

Ringmore Parish Newsletter

June 2009

Issue Number: 286

Deadline: 9am Thursday 26th June

Summer begins at the summer solstice. This is the longest day—and the shortest night of the year, normally around the 21st June. Summer ends at the Autumn equinox. This usually occurs on 22nd September and is one of the two occasions in the year when day and night are of the same length. The summer solstice in the southern hemisphere is the 22nd December.

Welcome to Jennifer Blencoe-Kyle and Daniel Kyle who have moved into The Nook, we all wish you a happy time in Ringmore and look forward to meeting you.

As weather forecasters predict a Mediterranean-style summer we have a warning to dog owners to beware of adders. Though they are timid snakes and try to avoid contact with people, a dog sniffing around is likely to make them defensive.

A dog that has been bitten by an adder will need anti-venom treatment which is not stocked at all surgeries. Southmoor vets in Kingsbridge does stock the anti-dote. If you are not sure then contact your surgery to be sure. Humans rarely die from a bite but it is painful, and medical advice should always be sought. During the 2003 heat wave there was an 80% increase in sightings of the adder.

Be sure to book your tickets for the celebration concert on Friday 19th June, 7.30pm.

Thank you to all those who have contributed this month, keep it coming.

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter to the editorial team c/o: 8 Crossways, Ringmore, TQ7 4HP

OR
e-mail: news@ringmore.net or contact any of the team: Emily 811210, Jane 811218, Gillian 810303, Karen 810382, Sandy / Billy 810572, Lynn 810093

DIARY FOR THE MONTH

Tuesday: Table Tennis, 7.30pm (Parish Room)

June

- 2/6 Coffee morning, Cumberland Cottage, 10.30am
- 3/6 RBL meeting, J.E 7pm
- 11/6 W.I Barbeque, W.I grounds, 6.30pm
- 17/6 Planting & arranging session for the children, Barnford, 4.30—5.30pm
- 19/6 - 21/6 Flower Festival, All Hallows
- 23/6 Parish Council meeting, W.I Hall 7pm
- 24/6 Annual church fete meeting, Parish Room, 7.30pm
- 28/6 Audio Visual evening, J.E 7pm

July

- 18/7 Summer Garden Party, The Old Rectory, Bigbury, 6.30 for 7pm

August

- 31/8 Annual Church Fete, Ringmore.

All opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of individual writers, and not necessarily those of the Editorial team. The Parish Council does not guarantee or accept liability for any literature, advertised goods or services. They have not inspected or made checks regarding suppliers.

MOBILE LIBRARY: FRIDAY 12th & 26th

- St Ann's Chapel: 2.30-2.45
- Ringmore Church: 2.50-3.10
- Challaborough: 3.20-3.35
- Kingston Fire Station: 4.00-4.30





Do you need any more plants for your garden? I didn't sell everything at the W.I. May Fair, and would be happy to supply you with bedding and herbaceous plants, shrubs and various tomato plants. Pop in and see me at Challaborough Cottage, or give me a ring on 810520. All takings go to the W.I.

Jackie Tagent

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

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LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

Date	Bigbury	Kingston	Ringmore
June 7 th <i>Trinity</i>	11.00 a.m. Family Service	9.00 a.m. CW Communion	11.00 a.m. Family Service
14 th	11.00 a.m. Family Service	6.00 p.m. CW Even. Prayer	9.00 a.m. BCP Communion
17 th	2.30 p.m. Korniloff Com'union		
21st	9.00 a.m. BCP Communion	11.00 a.m. Family Service	6.00 p.m. FLOWER FESTIVAL SERVICE
28 th	11.00 a.m. Local Team Service <i>A Family Communion</i>	6.00 p.m. BCP Even. Prayer	

How Can I Be Sure?

When a member of your family or a friend is lying on a hospital bed, and says either "Are you afraid of dying?" or as happened in Derriford recently "I'm not sure if I have really got this dying thing sorted out. What happens when you die?" It suddenly becomes a rubber hits the road moment in Christian ministry.

An old acquaintance of mine, then Vicar of a Church in Luton, told of a severe dressing down he received from his Churchwarden. Apparently the Vicar concerned frequently preached on the subject of "Assurance". The Warden was complaining that the congregation were getting fed up with it, especially as some of them had not got the sort of assurance the Minister was speaking about. "I'd better keep on preaching it until they all have." was the Vicar's response.

In my early banking days I was taught a little about Insurance Policies, and the fact that insurance protects you against something that might occur, e.g. fire, theft or accident, whereas assurance gives security and comfort against something that definitely will happen. Thus you can get car insurance, but for your life you can get assurance or insurance. Life insurance would be the sort that protects your mortgage if death occurs before a certain date. Life Assurance would provide funds for those left behind, after the certainty of your eventual death.

As I have said at many a funeral, those gathering will not have passed through the gate that the deceased has just negotiated. For many of us do not fear death, but we may be somewhat apprehensive about the manner of it happening. My Dad's wish was for a sudden heart attack just after a good winning game of golf, preferably with the round scoring in the 80's with him aged 90+. The attack coming after the 18th hole, but just before he, in his own words, "had to buy the blighter a drink".

How do we get that "ASSURANCE" in regard to life and death. Patently you will anticipate that a Church Minister will have some ideas on that subject. Even if like Woody Allen with his famous quip that he was not afraid of death, but he did not want to be around when it happened. The key aspect for me is the promise not of some floating spirit wandering around the ether, but a solid resurrection body. There are tensions about my visions of heaven for it would get boring with a perfect hole in one, or a sublime tube ride in a 30 foot break every time. For Pam I know it is skating better than Torville and Dean! We do not know exactly what heaven is like, but we are promised that it will be much much better than even the very best moments we have now.

Well I do not have the room, and space here to do the subject justice, so I will move on to that dangerous arena of book recommendation. I seem to get it wrong most times as the Bigbury book worms will know (*I will not defend 'The Shack' unreservedly for I found parts strange, but it did challenge sexist and Victorian images of God in Trinity, so for that reason was well worth reading!!*). This time I play it safer and recommend wholeheartedly as a long and more challenging read Doctor Alison Morgan's "What Happens When You Die", or for an easier shorter 23 page exploration Nicky Gumbel of Alpha fame has "How Can I Be Sure of My Faith. Both are recommended but the Alison Morgan book is highly recommended.

Well I'd better be away to get some health insurance in case there are any rocks flying around after that risky venture!

John Elliott, Resident Minister (830688)

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ST. LUKE'S HOSPICE
PLYMOUTH

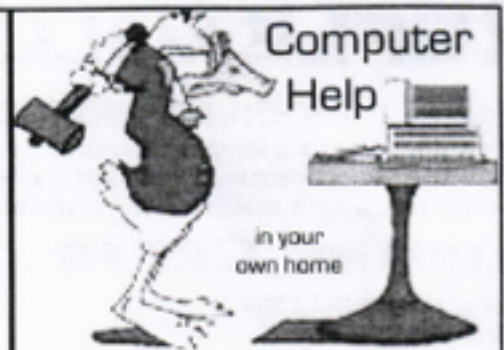
Coffee morning, at Anna's (Cumberland Cottage)

Tuesday 2nd June at 10.30am

Do come to support your local Hospice
Entrance £3.50 (includes coffee, cake and raffle ticket)

Please contact Drina (810405) to offer cakes, raffle prizes or
other help on the day.

Thank you



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ST LUKE'S HOSPICE, PLYMOUTH

We do make a last minute urgent appeal for your attendance at the Coffee Morning, 10.30 am on Tuesday 2nd June at Anna's, Cumberland Cottages. Most of you know that Pat Skeels was recently in the Hospice for 10 days for respite care. She received such kind and expert attention that she is now back home, feeling much better, and enjoying life with the family again. This encourages us to do well at the Coffee Morning as a thank you for Pat's care, and also that the Hospice can continue to give similar care to others.

We aim to keep the collection open until the weekend in case further donations are forthcoming.
Thank you, Drina (810405)

FIRST AID THANKS

A big thank you to the WI for lending the hall enabling ten people to attend the First Aid Course held on the 13th May. I would also like to thank South West Ambulance Authority for the loan of the training equipment and of course my very able assistant, Emily. A reminder to all, the defib is situated on the front wall of 8 Crossways.

Sandy Hammond



MAY MEETING

Each year, Ringmore W.I., in common with all Institutes, discuss one or more Resolutions which go forward for debate at national level. This year there was just one Resolution, calling on the government to increase funding into research on why the honey bee population is declining rapidly. Honey bees play an important part in the pollination of food crops and in our environment. Of course, they also produce honey! The Resolution was unanimously approved by those present.

Members then finalised details of the summer programme, and in particular the Summer Meal (see below) and annual Fête (on Wednesday 5th August: book the date!).

SUMMER MEAL

We called it a barbecue in last month's Newsletter, and were rightly shot down! This year, it's on Thursday 11th June at 6.30 pm, and is going to be a two-course Summer Meal with wine included. See the separate announcement!

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ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk called for nominations for the position of Chairman. Cllr.J.Reynolds proposed that Michael Hammond should continue, this was seconded by Cllr.J.Deverson.

PRESENT Chairman M.Hammond

Cllrs. J.Deverson B.Lambell J.Reynolds

District Council B.Carson

Clerk M. Wood

APOLOGIES Cllr.W.Mumford E.Bohnet J.Parkin

DECLARATION OF PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS – M.Hammond & B.Lambell

OPEN SESSION – Nothing to report

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - Signed as correct

MATTERS ARISING

Notice Board – Specification for the board was handed to Cllr.Lambell who reported that he was awaiting a quotation, which he would have available for the next meeting.

Millennium Clock – The tempus unit has been returned by the clockmakers. They are suggesting that the tempus unit and antenna are re-sited within the main body of the church to prevent a re-occurrence of the fault. A suitable location has been agreed and we are now waiting for F W Jarvis to carry out the installation.

First Aid – Another 10 people have been first aid and defibrillator trained. A new list of contacts will be available shortly.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Darkie Lane Footpath - We have obtained written permission from the owners of Ringmore Veian to re-establish the easement onto their land at the base of the wall.

Peter Guy has spoken to the Highways Engineer Jim Morrison who has given permission to go ahead for the work under the path using SWH Contractors. A bill of quantities will be prepared together with a date for the works. An estimate cost of the gully work has been given by Ringmore Property and Garden Maintenance. It was agreed that they would be asked to do the work.

The overgrown Ayrmer Path was discussed and Cllr.Deverson offered to clear this using his machinery. Cllr.Lambell will be working on Cockle Lane this coming weekend.

The mound of earth opposite End Bohem will be discussed at the next meeting.

B.CARSON

Mr.Carson did not have a great deal to report this month, other than the boundary commission has now closed for consultation and that there is a strong feeling that there will be re-shuffle after the European Elections.

PARISH PLAN

Since setting up the oil scheme things have been working well.

Cllrs.J.Reynolds and E.Bohnet are to review the plan ready for the next meeting. An item will be placed in the Newsletter to ask parishioners if they have anything to raise on this subject.

PLANNING

Application 40/0796/09 Listed building consent for refurbishment and erection of timber clad lean to house ecological heating system Middle Manor.

Application 40/0246/09/F Replacement windows & doors Village Hall – this application has gone to appeal scheduled for 20th May.

FINANCE – The Clerk reported that the council account books etc. will be sent for internal audit during week commencing 25th May.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr.Deverson asked parishioners to be alert because a tractor and mower had been stolen from Langworth House Easton.

Parish Council are concerned at the increasing number of vehicles which are parked in the village and are particularly concerned that emergency vehicles are not able to reach destinations. The local fire department have confirmed that they need –

8ft.7" (2.6 Meters) Width

26ft (7.91 Meters) Length

10ft 3" (3.12 Meters) to get a vehicle through. Parishioners are asked to park vehicles responsibly.

Cllr.Lambell gave councillors an update on the 'clean up' situation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 23rd June 2009



A



in the garden



Ringmore W.I. Hall

A two course meal with wine

Salmon – Chicken – Salads – Vegetarian dish – Delicious puds!!

Thursday 11th June at 6.30 pm



Entry by ticket only £7.50 (children £3.50) from Holywell Stores, Sharon (810179) or Jackie (810520)

All profits to Shelterbox

"The Patter of Little Feet" – Children of all ages, we need you!

The children of the village are creating their own display for the Ringmore Flower Festival using a collection of boots and shoes. We would like you to come and join us for a planting and arranging session on Wednesday 17th June from 4.30 – 5.30pm at Barnford.

We will provide compost and oasis – you can bring an old boot or shoe, some plants, and/or flowers and greenery from your garden or hedgerow. Some of us will plant into soil, others will do an arrangement.

For more information, do phone Alice on 810284, and it would be helpful to know you are coming, but don't worry – just turn up!

20 years ago

The Parish Council thanked Alan King for refurbishing the Bus Shelter.

A commemorative Horse Chestnut tree adjacent to the Bus Shelter and copper leafed Prunus from outside Crossways were taken as fuel for a bonfire at an all night party at Challaborough.

10 years ago

Ringmore and Kingston did battle in a Quiz Challenge at the Journey's End, going toe-to-toe over 12 rounds. Those present enjoyed a most convivial evening, the outcome of which was never in doubt.... until the final round. If Manchester United thought they had left it late, they have no idea!

Food Glorious Food

This months Spring recipes have been submitted by Jane Reynolds

- Many thanks Jane

Please let us have your recipes news@ringmore.net

ANZAC (Australia New Zealand Army Corps) biscuits:

ANZAC biscuits have long been associated with Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) established in World War 1. The ingredients do not spoil easily so the biscuits kept well during naval transportation to loved ones who were fighting abroad. One notable omission from the ANZAC biscuit recipe is that of eggs due to the scarcity of eggs (the poultry farmers having joined the war effort).

1/2 cup plain flour

1/2 cup sugar

1/4 cup dried coconut

1/4 cup rolled oats

100g butter

1 tbsp golden syrup or liquid honey

1/2 tsp baking soda

2 tbsp boiling water

Pre heat oven to 180oC

Mix flour, sugar, oats, and coconut together

Melt butter and syrup/honey in saucepan, dissolve baking soda in boiling water and add to butter and syrup mixture.

Stir butter mixture into dry ingredients, roll into small balls and place on greased oven trays. Flatten balls with fork.

Bake until golden about 15 mins.

Enjoy!

Ringmore Short Mat Bowls Club

Following the AGM, Bob Wood has been elected Chairman, Michael Tagent Secretary and Pat King Treasurer. We want to thank Alan McCarthy for all his work for the Club; he has been a most effective and active chairman for the last decade, and we are grateful to him for all he has done.

The Club has now ended its season, and will restart on Monday 7th September, meeting in the Parish Room at the usual time of 7.30 pm. New members, and those wanting to find out more, are very welcome.

Many thanks.

Michael

PEOPLE POWER RULES!

After a huge disappointment when the initial planning application for replacement UPVC windows was turned down by SHDC, Alan McCarthy successfully galvanised the village via petition and letters to make SHDC think again.

After his 3 minute personal appearance and lobbying by the Parish Council, Alan scored a great success in having the decision turned around and the Parish Rooms will have the windows that the village wants.

Well done Alan.

Long live people power

Did you miss the Audio Visual evening on 6th March? If so there will be a chance to see it with some changes, in the Journey's End, at 7pm on Sunday June 28th.

Do come and join in the fun, whilst enjoying the usual pub amenities.

Shows will include: Local wild life, The last Service in Charles Church, Ringmore Regatta 2008 - Old Pictures of Ringmore, Pictures of Ringmarians when they were younger, Snow in Ringmore and much more.

See you in the JE Mike Wynne-Powell

Kids are quick

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America ..

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America ?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?

GLEN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: Millie, give me a sentence starting with ' I . '

MILLIE: I is..

TEACHER: No, Millie..... Always say, 'I am.'

MILLIE: All right... 'I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.'

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIS: Because George still had the axe in his hand.

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde , your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher

Women, they think of everything!!!!

An old man and woman were married for many years and they grew to hate each other.

When they had a confrontation, screaming and yelling could be heard deep into the night.

The old man would shout, 'When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!'

Neighbours feared him. They believed he practised black magic, because of the many strange occurrences that took place in their neighbourhood.

The old man liked the fact that he was feared. To everyone's relief, he died of a heart attack when he was 98.

His wife had a closed casket at the wake. After the burial, she went straight to the local bar and began to party, as if there was no tomorrow..

Her neighbours, concerned for her safety, asked, 'Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way up and out of the grave and come back to haunt you for the rest of your life?'

The wife put down her drink and said, 'Let him dig. I had him buried upside down.....'

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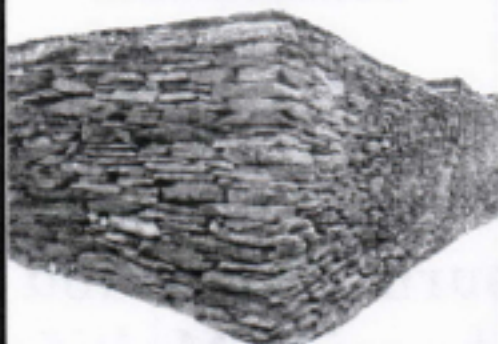
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Lucky Dog....

Anyone who has pets will really like this. You'll like it even if you don't and you may even decide you need one!

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named 'Lucky.'

Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky's toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky's other favorite toys Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box..

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease....in fact; she was just sure it was fatal.

She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders. The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her...what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary's dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won't understand that I didn't want to leave him! The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the little dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When she arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn't even make it up the steps to her bedroom. Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap.

Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn't come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed.

When Mary woke for a second she couldn't understand what was wrong. She couldn't move her head and her body felt heavy and hot. But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem. She was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned! While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life.

He had covered her with his love.

Mary forgot about dying. Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day. It's been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky He still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure..

Remember....live every day to the fullest. Each minute is a blessing from God. And never forget....the people who make a difference in our lives are not the ones with the most Credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care for us.

If you see someone without a smile today give them one of yours! Live simply. Love seriously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God. (kindly submitted by Linda Crookes)

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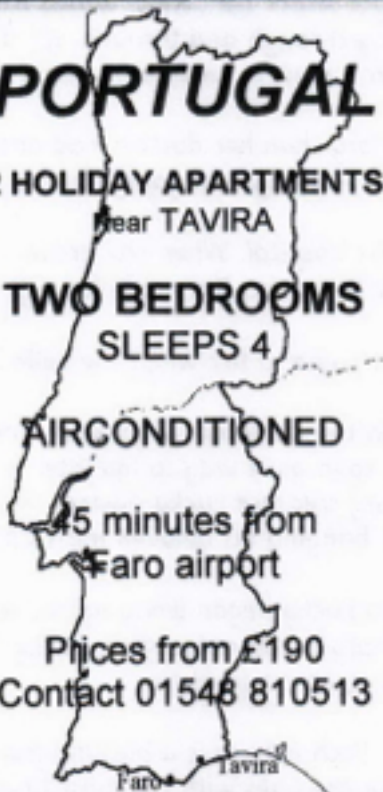
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NEWS FROM ALL HALLOWS

Flower Festival (see also advert elsewhere in the Newsletter)

The "SUMMERTIME" Flower Festival will soon be upon us and we would like to thank all those organisations and individuals who have kindly agreed to provide a flower arrangement and provide help in so many ways. The **Festival opens** in All Hallows at **10 o'clock Friday morning** and continues through to Sunday evening.

Tickets for the **Gala Concert on the Friday evening** are selling fast so if you haven't managed to get yours yet then they are available from Phill Errett 810547, Drina Williams 810405, Judy Bull 810420 and Holywell Stores. The Concert will provide a wide range of music and singing to cater for a variety of tastes and will be performed by professional artists together with local talent.

During the days whilst the church is open, for viewing the many flower arrangements, a wide selection of **refreshments** will be available in the **WI Hall**.

The Flower Festival closes on the **Sunday evening with a Festival of Praise in the Church at 6pm**, which will be an opportunity to give thanks to God, with hymns old and new, for all the blessings He gives us. If you have a favourite hymn that you would like to be included, do let Adrian and Judy Bull (810420) know and they will do their best to accommodate your request(s).

If anyone would like to give assistance during the Festival and they haven't yet been asked then please get in touch with Judy Bull (810420)

Annual Fete

This year's **Fete** will be held on the Church House field, **Bank Holiday Monday 31st August**. This is a fun day, enjoyed hopefully by all in the Village, and once again we are seeking help in organising, arranging and staging this very popular Village event. The field & marquees are booked and the Mint Julip Band are going to play, we just need your help to make it another successful afternoon.

Richard and Lesley have very kindly given us permission for us to use the facilities at Church House for the provision of refreshments, which we thank them very much for.

To enable the **Fete** to go ahead we are holding an open meeting and anyone who is willing to give assistance prior to and/or on the day is very welcome to attend. The **meeting** will be held in the **Parish Room on Wednesday 24th June at 7.30pm**.

We would be delighted to see anyone who is keen to lend a hand or have any exciting new ideas (particularly newcomers to the Village) to come to the meeting.

We are currently looking for assistance especially regarding:- a) a vehicle and trailer on the day to transport items to/from the Parish Room/WI Hall to the field. b) erection/dismantling of Marquees.

So why not come along to hear the Fete plans washed down with a glass of wine or orange juice. If for any reason you are unable to attend, but would still like to offer assistance in any way then please give me a ring.

Clock Update

The Tempus Unit, which is the main control box for the Church clock, has now been received back and we are now awaiting the electrician to carry out its installation, which hopefully will be before the Flower Festival.

Audio System

At last we have been able to contact a competent Audio Technician to rectify the problems we are currently experiencing with the audio system within the church.

Phill Errett (810547)

MURDER WITH MOONSHINE

On Saturday 9th May, the Parish Room was full of would-be detectives seeking the identity of the killer of Sir Randolph Knightley. Was it Randy's daughter or son-in-law, fearful that he might cut them out of his will? Or the vicar with an unknown past? Or perhaps the nurse who cared for Sir Randolph? Or the famous country and western star? Nearly 60 people enjoyed the food and drink they had brought whilst watching the drama acted out. We then had the opportunity to question the actors before trying to decide "who dunnit". "Murders Assured" certainly know how to keep people in suspense, and the suggested solutions were many and varied. However, there was a worthy winner, who earned his prize for working out that the murderer was . . . but that would spoil it for the next performance! This highly successful evening raised a net £357 towards the refurbishment of the Parish Room.

Michael Tagent

RINGMORE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Ringmore half a century ago
 Remembered by Flossie Bardens
 In the Kingsbridge Gazette of 1954
 CUSTOMS LOST THROUGH THE YEARS

When I was walking to the cliffs the other day I remembered how on Sunday evenings after church—this was when every family in the village attended evening service—nearly everybody went for a walk over what is called "the downs". It was very pleasant indeed to meet and chat with friends and neighbours, to admire the view and then walk home through the fields, where the horses were often seen enjoying their well earned leisure. How they must have looked forward to their Day of Rest—as did the men who worked with them during the week. (Would that tractors and machines needed a Day of Rest!)

It is a long time since we saw that twirly bit of plaited or twisted straw the boys and youths used to make and wear in their buttonholes all through the summer or harvest time. Very intricate and difficult to make, it was.

Weddings seemed to take place more often than they do now, but honeymoons were not heard of. After the wedding breakfast the whole bridal party would walk,

weather permitting of course, to Burgh Island. This was a regular old custom.

Another was that of the Union Flag being hoisted sometime after sunrise and being hauled down at sunset every day, on the old flag staff on the point overlooking the then beautiful valley of Challaborough. When the flag staff was dressed overall on some special occasion, such as Empire Day, it was a splendid and exciting sight.

The Passing Bell that told of a death in the village was another custom, as was that particularly lovely one—the burial of our dead as the sun was going down. This, I think, is a West-country custom. The Rev. Robert Stephen Hawker, the Poet-Priest of Morwenstow, wrote these words:

*Sunset should be the time, they said,
 To lose their brother's narrow bed.
 'Tis at that pleasant hour of day
 The labourer treads his home ward way. F.B.*

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The Thoughtful Husband - not many left??

It is important for men to remember that, as women grow older, it becomes harder for them to maintain the same quality of housekeeping as when they were younger.

When you notice this, try not to yell at them.

Some are over-sensitive, and there's nothing worse than an over-sensitive woman.

My name is Jim.

Let me relate how I handled the situation with my wife, Christine.

When I retired a few years ago, it became necessary for Christine to get a full-time job along with her part-time job, both for extra income and for the health benefits that we needed.

Shortly after she started working, I noticed she was beginning to show her age.

I usually get home from the golf club about the same time she gets home from work and although she knows how hungry I am, she almost always says she has to rest for half an hour or so before she starts dinner.

I don't yell at her.

Instead, I tell her to take her time and just wake me when she gets dinner on the table.

I generally have lunch in the Men's Grill at the club so eating out twice is not reasonable.

I'm ready for some home-cooked grub when I hit that door.

She used to do the dishes as soon as we finished eating.

But now it's not unusual for them to sit on the table for several hours after dinner.

I do what I can by diplomatically reminding her several times each evening that they won't clean themselves.

I know she really appreciates this, as it does seem to motivate her to get them done before she goes to bed.

Another symptom of aging is complaining, I think.

For example she will say that it is difficult for her to find time to pay the monthly bills during her lunch hour.

But, boys, we take 'em for better or worse, so I just smile and offer encouragement.

I tell her to stretch it out over two or even three days.

That way she won't have to rush so much. I also remind her that missing lunch completely now and then wouldn't hurt her any (if you know what I mean).

I like to think tact is one of my strong points.

When doing simple jobs, she seems to think she needs more rest periods.

She had to take a break when she was only half finished mowing the lawn.

I try not to make a scene. I'm a fair man.

I tell her to fix herself a nice, big, cold glass of freshly squeezed lemonade and just sit for a while.

And, as long as she is making one for herself, she may as well make one for me too.

I know that I probably look like a saint in the way I support Christine.

I'm not saying that showing this much consideration is easy.

Many men will find it difficult. Some will even find it impossible!

Nobody knows better than I do how frustrating women get as they get older.

However, guys, even if you just use a little more tact and less criticism of your aging wife because of this article, I will consider that writing it was well worthwhile.

After all, we are put on this earth to help each other.

Signed, JIM

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Jim died suddenly on May 27 of a perforated rectum.

The police report says he was found with a Calloway extra long 50-inch Big Bertha Driver II golf club jammed up his rear end, with barely 5 inches of grip showing and a sledge hammer laying nearby.

His wife Christine was arrested and charged with murder.

The all-woman jury took only 15 minutes to find her Not Guilty, accepting her defense that Jim somehow, without looking, accidentally sat down on his golf club.

Your Temper must be Guarded

When I come to speak to you and something comes out wrong

Don't burn up a flame, just sing a little happy song.

And if it was no help ask me to sing along

For your temper must be guarded in the strongest metal bars

And don't let a word turn you into a monster from Mars.

By Elysha Radford Age 9



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