



Events on the Rame Peninsula on bank holiday Monday celebrated the coming of spring. Pictures: Chris Bowden

Party on the peninsula

By KERENZA MOORE

GARLANDS of flowers and colourful costumes were a joyful reminder of spring as the Rame Peninsula celebrated the Black Prince Flower Boat Procession.

It was the 30th anniversary of the revived festivities this year, and participants of all ages, many with painted faces or ribbons in their hair, turned out for a day of dancing and merriment on bank holiday Monday.

Starting in Millbrook with children's maypole dancing, a procession made its way around the village and over the hill into Kingsand and Cawsand, stopping en route for morris dancing and a village fete at Venton House.

The flower boat at the head of the parade is carried each year by naval ratings from HMS Raleigh and walkers are accompanied by the strains of traditional morris music and song.

As the parade made its way across Cawsand Square and onto the beach, the skies fully cleared and the boat was launched in perfect sunshine.

While other events sometimes suffer when the weather is poor, the procession is well-supported come rain or shine. Committee member Julie O'Shaunessey attributes this to the fact that the event is much-anticipated and



MEGAN Canvin and Thomas Minty were crowned queen and king for Kingsand and Cawsand. Millbrook's king and queen were Herbie Bishop and Aaliyah Mahoney.

enjoyed by all generations on the peninsula.

'This really creates a lovely atmosphere. The naval ratings couldn't say enough about what a lovely day they were having,' said Julie.

'This year we had a junior town criers competition - come and have a shout if you think you're loud enough - which was oversubscribed. We were surprised at the number of children who took part.

'We decided as there were so many who did well that we would give each child a bag of

sweets. There were one or two who you'd say would definitely have a future as a town crier!'

Each year homes and business premises compete to be named the best decorated, and the winners for 2016 were Posh Nosh and 1 New Street in Millbrook, and the Devonport Inn and Avon House in Cawsand.

The event is well-supported by visiting morris sides and town criers. This year there were nine criers and consorts, including those from Liskeard and Callington, from as far afield as Norfolk.



