# Kingston Parish Newsletter

March 2018

Number 407

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**Parish WEB Site www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk**
**Kingston History Society www.kingstonlocalhistory.co.uk**
**Neighbourhood Plan www.kingstonplan.org**

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR SPEED**

***DOWN THROUGH THE VILLAGE***

**TWENTY IS PLENTY**

***20 mph INJURES 3O KILLS***

The panto season has now been and gone for another 2 years. I have included a few pictures from "Robin Hood" staged earlier this month. If you would like to see them in colour go to the parish WEB site where the newsletter is always published in its full colour version.(WEB address at the head of this newsletter)

The Reading Room is a focal point in the village and the committee has been working hard to improve the facility for the benefit of you all, and a great deal more will be happening this year. Please see the report in this issue as to the progress being made and visit one of the information days for even more information (see poster opposite

You all came to live in a beautiful rural village, so why not make the most of it by rising early on 14th April with a walk starting at 5.30 in the morning to hear and see what nature is doing all around you when you are normally in bed! The Church is arranging this event for all you budding nature lovers. There will be more details at a later date.

We have already had the 1st visitors for the year with the early half term and the Easter bank holiday will see many more visitors both new and returning friends: so be prepared to welcome them at your various activities now being organised in the village

*David*

**Reading Room Revival Project**

***What is it all about?***

***How is it being funded?***

***When will it all happen?***

***and what do you think about it?***

Come to an information, display and chat session, in the Reading Room, and tell us what you think

*Saturday 3rd. March 10am -1pm*

*Sunday 4th. March 10am -12noon*

*(Tuesday Market) key points only*
*6th March 10 am -12 noon*

## PARISH CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

**2017**

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday February 14th. No flowers until Easter

April 1st Easter Sunday - all helpers please - Saturday a.m. (because of Good Friday &
Easter gardens & Easter egg hunt on Saturday afternoon)

| | |
|---|---|
| April 8th | Check flowers |
| Apr 15th & 22nd | Shioya Walters |
| Apr 29th & May 6th | Vanessa Walker |
| May 13th&20th | Jean Moore |
| May 27th& Jun 3rd | Margaret Birch |
| Jun 10th & 17th | Jenny Stanley |
| Jun 24th & Jul1st | June Wilkinson |
| Jul 8th & 15th | Caroline Carter |
| Jul 22nd & 29th | Carole & Jeanne |
| Aug 5th & 12th | Caroline Thompson |
| Aug 19th & 26th | Janet Gilbreath |
| Sept 2nd & 9th | Kathryn Pinkerton |
| Sept 16th & 23rd | June & Ruth Jarvis |
| Sept 30th | ?\|HARVEST - EVERYONE |
| Oct 7th | check flowers |
| Oct 14th, 21st 28th | Jeanne Curtis |
| Nov 4th & 11th | Carole Walters |
| Nov 18th & 25th | Margaret Kelly |
| Dec 2nd & 9th | Di Phillips |
| Dec 16th, 23rd 30th | ALL HELPERS PLEASE |

If you are unable to do the flowers on a given date, please change with someone and let Carole know –

Tel 810566.

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## 200 Club Draw

The numbers drawn in the January 2017 draw are as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 56. | Anita Ellis. | £20 |
| 179. | Olive Wintle. | £20 |
| 110. | Heather Mitchell. | £20 |
| 109. | Jan Lucas. | £15 |
| 132. | Jill Uttley. | £10 |

The monthly draws take place at the Tuesday morning market on the last Tuesday if each month.

Elaine & Owen Roberts Tel. 810968

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## KINGSTON GARDEN CLUB

Calling all gardeners-we meet informally at various venues in the village to organise a programme of events and to share our love of gardening; none of us are experts but enjoy swapping ideas and discussing garden related issues. We welcome new members to join us and our next event is an outing to The Garden House, Yelverton on Wednesday, March 21st organised by Caroline Thompson (01548 810531) cathomas.torr@gmail.com For any other information please contact Jennie Stanley (01548 810819) stanz@stanz.plus.com

Copy for April Newsletter by
Monday 19th March-- please.

Editor

## TUESDAY MARKET TEA/COFFEE ROTA

**2018**-

| | |
|---|---|
| Feb. 27- | Cynthia / Irene. |
| March 6 - | Ann / Elaine. |
| March 13 - | Jeanette. |
| March 20- | Pauline. |
| March 27 - | Margaret. |
| April 3 - | Judy. |
| April 10 - | John. |

Tuesday Morning Market
In the Reading Room Every Tuesday 10am -12 noon

Meet up for a Cuppa in a Warm and Friendly Environment.
We Sell The Following:
Fresh Cakes, Pies, Jams, Meat, Eggs, Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Corner Shop On A Table Gifts, Cards, Jewellery, Organic Soaps, Craft and Books

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## MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library visits the village every 4th Tuesday at the Fire station from 11 am to 11.40 am.

Feb 27 Mar 27, Apr 24, May 22 Jun 19 Jul 17
Aug 14, Sep 11, Oct 9, Nov 6 Dec 4

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## WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome Peter & Gina [redacted] to the village having recently moved in to [redacted].
We hope that you will both be very happy here, and hope that you will become involved with, at least some, of the many activities that are available

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

(Also see Parish WEB site for further details)
Morning Market every Tuesday 10 a.m. till noon
Mother & Toddler Group every Wednesday 10-11.45am
(Bigbury Memorial Hall)

**Easter Sunday service 1st April with Matt Rowland. May Fair 26th May 2017**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Feb 24th | 7 for 7.30 | Flicks in the Sticks "My Cousin Rachel" R/R |
| Feb 28th | 7-9pm | Craft Evening – Reading Room |
| March 8th | 7-9pm | Craft Evening – Reading Room |
| March 20th | 2.30pm | Knit & Natter Brae Cottage |
| March 22nd | 7.30pm | History Soc."A 1,000 years at Thorn" William Arkwright R/R |
| March 28th | 7-9pm | Craft Evening – Reading Room |
| March 31st | afternoon | Making Easter Gardens St James the Less |
| March 31st | 7 for 7.30 | Flicks in the Sticks "The Limehouse Golem" R/R |
| April 14th | 5.30pm | Dawn Chorus walk details to follow |
| April 21st | 10.30am | Historu Soc. Tour of Hemerdon Hse & Gardens Plympton |
| April 28th | 7 for 7.30 | Flicks in the Sticks "Goodbye Christopher Robin" R/R |
| May 12th | 7.30pm | Kingston Seasonal Concerts – Jez Lowe with Silvington R/R |
| May 24th | 7.30pm | History Soc. "History of RAF Harrowbeer Yelverton 1941-45 R/R |
| May 26th | | St. James The Less May Fair |
| June 30th | | Church Table Top Sale R/R |

## STAY AND PLAY

Kingston Stay and Play every Thursday morning 10 - 12
£1. Per family
Under 5s play sessions
contact Karen 810070.

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## THANK YOU

I would like to share with everyone that planning has been approved for our home. Matt and I would like to say a huge thank you for all your encouragement , letters and e mails of support.

Beth.


**DENTURE REPAIRS**

Are you a denture wearer?

Have you taken your denture to your Dentist and its been gone for too long?

Good news, a Denture Repair Service is now available to you privately.

I am a Qualified Dental Technician, recently retired.

Times- any denture presented before 11am for a 4pm pick up.

A quick emergency service is available by prior arrangement for 50% extra.

Please ring Tom, 01548 811105

Mobile, 07800532002


**Keep the date!**
**Kingston Seasonal Concerts**

**Presents**

**JEZ LOWE**

**with support from**

**SILVINGTON**

**Saturday 12 May**

**Kingston Reading Room, 7.30pm**

**One of the busiest live performers around, this Co Durham-based singer-songwriter has contributed to the Pitmen Poets and the updated BBC Radio Ballads, and has collaborated with other major performers such as Steve Tilston and James Keelaghan. His songs have been widely performed by long-established acts such as Fairport Convention, Bob Fox and the Dubliners, and latterly by a new breed of stars such as the Unthanks and the Young 'Uns. Your very own SILVINGTON provide support with their trademark vocal blend and delicate guitar work, as evidenced in their two albums "Where the acorn falls" and "Down the line".**

**Tickets £10 advance, £12 door from John 01548 810806 or via www.facebook.com/silvington**

**GREENLANDS**
**Higher Wizaller Farm**
**Modbury, PL21 OSE**

**Hanging Baskets and Basket Refill service available**
**Free Local Delivery**

Good Range of **Bedding Plants and Shrubs**

**Fresh Eggs**

**Free local delivery**

**MARBLE ART – Garden Ornaments – Wall Plaques**

**Bob and Brenda Coates**
**Tel 01548 550491**
**Email brendagreenlandsmodbury@yahoo.com**



Did you know

**Citizens Advice South Hams**

• is a local independent charity • last year helped over 4,300 local residents resolve over 9,040 problems • watches for unfairness and campaigns for change • is staffed mainly by volunteers • relies on donations and funding

**We need you**

• as volunteers - **volunteering@southhamscab.org.uk**
• as heroic fundraisers - **friends@southhamscab.org.uk**
• to make donations - **southhamscab.org.uk**

citizens advice South Hams

**Make a difference to peoples lives**

Our advice line for problems is
**03 444 111 444**

Registered Charity No 1091133

The 8th – 10th February brought Robin Hood to the Reading Room as this season's pantomime put on for our enjoyment by the Kingston Players. This year's show was Produced and Directed by Zoe Walters with many Kingstonians working behind the scenes and front of house far too many to mention them all here, but all the same recognised for all their hard work.

The main characters of Robin Hood and Maid Marion were played by Carmen Mears and Emily Worthington with Fred Gulliford as the panto dame – Nanny Kelly and Gary Davies as the Sherriff of Nottingham, Sir Symon Scowl. They were backed by many others in the various characters in the show including some of the youngest members of our community as the fairies.

Well done everyone.

## ROBIN HOOD

**This review was published in the Buckinghamshire Herald and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Editor of the Buckinghamshire Herald and of Alex Pratt the author.**

This week's gibberish dressed up as a veneer of wisdom comes to you from deepest Devon where I have travelled to experience the nearly world-famous biennial Kingston village pantomime. As with all deliberately disruptive experiences, the combination of panto, a close community and the plentiful supply of alcohol offered up several life-lessons for distillation by an open mind.

The script for Robin Hood was downloaded from the internet and rehearsals for the three individual, somewhat unique February performances began way back in November. For the Saturday final finale, the assembled audience had travelled from as far afield as Geneva and Modbury and the cast were drawn from all corners of the Kingdom of Kingston.

Dame Fred, the builder, carried the wider performance with a high-pitch vocal momentum that had the audience in stitches. He quite literally nearly brought the house down when he tripped and fell off the stage, grabbing the set for support.

The whole performance was classic panto. We enjoyed everything from an improvised Sherwood Forest Haka and two wonderful village idiots, to the entire show being paused after the announcement that a parked Vauxhall needed to be moved to allow the farm milk tanker to get past the village hall. Brilliant.

So, what was there to learn from our trip to Devon? Other than the fact that unfettered second home ownership can decimate the spirit of communities by hollowing them out, we learned there is such joy and sense of achievement available to those prepared to work together as a team. Striving to entertain ourselves, it seems, is, in the end, just as worthwhile if not more so, than competing to win in the global rat race.

Secondly, being prepared to lampoon yourself and not take your raging ego at all seriously is the only reliable road to sustainable fulfilment.

And finally, there is little point in worrying about what has already gone spectacularly wrong during the production - including your life and business - because **IT'S BEHIND YOU!**

## SCOBBISCOMBE TURKEYS

We still have a few frozen turkeys available from £35. Perfect for an enjoyable Easter treat.

Please ring 01548 810259.

## A Spring outing with our Local History Society

Saturday 21st April, 10.30 a.m. Kingston Local History Society is arranging a trip to **Hemerdon House**, located close to Plympton.

This late 18th century house is set in its own parkland, with a neatly rendered austere exterior that belies a warm, comfortable interior with Georgian elegance overlaid by Victorian solidity.

Built by the ancestors of the current owners, the house contains naval and military mementos, paintings, furniture, china and silver collected by members of the Woollcombe family over many generations. Visitors are welcome to explore the grounds while the house is open.

If you want to join this interesting outing, please contact either Margaret Kelly (margaret.cmkelly@btinternet.com) / 810358 Or Rae Musk (raewallin@gmail.com) /810824, confirming before the end of February the number in your party; whether you need transport; and whether you have any special access needs. The cost of the visit is £7.50 per person (payable on the day) and lunch can be bought in the local pub.

Numbers may be limited so please let us know as soon as possible

## FLICKS IN THE STICKS

### KINGSTON COMMUNITY CINEMA PRESENTS:

**SATURDAY 24th February. Doors open 6.30 pm. Film starts 7.30pm**

**My Cousin Rachel, Cert 12A, 106 mins.**

*Starring Rachel Weisz, Iain Glen*

Adapted from a novel by Daphne Du Maurier. A young Englishman plots revenge against his late cousin's mysterious, beautiful wife, believing her responsible for his death.

***Hollywood Gala Night*Champagne* Buffet* *Red Carpet* Celebrity Guests***

**Saturday 31st March. Doors open 7.00 pm. Film starts 7.30pm**

**The Limehouse Golem, Cert 15, 109 mins.**

*Starring Bill Nighy, Olivia Cooke*

A series of murders has shaken a London community to the point where people believe that only a legendary creature from dark times - the mythical so-called Golem - must be responsible. It falls to Inspector John Kildare to solve the murders and the mystery.

***'Before the Ripper, fear had another name.....'***

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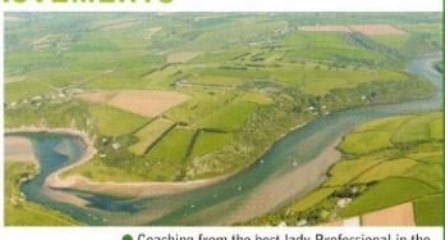
**BIGBURY GOLF CLUB HAS LOTS OF EXCITING IMPROVEMENTS**

BIGBURY GOLF



- New lounge, bar & restaurant
- New catering managers launching -'The Bigbury Bistro'
- Clubhouse completely renovated inside & out
- Social membership only £15 p.a.
- Brand new website with aerial flyovers and easy to navigate information
- Innovative membership options to suit all lifestyles
- Coaching from the best lady Professional in the UK & one of only 34 PGA Master Professionals
- Structured 'YMG' junior coaching programmes starting in april
- Quality golf course improving year by year
- New members and visitors all receive the famous 'Bigbury welcome'

**Please call 01548 810 557 to ask for a tour of the club**
**www.bigburygolfclub.co.uk**

# Church News

.Our new vicar, Rev. Matt Rowland, took his first Communion on Sunday 4th February. It was well attended, and Matt's wife Louise and 3 young children were also in the Congregation.

This month sees **Mother's Day on 11th March** when we will be bringing flowers to church for the children and young people to make their own posy during the service, to give to mothers and grandmothers, so do come along and bring your children and grandchildren. Easter comes fairly early this year so put the date in your diary for making **Easter Gardens on 31st March** in the church during the afternoon.

The **Kingston Dawn Chorus walk on 14th April**, starts at 05.30 outside the Church, for those of you who love the early morning birdsong and a breath of fresh air, this will be followed by a breakfast of bacon/sausage baps, croissants & pastries plus hot drinks from 7.15 am onwards laid on by Craig - watch this space for further information! The Kingston **table top sale on Saturday 30th June** in the Reading Room, we already have two bookings and as this will be first come first served as space is limited, book a table for £5 then any proceeds from sales are yours – you can sell anything such as bric a brac , home made goods, run a tombola etc. we will sell tea and coffee. If this is something of interest to you please contact **Pauline Deschamps on 01548 810949** to book a table.

**The Friends of St. James the Less** got together on 1st February for a meal kindly hosted by Robert and Carol at Scobbiscombe House. The Friends, whose fundraising is for the upkeep of the church building and churchyard, are looking for new members, so if you would like to help, please take a membership form from the back of the church, every £20 makes a difference.

**Dates for your diary**: Easter Sunday service 1st April with Matt Rowland. May Fair 26th May.

When you are planning to renew your **home insurance** check out Ecclesiastical, they are offering to donate £130 to our church for every new home insurance policy taken out this year (to celebrate their 130th anniversary). Visit **www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130 or call 0800 7830130** and quote TRUST130.

Planning a holiday? Winter sun, a last minute ski trip or that dream Summer holiday, clicking through T**heGivingMachine** can raise a huge donation for St James the Less Parish Church, Kingston. Download the Shop&Give App for iOS or Android, or the Shop&Give Reminder for your Desktop and never miss a **FREE Donation!**

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/search/shops/travel-&-holidays

**Local contacts for St. James the Less, Kingston**

**Church Wardens:**

Brian Alloway, 810692, bja6devon@gmail.com

Robert Beard, 810500, r.beard@scobbiscombe.co.uk

Both Churchwardens will be pleased to help you find the right person to talk to and help with any church-related arrangements. Please note full information is also on the Parish website as well as the team website: www.modburyteam.org Kingston.

National Trust

Finally the cold weather arrived but it was still a very wet February which meant we have not been able to start our footpath improvements in the meadow behind Wembury beach. Fingers crossed for some drier weather in March.

Some of our tenant farmers have asked me to write about stock worrying as they are seeing an increasing number of incidents. We welcome you and your doggy friend onto our sites but please do adhere to the countryside code making sure your dog is on a lead when stock is grazing espcially at this time of year when many sheep are pregnant and being chased by a dog can cause the sheep to miscarry an otherwise healthy lamb. Livestock worrying can occur when a dog attacks, chases or in the case of sheep, is at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field where livestock is kept. Grazing is essential to manage the important Maritime Grassland which is an ideal habitat for scarce wild flowers such as autumn squill, lady's tresses and slender birds foot trefoil. The stock grazing and scrub cutting regime also provides nesting sites for the Dartford Warbler and the nationally rare Cirl bunting. All of this would be lost if we do not have sheep, cattle or ponies grazing on the cliffs. Please can dog owners also clean up after their dog ensuring it is bagged and taken home and disposed of appropriately. The National Trust is a charity funded through public donation and membership and we think very carefully about how we spend the limited resources we have and so we ask visitors in the countryside to take anything they brought with them back home again, whether that be litter or dog poo. This enables us to spend more money on essential conservation work to look after special places forever.

If you are looking ahead and wanting to plan some great days out then have a look at our events listed below and for further information go to www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

**17th March 2018, 11am -12.30 – Spring clean the beach – Ayrmer cove, Ringmore**. Join the rangers on the beach to help clean up this beautiful cove. We will provide litter pickers and bags. Bring some gardening gloves, shoes that could get wet, sunhats, and sun cream, or layers and waterproof depending on the weather! Meet down at Ayrmer Cove.

**18th March 2018, 11am – 12.30 – Spring clean the beach – South Milton Sands.** Join the rangers on the beach to help clean up this beautiful beach. We will provide litter pickers and bags. Bring some gardening gloves, shoes that could get wet, sunhats, and sun cream, or layers and waterproof depending on the weather! Park in the National Trust car park and meet by the main boardwalk from the car park to the beach.

**29th April 2018, 11am – 3pm – Big Day Out on the farm – East Soar Farm.** Join the Trust Rangers and South Devon AONB team for a fun day at East Soar farm. Come and see the farm animals, enjoy a farm trail, bug hunts, pond dipping, storytelling, children's activities, refreshments in the walkers café, BBQ with Holsome Park Quality Meats and more!

For information regarding the work of the South Devon National Trust team please call Lorna Sherriff on 01548 562344 or email lorna.sherriff@nationaltrust.org.uk

**Lorna Sherriff**
**Area Ranger**

Follow us on Twitter: @NTSouthDevon and Facebook: National Trust South Devon

## A Neighbourhood Development Plan for Kingston

*Kingston must maintain its character as a living village in an area of outstanding natural beauty.*

### We need your help.

What is so special about Kingston? Please tell us your views now.

The responses to the Questionnaire have strongly reinforced the importance that residents attach to the landscape, wildlife and also the rich history/heritage assets of Kingston.

As we develop some firm *policies* for the Neighbourhood Plan, we need to actually pin-down the physical and cultural features of Kingston that contribute to its distinctiveness. This will help us to develop policies that protect and enhance what is important.

The draft **Kingston Plan Character Assessment** is an attempt to do just that. The document starts with a brief profile of the parish, followed by descriptions of the geology, landscape, wildlife habitats and also the historical development of Kingston.

We have approached several residents and clubs/societies for comments already, but we need more please.

**Please take a few minutes to read through the draft Character Assessment on www.kingstonplan.org – any suggestions for additions or corrections would be very welcome! Send these directly to richard@rdalley.demon.co.uk or through the Contact page on the website**

**Illustrating and protecting the Kingston you know and love.** Kingston's artists/photographers can you help now?

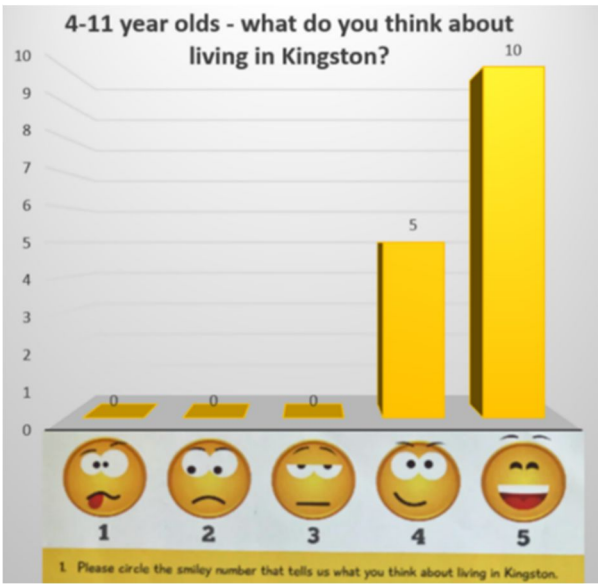
Are there views or landscapes of Kingston, glimpsed views as well as full ones, which you think are significant to the Parish, even iconic? For example how about the 'glimpsed' view of the Eddystone light as one approaches Kingston from Sevenstones? If you are one of the many artistic people we have in Kingston can you sketch or photograph these views for us? Kingston artists and photographers – we have quite a few - can you help develop the Kingston Plan? Contributions from younger residents are very welcome.

Please send illlustrations /photos to allowayjudy1@gmail.com or tel 01548810692 together with signed permission for us to use the picture on our website in documents etc

**This is your Plan. Please make your contribution now.**

***The Questionnaire Report*** is on www.kingstonplan.org and a summary in the January Newsletter. Copies of all NP articles in the Newsletter are on the Plan website under Newsletter articles.

A fully illustrated version of the Very Special Questionnaire Report is also on the website.




A paper copy of both the Site Assessment Report and the Questionnaire Report are available in the Reading Room and the Church for those without access to the Neighbourhood Plan website. If you cannot find a copy please contact the Clerk.

You can contact us anytime through: Judy Alloway 810692, allowayjudy1@gmail.com or Flo Watts 810019, flowatts1@gmail.com or through our website, www.kingstonplan.org

# KINGSTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS FOR FEBRUARY 2018

On Wednesday, January 31st the Reading Room was packed with members and visitors to hear our speaker, Robert Hesketh, give an illustrated talk about *"Smuggling in Devon"* A welcome glass of wine added to everyone's enjoyment of the evening. Rae Musk has written this summary of the presentation "*Smuggling in Devon – the truth behind the fiction"*

Smuggling in Devon has a long history, reaching back to the accession of William 3rd in the 17th century. When the PM Robert Peel, later imposed excise duties in respect of free trade, it was this, which made smuggling so profitable as it allowed the availability of luxury goods at prices exclusive of the imposed extra duty cost. This new taxation was introduced as a means of funding the ongoing war with the French and it continued throughout the Napoleonic War, (*1815-1830*) which itself followed on from decades of intermittent war over imperial trade and colonial control. There had been a degree of smuggling prior to imposition of the new duties but this had been primarily about transporting goods- rather than the later importation of goods - and in response to exorbitant Customs and Excise duties, until they were abolished in 1816 after the introduction of income tax in 1799. The popular view of smugglers was one of clever '*underdogs',* who were rightly anti-government and challenging the British State, but this view takes no account of the violence and intimidation which characterised much smuggling activity, which was about tax evasion and criminal activity rather than free trade. Smuggling was a major industry and, although there are no formal records, it may have been the leading industry in Devon and Cornwall at its height. It is estimated that some 60,000 of England's youngest and strongest men were engaged in smuggling, and there was a high number of ships involved, with very limited capture of smuggling vessels. The advantages for the two counties were experience of sailing and the local boatbuilding tradition, combined with the long, indented coastlines and the fact that, initially, there was no Customs provision to prevent the movement of goods from across the world. It was also useful for the local smugglers that they were distanced from the seat of power in London and that they were free spirited by nature. Fishing provided excellent cover for smuggling, including the practice of "*sewing the crop*" when barrels of spirits were weighted sufficiently to float just below water level, ready for hauling back in when danger of discovery was passed. The Royal Navy (RN) was responsible for hunting down smugglers and was well aware of the audacity and ability of those they were seeking, as well as the fact that at least one had a powerful sponsor. One smuggler was twice dragooned into the RN as a punishment when captured but then on one occasion piloted a RN ship out of trouble, so there was a degree of ambivalence in the relationship between the law keepers and the law breakers. As a general rule, the RN was delighted to have '*pressed men'* attached to their service – in return, willingness to serve a 5-year RN term (*pressed*) was often chosen as preferable to criminal proceedings and harsh punishment. Alternatives were fines, and sequestration of goods and vessels. Generally, smugglers got off more lightly than other felons. The navy engaged in a degree of collusion as it could thereby be assured of the benefit of cheap '*booze' and baccy'* Kingsand and Cawsand - adjoining villages in SE Cornwall – were united in smuggling activity and it is believed that 17,000 casks of spirits went into Cawsand every year for onward distribution. Other key smuggling centres were in the Torbay area; including Beer, where the local quarry caves provided excellent hiding places for contraband, as well as strong quarry workers, willing to supplement their basic wages significantly by carrying items up the cliff. Smuggling involved the support of women, members of the clergy, Parish Clerks, and pubs which hid smuggled goods *(viz Jamaica Inn)* reflecting close knit communities; and church premises and grounds were used to hide goods in process of transit; and church towers as 'look outs'. The clergy and aristocratic families actually bought in to (*financed*) some activities and local juries were sympathetic to smugglers, demonstrating that all strata of society were involved. Once on land, goods were often removed by pack animals. There were many clashes between the authorities and smugglers, particularly one major battle on Paignton sands. The French were complicit in SW smuggling in that the King of France made Roscoff a free port and English smugglers were welcomed in Roscoff and allowed within the ramparts of St Malo, originally built to keep the British out. Murders occurred, with a number of examples of Customs officers '*falling*' from cliffs; and smugglers often had armed support. There are stories about a man who attended his own funeral after a search of his premises for smuggled goods had been halted because he was reported to have 'died'.Significant stashes of smuggled goods were created, especially after the formation of the Coast Guards, when huge '*hauls*' were found, including on Lundy Island, previously a mediaeval stronghold of pirates. In another incident, a shipwrecked load of smuggled wine was in part rescued by villagers, who collected from rock pools the run off from the barrels, staved in by the Revenue. Robert provided background information about the types of vessels used in smuggling (*cutters, gigs, luggers and fishing boats – some of which were more risky and dangerous than the actions of the authorities;)* about the Revenue cutters, light boats built for speed to outrun the smugglers; and about the fine Customs Houses built in Plymouth and Exeter. A gradual change in government policy over 10 years resulted in a drastic reduction of goods on imported duties, leading to close of the major smuggling period. Notwithstanding, smuggling continues today, exampled in 1983 by the 'drugs bust' in Hope Cove (*cannabis valued at £1.5m*); and current people smuggling, tax evasion and importation of narcotics.

On Thursday, February 22nd at 7:30pm our next speaker will be Nigel Grist, from Modbury, who will be giving us a talk entitled "*Dartmoor: Tin and Bronze"-A more detailed look at the surviving sites from the tin mining industry & the Bronze Age.* The following month on Thursday, March 22nd John Gibson, joint owner of Thorn House, Wembury, will take us back through the history of the estate with a talk entitled *"A 1,000 years at Thorn'* On both occasions you will be greeted with a welcome glass of wine or fruit juice to add to your enjoyment; we look forward to welcoming you to both events. Finally our Spring Outing to Hemerdon House will take place on Saturday, April 21st at 10;30am & the cost of the trip will be £7:50pp ; numbers may have to be on a first come first served basis so please contact Margaret Kelly cmkelly@btinternet.com or Rae Musk raewallin@gmail.com who are organising the trip. All details may be found on our website kingstonlocalhistory.co.uk with further links to www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk

# NEWS FROM

## Planning

Please note that Highways have requested a change of plan is considered for the Vicarage Park Planning Application. They are suggesting the access route is altered, so that their site would be accessed via Westentown. What do you think? Comments can still be sent to South Hams District Council about this, or anything else re the following applications

4068/17/OPA – 13 dwellings, to include 4 affordable/to rent, Vicarage Park Limited

3965/17/OPA – 12 dwellings, to include 6 affordable/to rent, Sanderson's Field

Either write to South Hams District Council, Planning Department, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5NE, our visit the website, www.southhams.gov.uk, and follow the link to planning, then enter the relevant application number into the search box.

The application for a single affordable dwelling on Upper Townsend Park has been granted planning permission.

As ever, if you would like up to date information about progress with the Neighbourhood Plan, visit www.kingstonplan.org, where you will also find contact numbers if you have any comments or questions, or would like to volunteer to help.

There is also plenty of information about all sorts of things, including planning, on the Kingston Parish Council website – www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk – well worth a look!

## Fundraising Event

Your South Hams District Councillor, Beth Huntley, is hosting a fundraising event to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis and Motor Neurone Disease. It's on Wednesday 28th February at Bigbury Memorial Hall. Tickets are £15, to include a "Sherpa Supper", laid on by Royal Ghurka Spice Indian restaurant, Modbury. Beth recently did a trek in the Himalayas to raise money for these causes, so the evening will also include a Slide Show of her journey. Supper included, but bring your own wine and nibbles.

For more information on booking and tickets, please visit the Bigbury website www.bigburycommunity.co.uk

## Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly will take place in the Reading Room at 7pm on Thursday April 19th, when you can hear about everything Kingston Parish Council has been busy doing over the past year. We hope to see you there.

## Welcome

KPC were able to extend a warm welcome to the new vicar, Rev Matt Rowland, when he attended the beginning of our meeting on 15th February. Matt was licensed at a service in Modbury church in January – we wish him and his family well as they settle in to their life here.

## Recreation Ground Monitoring Dates

Thank you to the Monitoring Team. Your continued support is valued greatly with thanks passed to you by KPC, as always. Here is the reminder for the forthcoming weeks:

| | |
|---|---|
| 26th February 2018 | Sue Green |
| 2nd April 2018 | Ali Lewis |
| 5th March 2018 | Flo Watts |
| 9th April 2018 | John Connor |
| 12th March 2018 | Kit Connor |
| 16th April 2018 | Leah Worthington |
| 19th March 2018 | Rachel Hardy |
| 23rd April 2018 | Sally Denham |
| 26th March 2018 | John Wurr |
| 30th April 2018 | Sue Green |

**Your Councillors are here for you**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Eve White. | Chairman. | (810289) |
| Mervyn Freeman. | Vice Chair. | (810070) |
| Hayley Swain. | | (810896) |
| Flo Watts. | | (810019) |
| Alison Lewis. | | (811234) |
| Sally Richardson. | | (810195) |
| Heather Summer-Nutting | | (811294) |
| Sue Green ~ Parish Clerk. | | (810270) |

## READING ROOM SCHEDULE MARCH 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | 26<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 27<br>09:00 Morning Market<br>17:00 Pilates<br>19:30 KEG (Brunel) | 28<br>09:00 Art Group<br>15:30 NPG<br>19:00 Crafters | 1 Mar<br>09:30 Play and Stay | 2<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 3<br>Reading Room Revival |
| 4<br>Reading Room Revival | 5<br>18:00 Bowls Club<br>18:00 Bowls club downstairs | 6<br>09:00 Morning Market<br>17:00 Pilates<br>19:30 KEG (Brunel) | 7<br>09:00 Art Group | 8<br>09:30 Play and Stay<br>19:00 Crafters | 9<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 10 |
| 11 | 12<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 13<br>09:00 Morning Market<br>17:00 Pilates<br>19:30 KEG (Brunel) | 14<br>09:00 Art Group | 15<br>09:30 Play and Stay<br>19:00 Parish Council | 16<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 17 |
| 18 | 19<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 20<br>09:00 Morning Market<br>17:00 Pilates<br>19:30 KEG (Brunel) | 21<br>09:00 Art Group<br>18:30 NPTG | 22<br>09:30 Play and Stay | 23<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 24 |
| 25 | 26<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 27<br>09:00 Morning Market<br>19:30 KEG (Brunel) | 28<br>09:00 Art Group<br>19:00 Crafters | 29<br>09:30 Play and Stay | 30<br>18:00 Bowls Club | 31<br>18:00 Flicks in the Sticks |

**This schedule is up to the date that the newsletter was finalised Please note that you can now see the Reading Room Schedule in real time via the Parish WEB site Parish WEB Site www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk Click on " What's On & Parish Newsletter" Click on "HERE"**

**What are the Committee intending in the Reading Room?** Come and find out what the proposals are, when the work might take place, and how it is going to be paid for. There will be a display of information in the Reading Room on Saturday 3rd March 10AM – 1PM and on Sunday 4th March 10AM – 12PM, and key points only, at the Morning Market on Tuesday 6th March. Members of the Management Committee will be present to explain the proposals and answer questions. ***We want your views.***

Respondents to the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire told us they use the Reading Room, but are all User Groups represented on the Management Committee? Do you belong to a Club or Society which uses the Reading Room? Ask the members if you are represented. ***If not why not?***

The Reading Room is our most important village asset. It is owned by the Parish Council on behalf of the Parish and run by representatives of its' User Groups. ***What's it all about? Come and find out.***

***TESCO PRESENTATION.*** On 20th March 2018 at the Morning Market around 11 AM Sue and Gerrie, the Tesco Community ladies, will be officially presenting the Reading Room with a cheque for £1000. Please come and support the event, Andrew Kinder will be recording the event on camera and writing an article for the Kingsbridge Gazette.

## Hiring Charges
## Kingston Reading Room

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**All enquiries to:**

**Judy Wurr, Bookings Secretary – 01548 810065**

## SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES & THOUGHT FOR MARCH

| Sunday | 4th Lent 3 | 11th Mothering Sunday | 18th Lent 5 | 25th Palm Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aveton Gifford 11.00 am | Sunday Worship | Holy Communion | Lay Led Service | Holy Communion |
| Bigbury 11.00 am | Holy Communion | Sunday Worship | Sunday Worship | Holy Communion* |
| Kingston 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Sunday Worship | Sunday Worship | Village Service |
| Modbury 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Lay Led Service | Holy Communion | Sunday Worship |
| Ringmore 9.30 am | Sunday Worship | Sunday Worship | Village Service | Holy Communion |

* Service in traditional language.
There is Holy Communion at the Korniloff, Bigbury-on-Sea at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 20th March.

# ASTRONAUT OR ARCHAEOLOGIST?

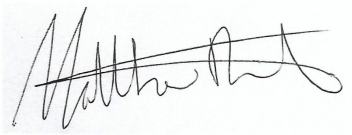
I read the following recently: the older you get the more you move from being an astronaut to an archaeologist.

Why an astronaut when you are young? You're launching into unknown worlds, many of the major decisions of life ahead of you, all that potential, big hopes and dreams, going where you have never been before and doing what you have never done. Putting into practice training and gaining experience.

But as you get older, the writer went on to say, you begin to become more like an archaeologist. Let me quote you the exact wording he uses: 'You begin to look back at least as much as you look forward. As you look back you tend to dig through the mound of the civilization that was your past life, looking for pottery shards of thoughts, desires, choices, actions, words, decisions, relationships and situations. And as you do this, you can't help but assess how you have done with what you have been given.' Do those descriptions ring true for you?

As we move towards spring we are reminded that stitched into the fabric of the year are new starts and new life. As we move towards Easter we are reminded that because of the cross and resurrection of Jesus, Christians can look at the past and the future with confidence. Confident that their past mistakes have been forgiven. Confident that their future beyond the grave is secure. It is a big claim to make.

Come along to one of the Easter services to find out more.



Matt Rowland

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