

cold but six intrepid souls from Ringmore, plus a National Trust volunteer, braved the elements to collect more than 30 bags of assorted flotsam and jetsam from Ayrmer Cove. Prior to the stated start time at least two others made their own collections before meeting other commitments. Was rugby mentioned? The following day a few volunteers filled yet more bags with rubbish from the west cove.

Normally, when it isn't pouring with rain, many more help, so if you are feeling left out, don't worry. Modbury folk are organising a number of beach cleans from Wonwell to Bantham during the weekend of April 26 and 27. Alan McCarthy, the organiser of the everyone who turned out to help. The parish room is in

urgent need of repair and renovation, and the committee has organised a site clearing and open day on Saturday, April 19. Members of the committee will be there from 10am to explain what is proposed in the short-term, and to listen to your suggestions for further improvements. It is hoped to clear the site of rubbish and weeds, so any help will be appreciated. To raise money for the improve-ments the committee will be launching an innovative fundraising scheme. The parish room is a vital local asset that needs your help to survive.

There are now several areas in the village which have become

Ringmore

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something of a dog toilet. It is unpleasant for dog owners, walkers, friends and family, and it is a health hazard. There is also more dog waste than ever on the lanes around the village and outside houses and drives. Dog owners should be able to enjoy their pets and exercise them around our beautiful countryside, but residents, visitors and, particularly, children also have a right to enjoy a clean, safe environment, and be able to access areas free from dog excrement.

Toxocara eggs released from faeces can live in soil for years, and can cause unpleasant symptoms in humans. Toxocara infections can cause an eye disease that can lead to blindness. Each year more than 700 people infected with Toxocara experience permanent partial loss of vision.

There are many responsible dog owners so it would be a pity to hear more comments from locals and visitors about the level of dog waste in the village.