

In January of this year your Parish Council agreed to cover the cost of twelve issues of this Newsletter. We hope you have enjoyed them and found them interesting because we are going to ask your Council to cover the cost in 1986 for a further twelve issues! Taking into account revenue from advertisements and a very kind donation of £2.50, the total cost to your Parish Council for 1985 was £15.31. Thank you to the smashing team who produce and distribute this Newsletter. You all know your distributors but the back room girls are Julia who produces the stencils on an ancient typewriter at very short notice and Marion who cheerfully battles with the duplicator in the middle of the night if necessary. Thank you also to all who have contributed to the contents. You will note, I'm sure, the splendid total raised for the POPPY APPEAL. The first POPPY APPEAL raised £106,000. The year was 1921, with an estimated 500,000 disabled British ex-servicemen. The idea was inspired by a poem by John McCrae: 'If ye break faith with us who die/We shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders field'. The amount raised nationally in 1984/1985 was over Seven and one third MILLION POUNDS. Also in November 1921 a certain Miss Katherine Sanderson, a young Health Visitor, was selling Poppies in Harrods. That same lady has been selling poppies in Ringmore since 1964. We all know her as Mrs. Kit Taylor.

Rainfall. From 4 Nov. - 2 Dec. 4 1/16" fell in Ringmore. BB  
Belle Vue Tea Afternoon. £162 was raised by this event in aid of the EEG Dept. Freedom Fields Hospital. Thank you to everybody who contributed.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME. We gladly welcome all parishioners to share with us in the celebration of CHRIST'S BIRTHDAY. We hope the wide selection of Services in our three churches will enable you to be with us on at least one occasion; and some of us are looking forward to being present on every occasion!

20 December Kingston's Carol Service at 7.30 p.m.  
 22 December RINGMORE Carol Service at 3 p.m.  
 Bigbury Carol Service at 6 p.m.  
 23 December RINGMORE Carol Singing Round, starting from the Church at 7 p.m.  
 24 December Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service. 11.30 p.m. at Bigbury.  
 CHRISTMAS DAY Service of Christmas Praise followed by Holy Communion:-

RINGMORE 8 a.m.  
 Bigbury 9.30 a.m.  
 Kingston 11 a.m.

Sunday Services. 1 December 9 a.m. Holy Communion with hymns.  
 8 December 6 p.m. Evening Prayer.  
 15 December 9 a.m. Holy Communion.  
 22 December 3 p.m. Carol Service.  
 29 December 6 p.m. Evening Prayer and Holy Communion.  
 1986 5 January 9 a.m. Holy Communion with hymns.  
 12 January 6 p.m. Evening Prayer.

CHURCH REGISTERS BAPTISMS

27 October: Alison Sarah Bowden and Catherine Elizabeth Halkerston.

THE STAMP OF CHRISTMAS From the Rector.

Dear Friends,  
 I am happy to take up a kind invitation to write a paragraph or two for the Ringmore Newsletter as Christmas approaches.  
 At the beginning of 1985 a pamphlet was issued for philatelists (stamp collectors) describing the "special issues" planned for the year. There have been some most attractive stamps depicting "famous trains" (I still sigh for those old giant steam engines), "famous composers" (though that set did not include my favourite, Mozart), "characters from the story of King Arthur", and so on. Designers of postage stamps seem able to make even insects interesting.  
 The only complete set actually PICTURED in the pamphlet was a series of Christmas stamps showing shepherds, the Babe of Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph - not to mention the Wise Men who really belong to the Epiphany season but who usually manage to encroach on the Christmas story. That particular set of stamps was for last Christmas, so I did not notice what the Post Office had in store for us this year until the stamps were issued a week or two ago. Then I checked with that pamphlet, and - sure enough - there was the announcement in one word: PANTOMIME.  
 The stamps are up to their usual high standard and I am not complaining. A good pantomime (i.e. one without obscene innuendos or the cheap double entendre to cater for the warped minds of unintelligent morons) can be great fun, with the jokes all the more enjoyable for being localised, and with perhaps a malice-free tilt at any local worthies who may have got a bit too big for their boots. It can all be very jolly. And I cannot really believe that, nowadays, pantomimes - or, for that matter, tinsel, yule logs, pagan Christmas trees (we always have one at the Rectory!), and baubles - are going to obscure the real meaning of Christmas in a country which can trace its religious history across the long centuries. We all know that CHRISTMAS is concerned with the "good tidings of great joy: unto you is born a Saviour". It is HIS birthday

we are celebrating, and that is what makes all the difference between a JOLLY Christmas and a HAPPY Christmas. For when we step into 1986 we shall have to leave the make-believe world of pantomime behind us; fairy queens with magic wands cannot stand up to the rigours of real life. But if we are ready to "worship Christ the new-born King" and welcome Him into our hearts and homes we can know His presence with us through all the days that lie ahead.

That is why - while I hope you will have a JOLLY Christmas as portrayed on this year's special stamps - I really want to wish you a HAPPY Christmas, and God's richest blessings in the New Year.

#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS..

Trees: Over 150 free trees, which are to be planted in the village, will be collected from the County Council on 16 December. 78 of these have been ordered by individual householders, for planting in their own gardens, and it is hoped that all those concerned will collect their trees and rabbit guards from Hill Cottage on Tuesday 17 December and that, if the weather is reasonable, they will manage to plant them before Christmas.

The remaining trees will be planted by the Parish Council and considerable help has been promised by a Manpower Services Commission team, under the Heritage Coast Warden. On 18 December, they will plant 66 of the trees - including oaks, ashes, sweet chestnuts, grey poplars, white willows, alders, rowans, whitebeams and a beech. For these, they will supply peat, to help the trees to survive in dry weather and, for valley sites where the winds are very strong, they will provide tree shelters. Lower Manor Farm has been very helpful in providing fencing, where necessary, to protect the trees from stock and this fencing has been erected by the Heritage Coast Warden. The Council hopes to organise a further tree planting in 1986.

Newsletter: The Council has decided to underwrite the Newsletter for a further twelve months. As the paper is produced and distributed by volunteers and has the support of several advertisers, the cost to the Council for 1985 has been less than 1½p per copy. The Council has expressed its thanks to all those who have helped to make the Newsletter such a success.

Boundary Stones: Only two of the ancient stones, marking the boundaries of the Parish, could be found during the Beating of the Bounds earlier this year. Concern has been expressed in case these two last stones might be lost and the Council has decided that, subject to the agreement of Kingston and Bigbury Parish Councils, the Assistant Heritage Coast Officer will be asked to arrange for them to be cleared and fixed permanently in the roadside banks.

Ringmore Historical Society: The Council has made a small donation to the Historical Society, in recognition of the important work which is being done in recording the history of the Parish.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS

One of the most interesting aspects of being an active member of The House of Lords is that no two days are alike. A number of procedures follow the same pattern that has basically been unchanged throughout the centuries. One of these is The Lord Chancellor's Procession which is carried out in pomp and ceremony, at 2.25 p.m., question time commences. This can be a lively time, with the opposition, attacking the Government to its best effect, but we are more restrained in our manner, than the Commons, which we refer to as "The other Place".

A number of debates, or Committee stages of a bill may follow, which can last until the early hours of the morning. Although the House does not sit until the afternoon the mornings can be occupied by attending select committees on various issues; for example, discussing the Okehampton bypass to the issues of The Common Market. We also are lobbied by members of the public, and organisations, each with a problem politically or personal.

One of the great advantages of The Lords is that virtually what ever advice one wants on any subject, an expert can be found in that field.

I feel privileged and very lucky to be a member of a great institution, which, in spite of its feudal way of having chosen its members, acts, in many ways, more democratically than its elected members down the hall. Grey

#### W.I. News.

The Annual General Meeting and first evening gathering was well attended with 7 new enrolments, and a toast was proposed to the success of the new venture. The hall looked welcoming with new red curtains, small posies of flowers on each table and new crockery.

The Treasurer in her annual financial statement revealed a satisfactory bank balance, and the Secretary reviewed the achievements and activities of the past year. We had reports from the Home Economics representative, and one of three members who recently visited Normandy to see the Bayeux Tapestry. The highlight of the evening was an illustrated talk by Ardene Bennett's daughter Anna, who had travelled from London specially to relate some of her experiences in Burma and Thailand. Dressed in a costume of one of the hillside tribes of Burma, Anna relived her Eastern visit as she showed her excellent interesting and colourful slides and exhibits. Anna was warmly thanked by the new President, Suzanne Race.

As this is my final contribution to the newsletter on the W.I.'s behalf, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking everyone in Ringmore who has contributed in any way to the success of W.I. events in the last few years, and to wish Suzanne every success and happiness in the job she has so willingly undertaken.

A reminder to members, old and new. Looking forward to seeing you and your husbands at Cliff Path on 15 December at 12 noon.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL.

This year the Poppy Appeal for the Parishes of Bigbury, Kingston and Ringmore realised the splendid figure of £712.05 made up as follows:- Wreaths - £42.75, Coffee Morning - £174.30, Kingston Church Collection - £107.61, Ladies Whist Drive - £54.05, Poppy collections - £323.34, Private donation - £10.00

The appeal organiser would like to thank everyone who gave so generously of their time and money to achieve this wonderful total.

The next meeting of the Royal British Legion (Mens section) will be held at the Pickwick Inn on Friday 10 January 1986 at 7.30 p.m. Any ex-serviceman who would like to join is invited to come along to this meeting.

Women's Section. The next meeting will be at COURTLANDS. Mrs. Vi Leonard will welcome you on 6 January. The ANNUAL DINNER will be held on 8 FEBRUARY at EFFORD HOUSE.

INTER-PARISH QUIZ. There will be sixteen teams taking part in this winters Inter-Parish Quiz organised by the Ivybridge Community College. The first round will be in two legs home and away, and will take place in January and February. The quarter finals will take place by the end of March, the semi-finals by the end of April and the final on 15 May 1986 in the Jubilee Hall, Ivybridge. In order that the parish can offer a wide range of knowledge for the competition, quiz experts are asked to get in touch with Mr. Guy Eddy on Bigbury 203.

PARISH EMERGENCY TEAM. Ringmore Emergency team is always looking for volunteers to join the team, and as part of their training it is desirable that they should have completed the WRVS Welfare Course. The next WRVS Welfare Course in the area will begin at 7.30 p.m. Monday 17 February 1986 at the Memorial Hall St. Anne's Chapel, and is being organised for the Bigbury Emergency Team. We have been invited to send along anyone who would like to join our team and wants to do this course. This is a good opportunity, so please get in touch with Mrs. N. Butler at Challaborough or Mr. Guy Eddy on Bigbury 203.

RINGMORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The new Committee has had its first meeting and is planning activities for 1986. Looking back through the records of 1910, 1920 1930's Christmas has changed, considerably. At one time there were three services on Christmas Day in church with a large choir rendering anthems and other special items. In the Church institute there were childrens parties, dances and whist drives and in 1930 the first cinema show arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Spooner of "The Homestead"/now Wallnut Tree Cottage). The popular film was "RIN- TIN-TIN". 1929 was also the year of the hurricane on 4 December which did great damage to the roof of the Church. The holes were patched up for Christmas, but again torn off on 12 January by another gale. Holly was very scarce "trees having been stripped not only of berries, but in many cases also entirely of their leaves". The new roof including the Architects fees cost £177-11-7 but the Diocesan quota in those days was only £4. GCG

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ADVERTISEMENTS

RINGMORE POST OFFICE STORES BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS DRINKS LOCALLY AND BENEFIT FROM LOW LOW PRICES AND YOU CAN PAY BY ACCESS, BARCLAYCARD, CASH OR CHEQUE. E.G. JACOBITE SCOTCH WHISKY £5.99 - LONDON DRY GIN £5.99 - CHEKOV VOIKA £5.99 - MARTINI EXTRA DRY £2.65 - LIEBFRAU MILCH WINE £1.79 - CABERNET SAUVIGNON WINE £2.49. PLEASE ORDER YOUR SALCOMBE DAIRY CHRISTMAS PUDDING NOW. \*\*\*\*\*

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ROSEMARY OF BROAD STREET MODBURY FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS POT PLANTS GIFTS. PERSONAL ATTENTION. TELEPHONE SHOP - MODBURY 830048 HOME - GARA BRIDGE 444. \*\*\*\*\*

MORE GALLICA ROSES

CHARLES de MILLS 'Bizarre Triomphante' quite unique. The sliced-off appearance of the half opened flower developing into a great ball of petals. Cerise-crimson in colour, slowly fading to give a tint of purple. The rich perfume can be fully appreciated because of it's flat saucer shape. A lovely shrub 5ft. X 4ft.

L'IMPERATRICE JOSEPHINE. Originally FRANCOFURTANA and recorded by CLUSIUS in 1583 but was renamed in honour of the Empress. A full flower of clear rich pink. A low shrub with pale green leaves. Not as much scent as expected of the Gallica's. 3ft. X 3ft.

BELLE de CRECY Free flowering nearly thornless. Bright cerise-pink flowers fading to a delicate violet. Very fragrant. Introduced about 1820. 4ft. X 3ft.

But roses fade, and summers sun will end,  
And oaths be broken.  
So never swear to love. Or if you do  
Remember oaths can make no rose eternal,  
Nor keep the sun from setting, nor bestow  
A second summer.

Sapho of Lesbos.C. 600 B.C.

CHRISTMAS MORNING by ELIZABETH MADOX ROBERTS  
(The NATIVITY through the eyes of a child)

If Bethlehem were here today  
Or this were very long ago,  
There wouldn't be a winter time  
Nor any cold or snow.

I'd run out through the garden gate,  
And down along the pasture walk;  
And off beside the cattle barns  
I'd hear a kind of gentle talk.

I'd move the heavy iron chain  
And pull away the wooden pin;  
I'd push the door a little bit  
And tiptoe very softly in.

The pigeons and the yellow hens  
And all the cows would stand away;  
Their eyes would open wide to see  
A Lady in the manger hay.

If this were very long ago  
And Bethlehem were here today  
And mother held my hand and smiled--  
I mean the Lady would--and she  
Would take the woolly blankets off  
Her little boy so I could see.

His shut up eyes would be asleep,  
And he would look like our John,  
And he would be all crumpled too  
And have a pinkish colour on.

I'd watch his breath go in and out,  
His little clothes would all be white.  
I'd slip my finger in his hand  
To feel how he could hold it tight.

And she would smile and say "Take care",  
The mother, Mary, would, "Take care";  
And I would kiss his little hand  
And touch his hair.

While Mary put the blankets back  
The gentle talk would soon begin.  
And when I'd tiptoe softly out,  
I'd meet the wise men going in.

The Sad Demise of the Catamaran on Challaborough Beach

Now the trauma of the loss of the catamaran is over I feel I can now relate to you the happenings and rescue attempts of same, as I understand them, occurring from Saturday 2 to Monday 11 November. The journey started from Plymouth and should have ended at Exeter.

Sat. evening. Commotion in bay - lots of lights - someone in the water - no need to worry, only boat being moored in bay.

Sun. a.m. Blue sea, white boat - sun shining - idyllic. Later in day - catamaran at Burgh Island - not sure of reason, but stuck in sand awaiting tide.

Monday - breakfast time - Boat refloated - moored on marker bouy in bay. Few minutes later catamaran travelling towards beach having broken away - owners unaware - having coffee. Ropes taken down from house to help pull her in. Holed in one hull. Refreshments - people employed to dig out and pump filler into hole. Hole too large - idea abandoned. Gigantic crane hired to lift her out. Idea to bring boat up slipway onto car park and transporter take it rest of journey by road. Mast taken down on account of overhead telephone cable. Crane arrived 5.20 p.m. Advice on nature of soft sand unheeded. 5.30 p.m. crane stuck at bottom of slipway. Evening spent digging out to no avail - sinks further in. Shovels thrown down and left - exodus to more congenial surroundings.

Tues. 9 a.m. Large tractor with winch arrives to pull up crane. Rope attached - starts to pull - large pin in tractor bends - lots of hammering to straighten it. At 11.00 a.m., by reversing tractor, crane hauled to top of slipway, both machines leave. Paving slab displaced - large holes in the ground - husband out filling them in.

Tues. evening - owner arrives with van, landrover and trailer. Tries pulling out boat by attaching rope to van. Engine mountings break - engine goes through radiator. Attempt abandoned at 11 p.m. Van mounted onto trailer towed by landrover. Trailer has a puncture - trailer left (somewhere) and van towed by landrover.

Wednesday - Young man employs farmer with two large tractors, ropes, logs and other gear to pull out boat. Succeeds in moving it a few yards and releasing a trapped rope. Boat now has a very large hole in each hull. Sees uselessness of situation, ties boat to concrete pole in the garden and leaves.

Thurs. evening. owner arrives again. Brings carpets, lengths of tin, old iron bedstead. Leaves at midnight. Boat still on beach.

Friday afternoon - Rough seas - boat splits in half.

Friday night - Very stormy.

Saturday a.m. - Pieces of boat all over beach. Concrete pole still standing with main section still attached. Lots of sightseers. Blue car arrives - lots of banging - people taking off bits and pieces.

Sat. afternoon - owner arrives - too late - departs.

Sunday - More sightseers - lots of firewood.

Monday - green tractor picks up bits of boat from far side of beach and deposits them on sand in front of house.

Mon. afternoon - Had enough - decide to have a bonfire.

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My sympathy goes out to the owner who lost his boat through an unfortunate chain of circumstances. Hopefully he will have more success in any future venture.

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T.M.

The End of the Outman on Gullborough Beach

Now the things of the past of the outman is over I feel I can now relate to you the happenings and recent incidents of some of the outman's life, occurring from Saturday 2 to Monday 12 November. The journey started from Plymouth and should have ended at Gullborough.

Sat. evening - Conversation in day - lots of lights - someone in the water - no need to worry, only boat being worked in day.

Sun. 2.11 - Blue sea, white boat - sun shining - lights. Later in day - outman at Gullborough - not sure of reason, but think in sand awaiting tide.

Monday - Pleasant time - boat reflected - moved on water body in day. Few minutes later outman travelling towards beach having broken away - owners unaware - having coffee. Jones taken down from house to help with his hole in the hull. Arrangements - people employed to dig out and way filler into hole. Hole too large - later abandoned. Outman's crane hired to lift her out. Idea to raise boat up slipway on pier - and transporter take it rest of journey by road. Boat taken down on account of overhead telephone cables. Crane arrived 2.30 a.m. After on nature of self and unhelped. 5.30 a.m. crane struck at bottom of slipway. Evening boat floating out to sea well - since further in. Shows three men and left - another to more complete arrangements.

Tue. 3.11 - Large tractor with which arrives to fill in crane. Rope attached - starts to pull - large rim in tractor bands - lots of hammering to straighten it. At 11.00 a.m. by reversing tractor, crane hauled to top of slipway, both machines leave. Having this finished - James holes in the ground - husband out filling them in.

Tues. evening - owner arrives with van, handover and trailer. Trip walking out boat by attaching rope to van. Crane counting work - on the sea through radiator. Attempt abandoned at 11 a.m. Van mounted onto trailer towed by handover. Trailer has a tractor - trailer left (somewhere) and van towed by handover.

Wednesday - Young man employe farmer with two large tractors, ropes, logs and other gear to fill out boat. Success in moving it a few yards and releasing a trapped rope. Boat now has a very large hole in each hull. Sea usefulness of situation. One had to concrete sole in the garden and boxes.

Thurs. evening - owner arrives again. Bridge cranes, lengths of tin, old iron bedstead. Leaves at midnight. Boat still on beach.

Friday afternoon - rough sea - boat calms in half.

Saturday night - Very stormy.

Saturday 8.11 - Pieces of boat all over beach. Concrete sole still standing with main section still attached. Lots of lighters. Five car arrives - lots of loading - people taking off bits and pieces.

Sat. afternoon - owner arrives - too late - beach.

Sunday - More lighters - lots of firewood.

Monday - Green tractor takes a bite of boat from far side of beach and deposits them on shore in front of house.

Tue. afternoon - Had enough - decide to have a holiday.

By necessity goes out to the owner who lost his boat through an unfortunate chain of circumstances. Hopefully he will have some success in any future venture.