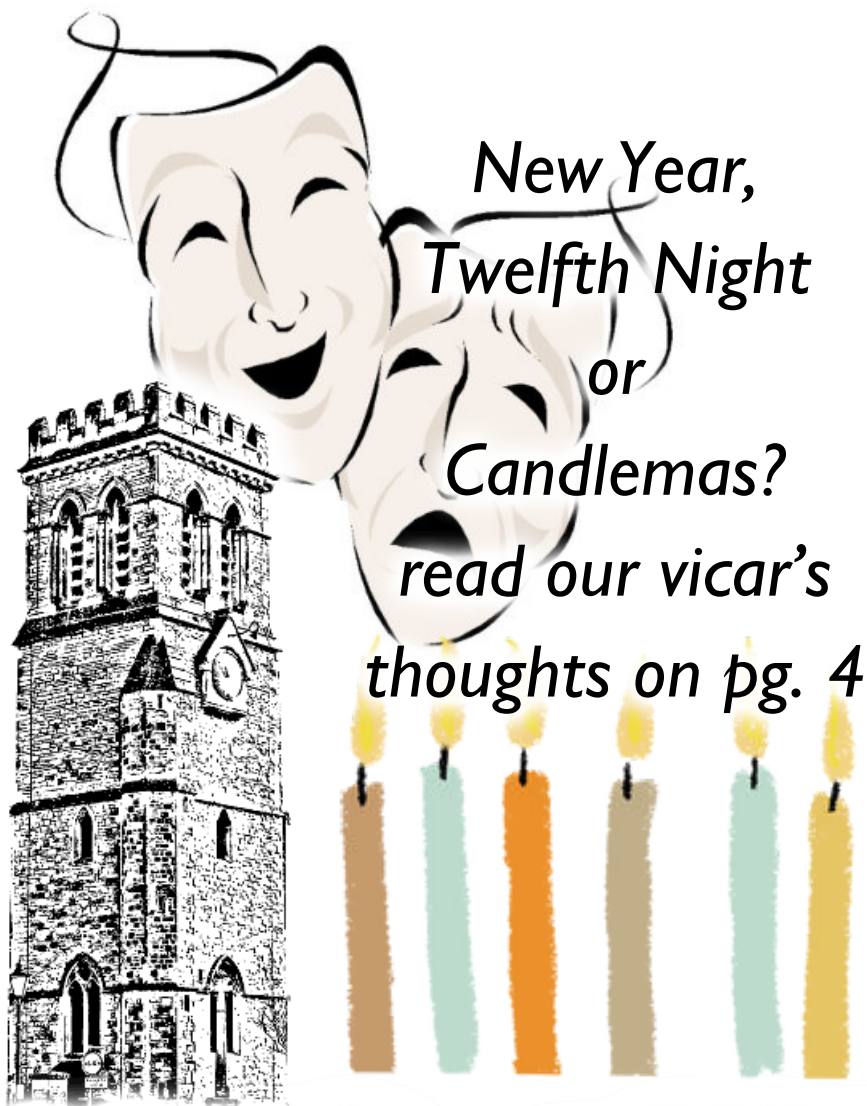


Beer Parish News

2023 February



St Michael's... ..and Village

CHURCH DIRECTORY

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

PRIEST IN CHARGE Rev Justin Montague coastalvicar@hotmail.com

St Gregory's Office seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk 23656

Ass. Priest: Rev Simon Hitchcock sihitchcock@icloud.com 07575 956899

Ass. Priest: Rev Alison Finch alison.finch@ymail.com 20567

ST MICHAEL'S ...

Churchwarden: Mrs G. Chapple 07794 838219

Treasurer: Mr K. Izzard, Sunningdale, Common Hill, Beer 625181

Secretary: Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245

Sacristan & Head Server: Mrs L. Bees 21723

Altar Guild: Mrs P. Bewick 21954

Mrs Y. Hawker 22191

Choir: Dr G. Butler (Practice Tuesday 6-7pm) 21375

Organist: Dr G. Butler, Mullions, New Road, Beer 21375

Children's Society: Mrs P. Edmunds, West Ebb, Common Hill, 23659

Beer EX12 3AQ

Families Worker Linda Joy lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com

Children's Team: Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245

Mrs J. Ross Mrs L. Molony

Worship Team: Mrs G. Chapple, Ms M. Hiron, Mrs L. Molony, Mrs L. Bees

Pastoral Team: Mrs G. Chapple (sec) 07794 838219

Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs S. Aplin,

Mrs P. Bewick, Mrs E. Singleton,

Mrs A. Vaughan, Mrs S. Anderson

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Beer Parish News Dr Henry Jaggers, Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise, 20858

Editor: Beer. Email: henryjaggers@btinternet.com

Area code for all phone numbers above is 01297 unless shown otherwise

In an emergency, parishioners should contact the Churchwarden (see above for address and phone number).

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www.coastalchurch.org.uk



St MICHAEL'S CHURCH



[St Michaels Church Beer](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchBeer)

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

Calendar for February 2023

Sun 29th Jan	11:00am United Communion Service at SEATON
Tues 31st Jan	6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing
Fri 3rd Feb	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers
Sun 5th	9:30am Morning Praise <i>3rd Sunday before Lent</i>
Tues 7th	1:00pm Worship Team Meeting 2:00pm PCC Meeting 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing
Wed 8th	8:30am Open the Book at School 10:00am Communion Service at BEER
Thurs 9th	2:00pm "Questions of Life & Faith" at St Gregory's Church Centre, All welcome
Fri 10th	NO Mickey's Music Makers (Non-pupil day)
Sun 12th	9:30am Family Communion <i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i>
Tues 14th	2:00pm Play Reading Group (Church Room) 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell ringing
Fri 17th	NO Mickey's Music Makers (Half term)
Sun 19th	9:30am Morning Praise <i>Sunday next before Lent</i>
Tues 21st	NO Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing
Wed 22nd	8:30am Open the Book at School Ash Wednesday 10:00am Communion Service at BEER <i>~ with imposition of Ashes</i>
Sun 26th	9:30am Family Communion Service <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>
Tues 28th	NO Choir Practice 7:15pm Bell Ringing
Thurs 2nd Mar	2:00pm 1 st Session of Lent Course at Endsleigh
Fri 3rd	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers
Sun 5th	9:30am Morning Praise ~ Anna Chaplaincy GRIZZLY RACE DAY

*Our Sunday services in Beer are often broadcast on Facebook.
If you can't come to church, you can watch and hear them there, either
live or later at a time convenient to you!*

From Justin...

Rev's Ramblings

You may find this a strange question with us having just entered February, but when did you take your Christmas decorations down? For some the tree and tinsel was 'boxed up' and 'back up the loft' the day after Boxing Day. Maybe you waited till New Year's Day after the last drop of Sherry before 'dry January' began. For the vast majority I suspect, the angel was still atop the tree until the 12th night, before a panic of uncertainty ensued as to whether that means the 5th or 6th of January!

For those of you who did miss that 12th night deadline, the good news is you are not required to keep your Christmas decorations up all year round nor has bad luck somehow been pronounced upon your home for 12 months, as the myth suggests. If you have been past the vicarage in January, you may have noticed the Christmas wreath still attached to the front door. If you happen to be walking through the churchyard in the evening, perhaps you've seen the glow of Christmas tree lights from inside the house. If you've been inside, you may have wondered why are our Christmas cards still spread around on every side. Now before you switch off and wonder why on earth the vicar is still speaking about Christmas let me explain.

The church in fact continues to celebrate Christmas right through Epiphany (6th January) up until the feast of Candlemas on the 2nd of February. My wife Melissa and I decided to keep our decorations up until Candlemas Eve on the 1st February. Yes, I confess it was in small part practical, as we did not enjoy rushing to take them down after a busy Christmas schedule as a minister, moreover though is that there is a historic tradition of leaving decorations up till Candlemas that pre-exists the contemporary idea of the 12th night.



Falling 40 days after Christmas day, Candlemas celebrates the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Temple and also the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, two very important festivals in the Christian Church. Candlemas so-called because candles intended to be used in churches in the coming year would be blessed on that day.

If you've been a visitor to the church in Seaton or Beer, you may have noticed the Christmas Cribs still on display throughout January. It is not because we're superstitious and missed the 12th night, having to keep it on display all year, but it is actually a long-held tradition of the crib remaining in place till the Feast of Candlemas.

Now apparently 40% of new year's resolutions are broken by the end of January, further still, 75% by are broken by Valentines Day. In my estimation that means statistically my Christmas decorations are likely to last longer than any new year's resolution I make.

However, this year I proposed something different to a new year's resolution at our first Church service of 2023 on New Year's Day. We all have good intentions, things that we want to accomplish in a new year. But I suggested that this year we should aim to go beyond 'good-intentions' and instead, to have some 'God-intentions'. Instead of having something that's just 'me-centred', to set some goals that are 'God-centred'. I gave 4 biblically-based questions for us all to pray about, that go beyond a simple new year resolution, things that have the potential to be spiritually transformational for us in 2023. I hope you will find them helpful too:

- 1) What one thing do you desire most spiritually from God?
- 2) What one thing do you lack spiritually in your life?
- 3) What one thing do you need to let go of?
- 4) What one of God's promises do you need to claim?

If you want to find out more or explore these further, do get in touch.

Grace & peace

Rev. Justin

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Meeting held on 17th January 2023 in St Michael's Church.

A very happy and healthy new year to everyone.....



It was good to recap on the events and busy time the Altar Guild ladies had leading up to Christmas 2022 with the SOS singers, Puffin group Nativity, evening concert organised by Richard Scott, Xmas fair held in the church and lastly Christingle with all agreeing these events were well supported with very positive feedback and enjoyed by all.

We also enjoyed Advent Soup and reflection Thursdays' which were well attended and enjoyed by those attending.

We are all looking forward to the year ahead and please look out for events happening in the church.

Date of next meeting: March 7th 2023 @10.00am



A small local group who meet regularly in order to grow in the practice of Contemplative Prayer in the Christian tradition. We welcome people of ALL denominations, or none. Currently operating as "The Julian Group at Home"

We invite you to join us virtually on the second Monday of each month at about 7.20pm by downloading and following an "order of proceedings" - available from the Coastal Church website. For more information contact: Sue Price, Reader at St Gregory's Seaton, on 01297 22314

If you are interested in a new affordable house

URGENT DO THIS NOW!

The Beer CLT houses on the old social club will be allocated in the next weeks. Anyone interested in renting please contact **EDDC Devon Home Choice** *. Anyone interested in shared ownership purchase contact the CLT or me and we will direct you how to apply.

If you don't apply then you will not get a house and the allocation may go out of the village.

Geoff Pook
07966 490429



* <https://www.devonhomechoice.com/>

BEER WI

No report received this month

New members and guests always welcome. For information contact 01297 21864 or 01297 599157



"Questions of Life and Faith" The next date for Questions of Life and Faith is Thursday 9th February from 2 to 3.30pm in St Gregory's Church Hall, Colyford Road. These sessions provide an opportunity to share our thoughts, feelings and doubts about questions that matter to us in our life. All are welcome and there is no expectation of regular attendance as each session is a fresh start for all who come, new and old. Please spread the word!

Karen Curnock

Fine Foundation Centre

Beer Village Heritage

Reg. Charity No.1087162

Well – it just goes to show that we shouldn't rely on folk lore! The wind has definitely not stayed in the southerly quarter over the past couple of weeks, and we have been experiencing a proper taste of winter. So, what will Candlemas Day bring? Will winter be over if the winds "do stormy blow" or will we only be half way through the winter? Whatever happens, the snowdrops are putting on a lovely show, and the early daffodils are already out. The sunshine has meant that it's been pleasant in areas sheltered from the wind, and we've been able to do a bit of work in the garden. The fruit bushes have been neglected for a couple of years, so some attention from the secateurs has been on agenda. We've continued to clear beds and cover the soil with cardboard which is a cheap and effective weed suppressant.

New Year's Day saw over thirty people joining in the Beach Clean. The group included some visitors who had seen the posters and wanted to "do their bit". Maybe some of them will be inspired to do something similar in their home community. Thank you to everyone who joined in and special thanks to Ruth and Wendy for sorting the rubbish and extracting anything that could be recycled. When you're doing your own litter pick, don't forget that there are recycling bins by the Fine Foundation Centre.



The Centre is now closed until Easter. We're currently reviewing the exhibits and would love to hear your suggestions for new ones, or improvements on the old ones. Even though the centre is closed, you can still see the exhibits in the display cases underneath the building. You can also access the Beer Village Heritage walks and I-Spy online via our website: <http://www.beervillageheritage.org.uk/>. You can telephone us on 01297 20858 or via beervillageheritage@yahoo.co.uk.

One query which we've had this year is from Sidmouth Museum where the staff are putting together a new display on shipwrecks in the area. They had a photograph of an incident in 1906 which involved 2 men from Beer being rescued off Sidmouth beach by a group of local fishermen. Thanks to the Beer Memories website we were able to find the newspaper report which

accompanied the photo and the museum now has full details of the capsizing of the "Shamrock", including information on the prevailing weather conditions and the names of everyone involved.



Patrick Dillon's talk on livestock farming in Mongolia was fascinating and gave a tantalising insight into life in a largely nomadic community. I was particularly taken with his descriptions of herding dogs – in both England and Mongolia – and their ability to move around the countryside without human supervision. The next Branscombe Project talk is on Monday 13th February when Rose Ferraby will tell us about some of the work which she's doing, which includes making images with the British Museum, looking at Mesolithic peatlands, and discussing Bronze Age barrows with poets. Given that we live so near to the largest collection of Bronze Age barrows, after Stonehenge, maybe she will shed some light on the significance of Gittisham and Farway Common.

We're looking forward to the East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty's Spring conference when the speakers will include Toby Taylor giving and overview of the work of the RSPB locally.

Beer Village Heritage is a registered charity and is run entirely by volunteers. As well as running the Fine Foundation Centre we head up and support projects suggested by you as well as offering talks on the local area.

If you have a particular interest in an aspect of local history or would like to get involved with Beer Village Heritage in general, you can contact us on 01297 20858 or at beervillageheritage@yahoo.co.uk. We'd love to hear from you.



CINEMA
FOR ALL

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www.beerfilmsociety.org.uk



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CINEMA
FOR ALL



The local government elections this coming May will be for EDDC ward councillor and parish councillors.

I have had the honour and most times pleasure of being your EDDC ward councillor since 2011. During my time as your EDDC councillor I hope I have represented you responsibly and my actions have been of benefit to people of Beer and Branscombe. Delivering affordable housing, through Beer CLT is I feel, my greatest achievement. Beer now has 13 homes owned by the community with a net value in the region of £1.2m giving 13 local families affordable and good quality homes.

Another project I have promoted is the transfer of EDDC assets such as the Jubilee and Charlie's yard, from EDDC to Beer Parish Council. Unfortunately, in spite of this being debated for some 7 or 8 years the proposal has yet to be agreed. My own opinion is well known, in that the ownership of the asset will give Beer significant benefits. Not only will Beer residents rather than EDDC be able to decide how assets are best used but will also enable the council to use the assets to gain revenue, provide improved facilities for residents and visitors and support the commercial viability of the village.

I have now moved from Beer and am therefore not eligible to stand again as councillor. I will therefore be standing down at the elections. I would like to encourage anyone who has an interest in supporting Beer, Branscombe and “West Seaton” to put their names forward. The full details of the process and key dates to submit applications will be available on the EDDC web site, if anyone would like to understand more about the role of councillor I will be happy to talk it through.

Best regards
Geoff Pook



ANNA CHAPLAINCY

Anna Chaplaincy is one of the Leading UK charities offering training and networking for older people's ministry and enables local churches to offer high-quality spiritual care to older people across the community, who may be of strong, little or no faith. A ministry of the Bible Reading Fellowship, the aim is to make sure that the older generation has as much of a link with their local church, as they would wish too, or simply a listening ear and a hand offered in friendship. Mobility, ill-health, cognitive difficulties, or a move to a care home does not mean their communal and personal spiritual life comes to an end.

Mary and Ali recently completed their specialist training and join a network of around 250 Anna Chaplains in the UK. Specifically, they will be both be serving the communities of Seaton and Beer, where the population of over 65s is above the national average, alongside the significant number of local care homes, with many more people being cared for at home or living alone.

Ali and Mary would like to share this poem with you. It was read out at their commissioning service in December. The poem for them sums up the ministry of Anna Chaplaincy.

Blessed In Aging

~Esther Mary Walker

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and shaking hand
Blessed, who know my ears today
Must strain to hear the things they say.

Blessed are those who seem to know
My eyes are dim and my mind is slow
Blessed are those who look away
When I spilled tea that weary day.

Blessed are they who, with cheery smile
Stopped to chat for a little while
Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of yesterday.

Blessed are those who never say
"You've told that story twice today"
Blessed are they who make it known
That I am loved, respected and not alone.

And blessed are they who will ease the days
Of my journey home, in loving ways.

The worship on Sunday 26th February Seaton, and 5th March Beer will be lead by them both, and there will be an opportunity for your questions. Anna Chaplaincy is a learning curve for Ali and Mary, and hopefully some of you will feel inspired to help us in the community in the future.

To find out more go to the BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) website www.annachaplaincy.org.uk or contact Ali or Mary direct or via the Coastal Mission Community office on 01297 23656.



Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

Looking back to just before Christmas ten Volunteers from Seaton Beer and District Branch had a great time collecting donations during our Tesco Seaton Christmas Collection Day. As well as collecting in the entrance we had permission to take RNLI Ted in his Christmas Lifeboat and our information table inside the store and we collected a brilliant £730.01.

At the time of writing our report we were looking forward to our RNLI SOS Table Top Sale on Saturday 28th January at the Mariners Hall with



Bacon Baps and refreshments, a variety of stalls plus our own Card Tombola, Raffle and items for sale. The total of funds raised will be in the March Beer Parish News.

We are also looking forward to once again being with Beer Village Heritage at Beer Head Caravan Park during Grizzly Race Day that this year is on Sunday 5th March.

We are aiming to have our Annual General Meeting at Beer on Tuesday 7th March. The venue is to be confirmed and we will be advertising our meeting nearer the time. We will be looking back to our fundraising of 2022 and looking forward to our regular events plus additional ones for 2023. Additional Committee, Shop and Fundraising Volunteers are always needed and welcome and all help given will be greatly appreciated. There will be a guest speaker, raffle and refreshments.

Best wishes to everyone as we proceed through 2023.

From *Wendy Cummins* (Secretary)

and all at Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI



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Facebook group: Beer Men's Shed

Email: info@beermensshed.uk

Tel: 07775 768172

BEER BEST YEARS CLUB - alternating with
BIZZY BEES on Tuesdays 2 - 4 pm
At Mariners' Hall

Later in the year - a charity 'Pre - loved' clothing sale (for Ukraine and Children's Hospice)...

...if you are sorting out please put aside nice (as new) clothes and we can collect at the end of March - contact Annie on 01297 21305

Look up into the sky. You're looking into infinity, universal space that has no end. If it's a clear night, you might see our galaxy edgeways-on, the flat spiral that we call the Milky Way. It contains a hundred billion stars, like our sun. Many of those stars will have planets orbiting them, like our solar system.

Space tends to be populated with clusters of galaxies. We are in a group of 36 galaxies. Other clusters contain hundreds of galaxies. The Milky Way is drifting through space and slowly revolving as it moves. It takes around 250 million years to make one complete turn.

The finite human mind can comprehend just a tiny part of the limitless universe.

*

Light travelling at 300,000 km per second takes 100,000 years to travel from one side of our galaxy to the other. Vast though they are, the dimensions of time and space exist within even further incomprehensibly larger concepts: Infinity and Eternity. Infinity: space that goes on forever. And Eternity: timelessness. Mysterious and beautiful concepts. Looking up into the sky and pondering on the fact that it goes on forever brings a beautiful mystery into life.

*

Death is a mystery. In this world we are subject to time and space, but can we envisage a dimension in which there is no time and no space? Our mind, conditioned by a lifetime of living with the physical senses, cannot comprehend no-time and no-space. This is what gives death its mystery.

The human brain contains approximately one hundred billion nerve cells, called neurons. (Around the same number as the quantity of stars in our galaxy.) Some scientists believe that consciousness is generated by these neurons. Other investigators concede that consciousness is not explained in physical terms but is a presence that animates the body and which leaves it when the body expires. If you have ever looked closely at the dead body of someone you have known and loved you will almost certainly have sensed that the living presence or spirit of the person has departed, leaving a shell.

Turning your attention to the mysteries of the universe deepens your appreciation of the miracle of life on this planet. It also gives depth and breadth to your outlook on life.

YOUR "LOCAL" CONTACTS

Parish Council

Geoff Pook	07966 490429	
James Green	07714 328352	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Alex Adkin	07811 178731	
Emma Molony	07773 399025	
Rick Dormor	07970 217267	<i>Chair</i>
Mandy Graham	01297 20369	
Adam Brewer	07874 051689	
Tim Stevens	07855 023482	

Sean Greig 07971 294201

John Heath 07966 089257

Martin Richards 07809 629344

Clerk to the Council: Nicky Ingarfield

beerparishcouncil@outlook.com

Internal Auditor: Trudie Jenkins (Blue Chip Accountancy)

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gpook@eastdevon.gov.uk

Devon County Councillor Marcus Hartnell

Mobile: 07515 285725

Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Parliamentary matters -

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Constituency matters - richard.foord@libdems.org.uk

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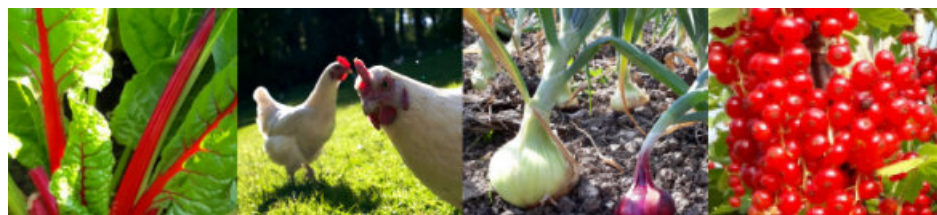
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Beer Parish News

WARM SPACES Having problems keeping warm at home? Here are some places and times when you might keep warm for an hour or two, and perhaps make some new friends.

MONDAY

Congregational Church Hall 12.00 - 2.00pm

WEDNESDAY

Beer Sailing Club 10.00am - 12.00pm

Cosy coffee or tea (donation) all welcome

THURSDAY

Congregational Church Hall 10.00 - 12.00pm

Coffee or tea on alternate Thursdays

FRIDAY

Congregational Church Hall 6.00 - 8.00pm

Open each day for warm space & books -

St Michael's Church



Beer Community Larder, now known as "Foodsave Beer" has moved to the Scout Hut. Need to get in touch, or for opening times, contact us at:-

beer@foodsave.org.uk / or phone 07471 282626

Reading this in the black & white printed edition?

Visit www.beerparishcouncil.org.uk and click on "[Latest news](#)" then on "[Parish News Letter February](#)" to find this

BEER PARISH NEWS in full colour !

Or find it along with back issues on the Beer Village Website

<https://beervillage.co.uk>

Copy for March to be with the Editor
by **Monday 20th February, at latest please.**

henryjaggers@btinternet.com

01297 20858 Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise EX12 3DZ

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