

Ringmore Parish Newsletter

May 2007

Issue Number : 261

Deadline : 9am Friday 25th May

In response to last months poem regarding the rails outside the church we have received this item from John Bracey.

Ancient and Modern or an antidote to rails on rails

Without a future does the present have a past?
We must surely move on for life to last.
Because evolution would be prevented,
If new methods were not invented.

If to standing still we were to be slaves,
We would still be in thongs and live in caves
Most new things are greeted with some dismay,
But then are applauded on a future day.

Folks of London were filled with horror when,
That revered architect Sir Christopher Wren,
Introduced to the public his outlandish proposal
For the, considered by them, 'ugly' St.Paul's cathedral.

Production of wrought iron is now very rare,
Ironbridge the sole factory as far as I'm aware,
So one must look forward for an alternative ware,
Stainless steel is more practical and what's more-is there.

This person this keeper of strong tradition,
The one with the name of such contradiction.
Is he a Friar and therefore a man,
Or is she a Goose and as such a woman.

Perhaps this hermaphrodite may just stop to think,
That the church rails should be painted Cross Park Pink.
Or maybe something a little more mellow,
A more subtle shade of Chartilly Yellow.

A modern traditionalist (alias a traditional modernist) in
jest and with apologies to the purists for metre.

Get ready for the May Bank Holidays! This months competition is for a meat pack and has kindly been donated by another of our advertisers Markstone Farm. Please see inside for details.

DIARY FOR THE MONTH

Monday: Short-mat bowls Parish Room - 7.30pm

Tuesday: Table Tennis Parish Room 7.30pm

Thursday: Quiz Night—JE 9.00pm

May

2/5 RBL meeting Journey's End 7.30pm

5-7/5 Kingston Flower Festival

7/5 W.I Easter Fair 2pm W.I Hall & grounds

10/5 W.I May meeting 7.30pm

14/5 Closing date for Markstone competition

22/5 Parish Council Meeting 7pm W.I Hall

June

4/6 W.I. Barbecue 6.30 p.m.

W.I. Hall and grounds; profits to RNLI



Choose Markstone Farm for home grown Lamb, Beef and local Pork and avoid food miles for you and the animal.

A wide range of cuts are available, delivered weekly to your door or from your local supplier: Holywell, Hoiberton, Bigbury Stores, Aweton Gifford & Ermington Post Offices.

You can also savour our meat, expertly prepared at The White Hart, Modbury.

Call our order line - 01548 550891 or 07803 505650 and ask for our leaflet and product list or pop into your local store

Assured Food Standard 343358L

MOBILE LIBRARY

Friday 4th & 18th

Ringmore Church	2.55—3.15
Challaborough	3.25—3.35
St Ann's Chapel	2.30—2.45
Kingston Fire Station	4.00—4.30



Please send items for inclusion in the Newsletter to: Emily Bohnet or Debbie Chicken, The Editors, Ringmore Parish Newsletter, 8 Crossways, Ringmore, TQ7 4HP OR put them in the green post-box fixed on the wall by the front-door of Mayfield OR email: news@ringmore.net
Tel 01548 811210 or 810575

GARDENING FOR MAY

GARDEN

Weed control by hoeing and spraying etc.

Control slugs and snails.

Mulch heathers.

Encourage bushy growth on fuchsias by nipping out tips.

Trim conifers and evergreen hedges.

Put in supports for tall herbaceous perennials.

Pinch out side shoots and tendrils from cordon grown sweet peas.

Lift spring bedding and prepare for planting summer bedding. Bulbs can be used elsewhere

Harden off bedding plants protect from frost.

Plant up hanging baskets.

Shade greenhouse structures.

Prune Kerria, Forsythia and flowering currants

Plant out Dahlia tubers in prepared plots

Sow hardy annuals in situ

Deadhead flowers of finished Rhododendron

Spray roses for Black spot, mildew, aphids etc.

LAWN

Edge lawn fortnightly (i.e. every two weeks), using long handled shears.

Sow grass seed on newly prepared lawns.

Mow when necessary, gradually bringing the height of cut lower.

Best month for using a selective weed killer or lawn sand.

Brush or rake to lift coarse grasses before mowing.

VEGETABLES

Plant out Brussels Sprouts, summer and winter cabbage.

Sow in pots sweet corn, runner beans, French beans, for planting out in June.

Sow cucumber, marrow, and melons in gentle heat.

Sow short rows of lettuce fortnightly.

Transplant pencil thick leeks into final position.

Control slugs and snails.

Heritage

Tree Surgery

& Gardening

Gary Godfrey

Qualified Tree Surgeon

Professional Tree Surgery and Garden Maintenance

Wood Chip & Logs available

Garden Clearance & Maintenance

Grass & Hedge Cutting

Free Estimate 01752 690869

Mobile 07989 589730



GARDEN MACHINERY LTD
Avon Bridge Aveton Gifford

550880

**SALES
SERVICE
SPARES**

For all your Garden Equipment
Give us a call

QUALITY MACHINERY AT THE RIGHT PRICE

GRASSHOPPER GARDEN SERVICES

FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN MAINTENANCE
GRASS CUTTING, PRUNING, STRIMMING, HEDGE CUTTING etc

**CREATIVE DESIGN AND PLANTING
OF FLOWER BEDS, PATIO POTS AND CONTAINERS**

A high standard of work guaranteed with a personal, reliable,
tidy and knowledgeable service.

**SECURITY CHECKS AND KEY HOLDING SERVICE AVAILABLE FOR
YOUR HOLIDAY HOUSES AND HOMES**



FULLY INSURED
References Available

17 Years Horticultural Experience

Contact : Jeremy or Elaine

01548 810235

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY

Date	Bigbury	Kingston	Ringmore
May 6 th	11.00 a.m. Family Service	6.00 p.m. Flower Festival Songs of Praise	11.00 a.m. Family Service
13 th	11.00 a.m. Family Service	6.00 p.m. CW Evening Prayer	9.00 a.m. BCP Communion
16 th	2.30 p.m. Korniloff Comm'n		4.00 p.m. Spoken Comm'n
20 th	9.00 a.m. BCP Communion	11.00 a.m. Family Service with Children's Club	6.00 p.m. Evening Prayer
27 th <small>Pentecost</small>	11.00 Family Pentecost Communion	6.00 p.m. Taize Service	9.00 a.m. CW Communion
June 3 rd	11.00 a.m. Family Service	9.00 a.m. CW Communion	11.00 a.m. Family Service

ANYONE FOR GOLF?

Now just suppose that the Bible was written today, with the prophets, like Jesus using illustrations from local everyday life....!

"Yea, and lo it was in the season of song and sunshine when the Golf Club didst blow it's own trumpet in the Valley of Classifieds and the Kingdom of Gazette. Woe, thrice woe, they criest, for verily we have a magnificent temple for the playing of the game yet the people they come not. We are of the Royal and Ancient for this is our heritage, and we are worthy to be visited.

So in the year of 2006 they didst commence a rebuilding of the Temple with living water piped to the holey places, all eighteen of them, known by the name of greens and fairways. The labourers in their fields strove to make the arena more interesting and challenging by the planting of trees thereof, and even unto the moving of mountains (well grassy hummocks actually).

A new rabbi, named Mark was called from the land across the sea, whereof he had resided for a time, and he succeeded to the throne of the blessed Simon. The calling upon his life was to teach the mysteries of the art unto the people. In the inner shrine the prophetess Annie returned to the land to dispense wisdom and beverages, some of which carried the spirit within: and in the place of offering Steve and Elsa didst shed the blood of bulls, lambs and the occasional tea cake.

Yea verily, it is to be hoped that the people hear their cry, and cometh."

"What is he on about?" I hear the reader ask. Well Jesus often had to amplify his parables so here goes. As a member of Bigbury Golf Club I applaud their efforts to bring folk to enjoy the area and the game, especially as it all improves the challenge and joy of being amongst them. The same applies to the Church, perhaps my teaching from the pulpit needs to be more challenging and interesting. For sure we all need more irrigation from the water of the Spirit of God. I don't think we need to make the pews more challenging, perhaps more comfortable. Like the golf club we are friendly and will make you very welcome. As a special introductory offer for the life time of God, there will be no joining fee, Jesus has paid it for you (see Easter article!).

John Elliott, Resident Minister (810565)]

KINGSTON CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

Theme: High Days And Holy Days

May 5th, 6th & 7th

10.30 – 6.00 p.m. each day

Entrance and programme £2, teas and cakes served

DO COME



Ringmore Parish Council— Tuesday 17th April 2007 at 7.00pm

Present: Five councillors, Mrs M Wood - clerk

Apologies: District Councillor B Carson, Cllr Alan McCarthy.

Footpaths: Report from Cllr. McCarthy

Strimmer line, fuel and eylets have been purchased for the brushcutter. Smugglers Path has been widened and drainage laid. Smugglers Path and Cockle Lane Path have now been strimmed. Okenbury Plantation and footpaths 1,2 and 16 at Seven Stones and South Langston will be strimmed soon. New field gates at Lower Manor.

National Trust:

Work has started on the path from Toby's Point but as yet is unfinished.

Trees:

Application to fell a sycamore tree at Hillside House—no objection from Parish Council.

Planning:

Approval of insertion of fixed window in north facing wall at High Reach.

Approval of re-submission of siting of offices, caravan sales area and associated landscaping at Parkdean Holiday Park.

Refusal of permission for enlargement of window at Byron Court, Higher Manor.

Election:

Election to the Parish Council was uncontested so there will not be an election on May 3rd. The members of the new council are:- Dr Malcom Findlay, Mr Michael Hammond and Mr Sean Jones. The council is therefore short of four members. Procedure for co-option is referred to elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Date of next meeting:

22nd May 2007 at 7.00pm

On a personal note, this is the last time I shall be reporting on the council meetings as having served on the council since 1987, with only one short break, I have decided it is time for me to retire.

Thank you to all those who have supported me during the years and to everyone for this unique experience.

Thelma Mann

A M KING & SONS

Registered Builders

Internal & External Decorations

uPVC Windows & Fascias

Extensions/Conversions

New Kitchen
or Bathroom

810570



WK BUTLER SERVICES

City & Guilds
Qualified Plumber

For all your
DOMESTIC PLUMBING

FREE ESTIMATES

CLEAN EFFICIENT

SERVICE

EXTREMELY

COMPETITIVE RATES

TEL: 07730 506382

01548 810462

John Butler **JBS**
Stonework

Quality Stonework
Building & General Maintenance

Free Estimates
Efficient Service
Based in the South Hams



Mob: 07977 962091



HARFORD CARS
HYBRIDGE

Quality Cars and 4x4s
to suit all pockets

RING FOR A CHAT

Guy Lewis
07830 326607



WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR SPECIALIST

Locks & Mechanisms

Aluminium & PVC

Handles & Hinges

Glass with Condensation

Free Advice & Quotations

01803 292990 or 07831 192847



FORMER
PILKINGTON
ENGINEER

The Journey's End Inn



Monthly update from your local. Support your village pub!

Cinco de Mayo

We are holding the JE's first ever Cinco de Mayo Party.

A traditional Mexican celebration on May 5th. Celebrating Mexico's Independence, so we will be having great Mexican food, Beer, Pinyatas & Mariachi Band Music to get us in the mood! Children are very welcome. Book now to help us celebrate in style!

Bank Holiday Opening Times

We will be open for both Bank Holidays in May. See below for further details on the meals and opening times.

Cinco de Mayo Party



Beer Festival News

We are finalizing our plans for the June Beer Festival (1st Weekend in June). We have the list of the Beers, local and National.

See Below for more details on the Live Music & Menu Plans



We will be holding a Surf & Turf Night at the JE on Friday 18th May. Set price for Dinner with a Choice of Surf & a choice of Turf! Come and join in and taste some of the new and tasty items set to appear on our menu this Summer. There will be children's options as well as Veggie Options.

Swing Party Plans

You may have heard talk around the pub about a 1940's Swing Party being held over the summer at the JE. We will have to be sure of numbers for this event as the full Swing Band is a cost. So this will be a ticketed event. Please read on to find out more info and the proposed date... Watch this space!

Sunday Roast

The 20th of May will be our final Sunday Roast. We have found, as the weather has been so kind, that there is little interest in a large Sunday meal. So on the 27th you will see the launch of our new Sunday Lunch Menu with more summery options including grilled meats, salads & Tapas style dishes.

Cinco de Mayo!!

SATURDAY 5TH OF MAY

•We will be holding a Mexican Evening with Pinyatas & Mariachi Music on Saturday 5th May. If the weather permits we will be in the garden enjoying Margaritas & Daiquiris, obviously Virgin Drinks available for the children! And a Delicious Mexican feast is planned with Tacos, Nachos, Burritos & Much More.

With Pinyatas for Adults and Children in the garden, we are set to have lots of fun.

Bank Holiday Monday Opening Times

We will remain open during the May Bank Holidays. Offering both lunch and dinner from our kitchen with our weekday opening times of 12-3 & 6-Close

With the Kitchen opening between

12.30 until 2.45 for Lunch

7pm until 9pm for Dinner

BEER FESTIVAL

So we have decided on the beers, here are a few to wet your appetite:

- Hop Back - Summer Lightning Salisbury
- Everards - Sunchaser Leicestershire
- Fuller's - Discovery Chiswick London

And we have the entertainment booked for the first night. We are pleased to welcome back "The Bad Knees Blues Band" who were here at our last Beer Festival and proved a popular choice on our part! Our Menu will follow the tradition of Smaller portions of many choices. Tapas style, finger food ideal for sharing. So bring the parties down, and book your places now. The music will not be starting until 9pm. So plenty of time to enjoy good food, great beer and with friends at the JE.

Surf & Turf Night

Who fancies a 6oz Sirloin Steak cooked to perfection and juicy king prawns with a choice of side to complete your meal?? We will be offering a true Americana Night on Friday 18th May with Char-grilled Meats, Prawns, Grilled Fish & other Seafood. With a great choice of side to complement your mains. We will have other menu options for Veggie's and child friendly food as well. Book up now to enjoy a night with the Only American Landlord in the South Hams... we think!

1940's Swing Party

You may have heard us talking about a 1940's Party held in honour of D-Day Celebration. We have decided due to the proximity of the date with our Beer Festival we are going to move this Party to July 4th and tie it in with the American Independence Day. here will

be a full swing band and a marquee in the garden with a buffet and dancing. We will be having a dress code of military uniform, 1940's or your choice, but uniform it must be! We will also be holding Swing Dance Classes three weeks running up to the event so everybody can enjoy the band and have a dance on the day. Tickets will be on sale closer to the event, so watch this space!

Sunday Roasts

We have been continuing traditional Sunday Roasts until May 20th, after that we will be offering a lighter Summer menu on Sunday Lunchtimes. Keep an eye out for the new menu!

Memorial Day Celebrations

Memorial Day (A US Celebration) 30th May, we will be holding a "Build your own Burger" Night! We give you the additions and you build your own!! It is also Paul's Birthday, but shhhh! I didn't tell you that! Look forward to seeing you!

Plus 55 Lunch Club

We will be continuing our popular Wednesday lunches until the end of June. £3.95 for two courses! You can't beat it!!

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE
SOUTH HAM THINGS

Fields like soft edged patchwork
sketched on shot silk canvasses.
A boundless panorama
With changing hue and pattern
As the weather twirls her skirts.

Misty mornings on the creeks,
Air caressed with new day warmth.
Songbirds delight us with their
Spontaneous symphonies.
Skies preen in watery mirrors.

This months contribution from Pam Elliot

Devon lanes burrow through banks
Re carpeted each season
With nature's best offerings.
A lavish floral present
Miraculously contrived.

Secret, rock-pooled sandy cove
With shiny slate sentinels
Hosting moody churning seas,
Rising in majestic pride
Tumbling to peace on wetted sand.

Distant rainbow framed blue moors
Stage set with rainfall curtains
Rise, revealing green mosaics,
Undulating, folding fields,
Cloud shadowed in an eye-blink.

Gulls hold back their haunting cry
As they glide and thermal play
Over sun - white cottages.
Then sea views shine sunset fire
And stars bejewel velvet skies.

Wedding Bouquets
Funeral Tributes



"Rosemary"



Flowers
for
all occasions

1 Broad Street
Modbury
Tel 01548 830048

**NEIL CHAPMAN
GARDEN SERVICES**

FREE ESTIMATES
GENERAL GARDENING
MOWING - STRIMMING
TREE & HEDGE WORK

**FIREWOOD
LOGS - WOOD CHIP**
NETTED OR BY THE LOAD
FIRE STARTERS
NETTED

Minimum of 5 nets or 1 load delivered
Tel: 810016 Mob: 07718 722680

ARBORFOR LIMITED



Professional Tree Surgery Service
Fully Insured and HSE Compliant
All aspects of Tree Management
Wood Chipping Facility
Mobile Elevated Working Platforms
Houghton Farmhouse, Ringmore, Kingsbridge
Phone /Fax 01548 810 122
Mobile 07785 903 203



Nicholas
HAIR & BEAUTY
Tel: 01548 830152
Ladies' & Men's Salon
Hairdressing
Beauty Therapy
Aromatherapy
Massage
Nails & Tanning
Salon open: Tuesday - Saturday
9.00am - 6.00pm
We specialise in long hair for
weddings and other special
occasions
London House, 8 Church Street
Modbury, South Devon

SHEPPARDS
Your Local Accountants
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Full Audit, Accountancy and
Taxation Service
Free First Meeting
Free Parking
www.sheppardsaccountants.co.uk
Email: accounts@sheppardsaccountants.co.uk
01752 220333
8 HQ, 237 Union Street
Plymouth PL1 3HQ



Julie
Fully Qualified
810634



Mobile
Ladies & Gents
Hair-stylist

NIGEL FROST
B.Sc.(Hons) Optometrist FC Optom
Chene Court, Modbury
next to car park
01548 830944
Open Weekdays and Saturday Morning
Contact Lenses, Spectacles, Accessories
Complete Eye Examination

DEVONSHIRE FINE ART
Antique Watercolours, Oil Paintings,
Drawings, Maps and Prints.
Quality Picture Framing Service.
9 Church Street, Modbury,
Devon PL21 0QW
Telephone/Fax. (01548) 830872
Email: info@antique-fine-art.com
Website: antique-fine-art.com



FAREWELL

It's with great sadness that we lose two more sets of familiar Ringmore faces this month.

Mike & Jacqueline Patterson are off to pastures new in Blackawton. They will be missed by their many friends in the village and we hope that by only being "up the road" they will return to visit us on village occasions. The Historical Society we are sure, amongst others, will miss them both greatly. Phill Errett on behalf of the church wishes to thank them both for their help and assistance to the Church, carrying out numerous and varying tasks during the years they have been here which has really been appreciated.

Geof & Anne Dykes are also off, a little bit further than Blackawton, in fact over the border to Scotland. The list is endless for the societies and organisations that will miss them both. Quiz nights won't be the same without Geof and Anne's recipe for lentil pate will disappear over the border we're sure! (I've got a copy somewhere....Co-Ed.) Again, Phill has asked we pass on the following comments from him in his capacity as Church Warden: Thanks to them both for all the help and support they have given over the past years at all the various occasions and functions. No one will forget the "Egg Throwing" game that Geof introduced to the Church Fete though I definitely don't imagine for one moment that "Haggis Throwing" will have the same impact!

All four of you will be missed and we are sure we speak for all of Ringmore Village in wishing you much happiness in your new homes.

We shall welcome their replacements next month!

May Competition—open to young and old—answer within the newsletter

BE BOLD and enter!

To celebrate the Spring Bank Holiday this month here's a chance to win a £20 voucher from Markstone Farm which you can use to put towards either a BBQ pack, a Roasting selection or Casserole selection. Please get your answer to us by the 14th of May.

"One cannot think well and love well, if one has not dined well" Virginia Woolf (1882-1941)

How very true? - but to 'dine well' doesn't necessarily mean visiting restaurants. To 'dine well' one needs to start with good local ingredients, a philosophy trumpeted by many of the great chefs.

Celebrate the arrival of spring and 'dine well' on fresh, local New Season Lamb from Markstone Farm. You'll notch up only 35 food miles and a 'carbon free' stroll up to see Dane and Hilary at Holywell Stores. Let's all try and keep our 'footprints in the sand' rather than in carbon weighting.

See us: www.markstonefarm.co.uk

email us: markstonefarm@btinternet.com

Question: What phrase is used by Markstone Farm to sum up how you can buy locally and improve the personal impact you make on carbon weighting?

Congratulations to Peter Woodings for finding the 18 hidden eggs, we hope he enjoyed the Easter egg and well done to the King family for locating the Spratt in Hazel Freeman's Reike advert, enjoy Jack Spratt's.

Premiership Enigma -May Set by Half-Baked

At the village fete can you work out who ran each of the stalls numbered 1-6 on the plan, what each was selling and how much each stall raised?

Stall 1	Stall 2	Stall 3
Stall 4	Stall 5	Stall 6

- Mrs Worth raised the next higher amount than her friend selling jam at the stall directly across the hall from her own.
- Mrs Stirling's bottle stall was not in the same line of stalls as the one run by Mrs Goodhand.
- The Tombola stall was as usual the one which made the most money.
- Stall 6 took £49. This was not the white elephant stall which raised the next highest amount than Mrs Blessed's.
- Plants and produce, which did not bring in £37 were on sale at stall 5 while the book stall is numbered one lower in the layout than the stall run by Mrs Goodhand, which did not add £27 to the total.
- Mrs Cash looked after stall 3.
- Mrs Christian's stall increased the total by £32.
- The total raised was £223 thanks to the tombola which doubled the income of Mrs Cash.

Premiership Enigma—Solution to April set by Romeo Drifter—longest route

Cedric leaves his home in the NE corner and travels down Pricey Quarter, turns west along Market St, north up Commercial Terrace, east along Terminal Alley, south down Middle Place, east along School Lane, north up Park Avenue, west along Hospital Road, south down Boundary Road and arrives safe and sound at Office Centre.

Well done to Taurus, The Opals and the Springers for getting there. Matchman seemed to want to go a different and therefore slightly shorter route so no points there. He took a right off Market Street up Park Avenue but according to Romeo Drifter this is not correct! Therefore at this stage in the league at the top with 12 points are The Opals, Taurus, The Springers & Romeo Drifter, Matchman with 9 and Half Baked with 6.

Answer to last month's Simple Enigma : Did you spot the April fools i.e. your editors?? This month 2 "simple" ones to make up for the lack last month.....sorry....

MAY SIMPLE ENIGMA:

Puzzle 1: Which well known saying or expression can be found below? (2,3,3,2,3)

ninnnni

Puzzle 2: Word search—find a word that can follow the word on the left and precede the word on the right. When you have filled in all the answers, the name of a celebrity can be read from top to bottom in one of the lines. Your answer to us however must be the words and the celebrity!

wall						power
loan	X					skin
crown					X	martial
unloaded						pump
prince						street
dinner	X					hall
even						plate
letters						leather
open						seeds
ice					X	board
garlic						cup
Lord's						mat

May Sudoku

9			4					
					1	2		
	6		3	7		5	4	
	7			3		4		
3						6		
1		4			7			
2	7		6	8		5		
5	8							
			5			3		

April solution

2	7	4	6	8	1	5	9	3
3	8	9	7	5	2	1	4	6
5	6	1	9	3	4	2	8	7
1	5	6	3	2	9	8	7	4
4	3	7	5	1	8	6	2	9
9	2	8	4	7	6	3	5	1
7	9	5	8	6	3	4	1	2
6	4	2	1	9	5	7	3	8
8	1	3	2	4	7	9	6	5

Simple League Positions to date:

Toudawgz	4
New Dawn	3
Errata	2
Bess Midler	2
Sue Brickay	2
Arkatus	2
Gemini	0
Real Sleuth	0
Mrs Jones	0
The Beginners	0
PJs	0

WINNER BEST VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

IN THE SOUTH HAMS 2006

HOLYWELL STORES

St. ANN'S CHAPEL POST OFFICE

Your Local Fine Food Retailer and Convenience Store

Olives - Peppadews & Sun Dried Tomatoes Over 30 Different Local and International Cheeses Fresh Bread & Pasties - Fresh Fruit & Veg Asses Valley Meat - Langage Farm Dairy Products - Burt's Chips Heron Valley Juices and Cider - Britannia Fish & Shellfish S.D. Chillies - West-country Curry Pastes & Meringues Hogs Bottom Chutneys & Jams - Mike's Smokehouse Foods Off License with a wide selection of wine and beers

*Clive's Organic Vegetarian Pies, Flapjack and Luxury Cakes
Newspapers & Magazines - Frozen Foods - Groceries Local Agent for Devon Air Ambulance Lottery*

*DVD Rental £2.75 per night
Coal - Logs - Charcoal - Calor Gas*

SHOP OPENING HOURS

MONDAY to SATURDAY 7.00am - 6.00pm

(7.00am - 8.00pm July & August)

SUNDAY 8.00am - 5.00pm

CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED CASH MACHINE & MOBILE PHONE E-TOP UP

INTERNET £1.00 for 30 minutes PHOTOCOPYING & FAX SERVICES AVAILABLE

POST OFFICE COUNTER HOURS

MONDAY to FRIDAY 9.00am - 1.00pm

Telephone : 01548 810308 e-mail: holywellstores@msn.com

Modbury Pharmacy Ltd



VILLAGE REPEAT PRESCRIPTION
COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE

We can order your prescription from the surgery & deliver it to a local village store near you (e.g. Holywell Stores). If you have a particular mobility problem we can deliver to your home.

For more information please call the Pharmacy.

Tel: 01548 830215

OPEN: Mon - Fri 9.00am - 6.00pm
Sat 9.00am - 5.00pm

BARDENS GARAGE

BIGBURY

Servicing - MOT Welding

Mechanical Repairs

Accident Repairs

Bodywork - Repairs

Breakdown

Accident recovery available

01548 Proprietor: 07887
810627 E Nicklen 610247

PORTUGAL

HOLIDAY APARTMENT
near TAVIRA

TWO BEDROOMS

SLEEPS 4

45 minutes from

Faro airport

Cheap flights from Bristol

Prices from £170

Contact: 01548 810513

<http://stephanlegreydevon.tripod.com>

Tavira

Faro



Reiki - gentle healing that is very
relaxing and helps to relieve
pain and stress

Contact 07821 727213

Hazel Freeman (Reiki Master)

Mount Pleasant, Ringmore

Kingsbridge, South Devon

Member of The Healers International Network



AU REVOIR

Good-bye Walnut Tree Cottage

We are not overjoyed to be leaving Ringmore in the quest for a smaller home, because we have had 11 marvellous years here. It is hard to believe there is another community quite like this—but who knows?

After 24th May we can be found at:-

Crabtree Cottage

Vicarage Road

Blackawton

Totnes

TQ9 7AY

Mike & Jacqueline Patterson

Parish Council

The current Parish Councillors are coming to the end of their 4 year tenure and many are stepping down. Of these, several deserve special thanks. Thelma Mann has been on the Council for a remarkable 20 years and has worked hard for the Parish. We wish her a happy retirement. Sadly, Geof is leaving the village so is relinquishing his position as Chairman, a task he took very seriously and, with the wellbeing of the village in mind, carried out with great dedication. Alan McCarthy is also leaving the Council but is thankfully continuing in his position as Footpath Warden, which requires a tremendous amount of hard work and for which we are all very grateful.

Christian Aid Week 13 - 19 May

Christian Aid Week comes to us once again and envelopes will be sent to all on our Electoral Roll so please give as generously as you can. For anyone not on the Electoral Roll, but wishing to give to this worthy cause, there will be envelopes in the church during that week for donations. **A Quacking good idea.** Have you got a birthday, wedding or an anniversary coming up? Looking for something just a little different for that perfect, long lasting

present? Then look no further than Present Aid. Items ranging from footballs, cans of worms, ducks, pigs, saplings and goats together with lots more with prices starting from as little as £8 through to £60 can be found in the Present Aid catalogue. Present Aid catalogues can be found in the church during Christian Aid week for anyone interested.

Book Recommendation:

The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger

In an attempt to read something a little bit different I grabbed at this book on the Amazon 3 for 2 deal. And I'm glad I did. It's the best book I've read in a long time and I can thoroughly recommend it. Suitable for men (Pete enjoyed it too) and women it's a love story of Clare and Henry who met when Clare was 6 and Henry 36 and were married when Clare was 22 and Henry 30. You do the maths! The answer is in the title and it's an intriguing and complex story. The Sunday Times review sums it up—"A forceful romance with a potentially fascinating science-fiction wrinkle". I have a copy if anyone wishes to borrow it! (Debbie, Ed)

The Royal Oak



FREE HOUSE

The Royal Oak

Bigbury

Telephone: (01548) 810313



Enjoy good homemade food in our cosy bar area or sit in the Lounge or Restaurant areas and choose from either the bar menu or our a la carte specials board. We provide only the best quality food all freshly cooked on the premises and at reasonable prices.

TRADITIONAL HOMEMADE HEARTY FOOD

Open for meals 7 days a week, lunchtimes and evenings. There is a choice of 3 real ales, all served direct from the cask and a 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.

BAR OPEN ALL DAY EVERY DAY

DIARY FOR MAY / JUNE

Sat 19th May HORSE RACING NIGHT to start the fund-raising for this year's BIGBURY FUN RUN. First race approximately 8.30pm



BIGBURY FUN RUN WEEKEND

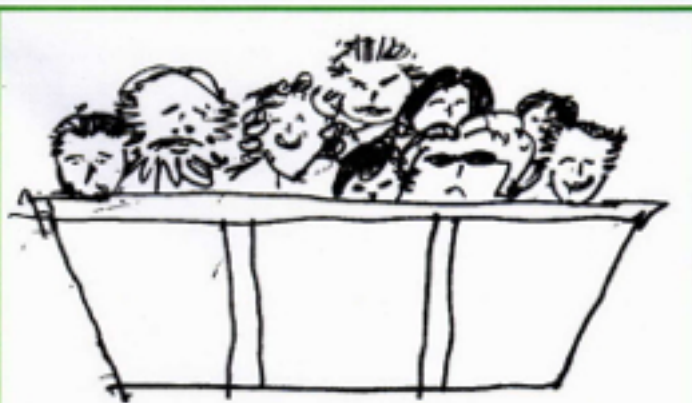


Fri 29th Jun Kicks off with KARAOKE DISCO and live music from TREVOR ACKLAND

Sat 30th Jun BIGBURY FUN RUN DAY - Run starts at midday. Music in the afternoon with 'THE WILD TWO' and in the evening from Leicester band 'THE DRAW'

Sun 1st Jul Annual FOOTBALL MATCH against the Leicester Lads followed by music with 'SIDEKICK. Raffle tickets for this year's 'FUN RUN DRAW' now on sale at the Oak





"28/4 Skip for Ringmore residents" A slight misinterpretation of the notice in the April newsletter.

This was kindly contributed by John Bracey!!



FLOWER FESTIVAL
"HIGH DAYS & HOLY DAYS"

At
ST. JAMES THE LESS CHURCH, KINGSTON

On
SAT 5th, SUN 6th & MON 7th MAY 2007
10.30am to 6pm Daily

FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE
SUN 6th MAY at 6.00pm

Tea, Coffee & Home Made Cakes available
ALL Proceeds to the Church
Please come & support us

Pam & John Elliott are excited, proud and pleased to announce the birth of a new baby grandson Theo Samuel Elliott, son to Andrew & Lucy Elliott. He was born on Easter Day the 8th of April and weighed in at 8 lbs and half an ounce. Mother and baby as they say are doing very well now.



APRIL: THE MAGIC OF SCILLY

Those who didn't come to the "Magic of Scilly", a talk with slides given by Desmond Gahan, missed a rare treat. Desmond and his wife Shirley know the islands well, and their lovely slides of the scenery, and the flora and fauna, were superb.

May - resolutions

Come and discuss with our area Voluntary County Officer, Merrial Connell, the Resolutions selected for 2007, and which will be debated at the National AGM in June. They deal with halting the closure of Community Hospitals and increasing allowances for Carers. The meeting is on Thursday 10th May at 7.30 p.m. in the W.I. Hall.

May fair

2 p.m. on Bank Holiday Monday 7th May

All we need is the weather! The May Fair is in the W.I. grounds, with raffles, cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, books, and games for the children. Contributions are welcomed for the various stalls. This year's proceeds will pay for the new chairs (sit and enjoy a luscious cream tea) and a new water heater and microwave (a boon to the helpers). All will be welcome, so come along and enjoy!

Annual Parish Assembly

This annual meeting brought down the curtain on the present Parish Council. There was a rewarding turnout this year with almost thirty people attending to hear the speakers. William Mumford, County Councillor, took the opportunity to make himself known to the village and he assured people that he will listen if they need to contact him. Bryan Carson recounted his extra-mural activities as Chairman of the South Hams District Council. There was a lot of charity work which Bryan found enjoyable, demanding and rewarding. Steve Radford, from Parkdean, outlined his plans for the caravan park which everyone should find encouraging. Not everything will be to universal taste but the signs are that we are moving in the right direction. Lastly Simon Garner spoke about NT footpath work in the parish. Not all of it has received approval and Simon promised to take note of the comments. It should be born in mind that the starkness of the path to Toby's Point will fade as the grass grows through and it becomes, once again, a pleasant country walk.

Thelma Mann's twenty year's service as a councillor was marked by the presentation of a pot of beautiful orchids.

Chairman's Thanks

The elections in May will herald change on the Parish Council. Most of the original members have not stood for re-election for a number of reasons. First Rob Batten left Ringmore to seek adventure in SE France where he and Fiona are blissfully happy. Next, at the end of February, Colin Jackson, with Jenny, decided to put his feet up in Broadclyst. Jacqueline Patterson's imminent departure meant that she too would not stand again. Gillian Parkin and Alan McCarthy both decided that four years has exhausted their enthusiasm for council work. Thelma Mann decided that twenty years was long enough to see if she liked council work and decided it was not for her. Joking aside, the village is in debt to all of them for their having given up time to public service. Sometimes there is a jaundiced view about people who do this sort of work which is wholly unreasonable. Ask anyone who has done it. They will say that even though it is not always great fun, it is rewarding and it is a job that must be done.

As chairman I would like to record my thanks to them all for their support on the council and for having given me the chance to take the chair. Thanks also, to everyone in the village for their support of the council. Many was the time when we

decided that 'no comment' meant we must be doing the right thing but there were moments when views were expressed which helped in our deliberations. I shall miss our monthly meetings and I wish those who take our places courage to take decisions, strength to plough the occasional lonely furrow and enjoyment from their service.

The New Council

Most people know that we had an uncontested election, i.e. not enough people stood for the council. There are four vacancies which must be filled. If spaces remain for too long the District Council might intervene (they have the power to do this) and they could appoint people to help run the council. However if enough people come forward this situation can be avoided.

If you would like to join the Parish Council write a note to the Parish Clerk, Margaret Wood, saying that you would like to be considered for co-option at the May meeting. Get your note to Margaret a couple of days before the meeting on Tuesday, 22nd May. Your application will be considered by the new council, which comprises Malcolm Findlay, Mike Hammond and Shaun Jones, and if you are co-opted the formalities can be completed, there and then, to allow you to join the May meeting.

I shall remain Chairman until a new Chairman is elected so if you wish to talk to me or any retiring councillor please do so. Good Luck.

Geof Dykes
Chairman
Ringmore Parish Council

Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report on this month

Sundial Update—it's back! Some fine tuning to be done we understand from Phill, something about a gnomon profile! It will be sorted.

Please note that if you wish to make a donation towards restoration and you are a Tax payer your contribution to the Church can be enhanced by 28p in the £ simply by filling in a Gift Aid form. Please contact Yvonne on 810341 or Phill if you need a form.

Newspaper Deliveries

As many of you are aware John Bevan has retired from his daily newspaper round, whilst Hilary and I are not willing to start door to door deliveries we are happy to help the residents of Ringmore with a delivery to a central drop off point where you can collect your newspapers, magazines, bread and milk from, currently the favoured drop off point is the church porch.

Whilst for many this may not be ideal it does offer somewhat of a compromise and I am sure that between you it can be arranged for someone passing someone else's door to drop of their papers, particularly to those less mobile members of the community. If you are interested in making use of this service please speak to Dane or Hilary at the shop.



Confidential Wastepaper

Once a year I have cause to contact a recycling depot in Bristol to get rid of my office confidential documents. They come all this way to pick up a few sacks of paper which they take away, shred and recycle. If anyone else out there would like to make use of this service it means we can share the cost! The cost is £40 +VAT for 20 bags and then £2 +VAT for every bag after that. Last year I only sent about 5 bags so you can see we have room for manoeuvre! I hope to organise a collection for Mid-May. If you are interested please contact me on 810575 to discuss further- Debbie (ed).

RAINFALL: Robbie McCarthy

Last month: 1

Ten year average: 2.98

Ten year high: 7.0

Ten year low: 0.5

E-MAIL We can now email the Newsletter to anybody who wishes to save some trees! You would need a capacity in your in-box of about 10mb to easily receive the Newsletter. Please let us know if you would like this service.

100 CLUB Winners

£20 Phill Errett

£5 Anne Lambell



Fine Shine LTD
CARPET & UPHOLSTERY



A COMPLETE CLEANING SERVICE

Domestic & Commercial
Fully Trained & Insured

Telephones: office 01548 854313

mobile 07989 300453 / 07971 247375

Unit 10, Orchard Industrial Estate, Poplar Drive, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1SF

TILLY DOWNING B.Sc. Pod., M.Ch. S.

STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST

2007 Charges for full treatment

Surgery £15

Home Visit £18

The Laurels, Fore Street, Aveton Gifford

Tel: 01548 550072

Opposite the Memorial Hall Car Park



Residential
Care Home

Prop: Gina & Gordon Phillips

KORNILOFF
Overlooking Burgh Island

Retirement
Hotel

A Family-run Home 24 hour Care NVQ trained staff

Large Single, Double or Twin rooms . Some en-suite.

We welcome clients who just require serviced accommodation, with sea views

Your Dignity and Privacy is paramount

Registered by Commission for Social Care Inspection

Warren Road, Bigbury-on-Sea, Devon TQ7 4AZ
Telephone: 01548 810222

THE LAST CHAPTER . . . IN MY ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Bryan Carson

I am now in my final month of this rollercoaster job, which is a two year commitment, including the time I spent as Vice Chairman. During the term of a Council only four Members will have this opportunity and I am extremely honoured to be one of them.

On 29 March I chaired my last full Council Meeting and will pass over my chain of office to my successor on Monday 21 May. I can hardly believe how quickly the time has passed.

Since my last article I have been on my travels to Cornwall at the invitation of the Chairman of Caradon District Council for his Civic Dinner which was a very enjoyable evening. Soon after this I was showing members of the public around Follaton House, as I like to encourage people to come into the Council, enjoy our lovely House and Gardens and learn more about the us and the History of Follaton House.

I have tried to build closer ties with our colleges and was very impressed with the Reece Building on my recent visit to Ivybridge Community College, which was formally opened by Garry Streeter MP. During the past few months I have been working with KEVICS on matters relating to Citizenship.

I have visited some of our Affordable Housing Sites in, Dartmouth, Salcombe, Kingsbridge and East Allington as a guest of Tor Homes, and have been impressed with the quality and standard of the developments. The occupants were delighted with their new accommodation. As Chairman of Council I am very proud of these achievements.

At a recent visit to Severnside Recycling Depot in Plymouth, where all our South Hams dry recycling material goes to, you would have been surprised to see me almost disappear behinds the mountains of waste materials. It was good to meet the men working there and it was interesting to see that not all of the work is automated. Ange and I are always delighted to be invited to local events. Recently we were invited to a concert at Kingsbridge Community College by the Kingsmen Barbershop Chorus, and The Frisian Harmonizers from Holland. We expected, quite simply to be part of the audience, but, along with the Mayor and Mayoress of Kingsbridge, we were treated like royalty, and enjoyed an absolutely fabulous evening of music from prime position seats in the front row. Those of you who have seen the Kingsmen will know what a talented group they are, and the visitors from Friesland in the north of Holland were just as good. When both groups joined together at the end of the evening there were nearly seventy singers raising the roof! It was truly entertainment of a standard you would expect in the very best professional theatres. If you haven't seen them before I really would urge you to go and see this excellent group the next time you get a chance.

Most of the musical events we have attended have been organised by the Civic Heads to raise funds for their chosen charity. More often than not, the charity is chosen because it has particular significance to the Mayor or Chairman who chooses it, which makes the events all the more meaningful, and often very moving. Mr John Coates compared an excellent military concert in Exeter, and The Chairman of Torbay hosted a first rate concert, to name but a few.

I have discovered that one of the difficulties of being so 'engaged' with functions is the need to be in two, sometimes three places at once! I sometimes have to forego social invitations like the one to attend the first Point to Point at Flete, as I am attending Torridge District Council's Civic Luncheon at the Visitors Centre at Roadford.

I will be holding my Civic Service on St George's Day at St Lawrence's Church Bigbury and using the Memorial Hall (with it's newly refurbished kitchen) for Afternoon Tea. What a pleasure it will be to bring guests from all over Devon and Caradon to Bigbury.

All in all this will most certainly be a year I shall regard, for the rest of my life, as being extraordinarily memorable and special, and once again, I thank you all for your support.

F. W. JARVIS

Electrical Contractor

Telephone: 01548 810438



JARFIN
KINGSTON
KINGSBRIDGE
DEVON
TQ7 4QA



DP Plumbing

IPHE Registered

No job to small

24hr call out.

Tel: 01548 810294 Mob: 07933402992

For sale (ish)

Golf Clubs Full set of irons free to collector Please telephone: 810303



As prize-winners of the February draw we'd like to thank the Ringmore Newsletter and the Oyster Shack for the lovely meal we enjoyed.

James & Gillian (Parkin)

Bigbury Village Shop
BIGBURY
01548 811150

PIES - PASTIES - BREAD
SANDWICHES - CREAM - GROCERIES
NEWSPAPERS - BEACH GOODS
SWEETS - LOOSE BACON - CHEESE
FRESHLY SLICED HAM - LOCAL EGGS
MILK - FRUIT - VEG - ICE CREAM
OFF LICENCE - CARD MACHINE
PHONE TOP UPS - COAL - LOGS

FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST
8:30p.m. - 11:30p.m.
AND CREAM TEAS DAILY

FISH & CHIPS, FRIDAYS
5:00p.m. - 7:30p.m.

ORDER IF POSSIBLE

Free Local Deliveries



Stakes Hill, Bigbury
Tel: 01548 810876

The Oyster Shack Bigbury is open 7 days a week for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

Get your local seafood experience.

New £15 Winter Warmer Menu available.

Booking advisable
www.oystershack.co.uk



Choose Markstone Farm for home grown Lamb, Beef and local Pork and avoid food miles for you and the animal.

A wide range of cuts are available, delivered weekly to your door or from your local supplier: Holywell, Holberton, Bigbury Stores, Aveton Gifford & Ermington Post Offices.

You can also savour our meat, expertly prepared at The White Hart, Modbury.

Call our order line - 01548 550891 or 07803 505650 and ask for our leaflet and product list or pop into your local store
Assured Food Standard 34335BL

The Dinner Service.Com

Roux Trained Executive chef

Liz Turner

32 Knowle House Close
Kingsbridge, South Devon TQ7 1AN
tel: 01548 854579

Mobile: 07702 991172

Email: Howardturner847@btinternet.com

www.TheDinnerService.com

FOR 'REAL' CHEESE & WINE

MACKGILLS

Handcut Farmhouse English & Continental Cheese

Home-cooked Ham & Salamis

Home-cooked Pies & Cakes etc.

Wine, Beer, Sherry & Cider
and much more

Telephone Enquiries Welcome



4 Church Street, Modbury, Devon PL21 0QW
Telephone: Modbury (01548) 830860

**> | C | A | V | E |
D | I | R | E | C | T |**

BEER merchant



FULL DETAILS ON:

www.BEERmerchant.com

Fryer Tuck's Take Away

CHALLABOROUGH BAY
Tel: 01548 810425

Award-winning

FISH & CHIPS

Pasties - Pizzas - Pies

Salcombe Dairy Ice Cream

Beach Goods - Wet Suits
Boards for Hire

Easter to end October
10.00am - 10.00pm

May

The Greek goddess Maia gave her name to the month of May. Maia was thought to encourage growth. In her honour, sacrifices were made on the first day of May, accompanied by dancing and merrymaking. Maia has a famous father, Atlas, who is thought to carry the world on his shoulders.

The Anglo Saxons called this month 'thri-milci (three milk), because the grass became more plentiful, and so the cows were able to give milk three times a day.

May Day

At the beginning of May the Romans used to honour Flora, their goddess of vegetation and flowers. They decorated a tree or maypole, then danced and feasted round it. They brought these customs to Britain, and the maypole became an essential part of the springtime activities.

In medieval times, May 1st was celebrated in England by crowning a May Queen and dancing round a maypole. The Lord of the May, now rarely seen, was once as important as the May Queen. Silk handkerchiefs were tied round his legs and arms. He carried a sword and was completely covered with greenery. He was called Jack-in-the-Green or Jack-in-the-Bush. He was adopted by chimney sweeps, whose annual holiday was on May Day. His name lives on in the sign boards of many pubs called The Green Man.

WINNER BEST VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE IN THE SOUTH HAMS

DANE & HILARY ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HELP THEM AT HOLYWELL STORES

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE OVER THE AGE OF 18 WHO IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT WORKING WITH PEOPLE. NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY AS FULL TRAINING WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT.

LIKE OUR STAFF WE ARE FLEXIBLE WHEN IT COMES TO WORKING HOURS, WE OFFER GOOD RATES OF PAY AND A FUN AND ENJOYABLE WORKING ATMOSPHERE.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT DANE OR HILARY

Holywell Stores St Ann's Chapel, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 4HQ
Tel: 01548 810308 e:mail holywellstores@msn.com
Your Local Fine Food Retailer and Convenience Store

LAPLAND DOGSLED SAFARI - MARCH 2007

Our recent week's adventure in the Arctic wilderness was so unusual we thought you might enjoy this brief account. The first day was taken up journeying to Heathrow, then to Stockholm and a further flight to Kiruna, north of the Arctic Circle where we met our tour leader and 8 others of our group. It was only a short ride on to our first cabin in deep snow for 4 of us in bunk beds. A good breakfast the next morning and the excitement began as we were introduced to our husky team, (4 dogs each) and our sleds were loaded with our luggage, a reindeer skin and box of food & thermos of drink for lunches or snacks on the move. Our warm clothing was supplemented with all-in-one suits, lined snow boots, hats and gloves. Now we had to take each of our wildly keen husky dogs from kennel to the lined-up tied-to-tree sleds and learn how to harness and attach them - you can imagine the noise of 44 dogs anticipating the trip! We were divided into 2 teams, with an experienced leader and shown the runners of the sled to stand on and the 3 methods of braking- the gentle brake, the forceful brake and anchor brake for use when stationary. The rules seemed to be- stay in line, hang on, remember you have a brake and above all, don't lose your dogs—and we were off on the command "haik, haik" or something similar, (not mush, mush)! The way those dogs fell silent and swung into action and pounded along the trails was remarkable - for huskies a skill inbred. We travelled in sunshine along the frozen Torne river valley - pristine white fields with lines of snow - laden spruce trees- which formed the border between Sweden and Finland, and we were quite awed with the magic scene. We wound our way to the next lodge, home for 2 nights in a cabin for 5 with wood burning stove, gas ring, sink, with toilet facilities somewhere outside in the snow! But first, before our own hot drink we needed to unharness our team and clip them at intervals along steel lines secured between trees where they had their meal, (frozen chopped tripe with hot water) after which they settled down in the snow - just a few were indulged at night with blue jackets. Before sleep one or two dogs would begin barking, then a howling chorus was set up - it became a memorable unearthly sound.

Now "experienced" sledders (!) we set off next day on a longer circular trip - but we'd been up early (0745) with the dogs, feeding and cleaning up before our breakfast, (porridge, coffee or tea, bread with ham and cheese or lingonberry or cloudberry jams). It was a bonus for the dogs to have lighter loads as our main baggage remained in camp, so we sped along forest paths, again enjoying sunshine (still -10 degrees). Our leader had a snowmobile so could lead the way or circle back to check all was well with everyone - and there were possible hazards! Eg, sleds could overturn in deep snow together with its driver, so it had to be a combined struggle for human and dogs to right everything and catch up again. Meanwhile the sleds behind had to halt and dogs could kick over their traces and had to be disentangled before moving on. The dogs were all human friendly but given an opportunity could easily pick a quarrel with their neighbour! A bad fight did occur on one occasion but thankfully, disaster was just averted. You learnt to tie up your lead dogs to the next sled to keep your dogs in order when it was an official stop. There was one occasion due to ice on the sled runners when Drina's legs flew off as we rounded a corner and she just managed to hang on with her hands, tobogganing for a couple of minutes before another incident ahead brought us all to a natural stop! The golden rule of "don't lose your dogs" was nearly broken! Again, the dogs are so keen to run we saw times when people were caught off guard and had to run along the track in an effort to catch their team - not easy in slippery snow. We realised the dogs had their limits though when one dog collapsed while running and was unharnessed, given food to replace energy and then placed in one of the sleds to continue the journey as a passenger. However, what was amazing really was that all small happenings were resolved happily without injury, we only remember one grazed face needing an elastoplast after brushing past a tree branch.

A picnic stop just off the trail was a luxury - we all set to, wood was quickly gathered and a fire made, then we sat on snow banks with our warm reindeer skins beneath us enjoying food and drink and swapping experiences, - we were a very content, friendly group appreciating this chance of travelling by husky in the beautiful expanse of frozen Arctic wilderness.

The next day was the long testing one - 3 sessions of 2 hours travel, also, the weather was grey with wind chill of driving snow. We could imagine how trails could get covered and poor visibility hide the markers so paid extra attention and drew our scarves closer. It was important too to have handy snacks on the move to keep warm and energised. The dogs also had pieces of meat along the way to help sustain them. ... Cont'd

It felt a real achievement to ride in before dark to our wildest camp in Sami country - these people are the original inhabitants traditionally herding reindeer and number about 17,000 in Sweden. We were intrigued to be assigned a fishing ARC for accommodation. Basically it's a canvas tent on a wooden base with a raised metal bench taking up half the space. That is where we slept, on our reindeer skins, in sleeping bags with all our clothes on! However, a small paraffin stove in the corner provided some warmth. In the floor was a trap door used when fishing through a hole in the ice. Facilities (limited) were a long way down the "garden". Although sounding a bit rough we preferred it to the alternative of sleeping on slatted table tops in the cabin. What else did we expect of a wilderness camp? As usual our dogs were staked out nearby in their snowbeds.

Once more packed up we moved off eastwards, a bit tired and stiff, towards Soppero village, staying at a Sami lodge with a large attractive living room and an upstairs (via a steep ladder) for sleeping, (dormitory style). We enjoyed a meal of reindeer with a glass of wine and coffee then heard about Sami life - the host family were the first generation not nomadic but we were shown all the equipment the grandparents and family used to move around with their reindeer for pasture. Then it was a last care of our dogs and farewell to them before they were "posted" into boxes for travel home on the trailer with our sleds roped on top. What great characters they'd been - we can't thank them enough for their willing, patient efforts. We miss them already and of course, our hard working human leaders. Then it was back in the minibus - stopping en route to Kiruna at Jukhasjarvi to visit the famous Icehotel with its Icebar. We didn't stay in an Ice room - after all, hadn't we experienced similar already? We were pleased to see a lovely bride and attendant walk up the snowy path to be married in the Ice church, to be greeted at the door by the lady Minister, warmly hatted and cloaked. We had a last group meal out at Kiruna then a sleep at a hotel (luxury!) before the journey home. It was all a necessary wind down from our unique, hands-on, dog orientated 4 day experience in that unforgettable, hard-living, beautiful quiet Arctic land,- how privileged we feel and grateful to have survived to tell the tale!

Frank and Drina

P.S. Yes, we did have a sauna and no, we didn't see the Northern Lights (too cloudy).



The beach clean on 14 April was extremely successful and a great meeting place for villagers young and old. There was a great turn-out with an opportunity to meet new residents from Ringmore and Challaborough. In fact, there were so many helpers the majority of the collecting was finished by 1115, leaving plenty of time for socialising. The rubbish was bagged and left by the wooden bunker for collection by the National Trust. If you couldn't make it, don't feel too despondent; the sea and people always provide more rubbish and you will find black sacks behind the right hand wall at the top of the lower steps. Many thanks to all who helped and congratulations on a great job, well done in the best of spirits.

Alan McCarthy

Church Clean— Drina thanks everyone who turned up to help and I must say the Church really looked "Spic and Span" for the Easter Festival. Thanks also to Ann & John Bracey who recently pruned the Fuchsia hedge and weeded & tidied up all around the boundary wall.

Phill Errett

HAZELWOOD HOUSE

www.hazelwoodhouse.com

Loddiswell

Nr Kingsbridge

Devon.

TQ7 4HQ

Telephone : 01548 821232



Set in the heart of 67 acres Hazelwood is a gracious house in an untamed valley.

Come and join us for a cream tea in beautiful surroundings, sit on the veranda and sample the peace and tranquillity, enjoy a walk or just simply relax.

We have a beautiful restaurant and we are open for breakfast, lunch & dinner 365 days a Year. (Please call 01548 821232 for reservations)

*We also cater for parties and weddings and have a licence for civil ceremonies.
(Telephone and ask for details)*

Join us for some of our forthcoming events:

May 3rd to 6th - 'Drawn Home' with exceptional teacher Meriel Hoare

An exploration of the nature of creativity through life drawing

May 16th Pat Rodegast

A day with Emmanuel as channelled by Pat Rodegast

30th June - Robin & Bina Williamson in concert

Their songs feature the evocative East-West harmony, recently described as Indo-Celtic-Delta

Call for further information on these and other events

See us in:

The Good Hotel Guide

Alistair Sawdays Special Places to Stay

Organic Places to Stay

For further information and directions to Hazelwood telephone us or visit our website:

www.hazelwoodhouse.com