuals.

### **Financial Matters.**

The budget for 2016/2017 was discussed at the November meeting and finalised at the meeting held on the 21st January 2016.

After taking advice from District and local Councillors it was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council to request that the precept be increased by 5%, this is to ensure that the Parish Council has enough funds to help local organisations and to run the Parish Council business efficiently. It is unsure whether the precept will be capped in the future, but with the constant cut backs by the Government the Parish Council has to ensure that it has sufficient funds to meet any unexpected financial burdens in the future.

### **Grass Cutting**

Tenders/quotes are required for this coming season for cutting the Village Green, the area in front of St. Andrews Close and keeping the War Memorial site tidy. If you are able to commit to this please send your tender/quote to the Parish Clerk or any Councillor as soon as possible. There are no set times when the work has to be done, but it is imperative that the areas are cut often enough through the season to keep the said areas looking neat and tidy.

### **Planning Matters**

Planning applications as received by the Parish clerk are discussed at Parish Council Meetings; details of the applications are on the agenda displayed in the Parish Council Notice boards at least three working days before the meeting. If any of the Parish Councillors have an interest in any development, for example, if it is a relative's application, the Parish Councillor is barred from making any comment or making any decision regarding that said application. Details for all planning applications are available on Torridge District Council website. Residents are always welcome to attend these meetings to listen to the discussion, but they cannot take part

If residents have any objections or comments to make on the applications they can convey them in writing to Torridge District Council, send an email to the planning department, or go on to the Torridge Planning public access website.

The Freedom of Information Act requires Parish Council to make various documents and records available to the public, if you require copies of any information held by the Parish Council please contact the clerk.

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lorraine Buttery, 3 Sunset Heights, Shebbear, BEAWORTHY, Devon, EX21 5BN

Tel: 01409 282956

email: [sutcombe.pc@btinternet.com](mailto:sutcombe.pc@btinternet.com)

## **Sutcombe Community Primary School News**



Sadly we finally heard yesterday that Sutcombe Community Primary School has finally lost its battle to stay open and will close in July.

There has been, as many of you are aware, a very strong campaign by parents to keep the school open. The energy and commitment they have shown is very much a tribute to our school and the people who work within it.

The closure of the school is undoubtedly a massive sadness for the community it serves. The implication of the closure is, of course, far reaching and life changing for many.

I have been privileged to be the Interim Head teacher for this lovely little school since February and I have been really impressed by the unique and nurturing atmosphere that permeates throughout the life and work of the school.

Children within this school make good progress, enjoy their work and are highly motivated to succeed. Teachers and other staff work very hard, take huge pride in their work and support each other, the parents and children to an impressively high degree.

The governors also provide very good support and they, like the parents, have been part of the campaign to keep the school open, recognising its very unique qualities. For them also, this final decision, has been a blow.

The decision to close the school by DCC has undoubtedly been a hard one to make with very many factors to take into account. We were fortunate as a staff to be able to watch the decision being made by cabinet via a web cam and we saw that everyone present at that decision making meeting expressed a genuine sorrow about the decision. This has helped many at the school to come to terms with the decision however unpleasant it is.

So now we have to make the best of it and work to ensure that the impact on the children and families in particular are reduced as much as possible.

We also want, of course, to celebrate the very positive impact that our school has had on the community over the years. We are planning a range of events, with other groups in the community to that end and will let you know of planned events in due course.

Certainly an exhibition on the life and work of the school will form a central part of the celebrations and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to share some memories and photos with us.

We can be contacted via [admin@sutcombe-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sutcombe-primary.devon.sch.uk). Alternatively you can give us a ring on 01409241564, pop in or write to us through our school office. Our postcode is EX22 7PW.

We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Upcoming FOSS Events**

Friends of Sutcombe School are holding a music and quiz night on Saturday 23rd April in Sutcombe hall. £5 per person. 6 in a team. Contact Carol 01409 241267 David 01409 241815 to book a team.

### **Sutcombe Skittle Club**

The club is a member of the Holsworthy and District Skittles league, playing in division two. There are three divisions in the league.

At the end of the league match's the club will have a knockout competition between team members and presentations made to the highest scoring player and highest aggregate player from each team.

If anyone would like to join the club next season in September please telephone 01409241414.

### **Sutcombe Badminton**

The Badminton Club has been running on Monday evenings in the village hall since the start of the season last September, and will be finishing in May.

The club has had an enjoyable season, with good numbers of people attending each week, which has meant some really good competitive games.

The evening is an opportunity to meet and see people in the village while taking part in a sporting activity. We play mixed doubles and take in turns to play.

8.00pm onwards – weekly sub of £2 (no joining fee)

Next year's season will start again on the 12 September 2016

New players welcome (especially Ladies!) of any ability including beginners from the age of 14 years.

### **Sutcombe Short Mat Bowling Club**

The champagne is in the fridge, just a consolation now, but at least we reached the final of the Tony Stephens Knockout Competition. Against all odds we beat Langtree 38 shots to 33 in the first round, in the second round Anstey could not raise a team for the second game, and Woolsery were defeated 36/24 next. The semi-final against Shebbear was played at Parkham. After a slow start we eventually won 26/24, unfortunately we were beaten in the final by Yarnscombe at Great Torrington on March 10<sup>th</sup>. It is a great achievement for the club having beaten clubs from higher divisions.

Our league games are nearly finished; we may get promotion in the afternoon but must try harder in the evening league.

We are currently playing our club competitions with the season ending in April, following with our annual dinner and prize giving evening.

Christine Cawsey. Secretary SSMBC.



## **Holsworthy Adult & Community Learning**

For details:-

Alison Skinner - Administrator  
Holsworthy Adult & Community Learning  
Devon County Council  
The Skills Centre, Well Park,  
Western Rd, Holsworthy EX22 6DH 01409 254505

Please see web  
[www.learndevon.co.uk](http://www.learndevon.co.uk)



Your local Children's Centre offers a range of free play sessions, groups and services for children under the age of five and their families.

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You can find out more by visiting our website: [www.holsworthyarea.childrencentre.org](http://www.holsworthyarea.childrencentre.org)

Email: [hacc@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:hacc@actionforchildren.org.uk) Phone: 01409 253508



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### **Holsworthy Police**

PCSO Mark JAMES has recently taken on a new role as a Police Fire Community Support Officer, which means that he will be on call as a retained Fire-fighter in Holsworthy Town. Due to this, PCSO Emma TOMKIES has swapped to cover Holsworthy Rural areas, including Sutcombe.

PCSO Emma TOMKIES will now be the Community Support Officer for Sutcombe area, as well as other Holsworthy Rural Areas. She has been a PCSO for Holsworthy Town for the last 6 years, and has recently swapped areas with PCSO Mark JAMES due to a role change. Emma is more than happy to attend any meetings and events that you would like her to, and can offer free security and safety advice for a wide range of audiences or just a chance to meet your local officer. If you feel that you would like any attendance or contact then please feel free to contact her - PCSO 30538 Emma TOMKIES via 101 (non emergency number) or 30538@dc.police.uk . She is looking forward to meeting all the residents of Sutcombe, so please stop and speak to her if you see her out and about.

33, Holsworthy Police Station  
Well Park  
Western Road  
Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6DH  
01409 259461 or call 101 for all non-urgent Police enquiries  
Join us on Facebook - Holsworthy Neighbourhood Police



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**If you are a representative of a local club or activity or have an article about local events or achievements please contact Toni Sluggett with the details by (1st October 2016) in time for the printing of the October 2016 issue. Thank you very much for all your contributions, they are greatly appreciated.**

**Also a BIG thank you to all of the volunteers who deliver this newsletter to our doors. Thanks to Sutcombe School for allowing us to use their printer to produce this issue.**

Contact:-

Mrs Toni Sluggett Tel. 01409 241684

Email: sluggetts@hotmail.co.uk

**Happy Easter**

# Sutcombe Playground

The parish council are seeking your views on our proposal to provide the village with new play equipment. The 2010 Parish Plan identified a demand from residents both young and old for play provision, therefore the council are seeking to identify how best to meet the play needs of the children in our parish.

A playground for Sutcombe will provide space for families to meet, and children to play safely, as well as building on the fantastic sense of community we enjoy at Sutcombe. The Parish Council will be funding this project as well as applying for grant funding. We have already been kindly promised funding from local councillors Barry Parsons and Ken Carroll.

Initially our plans will be modest in size, but with consideration to add new equipment or areas in the future.

We are seeking your views; please do take a moment to complete our short online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7WFFTGK>. Even if you do not have children in your household, please think about times when you may be entertaining friends or grandchildren. The consultation period will end at the end of June 2016.

More importantly we would love to hear the thoughts of the children of the village! Please encourage your children to draw in the attached page what they would like to see in Sutcombe Playground. Please send completed drawings to Mrs Claire Furse, Friesland, Sutcombe, Holsworthy, EX22 7PT. I will collect drawings if you call 01409 241 593.

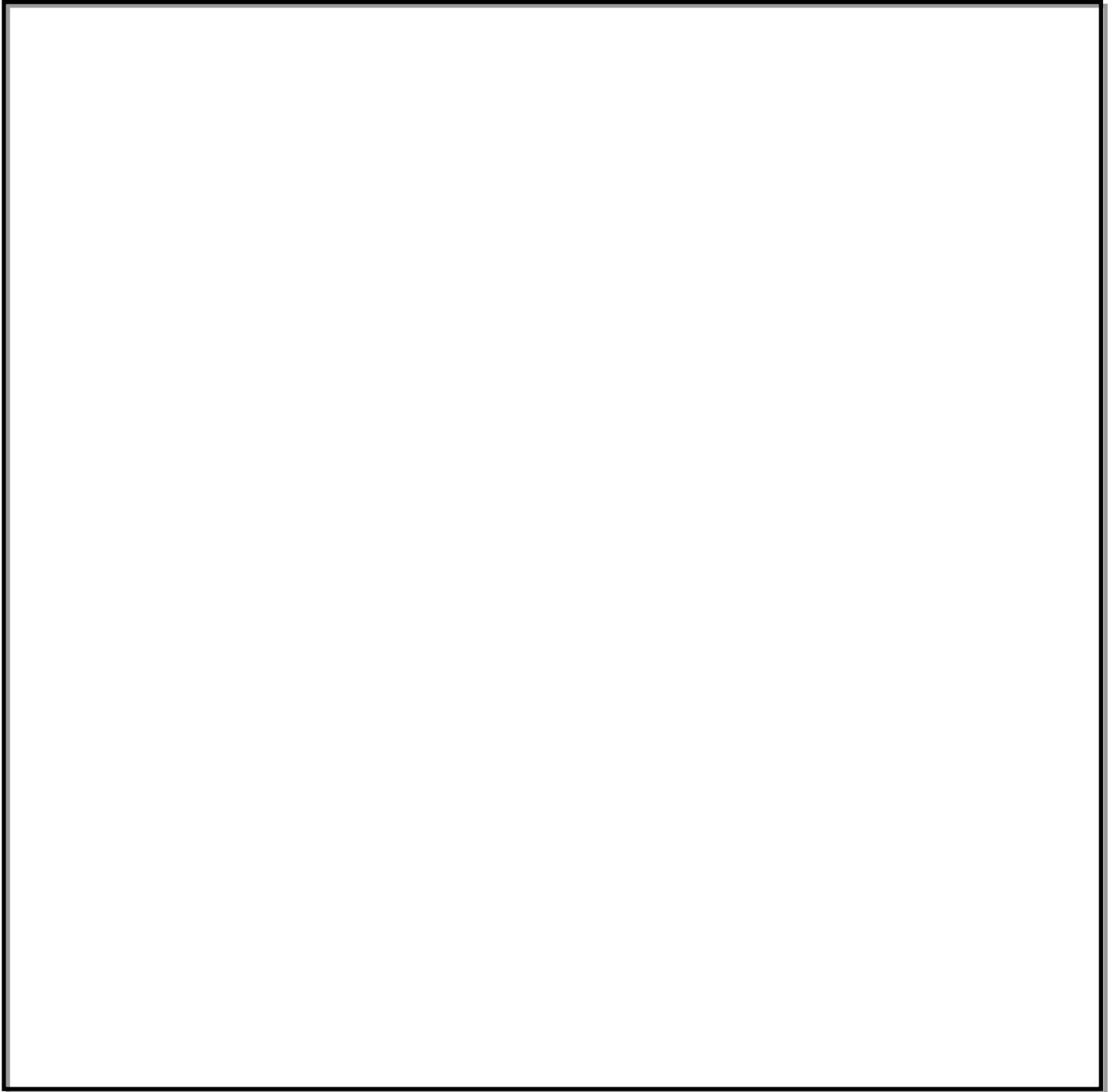
Please draw what you would like to see in

# Sutcombe Playground

Even if you know we will not be able to include it!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tick your age ☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-10 ☐ 11-15 ☐ 16-20 ☐ 20+



My drawing shows...

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