



## R I N G M O R E   P A R I S H   C H U R C H   N E W S

### The Rector writes....

The peculiar position of the Church of England as "the established church" of this land, gives rise to some strange paradoxes - it seems to belong to everyone, but the majority of people are not members; it is closely related to the State, but it is not supported by government funds and so on! We have been recently reminded of the great changes that the years have seen - in the early part of the century there were 23,000 working clergy; today there are 10,400!

From time to time the Diocese has to decide what 'standards' are called for if an area is to have a full-time clergyman (or woman!). It is a reminder of the Church's position as the established church that these standards are set by reference to the general population, not by the number of local church members. Here in Exeter Diocese it has been decided that in rural areas there need to be 1,800 people for a parish to qualify for a local minister - and the urban standard is 8,000!

Now, in our "patch" - Bigbury, Ringmore and Kingston, we have a population of about 1,200, so when there is next a vacancy here we shall not qualify for a replacement Rector. Where shall we look? We have natural barriers to the South, the East and the West, so we don't need to argue about the matter - clearly we look to our Northern neighbours, to Modbury and Aveton Gifford. This means we have a lot to think about and a good deal to prepare for. All this could look like a reduction in Christian care and witness, but this may be the Lord's way of getting the Church on the move and all its members into action!



### SERVICES THIS MONTH

<u>At Ringmore</u>	<u>At Bigbury &amp; Kingston</u>
Mar 7th 11.0am Family Service	9am 1980 Communion at Kingston 6pm Evening Prayer at Bigbury
Mar 14th 9.0am 1980 Communion	11am Morning Prayer & HC at Bigbury 6pm Evening Prayer at Kingston
Mar 21st 6.0pm Evening Prayer	9am 1662 Communion at Bigbury 11am Mothering Sunday Family service at Kingston
Mar 28th 9.0am 1662 Communion	11am Family Service at Bigbury 6pm Evening Service at Kingston
Apr 4th 11.0am Family Service	9am 1662 Communion at Kingston 6pm Evening Prayer at Bigbury

### NOTES FOR THE MONTH

Music for Easter - to prepare for services on Maundy Thursday (Apr.8th) and on Easter Sunday, practices have been arranged on Fridays Mar.19 & 26, & Apr 2nd at 7.30pm at the Rectory (if there's room!). Do come if you'd like to share in this.

Afternoon Fellowship - the April meeting on Thu.1st. is at Wavecrest, Bigbury-on-Sea at 2.30pm. All are welcome to this informal time at Jim and Beryl Isaac's home. The Rector hopes to be there to field "Any Questions" thrown at him.

The Lent Course this year on the remaining Wednesday evenings, at 7.30pm in the Church Hall, Ringmore, will concentrate on training in lay-leadership, preparing for days with less clergy support. The first of these evenings will be on Mar 10th and thereafter each Wednesday until March 31st.

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Rector.

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SUSAN FREEMAN WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL  
THOSE WHO SO KINDLY DONATED TO THE 'KEN  
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## WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY

Following the evening meeting on **Thursday 11 March** at 7.30 p.m., Mr. John German will speak on Devon Dialect. This should be good fun and all will be welcome **at 8 p.m.** to hear him. (Please note earlier time than usual).

Next month, on **8 April**, Carol and Gordon Allen will show more of their slides, taken on holiday in France.

The Spring Group Meeting, at Aveton Gifford, will be on **Thursday 15 April** at 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Pratt will speak on "Going to the Pictures".

Those wishing to attend should notify the Secretary as soon as possible.

Ardene Bennett

IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PRESENTS

THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS ON

SATURDAY, 3RD APRIL 1993

A DAY WITH PAPER - FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
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DETAILS

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## UP, UP AND AWAY!

Despite my age, it was with a definite child-like excitement that I woke on the morning of Saturday 6th February. Watching a splendid winter sunrise, I hoped that it boded good for the rest of the day. It did!

So, several hours later, I assembled with others, eagerly anticipating my first trip in a hot-air balloon.

I watched enthralled as the green and yellow fabric took shape, gradually being inflated into 'balloon', in a field a short distance from Ugborough. Twenty minutes of waiting, then we scrambled into the wicker basket, and we were genuinely 'up, up and away'.

Lookers-on, buildings and fields receded into the distance, and our spectacular journey had begun, though there was little sensation of movement. In fact, what surprised me most was the sheer tranquillity of it - only the irregular sound of the burners interrupted our airborne peace.

Yet sheep rounded themselves up, gardeners found the perfect excuse to down tools, a farmer and his dog stopped still in their tracks - and a lone fox took flight - all in deference to the object overhead.

During our journey, Ringmore never quite came into view, but the tip of Burgh Island did emerge from a sea mist!

Towards the end of our flight, in what must have appeared as a sort of 'balloon ballet', we glided parallel with a steep hillside, just a few feet above it, yet never touching the ground; so peaceful that the occasional rabbit disturbed us; so close that we could see spiders' webs in the blades of grass, still laden with dew.

After well over an hour we finally came to earth, not too far from California Cross. A mollifying bottle of whisky was presented to the farmer in whose field we had landed; and whilst we sipped the customary champagne, yards and yards of balloon were skillfully packed away - making those of us who have difficulty with the holiday suitcase appear totally inadequate!

I must admit that I frequently find myself glancing skyward, hoping to see even a distant hot-air balloon, and wondering if others are enjoying the memorable occasion as much as I did. And I even have the certificate to prove it!

Rosemary Tate



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## WOOLLY MINDED?

If you have any knitting wool to spare, please phone Susan Freeman (810286), so that she can collect it to give to an old lady, resident in a home, who spends a great deal of her time crocheting blankets for a children's hospice, but cannot afford to buy all the wool she needs. Thank you.



**Julie**  
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### MOBILE LIBRARY

Visit Dates : Monday 8th March  
Monday 22nd March

Challaborough : 2.30 p.m.  
Ringmore : 2.50 p.m.

### RAINFALL

#### FEBRUARY FILL-DYKE!?

1st - 28th February 1993

5/8 inch B. Baughan

### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

\* The caravan access road is almost complete with a trial run planned for later in the week.

\* Volunteers were congratulated for their excellent Ayrmer beach clean up since the last meeting. A reminder that all are welcome at the next beach clean-up promoted by the National Trust on Saturday 3rd April at 10.30 am.

\* Approval was given to the operation of a new Water Sport - Parascending - at Challaborough Bay this year following a video presentation and question and answer session provided by the promoter Mr Reynolds.

\* A majority objected to the plans for an extension on Challaborough Cottage on grounds of design, and a decision deferred on the proposed extension to the Journey's End kitchen.

\* Questions were asked about the Council Tax Bands and Transitional Reduction. All properties in Ringmore Parish have been put into different bands. Previously, Community Charge (Poll Tax) has been levied on the number of people living in a dwelling. If the difference between Community Charge and Council Tax exceeds a certain amount (shown in brackets) the increase will be kept to that amount for a transitional period. This will be calculated automatically and does not have to be applied for.

Band A	£325.98	(£91)	Band B	£380.32	(£104)	Band C	£434.64	(£117)
Band D	£488.98	(£130)	Band E	£597.64	(£143)	Band F	£706.30	(£156)
Band G	£814.96	(£169)	Band H	£977.96	(£182)			

John Tate Vice Chairman

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810634. Zak Sherburn Age 12

### JOURNEY'S END JOURNAL



Tel: 0548 810205

Apart from our pound a pint promotion, February will be remembered for the success of the J.E.D.T. (**Journey's End Darts Team**). We were challenged by the crack league team from the Royal Oak. We fielded a scratch team of old pros, and managed to pull off a memorable victory on our home board.

However, even our expectations were surpassed when we beat them again at The Oak the following week, and furthermore we won the beer match as well. Congratulations to all who took part - many thanks for your support.

If anyone is interested in playing darts here regularly, I suggest we make Friday nights a darts night. Come and enjoy the live music and have a game.

Another first for February was the appearance of Dave Wilkins, playing his guitar and singing here on February 26th to a good crowd. Our March music dates are already booked, but we hope he will play for us again in April.

On March 26th we have the live music of the very popular Irish jig band of 'My Earthly Twin'. Don't miss them - it will be a great evening.

Sunday, 21st March is Mothers' Day. Please let us know if you will be coming to lunch and we can reserve a table - it may well be busy.

**NIGEL FROST**

OPTOMETRIST F.R.C.O.

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**DEADLINE DEADLINE DEADLINE DEADLINE**  
The deadline for items for inclusion in  
the April newsletter is **Wednesday**  
**7th April 1993**