

RINGMORE NEWSLETTER

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March heralded Spring which is threatening to break out everywhere but we have April showers ahead of us. There is much to do during April and details appear somewhere in this edition.

Sadly Phoebe Bryce died at home in March and now that we have lost her smile, Ringmore will be less bright for a while. We send condolences to Fiona and Rob.

As predicted in the last Newsletter, Alan McCarthy has organized the BEACH CLEAN for Saturday 3rd April at 10.00am provided that it is not raining, sleeting, snowing or hailing. Black sacks will be provided but remember to bring gloves. Driftwood and seaweed will be burnt so why not BYO sausage or potato with cooking foil. The more the merrier and if the weather is kind it could be another of those 'village occasions'

The Annual Table Tennis Tournament took

place at the Journey's End and pitted rank novices against perceived professionals. Amid much merriment, no little barracking and huge support for anyone who hit the ball, the cream filtered to the top and members of the Table Tennis Club filled the semi-final places. The final was disputed by Jim McGinley, the holder, and Ann Bracey who perhaps surprised many as she progressed through the competition. Despite having support from only Emma, Jim eventually prevailed to retain his title.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place in the WI Hall on 28th at 7.30pm. This year our principal speaker will be Miss Ruth Bagley Chief Executive of SHDC. This will be an opportunity to raise issues with the Parish Council and the speakers. The Parish Council would welcome your presence at the meeting.

Finally we wish Judy Spence a speedy recovery after her recent spell in hospital.

Phoebe Bryce

We wish to thank everyone in the village for their kind expressions of sympathy and support following the sad loss of Fiona's mother.

As John Elliott said in his moving eulogy, Phoebe quickly slipped into the life of the village. This was made easy for her by the warm welcome which was extended to her by this lovely community.

She was a very special lady and we will miss her terribly. Your letters and cards have been a source of strength and comfort.

Fiona and Rob

Diary for the Month

MONDAYS: Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm Parish Room
TUESDAYS: Table Tennis Parish Room 7.30pm
THURSDAYS: Quiz Night 9.00pm Journey's End
FRIDAY: Steak Night at Journey's End

3rd Beach Clean at Ayrmer Cove 10.00am
7th RBL Meeting Old Chapel Inn 7.30pm
8th WI Meeting WI Hall 7.30pm
12th WI Easter Fair WI Hall & Gardens 2.00pm
15th Charity Belgian Beer Tasting 6.30pm Tickets: James Parkin
20th Parish Council Meeting WI Hall 7.00pm
21st RHS Meeting WI Hall 7.30pm
25th DEADLINE DEADLINE DEADLINE
28th Annual Parish Meeting of Parish Council WI Hall 7.30pm

May
5th RBL Meeting Journey's End 7.30pm

Please send items for inclusion in the Newsletter to:
The Editor
Ringmore Parish Newsletter,
Ringmore Vean, Ringmore, TQ7 4HL
or put them through the letter box in the garage door
email: news@ringmore.com

MOBILE LIBRARY

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Ringmore Church
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Challaborough
12.30 - 12.40

St Ann's Chapel
1.15 - 1.30

Kingston Fire Stn
3.45 - 4.30

APRIL 2004

Issue Number 225

DEADLINE

Sunday
25th

Editor:
Geof Dykes
810123

RAINFALL

Fiona Batten

Last Month
3 3/4"

Ten Year Average
2 1/2"

Ten Year High
1994 4.75"

Ten Year Low
1997 1/2"

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NEWS FROM ALL HALLOWS

April Services

Ringmore

- 4th 11.00a.m. Family Service
11th 9.00a.m. Easter Communion
18th 6.00p.m. Evening Prayer
25th 9.00a.m. BCP Communion

Maunday Thursday Special

7.30 p.m. April 8th

Passover Meal with Communion

At the Old Chapel Inn, St Ann's
(ex Pickwick)

Chicken Soup & Matzot Bread
Roast Lamb
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Glass of Wine or other drink
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Book on 810565 (answer machine if out)

Other Local Church Services

Bigbury

- 4th 11.00 a.m. Palm Sunday
Family Service
9th 5.00 p.m. Good Friday
Before the Cross
11th 11.00 a.m. Family Service
18th 2.30 p.m. BCP Communion
21st 9.00a.m. Korniloff Communion
25th 11.00a.m. Family Communion

Kingston

- 4th 9.00 a.m. BCP Communion
11th 11.00 a.m. Easter Day
Family Communion
18th 11.00a.m. Family Service
and Children's Club
25th 6.00 p.m. BCP Evening Prayer

We've always done it that way!

In any organisation the statement, "We've always done it that way" comes up again and again. It happened a few times when the new boy on the block came to the local Churches and did some things another way. The US standard railroad gauge, distance between the rails, is 4 feet 8.5 inches, an odd measurement. Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and our ex-pats built the US Railroads. Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the trams and tracks to that gauge. Why did "they" use that gauge? Because they used the same jigs and tools that they used for building road wagons, which used that wheel spacing. Okay! Why did the wagons have that particular wheel spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts. So who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe and England for their legions which have been used ever since. The ruts in the roads caused by Roman war chariots, the wheel spacing which everyone else had to match else destroy their own wheels. All chariots made for Imperial Rome, had the same wheel spacing. The U.S.A. standard railroad gauge goes back to the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. Why were Roman Chariots that wide? Easy peasy the Imperial Roman war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back ends of two horses.

Now the silly twist! When you see a Space Shuttle on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters (SRB's) made by Thiokol in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs wanted to make them fatter, but they had to be shipped by train to the launch site. The railway from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds. So, a major Space Shuttle design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of the back end of two horses.

Then we go to Church and are told that "we always do things that way". Well most of it not that far back! Pews: a modern invention of only 200/300 years. and organs an 18th century invention when the musical group became unruly. The Maunday Thursday Passover goes back further, carrying the tradition of the Jewish Passover into the Easter Week celebrations. Want to find out more? Ring 810565 and book your tickets to the Maunday Thursday Communion, see panel opposite for details. (John Elliott, Resident Minister Bigbury, Kingston & Ringmore: Phone 01548- 810565)

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Journey's End Journal

Thank you for your support during the highlight of the month, the Beer Festival during which more than 2000 pints were drunk. Otter Head was chosen as the best beer.

The Table Tennis Tournament was once again a great success.

I hope you will support the Charity Belgian Beer Tasting on 15th: tickets can be obtained at the bar or from James Parkin.

We have sold a lease to Mr & Mrs Ken Blease, whom some of you have met already. We hope to hand over at the end of April and I am sure you will give them a warm welcome.

Ralph and Lizzie will be moving to our new venture, The Normandy House Hotel in Ottery St Mary, so make the most of the last month here and enjoy Ralph's fantastic cooking. Please remember to book, we do not like having to turn people away.

Mark



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RINGMORE Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday
28th April
7.30pm WI Hall

Speakers

Miss Ruth Bagley
Chief Executive SHDC

Sir Simon Day
Devon County Councillor

Brian Carson
SHDC Councillor

Simon Garner
National Trust

Please come and hear
our guests talk on subjects
which concern us all
There will be an opportunity
for questions

PLANNING APPLICATION

The application by Park Dean to erect two signs at beach access points has raised a great deal of interest, particularly among residents from both sides of the stream at Challaborough.

The situation has arisen because South Hams District Council decided, in order to save money, not to clean privately owned beaches which meant that Park Dean had to take full control of that part of the beach which they own. John Tucker owns the Bigbury end of the beach.

The notices set out the conditions under which visitors can use the beach. These regulations are intended to keep the beach safe and clean for all users. Aidan Glover, the manager at Park Dean, has a difficult job trying to prevent unsociable activities and unsavoury litter.

The notice covering the slipway is intended to keep the beach safe from vehicles roaming at will. Parking is acceptable only on the right-hand side of the beach and only if you have taken a boat down to the water. If you have a problem, contact Aidan on 810771.

INTER-PARISH QUIZ

When a team is drawn against Brixton (it has happened before) it is slightly daunting because they are a good team and their record is impressive. However Ringmore approached the match determined not to allow the reputation of their opponents to be worth points.

The best laid plans gang aft a'gley!

The first two rounds were on Political Leaders and Geography, two subjects on which Ringmore felt confident but alas on this occasion, the confidence was misplaced. Suddenly we were 10 points adrift, a deficit which would always be a handicap.

Through Royalty, Music, the game of Monopoly, identifying Entertainers, Shakespeare, Latin Words and Music we fared well and we were gradually clawing back the lead by a point or two per round. However our attempt to overcome the arrears was thwarted by a round on the Geological Ages (Pleistocene, Jurassic, etc) which proved to be our undoing. After that we were chasing dreams and eventually Brixton ran out winners by 106 - 90. The fact that both sides won nine rounds each was no consolation.

It does not matter how these results are analysed (we did not get the right questions, specialist subjects should not be Team Rounds, etc) the fact is that Brixton gained the most points and deserved their victory. We wish them luck in the semifinal which will be against Yealmpton.

We shall try again in 2005.



WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY

The snowy conditions of the evening of our March meeting meant that numbers were down but even so we had a lively meeting. Our speaker was Alan Dark, who entertained us with ESP. He did Card Tricks where somehow he managed to choose the same card from his pack, as his willing volunteer had chosen. He made a watch stop, start again and move on twenty minutes. He then picked up members' thoughts in all manner of ways.

We all had a very good evening and will be sure to invite him back again.

Our next meeting will be on 8th April when Sir Geoffrey Newman will be our speaker.

Sally Errett



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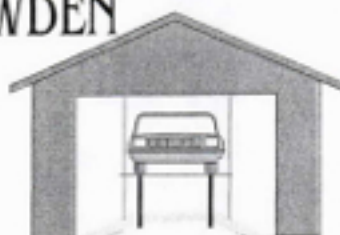
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A MAYOR FOR RINGMORE

The idea of a Mayor in Ringmore proved to be underwhelming. It is hard to say why apathy prevailed but perhaps the voters just don't want extreme, puritanical or compulsory impositions.

G Khan's proposal to introduce Street Lighting to prevent hanky-panky was decidedly unpopular. A Tilla's lack of consultation regarding the change of use of several properties to provide leisure and shopping facilities fell on deaf ears. CRO'Magnon's suggestions for a Theme Park was obviously before its time. The most popular idea was that of Benny Factor who wanted each candidate to receive £1000 for each word their manifesto was below 100 words. However, in the end, the consensus was that too many candidates would go for the top prize of £100,000 so the idea was cast aside.

No candidate received votes in excess of the value of the prize so none is awarded. Perhaps the voters' attitude is encompassed in the following disgruntled verses.

To the Prospective Mayors of Ringmore

It's really such a pity that I have to write this ditty,

But it's something that, I feel, is overdue
Since reading the newsletter, I thought I'd really better

Get out my pen and jot a word or two.

A. Tilla, you're a killer – a boat without a tiller.

Of all that's bad or evil, you're the pal.
Extend the Journey's End? Explain yourself, my friend.

Hands off Cross Park, don't build that shopping mall!

O'Magnon, you're a nutter, fit only for the gutter,

If you think the Pirate Ship's a good idea.
Serving medieval hot teas, wearing pointed shoes and codpiece?
You'll make us all a laughing stock, I fear.

I think it's very funny that **B. Factor** thinks that money

Will, one day, fill old Ringmore to the brim.
He's awash with wishful thinking, but his ideas are stinking.
He's a dreamer – so I'll never vote for him.

Api Lock's the sort of person that I'd like to put a curse on:

He shows hatred to outsiders, that's his way.

I think it's such a rude deed, to make grockles feel excluded.

Has he never been away on holiday?

G. Khan is a dictator who will sooner (maybe later)

Try to banish every pleasure from our parish.

I'd never ask Mark Genders to stay closed throughout *Eastenders*.

As for lights and yellow lines, I think they're garish.

Friars Goose

RINGMORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 21st April

7.30pm
WI Hall

Myths - Monsters
Misericords

Talk by

Miss Terry Pearson

This is a lighthearted review of some of the strange monsters that our medieval ancestors believed inhabited remote parts of the then known world, and some of their strange beliefs about familiar animals. She will focus particularly on the Unicorn.

Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy the evening.
Members £1.50 Non-members £2.00
Refreshments included

The Royal British Legion

Unfortunately due to a 'flu bug, Brian McCabe was unable to give his talk about 'Jackspeak' to the Royal British Legion meeting held in March at the Dolphin Inn, Kingston. He will be 'on parade' in May. Mike Hammond bravely stepped into the breach. Mike has kindly volunteered to become the Branch's Case Worker and had recently attended a training course. He explained to the meeting exactly what being a Case Worker involves and the help and support the Royal British Legion is able to provide to ex-servicemen and women and their dependants. It was quite a long list and enlightening to us all. It was very interesting to find out how our hard earned funds are spent.

If you would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Officers of the Branch or Mike Hammond. We will be pleased to help.

The next meeting will be at the Old Chapel Inn (formerly known as the Pickwick) on Wednesday 7 April at 7.30pm the speaker will be Colin Jackson.

The May meeting will be at the Journey's End Inn on Wednesday 5 May at 7.30pm

Robbie McCarthy
Hon Secretary

100 CLUB

February £20 Ted Woodhead
£5 Yogi King

March £20 Michael Tagent
£5 Hilary Vanstone

RINGMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting: Tuesday 17th February 2004
Present: Six councillors, Mr David Young, Neighbourhood Watch and 15 members of the public.

Neighbourhood Watch

There will be a free musical show in Ivybridge aimed at highlighting the dangers of allowing unidentified callers into your home.

Planning

Old School Cottage - application to create a vehicular access - no objection.
Park Dean Holiday Park, Challaborough Application to erect two signs, one in Ringmore, the other in Bigbury, to indicate the rules under which members of the public can use the private beach. Mr Aidan Glover, manager of Park Dean, gave a clear account of the background to this application. Fourteen members of the public, almost all from the Bigbury side of Challaborough, raised concerns, not relevant to the application, about access to the beach but by the end of the item most fears had been ameliorated. The council had no objection to the sign in Ringmore but asked South Hams to look at the total signage at Challaborough including their own. At this point, at the Chairman's invitation, the entire audience chose to leave the meeting.

Finance

Clerk's quarterly salary £157.50
Safety Boots for Footpath Warden £11.50
Weedkiller for Town Well £30.00

Next Meeting

Tuesday 20th April in the WI Hall at 7.00pm

The Annual Parish Meeting will be in the WI Hall on Wednesday 28th April at 7.30pm
Thelma Mann

Flower Arranging

for Fun

Jinny McCabe

Four Wednesdays from 21st April
2.00pm to 4.00pm

A lighthearted class where I desperately try to teach flower arranging and other flowery things. We all have a 'go' and have fun.



Please bring Cutters, a low Bowl, Oasis, a few Flowers, a Notebook and a Pencil.

Beginners welcome.
Call me on 810538 to discuss

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

The Revd Arthur Drowley was close to retirement and plans were being made to establish the Ministry of the three villages, as it is today.

The photographic competition at the Journey's End was won by Adrian Muller.

This was the month in which the Editor and the Proofreader moved into Ringmore. Reg Trant wrote at length on the subject of the house name which was restored to Ringmore Vean.

The Bigbury Players were planning a performance of the Wizard of Oz.

Dorothea Carson wrote about her memories of Ringmore, notes which are incorporated in the RHS publication Ringmore Memories.



FARE CAR

This scheme has recently been extended to include new destinations at convenient times.

In addition to being able to travel to Modbury it is now possible to go to Ivybridge throughout the day. It is possible also to attend the Community College for Adult Education and return at 9.20pm.

There's more . . . you can do your shopping at Tesco at Lee Mill.

Application forms and timetables can be obtained from DevonBus 01392 382800 or email devonbus@devon.gov.uk

BRNC

Britannia Royal Naval College

Visit on Sunday 4th April

There might be one or two places left

Contact Phill Errett (810547)

Or

Robbie McCarthy (810738)

IVYBRIDGE TRICKSTE SHOW

Come to see a FREE Musical Show at the South Dartmoor Leisure Centre in Ivybridge. It starts at 3.00pm on Wednesday 19th May and will last for one hour.

Trickste tackles the problem of distraction burglary, through an interaction musical with a WW II theme. The musical raises the local awareness of the problem of bogus callers. The show gives potential victims advice in an entertaining way to help them identify the methods used by criminals and encourages the reporting of incidents.

Anyone in the village who is interested in attending this show is asked to call me on 810389 by Monday 19th April, as seats at the centre are limited.

David Young
Neighbourhood Watch

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Safer South Hams Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will be holding an 'Independence Day' on Thursday 15th April 2004 from 10am to 3pm, at Dartmouth Community College, Milton Lane, Dartmouth.

The aim of the day is to introduce an extensive range of goods and services to older people, their relatives and carers, and to this end many different organisations will have stands at the event, providing information ranging from health, crime prevention, carer and disability support information, leisure activities, finance, and fire safety. Entrance will be free, with a ticket provided for free refreshments, including sandwiches.

If you would like to attend this event please phone Jenny Hubbard on (01803) 861252 or jennv.hubbard@southhams.gov.uk.

HIDEAWAY BED

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Cream Patina Wood

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Head & End panels

2 x 3' beds

Second bed stores neatly under main bed

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The Audio CD

'A Ringmore Character' containing Alice's earlier monologues is still available

Call Mike Wynne-Powell 810407
email mwp@spfthome.net
£1 from the sale of every CD in March will go to Parish Room funds

The Royal Oak



FREE HOUSE

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Choice of 3 real ales, all served direct from the cask.

Full range of keg lagers and bitters.

Refurbished en-suite accommodation. Large car park and garden.

Please remember that we are very busy during the evenings - so it is always advisable to book your table in advance

DIARY FOR APRIL / MAY

- EVERY MON** EUCHRE DRIVE - 8.00pm
- Sun 11th Apr** EASTER EGG HUNT in the garden for the children
- Sat 17th Apr** 'POINT TO POINT' at Flete
- Fri 23rd Apr** ST GEORGE'S DAY
- Sat 24th Apr** BIRTHDAY PARTY for KATE LAWRENCE- 8pm
- Fri 30th Apr** RAFFLE for signed ENGLAND FOOTBALL SHIRT in aid of BIGBURY CHURCH
- Sat 1st May** 'POINT TO POINT' at Flete



DON'T FORGET THAT THE 'BIGBURY BOOZERS' FOOTBALL TRAINING STARTS ON MONDAY 29th MARCH - YOUR CHANCE TO STAR IN THE ANNUAL FOOTBALL MATCH AGAINST THE 'LEICESTER SPICE BOYS' ON 'FUN RUN' SUNDAY

Exempt

Last Month SOLUTION

If there is a formula for solving puzzles like last month's, not everyone used it. In fact only four of the answers are similar. Seven entries this month, from Gemini, Real Sleuth, The Beginners, Matchman, Yapping Dogs, Champion Taurus and Champion Opals. Well done everyone although having said that, perhaps it was not too difficult.

This Month

Start at the centre square to unravel a meaningful sequence by working from square to square horizontally, vertically or diagonally, visiting every square once and once only. Exit at the top right-hand square.

It appears to be complex but if you spot the sequence you are seeking, it should become clear.

4	0	1	4	4
9	1	0	2	1
2	1	+	1	1
5	6	4	4	1
3	6	6	9	8

NEXT MEETING



Our April meeting is on Thursday 8th April, with the business meeting starting at 7.30 p.m. and the speaker at 8 p.m.

This month our speaker is Sir Geoffrey Newman, who will be speaking on 'Traders of the Night' - fascinating details of smuggling along the South Hams coast down the ages. This promises to be a hugely enjoyable evening and everyone (men and women) is welcome.

OUR EASTER FAIR . . .

. . . is on Bank Holiday Monday, 12th April in the WI Hall and Grounds, starting at 2.00pm. There will be cakes, plants, books and cream teas, with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children at 2.15pm. Contributions towards any of the stalls are most welcome; please contact me if you can help.

Jackie Tagent 810520

PHOTOGRAPHS OR RINGMORE MOMENTS

2001 2002 2003

77 Slide shows

including

- Open Gardens '02
- Church Fêtes
- Harvest Supper '02/'03
- Clock Handover 2003
- Noddon Mill 2002
- Re-furbishment WI Hall '02
- Pirates' Evening 2002
- Table Tennis Red Party '01
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Table Tennis Tournament

