

FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS

Mon 10th Feb

M. Hall 6.30 - 7.30 pm

SOUPS & PUDS

Wed 12th Feb, 12 noon to 2 pm

BIGBURY LADIES

Wed 19th Feb (lunch)

Pierre Bistro, Kings William Yard

Wed 18th March

(possibly) Theatre Royal, Plymouth

McMILLAN QUIZ

Fri 28th Feb 7 pm MHall

BIGBURY QUILT

Tues 11th Feb & 10th March

PARISH COUNCIL

Wed 12th Feb & 11th March

7:30 p.m. MHall

BIGBURY COMMUNITY COFFEE

Wed 4th March & 1st April

M. Hall 10.30 - Noon



**Bigbury
Neighbourhood
Plan 2019-2034**

Prepared by the Bigbury Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group,
on behalf of the Bigbury Parish Council, and following consultations
with the community throughout the process.



Charterlands Chatter



BIGBURY ON SEA HOLIDAYS

Bigburyonsea.co.uk

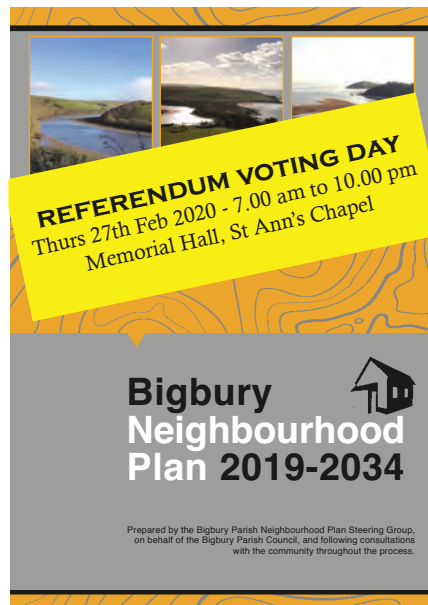
The site for great holidays in a great community;
now gives the accommodation, holiday activities,
many useful links and maps.



Now features community events and dates.

Send any ideas for the site to

John@BigburyOnSeaHolidays.com



**BIGBURY
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2
019-2034**

REFERENDUM VOTING DAY

Thursday, 27th February 2020
Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel
7am to 10pm

YOUR PLAN and YOUR VOTE
is now required.



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REFERENDUM

The **Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan** which has been prepared following a number of stages of consultation with the community has now reached the **REFERENDUM STAGE**. This is now your chance to vote. All those on the electoral register for Bigbury Parish are entitled to vote. If more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes' then the neighbourhood plan becomes part of the statutory plan for the area.

A copy of the *Referendum Version* of the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan are now on the community website. Hard copies of the plan have been placed in the **Holywell Stores** and the **Memorial Hall**. All Parish Councillors and all Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group also have a hard copy of the plan which can be viewed or borrowed for a few days if it is returned promptly. Contacts:

Cllr. Beth Huntley

01548 810385 or 07775 761 122

Cllr. Stuart Watts

01548 810373

Cllr. George Rosevear

01548 810051

Cllr. Cathy Case

07830 138 133

Cllr. Sharon Smith

01548 810115

Cllr. Valerie Scott

01548 810336 or 07711 446 218

Jill Gubbins

01548 810651

Simon Bronstein

01548 810005 or 07710 657 387

Jean Wright

01548 810029

Jo Simes

01548 810693

Bryan Carson

01548 810296

Louise Wainwright

01548 810991 or 07908 525 663

A digital download can be found on:

www.bigburynews.com/parish-council

A short presentation of the vision, objectives and policies of the plan will be given by Cllr. Valerie Scott at the next Bigbury Parish Council meeting in the **Memorial Hall on Wednesday 12th February commencing at 7.30pm**. If you have any questions please come along to this meeting.

Valerie Scott



LETTER from the EDITOR



Dear Readers,

Happy New Year!

The single most important local event takes place on Thursday 27th February. It's the **BIGBURY REFERENDUM** on the **Neighbourhood Plan 2019 - 2034**

At the very least - please download and **read pages 15 to 20** of the Neighbourhood Plan. This section relates to what will become a **statutory instrument** if the NHP is approved by the local community. It sets the **planning permission guidelines for all FUTURE developments** in the parish of Bigbury. What's past - is past!

See the **Settlement Boundaries** on page 13 of this Bigbury News.

If you have any questions - come to the monthly parish council meeting on 12th Feb.

Please don't leave it to other people to vote. It's **YOUR PLAN - YOUR VOTE - YOUR FUTURE**.

Louise Wainwright

Editor Bigbury News & Bigbury Drums

Next **BUMPER** colour issue
APR/MAY (copy date 15 MAR)
Next **SLIM** black & white issue
MARCH (copy date 15 FEB)

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from supporters welcome/needed!

Cheques 'Bigbury News' post to
The Editor, Bigbury News, Long Easton,
Easton, TQ7 4AN.

OR ask the Treasurer for BACS details
henry.wainwright52@gmail.com

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www.bigburynews.com

CONTENTS

REFERENDUM

Letter from the Editor	1
Memorial Hall Report	2
Clubs & Societies	3 - 5
Crews that Keep us Cruising	
- Fire Safety Awareness Event	6
Lady Astor's House Visit	7
St Lawrence Matters & Launch Inspired Appeal	8
St Lawrence Church & Filling Station	9
Letter from America,	
Poets' Corner	10
Murmuration of Starlings	11
Garden Gate - worms & worm poo	12
NHP Settlement Boundaries	13
Bigbury BioBlog - water, toads & frogs	14
Bigbury Watch	16
McBar's Jars	17
Calling Bigbury Artists	18
Hedgerow News	19
Let's get Recycling Right!	
Climate & Biodiversity	
EMERGENCY	20
Bigbury Stories, Voice of Reason	
Poets' Corner	23
Small Ads (residents)	24
Beach Banter	26 - 27
The Pub Cat Speaks	28
Reduce, ReUse, ReCycle	29
Parish Council Minutes	30 & 31

Contributors: *Fiona Barker (Bigbury Bio Blog), Richard Matthews (Parish Minutes), Valerie Scott (Neighbourhood Plan), Marlene Johnson (Nineteenth Hole), Alice Taylor (Hedgerow News), Louise Pitt (Youth Club), Eamonn & Linda Bryes (Bigbury Watch), Rusty (ODA Agent) and Monty (The Pub Cat), Dawn Trower (Well-being Spotlight), Jessica Tatton-Brown (National Trust), Gary McGuire (McBars Jars), Danny Garce (Poets' Corner) Craig Halford (Letter from America), David Ellis (Bigbury Stories), Vic & Jill Gubbins (St Lawrence Matters and Inspired Appeal)*

Event Reporters: *Sally Watts and Charles Harrington, Michael Tagent, Hazel Osborne, Pam Trundle, Julia Stuchfield, Jean Wright and Yvonne Klidjian, Photo credits: Louise Wainwright,, Marlene Johnson, Martin & Annika Connolly*

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BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL

Bringing the Community Together

2019 was brought to a very enjoyable end in December with a **Wine Tasting Evening** attended by a full complement of 25 people. Barrel & Still of Kingsbridge presented eight interesting wines which were accompanied by fantastic nibbles prepared by **Gill Cook, Cathy Harrington** and **Mike Poynter**. We hope to continue this as an annual event.

The New Year kicked off in great style with another of our annual favourites, the **Quiz Evening**. Again we had an excellent attendance – around 60 people, who enjoyed a free bottle of wine per table, plus a tasty pasty each, all sourced from Holywell Stores.

We've got several events coming up in the first half of the year; a Villages in Action event (**David Minne – Canterbury Tales**), a **Film & Food Night** and a **folk duo**. Details of all of these will appear in Bigbury News and Bigbury Drums shortly.

The **table tennis** sessions we've inaugurated at the Hall are proving very popular, attracting around 15 people. These take place on Monday afternoons at 4.00 p.m.; if you're interested, please contact either **Sally Watts** on 810373 or **Angie Bond** on 811131.

Finally, we're delighted to announce that the 50/100 Club has sold out for the second successive year. Many thanks go to **Peter and Gill Cook** for their efforts.

Charles Harrington

Tel. 810023

Email charles_harri@yahoo.co.uk

MEMORIAL HALL EVENTS (Dec 2019 & Jan 2020)

St Ann's Chapel TQ7 4HQ

Day & Time	Activity	Organiser	Contact no
Mon. 9.30 – 10.10	Aerobics	Jill Gubbins	810651
10.15 – 11.15	Pilates	Jill Gubbins	810651
11.30 – 12.10	Strong & Steady (plus tea)	Jill Gubbins	810651
Tues. 17.30 - 19.30	Youth Club	Juliette Jackson	810307
Thurs. 9.15 – 10.15	Pilates	Jill Gubbins	810651
10.15 – 10.30	Bones Bonus	Jill Gubbins	810651
19.30 – 21.30	South Hams	Gilbert Snook	810017
Filling Station 3rd Thurs. of month excl. Dec & Aug			

Wed. February 12th :Soups and Puds 12 – 2pm. See poster for further details

Friday February 28th : McMillan Quiz. 7.00 pm £10 pp (inc. pasty), one bottle wine per team of six. Bring your own glasses and cash for raffle.

Future Events:

Sunday May 10th : David Minne – Canterbury Tales (Villages in Action event)

50/100 Club. 1st draw took place at the Quiz Night in January. Winners were Dilys Doughty (£25); Janice Walton (£15); Linda Osmond (£10). Tickets (£10 for the 10 draws) from Peter and Gill Cook.



BIGBURY NEW BEES

Do you know of any new arrivals, whether they are second home owners or permanent residents, in Bigbury? Perhaps you are the new Arrival? What ever the case, we would like to meet you. Please send in your details to Bigbury News Bees.

bigburynewseditor@gmail.com

THE SALON
Hairdressing for men
and women
Manicure & Pedicure
43 Fore Street
Kingsbridge
Tel: 01548 852128

REFERENDUM VOTING DAY
Thurs 27th Feb 2020 - 7.00 am to 10.00 pm
Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel

**Bigbury
Neighbourhood
Plan 2019-2034**

Prepared by the Bigbury Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group,
on behalf of the Bigbury Parish Council, and following consultations
with the community throughout the process.

Soups and Puds...

Wednesday 12th February 2020
12 - 2pm
BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL

Raffle in aid of: The Triangle Centre and Cancer Research

Tickets £6.50 from:
Bigbury Golf Club behind the bar & Holywell Stores

or contact janerickmanfamily@gmail.com

**QUIZ
LOVER?
A) YES
B) YES**

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY - 7 pm
BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL

£10 pp inc pasty
BOTTLE OF WINE PER TEAM OF 6
BRING YOUR OWN GLASSES &
CASH FOR RAFFLE.

Tickets:
FIONA DUKES 07778 259827
HOLYWELL STORES St. Ann's Chapel

Participating in
**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE



**BIGBURY
FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS**


**MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
6.30 - 7.30 PM**

**MEMORIAL HALL,
ST ANN'S CHAPEL**

TALK ON FIRE PREVENTION BY
DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

SUPPLIER EXHIBITION DOMESTIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT


INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR KINGSTON FIRE CREW

 **BIGBURY COMMUNITY
COFFEE MORNING**

Hello and Happy New Year.

There is no coffee morning in February. Our next coffee morning is **March 4th** and is in aid of *Hope Cove Lifeboat*. **1st April** we will be supporting *St Luke's Hospice*

Regards
Jean and Yvonne.

 **NATIONAL TRUST
NEWS**

With Christmas a distant memory and spring within touching distance, we can now look forward to 2020 and everything we hope to achieve this year. It is a really exciting time for the National Trust and the South Devon Countryside office as we start to make real gains for nature both locally and nationally.

The National Trusts ambition is to significantly improve all its landholdings for nature, to a space where wildlife can flourish, we aim to create or restore 25,000 hectares (or 25,000 rugby pitches) of priority habitat such as woodland or wetland. In the South West we are aiming to deliver 5,000 hectares of this.

In addition to this we are working closely with our tenants, partners and neighbours to create land that can be classified as high nature status; thriving with birds, butterflies, bees and bats in abundance and a richness of plant species. As a visitor around our sites you can expect to see the changes for example, hedgerows which support significantly more wildlife; allowed to grow wider, have more trees in and with wide field margins. Grassland that is made up of lots of different species of wildflowers and grasses supporting a massive variety of insect and butterfly species.

In South Devon we have been working hard at Southdown Farm, Malborough to create a plan of how to do this. This has required a lot of surveys, so we could clearly understand what was here already and from this we have created a clear plan of what we need to achieve, and this is the year those plans become actions. Over 1000 trees arrived this week to be planted in the hedges around the farm. It is going to take time for these trees to grow and nature to respond to the changes we are making, but we are excited to have started the journey.

So please keep up to date with our progress on Facebook, come to our events, a please get in touch if you want to volunteer we have lots to do to protect and grow the amazing places we have in South Devon.

Please 'like' our facebook page; National Trust South Devon Countryside Check out our events coming soon at
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Jessica Tatton-Brown (Area Ranger)
01548 562344 or
Jessica.Tatton-Brown@nationaltrust.org.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

Join island artist,
Emma Carter Bromfield

Create your own work of art,
with Emma's guidance,
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All materials provided.

Emma will enchant you with
stories of her 43-year span of
island life, island legends, and
life as an artist.

Individual Island Artist
tuition sessions
are also available.



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28th January 2020, 11am – 4pm
26th February 2020, 11am – 4pm
£95 per person

Includes coffee, materials and lunch in the Pichard.
Available to hotel residents and members of the public.

Bookings: 01548 810514 reception@burghisland.com



**2020 VALENTINE'S BALL
WEEKEND**

Fri 14th & Sat 15th Feb

www.burghisland.com

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FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

SOCIAL GROUPS

BIGBURY BOOKWORMS

Hazel Osborne (temporary contact)
hazel.osborne6@btinternet.com

BIGBURY LADIES

Pam Trundle 01548 810719

HISTORY SOCIETY

Charles Harrington 01548 810023

BIGBURY COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Yvonne Klidjian and Jean Wright
yvonneklidjian@btinternet.com
01548 810029

MEMORIAL HALL CHAIRMAN

Charles Harrington
charles_harri@yahoo.co.uk 01548 810023



BIGBURY BOOKWORMS

Our Meeting on 1st Wednesday of January took the form of our Christmas Lunch, postponed until January because people were away or busy with visitors at Christmas time.

We went to The Church House Inn at Churchstow and enjoyed an excellent meal. As the menfolk were with us, we did not discuss books (cricket being the main topic of conversation!!!!).

Our next meeting on **Wednesday, 5th February** will be held at Liz's house and we will be talking about "*The Sculptress*" by **Minette Waters** which was Valerie's choice for December and "*Warlight*" by **Michael Ondaatje** which is Julia's choice for January.

Hazel Osborne

DCC MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday 18th Feb & 17th March
Bigbury-on-Sea
Cleveland Drive

Arrive: 12.40

Depart 13.25

Bigbury Green

Arrive: 14.00

Depart: 14.30

SOUTH HAMS SOCIETY

www.southhamssociety.org

FEBRUARY

Saturday 29th February at 11am.
Beach clean at Soar Mill Cove.

MARCH

Saturday 7th March (morning).
Dairy farm visit and briefing at
Challon's Combe, Aveton Gifford.
Details tbc by Elizabeth Bennett,
ceebee@southpool.co.uk.



BIGBURY LADIES

We had a very good turnout for our December get together which was held at St Elizabeth House, Plympton for our Christmas Lunch. We had an excellent time and a provisional booking was made for December this year.

For January we met at the Golf Club with twelve of us present. Various ideas were put forward for this year's meetings and we all had lunch there afterwards. Mischa did very well indeed coping with approximately twelve different meals and each one was delicious.

Please remember that anyone is welcome to join us on our monthly meetings. We are an informal group – i.e. no chairman, secretary etc. Just a group meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Points of contact are:

Pam on 810719. **Chris** on 810 482.
Rita on 810792

The proposed calendar for this year is as follows but please remember that they are provisional and may have to be changed sometimes for various reasons (e.g. river trips are dependent on tide times etc).

Wednesday February 19th

Pierre Bistrot, King William Yard
for lunch

Wednesday March 18th

(possibly) Theatre Royal, Plymouth
Wednesday April 15th

Hilltop Nurseries, Staverton

Thursday May 21st

Devon County Show by Tally Ho

Tuesday June 23rd

RHS Rosemoor by Tally Ho

Wednesday 15th July

River Trip Totnes to Dartmouth

Wednesday 19th August

At Gill Peet's Bigbury on Sea
for "Bring a Plate" lunch
and flower arranging

Tuesday 8th September

Widcombe Fair by Tally Ho

Wednesday 14th October

Cockington Village

Wednesday 18th November

Sloop Inn, Bantham for lunch

Wednesday 9th December

Christmas Lunch at St Elizabeth
House, Plympton

Pam Trundle



WHAT'S ON NEARBY

DEVON RURAL ARCHIVE

Shilstone House, Nr. Modbury

PL21 0TW

01548 830832 office@dra.uk.net

Thurs 6th February at 7pm

Darwin in Devon

Tues 18th Feb 11.00am to 3 pm

Book Sale

Thurs 27th at 2.00 pm

Shilstone's Designed Landscape
(booking essential)

ARTS SOCIETY

KINGSBRIDGE

Methodist Church, 100 Fore St

TQ7 1AW

01548 830832 office@dra.uk.net

Visitors welcome £10 donation
(inc tea & biscuits)

Harlots, Rakes & Crashing China
by **Lars Sharp** (Antiques Roadshow)

Wed 26th Feb 7 for 7.30 pm

Thurs 27th Feb 10 for 10.30 am

KINGSTON

HISTORY SOCIETY

Thur 27th Feb 7 for 7.30pm

"**History of Aviation in Plymouth and
Plymouth's Airports**" - Clive Charlton,

Thurs 26h March 7 for 7.30pm

Photographic Presentation and Talk
"**Historic South Dartmoor Railways**" -
Bernard Mills, Railway Historian.

Reading Room on the

4th Thursday of the month

with welcome drinks and nibbles from
7pm and the talk itself

starting at 7.30pm

Visitors welcome for small fee.

Membership enquiries

margaret.cmkelly@btinternet.com

01548 810358

RINGMORE

HISTORY SOCIETY

Wed 19th Feb 7.30pm

"**Hallsands Tragedy**" -

Holly Franklin-Trubshaw

Ringmore WI Hall

members £1 - visitors £3

RINGMORE W.I.

Thurs 13th Feb 8 pm

"**Endurance. The Last Survivor**" -
Jackie Taylor - whose great uncle was
the last survivor

Ringmore WI Hall

members free - visitors £2

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

NINETEENTH HOLE

Introducing our New Captains

The Bigbury 2020 year started with our **Captains Drive-In** celebration, a highlight to start the year and always a most enjoyable occasion. And our four Captains were blessed with the weather on Saturday 4th January.

A large somewhat boisterous throng of members welcomed the new Captains to the first Tee; also awaiting them were a few challenges. First up for his drive was **Paul Kingwell**, the *Men's Captain*. He was adorned with various garb, accompanied with amusing tales. Nonetheless, Paul managed a good drive. Next up was **Jane Rickman**, the *Ladies Captain*. Jane has been a keen sports person all her life so was presented with an assortment of sporting gear and given the chance to hit her drive with any two of these! Even sporting a bit of an injury, Jane managed to pull off a reasonable drive (the one hit with a hockey stick wasn't too bad either). Our *Seniors Captain*, **Mike Heath**, took to the Tee next. Mike was suitably adorned and finally, took his T- shot wearing an extremely smart white dinner jacket. And it was a very good shot. Finally the Juniors Captain, Graham Smith, stepped up. Graham shook off any nerves and split the fairway with an absolutely cracking drive of some 195 yards.

Back in the Clubhouse, the 2020 Captains were invited to introduce their Charities for the year, as well as formally welcoming their Vice Captains. Paul's Charity for the year is Andy's Man Club, a support group for men which especially tackles the male suicide crisis. This is a relatively new Charity and you can find out more by visiting their Web Site at andysmanclub.co.uk. Jane has decided on both a local and a national Charity, the Kingsbridge Triangle Centre and Cancer Research, both Charities being close to Jane's heart. Mike and his seniors will continue to enthusiastically raise funds for our Devon Air Ambulance. Bigbury is proud of its charitable fund raising and this takes many guises throughout the year. Finally, each Captain spoke of how proud they were to be representing the club and leading its sections through the year, and their Vice Captains for 2020 will be Dave Moulding for the Men's Section, Dot Kenneth for the Ladies, and Keith Naylor for the Seniors. Again they look forward to supporting their Captain throughout the year.

And £1,000 for Devon Air Ambulance. Our outgoing 2019 Seniors Captain, Dave Bogue, so much enjoyed his final task for his year of office. Throughout the 2019

year, Dave received great support from his Committee, the Seniors and the wider community, with fund raising efforts for the **Devon Air Ambulance** Charity. A variety of events were enjoyed, leading to Dave being able to present a cheque for £1,000 to Rex Brown, the Charity's local representative. When Louise, the Devon Air Ambulance Part Time Fundraising Administrator, received the news of the donation she thanked the Bigbury Seniors so much, saying this was fantastic.

Want to play more Bridge?

If you enjoy playing Bridge, you may like to know that Bigbury is starting an **Improver's Bridge Club** on Tuesday afternoons, 1.30 to 4.00 pm. If you would like to know more, then please contact **Sally Watts** - sally.watts12@btinternet.com. Alternatively telephone **Marlene Johnson** on 07718 765411.

Marlene Johnson



Photograph: The 2020 Bigbury Golf Club Captains, left to right Mike, Paul, Jane and Graham



Please send us in your favourite recipes using locally sourced, seasonal ingredients for future editions of **BIGBURY BITES**

DANE & HILARY

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DANE – 07563110009

HILARY - 07746072749



CREWS THAT KEEP US CRUISING



Thank You from Kingston Fire Station

Last year the **Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service** published a document which proposed the closure of eight Fire Stations, the removal of appliances and changes to crewing arrangements at others. Under these proposals **Kingston Fire Station** was to close.

There was understandably a lot of concern and reaction to this from all areas of the community as this would directly affect response and resources available in a fire and rescue emergency.

Public consultation was invited and the response was overwhelmingly in favour of rejecting the proposed cuts. Amended proposals were put to the Fire Authority and these were voted upon and approved on the 10th January. The result of these amendments means that, for now, six Stations, including Kingston, were reprieved. One Station is being relocated and only one Station closed. Appliance and crewing arrangements were also amended to reduce their impact.

We at Kingston Fire Station are volunteers who passionately believe that we make a difference in an emergency not just to Kingston but to the whole locality. Our nominal fire ground also covers the Parishes of Bigbury and Ringmore as well as parts of Modbury and Aveton Gifford.

We also provide support and backup for adjacent Stations and the wider operations of the DSFRS and this past year has seen us attend incidents as far afield as Paignton, Tavistock and Dartmoor. The number of incidents we attended in 2019 was the greatest amount since 2009 and already we have had more shouts than this time last January!

We wish to thank all of you who have supported us during the consultation process with your written submissions, letters, e-mails, petitions, telephone calls, visits and good wishes. We are all genuinely humbled to know that we have your support and that you value what we stand for and what we do.

If you see us out and about between now and the end of March you will notice that we have a new RIV type appliance. This is on loan to us from Princetown and we have had to promise not to scratch it!

Michael Jarvis
Member of Volunteer Fire Crew
Kingston Fire Station



PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

BIGBURY
FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS
MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
6.30 - 7.30 PM
MEMORIAL HALL,
ST ANN'S CHAPEL

TALK ON FIRE PREVENTION BY
DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

SUPPLIER EXHIBITION DOMESTIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT

INFORMATION ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR KINGSTON FIRE CREW

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Going forward we realise we are a small crew and cannot guarantee 24/7 coverage 365 days a year.

Currently very few Fire Stations can guarantee coverage!

We desperately need new members to improve this situation and would welcome any interest in joining us. For more information please call:

Paul 810953
Michael 810735

Note from Editor:
Volunteers from Kingston Fire Crew will attend the Fire Safety Awareness Event on 10th February (as members of the public). You can ask them about what is involved in being a volunteer for the Fire Service.



www.afpsw.com

info@afpsw.com

01752 893639

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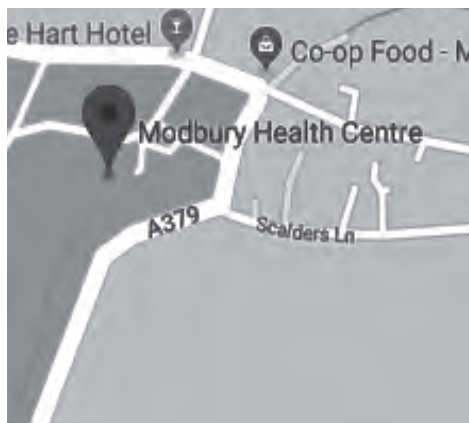
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Calls are **FREE** and so are home visits! Home is where most fire deaths happen and we would like to make sure you are safe. Our visits make a fire less likely to happen. They take just 30 minutes. **Please call** and don't be the next victim of fire.

firekills@dsfire.gov.uk Text info line: 07800 002 476 www.dsfire.gov.uk



Modbury Health Centre
Poundwell Meadow
Modbury PL21 0QL
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VISIT TO LADY ASTOR'S HOUSE

On a lovely 5th December afternoon sixteen members and friends of the Society met at the recently unveiled statue of Lady Astor on Plymouth Hoe. Here we were met by Steve, the Senior Mace Bearer to the Lord Mayor of Plymouth, who hosted our visit to 3 Elliot Terrace. With his font of knowledge, and explanation of the many artefacts, we spent several hours in the delightful building, which was used by Lady Astor during her time in Plymouth, and since donated by her to the City.

Lady Nancy Astor was of course the first woman to take a seat in Parliament, on the 1st December 1919, after a by-election caused by her husband Viscount Astor entering the House of Lords. Both were wealthy American expatriates (who were born on the same day) and moved in high social circles, as was very evident from the many photographs on display of royalty and other influential people over the years.

Despite their opposition to World War 2, Nancy and her husband Waldorf supported the war effort - and Cliveden, their country house, served as a hospital. She was MP for Plymouth Sutton for 26 years and was closely identified with the city as Mayoress during the war.

The artworks on display were largely maritime scenes of Plymouth, but two portraits of Lady Astor herself remain, including the famous scene of her being introduced to the House of Commons by Lloyd George.

Questions continued over tea and scones in the Drawing Room, and all agreed it was an unmissable experience. So much so that the Society has organised a repeat trip on 8th January for those who couldn't make it.

Peter Cook



Lady Astor (right)
3 Elliot Terrace (above)



Could you spare a few hours for the **Modbury Caring Befriending Service**? Or - perhaps you feel that you, yourself would benefit from a few hours a week from a Befriender? The giving and receiving of the gift of friendship is the fabric of a strong Community.

Find out more from the Befriending Coordinator, **Sheila Harrison. 07554 997140** or modburycaring@gmail.com. You can drop in to see her on Wednesdays from 11.00 - 12 noon at the Modbury Parish Office by the Co-op in Galpin Street, Modbury.



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WITH JILL

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BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL
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PILATES
 10.15 - 11.15
STRONG & STEADY
 11.30 - 12.10 + tea

TUESDAYS at
BURGH ISLAND CAUSEWAY
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AQUA FITNESS
 (Club members only)

WEDNESDAYS at
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PILATES
 9.15 - 10.15
STRONG & STEADY
 10.30 - 11.10 + tea

THURSDAYS at
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For more details, please call JILL on 01548 810651

FITNESS SO CLOSE TO HOME!

No classes during week starting Monday 17th February

SPONSORS SOUGHT!!

In May there is to be a concert in St Lawrence Church, details of which will be released in the next couple of months. This is part of the major fund-raising drive being undertaken for the **Tower and Bells Restoration** project at St Lawrence.

A portable toilet is being hired for this event and in order to maximise the profit from holding this event, a sponsor/sponsors for the cost of the hire (about £100) would be much appreciated.

There may even be someone or a firm out there able to provide the toilet directly!! Any help will be acknowledged obviously. If you can help with this request, please contact **Jill Gubbins** on 810651 or jill.gubbins@homecall.co.uk for more information.

Thank you very much!



THE BIGBURY QUILT

Designs by
Janet Farrage
Organisers
Karen Freeman & Angie Carson

NEXT MEETING
Tues 11th Feb & 10th March 2.30pm
Upper Granary, Easton
VOLUNTEERS WELCOME
Training, materials and patterns provided

SPONSORS for material costs please call Angie Carson 01548 810296

In Aid of the TOWER & BELL RESTORATION FUND
St Lawrence Church, Bigbury

ST LAWRENCE MATTERS

In December's Bigbury News, the first article under the above title commenced the saga of the restoration of the tower and bells with a well-known Donald Rumsfeld quote as a sub-title. This second report can announce that some 'unknowns' have now become 'knowns'!

The architect, **Julie Boulty** from a Totnes practice, inspected the tower and spire in early December and has been very busy – and very efficient – in putting together an initial works specification. A set of drawings are on display in the church to better understand the works involved. There are 3 stages envisioned:

Phase 1 involves:

- erecting scaffolding on the outside of the tower and spire.
- taking down the ringing room floor and ceiling to allow the removal of the bells and bell frame to a foundry. The mild steel bell frame has severely corroded where it sits in the damp masonry of the tower walls, and was deemed in a 2009 report to be 'dangerously weakened.' This corrosion can only have worsened since.
- re-pointing the masonry of the entire spire and parts of the tower with lime mortar to replace incorrect existing cement mortar – lime mortar is the traditional material as it allows for movement of the stones, whereas cement mortar cracks and thus allows water penetration. This gives us a deadline for the re-pointing work, as lime mortar cannot be applied when there is a risk of frost. Whilst the tower will never be totally waterproof due to the porous stone used in the church's construction, this re-pointing will vastly improve the current situation.
- replacing the lead sheeting and rotten wooden supports which form a gutter at

the base of the spire on the tower.

Phase 2 involves checking the bells, refurbishing the bell frame by galvanising it to be more water resistant, bringing the bells back and re-installing them.

Phase 3 involves re-instating the ceilings and floors previously removed and the system for ringing the bells.

On the financial front, submissions to grant providing charities are being prepared, one such application having been made just after Christmas. Whilst hoping for the best, we need to plan for the worst; perhaps £100,000 needs to come from our own resources. Currently there is about £25,000 available. Thus, we need funds and fund raisers. If you feel you can help, with ideas, help and/or money, please get in touch.

In the meantime, running alongside the church works, work is going ahead on drawing up the specification to restore the leaning pillar at the church gates. This is being funded by **Bigbury Parish Council** and the **Friends of St Lawrence**.

All offers of help, practical and financial, with this vital work to safeguard our Grade 2* listed church will be gratefully received by the **Parochial Council Building Sub Committee**:

Bryan Carson - 810296
Vic Gubbins - 810651.

Look out for the next chapter in the Bigbury News!

Vic Gubbins

The 'inSPIRED apPEAL'

for the Restoration of the Tower and Bells at St Lawrence!

St Lawrence needs YOU! Feedback from consultations over the Neighbourhood Plan indicated that our parish church is considered by many as an important part of the landscape and community of Bigbury Parish. Sadly, the church, a rare Grade 2* listed building, is now in need of major and vital work on the tower, spire and bells – please read the '**St Lawrence Matters**' articles for the latest updates on the restoration project. Equally sadly, LARGE amounts of money are required, hence this appeal for financial and practical help from all of us, residents and visitors, who love this area!

For the moment, I am 'co-ordinating' the fund-raising calendar, and events already


planned for this year are shown opposite; please keep an eye out for details closer to each event. There is also a list of fund-raising activities waiting to be put into action – and this is where you come in! If you, as a resident, visitor or business, have an idea in mind, or can offer a hand, facility, or sponsorship, or can donate money, please contact the Buildings Sub Committee (me, Bryan or Vic). We know it can seem like you are all always being asked for money for one thing or another, and everyone has their preferred charity, but it would be very sad if we can't achieve a successful outcome of this local project.

'£1 in the tin to let the bells ring!'
Nowadays £1 doesn't buy you much!

To start our fund-raising drive, here is a way in which a small contribution will result in a major boost for the **Tower & Bells Fund**. If every household in the parish put £1 each week of the year into a tin or jar at home, i.e. donated £52, over £20,000 would be raised. If every person in the parish put £1 each week of the year into a jar, that total could reach over £26,000! From such small actions, tall steeples can be repaired and peals of bells can ring!! Thank you so much for your anticipated support, look out for updates on progress made.

Jill Gubbins
01548 810651
jill.gubbins@homecall.co.uk

South Hams Filling Station
THURSDAY 20th Feb 7.30pm
 Bigbury Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel



Make friends - Eat cake - Sing your heart out
 Enjoy some peace - Find out what that missing thing is!

This months talk

"The Importance of Sound Doctrine"

£ FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE'S CALENDAR 2020

We have put together a calendar for 2020 in aid of the Friends of St. Lawrence's, Bigbury. As we live in this idyllic spot overlooking the church I have taken numerous photos over the years. Together with Richard's selection of quotes and witty ditties, and a couple of photos thanks to Helen's nephew, here is our visual tribute to St. Lawrence's. Copies available in the church, from Holywell Stores, or from us at silchestercellars@talktalk.net.

Alice Taylor

£ ST LAWRENCE CHURCH FUND RAISING 2019

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING
 December 2019 £770

CHARITY AQUA £88

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD £205

FESTIVE CONCERT (Dec19) £40

£ TOWER & BELLS FUND RAISING EVENTS 2020

WED 20th MAY
 Thomas Bowes' Bach Pilgrimage violin concert in the church

WED 15th JULY
 Victorian Tea Party

MON or WED 10th or 12th AUGUST
 Summer Fete

FRI 30th OCTOBER
 Friends of St Lawrence Musical Evening in the church

NOV - DEC
 Community Christmas Card

WED 2nd DECEMBER
 Community Coffee Morning



Happy New Year!

When you read this, Christmas festivities will be behind us and a New Year will be stretching out ahead. The New Year can be a time of looking back over the year that is behind and remembering the joys and the sorrows, the goals achieved, and the dreams and hopes that have been fulfilled, as well as the problems solved and the lessons that have been learned in the process. But the New Year also gives us an opportunity to look forward in expectation and hope to the year ahead, to dream new dreams, and to make new resolutions, which we think will improve the quality of our lives.

For the church this is also a time of looking forward as on the twelfth day after Christmas we celebrate Epiphany when we follow the journey of the wise men to Bethlehem. These wise men were magi, or soothsayers from Persia, who were looking forward in expectation and hope to finding the location of the young child, who, according to their studies, would be the new king of Israel. They believed that this child was destined to change the lives of many people. The Bible tells us that they followed a new star in the sky that led them to Bethlehem where they found the infant Jesus, not in a palace, but in a stable where he lay on a bed of straw in a manger. There they knelt down and worshipped, offering the gifts they had brought, gold, frankincense and myrrh, which symbolized Jesus as king, the Holy One of God, and the one who would give his life to take away the sins of humanity.

The fact that God had chosen to speak to the wise men, who were not Jews, through a star, the language that only they were able to understand, shows us that Jesus came to earth for all people. His commission was to reach out to everyone and reveal the universal love of God, and maybe one of our resolutions for the New Year could be that we will take every opportunity to reflect that love to the people we meet in our daily lives.

Joyce Howitt

Vicar: The Revd Matt Rowland (830260: every day except (normally) Saturday)
 Readers: Joyce Howitt (01364 73370), Michael Tagent (810520)
 Website: www.modburyteam.org



SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

	Aveton Gifford 11.00 am	Bigbury 11.00 am	Kingston 9.30 am	Modbury 9.30 am	Ringmore 9.30 am
2 nd	Sunday Worship	Communion*	Communion	Communion	Sunday Worship
9 th	Communion	Sunday Worship	Sunday Worship	Communion* (8 am) All Age Service	Sunday Worship
16 th	Lay led Service	Sunday Worship	Communion (11 am)	Communion	Village Service
23 rd	Communion	Evening Prayer (4 pm)	Village Service	Sunday Worship	Communion

* Service in traditional language.



LETTER FROM AMERICA

Many Charterland residents will be aware that Jo and I have moved to the USA for a few years as we continue to ‘follow the flag’ – this time guided by Jo’s Royal Navy career rather than my time in the Army.

In 2014, I spent a year in Kabul and I promised myself that I’d write an account of my time there - a Year in Provence maybe, or more accurately a Year in the Hindu Kush! Needless to say, a busy deployment got in the way and I didn’t manage to put pen to paper. So, I found myself wondering if I might make amends by sending some Letters from America. Each focussing on aspects of life and other observations from the other side of the Pond. So here goes....

Letter #1 - Language

“Two countries separated by a common language”, was the famous quote attributed to George Bernard Shaw, Winston Churchill or Oscar Wilde, depending on what you read. Similarly, the English philologist and phonetician, Henry Sweet, predicted that within 100 years (of the early 20th Century) American and British English would be mutually unintelligible. I’m not sure that the language divergence has been quite that cataclysmic, but it is noticeable. Just this morning I asked someone of there was a recycling skip nearby only to be greeted by a blank look... of course I meant a *dumpster*!

Early English-speaking American colonists were Brits looking for a better life. Four hundred years ago, most colonists were opposed to the Church of England and couldn’t make a living in Britain for one reason or another – they were not the cream of society. However, once the tobacco boom caught on, American colonies became more attractive to wealthy individuals. The colonies still needed servants and workers, a demand which eventually manifested itself in the form of slavery. It should therefore come as no surprise that the early American linguistic landscape was strongly influenced by various dialects from across the social strata.

Along with pronunciation, word-use in the two countries began to differ. Bill Bryson, in **Made in America: An Informal History of the English Language in the United States**, lists a number of words that the English have left in the ‘trash’, but Americans have continued to use, including; *cabin, bug, hog, junk, jeer, hatchet, slick, molasses, cesspool, trash, chore, and mayhem*. American uses of ‘gotten’ as a past participle of get; *fall* to mean autumn; and *mad* to mean angry;

came from England, but fell out of favour in the native land.

American English also had other influences that were not present in England: a new landscape, new animals, and new people – not just those indigenous people who were already there when the Europeans arrived, but immigrants from continental Europe, as well as African slaves brought over to work on the plantations. Spanish loaned many words such as *canyon, coyote, mesa, and tornado*; French handed over words such as *prairie, bureau, and levee*; Dutch gave words such as *bluff, boss, and waffle*; German gave *pretzel, sauerkraut, and nix*; the African languages of the slaves gave words such as *goober, jambalaya, and the synonyms gumbo and okra*. Later immigrant groups brought still more words. Many words were also taken (usually somewhat altered) from the indigenous cultures, e.g. *moose, raccoon, caribou, opossum, skunk, hickory, pecan, squash, and toboggan*.

English was also altered to suit need. Some things were named using existing words for passably similar things: *laurel, beech, walnut, hemlock, robin, blackbird, lark, swallow, and hedgehog*. Following American independence, other words were pressed into service, such as; *Congress, Senate, and Assembly*. Some things were named with new compounds: *rattlesnake, bluegrass, bobcat, bullfrog*; and later, as the need arose, *sidewalk, skyscraper, and drug-store*. Words for things invented after American independence have often differed on opposite sides of the Atlantic: does your car have a boot and bonnet or a *trunk* and a *hood*? Do you need a skip or a *dumpster*??!

Early British visitors sometimes wrote of how little the dialect changed from place to place as they travelled through the colonies. America was also settled by people from all over Britain, not just one region, and they were quite mobile, which had a further homogenising effect. But the USA is a large country, and groups of immigrants from different countries have given distinct flavours to different regions. Once people settled in place, their speech started localising. Sometimes regional pronunciations of words made their way back into the standard version of English as different words: *varmint* from vermin, *cuss* from curse, and *gal* from girl.

Cosmetically, the most obvious differences are the spellings. Some did not catch on, but standardisation in early American dictionaries helped others to be standard in America and, consequently, rejected in England – notably the shift of words such as colour to *color*, naturalise to *naturalize*, centre to *center*, defence to *defense*,

connection to *connexion* to, and checker and mask to *chequer* and *masque* etc.

For that matter, while many Brits are quick to denounce Americanisms where they see them (even ones that came from England first), quite a few words of American invention have been adopted into British English, including *belittle, caucus, prairie, cloudburst, blizzard, cafeteria, cocktail, talented, reliable, and influential*.

The commerce of words, as of goods and culture, has continued apace across the Atlantic. Traffic between the colonies and in particular, London, has always helped keep American English from diverging too much. London remained the centre of English culture as the American colonies developed, and Americans with money and connections regularly crossed the Atlantic. The areas of the US where more distinctive dialects of English are spoken are well away from the halls of power, and their speech is typically stigmatised in the US culture today. New York and other monied cities – and the great universities – have maintained versions of English not so different from the educated British standard.

And that is an important reason why American English is still American English. Money talks, and the US has not seen it as worthwhile to declare a distinct language, since American English, like the American dollar, is the current dominant force globally, whether you like it or not.

‘See you later, alligatorin a while, crocodile’.

C

POETS CORNER

Spring

Daffodils are blooming
Summer is looming.
Robins sit on branches and
sing their lovely song.
The Bluebells and primroses
brighten up the day.
May everybody who sees them
be happy and gay.

Danny Grace



Murmuration of starlings

We have been mesmerised this winter by the stunning aerobatics of the starlings' murmurations over Burgh Island. Their magical, sweeping unison has been a sight to treasure. The murmuration season runs from about October to March.

Martin & Annika captured some magnificent videos of the starlings' exuberant soars, swirls and dives against a stunning sunset. Did you see the video on **Spotlight South West**? Thanks the photo on our front cover. Awesome heart-shaped movement!

The UK population of about 1.8 million starlings are resident here all year round and starlings one of our most common garden birds. However, they are seriously declining elsewhere in Europe and are now Red Listed. Starlings come into conflict with farmers in the autumn when they feed on crops and cattle feeding troughs. The droppings produced by a large roost can be an unpleasant and a contaminant.

The RSPB explain about murmurations
"As dusk arrives, the starlings set off for their communal roost in one of the most staggering natural spectacles of all. Flocks arrive from all directions, gathering in the skies above their roost sites. As the numbers reach into the tens and hundreds of thousands, the 'murmurations' (the name for a flying flock of starlings) take on incredible shapes in the sky, contracting and expanding as one flock merges into another, and taking on a life of their own; swirling back and forth in ever more complex and beautiful patterns"

Louise Wainwright



Charterlands Chatter 

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BEFORE THURSDAY 6PM
(WEEK BEFORE THE GIG)
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**TUES 14TH JAN —
JOHN SHILLITO'S
RIVIERA RAMBLERS**

**TUES 4TH FEB —
TWO COUNTIES
JAZZ BAND**

 @kingsbridgejazzclub 

Our Bio Blog correspondent, Fiona Barker, reveals all about wiggly woos!.

There's A Worm...

There's a worm at the bottom of my garden, and his name is Wiggly Woo.

He wiggles all night and wiggles all day apparently. And thank goodness he does! Common names for earthworms include dew-worm, rain-worm and, rather creepily, night-crawler. The scientific name for bigger ones with a distinct saddle (or clitellum if you want to sound clever) is megadriles which sounds much cooler than the literal translation 'big worm'. I am definitely going to be saying 'oh, there's a megadrile' next time I see one. Let's start with some facts.

Worms breathe through their skin. They have a long muscular body divided into segments. Food goes in one end and poo (or worm casts) come out of the other. They are basically a long stomach in a tube. They don't have eyes but they do have basic light sensors in their skin, mostly at the front of the worm. They're hermaphrodites; they have both male and female sexual organs. Their reproductive activities are fascinating but quite esoteric. If you are interested, believe me, the internet can provide all the detail you will ever need!

Earthworms writhe about when you pick them up because they react to the dehydrating effect of the salt in your skin. It's a reflex triggered by a sudden change in pressure caused by the salt. The part of the body in contact with the skin moves away. This protects the worm because salt is toxic to them. So, keeping contact to a minimum is probably a good idea, especially for the worm!

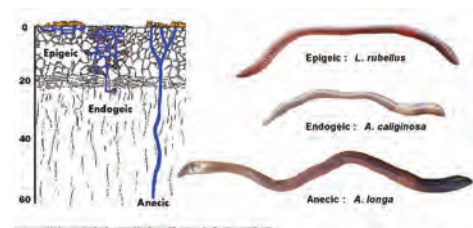
Earthworms can be divided into three main groups depending where they live. First there are non-burrowing worms that live in leaf litter or compost. They munch away on decomposing organic matter. Then there are the soil dwelling worms that feed, burrow and poo underground. They create horizontal burrows in the upper 10-30cm of soil. Finally, there are worms that make deep vertical burrows which they use to visit the surface to obtain plant material for food, such as leaves.

The lowly earthworm is preyed upon by birds, snakes, mammals and other invertebrates like beetles, slugs and snails. This natural predation is part of the cycle of life but human activity has also had an impact on earthworm numbers. The use of nitrogenous fertilisers tends to create acidic soil conditions which are fatal to earthworms. Globally, certain earthworm populations have been devastated by a

movement away from organic production and the spraying of synthetic fertilisers and biocides with at least three species now listed as extinct but many more endangered. But you can help your local population by composting organic matter in your garden and then applying the composted material as a surface mulch on a regular basis.

In return, your earthworms will aerate the soil with their burrows and extract and concentrate nutrients from the decaying matter and make them available for plants in their casts. This really improves the fertility of the soil. In conditions where humus is plentiful, the weight of casts produced may be greater than 4.5 kg per worm per year! So, let's hope there are lots of Wiggly Woos or even megadriles at the bottom of your garden!

Fiona Barker

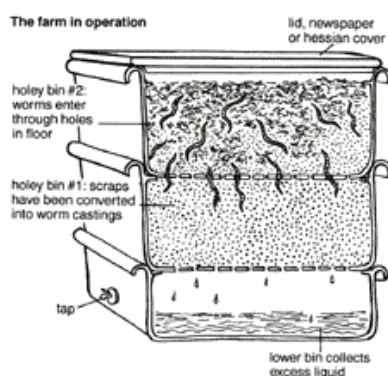


BLACK GOLD

If you are lucky enough to have access to manure from stables or muck from cattle shelters, you may have been composting it over the last few months before putting it into your garden to help promote healthy growth. In just six months, we have an extraordinary number of 'wiggly woos' in our pile of cow muck and straw from a nearby farm. These 'red wrigglers', or litter worms are the non-burrowing type that Fiona describes in her article.

The vermi-fertiliser they have helped to process has now been moved around the roses before they have really started to produce new growth. We are hoping to see even more roses this year. The chickens and our friendly garden robins are also happy to see the odd wiggly woo on their plates.

If you are preparing for the **2020 Bigbury Produce Show**, you may want to make some **vermi-fertiliser** using red wrigglers. It is possible to make your own solid and liquid fertiliser with the help of these litter worms by collecting their 'poo' in a worm bin. Worm bins are best placed outside the kitchen door as they will be fed with small quantities of chopped vegetable waste and coffee grounds etc.



It is an easy structure to make and involves creating a tier of three boxes, as shown in the diagram above. The top box has a lid to protect the worms from drying out and from predation. In the base of the top box are a number of worm-sized holes which allow any worms to move from the older, middle box, full of worm casts, into the top feeding box where you regularly place small amounts of chopped kitchen waste. Never put more kitchen waste into the top feeding box until the worms have eaten what is there - otherwise it will begin to breakdown before it is eaten and excreted by the worms. The end product of the worm bin is worm

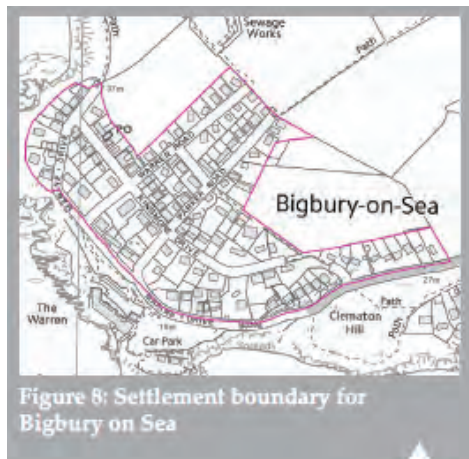
poo - not compost. This is fertiliser and should not be used as a substrate for growing plants as it will scorch the plant.

As the worms produce more poo, the top box will gradually fill up with poo and can be lifted off the top and used in the garden as solid vermi fertiliser. The red wrigglers can be sieved out of the poo and used to start a new vermi-fertiliser unit (or fed to the chickens). To start a new box just add another empty feeding box on top of the full box and allow the worms to move up into the top tray - through those little worm holes in the base of the new 'top' tray.

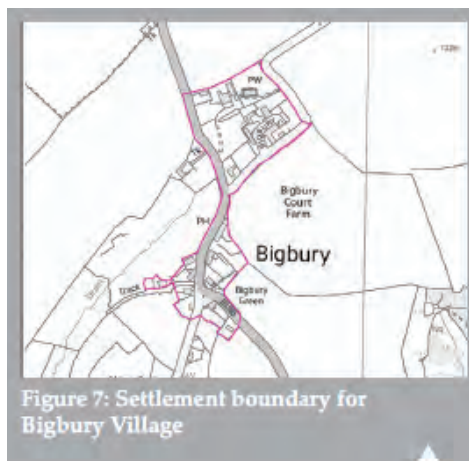
The middle tray will also have holes in the base. The unit will be irrigated once per week and the leachate drains through the solid poo in the trays and into the lower reservoir (which has no holes). This is where the liquid vermi-fertiliser collects. A tap can be added to help drain the reservoir to use the liquid fertiliser in the garden. It needs to be diluted 1:10 before use to avoid scorch.

Louise Wainwright

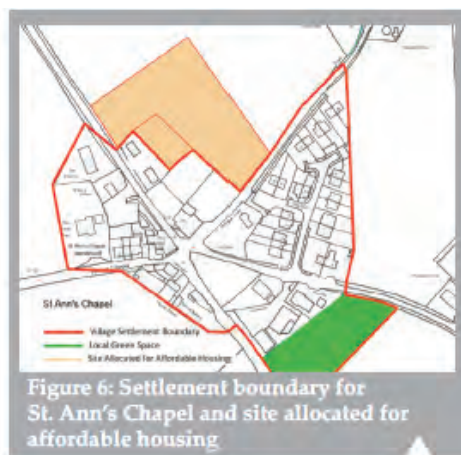
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BIGBURY DRUMS

FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY

Water, water everywhere

For the purposes of this month's piece for Bigbury News I'm not actually talking about everywhere of course. I'm really thinking of gardens. We think of our own gardens as little green oases and, indeed, that is what they are. Our gardens provide precious havens and corridors for wildlife which is being increasingly squeezed out of former natural habitats. So how can we make our little open spaces as appealing as possible?

One very easy way is to add water. In that respect it is just like Angel Delight (other whipped desserts are available). With the simple addition of H₂O you can turn your back yard into a chocolate (or perhaps butterscotch) mousse of loveliness for wildlife. It is possible that I may have stretched the metaphor too far... let us return to the basics. No garden is too small to include water. Any water-tight vessel will do. I had a quick look on my favourite local recycling facebook page and turned up the following free items that

could be used to hold water... a saucepan, a pull along plastic trailer, a bin, an old BBQ. All things that could be used to hold water in even the smallest garden.

Whether you choose to introduce still or moving water, it will attract wildlife like bees to the proverbial honeypot. Even a simple shallow bird bath with bring the sky into your garden, along with our avian friends who will use it to drink and spruce themselves up. Consider having some ground level water and also something raised as this will attract different species.

I also like the idea of creating a dripper by making a small hole in a plastic bottle and suspending it above the reservoir so that it drips gradually during the day. Remember to refill it regularly though. A shady spot near foliage that birds can retreat to if they feel threatened will further increase the popularity of your watering hole.

If you have room, I thoroughly recommend thinking a bit bigger and considering a wildlife pond. I will admit that

this involves more work. But you will earn your Angel Delight (apologies, I am a child of the '70s). Even a small pond, if carefully planned, will quickly attract insects, amphibians and birds. There is lots of advice out there on planning a pond.

You will need to consider size (big enough to sustain an ecosystem but not dominate your garden), where to put it (a shady spot but away from direct leaf drop), safety, shape (include plenty of shallow areas so that amphibians and other animals can come and go easily) and surrounding planting (for beauty but also to increase wildlife appeal).

The team at **Devon Wildlife Trust** will be happy to advise and you can even come and get a taster of what wildlife to expect by joining in one of their pond dipping sessions.

Fiona Barker

We are coming up to the months when frogs and toads begin to lay eggs in water. Frogs lay eggs in large gelatinous rafts, whereas toads lay them in long strings. Toads have shorter, dumpy legs - usually shorter than the length of their body because they crawl or make short hops. Frogs have longer back legs because they leap further than toads and their feet are usually webbed because they spend more time in the water than toads.

Louise Wainwright

BIGBURY TREE PEOPLE

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Amphibian Identification

@Team4Nature

Common frog

Adults 6-7 cm. Smooth skin, which appears moist.

Coloration variable, includes brown, yellow and orange. Some females have red markings on lower body.

Usually has a dark 'mask' marking behind the eye.

Breeding male

Grey/pale blue throat.

Thick front legs.

Dark (nuptial) pad on inner toes of the front feet.



Markings also variable, including varying amounts of black spots and stripes.

Young froglets look like smaller versions of the adults.

Spawns are laid in gelatinous clumps.

Common toad

Adults 5-9 cm. Rough skin. Brown with darker markings. Less commonly, some individuals are very dark, almost black, others are brick-red.

Breeding pair

Males smaller than females. Breeding males can also be distinguished by dark (nuptial) pads on innermost two toes of the front feet.

Makes small hops rather than jumps of common frog.

Toadlets transforming from the tadpole stage are often very dark in colour.

Toad spawn is laid in gelatinous strings, wrapped around vegetation. Less conspicuous than common frog spawn.

Juveniles are similar colours to adults, including brick-red.

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BIGBURY WATCH



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BEWARE SCAM CALLERS

Several Bigbury residents report scam callers pretending to be from BT. They received an automated message from an English female voice, saying their internet connection was being disconnected due to hackers on the line.... press 1 to speak to BT....

The Bigbury resident then **HUNG UP immediately** and checked the number that came up on their phone display with the **Scam Alert Centre**. The incoming number was: **07731 216216**. It was listed as a 'dangerous number'.

Later the same day, the Bigbury resident had another call - this time it appeared to be an international number but it was a Birmingham number **0121 2855257**. Because the resident had their phone on answer-phone - the caller hung up. When the number was checked - it too was a reported scam caller.

If you get an unusual phone call, do not be afraid of simply hanging up the phone. You do not have to say anything. Just leave your phone on answer phone if you are concerned. Check the number by calling the Scam Alert Centre:

Contact our Bigbury Watch Team - **Eamonn and Linda Brynes**.
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Dear Fellow Coasters,

A Good New Year to all of you. Here we are now in the 20s, although I should imagine they'll be boring rather than roaring. It's been interesting of late, hasn't it? Burgh is open during January!! All this wet and windy weather, forecast for us by our humble waiters. These hapless creatures always had an uncanny ability to forecast any coming weather. They work hard, foraging for plates and then carrying them, often several times larger than their body size, to the still room to be cleaned. Foraging for plates is a dangerous business, because the waiters run the risk of being caught by surprise from a big guest. This would ruin their hard work. However, when bad weather is imminent, these hard working creatures go into overdrive and speed up their work schedule, collecting as many plates as possible.

The island carries on these days, sometimes without a crime novelist in sight. As one of them once said, *"The best of an island is once you get there. You can't go any further. You've come.....to the end..."*. A bit obvious if you ask me but I suppose she had a point. I think the one with the astrologist husband said that.

In 1908, fresh from her skirmish in Hyde Park with Asquith, the suffragette Emily Pankhurst came here. It was an awkward check in. Still chained to a section of railings, Maintenance Mark did his best with an acetylene blowtorch but it was no use. We had to stand her up in a corner of the Palm Court with a specially lengthened straw for her cocktail. Worse was to come when we tried to get her into the lift but we managed.

In 1972, little David Bowie visited. Too chatty for my liking. With all that red hair, we thought he was Welsh. Marta, our Head Housekeeper, had a full time job washing and ironing his one piece of clothing: a one piece knitted swimming cossie with an arm and a leg missing. It probably belonged to his Auntie Viv. She was the mad one. I mean, imagine that turning up on your doorstep. *"He's come about the spare room. Shall we let him in?"*. Before David left, we did play a cruel prank on him by locking him in the back bar of the Pilchard. With its high counter, he couldn't reach the han-

McBAR'S JARS

dle to get out. What a chuckle. I'll bet you all the tea in China to a bad egg he never made it in the music industry. You see? You can't have it all.

Anyway I digress. A thought occurred to me as I was finishing my Sole a la Jeanette down at the Oyster Shack on Christmas Day. We haven't had snow yet so to get us in the mood, I propose to you my White Bombshell;
Add ice into a shaker. Then add 50ml single cream; 20ml melted white chocolate; 50ml Remy Martin cognac; 25ml Grand Marnier and 25ml White Crème de Cacao. Shake this and strain into a coupe glass. Voila!

Don't have any more than three. To my eternal dismay, I did. My drinking friend John, turned out to be a tax inspector and knew I'd been secretly defrauding the Inland Revenue for years by not declaring

the money I'd been making from all these late night puppet shows I'd been putting on in the bar. Done for tax evasion, false accounting and cheating and also 18 charges, dating back to 1985 and involving over £700,000 - with interest. I also had to admit to John that I had £300,000 under my bed. "It made me feel safe", was my feeble excuse. Me? A legitimate barman such as myself and a pillar of society? An expert decoder of the string writing of the Hopi Indians? Banged up? Mind you, I believe in karma too. It appears John lost his job and was last seen driving an X38 bus at Bittaford.

That's enough from me again my friends. More than enough, if the truth be told. Until we meet again. Fare Thee Well

Your Long Suffering Barman,
Gary McBar xxx



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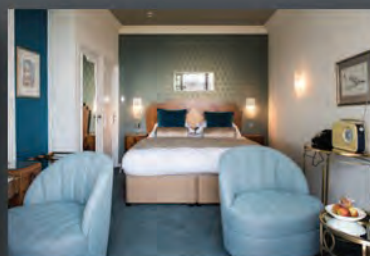
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BIGBURY ARTISTS

Art for Goodness Sake

There is a lot of artistic talent out there in Bigbury and nearby parishes. Can we muster up enough artistic energy to have an exhibition in the Memorial Hall next Spring?

Is there anyone out there who might like to organise a club for artists and get people together regularly to share visions, colour and company?

Please use Bigbury Drums to promote any events of this nature. Contact the Editor

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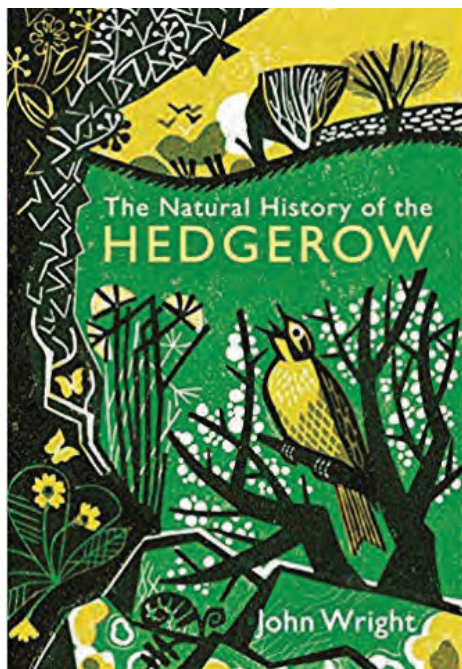
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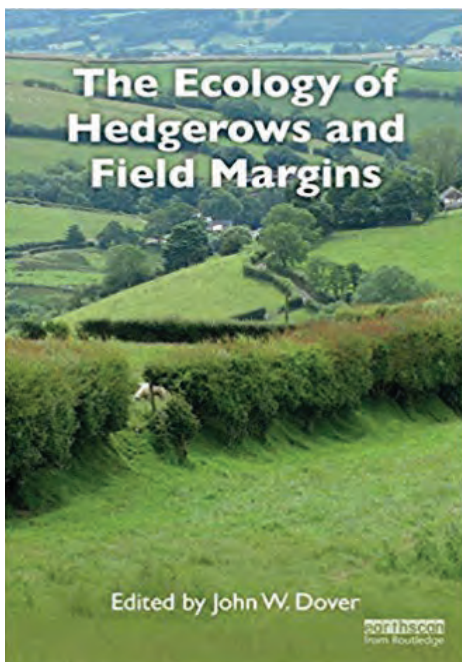


River Cottage Handbook No.7



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SHDC DECLARE CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY

In June 2019, the Council agreed a Climate Change & Biodiversity Emergency

The Council will now collaborate with Climate Change agencies along with Devon Councils, including Devon County and Plymouth City, to address the emergencies.

Agreement was reached to develop an action plan which will outline how the Council will meet, or exceed, the UN's intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) carbon reduction recommendations.

This will include an assessment on whether the 2030 target date will be practical. The assessment, to be presented to Council within six months, will also look at concerns about global species and habitat loss raised by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

A politically balanced Working Group will be established by the end of August led by the Leader, **Cllr Judy Pearce, Lead Executive Member for Climate Change**. At their first meeting, the Working Group will consider setting up a

Citizens' Assembly

and to bring a recommendation to the next Council meeting on **26 September 2019**

The Council will also take steps to ensure **developers improve biodiversity within their development plans and to avoid, where possible, any impact to wildlife**. Or, as a last resort, to carefully mitigate against any impact, in agreement with the Joint Local Plan Policy.

Cllr Hilary Bastone, Deputy Leader of South Hams District Council, said: "It's important to have a clear plan of action about how to deal with the Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency in an achievable timescale."

Bigbury News is in contact with SHDC to obtain an update on progress and will ask questions about what this means for Bigbury and its residents.

WATCH THIS SPACE

KEEP OUT

Did you know that any items that are put into the clear and blue sacks that we can't RECYCLE have to be removed and thrown away? This is bad for the environment and a WASTE of your Council Tax.

Below are the top 5 offenders!

PIZZA BOXES
Food residue and grease left in pizza boxes makes them a useless addition to the recycling sacks.

CRISP PACKETS & SWEET WRAPPERS
These items are made up of a combination of different materials and are therefore very difficult to recycle.

BLACK PLASTICS & FILM LIDS
We cannot recycle black plastics, such as meat or ready meal trays, film lids and cling film.

DIRTY RECYCLING
Please ensure all food and drink containers are thoroughly washed or they will not be recycled.

TEABAGS & FOOD SCRAPS
Please put all food scraps in your food caddy or brown bin as even a small amount of food waste can contaminate a full sack of recycling.

We appreciate the time it takes to sort your recycling and waste each week, and thank you for your continued effort.

South Hams recycles

Recycling Collections 2019/20

Recycling & brown bin week
Blue sacks Clear sacks Brown bin

Remember to put your waste out by 7.00am on your collection day.

Grey bin week
Refuse - no food, garden or recycling

For further information visit www.southhams.gov.uk

You can now request recycling sacks and food caddies, report a missed collection and locate recycling banks in your area online. You can also request an assisted or clinical waste collection and order a bulky waste service.

Blue Sack
mixed paper & card newspapers & magazines cardboard cartons
✓ Fold large cardboard and place beside sack.

Clear Sack
plastic bottles with lids on food tins & drink cans empty aerosols foil
✓ Rinse cans, wash & squash plastic bottles.
✗ No other plastics, trays, wraps, yogurt pots and plastic bags.

Brown Bin
food waste garden waste
✗ No cardboard.
✗ No plastics, soil or rubble.

A few properties cannot accommodate bins and may require seagull proof sacks for black sack storage.

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BIGBURY STORIES



Another Xmas has passed. Gifts have been opened. Children have, hopefully, been surprised. When I was young, a long anticipated gift was a bicycle.

Unfortunately, Xmas that year was hard for my parents and alternative gifts came. But the bicycle was definitely promised for my birthday in a couple of months. I had already gone through two, possibly three, tricycles. The last of which had a chain drive to the rear wheels so it could at least handle trips to the village. It was still very slow, hardly able to maintain Mum's walking pace.

When the bicycle arrived it was an orange coloured Raleigh with twenty four inch wheels and the distinctive chrome dimples on the front forks that were a feature of Raleigh bicycles. Dad, being a police constable, insisted on all the legalities so I also

got battery operated front and rear lights. I'm not sure of the current English law but in those days bicycles were considered road traffic and had to be equipped with front and rear lights even during daylight operation. It had a Brook's saddle and Dad had included a small saddle bag with a puncture kit and three small tyre levers, although I would not have been able to fix any puncture without help.

Training took a short while. After the driveway, Dad ran behind me as we went up the road from the house to the stile for the footpath at the top of the hill. I was good to go.

My first solo trip was to be to the village. Dad impressed on me that I always had to ride on the same side of the road as any traffic and also always yield to any traffic. That was the law then. The likelihood of finding any traffic was minimal at that time of year. I got to the top of the hill and slowly started down the other side towards the rear entrance to the church. Then I heard the sound of lorry behind me and it sounded fast.

By the entrance to the rear driveway into the church was a very uneven road repair.

I turned my head to see where the lorry was and that was it. Disaster in the form of the dreaded 'speed wobble'! Still worried about the lorry, I remember heading for the hedge and hitting a telephone pole. Then I heard the lorry in front of me. It had been on the back road all the time and had not been behind me.

The bicycle could not be ridden as the handle bars had twisted and had to be straightened. I also had a large lump developing on my forehead and knew that I needed help. I pushed the bike down the hill and went to the first place likely to have a telephone - **The Royal Oak**.

The woman who answered the door took care of everything and called my mother. The lump on my forehead was not that unusual. I had had several lumps by this age and Mum knew that if the lump came outwards it was alright and that I only needed to see a doctor when it didn't form a lump. Dad straightened the handle bars and the bicycle was otherwise undamaged.

David Ellis



I always await with great eagerness the arrival of "Bigbury Drums" on my man's computer. Apart from the inestimable joy of seeing one's name and thoughts in print, (Rusty, The Voice of Reason in case you hadn't noticed), I additionally benefit from its continual drip, drip, drip, of seriously GREAT ideas for my lifelong pursuit of Self Actualisation. Take, for instance the December edition:

I read in this that there exists a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. As a responsible living canine, and a resident of this community, I have therefore been researching the possibility of standing for election. There seem to be no obvious obstacles to this and I could certainly offer to serve my constituents faithfully and with twice as many feet on the ground as a human.

In the recent General Election I read a statement by one pundit that " You could put a blue rosette on any Jack Russell and it would always win a safe Tory seat". Well! I of course am no Jack Russell but I do live with one. She is devoid of reason, unlike myself, and I venture to suggest that if she could get elected so easily, my own progress should be a no brainer. And of course The South Hams has just returned a Tory MP. (No pejorative comparisons made between Gary Streeter and the JR family of course!)

THE VOICE of REASON

Then of course there is the election to replace Mr Corbyn, the self appointed champion of the Working Man. He should have broadened his appeal: "What about the working dog?" I simply ask the question because to be beaten by a Jack Russell....is surely the ultimate indignity.

I therefore declare my interest and availability for election to the Parish Council position. The people of Bigbury will benefit both from bark and bite, and I should feel privileged to be able to introduce and seek legislation to ensure delivery of my Feline Moderation Policies, to which I have referred in previous contributions to this organ

Finally I am taken by the Editor's reference to holding another referendum. Esteemed Louise, I know you are busy-what with your bugs, hoglets, chickens and your other worthy pursuits, but had you not noticed that we have just had one of these?

The last one seemed to make everybody cross, which can hardly be the purpose. But what do they actually DO? Or are they a kind of human diversion activity? If bored with life - have a referendum forget your troubles by inventing a few more.

Surely there must be more to them than that? Although when one sees the antics

of politicians I simply say if you want law and order find a police DOG!

Happy New Year!

Rusty



Rusty the Kelpiex



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This is Christmas

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Danny Grace



Erger Tuck's

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BEACH BANTER

SWIMMING EVENTS 2020

The **Outdoor Swimming Society** organise several annual events near Bigbury. Full details can be found on their website. Tickets sell out very quickly and some events are already sold out. They are an fun spectacle if you cannot join in.

www.outdoorswimmingsociety.com/oss-events-2020

BANTHAM BOOMERANG

3rd July

The Bantam Boomerang swim is a new swim for 2020: a 7-10km swim on the Avon Estuary in Devon, taking place on a Friday afternoon with a BBQ afterwards.

SUNRISE SWOOSH

4th July

The Sunrise Swoosh is a gentle 6km swim down the Avon Estuary, with a "swoosh" at the end. Swimmers are invited to join us in 2020 for an early morning dip, making their way to Bantam Beach as the sun rises. Water is typically 14-17°C, and swimmers usually take between 90 minutes and 2 hours to complete the swim. Sunrise Swoosh standard swim entries and charity entries are now sold out. **Mini Swoosh** tickets are now available through the Sunrise Swoosh event page.

OTHER EVENTS

ROUND BURGH ISLAND SWIM

20th September

Organised by the Chestnut Appeal Burgh Island Swim. The Burgh Island swim is suitable for those who can swim a mile in the pool and have experience of Open Water Swimming and be confident swimming in various sea conditions. Registration for the swim is £30. Your entry fee covers the cost of organising the event, but it's the money you raise that helps Prostate Cancer patients and their families across Devon and Cornwall.

BEAT THE TIDE

10th May

Organised by the Flete Estate, Mothecombe, Devon (PL81LB). There are 3 races, a Woodland Trail 8.5 mile race, a 15.5 Long half-Marathon and a Long marathon distance race of 28.5 miles.

The marathon involves two estuary crossings, one at Burgh Island and the final one Racing The Tide at 19.9 miles. over the Erme Estuary before finishing with a seaview at picturesque Mothecombe. The 15.5 mile half-marathon involves racing the tide at the Erme Estuary 8 miles into the race. Start time 2:20pm. The 8.5 mile race is within the private Estate on beautiful woodland trails but still races The Tide at mile 8. Start time 2:20pm.



*The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea-green boat,
They took some honey, and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy, my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"*

*Pussy said to the Owl, "You elegant fowl!
How charmingly sweet you sing!
O let us be married! too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?"
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the Bong-Tree grows
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood
With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.*

*"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling
Your ring?" Said the Piggy, "I will."
So they took it away, and were married next day
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.
They dined on mince, and slices of quince,
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,
They danced by the light of the moon,
The moon,
The moon,
They danced by the light of the moon.*

Edward Lear



BEACH BANTER

Here at **Discovery** we've started the year by hitting the ground running, planning lots of exciting things for 2020 - the year where surfing becomes an Olympic sport, so it's never been a better time to give it go.

We've recently launched our new website, so you'll find all the information about courses and all our news on there. The **Surf School** is open, so we're available for lessons and kit hire most days. If you're keen to pop in, just give us a call before you head down to the beach as the shop is open on ad-hoc basis until we're firmly in the swing of the Spring/Summer.

Surf Club has started the year strongly with many keen and talented children hitting the waves with us for the last couple of Saturdays. It's great to see so many dedicated young surfers donning the layers of neoprene to join friends and work on their surf skills while having loads of fun. We're looking forward to working with all of our special groups again this year, like the **Wave Project**, who will be surfing with us come April.

We've generally got **Beginner Group** lessons available on Saturdays, and will also be trying to get our volunteered 'silver surfers' out there too - so if you're **Over 60** and keen to get in with like-minded people join our mailing list and we'll plan a lesson in the Springtime. The shop will be open everyday in the **February Half Term** for lessons and kit hire as well.

As ever, we've teamed up with the **South Devon AONB** to offer **discounted lessons to local residents** (PL, TQ and EX postcodes). The lessons will cost £20pp (instead of £32), including all equipment and are 1.5hrs. Here are the dates:

SURFING

Sat 25th April 2pm (check in 1:40pm)
Sat 16th May 3:30pm (check in 3:10pm)
Sat 13th June 2pm (check in 1:40pm)
Sat 11th July 2pm (check on 1:40pm)
Sat 8th August 3:30pm (check in 3:10pm)
Sat 12th Sept 3pm (check in 2:40pm)
Sat 3rd Oct 2pm (check in 1:40pm)

PADDLE BOARD (SUP) (age 12+) £20 1.5 hour

To keep up to date please join our mailing list or visit our website and we look forward to seeing many of you at the beach

Martin & Annika Connolly

Discovery Surf

www.discoverysurf.com

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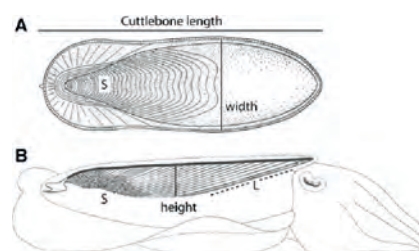
CUTTLE FISH

You may have noticed a lot of white cases on the beach after the storms. These are cuttlebones - a porous internal structure of the cuttle fish which provides it with buoyancy. Cuttlefish are caught in the English channel by trawlers, netters and in a directed trap fishery.

Their populations are poorly studied and there are currently no restrictions on catches. Trawlers target deep water aggregations and remove cuttlefish before they have had a chance to reproduce.



Cuttles are also targeted in spring and summer in shallow coastal waters using pots. These are more likely to have already had a chance to reproduce so pot caught is preferable to trawl caught, particularly from fisheries where eggs are left on pots so that they are able to hatch naturally rather than removed by fishermen. Quantities of pot caught cuttlefish are low so be careful when buying cuttlefish to ask how it was caught.





THE PUB CAT SPEAKS

ALIENS LIVING AMONG US!! SHOCK!

Well, well darlings. February already, and the howling gales are crashing against the lovely beaches, and swathes of rain drift in great columns on to the farms, shrieking like troubled spirits, sending streaks of foam hurtling up the valleys to spatter against the windows and walls of the Artful Dodger pub. My friend Bruce – a very fine Persian blue – is huddled on the rug by the fire, dreaming of the warmer winds of his 'kitten-hood' in Mesopotamia between the Tigris and the Euphrates.

Young Bruce would gaze from his tent at the camel trains crossing the old Parthian empire before drifting over the horizon to the high peaks of the Zagros Mountains, swathed in gentle clouds. Now, Bruce is wrapped in his blue winter-warm hoodie that the pub landlady, Nancy, gave him for Pussmas and snoozing happily in front of some blazing logs. So, he's happy.

Me? Well, I adore the winter. I have a thicker coat than Bruce and if we get snow, I love padding paw-prints in a little trail hither and thither across the pub garden and I don't mind the odd snowflake on my pink nose. Ha, ha! It is so exciting. Nancy is waiting for a 'ping' on her catphone from a lovely lady called 'Veg'! Marvelous! Then, a glorious array of vegetables and scrummy preserves are magically delivered to your home by a jolly piskie!

So what has been happening? Well, big blonde Bozza is now Top Cat, and poor Teezer Maybot is a distant dancing mem-

ory, while Jeremy Catflap came second in a beauty contest but is still behaving as if he won. Apparently, they're going to bong Big Ben on the 31st January to celebrate leaving the European Union and John 'Claws' Juncker will comfort himself with a little snifter. And did you hear about that clever doctor, Helen Sharman, who went into space? She says that aliens are already living among us on earth! How about that! Mind you, I wonder if anyone has noticed that funny member of parliament, Caroline Fruitcake? Well, apparently, she's GREEN! OMG! Outta Space or what, Baby!

Bruce thinks that big American moggy, Donald Tramp, needs a holiday. At Christmas he tweeted 'On the fifth day of Christmas my true love gave to me, FIVE GOLD RINGS, four calling birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree. Ate the birds. Sold the rings. Bought more birds. Ate them too.' Not very nice! Bruce says that Iran is very pleasant at this time of year.....

Finally, darlings, 'The Pub Cat Speaks' is going upmarket! We are doing celebrity interviews! And my first guest will be Larry the Cat, live from Downing Street. AND, we have our new special advice feature from our Agony Aunt, Felix Galactica.....

See you next time, Pusspots!
Monty



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Till the Coast is Clear is a Kingsbridge based Community Interest Company that specialises in removing plastic pollution from less accessible shorelines using a special landing craft style recyclable boat and a small fleet of recycled plastic kayaks.

Every nook and cranny of our stunning South Devon coast and estuary shoreline is gradually being explored and checked for plastic and to date over 4000 kg's of has been recovered and up cycled, recycled or used for waste to energy production via our partners Coastal Recycling. Unfortunately there is still an awful lot more work to be done!

As a social enterprise, TTCIC works with businesses and organisations on a sponsorship basis to promote sustainability and considerate consumption of resources. Volunteers underpin all the good work done and are fundamental to the success of the venture, which also aims to encourage a more hands on approach to tackling this and other environmental and social issues and promote a deeper love and appreciation for nature and our wild spaces.

A vehicle and trailer are available to collect plastic from beach cleaning groups and we are in the process of setting up additional specific sites where members of the public may leave what they find for proper disposal. Bigbury would naturally be an excellent site for a pick up point so please watch this space!

If you would like to find out more about Till the Coast is Clear's activities in the area or to volunteer some time and energy, please get in touch via www.tillthecoastisclear.co.uk

or
@tillthecoastisclear on FaceBook.



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REFERENDUM on BIGBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Information Statement & Information for Voters

A Referendum relating to the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan will be held on **Thursday 27 February 2020**. The question to be asked at the Referendum will be:

“Do you want South Hams District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Bigbury to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ box on the ballot paper.

If more people vote ‘yes’ than ‘no’ in the Referendum, then South Hams District Council will use the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan to help it to decide planning applications within Bigbury. The Neighbourhood Plan once adopted will then become part of the Development Plan used by the Local Planning Authority (South Hams District Council). If more people vote ‘no’ than ‘yes’, in this Referendum or there is a tied vote, then planning applications will continue to be decided without reference to the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area. The Referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood planning was introduced under the **Localism Act 2011** to give local communities more control in the planning of their neighbourhoods. It introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development in their local area. It enables communities to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need.

What is a neighbourhood area?

A neighbourhood area can cover single streets or large urban or rural areas. The boundaries of a neighbourhood area are put forward by: Town or parish councils, or A neighbourhood forum (in areas without a town or parish council)

What is a Development Plan?

In England, planning applications are determined by local planning authorities in accordance with the development plan. A development plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land for a given area.

Bigbury Neighbourhood Area

The Referendum area is the area which has been designated as the Bigbury Neighbourhood

Plan area. The map can be viewed in the neighbourhood plan document.

www.neighbourhoodplanning.swdevon.gov.uk/bigbury

Referendum campaign costs

An individual or body can incur costs during the period of the Referendum for the purposes of campaigning in association with the Referendum. The Referendum expenses limit that will apply to the Bigbury Neighbourhood Area is £2,388.85.

The number of people entitled to vote in the Referendum by reference to which this limit has been calculated is 455.

Specified documents

The following specified documents can be inspected on the Council’s website

www.neighbourhoodplanning.swdevon.gov.uk/bigbury or at the following addresses, at the following times:
Reception South Hams District Council
Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes
TQ9 5NE
9.00am - 5.00pm Monday – Thursday
9.00am - 4.30pm on Fridays
Clerk to Bigbury Parish Council Richard Matthews **Clerk.bigburypc@gmail.com**
01752 896266

The specified documents are:

1. Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan
2. Report of the Independent Examiner
3. Summary of the representations submitted to the Independent Examiner
4. A statement by the local planning authority that the draft plan meets the basic
5. Conditions (Decision Statement)
6. Information Statement and Information for Voters (this document)

Who can vote?

A person is entitled to vote if at the time of the Referendum, they meet the eligibility criteria to vote in a local election for the area and if they live in the Referendum area. The eligibility criteria are:

You are registered to vote in local government elections on 11 February 2020; and
You are 18 years of age or over on 27 February 2020. If you are not registered, you won’t be able to vote. You can check if you are registered by calling our Helpline on 01803 861434. If you are not registered to vote, you can go online to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote with your national insurance number by midnight on 11 February 2020. If you do not have access to the internet please call our helpline on 01803 861434 during office hours making sure that you allow sufficient time to complete and return an application form by **11 February 2020**.

How to vote There are three ways of voting:

IN PERSON

On Thursday 27 February 2020 at your local polling station. You will receive a poll card confirming your polling station for

this Referendum. Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.

BY POST

If you have a postal vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.

If you want to vote by post, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at the address below. Application forms are available here

www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3025/Apply-for-a-Postal-or-Proxy-Vote or you can call our helpline on 01803 861434 or email shpostalvoting@swdevon.gov.uk to request an application form. Your postal vote will be sent out approximately 10 days before polling day. Postal votes can be sent overseas but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote to be received by 27 February 2020. If it doesn’t arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5.00pm on 27 February 2020 by contacting our helpline 01803 861434.

BY PROXY

If you have a proxy vote already, your proxy will receive a poll card confirming this.

If you can’t get to the polling station and don’t wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody that you trust to vote on your behalf.

If you want to vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the address below to arrive by 5.00pm on Wednesday 19 February 2020.

Application forms are available here or you can call our helpline on 01803 861434 or email SHproxyvoting@swdevon.gov.uk to request an application form.

How to find out more

Further general information on neighbourhood planning is available at:

www.neighbourhoodplanning.swdevon.gov.uk/bigbury

For queries about planning issues and neighbourhood planning in general, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team.

You can find specific documents on the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan at

www.neighbourhoodplanning.swdevon.gov.uk/bigbury

For more information about voting and the arrangements for this Referendum, please contact our Helpline on 01803 861434 or email: elections@southhams.gov.uk

Published on: 20th January 2020
Sophie Hosking, Proper Officer

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL - meeting minutes

8th Jan 2020 at 7.30 pm at Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel

PRESENT: Cllrs: G Rosevear (Acting Chairman), S Smith, C Case, V Scott, S Watts. Cllr B Taylor (District Councillor) and Cllr. R Gilbert (County Councillor) and 14 residents were also in attendance.

1.0 Declaration of Interest: No declarations made when this item was raised but later in the meeting Cllr. C Case declared an interest as an adjoining owner of land in relation to Item 10a.

2.0 Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received from the Mr R Matthews (Parish Clerk) and Cllr. E Huntley (Chairman).

3.0 Minutes of previous meetings held on December 11th 2019: Cllr. Rosevear read out two proposed changes to the minute as follows:

'Re issues relating to **sewage infrastructure for St Ann's Chapel** Cllr. Scott's comment was that South West Water had been consulted at the outline application stage and not objected but the details showed a much larger scheme, more houses now all 4 bedrooms'.

Re **Bigbury Cottage Proposed Barn** the last sentence should read that the District Councillor agreed to discuss the scheme with the Planning Officer.'

Cllr Smith proposed the minutes. Cllr Watts seconded the proposal and all Councillors present at that meeting voted unanimously to accept the minutes. These have now been signed by Cllr Rosevear.

4.0 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting held on Dec 11th 2019

Road sweeping – comment that only Bigbury on Sea was serviced. Answer – vehicles can only clean where there is a kerb.

Stop signs for car park. Answer – SHDC confirmed it was in progress on December 13th 2019.

Maintenance jobs. Answer – Waiting better weather.

5.0 Open Session

Resident A said that road sweeping had recently taken place in the Bigbury on Sea area but since this time there had been a lot of hedge cutting taking place which had left the roads untidy with hedge cuttings likely to cause punctures to tyres etc. She wondered if there could be better liaison with regard to the timing of these events with farmers advising the Parish Clerk when the hedge cutting was to take place and arrangements made for road sweeping after this.

Resident B said that the hedge cutting in Bigbury Village had taken place at 5.30am with the noise waking her up at what she felt to be an unsocial hour.

Cllr. Case asked whether carrying out the

hedge cutting at times when there was less traffic on the roads was preferable to it being done a peak traffic times and as such causing a delay to traffic.

Cllr. Rosevear said that he would discuss this with the Parish Clerk to find out what might be practical. Action Cllr. G Rosevear

Cllr. Watts pointed out that there was hardly ever any road sweeping on the lanes running down to Easton and Foxhole. These roads were also full of potholes. **D. Cllr Taylor** to follow up action re road sweeping in Easton and Foxhole.

Action D. Cllr. Taylor

Resident C advised that Kingston Fire Station had a reprieve and would continue to operate. She also said that she was organising a **Fire Safety Awareness event on February 10th 2019** with Devon Fire and Rescue to provide a talk and volunteer firemen from Kingston Fire Station to also speak about their experiences. This would be advertised in the Bigbury News. She would also contact the Sue Green, Kingston Parish Council Clerk to let her know of this event. (Tel No: 01548 810270 or 07748602282). She said that she would have to pay £35 for hire of the Memorial Hall. Peter Cook as a member of the Hall Committee said this could be reduced to £10. Action Louise Wainwright

Resident D advised that the wall on the **bridge over Dukes Mill** had been knocked down and needed repair. Cllr. S Watts said that he had reported this to Devon CC. However, C. Councillor Gilbert recommended that a formal letter be sent by the Parish Clerk to Devon CC (Adam Keay) asking for action to be taken. He did however advise that there was a lot of work already ongoing in relation to the repair of walls, bridges and potholes so it might not be done straight away. Action Parish Clerk

Resident D queried a remark made by Cllr. Scott at the last Parish Council meeting that the **proposed residential development by the Bantham Estate** in connection with the future of the Golf Club would accord with the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan. He said that he had read through the Neighbourhood Plan and could find no policies or proposals that gave support for this type of development. He also referred to the comments made by the Inspector in relation to the value of the Plan in relation to the protection of the AONB and ensuring that new residential development is located in the most sustainable locations.

Cllr. Scott said that she could not recall exactly what she said at the previous meeting but agreed with resident B that the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan stated

that new residential development should be confined to being within the settlement boundaries and that the policies relating to AONB, Heritage Coast and Undeveloped Coast sought to protect the openness and landscape beauty of these areas. Para 4.92 of the Neighbourhood Plan did however give support for the long term future of the golf club as an important recreational, leisure, tourist and social facility and also a provider of local employment. It was stated in this paragraph that support would be given to any necessary improvements, extensions and/or other development which would ensure the long term viability of the club. This was not specific to giving support for a residential development and if this was proposed it would be necessary to demonstrate that it was essential for the future safeguarding of the golf club. It would be necessary to demonstrate 'very exceptional circumstances' to justify a departure from the policies of the Plan. Cllr. Rosevear said that there were no specific proposals at the moment and that if and when an application was made the Parish Council would need to look at the proposals very carefully having regard to the evidence provided, the details of any scheme, and whether the proposals were in the interest of the local community.

6.0 District Councillor's report

D. Cllr. Taylor provided the following updates:

South Hams District Council are proposing a **Council Tax premium on long term vacant properties of 200% for properties vacant and unfurnished for 5-10 years, 300% for vacancies of more than 10 years.** This is to encourage the selling or letting of properties that have remained vacant for several years. It will not affect properties used as second homes or holiday lets which are not occupied for some parts of the year. Once it is approved the increase in tax will start to take effect on any properties where long term vacancies are already known.

SHDC and West Devon are also looking for a **new IT contract.** The current contract runs out in January 2021. The cost is likely to be about £300,000.

Cllr. Rosevear asked if there was still money available in the **Locality Budget** for works in the parish. He said that Bigbury Parish was required to spend £1300 for **skip hire** and wondered if a claim for this could be made. Cllr. Watts said that funding for this had been made available in previous years. D. Cllr Taylor said that an application would need to be made to Locality which if considered appropriate would be sent to him for approval.

Action Parish Clerk

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL - meeting minutes

8th Jan 2020 at 7.30 pm at Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel

7.0 County Councillor's report

C. Cllr. Gilbert asked whether the Parish Council had received the **Gigaclear Plan**. Cllr. Case referred to correspondence sent to the Parish Clerk from Gigaclear at the end of November 2019 in which stated they stated that a Plan was being prepared in a month or two and would also be carrying out a leaflet drop.

C. Cllr Gilbert said that there was **money available for grit bins** and asked if any were needed. He also said that for refills of grit it was necessary to notify the Devon CC in the Autumn if possible to ensure that they were topped up and ready for the winter.

C. Cllr Gilbert said that for those interested in speed limits there was a **Devon Speed Limit Policy** which could be viewed on the website.

C. Cllr Gilbert also said that Devon CC was preparing a **Devon Carbon Plan** to try to address the climate change emergency. Information on this could be viewed on www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk.

C. Cllr Gilbert said that there was a backlog of work in **repairing potholes**. He said that the **Edmeston road works** were progressing well and hoped that the disruption due to the road traffic lights was not too great. Cllr. Rosevear said that the traffic light system had worked efficiently just letting through about 6 to 8 cars at a time but had become inefficient more recently with longer queues. The convoy system now introduced also caused delays. Cllr Scott asked if it was necessary to have so many signs particularly on the eastern approach. Cllr Gilbert said that this matter had been raised but had been advised that the signs were essential and that there was nowhere else to position them other than in the road. He said that this resulted in a slow down of traffic with its shicaning effect.

8.0 Finance: Cllr Rosevear referred to the bank reconciliation and reported that the following payments were to be made:
£33.48 BT – Paid by Direct Debit
£176.00 Triangle (Neighbourhood Plans)
£50.00 DALC – membership renewal
£150.00 South Hams C A B
Cllr. Smith proposed that the financial statement be accepted and that the payments set out above be paid. This was seconded by Cllr. Scott and all councillors agreed. Action: Parish Clerk

Cllr Rosevear advised that the Parish Clerk was waiting for a discussion with Cllr. Huntley regarding the proposed Internet Banking. Action: Parish Clerk/Cllr. Huntley

9.0 Finance – Precept period 2020/2021

Cllr. Rosevear advised that a meeting had been held the previous day to discuss the

finances for the year 2019/2020 and to consider the level of the precept to be sought for 2020/21. A level of £18,000 had been discussed and generally considered about right having regard to spending in previous years. Cllr. Case proposed that £18,000 be sought and this was seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by all other councillors.

10.0 Planning related matters

(a) S257 diversion of **Bigbury footpath 28** (related to **Grove Homes development**).

Cllr Rosevear said that this diversion had been considered acceptable by the footpath wardens Norman Botton and Trish Bagley. Cllr. Scott advised that the works related to the application for reserved matters made by Grove Homes for development of 9 dwellings. This reserved matters application may not be approved. The diversion was appropriate if this development was to proceed but should not otherwise take place. She proposed giving 'no comments' to this application which was seconded by Cllr. Watts and agreed by all of the Parish Councillors present part from an abstention from Cllr. Case who had declared an interest.

(b) **4026/19/FUL** Consultation as a neighbouring parish. Proposed alterations and extensions to existing building. **Were Down TQ7 4AL**. Cllr. Watts said that the applicants were keeping the original house as far as possible, that the proposed extension was fairly significant in size and they were also proposing a swimming pool and quite a lot of landscaping and tree planting. He expected the works to be carried out to a high standard of design and quality but considered that it would have little impact on the parish of Bigbury and that the comments on the application should be left for Aveton Gifford Parish. Cllr. Watts proposed 'no comments' which was seconded by Cllr. Scott and unanimously agreed by all Parish Councillors present.
(c) **3789/19/HHO**. Cllr. Watts advised that this property was also in the parish of Aveton Gifford. It was a fairly large extension but did not have much affect the Parish of Bigbury. He again proposed 'no comment' which was seconded by Cllr. Scott and unanimously agreed by all Parish Councillors present.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Scott reported as follows:
Cllr. Scott said that the parish was now just waiting for a referendum to be arranged by South Hams District Council (SHDC). SHDC are required to publish information about the neighbourhood plan 28 days before the referendum, and to give notice that a referendum is taking place and the date of the poll. We have been advised that the referendum is likely to take place towards

the end of February but have not so far been given a date for this.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be arranging for posters to be displayed on the parish noticeboards and other places including the Holywell Stores so that parishioners are made fully aware of the date of the referendum.

People on the electoral register for Bigbury Parish are entitled to vote. If more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes' then the neighbourhood plan becomes part of the statutory plan for the area.

A copy of the Referendum Version of the Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan has now been placed on the community website and hard copies of the plan are now available and will be made available for public inspection when the date of the referendum is known. NB Cllr. Scott advised by SHDC on 10th January 2020 that the Referendum is now to be held on Thursday, February 27th 2020.

11.0 Update on signage

Cllr. Watts advised that he was now awaiting confirmation from AONB and for the sign to be made. The cost would be £250 but half of this would be paid by AONB. Action Cllr. Watts

12.0 Initiative – free trees

Cllr. Rosevear said that the deadline for obtaining free trees from SHDC had now expired. He was not aware of anyone having taken on this opportunity but the notice had been quite short. Cllr. Smith asked if the period of time could be extended and Cllr Rosevear thought it was worth asking. Action Parish Clerk

13.0 Casual Vacancy

Cllr. Rosevear advised that the vacancy and opportunity to become a Parish Councillor had been advertised. There had been an expression of interest made by one person and that any applications for this position should be made prior to the February meeting.

14.0 Correspondence received

Cllr. Rosevear had not been advised on any correspondence which needed to be reported to the meeting.

15.0 Agenda Items for next meeting

Nobody at the meeting asked for any special items for consideration at the next meeting.

NOTE The supporting presentation is uploaded to the Parish Council section of the Bigbury Community website. The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

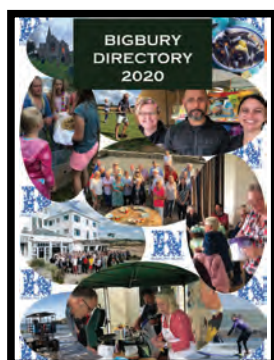
The next meeting is to be held on WEDNESDAY February 12th at 7:30pm

BIGBURY NEWS 2020

Six, full colour bumper issues: **FEB/MAR** (copy date 15 Jan); **APR/MAY** (copy date 15 March); **JUNE/JULY** (copy date 15 May); **AUG/SEPT** (copy date 15 July); **OCT/NOV** (copy date 15 Sept) and **DEC/JAN** (copy date 15 Nov).

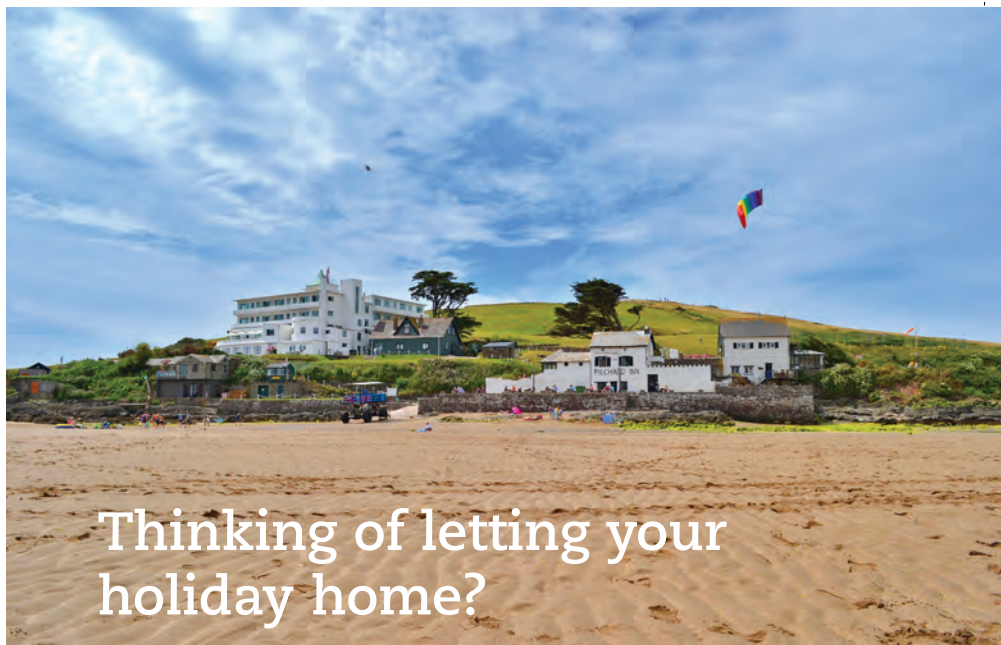


Five, slim, black & white versions in **MARCH** (copy date 15 Feb); **MAY** (copy date 15 April); **JULY** (copy date 15 June); **SEPT** (copy date 15 Aug); **NOVEMBER** (copy date 15 Oct). This will feature social club reports, events, Memorial Hall page, Church page and Bigbury Parish Council minutes. There will be no Bigbury News in JANUARY 2021.



Adverts will appear in the colour issues and in the **Bigbury Business Directory** which will be distributed as a hard copy in spring 2020 to 450 households.

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