



MODBURY MESSENGER

October



illustration - Caroline Barker

For the People of Modbury & Brownston

Volume 23, Issue 295 - October 2023

Edward calls a "Holt" at the Modbury Pharmacy

One of the main regular pharmacists in our Modbury Pharmacy, Edward Holt, retired on September 2nd, after having been here for seven years. So I thought I should have a chat with him about his life as a Pharmacist and what life now holds.

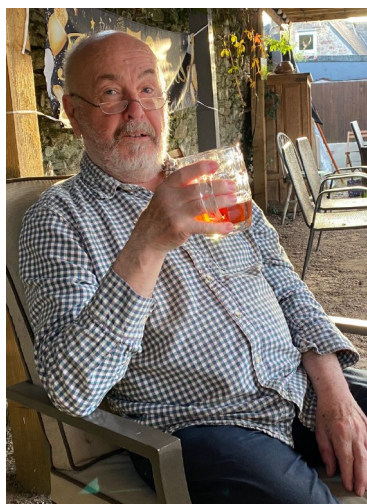
The Holts seem to have pharmacy in their blood. Edward is the fifth and last member of his family to practise as a pharmacist. Together, they have been members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, continuously, for over 100 years. This started with his grandfather at work in his Sheffield pharmacy in the early 1900s.

Edward's father had a pharmacy in Huddersfield, where Edward grew up. It was here, while still at school, that he first began preparing medicines under the watchful eye of his father. On graduating in 1971 at Bradford University, he did his pre-registration training at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Here, back in the 70s,

he discovered his real love, was doing what pharmacists were trained to do, which is to formulate and make medicines and pharmaceutical products. The department that he developed went on to produce specialist formulations of eye drops, injections, intravenous infusions, antiseptics, ointments, creams and suppositories etc. These were supplied to all Yorkshire hospitals and increasingly hospitals throughout the UK. He loved making up medicines from raw materials and is nostalgic about this period in the development of his profession.

He grew this business for the NHS well, netting them an annual profit of some £250,000 by the time he left; a sizeable extra sum for that hospital 25 years ago. Then, he says, the NHS changed for the worse; they brought in Managers! From having been the one to make decisions running his department, he found he was being told what to do by people who had no idea about pharmacy, and in his own words, he became a bit of a loose cannon. This eventually led to him agreeing a generous severance pay which helped fund his move to Devon.

Edward maintained his interest in the community pharmacy side of the profession. He worked part-time as a locum in local pharmacies including Sowerby Bridge (aka "Happy Valley" in the TV drama). This eventually led him to purchase his own pharmacy up the valley in Stainland. This became very successful and funded his move to Devon. He considered purchasing Modbury Pharmacy in the 1990s, but he eventually moved to Totnes in 1999 and worked for Lloyds Pharmacy in Paignton for 17 years.



I asked him how a Yorkshire lad had ended up in the Westcountry and the answer I suppose accounts for why people do end up here – his family had holidays in Devon and Cornwall, and Edward loved the area. However, the Paignton post ended similarly to his hospital post. "I'm not a corporate player" and he left. I had noticed he was not in our pharmacy all the time, and assumed he was part-time, but no, he would quite often be working in other pharmacies around the area, seemingly often in Exmouth.

Modbury Pharmacy suited him well, especially when he met Alison here. They have been together for a number of years now but only married this year and they have a little terrier called Dudley. Since retirement Edward is already to be seen out walking around Modbury looking very relaxed. I had wondered how he would fill his days now and I'm sure Dudley will play a big part. Reading is a passion and he also writes an interesting article frequently for the Messenger called An Apothecral Tail, usually about medicines from plants, some of which he grows in their garden, perhaps in the new pond (novum stagnum) he has constructed! The unusual noun 'Apothecary' is a word meaning 'one who prepares and supplies medicines'.

So many plants have medicinal properties. But, why does the plant produce these complex chemical substances? He wondered how a plant such as the Foxglove benefitted from having this poison in all of its parts and asked our local vicar, who said "you know what I think".

John Bower



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MODBURY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Report of the Modbury Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at the MARS Pavilion at 7pm, taken from the draft minutes.



MODBURY
PARISH COUNCIL

Six members of Modbury Parish Council were present, apologies were received from Ann Turner & Helen Nathanson. South Hams District Councillor, Bernard Taylor, and four members of the public were present. Gilbert Rufus, Devon County Councillor, sent his apologies.

Public Forum: A member of the public had been asked to raise concern at the planning appeal regarding the poultry building at Trehele Cross. They feel the decision by SHDC to refuse the application should not be overturned.

A member of the Modbury Allotment Society requested MPC to respond to an idea for the Association to submit a bid for the allotment land currently for sale.

Both matters were considered later in the meeting.

Co-option to Council: Tony Price had expressed interest in joining the Parish Council. The Council considered the application in relation to its person specification and checked that all criteria of eligibility were covered and he was duly co-opted onto the council.

Matters Arising from previous minutes:

Air quality monitoring is progressing.

Regarding the overhanging vegetation on the walkways, the Parish Clerk is to place a request for people to monitor their own hedges on social media and contact LiveWest regarding the hedge at Trainee Villas.

The matter regarding a gate in the fence adjoining the Memorial Hall Play Area (MHPA) was raised and it was agreed that the Chair would contact the Memorial Hall Trustees as freeholders to and it was agreed that Bridget Price will speak to the Memorial Hall Trustees as freeholders to request they secure the gate.

Finance Committee: There had been a recent meeting with the estate agents regarding the Church Lane allotments. Standing Orders were dropped for the Chair of the Allotment Association and Bernard Taylor (SHDC) to participate in the discussion. The allotment lease expires in 2025. The 0.7 acres of land is not yet on the market, but the agents are welcoming bids and have indicated to MPC a guide price that reflects an anticipation that there will interest in the land as a potential development site (despite SHDC refusing a planning application for change of use in 2022). Any proposed significant council expenditure that would increase the precept must go out to consultation with members of the public. The current guide price is not within council's budget.

Planning & SHDC Decisions

2725/23/TPO Yarn Hay Tree work	Supported
2482/23/LBC and 2481/23/HHO Listed Building Consent for loft conversion Brownston	Supported
2666/23/VAR Retrospective variation of planning consent 1972/21/FUL Butland Farm	Objected
2200/23/TCA Brownston Street, Modbury. PL21 ORG	No Objection
1292/23/HHO and 1494/23/LBC single storey extension,	Conditional Approval
1669/23/FUL Back Street Change of use of public open space land to ancillary residential use (additional garden space)(part retrospective)	Conditional Approval

To consider a response to the following planning appeal:

Trehele Cross: Provision of poultry building. Standing orders were dropped for Bernard Taylor and ex Council Chair with previous knowledge of the matter to participate in the discussion. MPC expressed numerous concerns and request that if approval is granted following the appeal, all permitted development rights with regards to residential properties be permanently removed.

Highways: Parking at the bottom of Galpin St/entrance to Burns Lane and the role of the CCTV camera. MPC to contact The DCC Road Safety Officer for advice and the Parish Clerk would contact DCC for information and advice regarding red zone no parking areas.

Community Engagement: Terms of Reference for the Modbury Town Centre Working Group were agreed and that these be adopted and more members for the group to be sought and Sarah Wyatt to do an advert for The Messenger.

Chris Barnes

Household Support Fund

Are you having money problems as a result of the cost of living crisis. Financial help is available. The money is aimed at supporting people in the most need with food, energy, water, other household bills and wider essentials.

Please apply to South Hams District Council at the link below:

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/household-support-fund>.



MODBURY
PARISH COUNCIL

Modbury Parish Clerk



Modbury Mission Community

To know Jesus and make him known



St George's Church

Please check our website for our current opening times



pray

Welcome to St George's Church, Modbury

While renovations are taking place inside St George's Church, venues for our services may vary so please check our website for the latest updates: www.modburyteam.org. Kids' Church has resumed so please bring your children to the advertised Service venue and they will be met by the leaders and taken to the School Hall.

October	Service		Service Leader
Sunday 1 st	Harvest Festival with Holy Communion 9.30 am	Modbury Memorial Hall	Rev. Matt Rowland
Sunday 8 th	Holy Communion BCP 8.00 am All Age Service 9.30 am	St Monica's Modbury Memorial Hall	Rev. Matt Rowland Rev. Matt Rowland
Sunday 15 th	Holy Communion 9.30 am	Modbury Memorial Hall	Rev. Matt Rowland
Sunday 22 nd	Service of the Word 9.30 am	Modbury Memorial Hall	Gil Snook
Sunday 29 th	Team Service with Baptism and said Holy Communion 10.30 am	Modbury Memorial Hall	Rev. Oli Long

CHRISTIAN COMMENT: Public Opinion

"Britain isn't a Christian nation now, say clergy". That was the headline from a recent survey by The Times which drew attention to the continuing fall in church attendance and to changing attitudes towards sex. It concluded that amongst front-line Anglican clergy, there was "a desire for significant changes in teaching on sex, sexuality, marriage and the role of women, to bring the church more into line with public opinion".

The reporters – and they are not alone – thus see the role of the Church to be an expression of public opinion, with no necessary link to truth. But public opinion will change, sometimes quite dramatically. The Palm Sunday cry of "Hosanna" had become "Crucify him" by the following Thursday.

Rather, the Church is called to be God's mouthpiece, with The Bible as God's Word. This, not popular opinion, is the Christian's guide. Sadly, Christians have too often failed to proclaim the teaching of Scripture and its wonderful offer of forgiveness and new life in Christ Jesus. God calls his Church to share that message of good news for all people, and to do so with conviction, but in love and sensitivity.

Michael Tagent

Are you aged 17 – 25?

Any person living in Modbury Parish (including Brownston) who is leaving school to start higher/further education or a training scheme, is entitled to a small, one-off grant from

The Modbury Education Foundation

Please apply by 1st October 2023 with your full name, postal address and brief details of the course you will be taking to sue@mercer5.co.uk

Sue Mercer

St Monica's Roman Catholic Church, Modbury

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St Austin's Priory Roman Catholic Church, Cadleigh

Mass weekly 11.30 am on Sunday

Phone: 01752 895888

E-mail: ivybridge@prcdtr.org.uk



The Bands are Back. . .and This Time They're Under Cover

Ever since appalling weather forced us to abandon our open air **One-Big-Street Party** back in May, many of the musicians who were due to appear on our purpose-built stage have been itching to find another opportunity to perform.

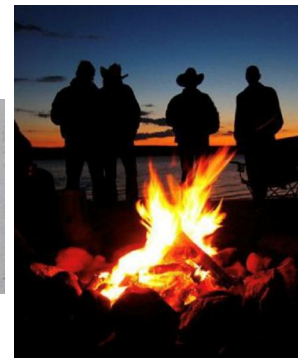
The result is '**LIVE & LOCAL**'. *Four local bands. One unforgettable toe-tapping night* at the **Memorial Hall on Saturday 18th November**



7:30pm (doors open at 7:00pm)

The line-up includes:

Hound Dogs
Barefoot Summer
Boomers
Dust Devils



Licensed Bar by the Modbury Inn
plus fresh-cooked hot food*

(Order on arrival for collection at the interval) *Food and drinks not included in ticket price

TICKETS £5 from The Modbury Inn and The Post Office

Table seating so numbers are limited

Proceeds in aid of May Fair 2024

As well as organising all May Fair events, May Fair also provides grants to not-for-profit community groups in Modbury.

Colin Whybrow

**MODBURY
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**SWW Sewerage
works 2024**

SOUTH WEST WATER WILL BEGIN ESSENTIAL WORKS TO THE SEWER NETWORK IN MODBURY ON 8 JANUARY 2024. THE WORKS WILL INVOLVE CLOSING CHURCH STREET FOR AROUND SIX WEEKS. WE ARE CURRENTLY DRAWING UP A NEW PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND WILL BE HOLDING A PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT IN OCTOBER, WHEN THE PLANS ARE CONFIRMED AND FINALISED.



**MODBURY
PARISH COUNCIL**




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MODBURY MAY FAIR 2024

Preparations for next year's Modbury May Fair continue, so just to remind you that it is, as traditional, over the first week of May in 2024 including the May Bank Holiday.

We can confirm that the theme will be 'Modbury Hosts the Paris Olympics', so a wonderful mixture of Gallic and Devonian sports and jollifications is in prospect. Even more appropriate as it's currently a French Rugby World Cup and we are twinned with a French town, Lanvéoc in Brittany – *Allez Les Bleus!*

The 2024 May Fair committee will be headed up by Pip Ainsworth, so if you have any ideas for events or would like to help out and join in as a volunteer then please email her on pipainsworth@btinternet.com

Tony Price



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Tuesday 12th September
Ayleston Park 14:45 to 15:30

Higher Green Park (Palm X) 15:35 to 16:35

Wednesday 13th September
California Inn Carpark

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

Your Councillors are:

Bill Cole 01548 830913

Gerry McAllister 07957 597217

Helen Nathanson

Barbara Price (Chair) 07739752095

Tony Price 07801837129

Phil Smith (Vice Chair) 07759282404

Dave Trigger 07808742372

Ann Turner 01548830606

Sarah Wyatt

gerrymcallister@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

helennathanson@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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davetrigger@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

annturner@modburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

South Hams District Councillor Charterlands Ward:

Bernard Taylor Tel: 01548 830844

Cllr.Bernard.Taylor@southhams.aov.uk

MODBURY COMMUNITY APPLE DAY

**New Town Centre Location for This Year's Apple Day Pressing on
Saturday October 14th**



Modbury Therapy Centre's blue door opens onto the yard where Apple Day will take place

With thanks to owners Steve and Mandy Hyde, this year's pressing will take place at the Therapy Centre's yard. Entrance from Church Street will be through the blue door to the left of the new Curator café. Pressing starts at 10:00am.

Our community orchard in Millennium Meadow has provided us with a bumper crop of apples this year which will be harvested just before Apple Day by volunteers and children from Modbury Primary School. Apple Day is very much a community event and we encourage participation from all ages, not only to keep alive one of Devon's great traditions, but to take the opportunity to come together, meet new friends and learn the timeless art of extracting fresh, wholesome apple juice from our orchard crop. We feel it is particularly helpful for children to see and be part of this very elemental food production process.

Before you recycle those 'screw top' glass bottles, please give us a thought.

Some of the apple juice from the pressing is frozen for use at future community events, but we also like to bottle some and pasteurise it, which considerably extends its shelf life. Without pasteurisation (or freezing), the juice would start to ferment after two or three days.

So before you consign those 'screw top' glass bottles to the recycling bin, please get in touch as we would love to have clean bottles that we can sterilise before bottling and pasteurising. Just email cwhybrow@btconnect.com and we will arrange collection.

Colin Whybrow

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Modbury Players



Oliver!



We are casting our show on **Sunday 1 October** at the Memorial Hall. Anyone wishing to take part, be it acting, singing, dancing or backstage, we will be starting with small groups. You are invited to join us at the following times:

Children	2.00 – 3.30pm
Women	3.30 – 5.00pm
Men	5.00 – 6.00pm

If you have any questions, please contact either Peter Lowe (07930 402845 or peterjlowe@gmail.com) or Phil Smith (07759 282404 or pgsmith617@gmail.com).



WINE & WISDOM QUIZ NIGHT

**Saturday, 14th October 2023 at
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Elvis, 12A, Fri 8th Dec

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Modbury Town Working Group

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- to address the impact of growing economic uncertainty within trades and business in our town centre, taking account of changes in shopping habits and to support local trade and business to develop and thrive.
- to liaise with any external groups providing support and advice on development of local community shopping and trading areas
- to assess opportunities, creating a brighter Modbury with the widest possible involvement of local people, local groups, traders and businesses
- to build on Modbury's strengths and networks to enable continuous development of our town centre and everything it offers for residents and visitors; and to encourage and promote more opportunities for tourism and trade in our town



If you would like to join the group with your enthusiasm, ideas, drive and commitment please contact:

Gerry McAllister Gerry.mcallister@outlook.com

Sarah Wyatt circlecelebrantsarah@gmail.com

Ali Whitney Aliwhitney58@hotmail.co.uk

Or pop into the Brownston Gallery and chat to Proprietor Catherine Gillen.

Sarah Wyatt

In Memoriam: Pen Andrews (28th April 1926 – 27th June 2023)

Our Mum, Pen Andrews, has died. She was ninety-seven and outlived the Queen!

We wanted to mark her passing by saying a heartfelt thank you to the people of Modbury, particularly Modbury shopkeepers.

After our Dad, Phil Andrews, died in 2015, Mum managed on her own until lockdown in March 2020. She had help from local carers and family members, but it was also the considerable support from the wider Modbury community which allowed her to remain independent, and stay living in her own home.

In July 2020, Mum moved to Overleat, a lovely care home in Kingsbridge. She was welcomed with open arms; she loved the carers and they loved her. This is where she stayed contentedly for her remaining years; she regarded it as her home from home.

Modbury was a special place in our parents' lives, and in ours as well.

Thank you, Modbury



Tim, Sarah, Judith and Jeremy Andrews



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INSPIRING WOMEN

Modbury WI

The next meeting of Modbury WI will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 17th October when Martin Young, a former Met Office weather forecaster, will be the speaker.

Modbury WI meets most months on the third Tuesday evening of the month at the QEII Pavilion in Chatwell Lane, Modbury, where there is ample parking. 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

Rosemary Parker

walk&talk

Our October walks will be on the 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st.

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
Catherine Speight	01548 830195
Jean Wright	01548 810029
Ann Brooks	01548 550300

Sue Rogers

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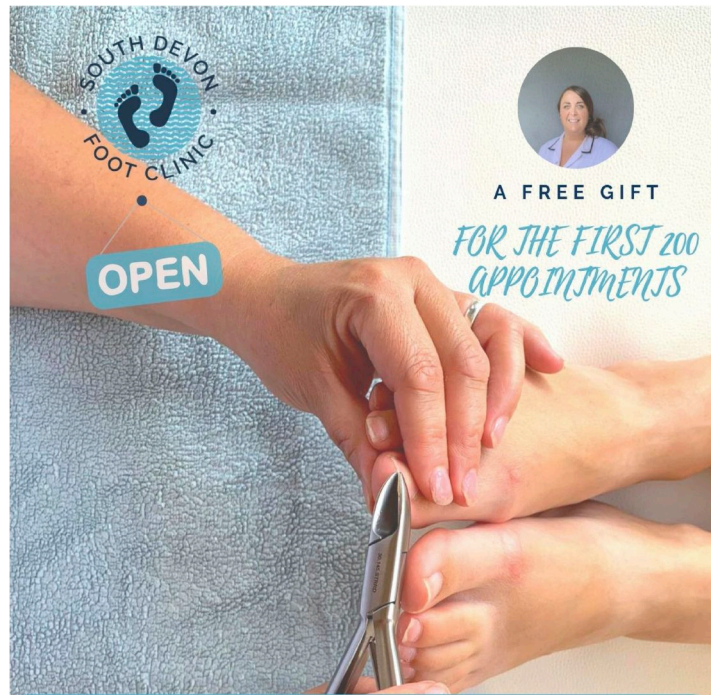
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Trudi, Sara & Clara

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modbury@luscombemaye.com

Modbury Bloomers Brighten up a Busy Route to School

School drop off and collect times find many young families in Palm Cross using the service road that goes up through the allotments. The verge, where it reaches Barracks Road, has been pretty much abandoned and each year it develops into a weed-strewn mess as the inherent seed bank takes hold.

It has been on our radar for some time. Although not part of the original Palm Cross landscaping plans, we persuaded Bloor to arrange for the weeds to be cleared and the verge rotavated and wild flower plants seeded. It has taken three years for that to actually happen, but as soon as it did, the Bloomers team sprang into action.

Our plan was to visually enhance the block wall with climbers. Training wires were installed back in the early spring. Rather than bemoan the long delay that had run us beyond the typical planting season, we decided to be positive and take advantage of end-of-season garden centre sales to grab a few bargains. We spotted clematis, cotoneaster, pyracanthus and others on the 'in-need-of-a-little-TLC' shelf.

But after a little tidy up, untangling and weed removal they looked ready for planting.



Wakeham's wall verge BEFORE



Wakeham's wall verge AFTER

This was going to be quite a task, so Bloomers' founders, Nicky, Hugh and myself put out a request for assistance. Thanks to tireless help from John, Yvonne, the two Petes, Brian and Lynn, we got holes dug, compost added and the whole job done in a day. Finally, our new mini bowser was called on to water in all the new plants.

During our travails we had words of encouragement from several passers-by. One resident from Palm Cross stopped to say she was about to remove some plants from her front garden and could we use them? "We certainly can" we replied and a short while later we collected some very healthy *Bergenia* (Elephant's ears), which set off the far end of the verge very well.

We will not see the fruits of our labours until next spring, although a couple of the newly planted clematis already feel sufficiently at home to have started flowering. By the time the shrubs and climbers have done their stuff and the wild flowers are established. We're crossing our fingers as it is notoriously difficult to get sown wild flowers to flourish. The route to school should look a whole lot better for the families who regularly make the pedestrian school run.

Colin Whybrow

FOOD COSTS HAVE RISEN, we all know it!

kingsbridgefoodbank 

And this has affected Foodbanks as well as their desperate clients. I and several Modbury residents volunteer at the Kingsbridge Foodbank, which is an independent Foodbank (not part of Trussell Trust). It provides food for people in surrounding villages as far as Modbury.

The Foodbank has had to cut back on the more expensive items they supply, all clients will still receive fruit and veg, bread, eggs, cheese, ham/bacon and tinned/dried goods (pasta, rice, tea, coffee, toilet rolls) and toiletries, but less or less regularly than in recent months. Finances are tight.

The Foodbank needs **your** help. You can :-

- Sign up to a regular donation
- Donate from an event
- Give a once off donation.

Bank details :-

Account Name: **Kingsbridge Area Food Bank**

Account No. **17928860**

Sort Code: **77-09-24**

On behalf of all clients (175+ families), thank you.

Ira Young

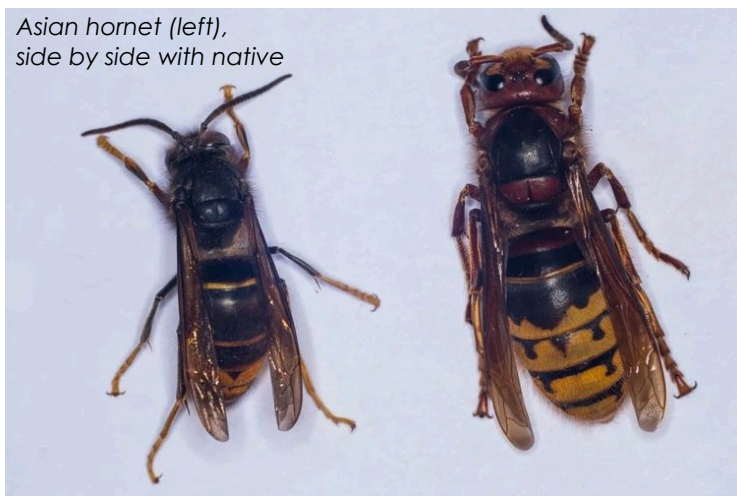
Diary of a local Beekeeper – Reflections on a Strange Season

As Duncan and Justine prepare their hives for winter, Duncan reflects on the ups and downs of their weirdest season yet...

I am writing this in the middle of a heatwave! At long last, the fates have gifted us with some most welcome, warm – dare I say hot – weather, just as it seemed everyone had given up on summer ever turning up at all this year. It has given the bees a vital opportunity to forage further afield, in order to build up their honey stores ready for winter ahead. Early autumn is a very important time in the beekeeping calendar – what actions we undertake now will help ensure the survival of all our colonies, large and small.

One most important task is to curb the incessant spread of the Varroa mite. This parasite, which lives on the bodies of bees, breeds predominantly by laying its eggs in drone cells. At this time of year, the bees have virtually ceased producing drones, since these male bees are no longer needed now the swarming season has ended. Now, therefore, is the ideal time to attack these mites by putting in specially approved Varroa treatment, which will greatly reduce their numbers and seriously disrupt their breeding cycle. Unfortunately, Varroa is present in virtually every hive across the land and cannot be eradicated entirely, but there are some very effective treatments these days, which mitigate their sapping effect on bees' health without affecting honey production in any way.

Asian hornet (left),
side by side with native



One worrying new issue, which I need to share with you is the fact there's been a credible report of an Asian hornet found in Yealmpton. Asian hornets are an invasive species that inadvertently arrived in France some years ago from south-east Asia. They have now become widespread there, as well as gaining ground in other European countries, including the UK. They are smaller than our native hornet, and distinguished from them by having yellow legs and a darker abdomen, with a single yellow stripe near the tail. Unfortunately, they are noted for being an aggressive predator of bees – honey bees particularly, but also other rarer bee species, and their habit of sharing several nests within the same colony means they can establish themselves quickly and prove elusive to hunt down and eradicate. Their potential devastating impact on

our wild and honey bee populations has necessitated a robust official monitoring and targeting offensive, so we can all help hugely by keeping a lookout for them in gardens and on country walks. If you think you have spotted one and manage to catch it, please call me on 830895 and I will then notify the appropriate authority to come and check it out.

As I look back on this year, I feel that we've had more than the usual ups and downs regarding honey production. We began with a cold spring, which delayed the first blossoms and prevented the bees foraging too far afield. Then the weather suddenly warmed up and the bees, perhaps slightly discombobulated, started swarming all over the place, putting their colonies in danger of decimation. After that worrying period, we entered several weeks of cool, wet weather which once again delayed summer flower blooms and forced the bees to use up a lot of their stores. However, despite the inclement climate, which affected all of us, I think, some hives still managed to excel and Justine and I were able to extract some summer honey, predominantly from clover, brambles and lime trees. Nevertheless, overall it has been a below-average year for honey production, sadly.

We are now feeding the bees special syrup, to ensure they will have enough food to survive the coming winter, although in this Indian summer, the bees are busy bringing in a lot of food from the last of the summer flowers. Meanwhile, we are making sure that the hives are in good condition and the bees in good health to cope with whatever the weather throws at us.

Finally, thank you so much for all the many compliments you have given us on our new honey jar labels. Not to mention of course, the delicious honey our bees have produced, which will continue to be available in the Post Office while stocks last.



Duncan Curral

The Modbury Messenger is a Community Interest Company run by volunteers and we may not be able to continue producing and distributing the Messenger to all of Modbury without your help. Thanks to those who offered to help with the distribution.

We still have one role that we need to hand over to a new volunteer and this is the treasurer/advertising role. The cost of producing the Modbury Messenger is covered by our advertising. Our advertisers allow us to distribute the Modbury Messenger free to 1000 homes and businesses in and around Modbury and host the Messenger Online. As treasurer/advertising secretary, you would be corresponding with our present advertisers, asking if they would like to renew, answering enquiries from new advertisers and seeking advertising from new and established businesses. The role takes about 7-10 hours a month and is a great way of getting to know local traders and businesses.

If you are interested in volunteering for the advertising role or would like to discuss it, please contact us at modburymessengercic.co.uk or ring Lynne on 07806559465.

Lynne Barnes



Modbury and District Branch Royal British Legion

The next meeting of the Modbury and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will take place in The Club on Wednesday 4th October 2023 starting at 7.30pm and this will be the Annual General Meeting, during which Remembrance events will be discussed. There will be a special agenda. New members are always most welcome. Also the launch of this year's Poppy Appeal will take place on Saturday 28th October outside the Post Office at 10am.

David Scott (Hon Secretary)

Modbury Creative Writing Group Open Session

Modbury Creative Writing Group are a gathering of lively and varied individuals with an interest in creating prose and poetry. We would love to have some new members - novice or experienced.

Interested? Come along to an open session on Saturday 7th October at 10am where we can tell you more about how we work. Tea/coffee and cakes available.

No skill level or experience required, just a curiosity about the writing process and a willingness to have a go.

We meet monthly (usually the 1st Saturday of the month, but with flexibility). 10.00-13.00 at the QEIII Pavilion, Chatwell Lane, Modbury, PL21 0FS

Modbury Creative Writing Group looks forward to meeting you. Come and try us out!

Any enquiries please email Lucy Brown:

lucyboyle.brown@icloud.com

or call 07906 693239.

Lucy Brown



Ivybridge U3A

Monthly General Meetings

Held at the Watermark 2.00pm – 4.00pm

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 16 Oct 2023 | Plymouth Aquarium
<i>Freya Thomson-Alberts</i> |
| 20 Nov 2023 | Local Artists and their Art
<i>Catherine Gillen</i> |
| 18 Dec 2023 | Christmas Party |

For more details go the Ivybridge U3A website www.ivybridge-u3a.org.uk
Email ivybridge.u3a@gmail.com



Modbury History Society

Modbury History Society had a most excellent talk at its September meeting given by John Lowe entitled "The Boys' Coming Home". John has done extensive research about an aircraft, which crashed on Dartmoor on the night of 21st March 1941 when its crew of four were all killed. A memorable and moving account which John has meticulously pieced together over the last 13 years.

The dates of meetings and speakers for this year are:

13th October – Dr Peter Marsden 'The Mary Rose and the Devon Connection'.

10th November – Dr Jenny Moon 'The Story of West Country Trade'.

8th December – Adrienne Hesketh 'The History of the Christmas Carol'.

The Society meets at the QEIII Pavilion situated in the QEIII Recreation Ground, in Chatwell Lane, Modbury, where there is ample parking. Evening meetings take place on the second Friday most months and are advertised in the Modbury Messenger. You are most welcome to come along to a talk if you are not a member (fee £5).

Please visit the Modbury Heritage website where, amongst many other things, there are old photographs of Modbury and 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

Rosemary Parker

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Wednesday 25th October
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Cabbages, Carrots & Lamb: Spanish Still Life 1600-1812

Dan Evans

Wednesday 22nd November at
2.30pm + **Zoom**

AGM at 2^{pm} then our speaker

“Inspired by Stonehenge”

Julian Richards

Venue: The Methodist Church,
100 Fore Street,
Kingsbridge, TQ7 1AW

All welcome - no need to be a member - £10 (£8 for Zoom) donation

theartsocietykingsbridge.org.uk

info@theartsocietykingsbridge.org.uk

INTENDED MONTHLY FLAG HOIST AT PALM CROSS GREEN - October

<u>Date</u>	<u>Masthead</u>	<u>Starboard Yard (Plymouth) - West</u>	<u>Port Yard (Modbury) - East</u>	<u>Event</u>
07	Union Flag	AFGHANS	Ans202 nd sub1	Start of Afghanistan War 2001
11	Union Flag	2BOER	Ans1893 rd sub	Start of Second Boer War 1899
14	Normandy Flag	HASTING	1063 rd sub	Battle of Hastings 1066
21	White Ensign	TRAF3 rd subLG2 nd sub	1805	Battle of Trafalgar 1805
22	White Ensign	TRAF3 rd subLG2 nd sub	SUN	Trafalgar Sunday
24	UN Flag	FOUND	1945	Founding of the UN 1945
25	Army Flag	AGINCRT	141 st sub5	Battle of Agincourt 1415
28	RM Flag	FOUND	162 nd sub4	Founding of RM 1664
29	Union Flag	SUEZ	Ans1956	Start of Suez Crisis 1956
31	RAF Ensign	BRITA3 rd subN	1940Ans	End of the Battle of Britain 1940

- Please note that if the wind is above 20 knots the intended flag hoists will not take place.
- The intended flag hoists will not take place if the Modbury Chief Yeoman is absent.
- All the signal hoists are done using the various Country/National Ensigns and the International Code of Signals Flags.
- Starboard Yardarm (Plymouth)-West, will have the event wording, (which sometimes is abbreviated – only 7 or 8 flags can be flown).
- Port Yardarm (Modbury)-East, will have the year. Answer Pennant (Ans) will indicate the start (when at the top) or end (when at the bottom).
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd substitute flags will be used whenever a flag flown earlier/higher in the hoist is to be repeated. eg 2022 = 2,0,1stsub,3rdsub.
- If there is a significant event which does take place, additional signal flag hoists will be arranged, subject to the note 1 above. However, all the above flag hoists are subject to change.

David Scott, Modbury Chief Yeoman

An Apothecral Tail : *Novum stagnum in Roslin Villa*

Ubi sunt taxi arbores in Modbury



The recent skirmish in the ongoing Bamboo War has resulted in considerable collateral damage around the pond. This set me wondering. If only the planter had chosen a different screen to protect my neighbours' privacy. A mixed hawthorn hedge would have been nice or better still, and in keeping with the medicinal theme, an **English Yew** hedge.

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) is extremely poisonous. A fatal dose of leaves is 50 grams. Consequently, it does not have a long history of medicinal use. However in the 1960s a programme was launched investigating previously uninvestigated plants. In 1966, researchers in America identified a previously unknown medicinal compound in Pacific Yew namely **paclitaxel (Taxol)**. This remains an important treatment for breast and other cancers.

However, it required a ton of yew bark to produce 10g of paclitaxel (sufficient to treat four patients). Thus 360,000 yew trees would be required per year and the Pacific Yew would have become extinct within 10 years. Fortunately in 1990, a method was found for producing paclitaxel from English (aka European) Yew. For a while people could sell their yew hedge clippings for this purpose. More recently a method has been developed for producing paclitaxel by fermentation and synthesis.

Historically, this is not the first time that yew trees have faced extinction. Farmers eradicated yew from their fields due to a high incidence of livestock being poisoned by ingestion of yew leaves. This resulted in yew existing predominantly in churchyards. More important was the use of yew for making longbows. Demand for yew for this purpose led to depletion of yew trees in many countries. Furthermore, in the 15th century in England, an import duty was applied to any ships visiting English ports. Four yew staves (later increased to 10) had to be supplied for every tun (approximately 250 gallons) of cargo.

More familiar is the association of yew trees with churchyards. It is thought that early Christians met under yew trees and later built their churches usually to the north or north east. This was in the belief that the trees would absorb "will of the wisps" emanating from putrefaction of corpses. There are many yew trees in churchyards around the country that greatly predate the church, some by thousands of years. King Edward I ordered the planting of yew trees in all churchyards to protect the churches.

Moving away from Modbury for a moment, in a previous life I owned a pharmacy in Stainland near Halifax, West Yorkshire (think TV series "Happy Valley"). Amazingly, I now find that Halifax was previously called Houghton. A local priest severed the head of a girl who refused his sexual advances. He hid her head in a local yew tree and this subsequently became the object of pilgrimage. Pilgrims would visit the tree and take the hair which is to be found under the bark of yew trees. The pilgrims led to the growth of the village which got the name Halifax (meaning holy hair).

So, having now become obsessed with yew trees, during my next dog walk, I eagerly entered the churchyard and there was a yew tree. But NO! My mobile phone app tells me the tree is a Japanese Yew, a 19th century garden introduction. So why are there no English Yew trees in the churchyard of a church of Saxon origins (or earlier)? Neighbouring churches including Ermington and Ringmore have their yews. What a "taxing" question.

Another deviation is the Clacton Spear. A yew wood spear head found in Clacton-on-Sea in 1911. Dated to 400,000 years old, it is the oldest known worked wooden artefact. It dates from 200,000 years before *Homo sapiens*! Food for thought.

Fiat cum secundem artem

Edward Holt

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MODBURY MESSENGER

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES MODBURY MESSENGER OCTOBER 2023

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

Modbury Messenger November 2023

Copy Date 10th October

The copy date for the November 2023 Modbury Messenger is 10th October. Please email all articles, notices of events and paid advertisements to modburymessengercic@gmail.com.

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MODBURY MESSENGER CIC

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.

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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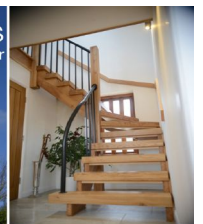
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CQC overall rating

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6 January 2021

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