

Acknowledgements

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Thanks, then, are due to the following people in the communities, whose cheerful cooperation made this book possible.

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A final word of thanks goes to my wife, who not only helped with proofreading, but also tolerated many hours on her own while her husband retreated to the study to work on "the book". We both hope the time thus spent will prove to have been worthwhile.

Let words that rang out so often during Jubilee celebrations fittingly end this page: "God save the Queen!"

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of the Queen. Ministers of both village churches led the worship, the Rev John Sweatman, Anglican, and the Rev Glen Graham, Baptist, and members carried in symbols of the Queen's Coronation, illustrating the theme of Christian dedication and service to others.

An exhibition of village life, displayed in the school from 11.30am to 4pm, was arranged by the head teacher, Alan Boyce, with Jane Putt responsible for archive newspapers and Gill Boyce for Coronation memorabilia. Participating groups were from All Saints Church, Silverhill Women's Institute, Feoffees, Horticultural Society, Short Mat Bowls Club, MAD Group, Playgroup, *The Messenger* and the Primary School. This was a particularly successful event and the school was packed with visitors throughout the day. The various club and society organizers are to be congratulated for the variety and detail of their displays. The search for and unearthing of the school time capsule added to the attractions. Amid excited anticipation and facetious humour – "Are these exercise books you didn't manage to mark, Alan?" – Mr Boyce held up many of the items the children had buried in July 1983. Several of the original creators were in the crowd to witness the resurrection of their past work.

In the village hall from 12.30pm the jazz quartet from local churches enlivened the party atmosphere with foot-tapping tunes throughout the afternoon. Food and drink were in abundance, with a ram and pig roast and the daylong provision of a bar staffed by the Royal Oak pub. During the afternoon a commemorative tree, provided by Eva Bond the village tree warden, was planted in the village hall grounds, where there are other commemorative trees.

The focus of the afternoon was the children's entertainment and tea party. Early rain meant that planned games from 1pm were organized inside the hall by David Gritton, followed by Bob Collyer, local magician, who held children and adults spellbound for nearly an hour. As the weather improved, youngsters enjoyed the fun of pedal go-karting, run by Mervyn Johns in the carpark, while several tug of war teams were supervised by Paul Pedrick, enthusiastically encouraged by watching adults. It was a light-hearted affair, with scratch teams drawn from members of the public gathered on the day. All winners received a celebratory medal on a red, white and blue ribbon to mark their prowess.

Some 200 children from the parishes of Malborough and South Huish sat down at 2.30pm to a feast provided by the village mums, topped off by slices of five large Jubilee cakes which had been decorated by pupils of the school. The talented cake designers were Heather Johns, Phoebe Stockwell, Elsa Halkerston, Abi Scandrett and Jessica Mills. Plates of surplus sandwiches and snacks were available throughout the evening. As a personal memento of the day, each child was given a Jubilee medal. These were produced by the Royal Mint and consisted of a specially designed gold-coloured medal in a red embossed presentation box.

They were paid for by the Parish Councils and presented to all children aged 17 and under in the parishes of Malborough and South Huish. Extra medals were available for purchase at cost price, many people buying them for older children or grandchildren not living in the village, because they were such an attractive memento of the Jubilee.

The fun continued during the evening with a family disco from 8pm, run by Andy Morgan. Generously donated prizes for a raffle resulted in a further £200 being raised for the festivities fund. Thanks to the combined efforts of Edmund Putt, John Yeoman, Paul Pedrick and Mike Pleass, the day closed with the lighting of a beacon next to the village sports field. From here, several other distant beacons could also be seen and the large crowd appreciated the free firework displays of neighbouring villages.

Two new bus shelters were fully funded by the Parish Council to commemorate the Jubilee. One was sited at the entrance to Cumber Close, where many elderly users had previously nowhere to shelter while awaiting the bus during inclement weather, and the other was placed at Collaton Road, where a school bus picks up many pupils who attend Kingsbridge School.

An application for grants towards the bus shelters and festivities was unsuccessful, so celebrations were financed entirely in the village. Funds were raised by special events such as bingo, discos and the like, and also by donation boxes in various locations, together with money raised on the day by the raffle, ram roast and other events. Total income from Jubilee events was £2164.19 and expenditure £1215.81, leaving a surplus of £948.38. This paid for commemorative plaques in each of the new bus shelters, the replacing of the kissing gate between the new bus shelter in Collaton Road and the entrance to the village hall grounds, and also met the cost of installing the gate and providing a concrete ramp to it.

Visitors were made very welcome, and the committee later received several letters of thanks from them. Every member of the committee was delighted at the way things worked out from start to finish, the whole day being without doubt a great success.

Ringmore

The idea of Jubilee celebrations was first raised among members of All Hallow's Parochial Church Council, then brought to the Parish Council by Jackie Tagent, a member of both committees. Geof Dykes suggested that the Parish Council should ask the parish room committee to be organizers and, if willing, to report back with a suggested format. The parish room committee is a sub-committee of the PCC with members on the PCC, the PC and the Women's Institute. This tied in all organizations of size in the village.

The parish room committee comprised Geof Dykes, chairman and member of the Parish Council, and Ringmore Historical Society; Yvonne Sheppard, secretary, churchwarden and member of the WI; Michael Tagent, treasurer, and PCC treasurer; Jackie Tagent, member of the Parish Council and WI; Alan McCarthy, also chairman of the Short Mat Bowls Club; Barry Old, also a member of the Ringmore Historical Society; Drina Williams, also a member of the PCC and the WI.

The committee expressed its willingness to organize celebrations and, after discussion, opted for the WI hall and gardens. Permission was sought and given.

First consideration was the cost of tickets. Everything was based on selling 100, and obviously the higher the cost the more that could be provided. In essence, a garden party was planned, starting at 6pm on Monday, June 3. There was to be food, music and games. Like many other villages, Ringmore suffers from raffle exhaustion, so the event was declared a raffle-free zone. This posed problems in providing a prize list to make the party swing.

First to be secured were the services of Park Bench Aristocrats, a duo from neighbouring Kingston, Janet Farrage, who plays the mandolin and violin, and John McLoughlin, acoustic guitar. They have played at many local events and are very popular. They supplemented their number for the evening with visiting players Jonathan Lunn (bass), Paul Rowe (drums), Gary Adin (lead guitar) and the barn dance caller, Adrian Brayley.

Next, the menu was planned: a Jubilee chicken dish with salad and puddings. The food sub-committee comprised the PRC members of the WI, who enlisted the help of virtually everyone in the village to provide the chosen fare: Fiona Batten, Anne Brace, Madeleine Capps, Ella Dodds, Ann Dykes, Pam Elliott, Sally Errett, Jane Guy, Natalie Hilton, Jenny Jackson, Pat King, Ann Lambell, Margaret Lock, Thelma Mann, Annabel Major, Gill Parkin, Jacqueline Patterson, Stephanie Rayner, Jane Reddel, Yvonne Sheppard, Andrea Stanesby, Meribah Stark, Jane Stevenson, Jackie Tagent, Gill Tomlin, Drina Williams, Margaret Wood and Alison Wynne-Powell. The ladies of Ringmore are renowned for their puddings and they were not going to let down the village reputation. A beer tent was provided by the landlord of the Journey's End, Grahame Gilliam. Games were then considered and a letter sent to all village organizations, asking them to devise a game to be played at the event and to supply and present a prize to the winner of their particular game. Each organization was asked to make a donation to the cost of the event. It was always assumed that the Parish Council would make a donation, and it was hoped there would be sufficient funds to provide a firework display.

The village organizations responded with games as follows:-

Organization	Game	Devised by
Table Tennis Club	Royal Cups	Phil Errett
Parochial Church Council	Jubilee Picture Quiz	Mike Wynne-Powell
Ringmore Women's Institute	Jubilee Derby Stakes	Michael Tagent
Parish Council	Royal Flush	Geof Dykes
Short Mat Bowls	Penny Royal	Alan McCarthy
Royal British Legion	British Monarchs	Brian McCabe
Ringmore Historical Society	Crowning Glory	James Parkin
Dance Aerobics	Royal Britannia	Andrea Stanesby and Stephanie Rayner

Sebastian Sheppard struck a blow for the younger members of the village by devising and running a game called Royal Targets, which, in years gone by, might have landed participants in the Tower!

Tents were rented from Kingsbridge Community College, Bigbury Youth Club and Modbury Scouts – as much an insurance against bad weather as to provide sheltered accommodation. Gratitude is due to Dane Vanstone from Holywell Stores, St Ann's Chapel, and his team for their speedy work in erecting the youth club tent. The weather turned out to be far from summery, a cold, stiff westerly blowing the whole time, and as evening wore on it became quite chilly.

The evening programme began at 6pm and within 30 minutes almost all potential partygoers had arrived. Games were scheduled to last until 7.30pm and participation was free. The Jubilee dinner was served from 7pm to 9pm, thanks to stalwart work behind the scenes from Jackie Tagent, Anne Dykes, Pat King, Drina Williams, Gill Tomlin, Pam Brunskill and others. Everyone was served by 9pm, the meal including a choice from scrumptious desserts. Park Bench Aristocrats had begun playing at 8pm, and the assembled crowd was well entertained. At 9pm the Jubilee cake, made by Jackie Tagent and iced by her daughter, Catherine Evershed, was cut by cousins Alice Mason and Margaret Lock. Alice and Margaret are senior members of the Ringmore community, born in the village and residents for 80 years or more. They are well loved by everyone and have given a warm welcome to all who have come to live in the village.

At 9.30pm the cake was distributed and a loyal toast proposed and drunk. The draw was then made against ticket numbers, and much pleasure taken from the variety and quality of the prizes. There was marked generosity by local establishments and those farther afield in providing prizes, including donations from the Eden Project (family ticket), the Theatre Royal (two tickets), dinner for two at the Journey's End and a cream tea for two at Burgh Island Hotel. Each prize was acclaimed as it was announced, but the greatest response came when

Grahame Gilliam, landlord at the Journey's End, Ringmore, drew a prize of Sunday lunch at the Royal Oak in Bigbury. That could not have been better scripted.

At 10pm the fireworks started and everyone was treated to a colourful and noisy display, organized and operated by Alan McCarthy.

Apart from breaks for food, official announcements and the prize draw, the musicians played continuously, and now they had the full attention of the gathering. A hardy number (it was not the warmest of summer evenings) stayed dancing until the witching hour of midnight, when an enjoyable and successful evening drew to a close.

The event was first publicized in the village *Newsletter* in January, but take-up of tickets was very slow at first. At one time the organizing committee felt that the event would have to be cancelled if insufficient tickets were sold. Make or break time would be mid-April. That time came and it was decided to press ahead, though with less confidence than would have been wished. Come May and with a month to go, ticket sales increased. It was decided to increase the number from the original 104 (a convenient number to print) to 120. Within days this number had been reached and was increased to 128. Still they came and ultimately 133 tickets were sold. A programme, sponsored by generous advertisers, was prepared and handed out at the gate. In the end a donation of just £133 was requested from the Parish Council and no other financial support was needed. Great value for money at £6 per ticket and £2 for children.

The longer Her Majesty reigns, the less likely is another Golden Jubilee in the life of any of her present subjects. However, it might be done again in 2012, to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee!

► List of all who attended

Andrew Hitchmough and Sarah Baker (Well Cottage); Rob and Fiona Batten (The Little Barn); Phoebe Brice (The Little Barn); Ardene Bennett and Natalie Hilton (Hillside Cottage); John and Ann Bracey (Scypen); Madeleine Capps (Higher Manor Farm); Matthew and Servane Capps, with Eva and Noah (Byron Bay); Dennis and Dr Diané Collinson (Belle Vue); Emma Cowan and Jim McGinley (3 Cumberland Cottages); Jim and Ella Dodds (Ayrmer House); Geoff and Anne Dykes (Ringmore Vean); Sheila Beardsley and Tom Gerson (Locks Heath, Hampshire); Guy and Myra Eddy (Highcroft); Rev John and Pam Elliott (Church House); Phill and Sally Errett (Fairways); Paul Archer and Fiona Stuart Wilson (Hideaway Cottage); Grahame and Debbie Gilliam, with Chris and Richard (Journey's End Inn); Felicity Godwin (Cross Manor); Geoff and Maureen Goulden (Spring Cottage); The Earl and Countess Grey (Greenways); Lt Col George Grimshaw (Middle Manor); Jane Guy (The Lodge); George and Coral Carroll (Durban, South Africa); Colin and Jenny Jackson (The

Laurels); Brian and Ann Lambell (Hayes Manor); Dennis and Julie Linzell (4 Crossways); Margaret Lock (Sea View); Peter and Annabel Major (Higher Manor); Thelma Mann (Slipway Cottage, Chalfaborough); Alice Mason (Elmsleigh); Felicity and Rosemary Godden (Bristol); Brian McCabe (Windward Farm); Alan and Robbie McCarthy (Orchard House); John Milne-Smith (High Reach); Barry Old and Pat King (End House); James and Gillian Parkin (Pleasant Cottage); Michael and Jacqueline Patterson (Walnut Tree Cottage); Nicola and Natalie Mendelssohn (Shamley Green); Mike and Jane Pitt (Kimberley); Pat Prior (1 Coastguard Cottages, Chalfaborough); Jerry and Stephanie Rayner, with Harriet (Wyncroft); Jane Reddel, with Wilbur and Dudley (Carmel); Peter Reddington (Ringmore Vean); Alaister and Tracey Rimmer (5 Crossways); Ian and Yvonne Sheppard, with Sebastian (Threeways); Terry Symons (The Old Castle); Bruce and Pat Skeels (Kachelo); Peter and Andrea Stanesby, with Matthew and Elizabeth (2 Cumberland Cottages); Brian and Meribah Stark (The Manor House); James and Jane Stevenson (Cross Park); Michael and Jackie Tagent (Chalfaborough Cottage); Marcus and Catherine Evershed, with Toby and Jenny (Ivybridge); Gill Tomlin and Carmen Henderson (Gabriel's Meadow); Reg and Micky Trant (Markland); Mike and Peggy Turney (Westbury); Naomi Warne (Trewarne); Frank and Drina Williams (The Paddock); Bob and Margaret Wood (2 Sunnybank, Chalfaborough); Mike and Alison Wynne-Powell (The Coach House).

Salcombe

Following the millennium celebrations organized by the Salcombe Town Council, preparations began for the Jubilee in 2002. Money was set aside in the council's annual budget, and some 50 organizations in the town were invited to attend meetings to discuss a programme of events. The council allocated £4,000 to fund a fireworks display, Jubilee commemorative coins for the children, a civic reception, and the Laira Youth Band which played at the floral dance.

The Church of England Primary School celebrated the Jubilee by creating an eye-catching mosaic, initiated by head-teacher Sue Stanton, with financial backing from the Town Council. An artist known professionally as Florance spent a week in the school working with children, staff and many parents. His underwater scene, apt for a seaside school, was fashioned from pieces of coloured pottery obtained from parents, tile manufacturers and other sources. Mounted on a waterproof board, it is displayed on a wall near the school entrance, where it will be on view for years to come.

The Maritime Museum offered free entrance during the Jubilee weekend from the Saturday until the Tuesday, and included a very interesting display of photographs and memorabilia from the Coronation in 1953. Visitors numbered 128 adults and 60 children.



Crowning Glory, masterpieces created by (from left): Julie Linzell, Michael Patterson, Nicola Mendelssohn, Jacqueline Patterson, Ann Bracey, Natalie Mendelssohn, Maureen Goulden, John Bracey, James Stevenson and Pam Elliott

Kingmore (cont)



Stalwart work behind the scenes by the ladies produced a tasty dinner Pictured from left: Anne Dykes, Sally Errett, Gill Tomlin, Drina Williams and Jackie Tagent

Salcombe



Patriotically-clad helpers ready for the fray at the children's tea



Cousins Alice Mason and Margaret Lock cut the Jubilee cake