

SEP/OCT  
1982



*a digest of village news  
a forum for village views*

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PUBLISHED BY THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE SCHOOL

Friends of Thurlestone School - (F.T.S. for short) - is run by the parents and teachers of All Saints Primary School at Thurlestone. All parents who have children at the school are automatically members. We also have various 'Friends' who are members because they wish to be associated with the school.

The aims of the F.T.S. are to promote the welfare of the school within the community it serves - i.e. - Thurlestone, South Milton, West Buckland and Bantham with financial help from Bingo Sessions, Jumble Sales, Coffee Mornings, etc

Educationally and Culturally - we have tried to run various evenings on these lines over the years, and Socially we recently had a very enjoyable Family Barbecue and Folk Evening.

We are holding our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on THURSDAY 9th. SEPT at 7.30 p.m. at the school, to which Mr D.A.E. Gilbert, Area Education Officer, is coming to speak on current topics of education. We shall conclude the evening with cheese and wine and look forward to all present making this an opportunity to get together socially.

ANN BLYTHE - Secretary F.T.S.  
(Tel: Thurlestone 439)

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PEARSON NURSERY SCHOOL

The School starts again on MONDAY 13th SEPTEMBER.

Due to pressure on places we are now taking our maximum of 15 children each morning, and in addition to Mrs Daphne Langman and Mrs Anne Rowe, next term Mrs Tina Bowden will also be helping Mrs Hampson.

Although only two children left last term, ten new ones are starting, bringing the total of children attending during this new term to 37.

LINDY ANDERTON (Thurlestone 751)  
Secretary - Management Committee.

THURLESTONE YOUTH CLUB

The new period starts on TUESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER for the 1982/83 season, and any new over 11's in the parish will be very welcome to come and join present members.

Contact the Club Chairman - Squadron Leader A.E. Sadler at 'Cedar Rose', Thurlestone. Tel 410.

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THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

Make an early booking now the winter season is almost upon us for your Dances, Bingo and other events.

Contact Mrs Pedrick at Hilltop, Thurlestone (Tel. 300)

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The Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order 1982 has increased the maximum amount which a candidate at any local election may spend as election expenses. The new limit is £120 plus 2.4p per elector (see the Electoral Register) - and replaces the limit fixed in March 1980

(There will be an election in May 1983 for District and Parish Councils)

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Attendance allowance to District and County Councillors has now risen to £14.45 with 'Day Subsistence' allowance of £4.00 for 4-8 hours rising to £39.19 when 'Night Subsistence' arises and the mileage allowance is now 14.4p per mile for a vehicle under 1000 c.c., 15.7p to 1199 c.c. and 17.4p a mile over 1199 c.c.

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There is now an authorised sign warning motorists about elderly people. The sign depicts the silhouette of a man and a woman stooping and supporting each other, the man leaning on a walking stick. The triangular red edged sign carries a plate underneath 'Elderly People'. There would need to be a 'head' count to prove to the Highway Authority there were sufficient elderly to qualify for the erection of a sign !

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# VILLAGE VOICE — No 2 — SEPT/OCT 1982

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All items for publication should be sent to the Editor : D.W.Drabble  
at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton, Kingsbridge  
Telephone: Thurlestone 533

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(Tel. Thurlestone 496)

Woodlands,  
WEST BUCKLAND,  
Kingsbridge.

Issue No 2.

Dear Reader,

In July some 360 copies of this publication were distributed around the villages of the parish. It was a simple and quite unpretentious effort. However, the positive response from so many people has encouraged this more ambitious and might I say, slightly more professional presentation, for which we have to thank the advertisers making the additional expenditure possible without undue use of parish funds.

This issue will see the distribution of 400 copies, but I must stress that a publication of this nature is very dependent on local support in the way of contributions of articles and letters and items of local interest and concern. While it is sponsored by your Parish Council, there is no intention to have any form of censorship - the Editor has a free hand so long as avoids anything defamatory! I do hope you will take this unrivalled opportunity to air your concern over any local matter - criticism is welcome so long as it is of a constructive nature. Of course, I must say that the views and opinions which may be expressed in articles and letters are not necessarily going to be the views of the Parish Council - which is not to say that the opinion of the council - and possibly other authorities as well - cannot be influenced by a consensus of local opinion on any subject. So I look forward to seeing an increasing number of contributions from you all - even on ideas for the future of a by-pass for the Thurlestone village - after all the year 2000 is only 18 years away.

Do not ever let us lose sight of the fact that despite the limited Statutory power and rights of a Parish Council, it can and does have a considerable influence in many matters, both in the parish and adjacent areas. After all, it took only 6 farmworkers in Tolpuddle to start something in 1834 - even if it did take a few years. See the article "A Brief Look into the Future".

Village Voice will publish without fear or favour on any matter that concerns you - and this parish.

Yours sincerely,

*P.W.J. Hurrell*  
P.W.J. Hurrell  
Chairman.

THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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# DO WE CARE ENOUGH?

HOW disappointing it has been to hear from the Editor that out of over 800 parishioners just half a dozen have shown sufficient interest in the "Are we a Caring Community" article in the July/August issue to contact him and offer their services in case they could be of any help to those in need. Is this not a rather sad reflection on the diminishing community spirit within the Parish? Are we, perhaps, too concerned with our own welfare to concern ourselves with others? Are we satisfied that we are already doing our best for our neighbours when they may be in need? Do we all know who are neighbours are - and are we sufficiently approachable that they would confide in us if they actually needed help?

I KNOW most parishioners are kind, charitable people who have worked for a well earned retirement and others who are working hard for the well-being of their families - and that most of them would go out of their way to help a neighbour or a friend. But what of those who are isolated and little known, who may be old and friendless but too proud to seek help - and of newcomers who also face initial isolation? Are we doing everything possible to make newcomers welcome and feel they have a part to play in the community?

One objective of 'Village Voice' is to help put newcomers 'in the picture' of what is going on. "A Hand in need is a Friend indeed" is an old and true saying and one which when acted upon enthusiastically will have its reward for both giver and receiver by way of cementing a friendship - and surely of more value than anything in the world these days are our friends? This Parish has a very high elderly population, many of whom are living alone, without transport, some without telephones, some suffering physically. We want them to feel they are OUR concern.

IT WAS hoped that in initiating this kind of 'Community Care Scheme' we would have at least 20 names on a list of people who could offer help if needed. Perhaps it is that there is no one in need? All are well cared and catered for? But, at some time it might be you in need, and whatever the circumstances we would like to think there is always someone you could turn to. Mrs Davenport of The Thatches, Thurlestone, Telephone 297, has, with her typical generosity offered to be the person who will answer your call 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Saturday. NOW we need some more equally caring people to give their time and advice if called upon. If we have enough volunteers there will always be someone with the likeliest talent to help in any particular situation.

EXAMPLES of needs which we might anticipate would be collecting prescriptions from the Health Centres, exchanging library books in Kingsbridge or the Mobile Van, shopping, feeding or caring for a pet during sudden temporary absence, car-lifts, baby - and granny or grandpa sitting, providing the odd meal if the 'cook' is sick, collecting children from school, visiting the lonely, reading to the blind and suggesting and encouraging occupations for the disabled. Just helping out in a real emergency.

WHO KNOWS - we may never be required - but we just cannot believe everyone is already catered for by friends and neighbours.

Do write - or phone 'Village Voice' on Thurlestone 533 - the Editor will be most happy to pass on all offers of helping to create a Parish Community Care Scheme.

R.S.S.

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THURLESTONE and  
WEST BUCKLAND W.I.

J U M B L E S A L E  
SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER  
in the PARISH HALL at 2 p.m.

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# THURLESTONE SEWERAGE CHARGES

*How can they be justified ?*

Just by chance I happened to attend the Annual Parish Meeting held in March this year, when a Mr Latham, whom I understood to be the Area Manager of the South West Water Authority, was questioned with regard to the capacity of the Thurlestone sewer, it being indicated that it was considered to already be overloaded and was going to suffer chronic overloading by excessive developments already programmed. Since then I have asked for a report on just what Mr Latham said:-

"12 years ago the then Ministry of Housing commissioned a report on overflows, and certain recommendations and formulae were issued to ensure that storm overflows should not come into operations unless exceeding this formulae. The South Hams District Council had done calculations to see that the Thurlestone overflow did not come into operation until above the acceptable standard; these figures" Mr Latham had said, "took into account the present development on the Mead and at 'Leaside/Merchants Field', after which THE LIMIT WILL HAVE BEEN REACHED. There were no plans for a proper disposal unit at Thurlestone" concluded Mr L.

Now, I must admit all this has set me thinking, because for some time I have considered the sewerage charge a bit of an imposition to say the least, but now I realise that the Thurlestone foul sewer is merely a pipeline laid down in the 1930's taking raw untreated sewage out to the low water mark of the sea at Leasfoot Beach, I am absolutely aghast, to put it mildly.

This year that 'sewerage charge' amounted to 21.6p in the pound of our rateable valuation which I estimate must give the Water Authority a cool £50,000 from this village - for this charge alone.

Have you any idea what it can be costing this Authority in maintenance of this pipeline ? I have'nt, but it can only be a pittance, because we know, don't we just how much attention it gets, year in and year out. It has remained more or less unaltered and unimproved for its 50 years of existence. Surely it is a rank injustice, and if it is legal to charge a sewerage rate for a pipeline going down to the sea with no form of disposal or treatment plant - and none proposed it would seem - I must say that in my opinion it can only be termed 'legalised robbery' !!!

Here we have something that simply must be investigated on a National scale. I cannot believe Thurlestone is the only place in this nation which has no sewage treatment plant but has to pay this scandalous charge. No one could object to paying a nominal maintenance but surely not even this or any Water Authority can justify such a charge and I think 'Village Voice' should send a copy of this article to the 'Media'.

The Editor would like to know what YOU think. The more people who take up this protest - write to their M.P. - to their County and District Councillors - the more pressure can be put on the 'powers that be' to do something about this levy where no actual sewage plant exists.

The next issue of 'Village Voice' will cover NOVEMBER & DECEMBER.

Letters, Articles, Notice of Forthcoming Events and Advertisements should be sent or handed in by OCTOBER 16th. please.

# A BRIEF LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

This is a very abridged extract from an article: "Parish Councils and the Council of Europe" by Professor Bryan Keith-Lucas, who is a Vice President of the National Association of Local Councils and an adviser to the European Conference of Local and Regional Authorities, published in the 'Local Council Review'

THIRTY years ago the Council of Europe, which represents 19 European countries, promulgated the European Convention on Human Rights and established the European Court to see that its principles were carried out in practice. More recently it established the European Conference of Local and Regional Authorities, to act as a forum for promoting democracy and balanced development in Europe.

This conference, acting as agent for the Council of Europe, has seen the danger of growing centralism of government, and has started action to protect the basic right of local elected councils to decide local matters for themselves, without being told what to do by the civil servants and politicians of central government.

Two years ago a committee of experts on local government, drawn from seven European countries, was appointed to prepare a draft charter setting out the basic principles of freedom and autonomy of local authorities as an indispensable element of democratic government, and essential for safeguarding the rights and liberties of the citizen.

In September 1981 a final text was accepted by the committee and endorsed by the Conference of Local and Regional Authorities. It will now come before the Conference of European Ministers of Local Government which is due to meet later this year.

The draft charter starts with a resounding declaration of principle :-

The local authorities are one of the main foundations of a democratic state. The right of citizens to participate in the conduct of public affairs is one of the democratic principles that are shared by all the member states of the Council of Europe. It is at local level that this right can best be exercised. The existence of local authorities with real responsibilities makes possible an administration which is both effective and close to the citizen.

Among the Articles of the draft charter are several of particular relevance to parish councils, such as:

3(ii) Local authorities shall have a general residual right to act on their own initiative with regard to any matter not expressly assigned to any other authority more specifically excluded from the competence of local government.

3(iii). Public responsibilities shall be exercised by preference by those authorities which are closest to the citizen. Higher level authorities shall assume a responsibility or have a responsibility assigned to them by statute only in so far as this is made necessary by the extent of the task or if the authorities at the lower level cannot perform effectively.

8(i). Local authorities shall be entitled to adequate financial resources of their own, distinct from those of the other levels of government, and to dispose freely of such revenue within the framework of their powers.

8(ii). Part at least of the financial resources of local authorities shall derive from taxes that can be localised on their territory and of which they have the power to determine the rate.

8(vi). On no account shall financial equalisation procedures become a means of diminishing the power of decisions of local authorities within their own sphere of responsibility.

There is a clear and significant declaration of the basic principles of local autonomy.

# BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

The Club ANNUAL OPEN DAY was held at Bantham Beach on 1st. August, and despite a cloudy day and minimal visitors, it turned out to be very successful financially, due to the hard work of our members, the generosity of those willing to spend at our many stalls and Evans Estates Ltd., who so kindly gave us the gate money for the day. We had many events during the day in which members and the public could take part, and the Surf Life Saving competition between the three local clubs - Challaborough, Bigbury & Bantham for the Perpetual Shield given by Thurlestone Hotel, which goes to the ultimate winner on aggregate.

OUR membership has increased considerably this summer and we now have over 60 active members, 25 of these are juniors between the ages of 10 and 15 years, many of them from Thurlestone, West Buckland and South Milton - with the names Murrell and McCarthy on the register once again - sons of former members.

With so many members available we are now able to take part in the many competitions run by the Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain, and at the same time leave enough members to form a good patrol on Bantham Beach to contend with the many incidents that happen.

At the Devon Regional Championships held on the Dawlish Warren beach in August the juniors competed well and were disappointed not to bring home any trophies. The seniors exceeded their expectations in retaining the Ski Rescue Shield and also winning the Beach Sprint Trophy, attained second position in the March Past and third position aggregate. On 28th/29th August the Club had a Senior team entered in the National Championships at Perranporth.

The Club would like to thank members of the public for their generosity on our Open Day which resulted in a profit of almost £300. Thank you all.

B.Freshwater.

## Harvest Thanksgiving

The new Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Newing, will preach for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service in the Parish Church on FRIDAY 8th OCT at 7.0 p.m. and afterwards be our guest at the HARVEST SUPPER at 8.0 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (Tickets from the Rectory - £1 )

On SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER there will be Anthology of Hymns and Readings at 11.10 a.m. in addition to the usual Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m.

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Our SCHOOL HARVEST GIFT SERVICE is at South Milton Church this year on SUNDAY 3rd. OCTOBER at 6 p.m.

## "Be Happy" Charity Group

COMING BINGO SESSIONS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Sept. 8th - Churchstow (for Coombe Royal)

Sept. 22nd. - Thurlestone ( for Muscular Dystrophy)

Oct. 6th - Churchstow (Coombe Royal)

Oct. 20th- Thurlestone (Muscular Dystrophy)

(On June 30th £253.17 raised from the Bingo evenings at Thurlestone was presented to Muscular Dystrophy Fund and from their first Coffee Mornings in the new Rectory Barn £69.48 was raised towards garden furniture for Coombe Royal.

Thank You —  
— Lindsey and Jan

A kind thought by two holiday visitors - Lindsey Townsend and Jan Jones - heralded a successful FASHION SHOW in the Parish Hall on August 13th - benefitting local charities by £46.50. Both regular visitors, Lindsey and Jan felt they had derived so much pleasure from being here so often, but had never given anything back to the parish in return ! May one hope that other regular visitors will have similar 'thanksgiving' thoughts ?

# PARISH NEWS BULLETIN

The Parish Council have now received a guide to the cost of Parish Elections from the District Council. For an uncontested Election the basic charge will be £35.50 plus any cost incurred in printing and displaying of Notices of Election. For contested Elections the basic charge will be £105.75 plus any costs incurred in or about the conduct of the election, i.e. printing, polling stations, polling staff, counting staff, etc. This basic charge will be increased where there are more than 2 candidates or more than one polling station (as at Thurlestone) is involved.

These charges are based on known costs as at April 1982 and might be subject to increase.

Where the poll for a Parish Council is held in conjunction with the poll for a District Councillor, staffing and polling station costs will be shared.

The next Parish and District Council Elections are due to take place in May 1983.

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The Parish Council continue to press the Devon C.C. and the Countryside Commission with regard to re-establishment of the Coastal Footpath, which due to erosion has temporarily been diverted inland at one point. The Coastal Footpath is more than a concern for the Parish - it is a national concern.

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The District Council have re-established the position of Rodent Operative. If you have problems in this direction - phone Totnes 864499 and ask for Technical Dept.

+ + + + +

The Parish Council have been advised that a Formal Notice has been served on the Developers of the Leaside and Merchants Field site with regard to replanting of trees which are believed to have died, blown down, felled or removed, which were under a Tree Preservation Order.

Such replanting should take place later in the year during the normal planting period.

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The Parish Council also consider that the present scheme for 'Back Door Collection' of rubbish bins and bags is wasteful and uneconomic except for the elderly and disabled.

It is understood farmers and landowners who are responsible for the condition of stiles on public footpaths, can obtain 'kit sets' from the County Council through the Parish Council.

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It is thought worth repeating that defunct freezers, cookers and refrigerators will be collected by the District Council - free, it is understood. Phone Totnes 864499. and once again ask for the Technical Department.

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The Parish Council sponsored Magazine/Newsletter has already been supported with sufficient advertising revenue to make at least the first four issues self supporting - and no charge on the rates!

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The Church Board of Education advises that wherever possible corporal punishment in C. of E. Schools should be phased out and ultimately abolished. (is that a good thing ??)

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The Devon C.C. are reported as inviting Landscape Gardeners from as far away as Essex for work on an extended rubbish tip at Crowndale, Tavistock. Why?

+ + + + +

A United Nations study on population problems has come up with the conclusion that there will be twice as many grandparents as babies by the year 2025. (Surely less babies must mean less grandparents ?)

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## THOUGHT FOR TOMORROW

The only people truly concerned - and therefore qualified, to decide on the future of our villages are surely the people who dwell therein. Paper qualifications offer no guarantee of quality of thought and action.

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*An invitation  
to join the —*

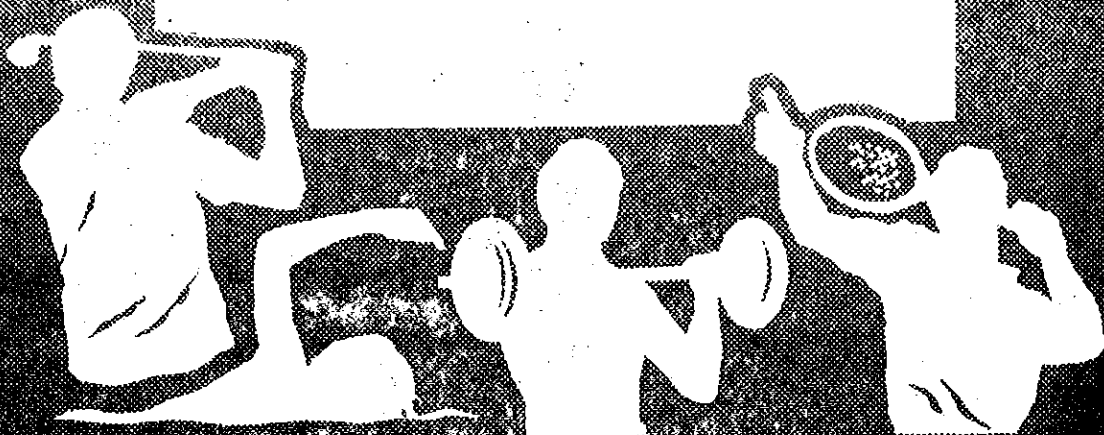
## **Thurlestone Hotel COUNTRY CLUB**



Applications are now invited for the new Thurlestone Hotel Country Club. Members will be able to enjoy the full benefits of one of the largest recreational complexes in the area.

This includes a 9-hole championship approach golf course, with resident professional and Pro-shop, Squash, Tennis, and the new indoor heated pool complex with Sauna, Spa Bath, Solarium and Mini Gymnasium.

All this is within Thurlestone Hotel's beautiful grounds which includes an enclosed outdoor heated pool.



# *The People of Thurlestone Come and Go*

UNTIL a hundred years ago, three-quarters of the people living in Thurlestone, West Buckland and Bantham had been baptised in the Parish Church. Of course, many of them were children who had not had much time to go anywhere else, but a lot did leave sooner or later. By comparing burials with baptisms in the parish registers, we find that only one in three of those who died were baptised here. In other words, there was a hard core of villagers who stayed here from generation to generation, but at least half of the adults had come from some other parish, most commonly South Milton, West Alvington or Churchstow. We still have a hard core of villagers but the proportion who were baptised elsewhere, if indeed they were baptised, is now much greater.

WHO were these people whose mode of living changed very little over the centuries up to about 1850? We know what they did back to 1755, when the marriage register started to contain a record of their occupations. More than half of the men described themselves as husbandmen, that is, they worked for other people on their farms. Next came the yeomen farmers who owned or rented their property, to be followed by the occasional entry of a butcher, mariner, Excise Officer, woolcomber, thatcher, fisherman, mason, shoemaker and tailor. Most of the brides had been in domestic service. On top of the pack were half a dozen men who called themselves "Gentleman" or "Mr". They lived, for instance at Aunemouth, Whitley and opposite the church where Turzey Close now stands. The term gentleman was often used in recognition of educational distinction, whereas Mr. carried a bit more weight. For example, in 1777 James Wakeham was a Gentleman at his marriage and at the baptism of his children

but he had been promoted 'Mr' by the time of his burial in 1795. Then there were the various families who lived at Clannacombe, an Elizabethan mansion originally an Ecclesiastical house of rest and the most impressive building in the parish - it was for a brief time the home of the Agent of the Earl of Devon, when he owned much of the parish. He was not the village squire, as we have never had a proper squire but, looking at the memorial in the parish church to one of the Agents, Thomas Stevens who died in 1658, he was evidently no mean person. There he kneels with his wife and seven children; alas, towards the bottom of the monument on the right is depicted a little package representing a baby who died within a fortnight of birth - a so called chrysom child.

WHY have at least half the people who were born here always moved on somewhere else? Two reasons stand out. Either they could not find work in the parish or they thought they would like to have a change. Right back to the twelfth century, when it became a borough, Kingsbridge has held markets and fairs. These were the times when young people went along for a bit of excitement, as indeed they still do. They saw fresh faces and maybe met people, often by arrangement, who offered them a job. The choice, before 1850, was by no means limited to husbandry and domestic service. Agents were always on the look out for recruits for the Royal and Merchant Navy; one wonders how often a young Thurlestone lad, crossed in love or unable to obtain work, found himself on the high seas heading for somewhere of whose existence he had no previous knowledge. This is no idle thought for our marriage register contains frequent entries of husbands or wives from Plymouth. Looking back three or four hundred years, officers of the press-gangs regularly scoured the South Hams for men when the Royal Navy was short or, less aggressively,

THE PEOPLE OF THURLESTONE  
COME AND GO

Continuation:

Dartmouth Agents of the Newfoundland cod trade sought volunteers for a summer fishing trip; in many of the villages around here a venture at sea was considered to be a sign of manliness much in the way many youngsters now let off steam for a bit before they are ready to settle down.

In the last hundred years Thurlestone has been transformed by education and mobility. In 1850 little more than half the villagers could read or write and the roads to Plymouth and Exeter were barely wide enough for two horses to pass in places. Since then, farms have been mechanised and work has taken on an entirely different structure. For instance, Thurlestone milk used to be distributed in pails carried on a stretcher across the dairyman's shoulders; now it is driven to Totnes for processing and brought back here in bottles. Maybe just as many people are involved in the operation as there used to be, but they are differently employed. We still have work for natives of Thurlestone, much of it directly or indirectly from visitors and retired residents, but the opportunities elsewhere, despite unemployment, are far greater than they have ever been.

NEVILLE C. OSWALD  
(The Old Rectory, Thurlestone.)

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# A Case of discrimination?

DESPITE several setbacks the Aune Valley Ski Club is still in existence. First formed in 1978 with the encouragement of Evans Estates Ltd, the idea behind the formation of the Club was to endeavour to restrict and control the ski-ing activities of enthusiasts on the River Avon. To this end we have been successful. During the six weeks peak period of the Summer members are permitted to ski on four days only, excluding Sundays. Tide permitting ski-ing is allowed up until 10.00 a.m. on the other three days. We have restricted the number of boats towing a skier to a maximum of three at any time, all must operate in the same clockwise direction. Ski-ing is restricted to a specific area on the river. All these restrictions are voluntary, there is no official restriction on any part of the river at the present time, other than the navigable water. However, Evans Estates who lease the river bed and fishery rights from the Duchy of Cornwall can, and do, impose their own restrictions. Last year they decided to add a clause to their mooring renewal notices to the effect that anyone with a mooring who exceeded their speed limit would inevitably lose their mooring. This was brought into force this year when three of our local members lost their moorings. We have been told that the moorings have been withdrawn because these members exceeded Evans Estates speed limit, not because they water-skied (although it is the Estates way of discouraging water skiing on the Avon). If the former is the case then it goes without saying that if all those boat owners who moor at Bantham who have exceeded this limit, and still do, were given the same treatment as our members, the number of boat moorings would drop dramatically. A case of discrimination?

We have been told that the Estate will re-consider the present situation if and when the question of the Bye-law reaches a conclusion. Their intention to possibly re-instate the withdrawn moorings, should the Bye-law go in the favour of those who ski, cannot be taken too seriously, as the Bye-law sought by the South Hams District Council is only to take effect from May to September, therefore allowing the hardy to pursue their sport during the winter months. So why deny them their moorings? Those who have lost their moorings live and work locally. It is ironic that those who we need but invariably complain about, the visitor or second home owner, is not affected. Yet, again the LOCAL person suffers. Recently, because of the pleasant weather and calm seas some members have put to sea to water-ski, where most wish us to go! The Council have bouyed off lanes to enable boats access to the beaches at Bantham and Bigbury. However, as a member reported, he was more of a nuisance at sea than on the river. The number of boats fishing at sea were many and some had even decided to try their luck inside the bouyed boat lanes. No doubt there are those who may say we should only ski when the water is rough, and then complain when the rescue services are called out. All we ask is to be able to use a portion of the river some of the time, leaving others to have its use all of the time, bearing in mind that being tidal the river imposes its own restrictions.

Although only a small Club we have members interested and participating in all three disciplines of water skiing, tournament, barefooting and racing. We are members of the South West Association of Ski Clubs. Members from Aune Valley have taken part in the Inter-regional race meeting at Chasewater this August and we hope to stage our own race as part of the Association in Torbay on the 3rd. October. Anyone who has a desire to try water skiing should contact me or any member.

BARBARA MCCARTHY.



# Lumme

by Kendall McDonald

IT'S RUINED the last half of my life. It was something that I was saving for my retirement, but now it looks as though I've got to start on it right away. It's not fair.

You see I was looking forward to pottering gently around sun-blessed churchyards in equally sunny villages in the sunny South Hams tracking down my ancient ancestors. Oh, I know it's something that everyone says they're going to do, but I really meant to and so would you if you had a Christian name like mine. But after what's happened I've got to start work straight away and I bet it rains all the time.

Kendall. Well, I ask you - what kind of a name is that? I mean you try telling it to someone over the telephone..No wonder I get letters addressed to Campbell McDonald as though such a thing would be possible after that nasty business at Glencoe. And that's not to mention the way they spell it if they do get it nearly right...Kendle, Kendal, Kendell, Keendell, Kendel and even Kendull.

At school, of course, it was a favourite joke to call me "Candle" and in later life "Burning the Kendall at both ends" always brought the house down. People often ask me if I come from the Lake District. I stayed there once and I was not impressed by the town they named after me, I can tell you. Left one "l" off they have too.

Makes me cross even to think about it. Why? You may well ask...

You see, my grandfather, who lived in Woodbine and owned Just-a-Cottage in the village too, was called William Kendall Hill. Well, he wasn't called Kendall by anyone. To most people he was Mr Hill, because he was a big man and an ex-London policeman of the days when a blow from a truncheon was meant to hurt. To the brave, his close friends, and others behind his back, he was known as "Lor lumme Hill". "Lor lumme" was his favourite expression, particularly when he was told some rivetting piece of local gossip.

Local gossip flew like mad in those days even without the help of today's telephone. Nowhere was it exchanged with more fervour than at my grandpa's after-Church Sunday cider parties in the cottage at the back of Woodbine where his barrels stood tall and wide. Mind you, it wasn't half cider in those days and those parties ruined many a Sunday lunch. Fell asleep right into the gravy boat did one newcomer to that exclusive little group. It was some time before they realised he wasn't saying Grace and he had nearly drowned by the time they got him out.

There was something very important to the Hill family about the name of Kendall. My grandfather carried it second, so did all his children like my mother Maude Kendall Hill and my uncle Charles

LUMME by Kendall McDonaldContinuation

Kendall Hill, better known as Charlie, the village postman.

Charlie Hill scattered letters from his motor-bike throughout the parish and those adjoining as he hurtled along with his peaked cap back to front. That was before he got his little red post office van of course. Then he wore his hat the right way round and even the robins on his round knew him and would come and sit on his fingers at his collection points.

Obviously Kendall was not a name the family could throw away. Well, that's what my mother thought and so I've got Kendall as my middle name though I use it as my first. Wild horses would not drag from me my given first name. And my mother did not stop there. I've got two sisters, Christine Kendall and Mavis Kendall. There's no sex discrimination about us Kendalls.

I mean it really isn't the sort of name you dump in a ditch, is it? Anyway just to be on the safe side my children are Kevin Kendall and Joanna Kendall.

All joking apart I've grown quite attached to Kendall. So I'd promised myself that when I finally retired I'd track down the family tree and find out where it really came from. It was only one of many things. I wanted to find out in those golden relaxed years - like discovering when they cut through that great slab of slate which once used to block the road at the top of Thurlestone hill so all the carts had to go around it. That must have been done in the late 18th or early 19th century (you can see where it was if you study the side of the road just before the Bantham turn as you come down) but to find out about the Kendalls and the Hills, I'd

have to go further of course.

Who knows I might even have to go right back to William the Conqueror or even further than that. Time, you see, was no object.

But now. Now I've got to start work right away. You see, I joined something called "The Devon Family History Society" as a sort of early preparation for my retirement plans. The Society is serious and interesting and they ask you if you want information about any particular name and they publish it in their magazine. Well I put "Kendall and Hill of Plymouth ('cos that's where grandpa came from) in the 18th and 19th centuries". I thought I'd start close in and not rush back to 1066 all at once. And then I forgot about it.

Well, lor lumme, the other day the phone rang and it was a Mr Raymond T. Hill of South Glamorgan and he hoped I might have come across his great aunt Lavinia in my researches. Well, I hadn't of course because I hadn't started, seeing as how I was saving it for my retirement, wasn't I? Lor lumme, he was disappointed, he's been trying to find Lavinia for simply ages.

But he did say he'd help me and just to start me off told me that in the 1700's the Kendalls came from Cornwall and they married into the Hills who also came from Cornwall in 1748.

Well, you can see the reason for all the rush now can't you! I've got to get my family tree going very fast. If Lavinia's great nephew is right, you know what this means...if the Kendalls really do come from Cornwall ...Lor lumme, I be a foreigner!

KENDALL McDONALD

---

NOTICE IN THE PORCH OF A DEVON VILLAGE CHURCH - signed by the Vicar:

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"As our Churchyard is now almost full, I regret that only the dead living in the parish may be buried here".

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There are two sides to every question - the wrong side and our side!

+++++

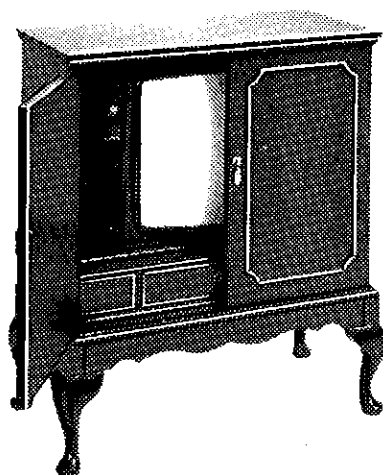


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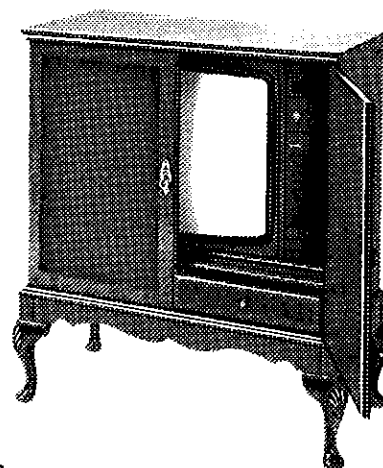
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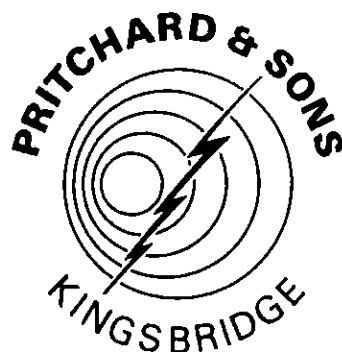
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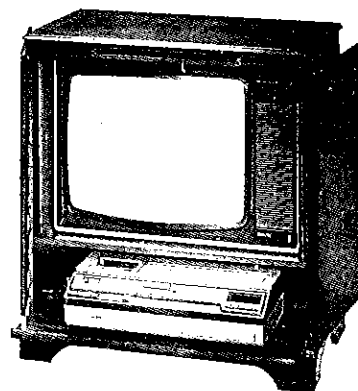
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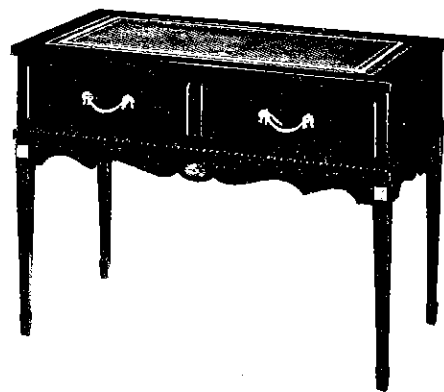
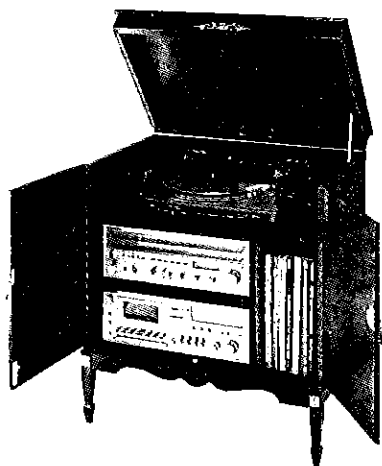
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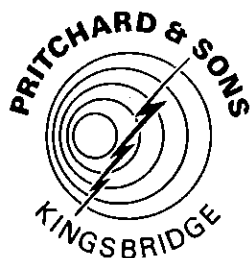
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## *Horticultural Show Results*

"MARITIME YEAR" was the theme chosen for the Flower Arrangement classes in the fourth annual THURLESTONE AND SOUTH MILTON HORTICULTURAL SHOW held on Saturday 21st. August at South Milton and, by their high standards, the tone was set for another successful event. Judges expressed their approval of the excellent quality of exhibits overall and in particular the vegetable section.

THE Chairman of the Show, Dr. Neville Oswald, congratulated exhibitors and thanked the committee for their hard work throughout the year which had culminated in yet another good Show. He reminded entrants that the Show would be at Thurlestone in 1983 and that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING would be in Oct. (a date yet to be arranged) at which he would be standing down as Chairman.

MR ERNEST BRINKWORTH then presented the cups and awards and thanked competitors for the enthusiasm with which they enter into the spirit of the Show.

AT THE conclusion a lively auction of spare produce raised funds for next year's Show.

AMATEUR GARDENING RED RIBBON for excellence in Horticulture in Sections A and B: Mr. H. ADAMS.

MARSHALL CUP for winner of Class No. 34 (one rose bloom) MR. J. YEABSLEY  
CUP FOR THURLESTONE RESIDENT with highest nos. of points in Show. L. JEFFERY  
CUP FOR SOUTH MILTON RESIDENT with highest nos. of points in Show:

J. YEABSLEY.

The Editor thanks the Society Hon. Secretary Mrs Pat Macdonald for getting this information through in time for publication in this issue.

### CUPS AWARDED for the highest numbers of points in each Section:

- A. Vegetable and Fruit:  
MR. J. YEABSLEY.
- B. Cut Flowers and Pot Plants:  
MRS. B. JACKSON.
- C. CHILDREN 5 to 8 years:  
SARAH BRICE  
CHILDREN 9 to 11 years:  
SOPHIE RICHARDSON.
- D. Home Economics:  
MISS S. ROGERS.
- E. Wines - JOINT WINNERS:  
MR TOWNSEND  
MRS GALLOWAY
- F. Flower Arrangements:  
MRS J. GOATLY
- G. Handicrafts:  
MRS E.A.SNOWDON.

### DIPLOMAS AWARDED for best entry in each Section:

- |                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| A. Veg & Fruit:              | MR. H. ADAMS    |
| B. Cut Flowers & Pot plants: | MR. H. YEABSLEY |
| C. Children:                 | A. BLIGHT       |
| D. Home Economics:           | MRS. D. GILES   |
| E. Wines:                    | MRS J. GALLOWAY |
| F. Flower Arrang/ts          | MRS. J. GOATLY  |
| G. Handicrafts:              | MR. H. BRUFF.   |

## *About the NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE*

It is hoped there will be enough contributions to make the next issue and succeeding issues ever more interesting and informative. Please send in all items for inclusion in the November/December number not later than October 12th if at all possible. Do please remember there is NO CHARGE WHATSOEVER for publishing details of all LOCAL FORTHCOMING EVENTS in November and December. If you want as many people to know as possible - then send or phone details to The Editor at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton or to Miss Rosemary Stocken at 'Mariners' Ilbert Road, Thurlestone. (Tel. 257). Editorial Telephone: Thurlestone 533.

## Useful Telephone Numbers

KINGSBRIDGE POLICE STATION. . . . .	Kingsbridge	2326
SOUTH HAMS HOSPITAL. . . . .	Kingsbridge	2349
KINGSBRIDGE HEALTH CENTRE. . . . .	Kingsbridge	3551
SALCOMBE HEALTH CENTRE. . . . .	Salcombe	2284
SOUTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY - EMERGENCY. Ask for FREEPHONE 920		
SOUTH WEST ELECTRICITY BOARD - EMERGENCY. Torquay		26200
LIFEGUARD - Local Emergency. . . . .	Thurlestone	774
THURLESTONE EMERGENCY OFFICER. . . . .	Thurlestone	607
BRITISH RAIL ENQUIRIES. . . . .	Plymouth	21300
TALLY 'HO COACH 'BUS SERVICES. . . . .	Kingsbridge	3081
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SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL . ALL DEPTS. Totnes		864499

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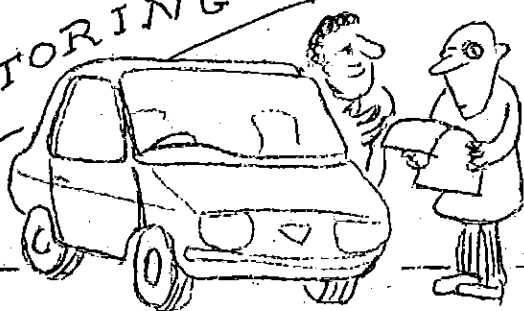
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"VILLAGE VOICE" is distributed FREE to the 400 Households in the villages of THURLESTONE, BANTHAM & WEST BUCKLAND, and in the process of being passed on to friends and relatives it has an estimated readership well in excess of 1000. The cost of production is covered by the revenue from advertisements - so PLEASE GIVE OUR ADVERTISERS YOUR SUPPORT.

# MOTORING



*It's in the small print sir  
— the six year guarantee  
against rust is only valid  
if you don't get the car wet.*

SEVERAL provisions in the Road Traffic Act 1981 have now been implemented by means of Orders, the most important being an increase in the maximum penalty from £100 to £1,000 for those drivers who fail to stop after an accident.

In fact, all offences committed under Section 25 of the Road Traffic Act 1972: failure to stop - failure to give particulars and failure to report. The object is to reduce the number of hit and run offences which have been increasing rapidly, but it may well turn out to affect the fines also for the less serious charges in this respect. For example, a requirement is to provide the names and addresses of both the owner of the vehicle and the driver, and a charge can arise if only the name and address of the owner is given. It is wise to exchange names and addresses even where it is a matter of an 'incident' rather than an 'accident' and both parties agree to take no further action, as one may have a change of mind at a later date, try to trace the other via registration number and the police, and a charge and often conviction will result.

+ + + + +

TIME was when motorists carried a small tin with a few patches. No longer! for the correct repair of tyres is a complex business, as shown in the latest revised British Standard AU159c: 1981.

To start with, the Standard requires that all repaired tyres be capable of operation at their original speed capabilities. Previously, the use of an inner tube to 'repair' very small penetrations in tubeless tyres was allowed, but this method is no longer included, the present Standard specifying that a repair patch be applied to remake the tubeless feature of the tyre.

It is a requirement too, that punctured or damaged tyres be removed from their wheel rims for internal examination for secondary damage which, if ignored, could be a safety hazard. Therefore, neither plugs externally applied to fitted tyres nor liquid sealants are recognised as acceptable repair methods.

Although it is not, at this time, a legal requirement, unless tyres are repaired to British Standard, bearing in mind that radial ply tyre construction is more complex than that of cross ply tyres, there could be failures. Insurance policies require vehicles to be in a roadworthy condition and it is possible that failure of a tyre which had not been properly repaired might lead to a lack of insurance cover following a crash. You should always ensure that repairs are made to the new Standard and ask your repairer if he has BS AU159c and uses its recommendations.

(With acknowledgement to "Good Motoring" - journal of the Company of Veteran Motorists)

The next issue of 'Village Voice' is planned for NOVEMBER/DECEMBER. If you have any local event needing a little free publicity - send in details not later than SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER

# Observer of the Village Scene by Villager

I have always felt the happiest way to enjoy life is, at the very least to tolerate my neighbours, and at the very best to be on good terms. I have found it is not really all that difficult !

For instance, one often hears grumbles about cars parking in front of someone's house, but I'm afraid it has to be accepted that you and I have no better right to park outside our homes than anyone else. You cannot force your neighbour to leave room for your car, but all good neighbours co-operate in leaving 'your' space clear. Even a sign 'No Parking' has no more legal effect than one which says "Trespassers will be prosecuted" - and if the police receive enough complaints the end product could be double yellow lines prohibiting everyone.

+ + + + +

With all the properties which are added to the rating list every year throughout the district and County I wonder why it seems to be so necessary to increase the rates every year. I'm sure 'they' will come up with an answer, but I think my query is still valid, don't you ?

+ + + + +

I think it is generally understood that the owner of animals is under a legal obligation to fence them in, and not your need to fence them out. There is an exception - your neighbour's cat or dog. Only if a particular cat or dog has what might be termed a 'mischievous propensity' to cause harm could you have much chance of obtaining compensation. By far the best is to 'have a word' with the particular cat or dog owner. Litigation is a luxury!

+ + + + +

WATER is so often everywhere but where it is most wanted in the summertime. Have you noticed how quickly we now get a hosepipe ban. In the 1975 and 1976 really dry summers it took about three months before restrictions were imposed. This year, just about one month. In another year or two shall we be down to one week for a spell of dry weather to trigger off these restrictions ?

I think too little regard has been paid to the amount of housing developments that have been permitted in the South Hams, with the inevitable consequence of an ever increasing demand upon our finite water supply system.

From the point of view of the County and District Councils, not forgetting the Water Authority of course, the more rateable properties the more money flows into their respective 'coffers'. Which may be justifiable and commendable if only some of that money were spent on giving us a water system able to cope with demands made upon it. What I greatly fear is that much of the extra 'lolly' goes towards 'Empire Building'. It's a 'Dam' shame !

+ + + + +

At a New Year's Eve Party last year a certain Doctor and a lawyer were discussing the menace of guests who used such occasions to wangle free advice. "I tell them to strip for examinations", said the Doctor, "What do you do"? The lawyer said he gave advice and sent the bill next day. "What a good idea" said the doctor. Next day he got a bill from the lawyer for 'Advice received' !

+ + + + +

I often wonder what impels people who live on the seafront in the adjoining parishes of South Milton and South Huish to claim their correct address as 'Thurlestone'. One has to conclude they consider 'Thurlestone' is a prestige address.

One must admit that 'Thurlestone Rock' and 'Thurlestone Sands' are not in the Parish of Thurlestone, which is quite obviously a very serious error on someone's part - I'd hate to think it was our fore-father's to blame - but could it be that Thurlestone has a legitimate claim to this territory.

'Villager'

# PROBUS

THE THURLESTONE AND DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB was formed in April 1978 after the idea had been promoted by Kingsbridge Rotary Club. The object was to provide a meeting point for retired professional and business men who would appreciate the value of increased social contacts and opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances. The Club has no affiliation with any other organisation and is without political or sectarian connotations. The membership is restricted to 50 and there are 45 members at the present time.

THE CLUB normally meets on the second Friday of each month at the Thurlestone Hotel at 12.30 p.m. for 1 O'clock Lunch, with the exception of August and October. In October a Golf Match is usually arranged in the morning and Lunch is therefore at the Golf Club. Each year an outing has been arranged in June so that the members can invite their wives and after Christmas a Ladies Night with Dinner and entertainment at the Thurlestone Hotel has been most popular. This year we have had a most interesting trip by boat up the Tamar to Calstock; and after lunch at each meeting we endeavour to find an interesting speaker on subjects such as "Life on the Royal Yacht" "Broadcasting" and "The Police".

PERHAPS it would not be out of place at this point to draw members attention to the fact that our next meeting will be on September 3rd. (a week early), and any member wishing to play golf on October 8th. should make sure that the organiser "Pip" Wilson, (Thurlestone 302) knows before September 3rd. so that a draw for partners can be arranged on that day.

CHAIRMAN: R.D.White (T/stone 368)  
HON. SECRETARY: A.H.Dudley Tyas  
(Thurlestone 656)

## Pet Corner

by V.JESSEN, B.V.Sc.,  
M.R.C.V.S.,



The recent spell of warm weather has resulted in an enormous increase in fleas in dogs and cats. The truism "common things commonly occur" is highly relevant to fleas, and some veterinarians believe that 90% of canine pruritus (itchiness) is flea induced. These parasites are now becoming resistant to older insecticides and flea infestation in household dogs and cats present a growing problem. Although dog and cat fleas are two distinct species they are not host specific, that is, cat fleas can live quite happily on dogs and vice versa.

Fleas cause pruritus in two ways. The first is by simple mechanical irritation by crawling over the skin. The second is by the irritation from a flea bite. We know well ourselves that rubbing an itch will only exacerbate it. The animal, I am afraid, fails to appreciate this point and self inflicted trauma from licking or rubbing or chewing becomes a real problem.

A proportion of animals will exhibit a hypersensitivity or allergic reaction to fleas, or more specifically the saliva in a flea bite. If this exists only one flea is needed to set off a reaction.

The diagnosis of fleas is fairly straightforward. They can either be seen on the animal or perhaps more commonly, the flea excreta can be seen on the skin. Fleas consume much more blood than is necessary for their survival and pass frequent faeces composed almost of pure dried blood - the flea dirt. These can often be detected along the spine and tail base as two favoured areas.

The control and prevention of an infestation can be a rather protracted process requiring shampoos or sprays. The problem arises because the parasite can survive off the animal and live in the environment. Hence lice, although a rather emotive topic are far easier to eradicate because they cannot survive off the animal. As regards the animal's environment, vigorous use of the vacuum, washing of bedding and possible use of sprays around the kennels or sleeping areas is required.



# The Local FOOTBALL TEAM

By A.R.Lyle

ON my return to the area after a three year absence the last thing on my mind was football. Such was the desperate plight of Thurlestone and South Milton Football Club, that I was asked to come out of retirement. On being told that another two or three players of my era had been persuaded to play, how could I refuse?

On joining, I was hooked. My idea of football is one and a half hours of play and a pleasant couple of hours of discussion on why we won or lost, usually the latter, and why by so many?

Over the last three years the Club has not recorded many momentous achievements on the field. Reg Penwell who was 'Mister Football' to the Club, running it practically single handed for so many years, was no longer now doing so. The Committee had some good ideas for the future, but the old Thurlestone days were fading. When relegation from the Second Division happened the team was decimated, over half left for glory elsewhere. Behind the dramatic dive from second to fourth division lay an underlying hope for a real future for the Club. The makeshift team held together purely through an amazing spirit, and in spite of the immediate drop to the Fourth Division all players signed for a further season - although several would have been welcomed by more successful clubs. Last season was a crisis with the team continuing its downward trail towards division 5 and total ignominy. Suddenly the promise of youngsters and 'oldsters' started to materialise. A tremendous revival took place with a string of wins and good results with top clubs getting quite a fright as we were no longer an easy touch.

Interest in the villages stirred, and for the last few matches considerable crowds suddenly started to appear. Saturday afternoons became a real occasion.

The running of the Club is now a very real financial operation, as the

Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mike Langman, undertook the running of a second team for the many up and coming youngsters of the villages. The cost of this enterprise works out at £1,500 per season, which rests on the heads of the players and supporters.

It has been satisfying to be a part of the Club which boasts a team membership of almost all local players. The second team have won few points in its two seasons, but many friends. Letters have been written to the Club congratulating the second team on always fielding a side, and usually playing the game in the sportsman like manner not seen in some of this year's major competitions.

In general terms the Club has been a focal point for all the local lads, youngsters as well as a few of us 'old triers! The team spirit goes well beyond the boundaries of the football pitch, as can be witnessed in the local hostelryes!

By the time this article comes out we will have tried our first major Fete this year at Bantham, which should launch the season's fund raising activities. Please bear with us if someone comes selling draw tickets, or asks for a donation, as it is only with the backing of the residents that the Club can continue. Volunteers for any fund raising activity will be welcomed into a very enjoyable club, and know they are genuinely helping to keep the villages alive and kicking!

My final point is to say that it seems an amazing situation that there is no playing fields in either Thurlestone or South Milton to accommodate these local youngsters. Every year we have to rely on the tremendous generosity of farmers Rodney Stidston, Gordon Bromfield and Geoff. Stidston, for a pitch. Our grateful thanks to them, but surely, with the permissions granted for vast profitable developments, some sort of reciprocal gesture could be made in the form of a playing field area.

Thank you for your support in the past, and may we look forward to continued help in the future for this worthwhile part of village life.

A.R.L.

SEP/OCT  
1982



*a digest of village news  
a forum for village views*

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PUBLISHED BY THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE SCHOOL

Friends of Thurlestone School - (F.T.S. for short) - is run by the parents and teachers of All Saints Primary School at Thurlestone. All parents who have children at the school are automatically members. We also have various 'Friends' who are members because they wish to be associated with the school.

The aims of the F.T.S. are to promote the welfare of the school within the community it serves - i.e. - Thurlestone, South Milton, West Buckland and Bantham with financial help from Bingo Sessions, Jumble Sales, Coffee Mornings, etc

Educationally and Culturally - we have tried to run various evenings on these lines over the years, and Socially we recently had a very enjoyable Family Barbecue and Folk Evening.

We are holding our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on THURSDAY 9th. SEPT at 7.30 p.m. at the school, to which Mr D.A.E. Gilbert, Area Education Officer, is coming to speak on current topics of education. We shall conclude the evening with cheese and wine and look forward to all present making this an opportunity to get together socially.

ANN BLYTHE - Secretary F.T.S.  
(Tel: Thurlestone 439)

+++++

PEARSON NURSERY SCHOOL

The School starts again on MONDAY 13th SEPTEMBER.

Due to pressure on places we are now taking our maximum of 15 children each morning, and in addition to Mrs Daphne Langman and Mrs Anne Rowe, next term Mrs Tina Bowden will also be helping Mrs Hampson.

Although only two children left last term, ten new ones are starting, bringing the total of children attending during this new term to 37.

LINDY ANDERTON (Thurlestone 751)  
Secretary - Management Committee.

THURLESTONE YOUTH CLUB

The new period starts on TUESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER for the 1982/83 season, and any new over 11's in the parish will be very welcome to come and join present members.

Contact the Club Chairman - Squadron Leader A.E. Sadler at 'Cedar Rose', Thurlestone. Tel 410.

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THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

Make an early booking now the winter season is almost upon us for your Dances, Bingo and other events.

Contact Mrs Pedrick at Hilltop, Thurlestone (Tel. 300)

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The Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order 1982 has increased the maximum amount which a candidate at any local election may spend as election expenses. The new limit is £120 plus 2.4p per elector (see the Electoral Register) - and replaces the limit fixed in March 1980

(There will be an election in May 1983 for District and Parish Councils)

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Attendance allowance to District and County Councillors has now risen to £14.45 with 'Day Subsistence' allowance of £4.00 for 4-8 hours rising to £39.19 when 'Night Subsistence' arises and the mileage allowance is now 14.4p per mile for a vehicle under 1000 c.c., 15.7p to 1199 c.c. and 17.4p a mile over 1199 c.c.

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There is now an authorised sign warning motorists about elderly people. The sign depicts the silhouette of a man and a woman stooping and supporting each other, the man leaning on a walking stick. The triangular red edged sign carries a plate underneath 'Elderly People'. There would need to be a 'head' count to prove to the Highway Authority there were sufficient elderly to qualify for the erection of a sign !



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# VILLAGE VOICE - No 2 - SEPT/OCT 1982

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All items for publication should be sent to the Editor : D.W.Drabble  
at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton, Kingsbridge  
Telephone: Thurlestone 533

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(Tel. Thurlestone 496)

Woodlands,  
WEST BUCKLAND,  
Kingsbridge.

Issue No 2.

Dear Reader,

In July some 360 copies of this publication were distributed around the villages of the parish. It was a simple and quite unpretentious effort. However, the positive response from so many people has encouraged this more ambitious and might I say, slightly more professional presentation, for which we have to thank the advertisers making the additional expenditure possible without undue use of parish funds.

This issue will see the distribution of 400 copies, but I must stress that a publication of this nature is very dependent on local support in the way of contributions of articles and letters and items of local interest and concern. While it is sponsored by your Parish Council, there is no intention to have any form of censorship - the Editor has a free hand so long as avoids anything defamatory! I do hope you will take this unrivalled opportunity to air your concern over any local matter - criticism is welcome so long as it is of a constructive nature. Of course, I must say that the views and opinions which may be expressed in articles and letters are not necessarily going to be the views of the Parish Council - which is not to say that the opinion of the council - and possibly other authorities as well - cannot be influenced by a consensus of local opinion on any subject. So I look forward to seeing an increasing number of contributions from you all - even on ideas for the future of a by-pass for the Thurlestone village - after all the year 2000 is only 18 years away.

Do not ever let us lose sight of the fact that despite the limited Statutory power and rights of a Parish Council, it can and does have a considerable influence in many matters, both in the parish and adjacent areas. After all, it took only 6 farmworkers in Tolpuddle to start something in 1834 - even if it did take a few years. See the article "A Brief Look into the Future".

Village Voice will publish without fear or favour on any matter that concerns you - and this parish.

Yours sincerely,

*P.W.J. Hurrell*

P.W.J. Hurrell  
Chairman.

THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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# DO WE CARE ENOUGH?

HOW disappointing it has been to hear from the Editor that out of over 800 parishioners just half a dozen have shown sufficient interest in the "Are we a Caring Community" article in the July/August issue to contact him and offer their services in case they could be of any help to those in need. Is this not a rather sad reflection on the diminishing community spirit within the Parish? Are we, perhaps, too concerned with our own welfare to concern ourselves with others? Are we satisfied that we are already doing our best for our neighbours when they may be in need? Do we all know who are neighbours are - and are we sufficiently approachable that they would confide in us if they actually needed help?

I KNOW most parishioners are kind, charitable people who have worked for a well earned retirement and others who are working hard for the well-being of their families - and that most of them would go out of their way to help a neighbour or a friend. But what of those who are isolated and little known, who may be old and friendless but too proud to seek help - and of newcomers who also face initial isolation? Are we doing everything possible to make newcomers welcome and feel they have a part to play in the community?

One objective of 'Village Voice' is to help put newcomers 'in the picture' of what is going on. "A Hand in need is a Friend indeed" is an old and true saying and one which when acted upon enthusiastically will have its reward for both giver and receiver by way of cementing a friendship - and surely of more value than anything in the world these days are our friends? This Parish has a very high elderly population, many of whom are living alone, without transport, some without telephones, some suffering physically. We want them to feel they are OUR concern.

IT WAS hoped that in initiating this kind of 'Community Care Scheme' we would have at least 20 names on a list of people who could offer help if needed. Perhaps it is that there is no one in need? All are well cared and catered for? But, at some time it might be you in need, and whatever the circumstances we would like to think there is always someone you could turn to. Mrs Davenport of The Thatches, Thurlestone, Telephone 297, has, with her typical generosity offered to be the person who will answer your call 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Saturday. NOW we need some more equally caring people to give their time and advice if called upon. If we have enough volunteers there will always be someone with the likeliest talent to help in any particular situation.

EXAMPLES of needs which we might anticipate would be collecting prescriptions from the Health Centres, exchanging library books in Kingsbridge or the Mobile Van, shopping, feeding or caring for a pet during sudden temporary absence, car-lifts, baby - and granny or grandpa sitting, providing the odd meal if the 'cook' is sick, collecting children from school, visiting the lonely, reading to the blind and suggesting and encouraging occupations for the disabled. Just helping out in a real emergency.

WHO KNOWS - we may never be required - but we just cannot believe everyone is already catered for by friends and neighbours.

Do write - or phone 'Village Voice' on Thurlestone 533 - the Editor will be most happy to pass on all offers of helping to create a Parish Community Care Scheme.

R.S.S.

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THURLESTONE and  
WEST BUCKLAND W.I.

JUMBLE SALE  
SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER  
in the PARISH HALL at 2 p.m.

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# THURLESTONE SEWERAGE CHARGES

*How can they be justified ?*

Just by chance I happened to attend the Annual Parish Meeting held in March this year, when a Mr Latham, whom I understood to be the Area Manager of the South West Water Authority, was questioned with regard to the capacity of the Thurlestone sewer, it being indicated that it was considered to already be overloaded and was going to suffer chronic overloading by excessive developments already programmed. Since then I have asked for a report on just what Mr Latham said:-

"12 years ago the then Ministry of Housing commissioned a report on overflows, and certain recommendations and formulae were issued to ensure that storm overflows should not come into operations unless exceeding this formulae. The South Hams District Council had done calculations to see that the Thurlestone overflow did not come into operation until above the acceptable standard; these figures" Mr Latham had said, "took into account the present development on the Mead and at 'Leaside/Merchants Field', after which THE LIMIT WILL HAVE BEEN REACHED. There were no plans for a proper disposal unit at Thurlestone" concluded Mr L.

Now, I must admit all this has set me thinking, because for some time I have considered the sewerage charge a bit of an imposition to say the least, but now I realise that the Thurlestone foul sewer is merely a pipeline laid down in the 1930's taking raw untreated sewage out to the low water mark of the sea at Leasfoot Beach, I am absolutely aghast, to put it mildly.

This year that 'sewerage charge' amounted to 21.6p in the pound of our rateable valuation which I estimate must give the Water Authority a cool £50,000 from this village - for this charge alone.

Have you any idea what it can be costing this Authority in maintenance of this pipeline ? I have'nt, but it can only be a pittance, because we know, don't we just how much attention it gets, year in and year out. It has remained more or less unaltered and unimproved for its 50 years of existence. Surely it is a rank injustice, and if it is legal to charge a sewerage rate for a pipeline going down to the sea with no form of disposal or treatment plant - and none proposed it would seem - I must say that in my opinion it can only be termed 'legalised robbery' !!!

Here we have something that simply must be investigated on a National scale. I cannot believe Thurlestone is the only place in this nation which has no sewage treatment plant but has to pay this scandalous charge. No one could object to paying a nominal maintenance but surely not even this or any Water Authority can justify such a charge and I think 'Village Voice' should send a copy of this article to the 'Media'.

The Editor would like to know what YOU think. The more people who take up this protest - write to their M.P. - to their County and District Councillors - the more pressure can be put on the 'powers that be' to do something about this levy where no actual sewage plant exists.

The next issue of 'Village Voice' will cover NOVEMBER & DECEMBER.

Letters, Articles, Notice of Forthcoming Events and Advertisements should be sent or handed in by OCTOBER 16th. please.

# A BRIEF LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

This is a very abridged extract from an article: "Parish Councils and the Council of Europe" by Professor Bryan Keith-Lucas, who is a Vice President of the National Association of Local Councils and an adviser to the European Conference of Local and Regional Authorities, published in the 'Local Council Review'

THIRTY years ago the Council of Europe, which represents 19 European countries, promulgated the European Convention on Human Rights and established the European Court to see that its principles were carried out in practice. More recently it established the European Conference of Local and Regional Authorities, to act as a forum for promoting democracy and balanced development in Europe.

This conference, acting as agent for the Council of Europe, has seen the danger of growing centralism of government, and has started action to protect the basic right of local elected councils to decide local matters for themselves, without being told what to do by the civil servants and politicians of central government.

Two years ago a committee of experts on local government, drawn from seven European countries, was appointed to prepare a draft charter setting out the basic principles of freedom and autonomy of local authorities as an indispensable element of democratic government, and essential for safeguarding the rights and liberties of the citizen.

In September 1981 a final text was accepted by the committee and endorsed by the Conference of Local and Regional Authorities. It will now come before the Conference of European Ministers of Local Government which is due to meet later this year.

The draft charter starts with a resounding declaration of principle :-

The local authorities are one of the main foundations of a democratic state. The right of citizens to participate in the conduct of public affairs is one of the democratic principles that are shared by all the member states of the Council of Europe. It is at local level that this right can best be exercised. The existence of local authorities with real responsibilities makes possible an administration which is both effective and close to the citizen.

Among the Articles of the draft charter are several of particular relevance to parish councils, such as:

3(ii) Local authorities shall have a general residual right to act on their own initiative with regard to any matter not expressly assigned to any other authority more specifically excluded from the competence of local government.

3(iii). Public responsibilities shall be exercised by preference by those authorities which are closest to the citizen. Higher level authorities shall assume a responsibility or have a responsibility assigned to them by statute only in so far as this is made necessary by the extent of the task or if the authorities at the lower level cannot perform effectively.

8(i). Local authorities shall be entitled to adequate financial resources of their own, distinct from those of the other levels of government, and to dispose freely of such revenue within the framework of their powers.

8(ii). Part at least of the financial resources of local authorities shall derive from taxes that can be localised on their territory and of which they have the power to determine the rate.

8(vi). On no account shall financial equalisation procedures become a means of diminishing the power of decisions of local authorities within their own sphere of responsibility.

There is a clear and significant declaration of the basic principles of local autonomy.

## BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

The Club ANNUAL OPEN DAY was held at Bantham Beach on 1st. August, and despite a cloudy day and minimal visitors, it turned out to be very successful financially, due to the hard work of our members, the generosity of those willing to spend at our many stalls and Evans Estates Ltd., who so kindly gave us the gate money for the day. We had many events during the day in which members and the public could take part, and the Surf Life Saving competition between the three local clubs - Challaborough, Bigbury & Bantham for the Perpetual Shield given by Thurlestone Hotel, which goes to the ultimate winner on aggregate.

OUR membership has increased considerably this summer and we now have over 60 active members, 25 of these are juniors between the ages of 10 and 15 years, many of them from Thurlestone, West Buckland and South Milton - with the names Murrell and McCarthy on the register once again - sons of former members.

With so many members available we are now able to take part in the many competitions run by the Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain, and at the same time leave enough members to form a good patrol on Bantham Beach to contend with the many incidents that happen.

At the Devon Regional Championships held on the Dawlish Warren beach in August the juniors competed well and were disappointed not to bring home any trophies. The seniors exceeded their expectations in retaining the Ski Rescue Shield and also winning the Beach Sprint Trophy, attained second position in the March Past and third position aggregate. On 28th/29th August the Club had a Senior team entered in the National Championships at Perranporth.

The Club would like to thank members of the public for their generosity on our Open Day which resulted in a profit of almost £300. Thank you all.

B.Freshwater.

## Harvest Thanksgiving

The new Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Newing, will preach for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service in the Parish Church on FRIDAY 8th OCT at 7.0 p.m. and afterwards be our guest at the HARVEST SUPPER at 8.0 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (Tickets from the Rectory - £1 )

On SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER there will be Anthology of Hymns and Readings at 11.10 a.m. in addition to the usual Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m.

+ + + + +

Our SCHOOL HARVEST GIFT SERVICE is at South Milton Church this year on SUNDAY 3rd. OCTOBER at 6 p.m.

## "Be Happy" Charity Group

COMING BINGO SESSIONS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Sept. 8th - Churchstow (for Coombe Royal)

Sept. 22nd. - Thurlestone ( for Muscular Dystrophy)

Oct. 6th - Churchstow (Coombe Royal)

Oct. 20th- Thurlestone (Muscular Dystrophy)

(On June 30th £253.17 raised from the Bingo evenings at Thurlestone was presented to Muscular Dystrophy Fund and from their first Coffee Mornings in the new Rectory Barn £69.48 was raised towards garden furniture for Coombe Royal.

Thank You —  
— Lindsey and Jan

A kind thought by two holiday visitors - Lindsey Townsend and Jan Jones - heralded a successful FASHION SHOW in the Parish Hall on August 13th - benefitting local charities by £46.50. Both regular visitors, Lindsey and Jan felt they had derived so much pleasure from being here so often, but had never given anything back to the parish in return ! May one hope that other regular visitors will have similar 'thanksgiving' thoughts ?

# PARISH NEWS BULLETIN

The Parish Council have now received a guide to the cost of Parish Elections from the District Council. For an uncontested Election the basic charge will be £35.50 plus any cost incurred in printing and displaying of Notices of Election. For contested Elections the basic charge will be £105.75 plus any costs incurred in or about the conduct of the election, i.e. printing, polling stations, polling staff, counting staff, etc. This basic charge will be increased where there are more than 2 candidates or more than one polling station (as at Thurlestone) is involved.

These charges are based on known costs as at April 1982 and might be subject to increase.

Where the poll for a Parish Council is held in conjunction with the poll for a District Councillor, staffing and polling station costs will be shared.

The next Parish and District Council Elections are due to take place in May 1983.

+ + + + +

The Parish Council continue to press the Devon C.C. and the Countryside Commission with regard to re-establishment of the Coastal Footpath, which due to erosion has temporarily been diverted inland at one point. The Coastal Footpath is more than a concern for the Parish - it is a national concern.

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The District Council have re-established the position of Rodent Operative. If you have problems in this direction - phone Totnes 864499 and ask for Technical Dept.

+ + + + +

The Parish Council have been advised that a Formal Notice has been served on the Developers of the Leaside and Merchants Field site with regard to replanting of trees which are believed to have died, blown down, felled or removed, which were under a Tree Preservation Order.

Such replanting should take place later in the year during the normal planting period.

+ + + + +

The Parish Council also consider that the present scheme for 'Back Door Collection' of rubbish bins and bags is wasteful and uneconomic except for the elderly and disabled.

It is understood farmers and landowners who are responsible for the condition of stiles on public footpaths, can obtain 'kit sets' from the County Council through the Parish Council.

+ + + + +

It is thought worth repeating that defunct freezers, cookers and refrigerators will be collected by the District Council - free, it is understood. Phone Totnes 864499. and once again ask for the Technical Department.

+ + + + +

The Parish Council sponsored Magazine/Newsletter has already been supported with sufficient advertising revenue to make at least the first four issues self supporting - and no charge on the rates!

+ + + + +

The Church Board of Education advises that wherever possible corporal punishment in C. of E. Schools should be phased out and ultimately abolished. (is that a good thing ??)

+ + + + +

The Devon C.C. are reported as inviting Landscape Gardeners from as far away as Essex for work on an extended rubbish tip at Crowndale, Tavistock. Why?

+ + + + +

A United Nations study on population problems has come up with the conclusion that there will be twice as many grandparents as babies by the year 2025. (Surely less babies must mean less grandparents ?)

+ + + + +

## THOUGHT FOR TOMORROW

The only people truly concerned - and therefore qualified, to decide on the future of our villages are surely the people who dwell therein. Paper qualifications offer no guarantee of quality of thought and action.

+ + + + +

*An invitation  
to join the —*

## **Thurlestone Hotel COUNTRY CLUB**



Applications are now invited for the new Thurlestone Hotel Country Club. Members will be able to enjoy the full benefits of one of the largest recreational complexes in the area.

This includes a 9-hole championship approach golf course, with resident professional and Pro-shop, Squash, Tennis, and the new indoor heated pool complex with Sauna, Spa Bath, Solarium and Mini Gymnasium.

All this is within Thurlestone Hotel's beautiful grounds which includes an enclosed outdoor heated pool.



# *The People of Thurlestone Come and Go*

UNTIL a hundred years ago, three-quarters of the people living in Thurlestone, West Buckland and Bantham had been baptised in the Parish Church. Of course, many of them were children who had not had much time to go anywhere else, but a lot did leave sooner or later. By comparing burials with baptisms in the parish registers, we find that only one in three of those who died were baptised here. In other words, there was a hard core of villagers who stayed here from generation to generation, but at least half of the adults had come from some other parish, most commonly South Milton, West Alvington or Churchstow. We still have a hard core of villagers but the proportion who were baptised elsewhere, if indeed they were baptised, is now much greater.

WHO were these people whose mode of living changed very little over the centuries up to about 1850? We know what they did back to 1755, when the marriage register started to contain a record of their occupations. More than half of the men described themselves as husbandmen, that is, they worked for other people on their farms. Next came the yeomen farmers who owned or rented their property, to be followed by the occasional entry of a butcher, mariner, Excise Officer, woolcomber, thatcher, fisherman, mason, shoemaker and tailor. Most of the brides had been in domestic service. On top of the pack were half a dozen men who called themselves 'Gentleman' or 'Mr'. They lived, for instance at Aunemouth, Whitley and opposite the church where Furzey Close now stands. The term gentleman was often used in recognition of educational distinction, whereas Mr. carried a bit more weight. For example, in 1777 James Wakeham was a Gentleman at his marriage and at the baptism of his children

but he had been promoted 'Mr' by the time of his burial in 1795. Then there were the various families who lived at Clannacombe, an Elizabethan mansion originally an Ecclesiastical house of rest and the most impressive building in the parish - it was for a brief time the home of the Agent of the Earl of Devon, when he owned much of the parish. He was not the village squire, as we have never had a proper squire but, looking at the memorial in the parish church to one of the Agents, Thomas Stevens who died in 1658, he was evidently no mean person. There he kneels with his wife and seven children; alas, towards the bottom of the monument on the right is depicted a little package representing a baby who died within a fortnight of birth - a so called chrysom child.

WHY have at least half the people who were born here always moved on somewhere else? Two reasons stand out. Either they could not find work in the parish or they thought they would like to have a change. Right back to the twelfth century, when it became a borough, Kingsbridge has held markets and fairs. These were the times when young people went along for a bit of excitement, as indeed they still do. They saw fresh faces and maybe met people, often by arrangement, who offered them a job. The choice, before 1850, was by no means limited to husbandry and domestic service. Agents were always on the look out for recruits for the Royal and Merchant Navy; one wonders how often a young Thurlestone lad, crossed in love or unable to obtain work, found himself on the high seas heading for somewhere of whose existence he had no previous knowledge. This is no idle thought for our marriage register contains frequent entries of husbands or wives from Plymouth. Looking back three or four hundred years, officers of the press-gangs regularly scoured the South Hams for men when the Royal Navy was short or, less aggressively,



THE PEOPLE OF THURLESTONE  
COME AND GO

Continuation:

Dartmouth Agents of the Newfoundland cod trade sought volunteers for a summer fishing trip; in many of the villages around here a venture at sea was considered to be a sign of manliness much in the way many youngsters now let off steam for a bit before they are ready to settle down.

In the last hundred years Thurlestone has been transformed by education and mobility. In 1850 little more than half the villagers could read or write and the roads to Plymouth and Exeter were barely wide enough for two horses to pass in places. Since then, farms have been mechanised and work has taken on an entirely different structure. For instance, Thurlestone milk used to be distributed in pails carried on a stretcher across the dairyman's shoulders; now it is driven to Totnes for processing and brought back here in bottles. Maybe just as many people are involved in the operation as there used to be, but they are differently employed. We still have work for natives of Thurlestone, much of it directly or indirectly from visitors and retired residents, but the opportunities elsewhere, despite unemployment, are far greater than they have ever been.

NEVILLE C. OSWALD  
(The Old Rectory, Thurlestone.)

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# *A Case of discrimination?*

DESPITE several setbacks the Aune Valley Ski Club is still in existence. First formed in 1978 with the encouragement of Evans Estates Ltd, the idea behind the formation of the Club was to endeavour to restrict and control the ski-ing activities of enthusiasts on the River Avon. To this end we have been successful. During the six weeks peak period of the Summer members are permitted to ski on four days only, excluding Sundays. Tide permitting ski-ing is allowed up until 10.00 a.m. on the other three days. We have restricted the number of boats towing a skier to a maximum of three at any time, all must operate in the same clockwise direction. Ski-ing is restricted to a specific area on the river. All these restrictions are voluntary, there is no official restriction on any part of the river at the present time, other than the navigable water. However, Evans Estates who lease the river bed and fishery rights from the Duchy of Cornwall can, and do, impose their own restrictions. Last year they decided to add a clause to their mooring renewal notices to the effect that anyone with a mooring who exceeded their speed limit would inevitably lose their mooring. This was brought into force this year when three of our local members lost their moorings. We have been told that the moorings have been withdrawn because these members exceeded Evans Estates speed limit, not because they water-skied (although it is the Estates way of discouraging water skiing on the Avon). If the former is the case then it goes without saying that if all those boat owners who moor at Bantham who have exceeded this limit, and still do, were given the same treatment as our members, the number of boat moorings would drop dramatically. A case of discrimination?

We have been told that the Estate will re-consider the present situation if and when the question of the Bye-law reaches a conclusion. Their intention to possibly re-instate the withdrawn moorings, should the Bye-law go in the favour of those who ski, cannot be taken too seriously, as the Bye-law sought by the South Hams District Council is only to take effect from May to September, therefore allowing the hardy to pursue their sport during the winter months. So why deny them their moorings? Those who have lost their moorings live and work locally. It is ironic that those who we need but invariably complain about, the visitor or second home owner, is not affected. Yet, again the LOCAL person suffers. Recently, because of the pleasant weather and calm seas some members have put to sea to water-ski, where most wish us to go! The Council have bouyed off lanes to enable boats access to the beaches at Bantham and Bigbury. However, as a member reported, he was more of a nuisance at sea than on the river. The number of boats fishing at sea were many and some had even decided to try their luck inside the bouyed boat lanes. No doubt there are those who may say we should only ski when the water is rough, and then complain when the rescue services are called out. All we ask is to be able to use a portion of the river some of the time, leaving others to have its use all of the time, bearing in mind that being tidal the river imposes its own restrictions.

Although only a small Club we have members interested and participating in all three disciplines of water skiing, tournament, barefooting and racing. We are members of the South West Association of Ski Clubs. Members from Aune Valley have taken part in the Inter-regional race meeting at Chasewater this August and we hope to stage our own race as part of the Association in Torbay on the 3rd. October. Anyone who has a desire to try water skiing should contact me or any member.

BARBARA MCCARTHY.



# Lumme

by Kendall McDonald

IT'S RUINED the last half of my life. It was something that I was saving for my retirement, but now it looks as though I've got to start on it right away. It's not fair.

You see I was looking forward to pottering gently around sun-blessed churchyards in equally sunny villages in the sunny South Hams tracking down my ancient ancestors. Oh, I know it's something that everyone says they're going to do, but I really meant to and so would you if you had a Christian name like mine. But after what's happened I've got to start work straight away and I bet it rains all the time.

Kendall. Well, I ask you - what kind of a name is that? I mean you try telling it to someone over the telephone..No wonder I get letters addressed to Campbell McDonald as though such a thing would be possible after that nasty business at Glencoe. And that's not to mention the way they spell it if they do get it nearly right...Kendle, Kendal, Kendell, Keendell, Kendel and even Kendull.

At school, of course, it was a favourite joke to call me "Candle" and in later life "Burning the Kendall at both ends" always brought the house down. People often ask me if I come from the Lake District. I stayed there once and I was not impressed by the town they named after me, I can tell you. Left one "l" off they have too.

Makes me cross even to think about it. Why? You may well ask...

You see, my grandfather, who lived in Woodbine and owned Just-a-Cottage in the village too, was called William Kendall Hill. Well, he wasn't called Kendall by anyone. To most people he was Mr Hill, because he was a big man and an ex-London policeman of the days when a blow from a truncheon was meant to hurt. To the brave, his close friends, and others behind his back, he was known as "Lor lumme Hill". "Lor lumme" was his favourite expression, particularly when he was told some rivetting piece of local gossip.

Local gossip flew like mad in those days even without the help of today's telephone. Nowhere was it exchanged with more fervour than at my grandpa's after-Church Sunday cider parties in the cottage at the back of Woodbine where his barrels stood tall and wide. Mind you, it wasn't half cider in those days and those parties ruined many a Sunday lunch. Fell asleep right into the gravy boat did one newcomer to that exclusive little group. It was some time before they realised he wasn't saying Grace and he had nearly drowned by the time they got him out.

There was something very important to the Hill family about the name of Kendall. My grandfather carried it second, so did all his children like my mother Maude Kendall Hill and my uncle Charles

LUMME by Kendall McDonaldContinuation

Kendall Hill, better known as Charlie, the village postman.

Charlie Hill scattered letters from his motor-bike throughout the parish and those adjoining as he hurtled along with his peaked cap back to front. That was before he got his little red post office van of course. Then he wore his hat the right way round and even the robins on his round knew him and would come and sit on his fingers at his collection points.

Obviously Kendall was not a name the family could throw away. Well, that's what my mother thought and so I've got Kendall as my middle name though I use it as my first. Wild horses would not drag from me my given first name. And my mother did not stop there. I've got two sisters, Christine Kendall and Mavis Kendall. There's no sex discrimination about us Kendalls.

I mean it really isn't the sort of name you dump in a ditch, is it? Anyway just to be on the safe side my children are Kevin Kendall and Joanna Kendall.

All joking apart I've grown quite attached to Kendall. So I'd promised myself that when I finally retired I'd track down the family tree and find out where it really came from. It was only one of many things I wanted to find out in those golden relaxed years - like discovering when they cut through that great slab of slate which once used to block the road at the top of Thurlestone hill so all the carts had to go around it. That must have been done in the late 18th or early 19th century (you can see where it was if you study the side of the road just before the Bantham turn as you come down) but to find out about the Kendalls and the Hills, I'd

have to go further of course.

Who knows I might even have to go right back to William the Conqueror or even further than that. Time, you see, was no object.

But now. Now I've got to start work right away. You see, I joined something called "The Devon Family History Society" as a sort of early preparation for my retirement plans. The Society is serious and interesting and they ask you if you want information about any particular name and they publish it in their magazine. Well I put "Kendall and Hill of Plymouth ('cos that's where grandpa came from) in the 18th and 19th centuries". I thought I'd start close in and not rush back to 1066 all at once. And then I forgot about it.

Well, lor lumme, the other day the phone rang and it was a Mr Raymond T. Hill of South Glamorgan and he hoped I might have come across his great aunt Lavinia in my researches. Well, I hadn't of course because I hadn't started, seeing as how I was saving it for my retirement, wasn't I? Lor lumme, he was disappointed, he's been trying to find Lavinia for simply ages.

But he did say he'd help me and just to start me off told me that in the 1700's the Kendalls came from Cornwall and they married into the Hills who also came from Cornwall in 1748.

Well, you can see the reason for all the rush now can't you! I've got to get my family tree going very fast. If Lavinia's great nephew is right, you know what this means...if the Kendalls really do come from Cornwall ...Lor lumme, I be a foreigner!

KENDALL McDONALD

---

NOTICE IN THE PORCH OF A DEVON VILLAGE CHURCH - signed by the Vicar:

"As our Churchyard is now almost full, I regret that only the dead living in the parish may be buried here".

---

There are two sides to every question - the wrong side and our side!

\*\*\*\*\*

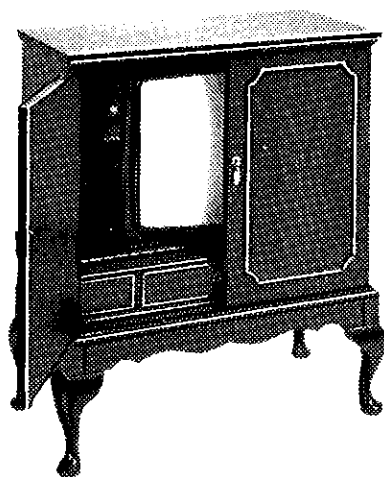


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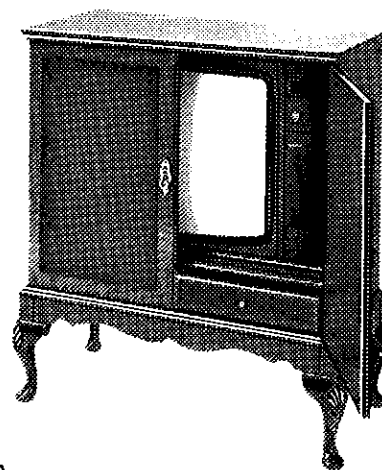
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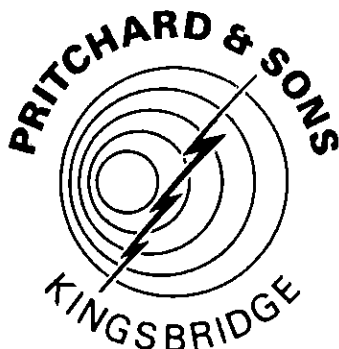
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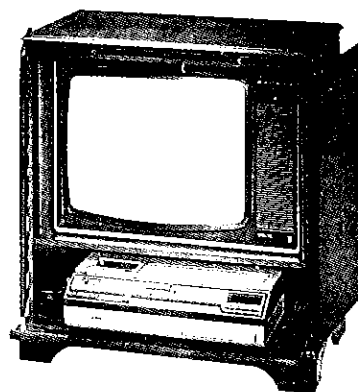
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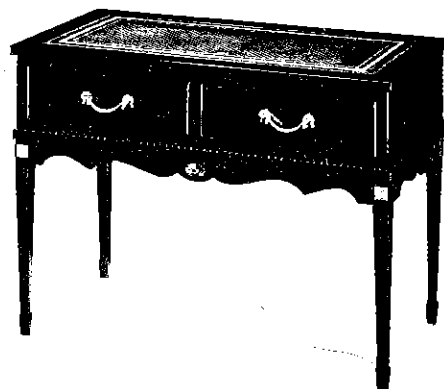
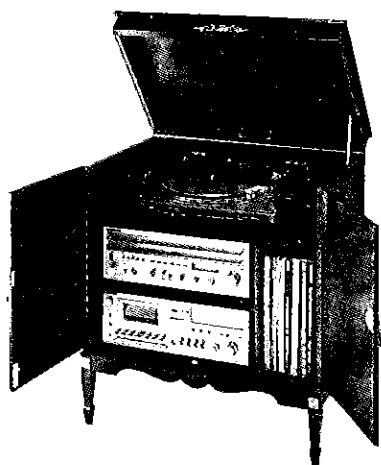
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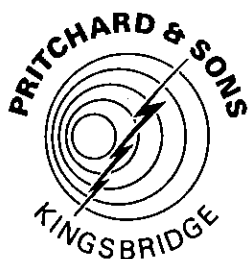
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## *Horticultural Show Results*

"MARITIME YEAR" was the theme chosen for the Flower Arrangement classes in the fourth annual THURLESTONE AND SOUTH MILTON HORTICULTURAL SHOW held on Saturday 21st. August at South Milton and, by their high standards, the tone was set for another successful event. Judges expressed their approval of the excellent quality of exhibits overall and in particular the vegetable section.

THE Chairman of the Show, Dr. Neville Oswald, congratulated exhibitors and thanked the committee for their hard work throughout the year which had culminated in yet another good Show. He reminded entrants that the Show would be at Thurlestone in 1983 and that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING would be in Oct. (a date yet to be arranged) at which he would be standing down as Chairman.

MR ERNEST BRINKWORTH then presented the cups and awards and thanked competitors for the enthusiasm with which they enter into the spirit of the Show.

AT THE conclusion a lively auction of spare produce raised funds for next year's Show.

AMATEUR GARDENING RED RIBBON for excellence in Horticulture in Sections A and B: Mr. H. ADAMS.

MARSHALL CUP for winner of Class No.34 (one rose bloom) MR. J. YEABSLEY

CUP FOR THURLESTONE RESIDENT with highest nos. of points in Show. L.JEFFERY

CUP FOR SOUTH MILTON RESIDENT with highest nos. of points in Show:

J. YEABSLEY.

The Editor thanks the Society Hon. Secretary Mrs Pat Macdonald for getting this information through in time for publication in this issue.

### CUPS AWARDED for the highest numbers of points in each Section:

- A. Vegetable and Fruit:  
MR. J. YEABSLEY.
- B. Cut Flowers and Pot Plants:  
MRS. B. JACKSON.
- C. CHILDREN 5 to 8 years:  
SARAH BRICE  
CHILDREN 9 to 11 years:  
SOPHIE RICHARDSON.
- D. Home Economics:  
MISS S. ROGERS.
- E. Wines - JOINT WINNERS:  
MR TOWNSEND  
MRS GALLOWAY
- F. Flower Arrangements:  
MRS J. GOATLY
- G. Handicrafts:  
MRS E.A.SNOWDON.

### DIPLOMAS AWARDED for best entry in each Section:

- |                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| A. Veg & Fruit:              | MR. H. ADAMS   |
| B. Cut Flowers & Pot plants: | MR. H.YEABSLEY |
| C. Children:                 | A. BLIGHT      |
| D. Home Economics:           | MRS. D.GILES   |
| E. Wines:                    | MRS J.GALLOWAY |
| F. Flower Arrang/ts          | MRS. J.GOATLY  |
| G. Handicrafts:              | MR. H.BRUFF.   |

## *About the NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE*

It is hoped there will be enough contributions to make the next issue and succeeding issues ever more interesting and informative. Please send in all items for inclusion in the November/December number not later than October 12th if at all possible. Do please remember there is NO CHARGE WHATSOEVER for publishing details of all LOCAL FORTHCOMING EVENTS in November and December. If you want as many people to know as possible - then send or phone details to The Editor at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton or to Miss Rosemary Stocken at 'Mariners' Ilbert Road, Thurlestone. (Tel.257). Editorial Telephone: Thurlestone 533.

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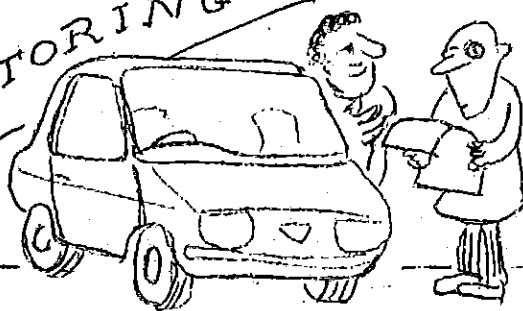
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# MOTERING



*It's in the small print sir  
— the six year guarantee  
against rust is only valid  
if you don't get the car wet.*

SEVERAL provisions in the Road Traffic Act 1981 have now been implemented by means of Orders, the most important being an increase in the maximum penalty from £100 to £1,000 for those drivers who fail to stop after an accident.

In fact, all offences committed under Section 25 of the Road Traffic Act 1972: failure to stop - failure to give particulars and failure to report. The object is to reduce the number of hit and run offences which have been increasing rapidly, but it may well turn out to affect the fines also for the less serious charges in this respect. For example, a requirement is to provide the names and addresses of both the owner of the vehicle and the driver, and a charge can arise if only the name and address of the owner is given. It is wise to exchange names and addresses even where it is a matter of an 'incident' rather than an 'accident' and both parties agree to take no further action, as one may have a change of mind at a later date, try to trace the other via registration number and the police, and a charge and often conviction will result.

+ + + + +

TIME was when motorists carried a small tin with a few patches. No longer! for the correct repair of tyres is a complex business, as shown in the latest revised British Standard AU159c: 1981.

To start with, the Standard requires that all repaired tyres be capable of operation at their original speed capabilities. Previously, the use of an inner tube to 'repair' very small penetrations in tubeless tyres was allowed, but this method is no longer included, the present Standard specifying that a repair patch be applied to remake the tubeless feature of the tyre.

It is a requirement too, that punctured or damaged tyres be removed from their wheel rims for internal examination for secondary damage which, if ignored, could be a safety hazard. Therefore, neither plugs externally applied to fitted tyres nor liquid sealants are recognised as acceptable repair methods.

Although it is not, at this time, a legal requirement, unless tyres are repaired to British Standard, bearing in mind that radial ply tyre construction is more complex than that of cross ply tyres, there could be failures. Insurance policies require vehicles to be in a roadworthy condition and it is possible that failure of a tyre which had not been properly repaired might lead to a lack of insurance cover following a crash. You should always ensure that repairs are made to the new Standard and ask your repairer if he has BS AU159c and uses its recommendations.

(With acknowledgement to "Good Motoring" - journal of the Company of Veteran Motorists)

The next issue of 'Village Voice' is planned for NOVEMBER/DECEMBER. If you have any local event needing a little free publicity - send in details not later than SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER

# Observer of the Village Scene by Villager

I have always felt the happiest way to enjoy life is, at the very least to tolerate my neighbours, and at the very best to be on good terms. I have found it is not really all that difficult !

For instance, one often hears grumbles about cars parking in front of someone's house, but I'm afraid it has to be accepted that you and I have no better right to park outside our homes than anyone else. You cannot force your neighbour to leave room for your car, but all good neighbours co-operate in leaving 'your' space clear. Even a sign 'No Parking' has no more legal effect than one which says "Trespassers will be prosecuted" - and if the police receive enough complaints the end product could be double yellow lines prohibiting everyone.

+ + + + +

With all the properties which are added to the rating list every year throughout the district and County I wonder why it seems to be so necessary to increase the rates every year. I'm sure 'they' will come up with an answer, but I think my query is still valid, don't you ?

+ + + + +

I think it is generally understood that the owner of animals is under a legal obligation to fence them in, and not your need to fence them out. There is an exception - your neighbour's cat or dog. Only if a particular cat or dog has what might be termed a 'mischievous propensity' to cause harm could you have much chance of obtaining compensation. By far the best is to 'have a word' with the particular cat or dog owner. Litigation is a luxury!

+ + + + +

WATER is so often everywhere but where it is most wanted in the summertime. Have you noticed how quickly we now get a hosepipe ban. In the 1975 and 1976 really dry summers it took about three months before restrictions were imposed. This year, just about one month. In another year or two shall we be down to one week for a spell of dry weather to trigger off these restrictions ?

I think too little regard has been paid to the amount of housing developments that have been permitted in the South Hams, with the inevitable consequence of an ever increasing demand upon our finite water supply system.

From the point of view of the County and District Councils, not forgetting the Water Authority of course, the more rateable properties the more money flows into their respective 'coffers'. Which may be justifiable and commendable if only some of that money were spent on giving us a water system able to cope with demands made upon it. What I greatly fear is that much of the extra 'lolly' goes towards 'Empire Building'. Its a 'Dam' shame !

+ + + + +

At a New Year's Eve Party last year a certain Doctor and a lawyer were discussing the menace of guests who used such occasions to wangle free advice. "I tell them to strip for examinations", said the Doctor, "What do you do"? The lawyer said he gave advice and sent the bill next day. "What a good idea" said the doctor. Next day he got a bill from the lawyer for 'Advice received' !

+ + + + +

I often wonder what impels people who live on the seafront in the adjoining parishes of South Milton and South Huish to claim their correct address as 'Thurlestone'. One has to conclude they consider 'Thurlestone' is a prestige address.

One must admit that 'Thurlestone Rock' and 'Thurlestone Sands' are not in the Parish of Thurlestone, which is quite obviously a very serious error on someone's part - I'd hate to think it was our fore-father's to blame - but could it be that Thurlestone has a legitimate claim to this territory.

'Villager'



# The Local FOOTBALL TEAM

By A.R.Lyle

ON my return to the area after a three year absence the last thing on my mind was football. Such was the desperate plight of Thurlestone and South Milton Football Club, that I was asked to come out of retirement. On being told that another two or three players of my era had been persuaded to play, how could I refuse?

On joining, I was hooked. My idea of football is one and a half hours of play and a pleasant couple of hours of discussion on why we won or lost, usually the latter, and why by so many?

Over the last three years the Club has not recorded many momentous achievements on the field. Reg Penwell who was 'Mister Football' to the Club, running it practically single handed for so many years, was no longer now doing so. The Committee had some good ideas for the future, but the old Thurlestone days were fading. When relegation from the Second Division happened the team was decimated, over half left for glory elsewhere. Behind the dramatic dive from second to fourth division lay an underlying hope for a real future for the Club. The makeshift team held together purely through an amazing spirit, and in spite of the immediate drop to the Fourth Division all players signed for a further season - although several would have been welcomed by more successful clubs. Last season was a crisis with the team continuing its downward trail towards division 5 and total ignominy. Suddenly the promise of youngsters and 'oldsters' started to materialise. A tremendous revival took place with a string of wins and good results with top clubs getting quite a fright as we were no longer an easy touch.

Interest in the villages stirred, and for the last few matches considerable crowds suddenly started to appear. Saturday afternoons became a real occasion.

The running of the Club is now a very real financial operation, as the

Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mike Langman, undertook the running of a second team for the many up and coming youngsters of the villages. The cost of this enterprise works out at £1,500 per season, which rests on the heads of the players and supporters.

It has been satisfying to be a part of the Club which boasts a team membership of almost all local players. The second team have won few points in its two seasons, but many friends. Letters have been written to the Club congratulating the second team on always fielding a side, and usually playing the game in the sportsman like manner not seen in some of this year's major competitions.

In general terms the Club has been a focal point for all the local lads, youngsters as well as a few of us 'old triers'. The team spirit goes well beyond the boundaries of the football pitch, as can be witnessed in the local hostelryes !

By the time this article comes out we will have tried our first major Fete this year at Bantham, which should launch the season's fund raising activities. Please bear with us if someone comes selling draw tickets, or asks for a donation, as it is only with the backing of the residents that the Club can continue. Volunteers for any fund raising activity will be welcomed into a very enjoyable club, and know they are genuinely helping to keep the villages alive and kicking!

My final point is to say that it seems an amazing situation that there is no playing fields in either Thurlestone or South Milton to accommodate these local youngsters. Every year we have to rely on the tremendous generosity of farmers Rodney Stidston, Gordon Bromfield and Geoff. Stidston, for a pitch. Our grateful thanks to them, but surely, with the permissions granted for vast profitable developments, some sort of reciprocal gesture could be made in the form of a playing field area.

Thank you for your support in the past, and may we look forward to continued help in the future for this worthwhile part of village life.

A.R.L.

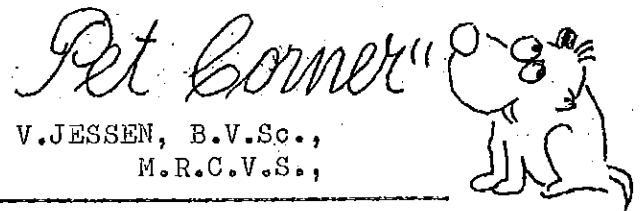
# PROBUS

THE THURLESTONE AND DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB was formed in April 1978 after the idea had been promoted by Kingsbridge Rotary Club. The object was to provide a meeting point for retired professional and business men who would appreciate the value of increased social contacts and opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances. The Club has no affiliation with any other organisation and is without political or sectarian connotations. The membership is restricted to 50 and there are 45 members at the present time.

THE CLUB normally meets on the second Friday of each month at the Thurlestone Hotel at 12.30 p.m. for 1 O'clock Lunch, with the exception of August and October. In October a Golf Match is usually arranged in the morning and Lunch is therefore at the Golf Club. Each year an outing has been arranged in June so that the members can invite their wives and after Christmas a Ladies Night with Dinner and entertainment at the Thurlestone Hotel has been most popular. This year we have had a most interesting trip by boat up the Tamar to Calstock; and after lunch at each meeting we endeavour to find an interesting speaker on subjects such as "Life on the Royal Yacht" "Broadcasting" and "The Police".

PERHAPS it would not be out of place at this point to draw members attention to the fact that our next meeting will be on September 3rd. (a week early), and any member wishing to play golf on October 8th. should make sure that the organiser "Pip" Wilson, (Thurlestone 302) knows before September 3rd. so that a draw for partners can be arranged on that day.

CHAIRMAN: R.D.White (T/stone 368)  
HON. SECRETARY: A.H.Dudley Tyas  
(Thurlestone 656)



by V.JESSEN, B.V.Sc.,  
M.R.C.V.S.,

The recent spell of warm weather has resulted in an enormous increase in fleas in dogs and cats. The truism "common things commonly occur" is highly relevant to fleas, and some veterinarians believe that 90% of canine pruritus (itchiness) is flea induced. These parasites are now becoming resistant to older insecticides and flea infestation in household dogs and cats present a growing problem. Although dog and cat fleas are two distinct species they are not host specific, that is, cat fleas can live quite happily on dogs and vice versa.

Fleas cause pruritus in two ways. The first is by simple mechanical irritation by crawling over the skin. The second is by the irritation from a flea bite. We know well ourselves that rubbing an itch will only exacerbate it. The animal, I am afraid, fails to appreciate this point and self inflicted trauma from licking or rubbing or chewing becomes a real problem.

A proportion of animals will exhibit a hypersensitivity or allergic reaction to fleas, or more specifically the saliva in a flea bite. If this exists only one flea is needed to set off a reaction.

The diagnosis of fleas is fairly straightforward. They can either be seen on the animal or perhaps more commonly, the flea excreta can be seen on the skin. Fleas consume much more blood than is necessary for their survival and pass frequent faeces composed almost of pure dried blood - the flea dirt. These can often be detected along the spine and tail base as two favoured areas.

The control and prevention of an infestation can be a rather protracted process requiring shampoos or sprays. The problem arises because the parasite can survive off the animal and live in the environment. Hence lice, although a rather emotive topic are far easier to eradicate because they cannot survive off the animal. As regards the animal's environment, vigorous use of the vacuum, washing of bedding and possible use of sprays around the kennels or sleeping areas is required.

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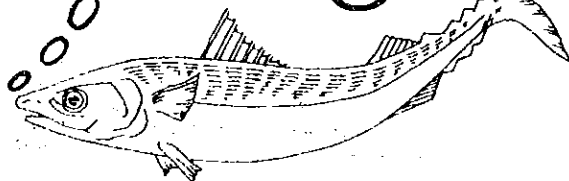
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