**LYMPSTONE LIVES - BRIAN MATHER**

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

My wife,Jennifer, and I came to live in Lympstone at the end of September 2004. I had been a headteacher in Tring, Hertfordshire for 25 years but had to retire early through ill health, cured by Devon life and some great medical consultants finding the correct daily heap of tablets. We came with our elder daughter; her husband and family so increased the village population by 7. At the time we had never been to the village before, but it was convenient for Anne and John’s work, and near to our other daughter and her family in Lamerton near Tavistock.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

 I would like to say having a hand in bringing up my two daughters but honestly, I think Jennifer had more to do with that. I love my six grandchildren and it’s great being a Great Grandpa too.

**What is the best thing about living in the village?**

Before coming to Lympstone I had lived in towns and a city. Morecambe, where I was born, Manchester and Tring. Nothing prepared me for the close community feeling of the village and the vibrant community of people who want to be social and join Clubs and Societies to entertain and meet others. Lympstone has all these things if you are prepared to go out and do it! I love helping at the Film Society, Lympstone Entertainments, the Church, the Village hall, the Players and Exmouth Folk Dance Club.

**What 3 things have made you who you are?**

Tricky I think I need to cheat and add a fourth. My parents, influential teachers and my wife but not necessarily in that order and I have to mention the church, not for the meaning of life so much as the way to live it.