

We would like to say a big thank-you to Ken Light for delivering prescriptions from the chemist in Modbury. He does this completely voluntarily, often in very bad weather. This is especially helpful to people who find it difficult to get into Modbury. Thank you Ken.

Rainfall for April 5.3.90. - 7.4.90. $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Several visiting speakers attended our Annual Parish Meeting on 3 April. In addition to our District Council Representative, Mr. G. Sercombe. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Simon Day, of Devon County Council; Mr. Luckett an Environmental Health Officer of South Hams District Council and P.C. Lane - our local policeman. Unfortunately, apart from the seven members of the Parish Council, only five village residents attended. The main events of the past year were summarised by the Parish Council Chairman, Mr. Guy Eddy. The Council had narrowly avoided having to cope with water rationing, during the summer drought but there had been no escape from the storm damage in January and February. The loss of mature trees emphasised the value of the Parish Council's tree planting programme. The village had received valuable help from the Heritage Coast organisation in repairing damage to the coastal footpath - including the replacement of the foot-bridge at Ayrmer Cove.

Complaints had been received about the condition of the footpath to Toby's Point, but this would shortly be re-instated by Mr. Capps.

During the year, the Parish Council had dealt with planning applications affecting 17 different sites.

Mr. Simon Day said that, under Mr. Ridley, the Department of the Environment had often over-ruled the refusal of planning permission by District Councils. He thought that Mr. Patten would be more sensitive to environmental considerations.

The newly-elected Devon County Council would not proceed with the policy of "Devon 2001", but would restrict development as far as possible. It was helpful that Plymouth had now agreed that they could cater for their own housing needs within the city boundary.

Mr. Day was obviously embarrassed at the way in which the Poll Tax had been introduced. He said that the Government's estimate of Devon's needs was clearly wrong. Only 5-6% had been allowed for inflation, while salaries had increased by up to 8%, and no allowance had been made from national funds to cover the introduction of the National Curriculum in schools or "Care in the Community".

Mr. Day answered a number of questions about the impact of the Poll Tax.

Mr. Luckett explained his wide-ranging responsibilities, which included the controversial topic of the fouling of pavements and beaches by dogs. He said that the banning of dogs from certain beaches in the summer months would not come into force this year.

He answered questions on the environmental aspects of planning decisions; the problem of large caravans passing through Ringmore's narrow lanes and the requirement that all householders should provide themselves with a dustbin - in order to avoid the scattering of litter.

P.C. Lane said that the period since his arrival in the area had been quiet, with only one burglary reported. He suggested that any residents encountering problems requiring police action should telephone Police H.Q. at Paignton rather than Modbury or Kingsbridge.

Mr. Sercombe spoke about the provision of low-cost and rented housing for younger members of the community.

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION. The next meeting on Friday 4 May at Kingston.

CHURCH NOTES for EASTER - TIDE

The Rector writes...

Signing off for the Easter holiday, one of the television commentators very courteously wished his audience "a happy Easter" (which is an improvement on the "have a nice weekend" that we so often get!). I found myself wondering - what would make a happy Easter? Nice weather? Plenty to eat and drink - and nice weather? No doubt the list could be extended in all kinds of ways and for all kinds of tastes. But how many would think of Easter happiness being a right understanding of death?



Yes, the greatest and the oldest of the Christian festivals is to do with death - death accepted and death vanquished. And since death is the one certainty of our human existence, it's not a matter to be ignored.



From the beginning of His public ministry, Jesus had death in view - He was not forced into crucifixion, He accepted it and saw it as the climax of His work on our behalf. Just before He died on the cross, He shouted "Finished!" - the job was done.

Someone has pointed out that the resurrection of Jesus was God's "Amen" to the Son's cry from the cross. Thank God that Good Friday is followed by Easter Sunday - that death accepted on our behalf leads to death vanquished and hope beyond the grave. The emphasis is upon what Christ has done in dying and rising for us - and all this is more

than theory, as we have witnessed in Ringmore this Holy Week. In the funeral service for Lily Parent on Maundy Thursday we sing...

"Hold Thou Thy Cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me."

SUNDAYS AT RINGMORE

Apr. 15. 6.0pm Festival Evensong
EASTER SUNDAY & brief Communion

Apr. 22. 9.0am Holy Communion

Apr. 29. 6.0pm Evening Service

May 6. 11.0am Family Service

SUNDAYS at Bigbury & Kingston

9.0am Holy Communion at Bigbury

11.0am Family Service at Kingston

11.0am Family Service at Bigbury

6.0pm Evening Service at Kingston

9.0am Holy Communion at Bigbury

11.0am Morning Service at Kingston

9.0am Holy Communion at Kingston

6.0pm Evening Service at Bigbury.

The Rectory,
Ringmore (810565)

ARTHUR DROWLEY
Rector

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Institute decided to enter every class of the prestigious Craft Show, which is held every four years at Malborough. Seventeen members, ranging from busy young housewives to a lady of over 90, devoted the time and trouble to preparing entries of an excellent standard. Out of a total membership of only twenty five, this was an outstanding effort. The May meeting, at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 10 May, will deal with resolutions for the A.G.M. at the Albert Hall.

There will be no afternoon meetings until the autumn, as it is hoped that, during the summer, the light evenings will enable all members to attend the evening meetings.

RINGMORE TELEPHONE BOX

On more than one occasion the box has been used as a toilet. This is quite unacceptable behaviour. If it happens again consideration will be given to keeping watch on the box.

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CHALLABOROUGH BAY HOLIDAY CENTRE

As with other members of the community we suffered with the January storm. This has resulted in numerous changes within the centre. Approximately 30 caravans were destroyed, the majority of these are being replaced. The derelict Dolphin Cafe has been demolished and a test dig carried out for its replacement foundations. The Beach Cafe/Chip Shop also had to be demolished and all debris has now been removed. This area will be used for additional car parking hopefully alleviating some of the parking problems during the season. In conjunction with Heritage Coastal Service we have planted 8 varieties of trees throughout the centre, approximately 600 trees are now in situ. Last season numerous charities benefitted from collections/donations around and within the centre. The main recipients were Kingsbridge X-ray appeal, Sick Children in Crisis, RNLI Institute for the Blind and RM Deal Band Appeal.

NSPCC

You may be interested to know that the Devon branch of the NSPCC is celebrating its' Centenary this year. At present the Plymouth branch only has the use of an office and a very inadequate "Family Room" in Wolseley House. We are trying very hard to raise £300,000 this year so that we can have our own Family Care Unit in Plymouth, where our overworked Child Protection Officers can talk to children and their families in a friendly and informal atmosphere. Only 2% approximately of the money raised by the NSPCC goes on administration, the remaining 98% goes directly to the point where it is needed - putting experienced CPO's in the field who look into all reports and take the necessary action and to providing Family Care Centres where practical help and guidance can be given. We, in the Charterlands Branch, are starting off this year with a Silent Auction on 3 May at Bigbury Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are £3.50 each, to include a Finger Buffet and welcoming glass of wine. Unfortunately we have to limit the numbers to 100 to comply with the Safety regulations, so if you would like a ticket please ring me quickly on 810729 as each committee member only has 8 tickets allocated. However, if you are too late to get a ticket, perhaps you could find something for the Auction (no jumble, please). We would be most grateful for anything saleable. If you telephone me, by 2 May, I will be happy to collect your gift.

Annabel Major.

DAVID LAIDLER, M.P.S. MODBURY PHARMACY. 5 BROAD STREET, MODBURY TEL. MODBURY 830215
HOURS OF OPENING MON. TUES. THURS. FRI 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.: 2.15 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. WED 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.: 5.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. SAT. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.: 2.15 p.m. - 5 p.m.

INN SIGHT - THE JOURNEY'S END. The grockle season is here again. Weekends are getting busier. Our next function is a silly games night - Sat. 26 April - Proceeds to Dame Hannah Rogers School. Hope to see you all.

ACT NOW!

Over-development in Challaborough has resulted in an increase in traffic through the village of Ringmore. **600 caravans are currently permitted**, although licences are due to be renewed shortly. In addition, large numbers of other heavy vehicles are generated by the sites. There is already severe traffic congestion, not only at peak summer periods, but increasingly in low season.

With the extra volume of traffic, damage is occurring more frequently to walls, trees and even buildings, with one property suffering five recent incidents of damage. Despite its being an offence not to do so, those perpetrating the accidents have not reported them. Noise and air pollution are also increasing, further harming the environment.

Traffic congestion is not only undesirable for these reasons. It is potentially dangerous, especially during an emergency.

Due to very large, slow-moving caravans, in increasing numbers and size, (they are **still only ten feet**, I was 'assured' by one site manager!) hold-ups of 45 minutes between St Ann's Chapel and Ringmore (a distance of only 1½ miles) are not uncommon.

This is not a suitable route for these vehicles; they would present even more problems in an emergency. For example, how would a fire engine pass them successfully? It would be necessary, though perhaps not possible, for such a vehicle to reach Challaborough and parts of Ringmore by diverting through Bigbury and Bigbury-on-Sea. Obviously the time delay could be crucial.

A recent example is of a caravan leaving Challaborough being stuck in a bank before reaching Ringmore, and literally having to be 'dug out' after a couple of hours. Apart from any damage, during this time many vehicles had to take the lengthy diversion to gain access to and from Challaborough.

Another incident (and there are many) was of one parishioner being forced off the road by a driver transporting a very large caravan. As she said "I couldn't believe the speed and the fact that he just kept going."

Even the local policeman was recently held up for 1½ hours.

As residents know, not only are there problems at the Pickwick Corner, but the only way these large vehicles are able to turn towards Challaborough, after passing Ringmore Post Office, is by driving the entire vehicle over 'the rock' at Rock Cottage, which is a Grade II listed building.

Even then, access is extremely limited, and an increasing number of drivers are unable to continue, simply because their vehicles are too large: one driver only managed to reverse out after attempts lasting four hours.

Local residents are becoming increasingly worried by the volume, size and speed of traffic generated by the sites, and our elderly residents are particularly at risk.

Trevor Cowley, the manager of one site, reiterates, "We have a business to run." Most of us fully understand that, but it has also to be recognised that we have a village to live in.

Surely the time has come to impose a width, and speed restriction, not simply to conserve an attractive village, but to prevent a potential disaster.

If you agree, (and I already know many of you do), please contact me.

Rosemary Tate, Cross Park. Tel: 810238