



BIGBURY & RINGMORE NEWS

APRIL/MAY 2025

Issue 488

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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 & RINGMORE NEWS

COPY DEADLINES

15 May for the June / July issue
15 July for the August / September issue
15 Sept. for the October / November issue
15 Nov. for the December / January Issue

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Front Page Photo credits

Top: Henry Wainwright
Middle: Henry Wainwright
Bottom: Mike Wynne-Powell



BIGBURY NET ZERO DRUMS
Together we can make a Difference

SIGN UP

to a weekly Mail Chimp newsletter about local events and alerts, via email. Please complete the on-line form at www.bigburynews.com or contact the BNZD editor: henry.wainwright52@gmail.com

ADVERTISE LOCAL EVENTS

Send your event posters to the BNZD editor. Events in the South Hams are also promoted.

BIGBURY TV

WHAT?

A YouTube channel to share the talents of local people in the Bigbury Parish

WHY? To keep us upbeat and entertained (not just during lockdown, but beyond!) and celebrate the fabulous and wide-ranging talent amongst us.

TUNE IN! Just visit the channel whenever you fancy <https://bit.ly/BigburyTV>

All the videos are there for you to watch 'on demand'.

By Chatterlands Chatter, we will let you know when new videos have been uploaded



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EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Readers,

Isn't it glorious to see the sun peeking out and those little Spring flowers popping up in the hedgerows and gardens? It's like nature's own happy dance.

Some of you will already know me. I spent 17 lovely years living in Bigbury on Sea before making the big move to Kingston in 2008, where I live with my wonderful husband, Paul, and our family.

When I heard that the Bigbury & Ringmore News might be saying goodbye, I knew I couldn't just sit back and let that happen. So, for better or worse, I've decided to step in and keep things rolling.

If anyone wants to contribute an article or share some fabulous images for the next edition, don't be shy—just send me an email (details below).

I really hope you enjoy my debut edition! Huge thanks to the previous Editor, Jan, and her trusty sidekick Nancy—without their magic touch, I'd still be staring at a blank page. We've got some fascinating reads on Net Zero and Avon River Champions, plus a peek at some upcoming events that are sure to excite. Also, a farewell article for Harry and Ellen Bardens. So grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy!

All the best.

Jennie Linzell

bigburynewseditor@gmail.com



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If you are running a social group that you'd like to be included, please contact the editor at bigburynewseditor@gmail.com

MODBURY HEALTH CENTRE

Poundwell Meadow
Modbury PL21 0QI
01548 830666

www.modburyhealthcentre.co.uk

MODBURY PHARMACY

5 Broad St
Modbury PL21 0PS
01548 830215

www.modburypharmacy.co.uk



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?

Find out more from the Befriending Coordinator, **Sheila Harrison**
Tel: 07554 997140
modburycaring@gmail.com

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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cllrhwainwright.bigburypc@gmail.com
01548 810991

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PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of all Parish Council meetings can be viewed in the three parish Notice Boards at:

- Holywell Stores, Bigbury
- Unwind Salon, Bigbury
- Bus Shelter, Bigbury-on-Sea

They are also on the Bigbury Community website:
www.bigburycommunity.co.uk

RINGMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Michael Campbell

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Helen Kent
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Parish Clerk:

Ian Bramble
ringmorepc@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of all Parish Council meetings can be viewed in the three parish Notice Boards at:

- the bus stop in Ringmore
- below the Nisa shop .

They are also on the Ringmore Parish Council website:
www.ringmoreparishcouncil.gov.uk

BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL Bringing the Community Together

The New Year opened with a bang at the Hall with our traditional early January Quiz. Over fifty people attended to pit their wits against Quiz Inquisitor Dane Vanstone, ably assisted by Peter Cook. A riotous evening was had by all.

The next event is something slightly out of the common. Actor/director and artist Arran Hawkins will be performing his one man show, Tales of Love and Loss, on **Friday 30 May**. Arran is from Cornwall and has written, directed and appeared in many productions in the UK and abroad. This Villages in Action event features monologues by him on themes of loss of friendship and loved ones. Challenging but very rewarding. Watch out for ticket details in Bigbury Drums.

Charles Harrington Tel: 810023
Email: charles_harri@yahoo.co.uk



BIGBURY WATCH



Eamonn & Linda Byrnes
811104 or 07790 485102

Not sure whether to call the police about something? Have a chat with our friendly Bigbury Watch Team and perhaps they can give you some advice. Eamonn and Linda are retired police officers and live locally.

BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL

Calendar of Events for April – May 2025

| Day & Time | Activity | Organiser | Contact no. |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| Mon. 15.45 – 17.00 | Table tennis | Angie Bond Janie Grace | 811131 811122 |
| Tues. 7.00 – 8.00 | Exercise class | Jessica | 07805 895592 |
| Wed. 10.30 – 12.00 (1 st Wed. of month) | Community Coffee morning | Jean Wright Yvonne Klidjian | 810029 810971 |
| 19.00 | Community Choir | Apple Taylor (appletaylor72@gmail.com) | |
| (2 nd Wed. of month) 19.30 | Parish Council | Ian Bramble (clerk) | 855712 |
| Thurs. 9.30 – 10.30 | Pilates | Jill Gubbins | 810651 |
| 10.50 -11.30 | Strong & Steady (plus tea and chat) | Jill Gubbins | 810651 |

Bigbury Play Park

The play park at St Ann's Chapel behind the Memorial Hall is in a bit of a sorry state. However, Bigbury Parish Council is pleased to report that funding has been secured and a clear timetable for the complete replacement of the play park equipment has been laid out. By the time you read this update, at least six play park suppliers will have made a site visit and be in the process of preparing their quotations. The timetable for completing the refurbishment is shown below. The specifications given to the suppliers quoting has been deliberately not very prescriptive to encourage imaginative designs, but the two very important criteria required are: all-weather ground surface and equipment that uses a minimal amount of wood, both for obvious reasons.



Timetable

| Date | Action |
|-----------------|---|
| 7 April 2025 | Deadline for quotations to be received |
| April/Early May | Evaluation of quotes and compliance checks with Section 106 |
| Early May | Public Consultation |
| 21 May 2025 | Deadline for Parish Council decision on supplier |
| 30 May 2025 | Notification of contract award |
| 1 July 2025 | Contract begins |
| October 2025 | Play Park completed and official opening |

The budget for the replacement play park is up to £95,000. This funding has mainly come from Section 106 funds. Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows South Hams District Council to require a developer (such as those of Holywell Meadow and Chapel Orchard) to fund the delivery of matters that are necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms such as the provision of improvements in recreational facilities (e.g. the play park).

Cllr. Henry Wainwright (Chair) and Cllr. Cathy Case
Bigbury Parish Council



BIGBURY COFFEE MORNING

On Wednesday 4th December we raised £758 for St Lawrence Church. During 2024 we raised a fantastic £4,128 for local charities.

We started 2025 with our Thank You coffee morning on Wednesday 5th February when it was lovely to see everybody enjoying coffee, biscuits and cake and a good catch up natter!

On Wednesday 5th March we raised £256 for Modbury Caring. Many thanks to everyone who supported us and gave so generously.

We look forward to seeing you between **10.30 and noon on Wednesday 2nd April** in the Memorial Hall when we will be supporting Hope Cove Lifeboat. Then on **Wednesday 7th May** we will be supporting Children's Hospice SW., and on **Wednesday 4th June** The Wave Project.

Best wishes,
Jean, Yvonne and the team.



Night-time Noise

Pollution comes in many forms from physical litter to smoke, light and noise. The BPC is aware of several instances in which loud parties have gone on into the early hours of the morning.

While we all appreciate a party, it should not be at the expense of others. Late night noise has the affect of disturbing and interfering with the right of others to enjoy their evening as they wish. The natural peacefulness of the area means excessive noise penetrates widely and disproportionately.

Interesting, the permitted level of noise between the hours of 11pm-7am is only 34 decibels (the equivalent of a quiet whisper).

We simply ask that everyone please be sensitive to and respectful of the right of others to have a quiet night. And, if you loan or rent your home out to others, please ask them to comply.

Thank you.

Community - The Bardens

Farewell to Harry and Ellen Bardens

A bright but chilly Saturday afternoon saw visiting bell ringers and friends come and say their farewells to Harry and Ellen Bardens as they prepare to leave the village.



Now in their 90's, this much loved and respected couple will move to be near their son, Andrew, who lives in Bristol. Their contacts can be obtained from henry.wainwright52@gmail.com

In addition to Harry and Ellen, we had seven other Bardens including four grandchildren present.



The Devon Association of Ringers (DAR) also turned out in force and treated us to some stunning bell ringing. They made the bells positively sing.

Ian Avery, President of DAR, reminisced about the times both he and his father Bill had shared in many a bell tower with Harry and Ellen. He thanked them for their contribution to DAR over the last six decades. Harry has been the Bell Captain at Bigbury for the last 67 years. Now that must be a record of some sort?

To celebrate their contribution, a plaque was erected in the ringing chamber of the church in appreciation of Harry and Ellen's service to bell ringing and the church. Jill Gubbins and Angie Carson led the way in coordinating refreshments that were prepared by many.

Jan Davies' book on "*The Bardens of Bigbury*" was freely available during the afternoon. It gave a real insight into the breadth and depth of the contributions the Bardens have made to the fabric of Bigbury life over the last four hundred years.

The Bardens have run pubs, a shop, the post office, the garage and the famous Bardens Tea Shop as well as fishing the waters of Bigbury Bay.

Visitors were also encouraged to write memories and messages to the Bardens in the memories book.

A very enjoyable afternoon was had by all.



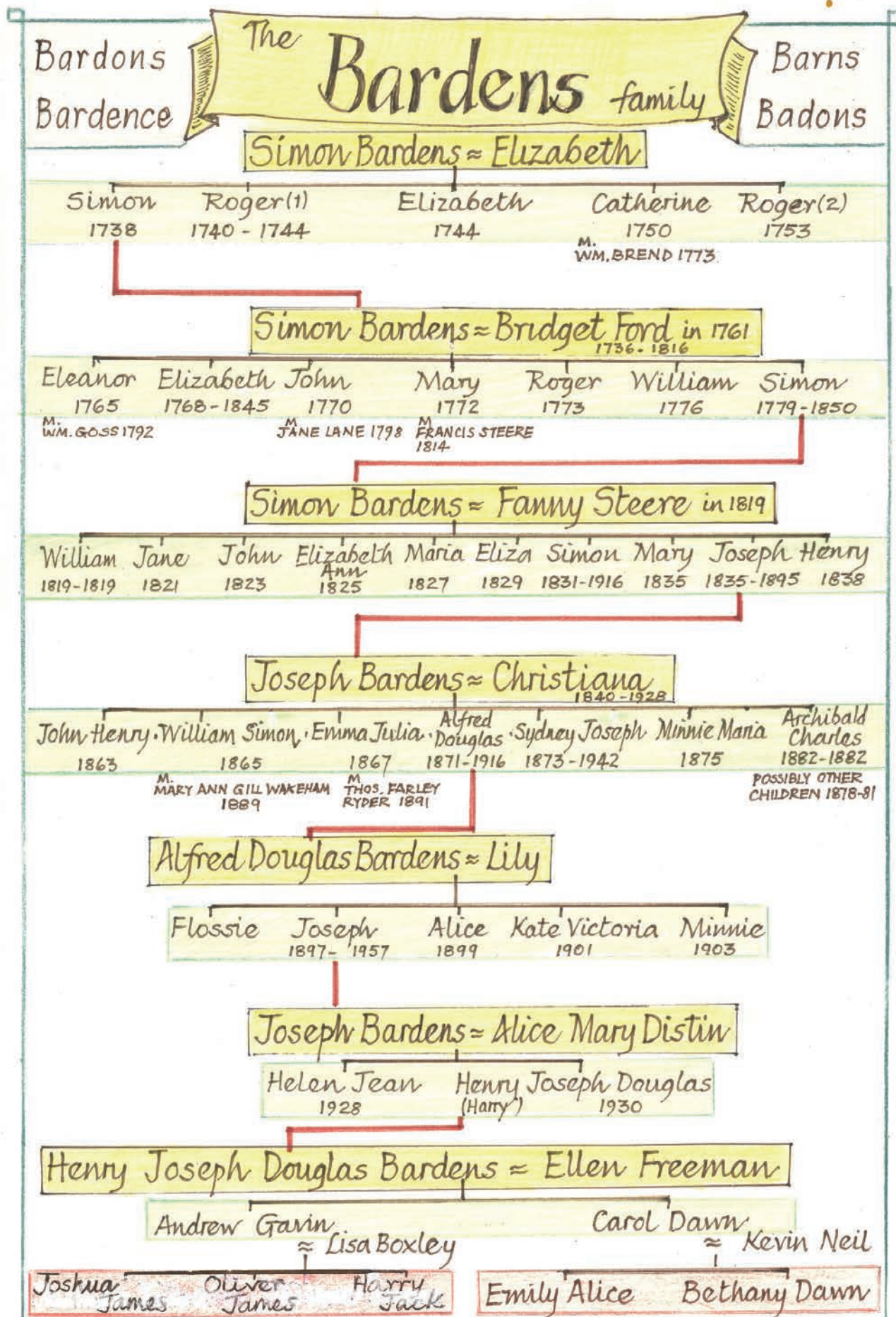
Community - The Bardens



In recognition of the
longstanding service of
Harry and Ellen Bardens
to bellringing and St Lawrence Church

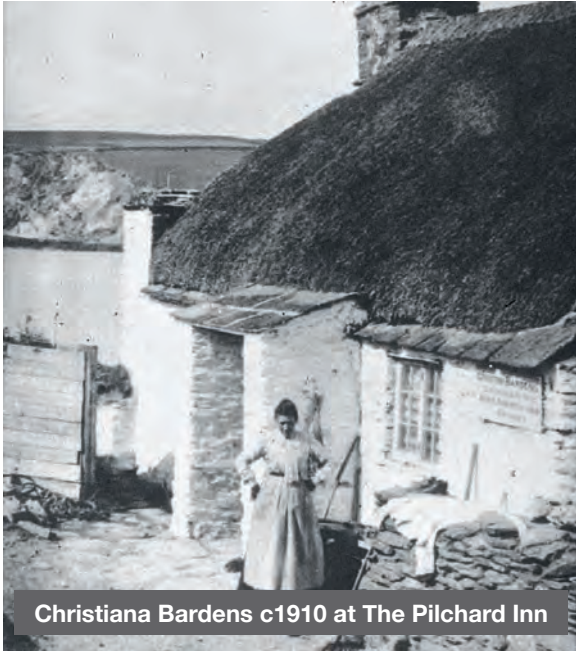
Harry Bardens:
Bell Captain 1958 - 2025
Church Warden 1962 - 89

Community - The Bardens



THE DIRECT LINE TO HARRY: YEARS SHOWN ARE OF BAPTISM AND BURIAL
 SOURCE: NOTES OF BILL BOWDEN-SMITH AND CENSUS

Community - The Bardens



Christiana Bardens c1910 at The Pilchard Inn



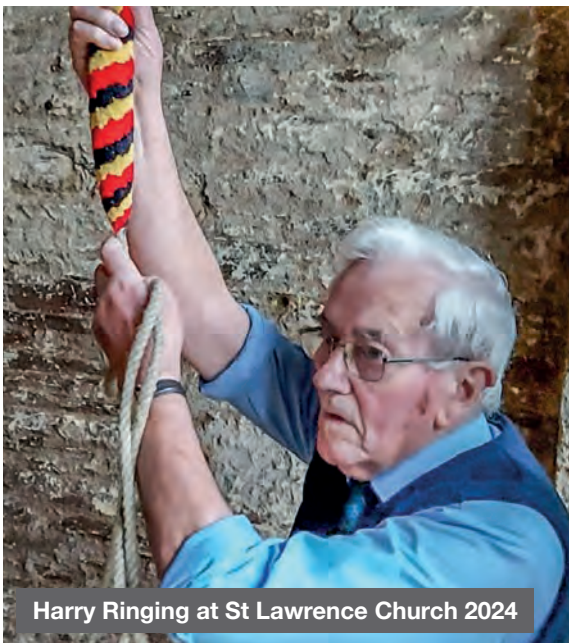
Bardens Tea Rooms



J Bardens & Son



1955 Ringing Team



Harry Ringing at St Lawrence Church 2024



Fishermen Bardens c1905

Community - Sound & Vision 10



It was definitely a TEN for Sound & Vision 10!

What a visual treat was in store for the 45 residents and visitors who attended Mike Wynne-Powell's Sound & Vision 10 in the Parish Room, Ringmore on 31st January. As always, Mike's repertoire did not disappoint with images from Ringmore, Bigbury and beyond accompanied by a play list including Ludovico Einaudi, Handel and our very own Bigbury Bells of St Lawrence's Church.



Mike's presentation was light hearted, engaging and informative. The audience were immersed in the sounds and visions of our environment including the people who live, work and play here from the breathtaking wildlife, flora and fauna on our doorstep including bats, birds, insects, the stunning gardens of Ringmore, a Scarecrow trail, Village Fête and Ceilidh.

We were taken along cycle and train tracks, and a visit to Moretonhampstead Motor Museum with its eclectic mix of vehicles. Even further afield, Mike's travels included pictures from his visit to the Battersea area including an amazing colour fest of Greenwich Winter Solstice drummers.



You'll often see Mike around the village and its environs looking for photographic opportunities that capture the essence of the stunning environment in which we are fortunate enough to live in. Should you bump into Mike, he is a font of knowledge on all things flora and fauna and will be happy to share and enthuse with you what he's seen on his travels.



So in all, a great night! Thank you to Mike for all of the time and effort he puts into his presentations which give so much pleasure. Donations from the event help to support All Hallows Church.

Here's to Sound & Vision 11!

Nancy Singleton

Photos by Mike Wynne-Powell



Community

Flower Festival Quiz - Bigbury Memorial Hall

A big thank you to everyone that came and supported our fundraising quiz on Friday. Quiz Master Dane Vanstone kept us all in order, providing some very tricky questions. We all know how many brains an octopus has now! Thank you also to Peter Cook for keeping track of the scores and Congratulations to our winning team, the Ringmorons (with a couple of interlopers from Bigbury).

A grand total of £427 was raised which will go towards our Flower Festival, to be held on 8th 9th 10th August.

If there are any more flower arrangers, or anyone willing to help with stewarding or refreshments please contact Hilary on 07746072749

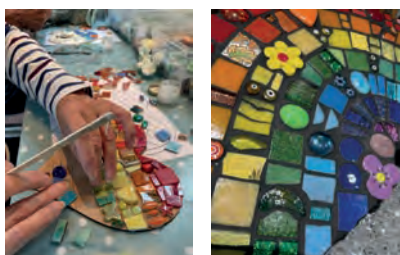
Our next fundraising event will be on 19th April, (a Spring Fayre and wreath making workshop) more details to follow.



Ringmore Women's Institute

Mosaic Workshop with Ali Soper,

Mosaic Artist with 20 years experience



Option to produce your own coaster to take away

Thursday, 10th April 2025 at 3:00pm

Ringmore WI Hall

Members: Free Entry

Non-Members: £5 Entry

Coaster optional: £3 per attendee

(hot drink and biscuits)

Places may be limited

Contact Heather: 07876 522934



**The Ringmore
Women's
Institute**

*Ringmore WI have an exciting
programme for the months ahead.*

Our next meeting will be on **April 10th at 3:00pm** we are hosting a Mosaic Workshop. The workshop is free to members and a very reasonable £5 for visitors. If you wish to make a coaster to take away there will be an additional charge to all attendees of £3. Refreshments will be provided. *Places may be limited.*

For tickets and further information please contact Tracy on 07884 003152

On **Wednesday May 14th at 3:00pm**, we proudly present a special talk by Ecologist and Ethnobotanist Rebecca Hosking DSc on 'Wild Plants and Herb Foraging' and a guided walk to Ayrmer Cove to try it out for ourselves. This is a ticketed event and will cost £10 to include refreshments (free to members).

For tickets and further information please contact Heather on 07876 522934.



**As a village come and celebrate
VE Day 80**

**8th May 2025 at 7:00pm
At Ringmore WI Hall**

Pay tribute to the brave fishermen who fished the seas and the farmers and land girls who toiled in the fields by eating FISH and CHIPS with the rest of the country

Sit down in the WI garden for a Fish and Chip Supper provided by Steve Chapman (Friar Tucks)

£16.00 - Adult (includes fish & chips & homemade trifle & tea/coffee)
£8 - Children



Bar
Raffle



Tickets in advance, to be paid for by **24th April 2025**
Contact Tracy 07884 003152
or Heather 07876 522934

On **Easter Sunday and Monday afternoons, 3:00pm-5:00pm**, the famous WI teas will be served in the hall, cream teas, selection of cakes and hot cross buns will be available.

May is a busy month. **Our Annual Meeting takes place at 2:00pm on May 7th.** If anyone has new ideas, or is interested in joining, supporting or helping with events, or the running of the hall, please come along. We are a friendly group and you will be most welcome. If you are interested contact Jane on 811115.

On **May 8th at 7:00pm Ringmore WI will celebrate VE Day 80.** This will be a fish and chip and trifle supper served in the WI hall/garden and will be a ticketed event.

Ringmore Women's Institute

'Wild Plants and Herb Foraging' and a guided walk to Ayrmer Cove

with Rebecca Hosking, Ecologist and Ethnobotanist DSc



Wednesday, 14th May 2025 at 3:00pm
Ringmore WI Hall

Members: Free Entry (you must sign up in advance)

Non-Members: £10 Entry

(hot drink and biscuits)

This is a ticketed event

Contact Heather: 07876 522934

What's On

2 April

Bigbury Coffee Morning
The Memorial Hall 10.30 - 12

3 April

Annual Parochial Church Meeting
All Hallows Church, Ringmore - 2pm

9 April

Annual Parish Council Meeting
The Memorial Hall - Time TBC

10 April

Mosaic Workshop
Ringmore WI Hall - 3pm

13 April

Palm Sunday Service - Communion
St Lawrence Church - 11am

15 April

Bigbury History Society - 'Exploring
Plymouth's Heritage' with
Robert Hesketh
Bigbury Memorial Hall - 7pm

19 April

Spring Fayre & Wreath Making
Bigbury Memorial Hall - 10am

20 April & 21 April

Easter Sunday & Monday, WI Teas
Ringmore WI Hall - 3pm-5pm

24 April

A Talk by Robert Hesketh
Ringmore WI Hall - 7.30pm

27 April

Tea Party for Rev'd Matt Rowlands
St Georges Church, Modbury - TBC

1 May

Devon County Council Elections
The Memorial Hall All Day

7 May

Bigbury Coffee Morning
The Memorial Hall 10.30 - 12

7 May

Ringmore WI Annual Meeting
Ringmore WI Hall - 2pm

8 May

VE Day at 80
Ringmore WI Hall - 7pm

14 May

Wild Plants & Herb Forage
Ringmore WI Hall - 3pm

30 May

Tales of Love & Loss
Bigbury Memorial Hall - TBC



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Customer Parking ~ Secure ~ Owners On Site

BIGBURY COFFEE MORNING



The Memorial Hall, St. Ann's Chapel
Entrance £1 to include coffee/biscuits
Bric-a-Brac, Books, Cards, Silk items from
Cambodia, Cakes, Savouries, Raffle, Guess the
weight of the cake etc.

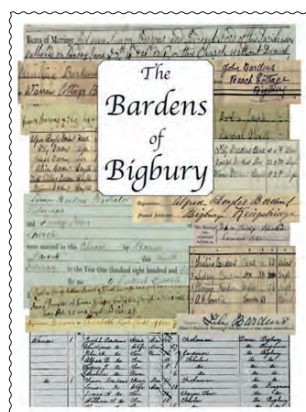
10.30 - 12.00
Wednesday 2 April
Supporting Hope Cove Lifeboat

Wednesday 7 May
Supporting the Children's Hospice

Wednesday 4 June
Supporting The Wave Project

NOTICE BOARD

A fitting tribute to Harry and Ellen Bardens
Available from St Lawrence Church
Donations to the Church Fund



MUSIC FOR FUN AT RINGMORE



We play simple folk tunes on various
instruments and can provide recorders,
whistles, ukuleles, bongo drums and
accordions. It is a fun, friendly informal
gathering and any ability is welcome. So,
if you have always wanted to play a musical
instrument come along.
If you would like further information contact
simsdiddle@gmail.com

Ascot Ladies Day

Thursday 19th June
2.00pm - 5.00pm
Bigbury Memorial Hall

*Afternoon Tea Delights
*Tombola
*Raffle

Showing all live
races, if you fancy a
flutter



Ringmore Historical Society

Ringmore WI Hall

Thursday 24th April, 7.30 pm

Devon Festivals

A Talk by Robert Hesketh

A freelance writer & photographer with over 60
titles based around the West Country

£5 entry, including a glass of wine

(£1 members)

SPRING FAYRE BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL SATURDAY 19th APRIL 10.00am - 12.30pm FREE SPRING WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP



Helping to raise funds to support Bigbury Flower Festival
St Lawrence's Church, Bigbury, August 8/9/10 2025
For more information on the Flower Festival please contact Hilary
Vanstone, tel. 07746072749 or email: hilary.vanstone@hotmail.com

St George's Church Charity Soup Lunches



Tuesdays in Lent
1230-1330

Coffee and juice on hot & cold of soups
on Wed, Fri and Sat. Baked
fish & veg. During Lent, St George's will be
raising funds for the church.
Phone 01250 1330
In aid of St George's Church and St George's

11 March - St Luke's Hospice
18 March - Shekerei Plymouth
25 March - Kingsbridge Foodbank
1 April - Himalayan School
8 April - Children's Hospice South West

BIGBURY HISTORY SOCIETY

OUR NEXT MEETING IS AT THE
BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL
ON

TUESDAY 15th APRIL 2025
AT 7.00 pm

WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR LOCAL HISTORIAN
ROBERT HESKETH TO SPEAK TO US ON
"EXPLORING PLYMOUTH'S HERITAGE". AS
USUAL, IT IS HOPED THIS WILL STIMULATE
INTERESTING DISCUSSION FROM THE
FLOOR.

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME.

Entrance Charge is only £2-50

Tea/coffee and biscuits are included.

Holy Week and Easter

Saturday 5th April
4-5pm Easter Family Craft event
AG Memorial Hall

Maundy Thursday 17th April
7pm Communion Service
St George's, Modbury

Good Friday 18th April
~10.30am Aveton Gifford Walk of Witness
finishing with a short service in the church
(meet at Fisherman's Rest)
~10.30am Walk at Modbury,
with activities for families
(meet at Play Park/Ponds at Palm Cross Est)
~2pm Reflections around the cross
(in St George's Church)

Easter Day 20th April
Communion Services
9.30am Modbury
9.30am Ringmore
11am Bigbury
11am Kingston
11am Aveton Gifford





St Lawrence Matters

CHURCH NEWS

With the temporary interruption of the publication of the B&R News due to a change of editor – welcome Jennie! – there is some catching up on St Lawrence's news to do!

Unexpected news came from vicar Matt Rowland at the start of December – he will be leaving his post in the Modbury Mission at the end of April to become vicar of St Leonard's, Exeter. He explained this was an unplanned move after seven years here, but the post offers the opportunity to return to his first church where he started clerical life. His family will follow him to Exeter at the end of the school year. Our curate Oli Long will continue in his role as expected till at least January 2026, supported by Joyce Howitt and Gil Snook, and overseen by Archdeacon of Totnes, Douglas Dettmer. Under Church of England's procedures, the Mission PCCs can not seek a replacement vicar until Matt has officially left, but thought is being given to the qualities sought in a new vicar. We are hopeful our five churches will prove attractive for incoming clergy – watch this space! Matt's last service at St Lawrence will be on **Palm Sunday, 13th April**.

All welcome at a farewell event in St George's, Modbury, 3pm **Sunday 27th April**. Although obviously sorry to see Matt leave, all good wishes for the future will accompany him.

www.bigburynews.com/church

A second 'out of the blue' announcement came mid-February, with the news of Harry and Ellen Bardens' move from Bigbury to be closer to family in Bristol. The Bardens have been part of Bigbury's history and community since at least the 1700s – see the books *Bigbury Past & Present* and *The Bells of St Lawrence* for further background* – so their departure truly is the end of an era. Elsewhere in this News is a report of an event held on 15th March at St Lawrence to celebrate the roles Harry and Ellen have both played in Bigbury and Devon bellringing over many years. Harry was also churchwarden from 1962 to 1989. St Lawrence will miss Ellen and Harry hugely and our love goes with them.

On more general matters – December's community coffee morning raised £758 for St Lawrence and was a busy and convivial event. Well done to Jean, Yvonne and the other



stall holders for their hard work, not only in December but over the year raising funds (a record £4,128 in 2024) for many local charities! All the Christmas services were very well and joyfully attended, and thank you to all who decorated the church beautifully. Also, after various painting jobs were finished and windows

cleaned, the interior

scaffolding at the rear of the church was removed the week before Christmas, making entry into the church easier and allowing use of the rear pews again – hurray!

A Mothering Sunday service will have been held on 30th March, a lovely chance to acknowledge our appreciation of mums!

Whilst the temporary organ gifted from Sandra Inglis is doing sterling service accompanying our singing, behind the scenes the search continues for a permanent replacement. On the building works front, improvements to the electrics are planned before refurbishing the vestry, and final works in the tower are due in April. Plus repairs to the floor tiles are being funded by the Friends of St Lawrence (FoSL), for which many grateful thanks! St Lawrence Church has seen much volunteer effort put into it since 2019 in the spirit of protecting our parish's religious and historical centre. Whether you wish to join in a service, (see the Mission calendar elsewhere in the News for Easter services), visit for private prayer, discover the community history or appreciate the architecture, you are most warmly welcome at St Lawrence.

All good wishes for Easter – do come along to the Easter Saturday Fair on **19th April** at Bigbury Memorial Hall, refreshments, stalls and a Spring themed wreath workshop await you, in aid of the church, and then celebrate Holy Communion on Easter Day with Oli Long!

Vic & Jill Gubbins 810651
gubbinsjill@gmail.com

* Books available at
Holywell Stores or from Jill
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Be a GEM!

Become a diamond-level
Friend of St. Lawrence's by
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Historical St Lawrence's Church relies on the ongoing support of the community to ensure it's here for future generations. To accomplish the various projects that contribute to the heritage and beauty of St. Lawrence's, we need to raise circa £6000/year which means we need 100 'Diamond' Friends giving just £5/month. So, we are asking you to become one of our precious GEMs!

By joining Friends of St Lawrence's Church (FoSL), you will help maintain this priceless building and its remarkable contents.

To find out more about the benefits of becoming a Friend, please contact: FoSL Secretary, Gill Cook 01548 810 156 or visit our website: www.FoSLBigbury.co.uk



Upon joining, you'll receive this beautifully illustrated limited edition hardback book that recounts the fascinating 1000+ year history of St Lawrence's Church & Bigbury.





All Hallows

CHURCH NEWS

We are now in the time of Lent where we are preparing to remember the crucifixion of Jesus and his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. Please see the schedule of events for the Modbury Mission community. We look forward to seeing many of you at the events.

Our Annual Parochial Church meeting is on Thursday, 3rd April 2025 at 2pm. Everyone is welcome particularly those on the electoral roll. This year the roll is being renewed and Tracy Hyde will have been in touch with those affected but we do encourage as many of the village as possible to become members.

Rev Matt Rowland is moving on to a new role at St Leonards in Exeter. He will be a great loss to the Mission Community but we wish him well. His last service for us will be at St Georges on Easter Sunday. The following week on **27th April** there will be a tea party at St Georges for Matt and his family, all are welcome. The process has already begun in ensuring that the Mission Community continues to run between appointments and to seek a new incumbent.

Thank you to all who help out with our church in Ringmore, including the key holders, flower arrangers and those who help with the monthly church clean. The next dates for the cleaning are **Friday 25 April** and **Friday 30th May** starting at 10am.

Tear fund lunches have finished till the autumn. You'll be pleased to know over the winter season we have collected £1000 for Tear Fund. You can explore what they do on www.tearfund.org. Do feel able to join us at our weekly house group that meets on a Wednesday at 10am for 2 hours. Please ask if you would like home communion and prayer.

ALL HALLOWS PRAYER GROUP

From time to time, most of us feel the need for prayer (whether or not we go to Church). If anyone has a prayer request, they can phone one of the numbers listed below and give details of the request (as much or as little detail as they wish) That person will contact other members of the chain so that a number of people are offering the prayer on behalf of the individual. Confidentiality is always maintained.

Prayer chain members are:

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Sally Errett | 714946 | Alison Wynne-Powell | 07778 937087 |
| Mary Wilson | 830280 | Debbie Moseley | 07570 804796 |
| Gill Tomlin | 810028 | Yvonne Turpin | 810798 |
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Mary's Fruit Cake

Ingredients

1lb Mixed Fruit
8oz Brown Sugar
8oz Butter
2 Cups Tea
2 Large Eggs
1lb Self Raising Flour
2tsp Baking Powder
Tbsp or more of Whisky



Method

Heat in a saucepan the fruit, sugar, butter and tea to a simmer and leave for 5 minutes.

Leave the fruit, sugar, butter and tea to cool.

Add eggs and whisky if using, and fold in the flour and baking powder.

Cook on 140/150°C for approximately 1hr 15mins.

Modbury Mission Community

CHURCH SERVICES: APRIL & MAY 2025

| | Aveton Gifford 11.00 am | Bigbury 11.00 am | Kingston 9.30 am | Modbury 9.30 am | Ringmore 9.30 am |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|---------------------|
| April 6 th | Sunday Worship | Communion | Sunday Worship | Communion | Communion |
| April 13 th Palm Sunday | Sunday Worship | Communion | Village Service | Communion (8 am) (BCP) All Age Worship | Sunday Worship |
| April 20 th Easter Day | Communion | Communion | Communion (11 am) | Communion | Communion |
| April 27 th | Communion | Sunday Worship | Sunday Worship | Sunday Worship | Communion |
| May 4 th | Sunday Worship | Village Service | Sunday Worship | Communion | Communion |
| May 11 th | Sunday Worship | Communion | Sunday Worship | All Age Worship | Sunday Worship |
| May 18 th | Communion | Sunday Worship | Communion (11 am) | Communion | Sunday Worship |
| May 25 th | Communion | Sunday Worship | Communion | Sunday Worship Rooted (6 pm) | Communion |

All Change

Coming out of winter into spring feels like one of the biggest transitions of the year. Flowers bloom, trees bud, mornings grow lighter, and—hopefully—days become warmer. Lambs appear in the fields, and we begin to wake to the sound of birdsong. It is truly a season of change.

This season of change is especially significant for me and my family. This will be the last magazine article I write as your vicar, as after Easter I will be moving to take up a new role as the rector of St Leonard's Church in Exeter. The family will remain in the vicarage in Modbury until the end of the school summer term, and then we will move into a new home in Exeter. It is all change for us—new job, new church, new home, and new schools.

In one of the letters in the New Testament, the writer encourages the people to respect their church leaders but also to be cautious of those who might lead them astray. Between that encouragement and warning, we find these words:

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.'

Here is hope in a world that can often feel uncertain and unpredictable. Here is hope as leaders from all walks of life come and go. Here is hope when our own personal circumstances shift, leaving us feeling unmoored. There is one who can always be relied upon, one who never changes, whose promises are steadfast—an anchor in the storms of life.

In my own personal season of change, he will be the one I look to. As I have sought to do over the past seven years, I encourage and invite you to look to him as well.

Thank you for the way you have welcomed me into this community. We will deeply miss living in this beautiful part of the South Hams, but we are incredibly grateful for our time here. We will leave with many fond memories—perhaps we will see you on the beach in the.

With every blessing,
Matt



Holy Week and Easter

Saturday 5th April
4-5pm Easter Family Craft event
AG Memorial Hall

Maundy Thursday 17th April
7pm Communion Service
St George's, Modbury

Good Friday 18th April
~10.30am Aveton Gifford Walk of Witness
finishing with a short service in the church
(meet at Fisherman's Rest)
~10.30am Walk at Modbury,
with activities for families
(meet at Play Park/Ponds at Palm Cross Est)
~2pm Reflections around the cross
(in St George's Church)

Easter Day 20th April
Communion Services
9.30am Modbury
9.30am Ringmore
11am Bigbury
11am Kingston
11am Aveton Gifford

Vicar: The Revd Matt Rowland (830260: every day
except (normally) Saturday)

Curate: The Revd Oli Long (732007: not Saturday)

Readers: Joyce Howitt (07929 117397). Gil Snook
(07563 663410). Michael Tagent (Emeritus)

Website: www.modburyteam.org

Beach Banter

Dear Neighbours,

As we start to warm up for our season the hotel is busy, which is when she is at her best. She looks amazing after the huge amount of work done over the January closure and second half of last year.

Blinding flashes of the bleedin' obvious are rare, but I had one this week. I don't know about you but I've never been happy with the outside entrance of the hotel. I thought it was the pots and scrappy olive trees that upset me, so I was looking at changing them and adding more, perhaps in pewter.

Then one evening this week Vix (my lovely girlfriend) was looking for inspiration from old photos of the hotel on the Google machine, suddenly we saw one with no pots no plants, just naked as the architect intended. And that was the bleedin' flash of the obvious; the architect had done all the work and for years it had been ruined by planters and pots.

She now looks glorious with her colonnades and curved lines exposed, because that is Art Deco.

In other news the charming Jeremy and Sinead Irons came to stay. Unfortunately we were 100% full so as I tell everyone, Jeremy Irons had to sleep in my bed at Warren cottage, and his wife of course; I wasn't actually there!!

Please could I enlist your help? My bug bear is constantly hearing that non residents aren't welcome at the hotel, that was the other people!! Please tell everyone that they are, if they book. Obviously we have limits in the restaurants and Palm court but if booked a reasonable time ahead it is normally fine.

Also don't forget you can book our tennis courts.

Please can you join me in welcoming the new manager of the Pilchard, Lisa Bennett, come and say hello. Finally the Pilchard is beginning to become the pub it should have always been, sorry about that, but the food is good, service is charming with Millie, Fi, Archie and Liv amongst others, and I'm told it's the best Guinness in the area. So Tom says.

I should also say hello to our new neighbour at Bantham Estate, Harry Aubrey- Fletcher, who I had the pleasure of meeting at the Hotel yesterday, and hope we will all get to know over the coming years.

Finally, Louise Wainwright pulled off an amazing event at the Bigbury net zero and champions of Avon assembly, at its unofficial club house at Burgh Island hotel. She had the local MP, Caroline Voaden, and so many VIP environmentalists, with a key speech from the inspirational Monty Halls. Of note was the excellent speech by our very own Cathy Case (Tucker), well done.

Here comes the sun. Wishing you a glorious Spring

Giles & Niki Fuchs (Current Burgh custodians)

STOP PRESS:

New menus have just been released at the Pilchard Inn for both lunch and dinners.

Also: The Nettefold restaurant in the Hotel is open for afternoon tea and lunch every day, please book!



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Beach Banter



www.discoverysurf.com

It's been great getting underway with lessons here at the surf school this last few weeks, with family and private lessons and Surf Club all enjoying some early season waves. The water is still definitely on the chilly side but with plenty of neoprene we're all staying toasty!



Kira Connolly on a wave at the Bantham Boardriders Surf Competition

In the run up to the Easter holidays we're pretty busy on weekends with the first Surf Club courses of the season. If it's still a bit early for you, we've got some taster sessions coming up in the holidays and the next courses starting end of April as the water warms up a bit. If you're keen to learn to surf we have lesson availability most days and if you'd like to hire any kit we recommend that you get in touch and we can update you on conditions and availability.



Competitors from the BBR surf Comp

At Easter we'll be open everyday and have kids, family and private lessons and equipment hire available, as well as the first of our ever popular discounted week long courses.

Here at Discovery we've always been hugely supportive of up and coming young surfers who are keen to compete and develop their surf skills, and for many years we hosted a local surfing competition. The baton has now been passed onto the dedicated volunteers at the Bantham Boardriders, a community surf club for local surfers, and this weekend saw the inaugural Bantham Boardriders Open Surf Competition.



Annika Connolly, Eva Isserlis and Immy Nute

There was a very good turn out, especially from lots of familiar Discovery faces, and although the waves were pretty small, the sun shone, and the stoke was super high! It was an Open competition but it was great to see loads of young groms getting in the mix with the adults as well, and all generations can certainly learn from each other. It was a very competitive day and lots of fun, and the Men's and Women's finals were hotly contested. The eventual winners were Annika Connolly of Discovery for the Women's and local ripper and Disco alumni Noah Capps, from Ringmore, for the Men's.



Surf Club grom enjoying a winter surf

As the days get longer and water starts to warm up we're excited for the coming season! See you at the beach.

All the best

Annika, Martin, Jess and the Discovery Team

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Devon County Council Elections

On **Thursday 1st May 2025**, we all have the opportunity to vote for candidates in the Devon County Council Elections.

As usual, the Polling Station will be the Memorial Hall in Bigbury.

Updates will be posted nearer the time in Charterlands Chatter and BigburyNetZeroDrums.

Important Dates:

The last date to register to vote at this election is **Friday 11 April**. For further info scan the QR code OR visit: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>



If you will be away from home or not able to attend on polling day you can apply for an absent vote. Postal vote applications must be received by **Monday 14 April**. For further info scan the QR code OR visit: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote>



If you apply for a postal vote, please bear in mind that postal ballots will be sent out on **Wednesday 16 April**. However, if you apply after **24 March** your postal vote may not be posted until **22 April**.

If you are concerned that you will be away when your postal ballot is delivered you may wish to appoint a proxy instead. A proxy is a person you appoint to vote on your behalf.

Any changes to current postal or proxy vote arrangements must be made by **5 p.m. Monday 14 April**. Proxy vote applications must be received by **5 p.m. Wednesday 23 April**. For further info scan the QR code OR visit: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote>



IMPORTANT

All electors at the polling station are required to show original copies of their photographic ID before they can be issued with a ballot paper. Photographic ID includes:

- Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country
- Photographic driving licence issued by the UK, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (including provisional)
- European Economic Area (EEA) photographic ID Card
- UK Biometric Residence Permit
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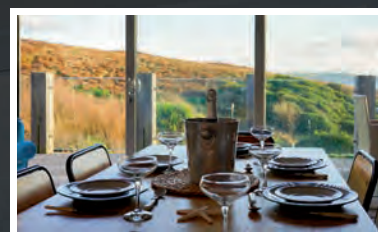
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Cocktail Hour

Burgh Island Hotel has kindly sent us this seasonal recipe.

Burgh Island Gimlet:

60ml burgh island gin

15 ml lime juice

15 ml sugar syrup

(It can also be done with lime 25ml of lime cordial, replacing the lime juice and sugar syrup)

Add all ingredients to a shaker with ice, shake vigorously for 10 to 12 seconds and strain in a chilled Martini glass. Garnish with a lime twist and enjoy.



Photo supplied by Rosemary C

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Wildlife Watch

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If you are interested in watching the Devon wildlife community from the comfort of your own home, why not tune in to the Devon Wildlife Trust's first bird feeder camera! This clever piece of kit now beams live pictures around the World as birds visit, feed and sometimes squabble for position at two bird feeders.

In its first weeks the camera has picked up great-spotted woodpeckers, nuthatches, coal tits, dunnocks and robins, as well as fleeting appearances by foxes, badgers and fallow deer.

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DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST



BEAVERS ARE COMING HOME!

The Wildlife Trusts congratulate the UK Government's decision to open the door for licenced reintroductions of beavers into the wild and its acknowledgment of the free-living populations in several parts of England.

The Government have recently announced that applications to return beavers into river catchments in England will be accepted. This paves the way for this native species to roam wild in British rivers and lakes once more, helping to create wetlands and increase biodiversity. Natural England has developed a detailed licencing regime and application process to make sure that stakeholders are engaged and landowners are supported.

To find out more and to support the Devon Wildlife Trust visit:




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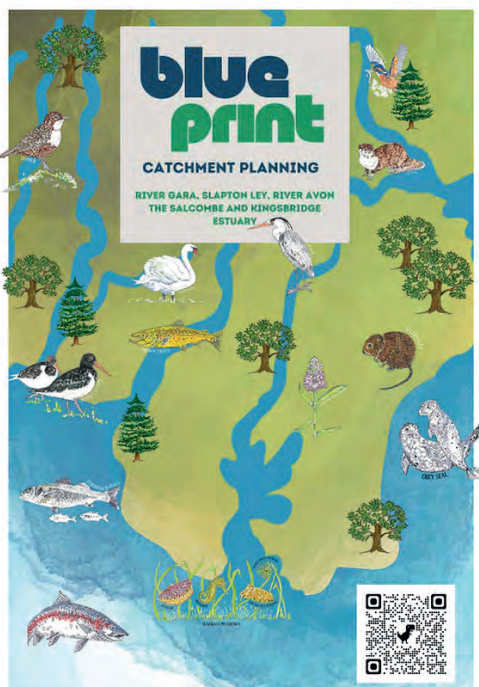


BluePrint Project

The cherry on the cake at the Island Assembly, was the breaking news from Avon River Champions, that the application to the Water Restoration Fund had been successful and that the BluePrint Project has been awarded £138,000. Funding for this 18-month programme came from the £2.1 million fine imposed on South West Water for pollution caused by inadequate capacity at their sewage treatment works in 2023.

There was fierce competition for this relatively small pot of money from across the SWW region. The BluePrint Project was developed collaboratively by Avon River Champions, SeaDream Education CIO, Friends of Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary, Sustainable Blackawton, Force4Nature and Plymouth Marine Laboratory. The funding will be used to design three catchment plans for the River Avon, River Gara & Slapton Ley and the Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary.

The design of the catchment plans will involve all stakeholders – farmers, businesses, parish and district councils, households, community groups and environmental organisations. The BluePrint Project will culminate in a River Summit this autumn when farmers and other stakeholders will be invited to be



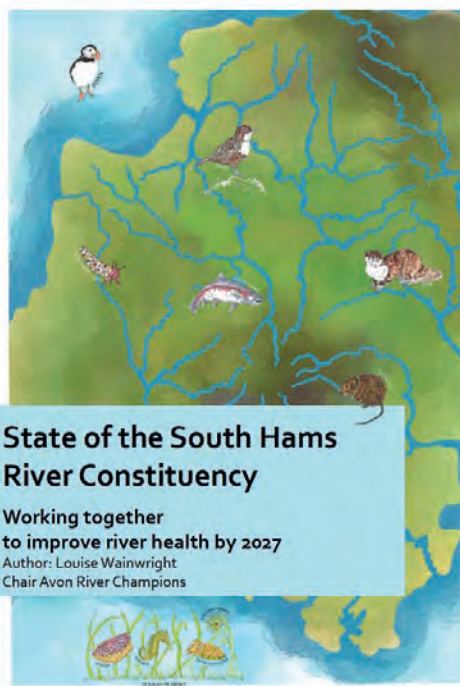
partners in the follow up 'Delivery Project' which will fund the capital costs of implementing the agreed interventions. The ambitious aim is to agree a co-designed plan to restore the health of our local rivers and estuaries to 'Good Ecological Status' by 2027.

If the first phase (BluePrint Project) is successful, we will be in a strong position to bid for follow on funding from the Water Restoration Fund for the Delivery Project – from £500,000 to £2 million.

River Water Quality Groups

The local framework for action to improve water quality in our rivers and tributaries is a River Water Quality Group. Already set up to serve the River Yealm and the River Erme, the RWQG consists of a representative from each of the neighbouring parish councils in our river valley from the source up on Dartmoor to Bigbury Bay.

Avon River Champions will be presenting this proposal to Bigbury Parish Council at their Annual Parish Meeting in the Memorial Hall on **9 April**.



Avon River Voices

Sign up for the e-newsletter, Avon River Voices to keep abreast of the developments in the BluePrint project, find out how to join in and learn about what is happening in the River Avon, River Gara & Slapton Ley and the Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary.

Louise Wainwright
Chair Avon River Champions
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www.avon-river-champions.org



Planet Bigbury

The Community Chest for our Planet Bigbury campaign received a big boost from our supporters at the Oyster Shack with a generous donation of £500 and a further sum of £279 from their Sustainable Sunday event in February. Bigbury Golf Club has also donated £100 to the Community Chest which is the ideal way to help fund local people to 'do their bit' for the planet. Please contact us (info@bigburynetzero.org) if you would like to donate or run a fund-raising event.

At the end of the year, we will offer small grants at our annual award ceremony, to help with any projects in Bigbury which support our Planet Bigbury aims. Find out more www.bigburynetzero.org

Island Assembly

Burgh Island was once more the iconic meeting place for a high-level summit focussing on "Clean Rivers – Clean Seas." Giles Fuchs and Niki Fuchs sponsored the Island Assembly on the **13th March** which brought together leaders from across Devon to focus on the practical and immediate actions which could be taken to reduce pollution from all sources. Organised jointly by Avon River Champions and Bigbury Net Zero, the assembly brought together 56 leaders from all sectors – parish, district and Devon County councillors, Caroline Voaden MP, environmental organisations, scientists, community groups, businesses and farmers. Delegates heard from inspirational and informed speakers who outlined the issues and solutions.

Renewable Energy feasibility

We were one of only two community groups in the National Grid Electricity Distributions region to be selected to participate in the REACH Project funded by Ofgem. This is a desk-based research project to explore innovative ways to support rural communities in constrained electricity network areas to achieve their de-carbonisation ambitions. If we are successful in progressing to the next stage, more details will follow.



Louise Wainwright
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Getting together at the end of February for our monthly meeting we were delighted to welcome back Roger Kendall, who, after rising through the ranks of the London Fire Service, was seconded to the TV series "London's Burning".

Following this he set up his own company to advise different production companies on the safety aspects of filming scenes involving fires, explosions, terrorist attacks and the like. What we see on our screens in seconds can take days to film with the use of cleverly devised controlled explosive substances, with the safety of film crews always a priority. We were shown many examples from programmes we may well have watched and some very interesting props were handed round. They were a lot lighter than they looked.

As before Roger reminded us all of the need for fire alarms in our homes and even offered to come and fit them himself if necessary. In the course of his work he had managed to get across the importance of this in an episode of Eastenders he wrote.

Our next get-together will be on **April 4th** when Ian Hiscock of the Greenwood Consort will talk and give a recital using medieval instruments such as baroque and renaissance baroque and renaissance flute, viola de gamba and harpsichord bringing music of the past back to life.

As usual this will be at Malborough Village Hall T 10am.



Photo supplied by Paul Linzell



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Nineteenth Hole

We will all be delighted to welcome Jenny Linzell as the Editor for the Bigbury and Ringmore News; we will all be equally delighted to see the magazine back in circulation.

At Bigbury Golf Club it has been business as usual and at the January Drive-In the 2025 Club Captains were welcomed in grand style. The Men's Captain is Mick McNulty, the Ladies Captain is Mary Wilcox and the Seniors Captain is Charlie Thomson, and there was much fun and good-will for them at the annual drive-in.

On a very cold and blustery afternoon, 36 stoical players took to the course for this important but fun 11 hole Greensomes competition. The winners were Simon Hill and Martin Kenny with a good score of 24 points. In second place with a score of 22 points were Joanne and Nick Shorrocks, and with just one point less in third place were Brian Henwood and Andrew Ware.



Pictured on the Tee before setting out in the competition are 2025 Captains Mick McNulty and Mary Wilcox who were paired together. Whilst they were not in the prizes, Mary and Mick certainly took prizes for their fancy dress! The 2024 Men's Captain, Jack Green, was delighted to sign off when he had the pleasure of presenting a cheque for £1005.40 to the RNLi with two members of the Bigbury

Golf Club, Paul Weedon and Peter Bennett, gratefully receiving the donation.

Jack reports that he chose the RNLi as his Charity for 2024 as he felt this was very apt as it coincided with the RNLi's 200th Anniversary, and followed on from Bigbury's 100th Anniversary the year before.

The money was raised in several ways. Notably, as part of his "Captain's Day" in July, the competition entry fees, and the three bunkers around the 7th hole were nominated as donation bunkers. Also, after their round, visitors whose balls "visited" these hazards were invited to make a donation in the RNLi collection box in the clubhouse. Finally, Jack adds that as well as being members of Bigbury Golf Club, Paul and Peter are also RNLi staff.

Paul and Peter thanked Jack for choosing the RNLi as his 2024 Charity and advised the money raised will be divided between the Dart and Salcombe Stations.

Congratulations to Jack on raising such a good amount of money which was welcomed by this local Charity.

And, to close this report, another substantial Charity donation of more than £1,000 was raised by the 2024 Seniors Captain, Andrew Ware. Andrew took great pleasure in presenting a cheque to Rex Brown of



the Devon Air Ambulance Trust (DAAT). The Seniors Committee had worked hard throughout the year to raise this money and Rex thanked the Bigbury Seniors for their continuing support of the DAAT.

Marlene

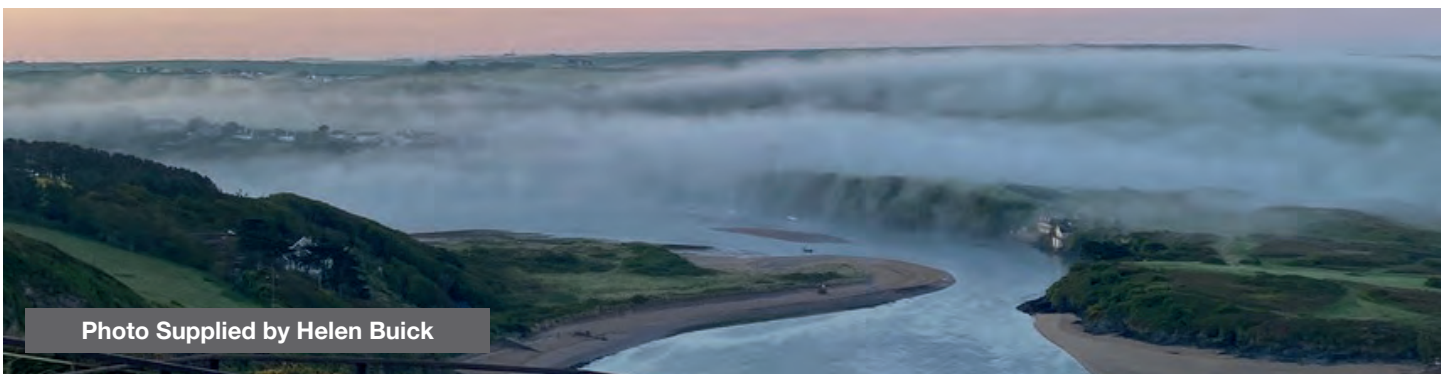


Photo Supplied by Helen Buick