



# BIGBURY & RINGMORE NEWS

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2024

Issue 485

~ IN THIS ISSUE ~

GUEST EDITOR  
Matilda Pitt

~

GOLF CLUB SPECIAL  
new management

~

SCARECROWS  
open gardens

~

AGATHA CHRISTIE  
Burgh Island

~

KIM WATKINS  
local artist

~

FARM GATE  
Mount Folly

~

VILLAGE KITCHEN  
Mediterranean chicken

~

plus

COMMUNITY NEWS

~

WHAT'S ON

~

CHURCH NEWS

~

PHOTO GALLERY

~

AVON RIVER

~

BIGBURY NET ZERO

~

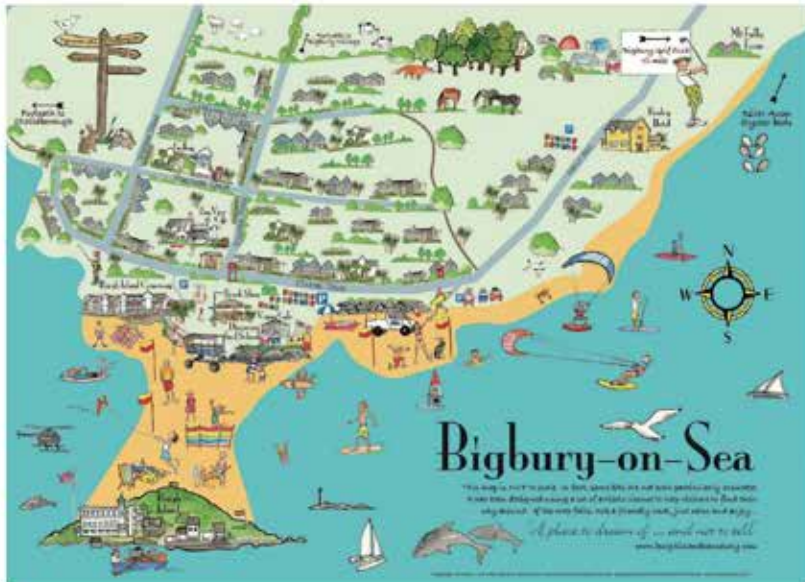
BUSINESS MATTERS



## BIGBURY ON SEA HOLIDAYS

[Bigburyonsea.co.uk](http://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](mailto:John@BigburyOnSeaHolidays.com)

## BIGBURY & RINGMORE NEWS

### COPY DEADLINES

15 January for the February / March Issue  
15 March for the April / May issue  
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: Helen Buick

Middle: Vanessa White

Bottom: Mike Wynne-Powell



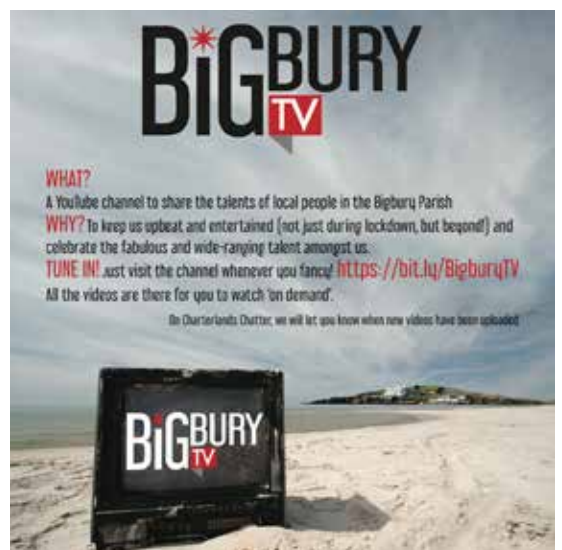
**BIGBURY NET ZERO DRUMS**  
Together we can make a Difference

### 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](http://www.bigburynews.com) or contact the BNZD editor: [henry.wainwright52@gmail.com](mailto:henry.wainwright52@gmail.com)

### ADVERTISE LOCAL EVENTS

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



Editor and Design: Jan Davies [bigburynewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:bigburynewseditor@gmail.com)  
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Thank you to all of our volunteer distributors in Bigbury and Ringmore.

## EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Readers,

I hope you're all having a good summer so far, despite the fickle weather!

This issue has been produced with the assistance of Bigbury student Matilda Pitt, who has completed her work experience as guest editor. She has interviewed the new manager at Bigbury Golf Club and written that article. She interviewed Cathy and Gordon Case for the Mount Folly piece and wrote the Farm Gate page. Matilda also researched and wrote the article on Agatha Christie, which includes photos of her dressed as Agatha. What a star! In addition, she researched and wrote the Garden Gate feature, and had a discussion about communication with our business editor Nancy Singleton. We feel very fortunate to have spent a week with such a hard working and talented person. Thank you Matilda!

We are very pleased to introduce local artist Kim Watkins to those of you who haven't come across her work. It's incredibly detailed, beautiful and the use of recycled paper makes it environmentally friendly.

Nancy and I have loved seeing all the photos of the open gardens and the scarecrows! What a spectacle in Ringmore! Thank you for the photos.

This issue is a Golf Club special, in recognition of the new manager and all the wonderful work the club has done for the environment. Don't forget that the clubhouse is open to non-members so drop in and treat yourself to their delicious food!

Best wishes to you all,  
**Jan Davies**  
bigburynewseditor@gmail.com

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## CONTENTS

Community	4- 9
What's On	10-11
St Lawrence's Church	12
All Hallows Church	13
Modbury Mission	15
Burgh Island	16
Agatha Christie	17
Beach Banter	19
Photo Gallery	20-21
Kim Watkins	23
Village Kitchen	25
Wildlife Watch	26
Garden Gate	27
Farm Gate	29
Business Matters	31
Avon River Champions	32
Bigbury Net Zero	33
Bigbury Golf Club	35-39

### 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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### Parish Clerk:

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clerk.bigburypc@gmail.com

## 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](http://www.bigburycommunity.co.uk)

## RINGMORE PARISH COUNCIL

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cllrmcampbell.ringmorepc@outlook.com  
07796 268851

**Vice Chair: Richard Kent-Woolsey**

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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 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](http://www.ringmoreparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL Bringing the Community Together

We had a disappointment in July when the Holly Ebony Band had to cancel their performance on the 12th at the last minute due to Holly's indisposition. Over forty people had reserved tickets. She was upset not to come to Bigbury but is anxious to arrange an alternative date and this will be announced in due course.

We're taking a break now for the Summer but are already planning our Autumn and Winter programme. This will include a Film & Food Night, 50s/60s Disco, Bubbles Tasting Evening and New Year Quiz. Look out for further details in the coming weeks.

Have a great Summer, from all at the Hall.

Charles Harrington Tel: 810023  
Email: [charles\\_harri@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charles_harri@yahoo.co.uk)



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## 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 August – September 2024

<u>Day &amp; Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Organiser</u>	<u>Contact no.</u>
<b>Mon.</b> 15.45 – 17.00	Table tennis	Angie Bond Janie Grace	811131 811122
<b>Wed.</b> 10.30 – 12.00 (1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. of month)	Community Coffee morning	Jean Wright Yvonne Klidjian	810029 810971
5.30 – 6.30	Kids' jiu jitsu	Eoin Murphy sigmurphy@outlook.com	855712
(2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed. of month) 19.30	Parish Council	Ian Bramble (clerk)	855712
19.00	Community Choir	Apple Taylor Appletaylor72@gmail.com	
<b>Thurs.</b> 9.30 – 10.30	Pilates	Jill Gubbins	810651
10.50 -11.30	Strong & Steady (plus tea and chat)	Jill Gubbins	810651

**ANTHONY MARK SINGLETON (TONY)**  
14 June 1940 – 11 June 2024



Tony was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and neighbour who died peacefully at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, following a fall at home. He is survived by his two sons, Matthew and Kingsley, his grandchildren and his beloved dog, Frankie.

A long-serving officer who rose to the rank of Inspector, Tony retired from the Metropolitan Police in 1995 and enjoyed his retirement in Bigbury, where he embraced the beauty and tranquillity of the South Hams, and made many dear friends. Along with his wife Margaret, who passed away in 2022, he embraced village life, running the neighbourhood watch for many years, and keeping the lanes clear of litter.

Now he is safely reunited with Margaret and their many dogs.

If you would like to make a donation in Tony's memory, please go to the Help for Heroes website and use his dedicated tribute page at [herofunds.helpforheroes.org.uk/In-Memory/A-Singleton](https://herofunds.helpforheroes.org.uk/In-Memory/A-Singleton)

**Kingsley Singleton**

**Pre-ordered Daily Newspapers at Bigbury-on-Sea**

Thankfully, Holywell Stores are delivering daily newspapers, leaving them in the phone box for collection but PLEASE can everybody put the wedge-on-a-chain in the door to keep it slightly ajar or else I have a terrible time trying to open the door as it is so stiff and heavy. I would so much appreciate it and I'm sure there are others who also have difficulty so PLEASE PUT THE WEDGE IN! Thank you.

**Pam Trundle**

**BIGBURY LADIES**



For our meeting on Thursday 20th June, we met at Bigbury Golf Club arriving from 11am. What a lovely sunny day we had! We started out on the back patio for coffee. It was very nice to have two new ladies joining us for the first time: Rachel and Heather, meeting up with Chrissie, Carol, Gill, Hazel, Ann, Beth and myself. We had lunch inside in the dining room when Jean, Mo and Rose joined us. It was agreed that for July we would accept Gill's very kind invitation to meet at her gorgeous home in Bigbury-on-Sea for a 'bring a plate with food to share'.

Any ladies wishing to join our group are extremely welcome. We are completely an 'unofficial group' ie no committee, no treasurer etc just a monthly gathering for a couple of hours or so.

**Pam Trundle**

**BIGBURY COFFEE MORNING**

On Wednesday 5th June we raised £381 for the Wave Project. It was lovely to have Katie present who updated us all on the wonderful work which takes place down on the beach. The Wave Project gives young people the confidence and skills to enjoy life to the full.

On Wednesday 3rd July we raised £375 for the Kingsbridge Outreach Project. It was good to have Ellie and Lindsay present, 2 Outreach project workers, who work alternate Wednesday afternoons in Kingsbridge Care Hub, Quay House. In Ivybridge it is alternate Wednesday mornings at Ivybridge Methodist Church. They provide look good, feel better workshops and support the whole family with cancer patients through their journey.

Many thanks to everyone who came and supported us so generously. On Wednesday 7th August we will be supporting Devon Air Ambulance and on Wednesday 4th September we will be supporting St Luke's Hospice. We look forward to seeing you between 10.30 and noon in the Memorial Hall.

Best wishes,

**Jean, Yvonne and the team.**

# Community

## Ringmore WI Celebrating 100 years with a Scarecrow Trail and Open Gardens!

On a sunny weekend in May, Ringmore was invaded by some strange creatures. Yes it was our first ever Scarecrow contest. Scarecrows had to be home made and put in place by 9am Sunday morning. What creativity and imagination we have in our village – from Spiderman to Bat out of well, Lady of the forest to the Minions- all shapes and sizes. Over 20 entries and they all brought a smile to our faces. Some great prizes were awarded, thanks to our local sponsors, and the winning entry was Paula's inebriated lady. Well done everyone who contributed.

Food and drinks were on offer in the WI hall, marquee and garden - Ploughman's Lunches, Cream Teas, Pimms and strawberries for a taste of summer, and a huge selection of home baked cakes- thanks to all our talented home bakers and our helpers in the hall who worked tirelessly over the two days. The six beautiful gardens open to public view were the main attraction. They were all different- grand, cottage style, modern, naturalistic or woodland, with varied styles of planting and design. So many people were delighted to walk around our pretty village in the sunshine.

Thanks to everyone who helped, all who came to support, and special thanks to the garden owners who worked so hard to enable this event to take place. What a great way to celebrate the 100th anniversary year of Ringmore WI, and the joys of living in our very special area of Outstanding Natural Beauty while raising money for our hall and the RNLI.

Jane Baker



# Community



# Community

## The Drat Pack and Mad About Swing

During the summer months, the popular Kingsbridge Jazz Club repairs to Long Easton in Bigbury with stunning views over the rolling hills of the South Hams countryside. For once the weather did not disappoint, and it was a calm and still afternoon as we walked through a wildflower meadow to hear the blissful sounds of The Drat Pack warming up. Summer was here at last!

The set opened with some well-known classics: Cole Porter's Pennies From Heaven, Frank Sinatra's I've Got You Under My Skin, and then Feeling Good, memorably sung by the great Nina Simone. It wasn't long before the terrace

came alive with a masterclass of swing and lindy hop from Duncan and Louise. It was a joy to watch their faultless footwork, and their infectious love of dancing inspired some couples to join them on the dance floor. Making full use of the large space on the upper garden terrace was definitely Adam's comfortable milieu and the sunlit-bathed audience clearly warmed to him. The band romped through an effervescent set list consisting of jazz, swing and even some popular songs from more recent times. They were joined by the dancing couple Duncan and Louise who started up the Plymouth based dance school Mad About Swing in 2007 and are regularly seen on the dance floor at a variety of locations.

One after one came some classic jazz dance numbers, including Love Is The Tender Trap, Autumn Leaves, Mr Bojangles, It Don't Mean A Thing and Paper Moon, all covered at various times by Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington, as the first set came to a close. More classic swing followed in the second half, with songs such as Route 66, Hit The Road Jack, and Minnie The Moocher, that rumbustiously memorable number from Cab Calloway. There was also time for the audience to join in some of the choruses as a joyful afternoon came to a close. We look forward to the next outdoor event, at Long Easton, on Sunday 4 August featuring the Carlton Big Band and the vocalist Andy Youngs.

**Amyl Fazal**



## Bigbury History Society Totnes Town Walk

Thursday 4th July was an unusually bright day for the election - and the Totnes town walk by BHS members. We were met mid morning at the Market Square by Kathy, our guide from the Totnes Civic Society, with the objective of learning more of the town's activities and buildings over the ages.

This began with an explanation of its Saxon roots, and the Norman "take over" with the building of the famous Motte and Bailey castle. We walked around the old stone walls, taking in The Guildhall, the Museum and finally the Church.

Apart from the many influences and changes over time perhaps the most interesting was that, during the Civil War (when most of the South Hams supported the Royalist cause) Totnes did not take sides. Rather it supported whichever army came to town, which probably resulted in the many Tudor buildings not being destroyed - and remaining for our For your diary the next BHS meeting is a trip to Shilston on 11th September. On the 4th October there is A Talk on "Bells, Bellringing and Bigbury" at The Memorial Hall and on the 14th BHS has arranged a Town Walk by Salcombe Museum. On 7th November at the hall Jan Davies will describe the making of her book on Bigbury Women, and on 5th December BHS's AGM at the hall will be followed by one of Norman Botton's unique Quizzes.



## RINGMORE FAIR

**AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY  
WEEKEND (24<sup>TH</sup>-26<sup>TH</sup>)**

Large marquee with integral dance floor on field along Challaborough lane  
Free parking in field off Cockle Lane and disabled parking along marquee field

Portaloos                      Card / Cash                      Hay bales and chairs

### **SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup>**

**6.30 - 11pm CEILIDH dance with Stargazy Pie Band plus caller**

**£20 pp** (£5 < 16yrs) Including food                      Licensed bar

**8 - 10pm** Hog Roast/Vegetarian or Vegan burgers & Sweet bites

Raffle in aid of Devon Air Ambulance

### **SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup>**

**9.30am onwards** Enjoy a **FREE BREAKFAST** (bacon/vegetarian/vegan bap)  
& an informal meeting with Oli Long

**For breakfast choices, RSVP by 21<sup>st</sup> August** as numbers are limited

**3 - 5pm Louise Parker** acclaimed **Jazz, Blues and Soul Singer & her Quartet**

**Gate opens 2.30pm                      £12 pp**

Complementary glass of Pimms/soft drink                      Licensed Bar

### **MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup>**

#### **FAMILY FUN DAY**

**FREE ENTRY**

**12 - 4pm**

**GAMES AND FUN FOR ALL!**

15 stalls including homemade produce and locally made crafts

Face painting                      Story telling for 8-12yr olds                      Traditional games (50p a go)

Sea shanty singers                      Fly own homemade or shop bought Kite

Bring your own picnic but fresh sandwiches available to buy for limited time

Lange Farm ice cream van

Cream Teas

Soft drinks

**For tickets, in advance only, for Saturday (with food choices)**

**and Sunday** contact Heather on 01548 714631 /

07876522934; [heather.hinkley@sky.com](mailto:heather.hinkley@sky.com)



# What's On

3 August

**Modbury Mission Beach Day**

Sedgewell, Bigbury-on-Sea 12 noon

4 August

**Open Air Big Band Sound**

Long Easton 2.30 for 3.00pm

7 Aug

**Bigbury Coffee Morning**

The Memorial Hall 10.30 - 12.00

10 Aug

**St Lawrence Day**

The Memorial Hall 3 - 5pm

24 - 26 Aug

**Ringmore Fair**

See page 8 for details

4 Sep

**Bigbury Coffee Morning**

The Memorial Hall 10.30 - 12.00

12 Sep

**The History of Dartmoor Zoo**

Ringmore WI Hall 7.30pm

4 Oct

**Bells, Bell Ringing & Bigbury**

The Memorial Hall 7.30pm

6 Oct

**All Hallows Harvest Lunch**

Ringmore Parish Room 12.30

*Home-made cakes,  
cream teas, ice creams  
or just a cuppa*

Ringmore W.I. Hall & garden  
Every Sunday from 28th July to  
1st September from 3pm to 5pm

*A summer afternoon delight  
in aid of*

**Motor Neurone Disease Association**



## **BIGBURY & RINGMORE NEWS**

We are looking for a **new editor** as Jan Davies is stepping down in December 2024.

Do you:

- Enjoy meeting people?
- Like finding out what's going on locally?
- Want to get to know your local communities?
- Want to get to know your local businesses?
- Want to learn about new topics?
- Like learning new skills?

If so, YOU could be the next editor of Bigbury & Ringmore News.

To find out more please contact Jan Davies, who would be pleased to support the new editor.  
[bigburynewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:bigburynewseditor@gmail.com)

Helping to keep the communities informed and connected.

## NEED LOCAL STORAGE?



# BSS

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## 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.

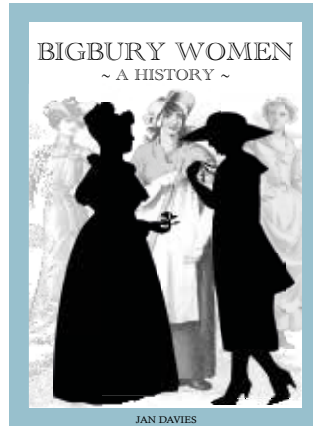
10.30 - 12.00

**Wednesday 7th August**  
Supporting Devon Air Ambulance

**Wednesday 4th September**  
Supporting St Luke's Hospice

## NOTICE BOARD

**ON SALE NOW for £5**  
at Holywell Stores, Unwind and  
Bigbury Golf Club shop.  
All proceeds from sales are going  
to the Devon Air Ambulance Trust.



## Bells, Bell Ringing and Bigbury



To celebrate the return of the bells at  
St Lawrence Church, Bigbury we have  
an evening of sounds, images and music  
telling their story.

Short presentations from Peter Cook, Vic Gubbins  
Mike Wynne-Powell, Jo Highley and more....

**Friday 4 October @ 7.30 pm**

Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel, TQ7 4HQ  
Free entry - BYOB and sharing platter  
Raffle in aid of St Lawrence Church

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY... **ASHBY'S**  
KATS PRESENTS

## Sheila's Island

By Tim Firth (Creator of Calendar Girls)  
Directed by Mike Davies

**Wed 25th to Sat 28th September**  
Malborough Village Hall. 7.30pm each evening  
Tickets available: Visit [kats-kingsbridge.co.uk](http://kats-kingsbridge.co.uk) or call 07584 905810

## Morning Market and Café

Every Tuesday in the **Kingston Reading Room**

Run by the community for the community

Open 10 am to 12 noon

Teas/coffee/squash/biscuits and  
Free smile and chat.

### Includes:

Helen Bigbury Pizzas with fresh bread.  
Lynne with fresh cakes and scones.  
Shioya with eggs and potatoes  
Need a presents? Come and have a look at our  
locally handmade unique gifts.

Anyone wanting a table 10% to the R/R.  
Contact: Tina on 07796975291

**All Welcome**

COME  
AND  
CELEBRATE  
**ST LAWRENCE DAY**  
ON  
**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024**  
WITH  
A **CREAM TEA**  
OR **SAVOURY CHEESE TEA**  
PLUS **CAKES**



AT **BIGBURY MEMORIAL HALL**  
ST ANN'S CHAPEL, BIGBURY  
**3 - 5 P.M. £7.50**

PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY



Listen to the Big Band Sound,  
Outdoors in Bigbury.  
Glenn Miller, the Rate Pack and more ...

**Sunday 4th August 2024,**  
2.30 pm for 3.00 pm

@ Long Easton, TQ7 4AN

Complimentary glass of Pimms and Cream tea  
Bring your own picnic and chair.  
£ 20.00 per person (KJC members £15)  
Booking: Contact 01548 810991  
Or [henry.wainwright52@gmail.com](mailto:henry.wainwright52@gmail.com)  
<https://carltonbigband.co.uk/>

## Ringmore Womens Institute The History of Dartmoor Zoo



by Lynne Hodgson  
Retired Fundraising Manager at DZS

**Thursday, 12th September 2024 at 7:30pm**  
**Ringmore WI Hall**  
**Members: Free Entry**  
**Non-Members: £5 Entry**

Dartmoor Zoo is a conservation charity situated just  
15 minutes from Plymouth in the village of  
Sparkwell. Set in the 33 acres of beautiful  
countryside the zoo is home to hundreds of  
animals, some of which are sadly classed as  
vulnerable to extinction.



# St Lawrence's

CHURCH NEWS

After a disappointingly wet and chilly start to summer, let's hope for some dry and warmer weather to lift spirits as school holidays count down towards the 'back to work' month of September!

The work on the structure and decoration of the tower continues. The vestry door and screen woodwork are now dry enough to be refurbished – rotten wood has been replaced and new coatings applied. This work is being done by volunteers and therefore progress is slow but steady. Work on reducing the water ingress into the tower also continues, but the untimely death of Tony Glynn, our scaffolder, has slowed down progress. Our deepest sympathies go to his family.

The bells have been ringing out regularly, for Sunday worship, practice during the week and by visiting ringers. The reintroduction of bell ringing at St Lawrence has been a success story, not least due to the efforts of Henry Wainwright who leads the growing band of ringers.



*Fred and Kath Heatley celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary at St Lawrence's Church,*

Congratulations and prayers were said for the Diamond (60th) wedding anniversary of Fred and Kath Heatley, much appreciated members of our parish's second homers, who support services and events at every opportunity. They were joined for the occasion by their family from distant parts of the globe. With flowers and bubbly from the congregation, chocolate cake made by Jackie Tagent, and hymns chosen by Fred and Kath, it was lovely to mark their special marriage milestone.

On the subject of special days, Jean Wright is organising an afternoon of delicious delights to celebrate St Lawrence Day on Saturday 10th August. Cream teas, or savoury cheese teas, plus cakes will be served 3 – 5 p.m. at Bigbury Memorial Hall, (close by Holywell Stores and the Pickwick Inn at St Ann's Chapel), with plenty of parking available and a play park and field for the children to enjoy, if the weather holds! £7.50, no need to book. Don't forget the Devon cream tea is clotted cream first, then jam on top!

The organ is awaiting the parts required to fix it, but the piano and hymnal machine are serving the congregation well in the meantime. New hands to play occasionally for services are very welcome – please contact Bryan and Angie Carson. If you have visitors over the summer or indeed are on holiday here, please do visit St Lawrence to appreciate its history and peace both inside and outside. Our Sunday services are very friendly, with free refreshments at the end! Please contact Bryan Carson, churchwarden, (810296), or us with any queries, or help and ideas to offer.

Vic & Jill Gubbins  
810651 gubbinsjill@gmail.com  
www.bigburynews.com/church



# All Hallows

## CHURCH NEWS



For those who missed our Modbury Mission Curate Oli Long being Priested at St Andrew's Church, Ashburton, this is a picture Mike Wynne-Powell snatched afterwards.

From left to right, Rev'd Jane Bakker Archdeacon of Plymouth, Elizabeth Jane Grier, James Grier Bishop of Plymouth, Jenny Wengel and Oli Long. E.J Grier and Jenny Wengel being priested at the same time.

MODBURY MISSION COMMUNITY

# BEACH DAY

**SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST  
FROM 12 NOON**

A RELAXED TIME TOGETHER WITH A SANDCASTLE COMPETITION, TREASURE HUNT, "TIDE FIGHT," AND A BBQ TO FINISH.

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CALL 01548 732007

Dear Friends,

It has been my joy and privilege to have been your curate for the last year or so. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you all, sharing our Christian walk and worshipping together under the Word of God. This last year my family has been warmly welcomed, there's been unexpected surprises, ups and downs but you are now a church community that my family and I wholly affirm as home.

I was so thrilled to share the ordination service with so many of you at Ashburton. So many of you blessed me with well wishing cards and gifts and I was so moved by the book that was made for me from the Mission Community and I will treasure it for years to come. Most significantly, however, I sensed I was really held in prayer by you all for which I am so grateful.

Even though my ordination is very personal for me, like I had finally stepped over a finish line, the reality is that it is only the beginning of a journey and, more significantly, it is far from personal. It has confirmed my place to serve the Lord God by serving his people, the Church, to aid you to be all that you should be, something that I must rely on the Holy Spirit to help me do. My ordination promises placed upon me a heavy and joyful weight that charged me to help you all continue to flourish, grow in your faith and love for Christ and strengthened in courage to be witnesses for Him...

*And 'By the help of God, I will.'*

With much gratitude, joy and love in Christ.

### 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	Allison Wynne-Powell	07778 937087
Mary Wilson	830280	Debbie Moseley	07570 804796
Gill Tomlin	810028	Yvonne Turpin	810798
Heather Hinkley	714631	Rosemary Piercy	07562 231617
Mary Naylor	07792 538138		

# HARVEST

*Lunch*

prepared by The Journey's End

**SUNDAY, 6TH OCTOBER**

12:30pm for 1:00pm

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**CONUNDRUM  
Maxwell's Children**

Max: Hello, how are you this evening

John: Splendid, thank you. And you?

Max: Very well. You know I have three children now.

John: Really? How old would they be?

Max: Well, you're good at mathematics and logic. You should be able to work it out. The product of their ages is 36 and the sum of their ages is the same as the number of that house in Modbury you used to live in.

John (after pause): That is not enough information.

Max: Quite right. Well the oldest one looks exactly like me.

John: Ah, now I can tell their ages.

How old are the three children ?

Sent in by Mike Wynne-Powell  
Answer in the next edition.



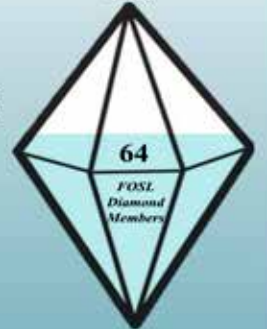
**Be a GEM!**

Become a diamond-level Friend of St. Lawrence's by Giving £5 Each Month.

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](http://www.FOSLBigbury.co.uk)

100



FREE book upon joining!



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BIGBURY**

# Modbury Mission Community

## CHURCH SERVICES: AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024

	Aveton Gifford 11.00 am	Bigbury 11.00 am	Kingston 9.30 am	Modbury 9.30 am	Ringmore 9.30 am
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Worship	Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion
August 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Worship	Communion	Village Service	Communion (8 am) (BCP) All Age Worship	Sunday Worship
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	Communion	Sunday Worship	Communion (11 am)	Communion	Sunday Worship
August 25 <sup>th</sup>	Communion	Sunday Worship	Sunday Worship	Sunday Worship	Communion
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday Worship	Village Service	Sunday Worship	Communion	Village Service
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Worship	Communion	Sunday Worship	Communion (8 am) (BCP) All Age Worship & Baptism	Sunday Worship
September 15 <sup>th</sup>				Civic Service (11 am)	
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday Worship	Sunday Worship	Communion (11 am)	Communion "Rooted" (6 pm)	Sunday Worship
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Communion	Sunday Worship	Harvest Festival	Sunday Worship	Communion

### Coping with Change

The General Election in the UK is always something to be celebrated. That we can have a change in Government in such a peaceful and ordered fashion is one of the many benefits we have in living in this country. Regardless of our political preferences, the Bible calls us to pray for kings and all those in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. So we pray that the new government will have success in resolving the many challenges they have inherited.

We also now move into a change in season coming up far too quickly. The long days of summer always seem to last such a short time compared to winter. But autumn brings with it many high points, not least a celebration of harvest, and we pray for our farmers that it will be a success for them. Please do come to our harvest celebration in the various churches of the Modbury Mission Community.

Unfortunately change can also bring a sense of fear or uncertainty. For many this may be reason they hold back from welcoming Jesus into their lives. What they might have to give up; what their friends and family might say; or having to engage with church. But don't be afraid. because God so loved the world (that means you) that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.



Gil Snook

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](http://www.modburyteam.org)

# Burgh Island



## AFTERNOON TEA

For £55 per person, non-residents can enjoy a delightful Burgh Island Hotel afternoon tea with delicious nibbles and sweet refreshments in a beautiful island setting, or perhaps we could tempt you with a sublime champagne afternoon tea for £70 per person – the same divine experience but with plenty of bubbles to keep you giggling! We also have gluten free, dairy free and vegetarian options available.


Please note that bookings are essential and we require them to be made 24 hours in advance. To book please call our reception on +44 (0)1548 810514.

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We believe that exceptional seafood starts with the finest ingredients. Thus, combining simplicity, freshness and vibrancy, the menu at The Nettlefold Restaurant reflects seasonal variations; curated to bring the best of British cuisine to your plate.



With sustainability and the environment always in mind, our dedicated culinary team combine the greatest produce and freshly caught fish with seasonal vegetables and coastal herbs, picked within walking distance of the restaurant. This commitment to the environment reflects our dedication to using the very finest ingredients for a menu of incredible seafood, meat and vegetarian dishes.



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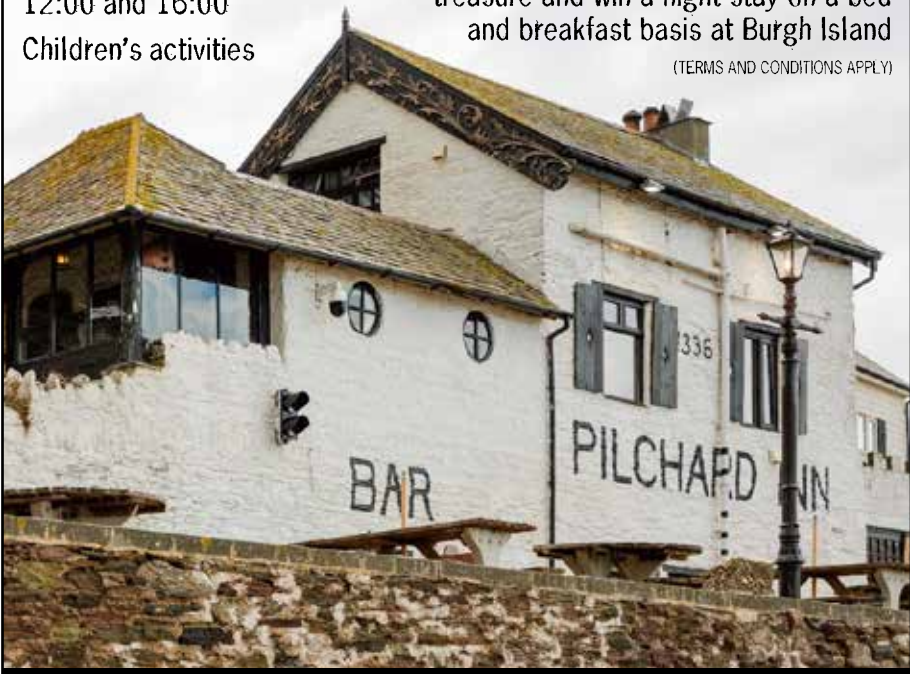
## TOM CROCKER FAMILY FUN DAY

14<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
12:00 – 16:00

Sea Shanties band  
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BBQ menu served between 12:00 and 16:00  
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Tom Crocker Treasure Hunt

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This page is sponsored by Burgh Island Hotel. Thank you.



# Agatha Christie

on Burgh Island



Agatha in 1931

Agatha Christie was an English writer well known for her 66 fictional novels and 14 short stories. Christie was born into an upper middle class family in Torquay on the 5th September 1890, and was raised with her two older siblings and parents. Christie always had a love for writing, teaching herself to read by the age of five while being home schooled by her mother.

At 16 she moved to Paris to study vocals and piano, however she was shy, therefore lacking the confidence to perform. At 18 she started writing short stories while ill with influenza, married Archibald Christie in 1914 but did not publish her first official book 'The Mysterious Affair at Styles' until 1920 after writing it at a dare from her sister in 1916. Over the years Christie published more and more books, using her knowledge from working as an apothecary's assistant throughout her novels.

Over the years Christie had a child, however her marriage fell apart when her husband revealed he was having an affair. This caused Christie to disappear for 11 days after an argument, only to be found checking into Swan Hydro Hotel in Harrogate under the last name of her husband's mistress with no recollection of the days she was missing.

Christie remarried to a man named Max Mallowan, an archeologist who she travelled with and picked up her many hobbies and favourite things such as archeology, travelling and surfing (she learnt while in South Africa and Hawaii) and swimming, perfect for the south west waters!



In 1929 Burgh Island Hotel was built by Archie Nettlefold who Christie knew through his financial backing of several London stage productions. This is where Christie's long history with Burgh Island began. Burgh Island is often associated with her as she used the island and hotel as setting and inspiration for her two famous novels 'And Then There Were None' and 'Evil Under The Sun'.



Christie fell in love with the island's charm and romantic isolation. She was a regular guest as it was inspiring and peaceful, therefore taking long retreats to relax and work on her novels. She saw the hotel as a second home, even having her own private writer's retreat built for her, now commonly known as 'The Beach House' Another room in the hotel was also named after her: 'The Christie Room'. The hotel often host murder mystery events with an Agatha Christie theme where guests can dress in period costumes!

There have been many TV adaptations, films and documentaries on Christie's plays and novels that use the island as a filming location such as the 2001 TV adaptation of 'Evil Under the Sun' and scenes from the BBC 1987 dramatisation of Christie's story Nemesis.

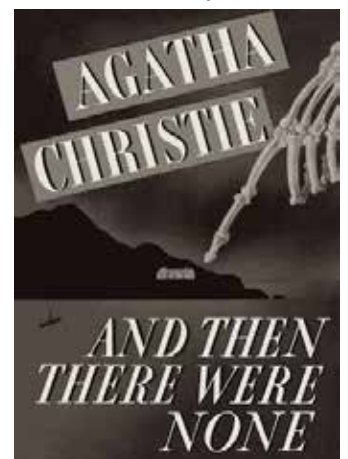
Her most famous play, 'The Mouse Trap' is the longest running play in the world, having debuted in 1952, every day Christie's name has appeared in every news paper with a West End theatre listing (with exception of 2020 lockdown). Therefore, the island proudly celebrates her life and achievements as she found such comfort and inspiration from a place so well known in the community.

Agatha Christie lived out her last few years with her husband Max and died of natural causes in Winterbrook House at 85 years old. You can visit her summer house, Greenway, in Devon, which is now owned by the National Trust, and stay in the two rooms named famously after the writer herself.

With more than two billion books sold, she is only outsold by Shakespeare and the Bible, making Agatha Christie one of the best selling fiction authors ever.

## Matilda Pitt

*Many thanks to Burgh Island Hotel for allowing us inside to take photos of Matilda as Agatha Christie*



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# Beach Banter



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And just like that we're approaching the start of the school holidays again!

We've had a jam packed few weeks here at the Surf School catering for activities weeks, for schools both local and further afield, and are looking forward to a busy Summer!

And as usual we've got plenty of opportunities to get the kids in the water (and the adults too!)

We'll have our Public (11+) and Kids Learn to Surf (Ages 6-11) group sessions running every day over the summer, along with opportunities for Private Family & Friends sessions at a range of times daily.

We've also got a range of courses and camps running to cater for the super keen surfer, or those surf club members looking to get some practice in while we take a break from our regular clubs over the school holidays.



**YOUTH (Ages 12-16) & KIDS (Ages 8-11) SUMMER SURF COURSE** Mon-Fri, 5x 1.5 hour sessions - £145  
3pm Mon 22nd July to Friday 26th July  
10am Mon 29th July to Friday 2nd August  
3pm Mon 5th August to Friday 9th August  
3pm Mon 12th August to Friday 16th August  
Mon 19th to Fri 23rd August (10am Mon, 10am Tue, 3pm Wed, 3pm Thu, 3pm Fri)  
3pm Mon 26th August to Friday 31st August

**MINI SUMMER SURF COURSE** (age 6-10) Tue-Thu, 3x 1.5 hour sessions - £99

3pm Tue 23rd July to Thu 25th July

10am Tue 30th July to Thu 1st August

3pm Tue 6th August to Thu 8th August

3pm Tue 13th August to Thu 15th August

Tue 20th Aug to Thu 22nd Aug (10am Tue, 3pm Wed, 3pm Thu)

Tue 27th August to Thu 29th August (3pm Tue, 3pm Wed, 10am Thu)

**DAY SURF CAMP** (age 10-16) 5.5hours - £70

Monday 22nd July 9:30am to 3pm

Friday 2nd August 9am to 2:30pm

Monday 5th August 10am to 3:30pm

Monday 12th August 12pm to 5:30pm

Tuesday 20th August 9:30am to 3pm

Friday 30th August 9am to 2:30pm

Or if you're an adult keen speed up your progression, we've got our fantastic Fast Track Courses running over the weekends:

**FAST TRACK SURF COURSE** 4x 1.5 hours sessions over 2 days (Adult & age 14+) - £148

9am to 1pm Sat 20th & Sun 21st July

9am to 1pm Sat 3rd & Sun 4th August

1pm to 5pm Sat 10th & Sun 11th August

1pm to 5pm Sat 24th & Sun 25th August

1pm to 5pm Sat 7th and Sun 8th Sept

If you're keen to get anything booked in for yourself or your family, don't hesitate to get in touch via phone or email!

Email: [martin@discoverysurf.com](mailto:martin@discoverysurf.com)

Phone: 07813639622 or 01548810535

If you're looking further ahead, we've got our Surf Club courses starting up again as of September - with after school and weekend options. Check out our website or contact us to get more details.

Wishing you all a brilliant summer! - Annika, Martin, Jess & the Discovery Team

# Photo Gallery



Grant Peet



Helen Buick



Bo Holland (age 15)



Vanessa White



Helen Buick



James O'Shaughnessy



James O'Shaughnessy



James O'Shaughnessy

# Photo Gallery



Vanessa White



Vanessa White



Nancy Singleton



Helen Buick



Terry Bailey

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## Summer Beach Barista

From Saturday 13 July, the Café will be open for breakfast, brunch and lunch from 8:30AM in the campsite at Mount Folly Farm and mobile locations on Bigbury beach will have a range of 'grab & go' lunch options

New and improved food menu  
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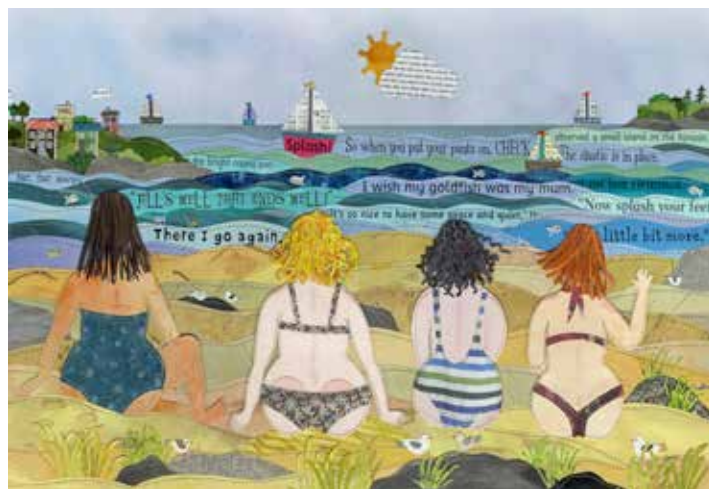
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Kim Watkins, also known as Random Stuff, has been a full-time artist for over 10 years, she didn't start out life doing that and spent many years as a staff nurse before leaving the health service to bring up her daughters in Kingston. She has lived there, with her husband and a variety of animals since 1994 and is happier there, than anywhere else in the world. She also spent 13 happy years as a Teaching assistant at Modbury School, but after becoming ill, both mentally and physically, whilst recovering, she re-evaluated and became a full-time artist, a decision that she has never regretted as she has a passion for what she does and has discovered that many of her customers feel the same!

Kim now works virtually every day in a lovely little shed in her garden, a place of inspiration and creativity. She is also part of a new collective of makers and collectors in Modbury, called Fourteen A, where you will find a selection of her work and 2025 calendar.



As well as creating pictures, she has also designed and makes a large range of brooches, made from cereal boxes with only the pin on the back being new, no two are the same. Her journals and notebooks are made using a huge array of pre-loved papers and have proved to be incredibly popular. Kim's work has featured at Delamore Arts for the last two years, she is a member of South Hams Art Forum (SHAF) and displays her work at various events.

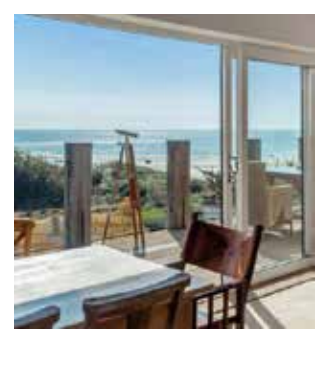
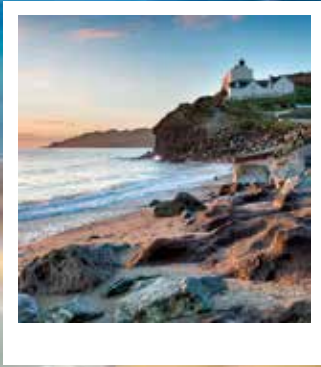
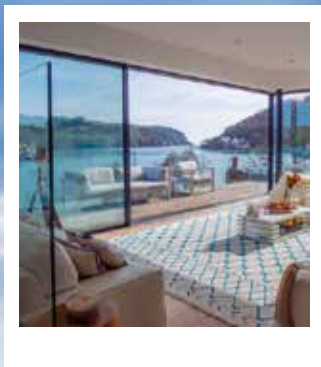


She is a member of the Association of British Naïve artists and creates beautiful, unique pictures using recycled paper and sews them together on her sewing machine. Each naïve creation contains engaging and nostalgic materials, rescued from a large variety of sources; each piece is therefore, not just a visual narrative but also tells a story through the materials she has used. Kim has always recycled things and hates waste and enjoys the fact that she is using other people's rubbish in a fun and wacky way! She takes inspiration from all-around her, and it satisfies her inner Womble!



In the winter and spring, Kim will again host workshops, where people get the opportunity to learn new skills, have some special time for themselves and leave with their own creation. Her feedback from this year's events has been fantastic and fills her with joy. She will be booking more later in the year.





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# Village Kitchen

## MEDITERRANEAN BAKED CHICKEN

serves four



### INGREDIENTS

(most of the ingredients can be found in Holywell Stores)

750g Charlotte potatoes, halved lengthways

Olive oil

1 red onion, cut into wedges

1 bulb of garlic, separated into cloves

1 lemon, cut into wedges

8 whole chicken thighs

12 baby plum tomatoes, halved

Small glass of white wine

Handful of green and a handful of kalamata olives

100g feta cheese sliced

Handful of oregano leaves (or a dessert spoon of dried oregano)



### METHOD

Heat the oven to 200c (fan oven) or 180c (gas oven). Put the potatoes in a large roasting tray, add 2 tbsp of olive oil and season.

Roast for 20 mins and toss half way.

Add the red onion, garlic cloves, lemon wedges and chicken, drizzle with another tbsp olive oil and season.

Roast for another 20 mins.

Add the tomatoes, wine and olives and put the tray back in the oven at a higher heat of 220c (fan) 200c (gas) for a further 20 mins.

The chicken should now be nice and crispy and golden.

Sprinkle over the feta cheese and oregano and drizzle with a little more olive oil to serve.

**Fiona Stace**

## Cocktail Hour



Burgh Island Hotel has kindly sent us this seasonal recipe.

### TROPICAL BREEZE

Creamy vanilla flavours mix with exotic tangy fruits, creating a deliciously indulgent drink that will bring summer to Burgh!

### INGREDIENTS

Finlandia Vodka

Peach Syrup

Orange Juice

Cream

Passionfruit Puree

Vanilla Syrup

Pineapple Juice

### PREPARATION

Combine all ingredients into a shaker and shake well.

Serve over ice and enjoy.

# Wildlife Watch

Seen in a Ringmore garden, the compressed lattice fruiting body expands and ruptures the egg case. The dark coloured slime bearing the spores is carried upwards on the inside surface of the lattice. The slime has a very strong fetid smell which encourages the flies etc, which then disperse the spores. It is surprising how far the smell can spread and is certainly not pleasant. As the day progresses the lattice slowly collapses and its work is done.

Mike Wynne-Powell



*Lattice Stinkhorn*



Here's a picture of a female cricket depositing eggs in Beech Cottage garden last July. We named her Heather after the English Women's' cricket captain. Shortly after this she was dating Zak (creepy) Crawley, also in our garden. We think they flew off for a romantic liaison in Gretna Green.



Here is Zak, handsome chappie. Not surprised Heather was enamoured. They were in our garden for about four days before they eloped.

John and Jackie Whitley



*Vanessa White*



*An Ichneumon Wasp - It does not sting!*  
Mike Wynne-Powell



*Nancy Singleton*

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# Garden Gate

## GARDENING IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

As in previous summer months, the main task is to make your favourite brew or tippie and sit in the best spot to enjoy your garden. When you feel a burst of energy, here are some jobs to do until it's time to sit down again.

### AUGUST



Harvest fresh herbs to freeze in ice cubes for winter use, or to hang up and dry, then store in jars.

Remove the lower leaves of cordon tomatoes up to the lowest truss for more air and light to get to the fruits.

Summer prune apple trees to encourage good fruiting in the future.

Look out for signs of tomato and potato blight, removing affected crops fast to reduce spread.

Prune lavender once flowering is over to maintain a compact, bushy shape, but avoid cutting into old wood.

Cut off excess strawberry runners and replant to improve and promote growth.

Feed containers and border perennials with a liquid tomato food weekly to encourage them to bloom into the early autumn.

Collect and sow seed from perennials and hardy annuals to grow from seed. It is straightforward and increases the number of plants in your garden for free.

Divide perennials regularly to ensure healthy, vigorous plants that will continue to perform year after year. It also offers the opportunity to multiply your plants.

After cutting mini-meadows, rake off and remove the clippings to avoid it smothering delicate plants and increase fertility which encourages growth at the expense of wildflowers.

### SEPTEMBER



Net ponds before leaves fall and decompose in the water over winter, reducing water oxygen levels.

Feed bare soil with green manures to smother weeds and prevent soil erosion.

Top up the late summer colour by adding some echinacea, lavender or digitalis in flower to attract bees, butterflies and insects.

Start sowing hardy annuals, like cornflowers, cerinthes and scabiosa so they will begin to flower in the early summer next year.

Collect ripe seeds from your favourite flowers and store in labelled envelopes, ready to sow in spring.

Fill any gaps with late-flowering perennials, such as sedums, to provide nectar for pollinating insects into autumn.

Leave sunflower seed heads in place for birds to feed on.

Lift gladioli corms, dry them off, then store in a frost-free shed or garage over winter.

Pick apples and pears before the wind blows them down, and store undamaged fruits if you can't eat them fresh.

September is the start of the planting season for spring bulbs. Planting in September will ensure that they can set out roots before the soil becomes too wet.

Matilda Pitt



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# Farm Gate

## MOUNT FOLLY FARM

Mount folly farm is a family business in Bigbury, run by the Case and Tucker family, who have been farming for over a hundred years. They have 650 acres of farm land. This is used to hold the livestock such as 50 suckler cows and 700 ewes, and produce such as cauliflower and spring beans. It is a very mixed farm, therefore has a wide range of produce from beef to cabbages.



They have installed 45kw of solar panels, stored over 100,000 litres of rain water, reinstated hedgerows, planted 100s of trees and changed their grazing system to paddock grazing. This produces more organic matter in order to be as environmentally friendly as possible, farming organically and sustainably. To ensure the produce is the best quality, it has to be stored correctly to keep fresh as it is organic and therefore could deteriorate quickly. Some vegetables such as spring greens and curly kale need to be sold the same day as they were picked!



Now is the time of year they are planting the last of their vegetables such as cauliflower and calabrese, as well as harvesting kohlrabi and savoy cabbages. However, this time of year it is challenging with the weather, cash flow and enough staff. Therefore, they have to remain flexible to cope with constant challenges and changes.

On the average day, there are around 10-12 people working on the farm but if necessary contract workers can be called in to help.



In these summery months, everyone on the farm is looking forward to some warm weather. They want to be getting all the vegetables planted correctly with all plans in place, ready for next year so they can have a short, well deserved rest in August before they start harvesting again.

Matilda Pitt

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# Business Matters

Dedicated to our Young Upcoming Entrepreneurs  
It's all About



As part of a work experience opportunity enabled by Bigbury & Ringmore News, this edition of the magazine has been very professionally 'guest edited' by fifteen year old Matilda Pitt under the guidance of our Editor, Jan Davies. It seemed fitting to dedicate 'Business Matters' to our young upcoming entrepreneurs who may choose to venture into the world of business and would like a brief insight into some of the components that help to engage effective two way communication. The way we communicate not only applies to the world of business but in every aspect of our daily lives. It's good to be reminded from time to time how best to communicate to try and achieve the best results. Some of this information has been taken from BBC Bitesize which is an excellent resource.

Communication is the process of sending and receiving information from one person to another using a channel of communication. Internal communication consists of messages that are sent between people or groups that work for the same business. External communication refers to messages that are sent to people who do not work within the business. Depending on the information that is being shared and the audience that the message is being sent to, communication can be formal or informal:-

- Letter - a formal written document that is usually word-processed and sent via the post or attached electronically to an email.
- Email - a formal or informal written document that is used to communicate internally and externally with a range of stakeholders.
- Text message – a brief written message used both internally and externally.
- Phone conversation - a verbal means of communication used internally and externally.
- Meeting - a formal or informal gathering of people to exchange information verbally.
- Meetings may be conducted face to face or through web or video conference facilities.
- Presentation - a formal method of verbally communicating information to a group of people.
- Video businesses - may make videos to communicate information formally to employees.
- Social media - a formal or informal way of sharing information with a wide audience.
- Website - a formal way of communicating with a wide audience.

Being able to communicate effectively is vital for any business. Sometimes barriers prevent a message from being received, which causes poor communication and can have negative impacts. As feedback is an important part of communication, I asked Matilda to share with us her top tip based on her experience with us.

## Matilda's top tip...

Find out the best way that people would like to be communicated with so you get maximum engagement and good communication from both sides.

## My top tip...

Always try to find out some information about the business or person that you are talking to. It shows that you've done your research and homework & that you are interested. It will make a good impression and is a good way of breaking the ice!



And finally, Matilda, you've been like a breath of fresh air!  
Nancy Singleton, Business Editor

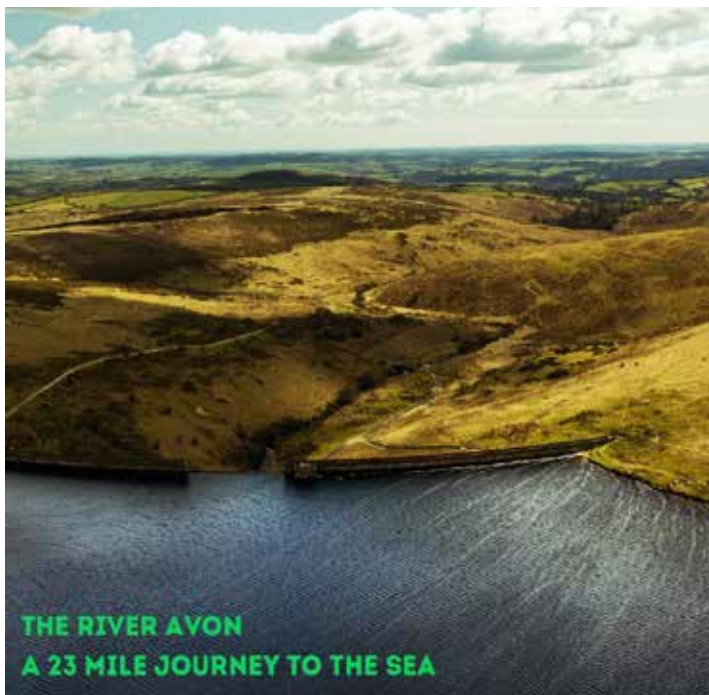
# Avon River Champions



One of the first things to land on the desks of our newly elected MPs was the results of the voting on the Devon River Manifesto designed by Avon River Champions. Thank you to all those who participated.



The Devon River Manifesto was launched on the River Discovery Zone at the Devon County Show. You can take a peek on our website at the full Letter to Devon MPs which also shows each MP the total number of hours of sewage overflow in their Constituency. We are hoping that will focus their attention on what they are going to do to help sort out this problem. Our two MPs with neighbouring constituencies protecting our rivers are Mel Stride (Central Devon - Conservative) and Caroline Voaden (South Devon - Liberal Democrat). To keep in touch about developments please Follow us on Instagram and Face Book @ Avon River Champions



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## The Peoples Voice

96% of the many hundreds who voted agreed with the following statements that should inform the Devon Rivers Manifesto. Results can be found on our website: [www.avon-river-champions.org](http://www.avon-river-champions.org)

1. Devon Rivers to be of overall good Ecological Status by 2030
2. Southwest Water to ensure sewage treatment and wastewater works have adequate hydraulic capacity as specified in their Discharge Permits before paying dividends & bonuses.
3. Environment Agency budgets restored with powerful mandate to monitor frequently and in detail to ensure Agriculture and Southwest Water comply with legislation that protects our rivers.
4. Water Companies to be made Public Benefit Corporations to environmentally sensitive corporate social responsibility.



5. Fund farmers to reduce Agricultural Runoff by - installing nature-based solutions, adequate covered slurry tanks, slurry soil injectors, slurry processing into energy or less soluble organic fertilisers, transition to regenerative farming, diversification.
6. Planning Authorities empowered and required to control pollution from new developments. Southwest Water to be made a mandatory consultee.
7. Local budgets for road drainage adequately funded to prevent pollution of rivers and farmland.
8. Environment Agency to produce annual catchment reports of key data in easy-to-read format to restore public confidence in their ability to protect our rivers.

**Louise Wainwright**  
Chair Avon River Champions  
[info@avon-river-champions.org](mailto:info@avon-river-champions.org)  
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# Net Zero

## BIGBURY NET ZERO



Bigbury Net Zero is really excited to have received a commendation, on behalf of the parish, from South Hams District Council. SHDC recognises the importance of the many small actions taken by individuals and wants to encourage communities to continue to work together to do even more.



We have championed local suppliers, with the Planet Local campaign in Holywell Stores and the small eco-steps taken by individuals in Bigbury & Ringmore News. We will continue to do this – as “every little really does help”.



There is now a definite movement in the right direction as more as more people are switching to renewable energy, undertaking whole house surveys and our parish council has adopted a Climate & Biodiversity Action Policy. We have all got a lot to be proud of.



Bigbury has a great sense of community and can be proud of the many fun activities that, together, they have designed and supported as a team effort to draw attention to serious issues such as climate change and biodiversity loss. Everyone remembers the exciting Beach Assemblies and the Island Assembly when global governments were deliberating next steps during the international COP. National and local press coverage of these events has inspired action beyond our little parish boundaries. How cool is that?



We have come together to celebrate nature and take action to improve habitats and reduce our use of fossil fuels. We have risen to the global challenge and undertaken many research projects from thermal imaging surveys, energy forums, historic changes in land use, to the more complex issues of how to help the parish achieve carbon neutrality by sharing the work in the Small Farm Offset Scheme. Many homes, all our farms and businesses have now measured their carbon footprints and are working out what makes sense for them. Difficult times ahead and rubbish weather but Bigbury is making a plan - no heads in the sand here!



Our joint efforts have been noticed by organisations in Devon tasked to drive down the Devon County footprint and our next big project is likely to be led by Regen, funded by Innovate UK. If the Regen funding bid is successful we will benefit from a team of professionals who will undertake feasibility studies on heat networks in Bigbury supplying cheap energy from a large ground-sourced heat pump system and an EV charging station powered by re-used vegetable oil. Fingers crossed.

Thank you for all the support you have given us to date. Check out our website for hints and tips or get in touch if you have an idea about a new project. Watch this space!

**Louise Wainwright**  
**Chair Bigbury Net Zero**  
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## Bigbury Golf Course Appoints New Manager



*Matthew Gibbs has recently taken up his post as the new manager at Bigbury Golf Course.*

Born in London, Matthew has come from a Hotel and Hospitality background, working all over the UK. Matthew has been fortunate enough to work in a number of high-end, red starred and rosetted Country House Hotels. More recently moving around the Southwest until he finally settled in Plymouth, Devon. Why Devon? *"Simple - its spectacular views, moors and coastline"*. Working his way up the career ladder from catering to management, Matthew has been a keen, hands-on manager. His love for people, passion for projects and helping establishments reach their full potential drives him on.

Matthew is new to Golf and therefore Golf Club Course management, but with his wealth of knowledge from his previous life, he is confident that the skills and lessons from his time in hospitality are transferable. Matthew talks enthusiastically about ideas and an alternative way to approach problems, which he describes as opportunities. He believes that he has a different perspective and therefore lot to offer to the role.

The course has the most incredible views, it has got one of the best locations in the UK, *"even if we do get 4 seasons in one day!"* During Matthew's first week, Bigbury had the honour of hosting England's Golf Race to Woodhall Spa, a prestigious event with competitors coming from across the UK. The positive feedback about the course has been relentless, both visitors and members alike seem to have nothing but positive comments. Even being a man down on the course, the greens team led by Richard has done a fabulous job, producing *"the best greens I've played on this year"*. Dealing with the wet weather earlier in the year of course brought problems of its own.

Along with Richard, Head Green Keeper, Andrea the Office Manager has been invaluable in his first few weeks at the Club. *"I have been incredibly lucky to inherit an amazing team, they have been very supportive of my ideas."* Being from a catering background and having a sweet tooth, Matthew knows his cakes! Maggs the Catering Manager (and creator of all things homemade and delicious) has continued delivering her fabulous array of cakes, as they are mid-season, they haven't made any changes to the menu but they have now also introduced a daily Specials Board offering additional fresh homemade creations to those on the course or just visiting.

One thing that surprises Matthew is that the 1980 perception of golf courses still being stuffy, and exclusive clubs still exist. For any business to survive it cannot rely on one source of income, it needs to do everything it can to open up to any opportunities. The opportunities that Bigbury offers were what interested Matthew in the position initially and he is open-minded, ready to get the golf club reaching its full potential.

As the manager, Matthew has many new ideas to introduce at the golf course to improve the offering to the golfers and he is also keen to put the club on the map for the local community. One of his aims is to make the business a year-round business giving staff all-year-round employment, where locals can pop in, meet and treat themselves to coffee with one of Maggs' freshly baked cakes. He has also brought back (by popular demand) the Takeaway Fish and Chips, while enjoying golf in the fresh summer air. Matthew wants to encourage all locals to use the club more as a communal area to eat, drink, spend time with friends and play some golf. He is big on removing the stigma that the club is just for members only and remind the community that they are all welcome to enjoy the views and relax at the club, with or without a membership.

The golf club has done lots over the years to maintain a clean, safe environment in the local community, winning the sustainability project of the year award in 2023. Matthew is passionate about continuing previous efforts to help the environment. One initiative that he is keen to continue is to plant a new tree for every new member. Planting trees over the last few years has been part of the sustainability has become a big part of the club, with hundreds of trees planted as well as large wild flower beds. They are currently talking to the South Hams Planning department about putting in solar panels to supply a large proportion of the golf club's energy. Once they receive permission, they will add at least two Electric Vehicle chargers that members and visitors alike can make use of.

Overall, Matthew wishes to make the golf club more accessible to everyone in the community including junior golfers, parents and of course lady golfers, Matthew is ready to explore fresh ideas and get the community involved in promoting the golf club, so the establishment can thrive and the locals can enjoy it even in the darker winter months.

**Matilda Pitt, Guest Editor**



*Matthew Gibbs being interviewed by Matilda Pitt*

# Bigbury Golf Club



Sustainable, environmental and bio-diversity are all very much part of modern-day life and thinking. Is it achievable, or is it just for those with a big advertising budget that love trendy buzz words? What does it actually mean and how does it affect the business!

Well, for the last 5 years here at Bigbury Golf Club we have been rolling out a strategy towards the goal of Net zero! Bigbury and most of the South Hams are listed in the area of outstanding natural beauty, which covers most of the region. Although we rent part of Bantham Estate, we are independently ran and owned by our Golf Club members. Sustainability at the Club is very much a two edged sword, where doing the right thing isn't always cost effective or indeed financially viable. In 2019 the Board of Directors at the Club decided to set up a working committee to explore what we as a Club could do to make a difference.

Highlighted in their first meeting were many ideas great and small. The smaller projects involved simple actions that could easily be achieved with little cost and impact to the business. Where possible light switches were swapped to sensor switch, light bulbs changed to LEDs, and the heating and hot water was set to a minimum with a view to boosting when necessary. Following the success of these small but significant improvements, a strategy was born with a number of key objectives, which could be put in action with a little help!

One area of improvement involved working with The Devon Wildlife Trust. Following a site visit, areas around the edge of the course were ear marked to be left as set aside. These are areas where habitat is left to its natural devices.



*Wildflowers flourish around our grounds.*



A further eight areas were identified where wildflower seeds would be sown, along with additional areas for planting whips and larger more established trees. This project was supported with sponsorship and individual donation by members. With the continued help from The Devon Wildlife Trust we were also able to place nesting boxes in suitable spots around the course.

The word chemicals is not a word you wish to see alongside the word environment. A thorough review of chemicals used on the Course as well as in the Clubhouse was carried out and actioned. This involved looking for alternatives which were kind to the planet.

At the start of 2023, our Centenary Year, the Board of Directors pledged to plant a new tree for every new member that joined the Club during that year. Over 130 trees were pledged due to new members coming to the Club.

The sad closure of Wrangaton Golf Club had seen a large influx of new members at Bigbury which made this such a great achievement. In recent years almost 900 had been planted taking our total to well over 1000 trees to date.

# Bigbury Golf Club



*Non-members and members enjoy our views.*

Significant changes have taken place at Bigbury Golf Club and we are delighted with our achievements. One of our highlights of 2023 was attending an awards evening at Hilton Manchester. Having been nominated for the England Golf Sustainability Award, six of our staff and Board members made their way to Manchester. This presentation evening is where England Golf announced that Bigbury Golf Club had won their Sustainability Award. You can't imagine the immense pride and excitement when this was announced by Clare Balding their host!

As time rolled on, the working committee were aware there were bigger opportunities. It became more evident we needed a future plan for our course machinery and installation of solar panels could significantly reduce our carbon footprint. The committee explored the options for migrating our fossil fuelled greenkeeping equipment to environmentally friendly alternatives. During 2023 we applied and were granted permission to install solar panels on the roof of the Greenkeepers shed. Another exciting decision was made to buy our first piece of battery operated machinery which runs on solar energy.

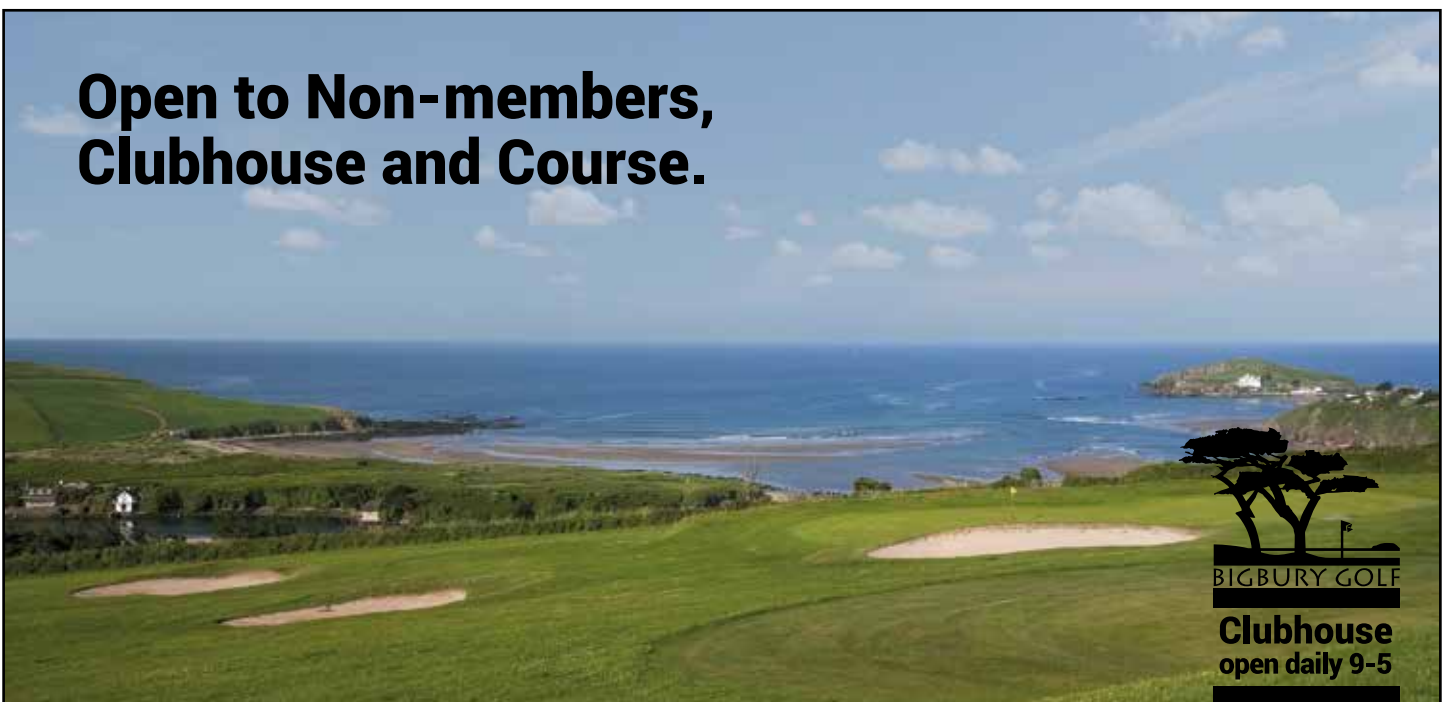
Also during 2023 we presented our planning application to obtain permission for solar panels to service the Clubhouse, this is still work in progress with SHDC. Electric Vehicle charging points are also high on our list. A substantial proportion of the Clubhouse power will be provided by the solar panels and will give additional power to enable us to install Electric Vehicle charging points for the community and visitors.



Each of these journeys has been fulfilling for all those involved and our members. You don't need to be a member to come along and use the Clubhouse at Bigbury Golf Club, everyone is welcome to enjoy our catering, bar, Clubhouse and of course the beautiful views.

**Matthew Gibbs, Manager of Bigbury Golf Club**

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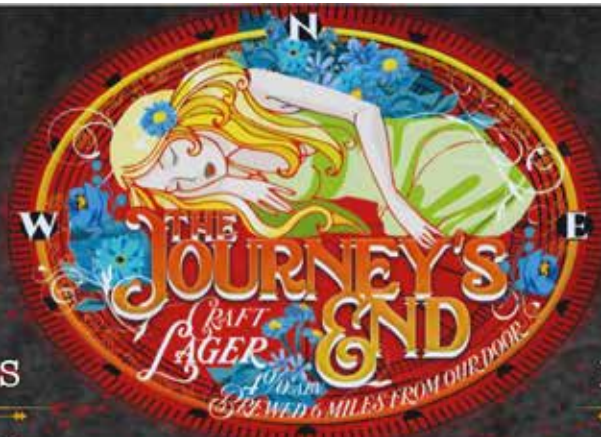
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Bigbury Golf Club continues to be very busy with some visitors enjoying their golf so much they are returning to play the course again.

It is very pleasing to report that our ladies Presidents Devon County League team has had very good results. Captain Linda Hanbury reports that during many of the matches nerves of the players were tested with many of the games going “down to the wire”. The matches were played in many different conditions including heavy storms, reasonable weather and thankfully an away game at Tavistock when there was the rare occurrence of warm sunshine and little wind.

Linda, her squad of players and everyone at the Club is waiting to hear if our Presidents Team has made the quarter finals of this prestigious Devon County competition.



*The Presidents team with Linda 5th from the left*

The Bigbury Men’s and Seniors’ Captains, Jack Green and Andrew Ware, hosted a very successful joint Captains Day with 46 pairs entered in their 4BBB competition. The Captains reported that £457 was raised which will be shared between their chosen Charities this year, the Royal National Lifeboat Institute and Devon Air Ambulance Trust.

Jack and Andrew decided to focus on the golf rather than have any “fun holes” but did maximise the prize pool with numerous additional prizes. These included nearest the pin on every par 3, nearest the pin in two on hole 6, nearest the centre of the fairway on hole 4, and longest drive on hole 18. The only two ‘novel holes’ this year were holes 12 and 17.

As a rugby fan and ex player, Jack could not resist copying last year’s Captain, Dave Graddons, idea of ‘converting a drive’ through the ‘rugby posts’. Twenty-four members were skilled or lucky enough to get their names in the “draw from the hat” prize.



*Mens and Seniors Captains, Jack (R) and Andrew*

The pleased winners of the 4BBB were Steve Banks and Derek May. In second place were Jed Spedding and Ian Harris and third were Peter Warley and Phil Nile. There were some 14 additional prizes so far too many to report here but there were a lot of very pleased winners on the day.

In closing their report, Jack and Andrew said “We owe thanks to many for making the day a success, including the sponsors of the prizes, many of whom are members of the Bigbury Golf Club. Christian Constantine of Mercedes Cars, Phil Davies of St. Austell Brewery, Dave Graddon for the St. Mellion 2B vouchers, and Richard Hendy for the Plantation voucher.

We especially thank all the Bigbury members who came along to play in our Captains Day event. Richard and his team for ensuring the course was in excellent condition and the advice prior to the event on possible options to make life interesting for some of the holes; Maggs and H for their unstinting help, advice and support from the very beginning; Linda Hanbury, the Ladies Captain, who assisted throughout the day and Rex Brown of DAAT who came along to thank the Club for its ongoing support of their Charity.”

**Marlene Johnson**



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