



# MODBURY MESSENGER



illustration - Naomi Ainsley

For the People of Modbury & Brownston

Volume 24, Issue 299 - February 2024



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – MODBURY BRANCH CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENARY OF FIRST FOUNDING OF THE MODBURY BRANCH - 15 DECEMBER 1923



The Modbury Branch of the Royal British Legion was first formed in the town on 15 December 1923, some two and a half years after the founding of, in those days, the British Legion which happened on 15 May 1921. Thus it was a great joy to receive the attached letter from the Devon County RBL President – Rear Admiral (Rtd) Chris Snow congratulating the Modbury Branch on reaching its centenary. This will result in the Branch receiving a special centenary pennant which will be flown at the top of the RBL Standard of the Branch. When this is delivered, it is hoped to arrange a special dedication and blessing.

However, the present Modbury Branch is thriving and is keenly looking forward to the next 100 years. The Branch now meets on the first Wednesday of every even month in The Club, Church Street, for a business meeting and usually on the first Friday of every odd month at a local hostelry for a social gathering. All persons are most welcome and one does not need to be an ex-member of the armed services. The Royal British Legion was founded to help service men and women, their dependants and all veterans.

Modbury Branch is in good heart and would be pleased to welcome anybody to help with this task.

The next meeting (business meeting) will take place in The Club on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February starting at 7.30pm and all are most welcome. Do come and celebrate our 100 years centenary.

**David Scott**

*Modbury RBL Branch Secretary*



From: The Devon County President, Rear Admiral (rtd) Chris Snow CBE DL

Park Farm  
Chillaton  
LIFTON  
Devon  
PL16 0HP

15 December 2023

e-mail: [Devon.President@RBL.Community](mailto:Devon.President@RBL.Community)  
Tel: 01822860402 Mob: 07528553400

Dear Modbury Branch Committee and Members,

I write to offer my heartiest congratulations to you all at the Modbury Branch of the Royal British Legion on reaching the Branch Centenary.

Your comrades before you endured two World Wars: the many names from all 3 Services on your war memorial telling their story of famous engagements and some that are lesser known reflect of the extent of that sacrifice.

You yourselves have seen more recent conflicts come and go which will have left their mark on all of you. At the heart of the Legion is its strength in maintaining the bonds of friendship and shared endeavour that come from serving our Armed Forces, its wider community, and our Country. It is the golden thread that runs through all of us and links us to our past and in turn will link us to our future members too. I have no doubt that our founding forefathers would have been cheered to know that their spirit lives on in the branches today, and I am quite sure they would have raised a glass in celebration with you of this key event in your branch's history, and especially for the reinvigoration of the branch in 1996.

Of course, our task now is to lay the foundations for the next 100 years; and I wish you every success in your recruitment of new members, in the Poppy Appeal and remembrance events, and in keeping our camaraderie alive and thriving.

Yours Sincerely  
*Chris Snow*

Royal British Legion  
Registered charity number: 219279





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**Tuesday 13th February**

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**Wednesday 14th February**

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09:10 to 09:30

Devon  
Libraries



## MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Modbury Parish Council Office, 2 Galpin Street, PL21 0QA 01548 830222 email [parishclerk@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### Your Councillors are:

Bill Cole	01548 830913
Helen Nathanson	
Barbara Price (Chair)	07739752095
Tony Price	07801837129
Phil Smith (Vice Chair)	07759282404
Dave Trigger	07808742372
Ann Turner	01548830606
Sarah Wyatt	07794 662903

[helennathanson@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:helennathanson@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[barbaraprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:barbaraprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[tonyprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tonyprice@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
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[davetrigger@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:davetrigger@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[annturner@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:annturner@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[sarahwyatt@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sarahwyatt@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### How can we help you?

Councillors run drop-in surgeries on Saturdays 10 – 11am in the Parish Office at 2 Galpin Street. The Parish Clerk is in the Parish Council office on Tuesdays 10am – 4pm. Call into the office, phone, email or come along to our meetings 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](mailto:rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk)

### South Hams District Councillor Charterlands Ward:

Bernard Taylor Tel: 01548 830844  
[Cllr.Bernard.Taylor@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Bernard.Taylor@southhams.gov.uk)



# Modbury Mission Community

To know Jesus and make him known



## St George's Church

Please check our website for our current opening times



### Welcome to St George's Church, Modbury

The Amazing Spaces project is now nearing completion and we are able to welcome our congregation, visitors and newcomers to worship with us again on Sundays. Over the coming weeks, the renovation and reordering will be completed and in the Spring we hope to have an event to celebrate the reopening of St. George's.

Rev. Matt Rowland

01548 830260

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

February	Service		Service Leader
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion with Kids' Church 9.30 am	St George's Church	Rev. Matt Rowland
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion 8.00 am	St George's Church	Rev. Matt Rowland
	All-Age Service 9.30 am	St George's Church	Rev. Matt Rowland
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion with Kids' Church 9.30 am	St George's Church	Rev. Neil Barker
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Worship 9.30 am	St George's Church	Gil Snook
	ROOTED: Modbury Mission Community @ 6 pm A relaxed evening service including a talk from the Bible and contemporary music with a band	St George's Church	Rev. Oli Long

### CHRISTIAN COMMENT: GOD'S GENEROSITY

In the run up to Easter in the period we call Lent, our local churches are going to be thinking about generosity. What is the secret for a generous life, to living a life where we give more than expected?

In the film "Millions", two boys find millions of pounds a few days before Britain converts into the Euros - soon it will be worthless. They have to try and spend it all in a few days or they will just be left with a pile of useless paper.

Imagine going to the Bureau de Change with some old French Francs or German Marks you have found down the back of the sofa. They would be worthless bits of paper, but then the person behind the glass exchanges them for pounds or Euros. You would walk away thinking, what an exchange - worthless paper for real money!

In the same way, Christians believe that God gives us a great exchange. He, in Jesus, takes our failure and sin away and gives us forgiveness, purpose and a place with him beyond the grave. It cost him his Son's life and all we contribute is our failure. It is an astonishing act of generosity and once it grips your heart and mind it can lead to a life of generosity as you live out what you have received. If you would like to hear more, come and join us in the run up to Easter and beyond.

**Matt Rowland**

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

Mass weekly at 12 noon on Saturday

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

Mass weekly 11.30 am on Sunday

**Phone:** 01752 895888

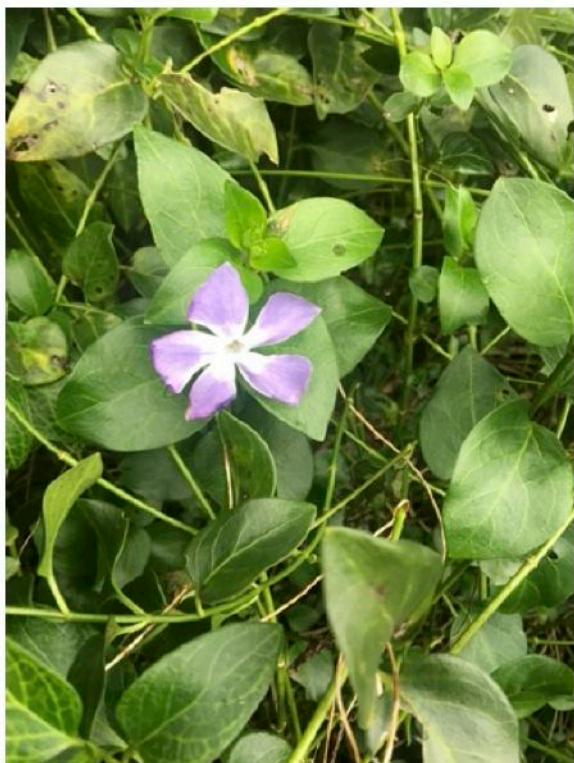
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## An Apothecral Tail: Novum stagnum in Roslin Villa

### Hiems



This **Periwinkle** is ***Vinca difformis*** that has decided to grow near the pond. Periwinkles grow particularly well in the west of Britain and are a common sight in Modbury. With their evergreen leaves and pretty much all year flowering, they are very welcome. The, more commonly seen, blue flowered, Lesser Periwinkle (***Vinca minor***) and Greater Periwinkle (***Vinca major***) are generally considered native though the Greater is most commonly associated with dwellings. All three species have a long history of medicinal use. Lesser Periwinkle was recommended by both Dioscorides and Galen (Greek 1st century AD) for toothache and “fluxes” (abnormal discharges). Commonly used to stop bleeding, in parts of Devon, it was called “cut finger”. Another old name was Sorcerer’s Violet due to its potency against ‘wykked spirits’.

Lord Francis Bacon (1561 to 1626) recommended tying the stems around the legs to relieve cramp. Culpeper, in the 17th century, says “The leaves of the lesser periwinkle, if taken by man and wife, will cause love between them”...

***Vinca minor*** contains around 50 alkaloids including **vincamine** and **reserpine**. Vincamine is prescribed throughout Europe (but not UK) for the treatment of vascular dementia. Reserpine was, until relatively recently, used to treat hypertension (raised blood pressure). The Vinca alkaloids **vincristine** and **vinblastine** were discovered in the 1950s as useful anti cancer drugs. These are

now sourced from a closely related species ***Vinca Rosa*** known as Madagascar Periwinkle. These two drugs have drastically increased survival of children suffering from various leukaemias from 20% to 80%

*Fiat cum secundem artem*

Edward Holt



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## "TAXI"

Modbury is a lovely place in which to live, but our transport system has been sadly lacking. Yes, a reasonable bus service calls once an hour each way between Kingsbridge and Plymouth, but as the last return from Plymouth is 18.15 hrs and from Kingsbridge 19.50 hrs, an evening of cinema, theatre or dinner at either end is not really possible. Driving and drinking is out, so the answer, in a lot of cases, is a taxi. That was fine until John Edwards retired during the pandemic, but luckily now Modbury has a new taxi service – and a serious one at that.

In February last year, after a lot of research and thought, Duncan Squires, a Modbury resident on Brownston Street, started **Modbury Private Hire Taxis** with a single taxi. Previously Duncan had been in the Army, REME, and left in 1989 but immediately joined the Reserves and subsequently served in Iraq & Northern Ireland amongst others. Being an engineer and fixer, as Gail, his wife, put it, he then managed a Plant Machinery firm in Exeter for some years, but subsequently left having decided he wanted to work for himself. Duncan and Gail had lived in Modbury since 2013, so the next step was to look for a business gap in the market in this area. As John Edwards had just retired, and Duncan enjoyed driving, the idea of a new taxi service unfolded. He stresses that John has been a tremendous help with advice and support for him in starting the business, so he took and passed all the tests and requirements needed for the job, bought a car and registered it as a taxi.

After nearly a year now, it seems his decision is vindicated as he is getting busier all the time. Duncan told me that having listened to the feedback from his customers, he has just taken on a second larger car so the firm now has both a 4-seater and a 6-seater car, and along with the second car comes an additional (currently part-time) driver, Tony. They offer a reliable, friendly, reasonably priced service for both local and long distance journeys, including airport transfer; he knows it is important that people are confident they will turn up as agreed. Prices are pre-agreed, and with pre-booking, e.g. for a night out, the return journey is discounted. A safe and comfortable service is paramount – he even carries an umbrella to help people out if it is raining. Duncan's wife, Gail, who retired from being an inspector for the Care Quality Commission last year, is equally

enthusiastic about the business and helps out on the phone, but mainly enjoys her leisure time out with their Fox Red Labrador, Cooper. They both enjoy the beaches round here, and with four children and a granddaughter between them, they are kept busy when the family visit. Duncan is also the Social Secretary of the local Royal British Legion, and as I write, Gail is currently busy helping paint the scenery and props for Oliver!

Modbury Private Taxi hire is surely a much appreciated start-up business for Modbury, and Duncan says he is looking forward to a busy 2024.

Telephone: 07455 393693  
Email: [duncansquires1@gmail.com](mailto:duncansquires1@gmail.com)  
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**John Bower**



*Duncan (left) and Tony (right) with the two taxis*



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# Modbury Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 9th December 2023, 7.00 pm at the MARS Pavilion, Queen Elizabeth II Recreation Field.



Six councillors were present, apologies from Helen Nathanson and Dave Trigger. Four members of the public were present, also Rufus Gilbert (DCC) and Bernard Taylor (SHDC).

**Public Forum:** A member of the public raised the issue of the on-going flooding problems at Orcheton. Both MPC (Modbury Parish Council) and SHDC (South Hams District Council) have been involved in discussions with the various agencies for some time, but without success. Ann Turner agreed to join the action.

**DCC Report:** Rupert Gilbert confirmed that DIY material can now go to Devon recycling centres, but with restrictions on the amount and type of material.

Parishes have an opportunity to update or renew their applications for 20mph zones.

HS2 extra funding will be used for proper road resurfacing on the very poor section of the road to Brownston.

The £2.00 bus fare will continue until end 2024.

DCC has bought six replacement gritters.

**SHDC Report:** Bernard Taylor complimented MPC on the work they have done with SW Water over several months.

Lower income households can benefit from the Home Upgrade Grant to reduce energy bills. This is available to homeowners with an annual income of less than £31,000 who have heating that isn't mains gas and an EPC rating of D, E, F or G.

SHDC have a thermal imaging camera which can be used by anyone to see where their house may be losing heat.

SHDC subsidise the rental of eBikes.

**Matters arising from the Minutes of MPC 5th December 2023:** CCTV camera – to be followed up with the new police liaison officer; yellow lines on Barracks Road – DCC are close to doing this, along with those on Galpin Street; adoption of telephone box – preliminary approval has been given .

**Finance:** The budget for 2024-2025 as presented by the Finance Committee was approved. In general there is a 5% increase. This is insufficient to cover all likely expenditure in a busy year, but the budgeted shortfall of c.£4,000 will be covered by general reserves.

The precept for 2024-2025 is proposed to be £57,325 which is a 5% increase on last year and equates to an extra £3.33 pa for a Band D property

**Grants were agreed to** South Hams Community Action, Modbury Caring, and the Four Rivers Dementia Alliance.

**Planning:** Several planning applications were considered.

Noted were decisions made by SHDC on the Penn Parks proposed development. Further discussion needs to take place on potential \$106 monies, but the priority is to resolve access to the site and other issues.

**Policy:** To consider the new persistent or vexatious complaints and complainants policy – adopted;

To resolve to wind up the Ukrainian Working Group – since inception in May 2022, we have supported six households including ten individuals and six hosts, however, there is no current need.

To consider the revised Scheme of Delegation - Adopted.

To bring privately owned housing (previously social) back into social housing ownership – it was agreed that the clerk would request a meeting with LiveWest to discuss their provision in Modbury.

**Highways:** To consider the response from DCC regarding a feasibility study for the pedestrian crossing. The response from DCC was not helpful. It was agreed to request Callidus to provide a quote for this work as an extension to their current remit.

MPC has expended considerable time and effort in liaising with the SW Water contractors. Some relatively small issues with traffic flows in the works have been flagged up by the MPC and these will be further addressed forthwith.

**MARS:** The registration of a new charity with the object of enabling sports and recreation opportunities for residents of Modbury: actions required to progress, consider and approve were discussed - work continues on the relevant paperwork and agreements. A budget is agreed to pursue this. Further details will be examined at the February MPC meeting.

**Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th February**

**Tony Price**



**24-HOUR  
SKI-ERG  
CHALLENGE**

RAISING MONEY FOR  
MODBURY PRESCHOOL & SCHOOLS OUT

CAKES  
-  
COFFEE  
-  
CRAFTS  
-  
PLUS A  
PRIZE DRAW  
WITH SOME  
AMAZING PRIZES!

COME ALONG TO  
SUPPORT  
(OR HAVE A GO  
YOURSELF!)

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## MODBURY BRIDGE CLUB

The Modbury Bridge Club meets every Thursday afternoon, between 1pm and 4pm in the MARS Pavilion at the Modbury Recreation Ground. We are cordially inviting players of all ages and ability to join our expanding group. Whether you have 50 years, or 5 months' experience, you will be warmly welcomed. Tea and refreshments provided.

For those who are keen to start learning Bridge, a new training course will begin on the 8th February 2024. For more details on all the above, please contact Rodney Bomford at:


rodney@bomford.eclipse.co.uk

**Rodney Bomford**

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## AUDITIONS FOR SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTIONS!

Following the success of last year's outdoor production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, the **Wild Will Company** plan to repeat the production of the Dream this September, alongside a brand new production of **Macbeth**. The hope is to create an Annual Shakespeare Festival held in Mothecombe Gardens, near Holbeton.

The plays will be staged outdoors come rain or shine in Mothecombe Gardens and grounds, mid-September 2024. Rehearsals will also take place in this location through spring and summer.

If you love acting and are interested in auditioning for a part, please send the following information by email to [clarefardon@gmail.com](mailto:clarefardon@gmail.com) as soon as possible as auditions will start at the end of January and run through February.

- Name
- Age
- A brief summary of any relevant experience
- A photo

We look forward to hearing from you!

Clare Fardon



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## Modbury History Society

Modbury History Society will next meet at 7.30pm on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, when Dr Helen Wilson will speak about "Lady Woodcarvers to Professionals: the remarkable Pinwill Sisters". Dr Wilson has written a very special book about the Ermington sisters, whose work features in many churches in the area.

The Society meets at the MARS Pavilion, QEII Recreation Field, in Chatwell Lane, Modbury, PL21 0FS, where there is ample parking. Meetings take place at 7.30pm on the second Friday most months and are advertised in the Modbury Messenger and on Modbury Nextdoor. Membership is £20 annually, but you are most welcome to come along to a talk if you are not a member for a fee of £5.

Please visit the Modbury Heritage website where, amongst many other things, there are old photographs of Modbury. More local scenes from postcards are currently being added.

Please contact me if you would like to know more about the society:

[rosiejaneparker@gmail.com](mailto:rosiejaneparker@gmail.com)

**Rosemary Parker**



## Modbury WI

The February meeting of Modbury WI will take place at the QEII Pavilion at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February when Christopher Stevens will be talking about Victorian Samplers.

Modbury WI usually meets at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the MARS Pavilion, QEII Recreation Field, in Chatwell Lane, Modbury, PL21 0FS excluding December, January and September when we meet up during the day for a visit or 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 for the forthcoming year, then please email [modbury@devonwi.org.uk](mailto:modbury@devonwi.org.uk).

**Rosemary Parker**

## walk&talk

Our February walks will be on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

Ann Brooks 01548 550300.

Jean Wright 01548 810029

Catherine Speight 01548 830195

**Sue Rogers**



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19 February 2024	Simon Dell	Three Murders and a Suicide
18 March 2024	Elizabeth Ducie	A Broad Abroad
15 April 2024	Martin Lloyd	Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies
20 May 2024	Billy 'Scratch' Hitchin	A Sailor's Talk
17 June 2024	Mike Griffiths	Listening to the Enemy

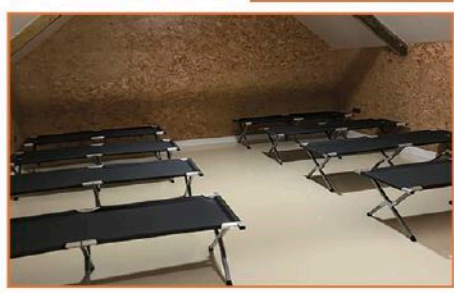
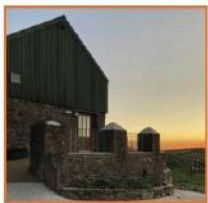
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*Julian Richards*

*Date to be announced*

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Masthead</u>	<u>Starboard Yard (Plymouth) - West</u>	<u>Port Yard (Modbury) - East</u>	<u>Event</u>
05	SSAFA Flag	FOUND	1885	Founding of SSAFA
07	New Zealand Flag	Wait2 <sup>nd</sup> subNG	1840	New Zealand Day
21	RS – Charles I	MODBURY	1643	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battle of Modbury 1643
28	Union Flag	KUWAIT	192 <sup>nd</sup> sub1 <sup>st</sup> subAns	End of the Battle of Kuwait 1991

## COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES MODBURY MESSENGER FEBRUARY 2024

SIZE	1 INSERTION		3 – 10 INSERTIONS (Per insertion)		12 INSERTIONS (Per insertion)		12 INSERTIONS (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

Full page

Portrait or Landscape 1.75" x 2.5" (45mm by 65mm)

Portrait 3.5" x 5" (90mm x 130mm) Landscape 7" x 2.5"

Landscape 7" x 5" (180mm x 130mm) Portrait 10" x 3.5"

Portrait 7" x 10" (180mm x 250mm)

To advertise in the Modbury Messenger, contact the Editor, Lynne Barnes via email on [modburymessengercic@gmail.com](mailto:modburymessengercic@gmail.com)

## Modbury Messenger March 2024

### Copy Date 10th February

The copy date for the March 2024 Modbury Messenger is 10th February. Please email all articles, notices of events and paid advertisements to [modburymessengercic@gmail.com](mailto:modburymessengercic@gmail.com).

The Modbury Messenger is published by Modbury Messenger CIC and is printed by ESP Print. The views expressed in the Messenger do not necessarily represent those of Modbury Messenger CIC.

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Modbury Messenger CIC is a Community Interest Company and as such is registered by the Registrar of Companies for England & Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland. A Community Interest Company is a special type of not-for-profit limited company which exists to benefit the community. The purpose of Modbury Messenger CIC is to disseminate information about events, notices and articles of interest to the people of Modbury and it does this by publishing the Modbury Messenger, a printed newsletter, every month with 1000 copies delivered to homes and businesses within the Parish of Modbury. An online copy of the Modbury Messenger is available to neighbouring communities, advertised via social media and on our website [modburymessengercic.co.uk](http://modburymessengercic.co.uk).

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.

**Directors of Modbury Messenger:** Christopher Barnes, Diana Lynne Barnes, Burda Gage, Bernard Taylor.  
**Company Secretary:** George Rosevear FCIS.

**Editorial Committee:** John Bower, Lynne Barnes, Nicky Shepley, Ira Young.

Modbury Messenger CIC has produced the Modbury Messenger as an independent CIC since September 2018. Previously, it was published by Modbury Parish Council.





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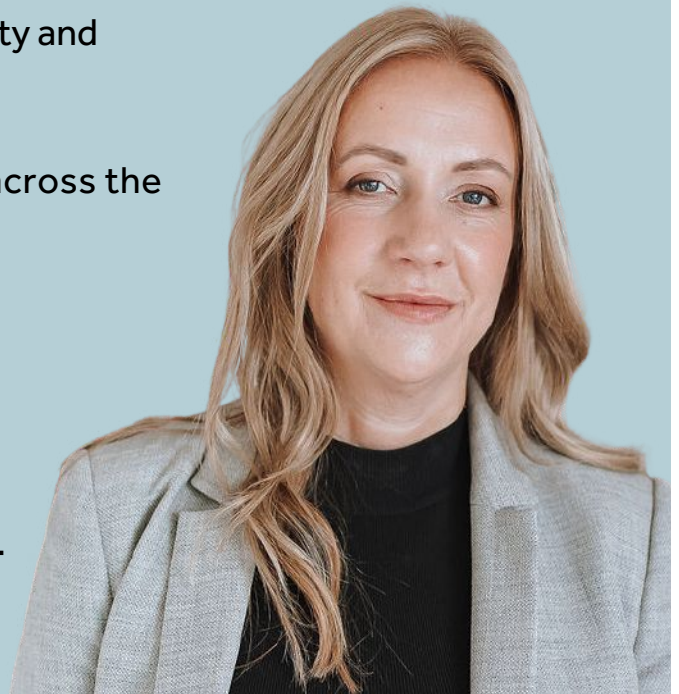
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