



illustration - Amanda Brookes

For the People of Modbury & Brownston

Volume 24, Issue 308 - November 2024

## This Year's Apple Day a Huge Success

Modbury's Community Orchard Group held its annual Apple Day on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> and it proved to be one of our best ever events. The run up to Apple Day is always a busy time. The community orchards in the Millennium Meadow and Galpin Street have to be cut and the hay raked up by a team of tireless volunteers who laboured for the simple reward of a mug of tea and some delicious home-baked apple cake. Thanks to all those who helped and this year's star baker too.

High winds before harvest time resulted in a large number of apples dropping as windfalls. Fifteen bags of usable apples were picked up and stored ready for pressing. The Cubs harvested apples from the trees at the recreation field and a class from Modbury Primary School came down on the Friday before Apple Day to harvest the remaining apples in the Millennium Meadow orchard. A big thank you to our younger volunteers.

An appeal for clean bottles resulted in some 60 donations being made. Thank you to everyone who dropped bottles at my gate, starting a rumour that we were drinking excessive amounts of wine at home. The wine bottles had to be soaked to enable the labels to be removed before all were washed, sterilised, rinsed and dried; a laborious but essential task.

For the second year, the pressing took place in the Modbury Therapy Centre Yard by kind permission of owners Mandy and Steve Hyde. This year our hired press was supplemented by a second press donated to the Community Orchard Group. It was put to good use as we had an exceptional supply of apples this year thanks to our own orchards' crop and donated apples from local residents. Proceedings were formally opened by our illustrious Town Crier, David Scott.

**cont. on p.3**



A busy Apple Day team in the yard

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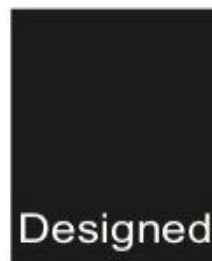


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## This Year's Apple Day a Huge Success (cont from p.1)



We were blessed with a fine autumn morning as we set up an apple juice production line, washing, scratting or chopping the apples, putting them in the presses, extracting the juice then bottling it or pouring into foil pouches for the freezer. Several dozen bottles were then pasteurised and all bottles labelled to identify pasteurised juice that would keep and non-pasteurised juice for drinking within a few days.

The crushed apple waste or pomace was bagged up and recycled to the Church Lane allotments' compost heap.

It was a busy morning in Modbury with many visitors from out of town, some getting their first experience of this traditional Devon activity.

We were delighted

to see many children come to the yard with their parents to participate in the juice making process. They tasted the freshly pressed juice and pronounced it "delicious."

Apple Day would not have been possible without the help of the many volunteers (too many to name) who turned out to help us with every stage of the process. Without you Apple Day would not have been the undoubted success that it was. Thank you all.

**Colin Whybrow**  
**Modbury Community Orchard Group**



**Have your say**

Devon  
County Council

### Have your say!

Between 1 October 2024 and 30 November 2024 DCC are asking for your views on: • The draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2025-2040 <https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/devon-and-torbay-local-transport-plan-4/> •

The draft Devon Countywide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure <https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/countdownwide-local-cycling-and-walking-infrastructure-plan-lcwip/>

You can find out more by going along to one of their Webinars: • Stakeholder Webinar - 18th November 2024 4pm-5pm. • Public Webinar - 18th November 2024 6-7pm.



## CHRISTMAS BINGO

11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

EYES DOWN 7:30PM

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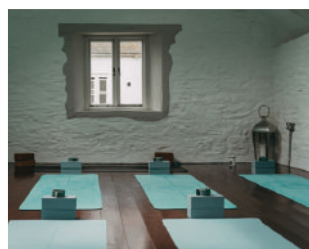


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**Christmas Lights Committee**





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## MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Modbury Parish Council Office, 1 Modbury Court, PL21 0QR 01548 312321 email parishclerk@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

### Your Councillors are:

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Bill Cole               | 01548 830913 |
| Richard Foss            | 01548 721420 |
| Barbara Price (Chair)   | 07739752095  |
| Tony Price              | 07801837129  |
| Phil Smith (Vice Chair) | 07759282404  |
| Dave Trigger            | 07808742372  |
| Ann Turner              | 01548830606  |
| Sarah Wyatt             | 07794 662903 |

|  |
|--|
| richardfoss@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk  |
| barbaraprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| tonyprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk    |
| philsmith@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk    |
| davetrigger@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk  |
| annturner@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk    |
| sarahwyatt@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk   |

**How can we help you?** Councillors run drop-in surgeries on Sat. 10-11am in the Parish Office at 1 Modbury Court. The Parish Clerk is in the Parish Council office on Tues, 10am – 4pm. Call into the office, phone, email or come along to our meetings at 7pm in the Pavilion, QE11 Recreation Ground on the first Tuesday of every month and speak in the public forum.

### Devon County Councillor (Salcombe Division):

Rufus Gilbert Tel: 01548 856659  
rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk

### South Hams District Councillor Charterlands Ward:

Bernard Taylor Tel: 01548 830844  
Cllr.Bernard.Taylor@southhams.gov.uk

# Modbury Parish Council (MPC) Meeting Tuesday 8th October 2024



Present were seven councillors, Cllr Bernard Taylor (South Hams DC), and five members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllr Phil Smith (away).

**Public Forum:** A member of the public raised concerns about the large trees along the path from Fullers Ope to Tuckers Brook. These require work to reduce their spread which is affecting grass growth and possibly safety. The clerk explained that a significant sum of money had been invested in tree management in the last two financial years and that these trees had not been highlighted in the survey, but would be reviewed again.

## **Devon County Council Report by Rufus Gilbert (written as not present)**

The Secretary of State has signed off on local government devolution, the Combined County Authority (CCA). This will not affect town and parish councils.

## **South Hams District Council Report by Bernard Taylor**

The Community Award scheme will be launched within the month, and details and nomination forms will shortly be on the SHDC website. This is to recognise voluntary contributions to the community.

SHDC is negotiating with DCC for second home tax to be distributed to areas which have most second homes to alleviate the problems they cause, and not disappear into central council coffers.

## **Matters arising from the minutes of the Council meetings on the 3rd and 17th September 2024**

Additional street lighting along Chatwell Lane – we await a response from DCC to our communications.

**Finance:** The quotation from Parish Online to host email accounts was considered; a decision was delayed for further information.

Fees for advertising the clerk vacancy were considered.

**Planning:** It was emphasised that the consultation by Bloor Homes for further development at Palm Cross is not a planning application, so cannot be fully considered. Modbury Parish Council have re-iterated our concerns that the area is not covered by the Joint Local Plan, the Neighbourhood Plan, or Modbury's settlement boundary.

**Policy:** It was agreed to delegate the appointment of the new clerk to the Finance and Human Resources Committee in order to expedite the process.

**Maintenance Update:** An item of equipment, the adventure trail, in the Memorial Hall play area is dangerous and will be fenced off subject to consideration of its condition. There are various issues with the play park which need attention.

*cont. on p.8*



## **The Luscombe Maye Advantage**

To find out how much your home is worth, please call or email Eleanor, Sara or John in the Modbury office.

For more information contact  
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## Modbury Parish Council Meeting (cont. from p4)

### Allotments

MPC has met with the committee at the Palm Cross allotments. It was agreed that at the end of the current lease in March 2025, a new lease will be drawn up to take into account all costs so that they are fairly covered by the rental.

The process of purchasing the Church Lane allotments for the benefit of the community by a personal benefactor is proceeding.

### Community Engagement Update

- We have a QR code for access to the MPC website, details of which will be publicised.
- Plymouth College of Art are interested in working on the telephone box.
- We still have vacancies for council members on MPC.
- MPC is working on a Youth Engagement policy and the person responsible from SHDC will come to talk to us.
- A Community Engagement policy will be tabled at the next MPC meeting.
- Barbara Price will set up a working group to examine ways to make Modbury more dementia friendly.

The Marvellous Modbury Makeover proceeds, driven by a group of councillors and traders. Extra plants and planters have been sourced and placed. Modbury flags have been put out in the high street. Cleaning and weeding has been done. We need to fund a mural for the wall in the car park. Street furniture will be brightened up. The history of Modbury will be covered by new information boards and plaques. The Modbury Town Improvement Charity has been reformed and will be the vehicle for further development.

Subsequent to the meeting, DCC Highways have repainted the Church Street pedestrian crossing to make it much more visible to traffic.

### Sustainability update

- Flooding at Orcheton is being addressed. There has been a wide-ranging site meeting which included the local MP. Co-ordinating the various agencies involved is difficult, but we are pressing hard for a resolution.
- We are pressing SW Water regarding sewage treatment works capacity.
- We have attended a presentation by Octopus Energy who are trying to install a wind turbine in Bigbury which would benefit the community and may well have positive implications for Modbury.

### To note any Council actions since the last meeting not already reported.

Incidents of vandalism in the car park have been reported. The situation will be monitored and raised with the community police service.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Tony Price**

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## DOG FOULING IN ST GEORGE'S CHURCHYARD

**MODBURY**  
PARISH COUNCIL

Dog fouling in the Church Yard continues to be a problem. Please keep dogs on leads walking through the Church yard and clear up after them.

**Sally Smale**  
**Modbury Parish Council**

*Dog owners are reminded that it is their responsibility legally to clear up after their animals. Whilst there are many responsible dog owners who do comply, unfortunately, the small minority who don't pick up,, cause a problem which is not just confined to Modbury.*



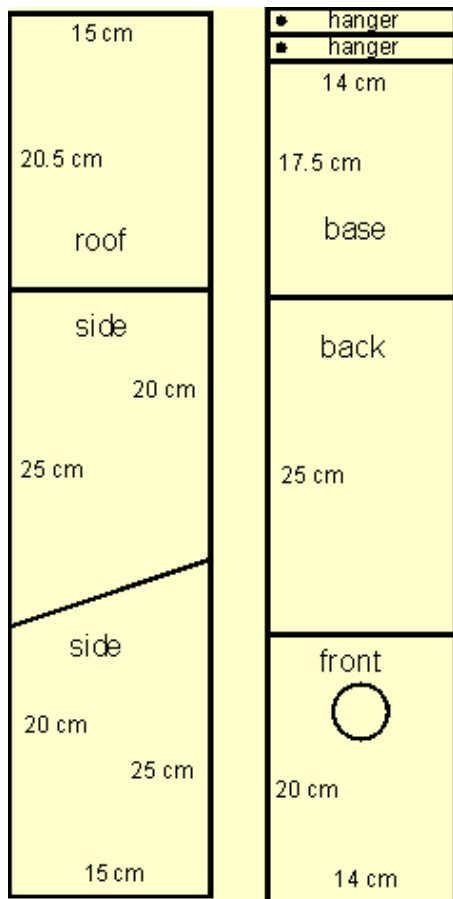


## Now is the Time to Buy or Make a Bird Box or Two, and Install in your Garden or Yard

Blue tits, great tits, and robins often occupy nest boxes in gardens, so how about one or more of these boxes in your garden or yard. They're quite easy to make, but if DIY isn't your thing, you can buy them from garden centres, hardware and pet shops. A layout plan for a typical nest box is shown below, but if you make one, do ensure that the box is made from wood with a rough surface so that young birds can grip the sides to get out when fledging, but avoid slippery materials such as MDF. The bird box dimensions and size of hole openings shown here are those recommended by the BTO & RSPB, and are suitable for small birds such as the blue tit great tit, and robins.

My bird boxes were made using a rough pine plank of 1.5 metres long, 15cm wide, and 2 cm thick for each box. The roof dimensions allow for an overhang at the sides and front to let water drain away and to keep the interior dry. If you have any spare roof felt, you could add some to the roof section to aid waterproofing.

Make sure that the entrance hole is at least 12.5 cm from the floor of the box to keep the young chicks safe from predators. A hole diameter of **25 mm** will allow blue tits to enter the box, but use **28 mm** for great tits and **32 mm** for house sparrows. For robins, leave the top third of the front open, as they won't nest through a hole.



I use brass screws to fasten everything together and also screw on the roof to allow access to enable the nest to be removed at the end of the season for cleaning, in either October or November. Drill a couple of small holes in the base for any water to drain out to keep the nest dry.

Water based preservatives may be used on the outside of the box only. Keep any preservative away from the entrance hole, as birds often tap this regularly with their beak before deciding whether to occupy. I have used some entrance hole stainless steel guards from the BTO to prevent predators such as squirrels or woodpeckers enlarging the hole to get to the eggs or young.

Hang the box or fix it to a tree, high fence or building in a quiet place, at least two metres off the ground, preferably between north and east to avoid strong sunlight. A bit of ivy or other creeper will help to hide it from predators. Please resist the temptation to inspect the nest box when in use, as the parents may desert the eggs or chicks. Choose a quiet and undisturbed part of your garden for the completed box

It is very rewarding to have nest boxes around, and these days nest boxes with video cameras inside are available (both wired & wireless) so you can have Springwatch on your own computer.

It is at this time of year that we see rare migrant thrushes in the fields around our Parish. Last winter we spotted a mixed flock of about 15 redwing, and larger, grey-headed fieldfares eating the hawthorn berries in our Modbury garden. Mistlethrushes and the smaller song thrushes are around too, and our blackbird population increases over winter due to migrating birds from Scandinavia.

Don't forget to keep feeding and also providing water for the garden birds at this time of year. Sufficient food will mean many more survive to breed in

the Spring. Peanuts, sunflower and mixed seeds, fat balls and Niger seed are ideal and readily obtainable from local hardware, garden, and farm shops.

**John Bower**

## Modbury Twinning Association Annual Wine Tasting!



The social event you've been waiting for is on Friday 8th November at 7.30pm. Wines, nibbles and fun; prospective members and guests welcome. If you are interested please email Tony Price [tp@lordprice.com](mailto:tp@lordprice.com)

## GREENLANDS NURSERY

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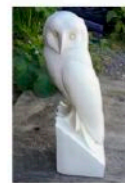
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# Modbury Mission Community

To know Jesus and make him known



## St George's Church, Modbury



**KIDS' CHURCH** - Kids' Church meet in Modbury Primary School. Parents, please drop off your Explorers (age 9+) and Discoverers (age 6-8) at the school from 9.15 am where they will be met by one of the leaders. After Kids' Church, the youngsters will be taken to St. George's to be with their parents at the end of the service. Climbers (age 0-5) will remain in St. George's, meeting their leader to be taken to the Lower Vestry. If you have any questions regarding Kids' Church please contact Sara Chapman on [s.chapman@modburyteam.org](mailto:s.chapman@modburyteam.org).

Rev. Matt Rowland

01548 830260

[matt.rowland@modburyteam.org](mailto:matt.rowland@modburyteam.org)

| Date          | Service  | Service Leader              |
|---------------|--|-----------------------------|
| November 3rd  | Holy Communion and Kids' Church 9.30 am            | Rev. Matt Rowland           |
| November 10th | Holy Communion 8.00 am                             | Rev. Matt Rowland           |
|               | Service of Remembrance 10.00 am                    | Rev. Oli Long and Gil Snook |
| November 17th | Holy Communion and Kids' Church 9.30 am            | Rev. Matt Rowland           |
|               | Rooted - A service of contemporary worship 6.00 pm | Gil Snook                   |
| November 24th | Sunday Worship 9.30 am                             | Gil Snook                   |

## CHRISTIAN COMMENT: THE ROUND MOON

Having grown up sailing and being in the water most of my life, I have always kept half an eye on the phase of the Moon, because like any sailor or water sports person knows, the state of the tides is determined by the Moon.

A children's book that I recently purchased, inspired me to consider another way that the Moon can serve us.

The story follows a young boy being told by his father that the Moon is **always** round regardless if it is crescent, half or gibbous, waxing or waning. We cannot see the whole thing all the time, but the Moon is **always** round.

We have ideas of what goodness should look like from our own estimations but this truth about the Moon serves as an illustration for Christians to understand that when life's difficulties abound or frustrations come from our shortcomings, or we do not see God's obvious work in our lives around us, he is still there. Indeed he is still **always** good and therefore sovereignly working for our good. Just like when we cannot see the whole Moon, the Moon is **always** round.

One of the verses from some of our Harvest Services around the Modbury Mission Community highlighted this truth by declaring from Psalm 100:5: *"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."*

Next time you see the Moon, whatever its phase, may it remind you that whatever your life looks like, the Living God is **always** there and he is **always** good.

**Oli Long, Curate**

### St Monica's Roman Catholic Church, Modbury

Mass weekly at 5.00 pm on Wednesday

### St Austin's Priory Roman Catholic Church, Cadleigh

Mass weekly at 11.30 am  
on Sunday

Phone: 01752 895888

E-mail: [ivybridge@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:ivybridge@prcdtr.org.uk)



### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Annual Remembrance service will be held at St George's Church, Modbury on 10 November. The Church service will start at 10.00 am and will be followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11.00 am.

There will also be a gathering at the War Memorial on Monday 11th November to remember the fallen and to mark the national two-minute silence.

All are welcome.

**Dave West MBE**



## Arnold

He's a legend in the village.

Where might you have met him? The pub, probably. He played for the village cricket team. A cunning tweaker of the ball, left armer, worth his weight in gold on a rain affected wicket. Not a tall man, no more than five foot six, but stocky, short, dark, curly hair. Deep brown eyes and long eyelashes the maids envied. Farm work pre-war could build up biceps and broaden shoulders much more efficiently than any gym would today. If runs were needed quickly the skipper would send him in and make it dangerous for the fielders in cow corner. Getting out wasn't a problem for Arnold, he just didn't care. If he got a first baller or if he got a fifty, back in the pavilion he still reacted with his fruity gurgling cider-inspired chuckle.

Come the football season, he played right half, as they were in those days. Opposition big lads often took him for granted, but only once. One tackle was usually enough to educate the over confident. He had an extraordinary sense of balance. Probably got that from exercising the Squire's horses. Whenever a new yearling brought into the yard was being a bit temperamental the Squire would shout, "Put Webb up. He'll sort 'im."

And he did. Not by mangling the poor beast's mouth like some did, but by kindness. An hour with Arnold on board and the horse was as docile as you like. He was like that with people. Sometimes, in the pub, a couple of the lads would start "effing and blinding" after a cider too many. He'd put down his pot and say something like "Will you two ladies keep the noise down, the vicar's trying to tell me a dirty joke and I can't hear a word!".

That was enough. Mind you, there was one evening when a couple of lads from another village were being a bit boisterous and took objection to Arnold's remarks and offered him outside. Arnold tried to avoid a confrontation, but to no avail. So outside it was. The younger lad promised to knock that stupid smile off Arnold's face. He followed this up with a roundhouse punch. Arnold swayed back and caught the flying fist in his own, then with a deft twist he dumped the lad, quite gently under the circumstances, into the dirt. His mate, clearly with even less brains, advanced with a knife. Arnold told him to put it away and take his mate and clear off, but he kept coming. They say the noise Arnold's fist made when it spread the lad's nose across his face echoed off the pub wall.

He could have had his pick of brides, but didn't get the time. When news came back that he had died at Ypres, it wasn't just the women who shed tears.

There's a sepia photo of him just before he left in uniform over the bar in the pub. Go and say hello.

**John Curry**

*John wrote this short story a while ago, but thought it appropriate for our November Remembrance issue.*



**MODBURY CHRISTMAS  
CRAFT FAIRS 2024**

**2 FAIRS- DIFFERENT CRAFTERS**

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER AND  
SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER**

**MODBURY MEMORIAL HALL**

**12 NOON-4PM**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**



## River Erme Environment Group is Awarded Charity Status



Restoring water quality and habitat from source to sea

Wild About The Erme River (WATER) has very recently been granted charity status by the Charity Commission. Formed just eighteen months ago, in May 2023, the organisation is a collaborative, positive action group working to restore water quality and habitat across the catchment of the Erme for the benefit of nature and people.

While the river runs along Modbury's western boundary, its tributaries and feeder streams are part of Modbury's landscape, some running through the town in the lower car park and at the foot of the Millennium Meadow.

Water mills played an important part of South Hams' agricultural and industrial heritage. Modbury had many such mills and their names remain today: Spriddlescombe, Sheephams, New Mills, Swanbridge, Cotlass and Orcheton. Some of the buildings also remain but are now converted to dwellings. Water from Modbury's brooks such as Ayleston and Shilston powered some of these mills on their way to join the Erme. Low flow rates could not provide constant power but would fill mill ponds.

So the Erme is very much our local river, loved by many who walk the public footpaths along its banks or enjoy its estuary beaches at Wonwell, Coastguards and Meadow's Foot.

Like so many of our rivers, the Erme needs our help. It is under threat from various pollutants in the water and along the riverbank. Non-native invasive species are thriving and expanding in pockets along the river and climate change is impacting water flows downstream from the moor and upstream from the tides.

Those like my wife and I, who have been privileged to live close by the river for many years and observe it in all seasons, at all tide times and all flow states find it a remarkable example of nature's constant change; blissfully tranquil on a quiet summer's day and an impressively powerful force when

heavy rain sends increasing flows of water down every tributary to join forces and charge towards the sea, only to be met by the unstoppable combination of a high spring tide, low pressure and an onshore wind pushing more water up on the incoming tide. The result, a spectacular example of just how much water a



*Coastguards Beach at mid-tide. Now designated as bathing water*

flood plain can absorb if people are not stupid enough to build homes on it.

WATER's approach to restoring the river's water quality and habitat is to consider the total catchment of the Erme from its source on Dartmoor to the many tributaries that feed it, as one inter-dependent habitat. What happens in one part of the river can have impacts further downstream and out into the estuary, the beaches and the coast.

That is why the charity's action projects are organised into land-based and water-based activities. There is a diverse range of landscapes across the catchment, some managed by farming landowners and others by non-farming owners. Whether it is wetland restoration or creation, run-off diversion away from water courses or creating wildlife corridors by planting trees to connect



*Some of the debris removed during a river clean*

otherwise isolated riverside habitats, all actions are driven by a desire to find sustainable, affordable, nature-based solutions.

**cont on p.13**





*A cull of invasive Himalayan Balsam*

It's not only landowners, including Dartmoor National Park, that WATER seeks to engage with. Local authorities, and particularly the local communities, are a vital means of restoring and monitoring river health and habitats across the catchment. Working parties are organised, in agreement with landowners, to remove litter through riverbank and beach cleans or to cull non-native invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam that crowds out the natural flora, reducing the preferred waterside habitat of animals and birds.

While embracing natural solutions, WATER's approach is driven by science. In partnership with the Westcountry Rivers Trust, local communities and environmental groups across the catchment have volunteers operating regular water testing, as part of a region-wide Citizen Science project. The results of

each test are uploaded to a central data bank to enable score cards to be kept for the river.

River pollution can emanate from multiple sources and is not only a concern for fish and other aquatic wildlife, but for people who wish to enjoy the river for leisure pursuits like canoeing, paddle boarding or a family trip to the beach. In co-operation with Surfers Against Sewage, and with tremendous support from the local community, WATER successfully lobbied for Coastguards Beach at the mouth of the Erme estuary to be categorised as bathing water by the



*Pollution sources in feeder streams*

Environment Agency. This means the water quality has to be regularly tested throughout the bathing season (May-September). If unacceptable levels of pollution are found, the bathing water classification means the Environment Agency must investigate and take steps to remedy the problem.

I would like to think that in granting us charity status, the Charity Commission has recognised not only our worthy ambitions, but the value of our approach in meeting them.

**Colin Whybrow**  
on behalf of WATER, [ermeriver.org](http://ermeriver.org)

## MODBURY SCHOOL NEWS

In September, we reopened our doors to welcome children back to school. A new intake of Foundation Stage pupils walked in confidently in their smart new uniforms, and the challenge of learning twenty new names began - especially for those of us who only come across these 'small people' at break times! A few weeks in, and I am slowly learning who is who.



When I first joined Modbury, our current Year 6 pupils were just starting their school journey, and now they are at the top of the school with all the expectations that their seniority brings.

Already we have had several visitors to school. All the KS2 children received vital life saving instruction, learning CPR. Music staff from ICC led an assembly where they introduced various sections of the orchestra and hopefully inspired some children to learn string, woodwind or brass instruments.

Year 1 enjoyed an afternoon with Nichola and Valerie from Devon Rural Archive to kick-start their learning in history. They brought a variety of artefacts to show how homes, toys and shops have changed over time and they related this to the way that Modbury has altered over the years.

Our annual Harvest Festival took place at St George's with great support from all our parents. They enjoyed singing, music, poetry and harvest thoughts prepared by all the children. This was followed by the serving of tea and coffee, with a wide selection of cakes, to raise money for the Macmillan service. Despite it feeling slightly chaotic at times, Year 6 pupils served their families with smiles (and very persuasive sales techniques!) so that we raised over £200 for this great cause.

Year 6 have just come back from a "Life Skills" afternoon at Ivybridge Leisure Centre. They learnt about the dangers of making hoax calls, how to stay safe around water and electricity, revised their resuscitation techniques, learnt how to react to a fire and how to recognise unfriendly dog body language. They really appreciated the time given up by various emergency services and other agencies to help them to use their growing independence safely and responsibly.

**Sarah Hart**

# Stanborough Chorus

are performing:

## Petite Messe Solonnelle by Rossini

Conducted by Trefor Farrow

at

**St Georges, Modbury**

on

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7:30pm**

Soloist

**Helen Haviland, Rebecca Smith Mark  
Hounsell and John Hobbs**

Accompanied by

**Irina Kosogova and Dien Worrall**

Tickets: £15 (Under-16s free)

available from all choir members;  
Kingsbridge Information Centre,  
Kingston Information Centre,  
Modbury Post Office

and online:

**stanboroughchorus.com**



Introducing  
the relaunch  
of the



## Modbury Town Improvement Charity

This is a fundraising charity that has been set up to help enhance the town we live in.

It has come about because residents of the town have wanted to contribute to the upkeep of the planters, bunting, flags and signage to make the most of the historic heritage of the town.

This charity enables the trustees to fundraise, look for grant opportunities and to take donations, bequests and match-fund larger projects. The trustees are local residents, traders and Parish Councillors.

It is hoped that Modbury will continue to be a desirable place to live and a destination for tourists who will shop, eat in, and explore our wonderful town. It has been described as a 'Jewel in the South Hams'.

If you would like to donate you can make a BACS payment to:

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**Sarah Wyatt**

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**PL21 0QR**





## An Apothecral Tail

Autumnus



This **figwort** plant (**Scrophularia nodosa**) is growing in the lane outside my house. Though growing up to 1.5 metres tall, figwort is a rather inconspicuous plant and not very photogenic compared to its rather impressive cousin, great mullein. Figwort is native, commonly seen around Modbury, though probably not noticed.

It gets its name, figwort, from its traditional use for treating haemorrhoids, which were then known as "figs", wort being an old word for herb. The origin of the Latin name is even more interesting. *Scrophularia* is derived from the word *scrofula*, a term used to describe lymphadenopathy of the neck. In this disease, the neck has swollen lymph nodes due to infection by mycobacteria including tuberculosis. The disease was known as "King's Evil" as it was believed that royalty had divine powers that could spontaneously cure the disease by touching the patient. This practice continued in both France and England from the 11th to 18th centuries. Samuel

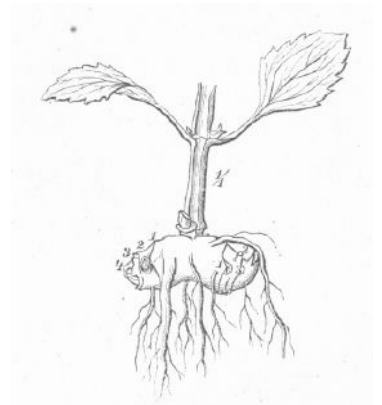
Johnson, the renowned man of letters, contracted the disease and was touched by Queen Anne, but to no avail. The disease had become quite rare in recent times, but has seen resurgence with the advent of HIV/AIDS. "Scrofula" is derived from the word *scrofa* which is Latin for "a breeding sow" as it was believed that the disease occurred commonly in breeding sows.

The "Doctrine of Signatures" dates back to the time of Galen and Dioscorides in the 1st century AD. This doctrine states that herbs resembling parts of the body can be used to treat ailments of those body parts. The accompanying 19th century pictures of the disease and anatomical drawing of figwort root illustrate this.

Figwort was valued so highly that it was one of the plants included in the first English pharmacopoeia by the Royal College of Physicians in 1618. It was recommended for treating scrofula and piles. Figwort contains substances, similar to its cousin, great mullein,

that might decrease pain and inflammation, fight infection and help heal wounds.

I am not aware of it being used in contemporary medicine though it continues to be recommended by some herbalists for a variety of ailments including swollen lymph nodes and haemorrhoids.



*Fiat cum secundum artem*

Edward Holt

### Come and say hello!

For families with children 0-4 years

Fridays - 9.15-11.15 at Modbury Memorial Hall

Last Friday of the month - out and about day

Term time only

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## Do you living in Modbury?

If so, why don't you join these groups and  
meet and make new friends?



**Ladies and Gents Who Lunch**  
(Cost £15-20)  
Meeting fortnightly in local pubs  
Contact Liz to book 01548 830313.

**Ladies and Gents Who Stroll and Chat (Free)**  
Wednesdays 11-11.30 am Poundwell Meadow  
and then at the Cool Bean Café  
Contact Wendy for info: 01548 831219

**Ladies and Gents Who Take Trips Out**  
(£ please ask)  
Meet at Modbury Post Office; 9.30- 4.30pm  
Contact Liz for info and to book: 01548 830313.

**Ladies and Gents Who Craft, Knit, Colour**  
(or simply sit and chat) (cost £3)  
Memorial Hall - Thursdays - 2-4pm includes tea  
Contact Wendy for info: 01548 831219.

**Ladies and Gents Who Get Active (cost £3)**  
Seated dance and singing - MARS -  
3rd Wednesday of the month 2.30-4.30pm  
Includes tea and cake  
Contact Jenny for info and to book 07787786594

**Ladies and Gents Who Meet for Coffee**  
Mondays - 11 am - Cool Bean Café  
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## Ivybridge u3a November Meeting

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
at the Watermark Centre.

The 'speaker' will be Roger Browne. Jazz Pianist.

Roger will both perform pieces of music and explain their background.

The event is open to non-members. Those no longer in full-time employment are welcome to come along and find out what u3a has to offer.

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## Modbury History Society

Modbury History Society meets on the second Monday of the month at 7.35 pm at the MARS Pavilion in the QEII Recreation Ground, Chatwell Lane, Modbury PL21 0FS where there is ample parking in the grounds.

Membership is £20 for the series of lectures listed below or come as a guest for a fee of £5.

Please contact [rosiejaneparker@gmail.com](mailto:rosiejaneparker@gmail.com) if you would like further information.

### PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS 2024/25

|                              |                  |  |
|------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 11 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 24 | CLIVE CHARLTON   | NAPOLEON IN PLYMOUTH SOUND   |
| 9 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 24  | DR HELEN WILSON  | THE REMARKABLE PINWILL SISTERS - A FAMILY OF LOCAL WOODCARVERS           |
| 10 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH 25    | JOHN BELL        | STAIRWAY TO THE STARS - THE HISTORY OF CINEMA IN DEVON IN THE GOLDEN AGE |
| 14 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL       | HENRY WAINWRIGHT | SHIPWRECKS IN BIGBURY BAY  |
| 12 <sup>TH</sup> MAY         | BERNARD MILLS    | RAILWAYS IN THE SOUTH HAMS   |
| 9 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE         | PAMELA VASS      | SUFFRAGETTES IN DEVON  |

**Rosemary Parker**



## Modbury Branch Royal British Legion

The next Social Gathering of the Modbury and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be in the Modbury Inn on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November starting at 7.30pm. New members are always most welcome.

**David Scott**

## walk&talk

The November walks are on 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

The venue and travel arrangements for each of the walks will be discussed and decided at the previous week's walk.

Walk Leader contact details:

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Sue Rogers        | 01548 831289 |
| Jean Wright       | 01548 810029 |
| Catherine Speight | 01548 830195 |

**Sue Rogers**



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## Holbeton Film Club



November's film is **Vindication Swim** (certificate PG). It is based on the extraordinary life of Mercedes Gleitze, who, in 1927, became the first British woman to swim the English Channel. She faced not only the cold waters of the English Channel, but also the oppressive society of 1920's England.

This is showing on **Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024** in Holbeton Village Hall. Doors open 7pm. The programme starts at 7:30pm. Tickets on the door still only £4, £2 for under 12s (cash only). Ice creams will be on sale for £1.

Our forward programme is:

Wonka, PG  
Baltimore, 15  
Wilding, PG

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Harry Baumer 01752 830274, [harryluson@gmail.com](mailto:harryluson@gmail.com)



**Harry Baumer**

### BRIDGE LESSONS AND DUPLICATE CLUB SESSIONS

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Email Rodney on:

[nootig321@gmail.com](mailto:nootig321@gmail.com) for more information

### INTENDED MONTHLY FLAG HOIST AT PALM CROSS GREEN - November

| Date | Masthead        | Starboard Yard (Plymouth) - West | Port Yard (Modbury) - East | Event                               |
|------|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 04   | Army Flag       | LA1 <sup>st</sup> subMEN         | 1942Ans                    | End of El Alamein Battle 1942       |
| 07   | Union Flag      | SUEZ                             | 1956Ans                    | End of the Suez Conflict 1956       |
| 10   | RBL Flag        | Poppy and others                 | Lest We Forget and others  | Remembrance Sunday                  |
| 11   | RBL Flag        | ARMIST                           | 191 <sup>st</sup> sub8     | Armistice Day 1918                  |
| 14   | Union flag - RC | HMKING                           | 1948                       | HM King Birthday 1948               |
| 18   | Army Flag       | SOM3 <sup>rd</sup> subE          | 191 <sup>st</sup> sub6Ans  | End of the Battle of the Somme 1916 |
| 30   | Scot Lion Flag  | St Andrew Cross                  | ANDREW                     | Scotland Patronal Saint             |

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The next meeting of Modbury WI will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 19th November 2024, when Kath Parsons, a local craft maker, will be giving a demonstration on felting and members will have an opportunity to have a go for themselves.

Modbury WI meets at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the QEII Pavilion in Chatwell Lane, Modbury PL21 0FS excluding December, January and September when we meet up during the day for other activities such as coffee, lunch or tea out. Visitors are most welcome to attend a meeting for a fee of £5.

If you would like to find out more about what talks and activities are planned, then please email

[modbury@devonwi.org.uk](mailto:modbury@devonwi.org.uk)

**Rosemary Parker**

Please join  
**Modbury Gospel Singers**  
**for a Concert**

**Modbury Memorial Hall**

**Thursday 21st November, 7:30pm**

Donations in aid of Kingsbridge Foodbank

### **May Fair 2025 Urgently Needs New Chair Person**

A new Chair is needed for May Fair 2025 as, unfortunately, I no longer have the time to devote to steer this excellent event. The role is very much a co-ordinating one as many of the activities are organised individually by our loyal, long term helpers.

There will be support from the existing Committee Members who each have a role to play but an overall co-ordinator is imperative.

I really can't stress strongly enough how important a replacement is and I sincerely hope that someone will come forward by contacting me on [pipainsworth@btinternet.com](mailto:pipainsworth@btinternet.com)

**Pip Ainsworth**

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## Modbury and South Hams Creative Writing Group

We at The Modbury and South Hams Creative Writing Group meet every month, to read and discuss our work. We are a small group of lively individuals who write for all sorts of different reasons. Each month, we set ourselves a challenge or theme to hang our ideas on (although we have been known to digress completely).

Below is a submission which one of our members brought to the meeting inspired by her move from the north of England to Bigbury. She says that it was always her dream to live by the sea.

We are keen to welcome new members, so if you enjoy creative writing, why not join us. We meet usually on the first Saturday of the month at the Queen Elizabeth 11 Pavilion in Modbury at 10.00am.

Call Jody Fendick for more details: 07502 009103. [www.facebook.com/modburyc creativewritinggroup](https://www.facebook.com/modburyc creativewritinggroup)

### A Blue Mind

In a life contained  
In boxes and labels  
And things folk tell you  
Let the waves  
Ebb and flow

When the tide  
Is the moon's shadow  
And the chill slips between your toes  
Don't step back  
Step forward  
To let the waves  
Ebb and flow

All at once  
The ocean will roar  
And you'll think it's too much  
But stand there still  
Because the waves  
Will ebb and flow

When grey clouds drift apart  
To reveal a clearer sky  
And summer returns  
When the skylarks sing  
The butterflies will dance  
On the coastal path  
Across seaside daisies  
Petals quivering on the breeze  
Whispering across your ears  
Breathless with the beauty  
And it will remind you  
You've let the waves  
Ebb and flow

Claire Williams

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## ENERGY FEST 2024

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**26**  
OCTOBER

**OKE ENERGY FEST**  
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10.00-15.00  
**09**  
NOVEMBER

**TAMAR ENERGY FEST**  
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# MODBURY MESSENGER

## COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES MODBURY MESSENGER NOVEMBER 2024

| SIZE     | 1 INSERTION |         | 3 – 10 INSERTIONS<br>(Per insertion) |         | 12 INSERTIONS<br>(Per insertion) |        | 12 INSERTIONS<br>(Year Total) |         |
|----------|-------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|---------|
|          | Black       | Colour  | Black                                | Colour  | Black                            | Colour | Black                         | Colour  |
| 1/8 page | £15.00      | £30.00  | £13.00                               | £26.00  | £8.00                            | £16.00 | £96.00                        | £192.00 |
| 1/4 page | £30.00      | £60.00  | £25.00                               | £50.00  | £15.00                           | £30.00 | £180.00                       | £360.00 |
| 1/2 page | £54.00      | £108.00 | £43.00                               | £86.00  | £25.00                           | £50.00 | £300.00                       | £600.00 |
| 1 page   | £96.00      | £192.00 | £74.00                               | £148.00 | £40.00                           | £80.00 | £480.00                       | £960.00 |

### Advertisement Sizes:

One eighth page

One quarter page

One half page

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## Modbury Messenger December 2024

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Advertisers are charged a fee for advertising in the Modbury Messenger and this covers the cost of producing the Modbury Messenger. The Board of Directors, Company Secretary, Editor, Proofreaders and Distributors are all volunteers.

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