 LYMPSTONE LIVES

**RICHARD CRISP** has always enjoyed a volunteering dimension to his life, be it as a rally organiser & competitor with a motor club, Scouts as his son grew up, then WEA thereafter both in York and Exeter. Past chairman of Lympstone Twinning Association and Company secretary of the Norman Lockyer Observatory at Sidmouth, he is currently a trustee of the Village Hall and membership secretary of the Lympstone Fishery & Harbour Association.

**How did you come to live in Lympstone?**

I was born in Bristol, but after 25 years as a physicist at Rowntrees/Nestlé ‘up north’ in York, I wanted to move to an estuary in the West Country. Wife Anne, a “Lincolnshire Yellowbelly”, stipulated that the SW was fine, but Cornwall was too far for our two children living in London to visit easily, so in spite of my Cornish roots (my mother’s maiden name was Trethowan), Devon was the focus.

Rodney Dingle, who had been my tutor and rowing coach at Bryanston School, had been living in Church Road for some time. I had visited him in the intervening years, so Lympstone became the clear choice. I retired on a Friday and moved from a hamlet near York to a proper village, Lympstone, the following Monday!

**What is the best thing about living in the village compared with a Yorkshire hamlet?**

We knew everyone in our hamlet and quite a few in the surroundings, but we went to town for activities. Here, our friends are those with whom we share local activities. Lympstone’s choice is renown. For me, retirement activity initially focused on the Sailing Club (Newsletter editor for 10 years), sailing and motorboating whilst for Anne, art, gardening, allotments, and dancing.

15 years on, I no longer sail a dinghy, but messing about in (and with) my motorboat is still a favourite occupation whilst serving on the Harbour Board.

**Changes in Lympstone**

Some dislike change without realising that their being here is part of that continuing change. At the harbour, I’ve witnessed the change from the simplicity of room for all, to the bureaucratic reality of an oversubscribed resource. Is this a sign of a healthy community? Or rather an indicator of **o**vercrowding spoiling the special values of our community?

**What is one thing that would improve Lympstone life?**

Better weather for boating!