



Illustration - Naomi Ansley



MODBURY'S COCKEREL FLIES THE ROOST

Sitting atop the church spire, Modbury's cockerel enjoys stunning views across the countryside from the Moors to the sea and has kept an eye on town life for many years. The old rooster also enjoys all the weather being regularly beaten by the wind and rain that whips up the valley from Cottlass. Consequently, it is starting to show its age and his golden plumage is fading. The weather vane on which he stands is also suffering from rust and needs urgent repair as neither have had any attention since 1984.

The cockerel has been the town symbol for a number of years but has been a popular symbol of Christian iconography for many centuries. Weathervanes/weathercocks were fitted to churches in the 5th century as a watchful eye of the Almighty, being the first to rise in the morning and the last to roost at night. Early models used to have tubes fitted to their sides so that the wind blowing through would make a crowing noise. This never went down well with villagers and they were soon removed.

In the sixth century, Pope Gregory I called the cockerel the most suitable emblem of Christianity and a cockerel was mounted on the top of St Peter's Basilica in Rome in AD 850 to serve as a reminder of Jesus's prophecy of St Peter's betrayal on the day of the Last Supper: 'Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times'.

Our cockerel is going on a holiday for a few weeks so that it can be pampered and returned to its former glory. The steeplejacks have been waiting for a suitable weather window in order to climb to the top of the spire to repair the weathervane and remove the old rooster. He will then be taken to Bristol for his spa treatment, which will include deep cleansing, re-sizing and re-gilding using 'Double Regular English Gold Leaf'. On completion the spindle will be renovated and greased.

Robin Chambers





hpcpc health & care professionals council



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MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Public Forum: The main item raised during the forum was the issue of the Barracks wall. SHDC are expecting quotes for the lowering of the wall imminently. Once these have been received and the contractor has been appointed the work on lowering the wall to 4ft above the road will start as soon as possible. The length of wall to be reduced is approx 30m. Also during the forum the Council was thanked because members of the Council had attended the school meeting concerning the School and Federation.

Devon County Councillor Report: Rufus Gilbert reported that the number of pot holes is increasing faster than they can be fixed mainly due to the continual rain we have had recently. He is chasing the status of the A379 at Edmeston regarding when the work will be carried out.

South Hams District Councillor Report: Bernard Taylor thanked the Devon County Councillor for the work that was carried out on the flood relief scheme as up till now they seem to be working. There are proposals to change the rate of council tax on empty houses these will vary from 100% to 300% levy on the property depending how long it has been empty.

Meetings are taking place between the Parish Council and SHDC Legal Department regarding the Palm Cross Development allotments about when the allotments would be handed over to the Parish.

Neighbourhood Plan: The Neighbourhood Plan Group are still waiting for the final comments from outside bodies and expect to present the plan to Modbury Parish Council by the next council meeting. The group apologise for the delay in getting the plan to Council. The group requested that some councillors are nominated to take over responsibility for implementing the Neighbourhood Plan. Once it has been through all the final stages, this will be the Parish Council's responsibility.

Planning: 6 planning applications were discussed and 3 had no objection to them, 2 had no comment and 1 was objected to.

Finance: The grants to various bodies within Modbury were agreed to and the precept for 2020-2021 was set to £35298.

The work for a new bus shelter at Palm Cross is to be progressed with details of designs being sought.

The issue of the School Pool was discussed and it is hoped that the person who runs the Aveton Gifford pool will come to the next council meeting to explain how they run it.

Parking Group Report: The parking group are looking at preparing a planning application for parallel parking along Baracks Road using the land at present taken up by the hedge between the path in Champernowne and the road.

Chris Barnes

Update on the Barracks Road Wall

The Parish Council has repeatedly expressed concerns about the safety of the wall over many years at District and County level. A former Councillor has, unofficially, been monitoring its progressive lean towards the road and this clearly demonstrated the situation was getting worse.

In December, Devon Building Control appointed a local firm of consulting engineers to assess the wall. Unsurprisingly, their measurements confirmed what the Parish Council had been saying, namely that the wall was in danger of collapse and remedial actions were needed as a matter of urgency.

Faced with this evidence, the local authority immediately closed the road. The resulting impact on the town's traffic flow was predictably problematic. The Parish Council Chairman, working with District Councillor, Bernard Taylor, lobbied for work to start immediately on making the wall safe in order to have the road reopened to traffic and pedestrians. It is the main route to school for many families.

The consulting engineer's report had recommended a substantial reduction in the wall height over a considerable length of the wall, but as the road closure took place over the Christmas period, quotes from contractors could not be obtained until they returned to work.

Hopefully, by the time this update is published, the initial phase of reducing the wall height and making it safe will have been undertaken, the stone stored for rebuilding and the road reopened.

There are legal implications in respect of the responsibility for the wall and thus who is liable for the cost of rebuilding which has to be undertaken due to its listed building status. The wall is owned by the Crown Estate.

Residents affected by the building work on the wall have been contacted by Devon Building Control.

Colin Whybrow,

On behalf of Modbury Parish Council

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Modbury

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 Modbury Tiddler Group

Last Friday of the month - out and about day

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February 2020



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February 2020 Services and Events

We aim to be a church where the Lord Jesus is known and made known. We also aim to be a place where all can belong and be known: the older, the not so old, families, singles, teenagers and children.

Sunday 2nd	9:30 am Holy Communion
Thursday 6th	9:15 am Noah's Ark for children under 5
Sunday 9th	8:00 am Said Holy Communion
	9:30 am All Age Service
Sunday 16th	9:30 am Family Communion
Thursday 20th	9:15 am Noah's Ark for children under 5
Sunday 23rd	9:30 am Sunday Worship

Morning Prayers in church 9am - 9:20am:

Every Mon & Tues, Thursdays (2nd, 4th and 5th Thursdays only) & Every Friday

Visit our website: www.modburyteam.org and find us on Facebook

CONTACTS

Churchwardens: Emma Romney - 01548 831126 - Robin Chambers - 01548 831447
The Vicar, Matt Rowland - 01548 830260

Rockshop

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Christian Comment: Humans - Nothing that Special?

In 2005 London Zoo featured an exhibit of humans. The sign over the exhibit of human beings in a cage read 'Warning: Humans in their natural environment'

Polly Wills, a spokesperson for the zoo, told the press: "seeing people in a different environment, among the other animals ... teaches members of the public that the human being is just another primate."

The exhibit placed three male and five female Homo sapiens side by side with their primate relatives — though separated from them by an electric fence.

Chemist Tom Mahoney, 26, decided to participate after his friend sent him an e-mail about the contest as a joke. Anything that draws attention to apes, he said, has his support.

"A lot of people think humans are above other animals," he said. "When they see humans as animals, here, it kind of reminds us that we're not that special."

Over January and February the Churches in the Modbury Mission Community will be thinking about the first three chapters of the first book of the Bible: Genesis.

While thinking Christians down the ages have taken different approaches on how literally to read these chapters they are in agreement that it teaches that God created the universe and that humans have special dignity. That we are something special and not just another animal.

I would argue that it is Judaeo-Christian tradition that has given the West its conviction that humans have dignity and each one of us has rights. We have dignity and rights not because we have earned them but because we were created with them.

Genesis goes on to teach us that human flourishing is found in relationship with the God who has made us. A bold claim but one that millions of Christians have found to be true, as one Christian in the first millennium wrote: "Our hearts are restless until they find rest in you."

Matt Rowland

St Monica's Roman Catholic Church, Modbury
Sunday Mass 8:45 am
St Austin's Priory
Roman Catholic Church, Cadleigh
Saturday 6.00 pm Mass
Sunday 10.30 am Mass
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All Welcome

Sustainable Modbury: Forest School & Eco Club

Andrea Moore runs a 'forest school' in Modbury, and also in Malborough, Kingsbridge, Loddiswell and Stokenham primary schools. She does a half day once a week through the foundation year, and thereafter half a term of half days for each age group. In total they all end up having the equivalent of two academic years of forest school half days. Activities include tree planting and plant I.D., bug hunting, playing with mud, learning to use outdoor tools, and periods of 'sit time' where they relax and use their senses.



Facilities/areas vary greatly between schools, and the area used by the school at Modbury has much scope for 'development' in terms of *nature* resources. Surely it is vitally important for our community to support and encourage the younger generation in acquiring knowledge about the natural world, for they will be the guardians of the future.

Andrea relies on voluntary help if she wants to increase the scope of activities. Mrs. Duntan, a year 3 teacher, is also running a gardening and eco lunchtime club for the children. If anyone feels they can lend a hand and help the school with either of these outdoor activities, please get in touch with the school office who will be delighted to talk you through the application process. You don't need to be an expert; just bring some energy and enthusiasm for the great outdoors.

Caroline Bower

Modbury Messenger March Copy Date 10/02/20

The copy date for the March 2020 Modbury Messenger is 10th February. Please email all articles, notices of events & paid advertisements to modburymessengercic@gmail.com.

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County Councillor (Salcombe Division): Rufus Gilbert. Tel: 01548 856659
Email: Cllr.Gilbert@southhams.gov.uk

South Hams District Councillor (Charterlands): Bernard Taylor Tel: 01548 830844
Cllr.Taylor@southhams.gov.uk

MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE.
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Tel: 01548 830222
parishclerk@modburypc.co.uk

Hours of Business: Tuesdays 2.00pm –4.00pm
Parish Surgery: 10 –11 am every Saturday

Planning Applications: Notices of planning applications lodged with SHDC are displayed on the Parish Noticeboard outside the Post Office. Copies of plans relating to these applications can be inspected at the Parish Office during the above office hours.

Contacting Parish Councillors: Parish Councillors attend the Parish Office, on a rota basis, on Saturday mornings from 10.00 -11.00am. Should you have any parish matter you would like to discuss come along to the Office or call in to the Office and speak to the Parish Clerk, Sacha Hager. Alternatively you can write a letter or speak at the public forum held at the beginning of each monthly meeting of the Parish Council, on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7 pm in the Mars Pavilion at the QE II Recreation Ground.

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Births, Deaths,
Marriages, Thanks etc)

£5 per insertion—Max. 50 words

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White Hart to Reopen with the Focus on Seriously Good Food



When it comes to creating great food new owner Chris Simon is a man with a mission and the experience to deliver it. Chris knows the South Hams well having worked at several well-respected pubs plus a spell at the famous Ashburton Cookery School. But it's not just local knowledge that Chris brings to Modbury, he has travelled the world from the Mediterranean to the Caribbean as head chef on board some of the most luxurious super yachts, preparing dishes for the most discerning of clientele.

All that experience and a lot of self-taught skills have given Chris a very clear idea of what he wants to deliver. Fresh, seasonal, ingredients will be locally sourced and everything from the bread to the spicy bread crumb crust on the lamb will be prepared in the kitchen. "That's how we keep control of the quality" says Chris. It's about getting lots of small details just right.

Chris also has a passion for keeping food waste to a minimum. "By buying whole fish and cuts of meat, then preparing them in the kitchen, everything is used and the result is food packed with flavour and presented with panache.

If you are thinking this all comes at a super-yacht price tag you would be wrong. Chris's way of working enables great quality to be matched with great value.

Having been used to some very demanding customers, Chris is well prepared and happy to meet different dietary requirements.

While the restaurant may be the star of the show the White Hart bar will welcome locals and visitors who just want to pop in for breakfast, coffee, a lunchtime snack, afternoon tea or just a pint and a chat with friends. There will be a traditional Sunday lunch." Our aim is to make the White Hart the heart of Modbury" says Chris.

Colin Whybrow

Roy Sims - Celebration of Life

My family will remember with gratitude and affection those Modbury individuals and local institutions who organised a celebration of Roy's life at the MARS Pavilion on 31st October. The Royal British Legion, Modbury Parish Council, the Modbury Society and MARS were all very highly valued by Roy who was honoured to be involved in many of their endeavours. It was a memorable afternoon attended by kind and caring friends and acquaintances. The seat in the Garden of Remembrance, now with the memorial plaque, is a tranquil spot from which to contemplate those beautiful views. Peter and Gill Watts, Paul Romney, George Rosevear and Burda Gage -- among others -- Thank you.

Carol and Family

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MODBURY PLAYERS TRIUMPH WITH FANTASY RE-BOOT

The Modbury Players turned to Lewis Carroll for this year's Christmas Show. Andrea Kuhn's *Alice in Blunderland* was an imaginative and colourful reworking of the children's classic tale with the standout performances, music, costumes, make-up and staging that are now the hallmarks of the Players' shows.

The show told the tale of Alice as she escaped from the orphanage to seek her missing sister. The Mad Hatter (Phil Ainsley) and White Rabbit (Peter Lowe) lead her through the wardrobe to Blunderland, a topsyturvy world where the wicked Red Queen (a show-stealing performance from Liz Edwards) has banned all singing and dancing, despite the protests of her song-and-dance loving son, the Knave of Hearts (Dave Fardon) and her sister, the White Queen (Victoria Punch).

When the White Queen, and the Knave's love interest, the Head Gardener, (Angie Tall) are banished to Downunderland, the Knave sets off to find them, with Alice in hot pursuit looking for her sister.

Once again, Modbury's younger generation helped to bring the show to life. Megan Lawrence was outstanding as Alice and her solo rendition of *Somewhere Only We Know* was a show highlight on all three nights. The roles of Tweedle Did and Tweedle Didn't, The Cheshire Cat, The Dormouse and all manner of caterpillars, beetles and moths were played by under 16's with their contemporaries also running lights, sound and helping with makeup. Their involvement now surely bodes well for the future of these productions in the town.



Musical Director Jo Highley and her ever-reliable *Highley Dubious Band* guided the chorus line through a selection of memorable tunes including *Your Love Keeps Lifting Me Higher*, *Under Pressure* and *Never Forget*. Mafia Boss 'The Godfather' (Nigel Guild) leading his fishy henchmen through Abba's *Money, Money, Money* was another highlight, topped only by their gloriously clumsy attempts at Morris Dancing in Act 2.

A regular fixture of the Christmas calendar, these shows not only provide several nights of great entertainment but are a heart-warming testament to the strength of the local community. At this busy time of year Modbury should be very proud that, locally, there is a core of people prepared to give up so much of their time and talent to entertain.

And the Modbury Players will be back soon, with another rip-roaring Singalong night to launch the 2020 May Fair. Details will be announced soon and be sure to get your tickets early – last year both performances sold out in just a few days.

Maddie Hattersley



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Modbury's Own Deli – Mackgills

I spent a fascinating two hours with Adam Searle in his Deli on a working afternoon in early January to find out what makes him tick and how the Deli was doing. On arrival a lady with the largest shopping bag I've seen full of Adam's goodies was talking about her cat that had just died inexplicably, at which point I realized what a good listener and how sympathetic he was. Between customers, we talked non-stop about his life, the deli, and trade in general.

Adam has both a BSc & MSc in Chemistry and worked for a number of years in the Pharmaceutical industry, initially in north Devon for Wrafton Laboratories, and later on in Ware for GlaxoSmithKlein. As International Technical Support Chemist Europe for an American company that provided Flow Injection Analysers for the (now) Environmental Agency, he designed an environmentally friendly method of spraying fields. When his father retired from the Deli some 17 years ago, however, Adam took over the family business. Here he was a key member of the small group that decided and arranged that Modbury should be plastic bag free, about which he was interviewed on the BBC World Service. The deli was thriving then, so Adam bought the freehold of the shop, and let the two flats above it, but latterly the Deli has been affected by the on-line trade, supermarkets, and competition from other local shops gradually selling more of the type of products he stocks. I had not thoroughly looked around the Deli before and was surprised at the range of foodstuffs he has. There's certainly quality wine, including local Sharpham white, which is cheaper than at the vineyard, local gins, some excellent local cheeses and ice cream, all the usual dairy products, lovely smelling bread, some curry sauces that look well worth trying, and coffee. Indeed, while I was there a young lady called in for a cup of coffee, which Adam always has on the go! Have a look at the Mackgill's Deli website.

At home, Adam has a Springer Spaniel, Willow, who is his life, and haven't I, as a vet, found this is so often the case once you have a pet! It was a fascinating two hours with Adam, but as I discovered, a very lonely life working on his own, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 6 days a week, every week. He brightened up considerably whenever a customer stopped to chat rather than just purchased something, and it was one of the most interesting and enjoyable two hours I've spent lately. It reminded me of my childhood as my mum and dad each ran a shoe shop, and loved people coming in for a chat as well as a purchase.

So when you next visit, stop for a chat when buying your cheese or wine.

John Bower



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Hello Modbury Dog Walkers....

The field at the top of Galpin Street which has the right of way diagonally across it... you know the one.. Lovely place. Lovely views! Dogs love it! This field is used by most dog walkers in Modbury on a daily basis. The dog walking traffic in and around the field has increased significantly over the years. Woof-Woof!



The owners have allowed the field to grow as wild pasture over the years and not be grazed or cropped. It is beautiful place to walk - year round. In response to various requests from Modbury residents and to help out with dog owners with mobility challenges who have trouble navigating the right of way access steps and stile - the field owners have also left the gate to the field unlocked, so that all Modbury walkers can enjoy the field. The owners enjoy being able to provide Modburyites with free access to walk around the whole field perimeter, in addition to the designated right of way path.

Until recently....The problem is the dog excreta (poo) that dog owners leave in the grass around the field. Since the owners, up to now, have imposed no formal limitations on where people can let their dogs roam, then your darling pooches leave their waste all through the field and owners predominantly do not pick up.

Over the years the field owners have cut the grass in the field once or twice a year and sold the hay, the proceeds of which they have used to fund cutting the perimeter hedgerows in the field and the two bordering lanes.... but over the last years the farmers who previously bought the hay have had to stop buying it, due to the grass being so contaminated with dog excreta which can contain a parasite. The contaminated grass when fed to pregnant cattle causes abortion of the calf foetuses or infects the calves with a parasitic infection. The owners therefore now have a situation where they cannot sell the grass, cannot fund cutting the grass and cannot fund cutting the hedges-rows. The dog walkers who do not pick up after their dogs are actually costing the owners of the field money.

The owners have over the last year set up signs asking dog owners politely to please pick up the waste, but this apparently has been predominantly ignored. There is poo all over.... They have also asked dog walkers to stick to the right of way across the field (to limit the contamination zone), but this is also generally ignored. Hmmm?

The owners have spoken to a number of dog owners whilst in the field and the general consensus is that some pick up and some do not. Dog owners do not pick up for various reasons, but there seems to be an overall ignorance of the fact that a seemingly innocent single little dog poo from Lassie or Gnasher in such a big field, in fact causes such a far reaching and costly problem. There also seems to be an air of lethargy when it comes to picking up, because there is no convenient place to put the waste bags near the field. Most dogs get the urge as soon as they get the grass under their paws... and who enjoys swinging a warm doo-doo bag for the remainder of the walk?

The field owners (who are indeed also owners of several dogs) are in the process of requesting the Modbury Parish Council to install a dog waste bin (like the one in Dark Lane) to be placed at the top of Galpin Street in an attempt to alleviate this problem and to see if it stops the field being ruined in this way.



In the meantime, the message to dog owners who walk their dogs in this field and on any farm land is a very clear message. Please take bags with you (non-plastic!), pick up and dispose of correctly!

It would be sad for all... especially for Bonzo, Rover and Goldie if the field owners were forced to lock the gate, restrict the access around the field perimeter or even set up fencing either side of the right of way in order to protect their interests.

Article about dangers of dog faeces in grass for cattle - for reference:

<https://blogs.biomedcentral.com/bugbitten/2018/06/22/dog-poo-cause-abortions-cattle/>

Patric Gill

SOUP & PUDDING LUNCH

12.00-2.00 pm

AFTERNOON TEA

3.00-5.00 pm

Monday 10th February

QE2 Pavilion, Modbury



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STANBOROUGH CHORUS

Musical Director - Christopher Fletcher

Saturday 28th March, 7.30 p.m.
St George's Church, Modbury

Joseph Haydn - Nelson Mass
Benjamin Britten - St. Nicolas

Divertimento Orchestra

Torquay Girls' Grammar School Chamber Choir
Conductor - Helen Haviland

Soprano - Catherine Hamilton
Tenor - Neil Jenkins
Alto - Helen Haviland
Bass - Julian Rippon

Tickets £15 in advance/£17 on the door (Under 18s free entry)
will be available from:

Pickles of Modbury (01548 830412) Kingsbridge Information Centre
May Crimp (01548 842361) Tom Gilkes (01548 560973)
Jenny Kinder (01548 810750) and all Choir members

Holbeton Film Club

Our programme for the coming months is:

Friday 14 th February	Colette (15)
Saturday 14 th March	Downton Abbey (PG)
Friday 17 th April	Once upon a time... in Hollywood (18)
Saturday 9 th May	Yesterday (12A)
Friday 12 th June	Official Secrets (15).



Harry Baumer 830274



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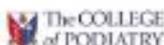
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Modbury WI

The first meeting of the New Year started with a talk from Sarah Wyatt of Circle Celebrancy about the services she conducts to celebrate life, marriage or birth with dignity and sensitivity and to meet her many clients' requirements. Sarah gave a fascinating account of her role, the elements that can be entwined into the bespoke ceremonies and the choice of venues available.

The next WI meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4th February at the MARS Pavilion, Modbury when the speaker will be George Hinton of RNIB Talking Book. In the meantime, and if you are reading this before the 1st February, there are a few tickets left for a Marmalade Making Morning at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, MARS Pavilion, Chatwell Lane, Modbury on Saturday, 1st February between 10am and 12.30pm. Tickets are £12 to include coffee and cake. Vivien Lloyd, a National Preserves Judge and teacher and author will be giving the illustrated talk and demonstration. Vivien has won many prestigious competitions, notably the Marmalade Awards and Fortnum and Mason's Chutney Challenge so we will be in expert hands.

Another event we are holding in February is a Pancake Party on Saturday, 22nd February between 10am and 12 noon at the Memorial Hall, Modbury. Tickets are £3 each for 2 pancakes and a drink. A choice of toppings will be available. Do bring the children along.

If you would like to come along to our next meeting or join us at one of our events then please contact me on 01548 830363 or email me on rosiejaneparker@gmail.com

Rosemary Parker



Modbury History Society

The next meeting of the Modbury History Society will take place at 2.15pm on Wednesday, 12th February 2020 at the MARS Pavilion, Chatwell Lane, Modbury. Ivor Davies will be entertaining us with 'More Voices from the Past' following the success of his recordings to the Society last year.

Please contact me if you would like to know more about the Modbury History Society at rosiejaneparker@gmail.com.

Rosemary Parker



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MODBURY & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The next meeting of the Modbury and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will take place in the Club on Monday 3rd February 2020 starting at 7.30pm. Lt Col Chris Hawkey will be giving an interesting talk about his time in SHAPE and his opportunity to study World War 1 sites and memorials. New members are always most welcome.

David Scott (Hon Secretary)



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Sue Rogers (831289)

Sandra Sidey (830582)

Catherine Speight (830195)

Deena Farrell (830692)

Jean Wright (810029)

Louise Evans (Active Devon)

Walking for Health Co-ordinator

louise.evans@activedevon.org



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modburymessenger@gmail.com

by 10th of February to be included in the March Modbury Messenger.

SOUTH HAMS SOCIETY BEACH CLEANS

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

Saturday 7th March (morning). Dairy farm visit and briefing at Challon's Combe, Aveton Gifford.

For further details, contact Penny Fenton
penny545@googlemail.com or tel: 01548 561539



The next General Meeting of

IVYBRIDGE U3A
will be at

THE WATERMARK, Ivybridge on

Monday 17th February 2020 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Guest Speaker: John Fox

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