



*Published by Thurlestone Parish Council*

# Hurrell . . . & Weeks

General Building  
Contractors  
REPAIRS EXTENSIONS  
GARAGES DECORATING

MAY WE GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE?

"WOODLANDS"  
WEST BUCKLAND . Kingsbridge

Telephone:  
THURLESTONE 496  
or ~~XXXXXXXX~~ 319 .  
EAST ALLINGTON

## Rossiters & Lidstones

YOUR FAMILY BUTCHERS  
Fresh home-made sausages our speciality

We sell locally produced  
BEEF LAMB PORK

70 Fore Street, Kingsbridge  
Telephone 2313

## Bantham Surf Life Saving Club

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED:-

F.W.Shillabeer - Head Lifeguard  
Tel: Clubhouse-Thurlestone 447  
Secretary-Thurlestone 767

+++++

LEYCARE SERVICING AND REPAIRS  
CRYPTON ENGINE TUNING  
QUICK-FIT EXHAUST SERVICE  
M.O.T. TEST CENTRE

plus

COMPREHENSIVE UNIPART AND B.I.  
FRANCHISE PARTS STOCKS

## QUAY GARAGE

Service and Unipart Centre

Union Road  
KINGSBRIDGE  
Telephone 2323/4



Leycare

## COPYMATE SERVICES

supplied the Duplicator  
Electronic Stencils  
and Paper for production  
of Village Voice

STENCILS, INK AND PAPER SALES  
RECONDITIONED DUPLICATORS AND  
TYPEWRITERS

Repairs and Service to all makes  
of Duplicators and Typewriters

Telephone Plymouth 266040

4 ADDISON ROAD ——— PLYMOUTH

## PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

--- CONTACT ---

GORDON JEFFERY

and MIKE PENWELL

Painting ::: Decorating  
Building ::: Carpentry

"FERNLEYS", UPTON, SOUTH MILTON  
Kingsbridge, Devon.

TEL: THURLESTONE 525 and 666

## ADAMS & NICHOLLS

AUCTIONEERS - ESTATE AGENTS  
VALUERS AND SURVEYORS

For properties throughout the South Hams  
The Market Arcade 54 Fore Street  
Fore Street SALCOMBE  
KINGSBRIDGE Telephone  
Telephone 3131 2977

Local office for the  
Provincial Building Society

# VILLAGE VOICE

*A digest of Village news. A forum for Village views*

No. 4

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1983

Dear Reader,

May I, on behalf of my Parish Council, wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. It is I know, a common enough expression at this time but it is well and truly meant for a year that will no doubt prove eventful for many of us.

We all, I am certain, hope for peace, for good health and goodwill and a really major effort to pull out of recession and the present horrific level of unemployment.

We normally hold our Annual Parish Meeting in March of each year, but I feel this year may well prove of particular importance to our community for it will see the publication of the South Hams District Council's proposals for the future of our villages. I understand I shall be asked to convene a Special Parish Meeting when we shall have the attendance of an Officer from the District Council Planning Department to explain to us all what the plan proposes. I believe it is particularly important that when such a meeting is announced the whole parish will turn up - for if the Parish Council is to have effective influence on the proposals it will require the whole-hearted backing of every resident. I cannot impress upon you too strongly the importance that such a meeting may have for our parish. Every effort will be made to see that you are all aware of the date such a meeting is to take place.

I am particularly happy to learn that a number of our younger parishioners are taking an interest in contributing to this magazine. Contributions of articles, stories and yarns of local happenings past and present, comment and constructive criticism of parish matters from every age group are essential to the success of the magazine.

Yours sincerely,

*P.W.J. Murrell*

P.W.J. Murrell

CHAIRMAN - Thurlestone Parish Council.

All communications for publication should be sent to the Editor

D.W. Drabble at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton, Kingsbridge TQ7 3JU

Tel: Thurlestone 533

The views and opinions expressed in 'Village Voice' are those of the contributors absolutely, and must not be accepted as necessarily being the views and opinions of any member of Thurlestone Parish Council.

VILLAGE VOICE IS PUBLISHED ON A BI-MONTHLY BASIS. THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE ISSUED AT THE END OF FEBRUARY FOR THE MARCH/APRIL PERIOD 1983

# PARISH NEWS

## COASTAL FOOTPATH EROSION

The Parish Council feel there is movement afoot with every prospect of re-establishment of the path where erosion has caused the need for a temporary inland diversion.

There was a meeting in November of all the parties involved, down at the Thurlestone Golf Clubhouse with representatives of the County Council, the Countryside Commission and the Parish Council (Chairman Peter Hurrell and Vice Chairman Derrick Yeoman) and County Councillor Mr Simon Day.

The outcome so far is that the Countryside Commission consider that:

- (a) a permissive path, which can be varied in minor respects by mutual agreement, could be established for a 2 year period and kept under review during that time. Reasonable costs incurred by the Golf Club in altering existing golfing facilities, to allow the Coastal Path to skirt the seaward side of the greens and tees most immediately concerned would be met out of Coastal Path Maintenance Funds subject to scrutiny of costings, etc.
- (b) creation of a new path that fully allows for future erosion of the coastal slope by the use of an statutory order, implying compensation against both high expenditure and loss of golfing facilities, would be resorted to only in extreme circumstances if a permissive path cannot be agreed.

With the aim of achieving a solution (which all parties agreed is long overdue), a further meeting of all concerned should be held in February.

+ + + + +

## BEACH CLEANING

Mr David Grose attended as Parish Council representative at the District Council offices, when the subject of beach cleaning was discussed. The Parish Council want to see all the beaches - public or privately owned, kept cleaned up, now there is an effective machine to do the job. Whether a charge might be imposed on the owner(s) of a private beach and access permitted are matters which

will no doubt depend on the decision of the appropriate District Council Committee - but there really were a great many complaints about dirty beaches last year - and if we want to encourage tourism because of the employment it creates - then dirty beaches won't help much.

+ + + + +

## TREES

Mr Patrick Moore, the South Hams District Council Landscape and Forestry Officer, very kindly attended the November Parish Council meeting when he displayed a plan submitted by the developers of the Leaside/Merchants Field site for the replanting of trees to replace some 87 which had been under Tree Preservation Orders. It will naturally take time for this replanting and the necessary landscaping as the development progresses. The replantings will, however, remain under a T.P.O. and any that die back or fail to prosper will also have to be replaced - and will be subject to inspection three or four times in the year. The Parish Council is particularly keen to see some effective moundings and screening of the parking areas for some 42 or more cars and desire to see no replanted trees are subjected to lopping or topping so that they will be allowed to reach maturity. It is also felt particularly important that the external walls of the flats shall be so coloured they blend into the site rather than standing out like a sore thumb!

+ + + + +

## GETTING SOMETHING DONE !

Recently Dr Neville Oswald asked the Parish Council if a hand-rail for the steps in the footpath (opposite the P.O.) could have their support. The idea had the unanimous support of councillors, the necessary contacts were made at County Council level - and by the time you read this the handrail should be in position ! This is just one instance where you can invoke the help of the Parish Council to get something done! Following complaints - the roadway at West Buckland was cleared by the County Council - and its condition is now to be monitored by them!

# To be - or not to be - - -

As long ago as March 1973 the Parish Council of that time discussed the idea of providing the children with a playing field. They sought a piece of suitable land in vain - all was either agricultural or building land - this latter with outline consents obtained as long ago as 1968. It proved a fruitless exercise.

In June 1975, a Parish Meeting was convened and attended by over 85 parishioners, to discuss a Planning Application (no. 0619) from the South Hams District Council, for a Car Park and Playing Field/Open Space Area on 6 acres of land behind All Saints Church. This was promoted by the District Councillor at that time, the late Mr Donald Turner, and had the support of the District Council Planning and Technical Services Department.

After much discussion it was proposed from the floor that as the prescribed area of 6 acres was good agricultural land the Planning Application should be withdrawn. This was seconded, put to the meeting and carried nem con (unanimously). The Meeting then approved the Parish Council opening negotiations with the County Council for the use of the Primary School Playing Field outside school hours, and there was no objection made when advised that fencing to the requirements of the County Council could involve a 1p rate precept. (In the event it was less than 1p rate).

So, we move on to 1977, when the fencing had been professionally erected as required by, and to the satisfaction of, the County Council Estates Surveyors Department, and a Licence for use outside school hours was granted to the Parish Council at an annual rental of £40 - with a proviso allowing for a rent increase to cover any increase in the cost of maintenance.

In 1979 the Area Estates Surveyor (at that time) proposed a rent increase to 'cover increased costs of maintenance'. It was pointed out that "no maintenance is involved through the use of the field outside school hours" - and that was accepted by that Surveyor.

Let us now move to 1982. In April a Mr Earnshaw, now the Area Estates Surveyor, proposed a rent increase of 50% - taking the rent to £60 p.a. - 'to cover increased costs of maintenance'. Again, it was pointed out that there was no maintenance involved for outside school hours useage - but without avail this time! The Parish Council had paid out £493 on fencing which had proved of considerable benefit to the school useage and had made a grant of £30 in 1981 towards the cost of 5-a-side Football posts & net - which was to be mainly used for school sports. At present only 5 children are using the field with any regularity, and it is understood the present intake intake will not greatly enhance that number - but should 5 children be denied a facility that may well keep them out of mischief? If the Parish Council decided to relinquish the licence the County would simply be £40 poorer - but the situation now is that the Parish Council pay the increase or relinquish the licence.

Big Brother has proved to be deaf to all this - our County Councillor, kept informed, has not apparently been able to help, and so with reluctance the increased rent will be paid - just until the Annual Parish Meeting in March - for the Council feel that this project was given the 'go ahead' originally by a Parish Meeting, and such a meeting, aware of the facts, should once again discuss the situation and advise how they view the matter.

In retrospect - should the County have ever imposed a rental charge at all, when the whole project was entirely for the benefit of the children attending the school?

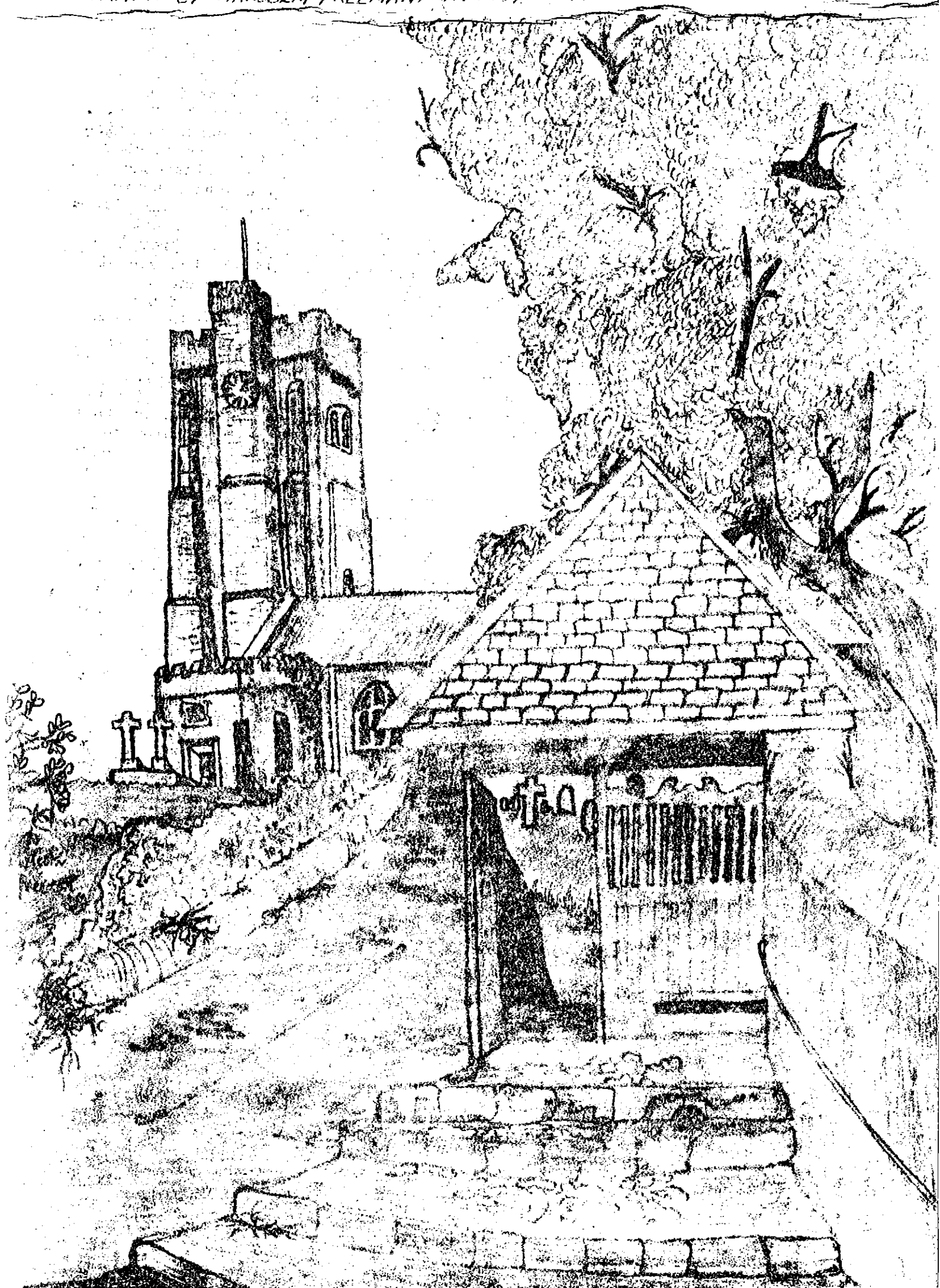
Vandalism from youngsters with nothing to do could cost a damn sight more than £40 or £60 p.a. ! At the moment, it seems, 'Big Brother rules - OK ? to quote schoolboy idiom.

---

(Access was given to relevant Parish Records and letters for this report on this Playing Field Saga.

---

DRAWN BY MALCOLM FREEMAN, - AGE 14.





# We acquire a PARISH CHURCH

by NEVILLE C. OSWALD

WHEN I first saw our church, almost thirty years ago now, I was much impressed but thought it was a bit on the bdg side for a place like Thurlestone. I then wondered how it and the parish came into being and which came first. There must be few people who can answer such questions with confidence, but that need not stop any of us from trying.

In Saxon times, before William the Conqueror came over in 1066, there were little churches and chapels dotted around the Devon countryside, some put up by landowners and others by villagers; they were vaguely controlled by distant bishops. Then there were the occasional Celtic saints from Brittany, Wales and Ireland who wandered along the shores and had churches named after them at Portlemouth, Prawle and the entrance to the Dart. Thurlestone may well have had a church at that time, composed of cob and wood with a thatched roof - like some of the cottages in the village now - but we do not really know for certain. As with so many churches round here, only a font can be produced as evidence. Ours is made of sandstone and, with a little refurbishment here and there, serves its purpose with distinction at baptisms

There were certainly no parishes in Saxon times. Instead, the counties were divided into Hundreds, for purposes of taxation and the maintenance of law and order. Each was supposed to contain a hundred (taxable) cattle which, incidentally, were considered to be enough to support 500 people. Hence they varied greatly in size, according to the density of the population. We are in the Stanborough Hundred, a long sliver of land that extends up beyond Wrangaton and has

a high point at Stanborough Hundred Hotel on the Kingsbridge to Totnes Road. Obviously, such divisions were quite unsuitable for churches of their own; something smaller was needed.

During the two centuries after the Norman Conquest, the political and economic upheaval was matched by a religious revival all over the country. Exeter had a succession of formidable bishops who founded the extraordinary ecclesiastical heritage we now have. They were powerful magnates, second only to the King as land-owners in the county and included a couple of dozen manors in their estates. Their priests numbered about one in 55 of the population, some of peasant stock and as unlettered as their parishioners and others from their overcrowded ranks in France and Italy. They were all Catholics, of course, governed from Rome. They comprised an impressive hierarchy at a time when Thurlestone could muster not more than a hundred farmers and their families who tended their cattle and sheep, ploughed their acres and hoped to benefit from an occasional wreck without being attacked themselves.

In the early 1200s, just when King John was signing the Magna Carta and the twin towers of Exeter Cathedral were going up, the Bishop ordered the building

# *We acquire a PARISH CHURCH*

Continued from previous page:

of a stone church at Thurlestone, presumably on the site of a former one of cob and thatch. Unfortunately, we just do not know how the villagers reacted, whether with enthusiasm or, perhaps more likely, with equanimity. At least, they all knew how they were going to be asked or persuaded to spend their time in the ensuing months or years. One can imagine there may have been some difficulty in coercing a farmer in, say, Whitley or Aunemouth to do a regular building stint in his busiest times of year or, for that matter, in the winter when mud made the lanes well nigh impassable. On the other hand, some of the younger men may have been attracted by the thought that the ladies of the village would be down there providing refreshments (regrettably, the custom did develop into a full blown church house inn as it did at Churchstow and Stokenham. We now have a village inn but few if any of the present churchgoers drop in for a pint of cider after morning prayer; were they to do so, they would be sustaining an ancient tradition). In the event, after these various imponderables had been resolved, a long narrow church was erected which stretched from the present altar right back to a tower, probably much smaller than the one we have now. The wall to the left of the altar, with its lancet windows, has survived and shows how the interior was lit. It served as a place of worship and as a centre for parochial gatherings for the next two hundred years.

In the 1400s, still in medieval times and before Henry VIII and Protestantism came along, the really big building took place, including the massive granite pillars in the nave and the tower. The choice of the kind of stone to use raised no problems. The local greenish grey slate had by then proved its worth and was readily available. The blocks were probably not taken from the pit into which about one golfer in five drives his ball from the second tee, but from a much larger quarry at Charleton. These would have been brought by sea and dumped at Ley's Foot.

Then there was the question of getting them up the hill. Surely whoever it was that then owned Mr Stidston's fields down there had plenty to say about it. He may have supplied his horses or, for the really big loads, South Devon cattle, which were often kept on hand for such purposes. The same routine would have been necessary for the granite which must have come from Dartmoor, very likely by way of Teignmouth.

How on earth the villagers managed to get the tower up is difficult to imagine. Doubtless the priests in charge regarded it as so much chicken feed; after all, they had managed to complete Exeter Cathedral without too much difficulty. Maybe there were some young men around who clambered up and down the scaffolding with abandon whilst fixing and operating the pulleys, much in the way their successors - Gordon and Michael are names that come to mind, but there are others - blithely cavort over our rooftops after a storm in search of loose tiles. The elegant achievement of our medieval forbears, with later widening and the addition of a porch, is there for all to see.

(to be concluded)

## FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

PAINTING · DECORATING  
BUILDING · CARPENTRY

- - CONTACT - -

GORDON JEFFERY

and

MIKE PENWELL

"FERNLEYS", UPTON  
SOUTH MILTON, Kingsbridge.

Tel: THURLESTONE 525 & 666



# IT TAKES ALL SORTS . . . .

A DELIGHTFUL SHORT STORY FROM

LOCAL WRITER

*Brenda Steel*



How do you spring-clean ?

I give a party.

Being an eleventh-hour girl myself, I can guarantee it's the most effective way of dealing with those extra chores that I know want doing - and what's more, it's fun !

I discovered this method when my husband and I had asked a crowd of friends in for Twelfth Night. We'd devised a mammoth treasure hunt, all over the house. Just as I was doing a last-minute check that all the clues were in position, I noticed the house was festooned with cobwebs. You know, in all the odd corners you never seem to think about.

But in twenty minutes flat, I'd run a stick behind the wardrobe (third clue), dealt with nests of spiders (at clue eleven), re-assembled the airing cupboard (clue eighteen), bashed the dust off the lampshades and scoured the side of the refrigerator (the finishing post).

Ask your guests for, say, eight o'clock, get your glad rags on and get cleaning! It's astonishing how galvanised you can become as the minutes tick by.

Mind you, it's not everyone's way.

Some people ruin the cosy, reading months of February and March, denuding their rooms of furniture and ornaments, pulling down the curtains, cleaning it all vigorously with vinegar and stuff and then putting it all back again. They then plan their summer holidays, write their Christmas lists and order next year's spring bulbs.

I suppose what I'm saying is that there are two kinds of people. With variations in between to make us interesting/lovable/bearable to one another. Though I don't think I'd ever get to be sophisticated like my friend Susan Clifford.

I do so admire Susan's flower arrangements. And her polished

mahogany looks so dramatic against.. those white drawing-room carpets. I love her little hostess touches: a flower in a tiny silver vase at each lace place-mat...

We had Susan and her husband John to dinner last month. I just managed to get most of my table silver into the dip and back on the dining table as they were ringing the doorbell. Working to race the clock is exciting, as Clifford types are never late. How rude! (of them, I mean).

Like my grandmother, who would tell us to meet her at the bus stop at, say, two o'clock and get there at 1.45. By the time we arrived, panting, at 2.05, having had to deliver a note or something or other for my mother on the way, to save a stamp, Grannie would purse her lips and say we were twenty minutes late. Which I never felt was quite fair.

Speaking of stamps, I have an aunt who always has a birthday card stamped and ready, propped up in her hall. Offer to post it for her and she says: No, dear, that's Dora's and her birthday's not for ten days, thanks all the same. Dear aunt! I love the way she always remembers mine.

During our last Sunday morning drinks party (front door washed by 11.55), I could hear my seventeen-year-old son taking a shower. I just managed to nip upstairs to do a quick mop-up with his bath towel, which he'd conveniently left on the floor, before any of our guests got there first.

Susan Clifford has embroidered guest towels to match her bathroom scales  
.....

Why can't I be more like Susan? Her kids are always round here playing with ours in our garden (they call it the jungle!) as their father doesn't let them cycle on their lawn. I look at their clean jeans, their regular teeth and marvel at their mud-free anoraks.

And can John find things! I'm sure he

# IT TAKES ALL SORTS by Brenda Steel

Continued from previous page:

never shouts Where the ----- hell are my glasses? Or secateurs. Or keys. Or leaves drawers gaping after he's searched for a clean handkerchief, yelling that someone must have taken them!

Their kitchen is clean even when they're not expecting anyone. Clean and deadly quiet, as if it's asleep.

Mine is awake and active at all hours of the day and night.

But then, John doesn't wash up at week-ends like my husband. (He makes French dressing though. In a pinny!) Mine enjoys washing up. He sloshes the dishes in a sinkful of suds and gets everything nicely awash. I'm ready for it now, but should I open the cupboard under the sink next morning, Niagara Falls isn't in it! Well, was in it, if you see what I mean.

But that's him all over.

Like that lovely whim he had to take me to the theatre. We rushed up to Town and with the devil's own luck got two returned tickets.

I don't think the Cliffords of this life need the luck of the devil, somehow.

You won't believe this, but Susan rang me up one morning in August - I was sunbathing - and actually asked me which day in December she should book all our pantomime tickets! I ask you.

But that's Susan all over.

And talk of the devil, here is spring-cleaning time again.

This morning I went to answer the doorbell, dusting the TV top with my jersey sleeve as I passed, you know how one does, and there was Susan, immaculate as usual, on my doorstep.

"Happy New Year!" she said, picking her way over the Meccano and bikes. "I've just come to thank you for another fantastic party, last night. Tell me, when we were playing Sardines and I caught you standing on the loo seat with the brush in your hand, were you really cleaning the ceiling?"

End.

(Copyright reserved to Brenda Steel)

Don't hide your talent for story telling away - send it along to 'Village Voice' to be published.

## MIGHTY MOUSE --

In many homes the patter of tiny feet means mice! One of the reasons why mice have become such a problem is because most town mice have developed immunity to warfarin, until recently the only mouse killer that could be bought over the counter. It is worse

in winter when mice move indoors. Each mouse sheds 80 droppings every 24 hours and has no proper bladder so what it dribbles is more of a problem than what it nibbles! Contrary to popular belief, mice are not particularly attracted to cheese, but prefer nuts or chocolate. A modern chemical mouse killer in ready to use baits are now available.

### JOHN D. ANDREWS & SON

Funeral Directors and  
Monumental Masons

INCORPORATING C. WOOD, Est. 1820

119 FORE STREET, KINGSBRIDGE  
& 6 FOSSE ROAD KINGSBRIDGE

Telephone Kingsbridge 2997 day or night



Private  
Chapels  
of  
Rest

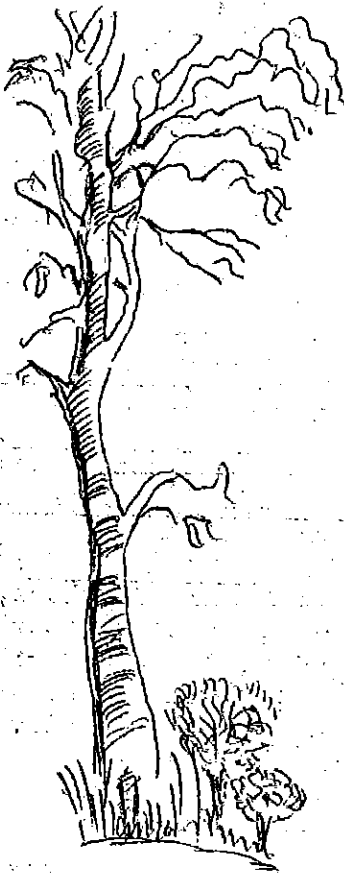


for that  
Special

Occasion our  
Wedding Cars  
are at your  
Service

Telephone :  
KINGSBRIDGE 2997

The next issue of  
VILLAGE VOICE  
will cover the  
MARCH/APRIL  
1983 period  
PLEASE SEND IN  
YOUR "COMING EVENTS"  
BY 16.00 Wednesday  
to ensure  
inclusion  
SUBMITTER OVER  
1000 people read  
every issue



## *Winter in South Devon*

Sheep cuddle the hillside,  
dabs of grey cotton wool  
squat expectantly plump  
on rusty green collage.

Cows, line-feeding in fields,  
fixed toys on rifle range  
waiting the coin's prompt  
for their homeward parade.

Trees, naked and spiky,  
thrusting fingers upward  
in defiant gestures  
at restrictive winter.

Sleepers concealed in banks,  
hedgehogs rolled in old grass  
for blankets. Field mice curled  
up tight like winkle shells.

Wide-eyed, hungry robins  
willing crumbs near windows,  
crows with broken voices  
spoiling hawk's intentions.

Distance shrunk in mist,  
frost ferns mounted on glass,  
snow cocooning the spring,  
winter - softly clothed

Audrey Hatton

---

LICENSED  
GAME DEALER

BUTCHER  
and POULTERER

# P.W.Coleman

10 FORE STREET  
SALCOMBE DEVON

TELEPHONE  
SALCOMBE 2809

## WE WILL DELIVER ALL YOUR MEAT

DELIVERIES ARE MADE OF OUR FINEST QUALITY MEAT, POULTRY, GAME  
and DEEP FREEZE REQUIREMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS :-

<u>THURLESTONE</u>	- -	Tuesday and Friday
<u>SOUTH MILTON</u>	- -	Tuesday and Friday
<u>BANTHAM</u>	- -	Wednesday and Saturday
<u>BUCKLAND</u>	- -	Wednesday and Saturday
<u>AVETON GIFFORD</u>	- -	Wednesday and Saturday
<u>CHURCHSTOW</u>	- -	Wednesday and Saturday

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SERVICE TELEPHONE US ON SALCOMBE 2809

We should like to take this opportunity of apologising to our regular customers for any inconvenience which they may have suffered during the weeks of December. This was unavoidable due to Douglas, the van driver, being taken ill unexpectedly. However, we are pleased to say that he is now making a good recovery, and our grateful thanks to David Griffin and Les Moore for helping us out during this very difficult time.

Assuring you of our personal service at all times.

---

BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB*Roll on Summer!*

How do members of the Club make good use of spare time during the winter months? To keep fit some play rugby and soccer, while some surf all winter, and the majority also travel to the Totnes Swimming Pool every Monday for training. "Oh for a swimming pool at Kingsbridge" !

There are also meetings and conferences, all related to surf life saving, which take up a good many Sundays. A few of the senior members usually attend these functions.

As soon as possible at the end of a summer season the club will hold its Annual General Meeting. Being held at that time of the year allows plenty of time for the newly elected committee to plan ahead for the next summer season.

The A.G.M. was held in November last and was well attended by over fifty members. On show were trophies won by the club members during the summer. Officers reports were read out, and the Treasurer's report was duly adopted.

Great honour was bestowed on yours truly when our President announced I was to be made a life member of the club, and presented me with a special certificate.

The Committee elected were:

President: David Grose, Chairman:  
Fred Shillabeer, Captain: Bob Fresh-  
-water, Vice Captain: Mike Taylor,  
Hon. Secretary: Mrs Linda Cope, Hon.  
Treasurer: Mrs Anthea Thomas, Coxswain:  
Steve Thomas, Gear Steward: Peter  
Hawkins, Junior Captain: Mat. Ackland.

The Club Junior of the award was pre-  
-sented to KEVIN CRABB, by Mr John  
Howard, Chairman of the Croyde Bay Surf  
Life Saving Club. The award consisted  
of a Perpetual Shield and a Personal  
Shield, suitably inscribed. Kevin,  
who comes from Plymstock, trained hard  
in 1981, and before his eleventh birth-  
-day made two unsuccessful attempts to  
swim from the Eddystone Lighthouse to  
Plymouth Breakwater. The first attempt  
was most disappointing, because he was  
only two miles from his destination and  
still swimming strongly when his  
escorting boat ran out of fuel. On his  
second attempt the weather deteriorated

when he had covered two-thirds of  
the distance and Kevin had to be  
taken out from the water.

This past season Kevin concentrated  
his efforts on club activities by  
taking part in all junior competit-  
-ions organised by the Surf Life  
Saving Association of Great Britain.  
He also assisted with rescues and  
trained for life-saving awards.

Other awards presented were:  
SURF LIFE SAVING BRONZE MEDALLION:

Jonathan Cope

BRONZE QUALIFYING CERTIFICATES:

Alison Coleman and Sarah Crutchley

ADVANCED RESUSCITATION CERTIFICATE:

Peter Bennett

SURF COMPETANCE CERTIFICATES:

Marion Bamsey, Sally Charlton,  
Sarah Crutchly, Karen Chamberlain,  
Michael Hurrell, James McCarthy,  
Jason Hayward, Matthew Ackland,  
Kevin Crabb, Matthew Kincaid, and  
Richard Frewin.

RESUSCITATION CERTIFICATE:

Roger Jackson.

The question of members subscriptions  
was raised and it was pointed out  
that the existing subscription of  
£3 a year for seniors was fixed last  
year, just prior to being informed  
that the annual premium for each  
member's insurance was being raised  
to £3.50. It was proposed that the  
subscription should be raised to £5,  
and this was adopted by a unanimous  
vote. Junior subscriptions were also  
raised from £1 to £2 by a unanimous  
vote. Associate membership was to  
remain the same at £2.

It is hoped to increase the member-  
-ship during this next season. If  
anyone would like to become a  
member of the club please come  
along, you will be made most welcome.

Since the last 'Village Voice' was  
published we have received a  
generous donation of £250 from  
Colt Cars, to go towards the I.R.B.  
petrol appeal.

The evening ended with refreshments  
being supplied by our hosts Neil  
and Gail of the Sloop Inn.

F.W.SHILLABEER

Chairman

\*\*\*\*\*

The struggle of life is to make the  
best of things which might be worse!

Make it a Happy New Year with  
MILK, EGGS & ALL DAIRY PRODUCTS  
from Peter Bromfield

REGULAR DELIVERY SERVICE THROUGHOUT THURLESTONE  
& SOUTH MILTON PARISHES - TEL : THURLESTONE - 888 -

Some Kingsbridge

Theatre Shows

Cinema

Tickets £1 (Children 50p)

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY - JAN 5th & 6th  
at 8 p.m. Film:

Dudley Moore, Liza Minnelli, John  
Gielgud:

ARTHUR (Cert A)

(Comedy hit of 1972. Intoxicating  
entertainment)

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY - JAN 12th & 13th  
at 8 p.m. FILM:

LORD OF THE RINGS (Certificate A)

A fully-animated film of Tolkien's  
compendium of Celtic and Nordic folk-  
lore - magic "Middle Earth" hobbits.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY - JAN 19th & 20th  
at 8 p.m. FILM:

Eddie Barth, Irene Cara, Lee Curreri  
FAME

(Certificate AA)

A tribute to youth - its energy and  
zest for life.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21st. at 8 p.m.

Music and Laughter

THE CAMBRIDGE BUSKERS

The high-life concert party whose  
musical virtuosity and irresistible  
humour has taken them to the world's  
most distinguished concert halls.

Seats @ £2.50 (under-14s £2) bookable  
in advance at The Music Centre, Fore  
Street, Kingsbridge, or at the Theatre  
Box Office on the evening of January  
21st.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, at 8 p.m. PIANOFORTE RECITAL - The Popular Young  
German Pianist - WOLFGANG MANZ - Second Prize winner of the 1981 Leeds  
International Pianoforte Competition, Wolfgang Manz at the age of 22 has  
already achieved popularity with audiences throughout Europe. It has been  
remarked of him that, like Arthur Rubinstein, he has the enviable gift  
of making people feel good. Seat £2 (under 14s £1.50. bookable in advance

BE HAPPY CHARITY GROUP

COMING EVENTS

Weather is considered too unset-  
tled in January to hold any  
Sessions.

FEBRUARY 9th and MARCH 9th

BINGO at THURLESTONE in aid of  
MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

FEBRUARY 23rd and MARCH 23rd

BINGO at CHURCHSTOW in aid of  
SOUTH HAMS HOSPITAL

Cheque for £345 now handed to  
South Hams Hospital to pay for  
the bed and we are aiming to buy  
another bed for the Hospital,  
and we have now paid the last  
instalment for the Garden Furn-  
-iture for Coombe Royal - the  
total cost of which was £300.

Already many may well know the  
Be Happy Group have been pres-  
-ented with a special certifi-  
-cate for its work by Radio Two  
disc jockey David Hamilton.  
The Group was nominated by Mrs  
Pamela Newman of 12 Lion Close,  
Kingsbridge. She said ' the  
awards are given to people who  
raise money for charity or do  
other good deeds!' Mrs Hamilton  
is connected with the Kingsbridge  
Branch of Muscular Dystrophy to  
whom the Group have given  
donations other the past few  
years. The Group has already  
raised £3,500 for local charities.



# IT'S A NUISANCE -- -- IS IT? --

\* \* \* \* \*

Smells, smoke and smuts which interfere with the enjoyment of home and garden are hazards that many face with a shrug of the shoulders and say: 'Well, it's a nuisance but what can I do?' . . .

If it is a nuisance - legally, that is - quite a lot. A private nuisance, in the eyes of the law, is unlawful interference, or annoyance which damages the use and enjoyment of an owner's property.

Fumes killing shrubs, or even roots of a tree undermining a wall, have been held by the courts to be nuisances; so to have interference with the health and comfort of occupiers by noise, smoke and smell.

But this does not mean that legal action can always be brought against those responsible for causing the nuisance. The law, sensibly, takes notice of normal give and take among neighbours.

And any interference must be substantial and not in the words of a famous judge dealing with a case of nuisance as long ago as 1851, 'fanciful...according to elegant or dainty modes of living'.

One isolated incident will not be held a nuisance; neither is it essential for the person responsible to have an evil motive.

The character of the neighbourhood is something else courts take into account, when dealing with cases of nuisance. It is relevant only when the interference complained of is to health and comfort.

Judges have ruled that the burning of weeds, the emptying of cesspools and the noise of house repairs were not nuisance.

And no protection is given to abnormally sensitive persons or property.

The only person who can sue is the occupier; his wife, guest or lodger are barred from taking action. And normally the only person who can be sued is the occupier from whose property the nuisance arose.

Not only is the occupier responsible for his own acts which cause a nuisance. He is also responsible for those under his control and this means his family, guests and, if he has any, his servants.

He will also be held to blame for the acts of a contractor he employs if the work is such that injury will be caused unless special precautions are taken.

A landlord not living in a house can be guilty of a nuisance if he authorised it, caused it by some positive act or, knowing it existed, allowed it to continue.

What is the remedy for nuisance. Very often a letter from a solicitor to the person causing a nuisance will put things right.

If not action lies in the courts for damages and/or an injunction to stop a person committing a nuisance. There is one other way of dealing with nuisance - by the aggrieved person's abating it himself.

Although the law allows this remedy - that is, the person suffering from the nuisance taking steps to remove it - it is not in favour of it, and it destroys any right of further action in the courts.

If there are two ways of abating a nuisance, the less mischievous must be used while bearing in mind that entering the property of a third party to do so cannot be justified.

Generally notice should be given to the occupier of the land from which the nuisance comes but this is not essential in a case of emergency such as fire.

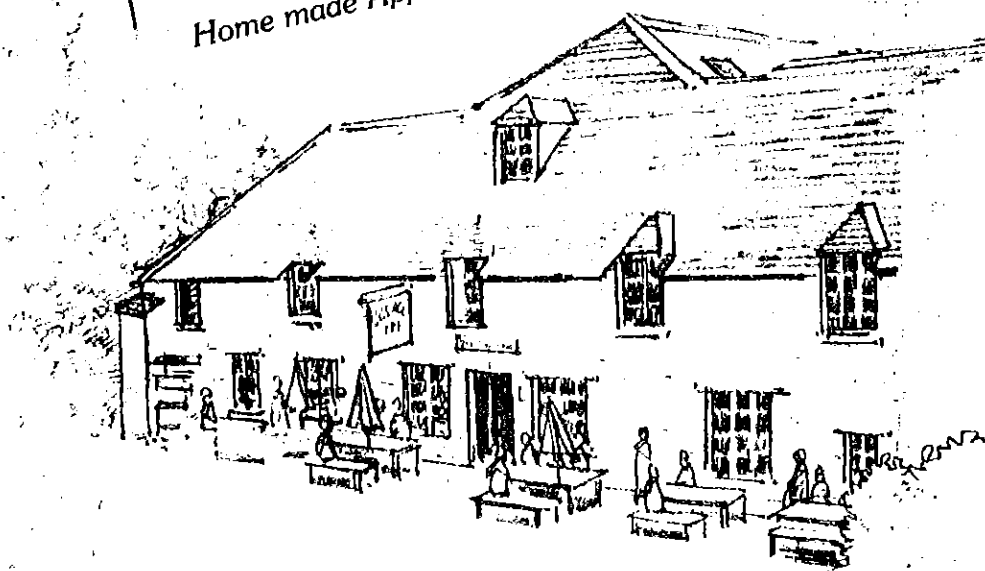
And there is nothing to stop an irate occupier sawing off a limb of his neighbour's apple tree that grows over his property without giving prior notice if it will not be necessary to enter the other's garden.

But he cannot keep any apples that are on the bough for by doing so he has exceeded his right of abatement and committed a wrong for which he can be sued by his neighbour.

You can't beat  
the old Village Inn  
for tasty bar meals!

### Village Inn Selection

Home made soup, bread & butter	55p
Smoked Salmon paté & toast	95p
Farmhouse paté & toast	95p
Hot Smoked Mackerel	75p
Ham or Cheese baps	75p
Ploughmans	£1.00
Salads	from £1.50
Cottage Pie	£1.20
Chicken Curry	£1.20
Locally made Pasty	50p
— and —	
Home made Apple pie	75p



Thurlestone Village Inn  
Telephone Thurlestone 452



Villager

## OBSERVES the VILLAGE SCENE

NOT VERY WELL 'PLANNED' !

Not very long ago, I was told of a Parish Councillor who, on a visit to the District Council offices at Totnes, inspected a map produced by the Devon County Council under their 'Landscape Areas Plan'. I gather his comments were somewhat uncomplimentary for he considered (and I quote) "the maps are totally out of date, totally inaccurate and it would be quite impossible to have any kind of sensible decision making based on them".

Now, it seems to me we pay a very great deal of money to people who are responsible for drawing up these schemes and these maps and plans (whether we need them or even want them - or not), and it would seem to me an utter waste of time and money (yours and mine!) to propose any scheme drawn up on out-dated maps.

- - - - -

I have heard it suggested that there should be greater consultation with the District Council Planning Dept. and particularly liaison with the Area Planning Officer. I couldn't agree more! So much more can be done, and rightly done where there is consultation but, there is, perhaps a 64 thousand dollar question - only the Area Planning Officer can know what is in the planning pipeline - so I would be bound to feel the onus is somewhat on that gentleman to open the consultation door. I have no doubt (even though I am not a member of the Parish Council) that he would find 'welcome' on the door mat!

- - - - -

I hear a whisper that the District Council will bring back their SKIP SERVICE. Of course, the Parish Council took over when the District stopped giving the service - so Thurlestone parish didn't lose out.

I hear also that the revised RUFUSE collection service is going to save the District Council £100,000 a year. Personally, I do rather wonder how far we should go in saving money but increasing unemployment?

MUD !

Not in your eye - but on the road. I hear numerous complaints about the state of some of our roads - not all in this parish by any chance - and in an effort to be helpful I had a word with a Highways Surveyor.

No one has a right to deposit mud upon the highway from the wheels of lorries or tractors (cows and other four legged creatures are priveleged!) and those responsible should brush up any mud deposited on the road in that way. Mud deposited by vehicles upon the highway is an offence and the Police have powers to prosecute when positive identification of the vehicle, time and place is established. It is insufficient to see wheel marks leaving a field with a trail of mud left on the road.

Should the person responsible for the deposit of mud on the road fail to carry out cleansing work, it is left to the County Council to carry out that work, but unless there is the factor of positive identification they are not able to recover the cost. So, you not only suffer the mud - you help to pay for it being cleared up -- unless.....!

- - - - -

+++++

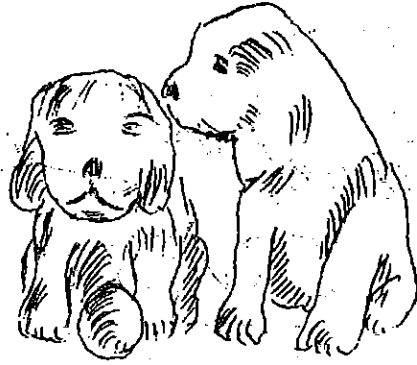
At the Annual General Meeting of the BANTHAM & BUCKLAND SUMMER FAIR, held at the Sloop Inn, Bantham on Wednesday 17th November 1982, it was unanimously decided to hold the 1983 SUMMER FAIR on SATURDAY 6th AUGUST 1983 at 11.30 a.m.

Would all those interested in helping with the arrangements, please telephone John Norris on THURLESTONE 767.

+++++

I am told a well-adjusted person is one who makes the same mistake twice without getting nervous!

# For Companionship - the 'pros' outweigh the 'cons' - -



V. JESSEN, B.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S. writes :-

Pets are companions 24 hours a day. With many a widowed, or disabled, or housebound person a pet may be their only everyday living contact. Perhaps the benefits of pet ownership in especially older people, can best be illustrated by considering some of the conditions specifically affecting them.

**Bereavement:** A pet may supply a living link with the person who died, or alternatively may act as a replacement in the bereaved person's affection. However, that can be double-edged as the death of the beloved pet can cause similar grieving.

**Exercise:** This does not have to involve marathon walks to be useful. It may be a gentle stroll with the dog or simply stroking a cat, or feeding a caged bird.

**Apathy, loneliness, depression:** All these can be mitigated by pets. How often has a dog, taken for a walk acted as a good social "lubricant"? The animal may become the confidante with whom to talk over life's events and problems. It is acceptable to talk to an animal if not to oneself.

**Hypothermia:** This can be a problem in elderly people living alone. An animal on the lap can maintain the owner's warmth with the higher temperature of its own body.

During the severe winter of 1979 it was found that some old people would keep their own living rooms warm only after being given a budgerigar to look after. People would ensure the bird lived in a comfortable warm room when they may have forgotten to cater for their own needs in that respect.

**Strokes:** This is a common affliction in older people and it is now an acknowledged medical fact that the gentle stroking of a pet will considerably slow down the owner's heart rate.

Following strokes, speech can often be impaired. Speech therapists have found pets a useful adjunct in the treatment of this.

Pet ownership will have its opponents as well as proponents. But the physical benefits as well as emotional and mental satisfaction derived from the companionship of a pet animal ensures that the pros outweigh the cons.

---

## WICKED RUMOUR DEPARTMENT !

---

There has been a 'yarn' going the rounds that there is a proposal afoot for a 'take over' of the first fairway of the golf course. To those who don't play golf, 'tis that nice green sward down by the sea and roadway. Goodness gracious me, 'tis fit enough to put they golfers in a state 'o shock. I can't discover no one as knows owt - but, well it is quite an idea ! Playfield for the kids, Football pitch for they big broyers and an all weather bowling green for fathers and grandfathers - perhaps mothers and grandmothers too. What a wicked rumour !

*Finest Quality*  
**POTATOES**

**WHITES OR REDS  
ONE BAG OR MORE -  
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR**

KEENEST MARKET PRICE

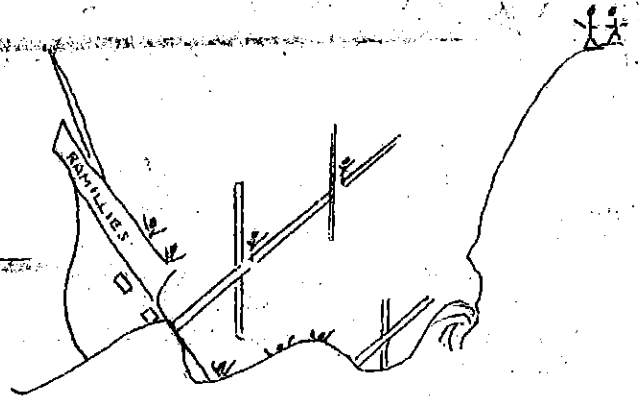
**JOHN DAYMENT**

LOWER MUMMOUTH FARM, BANTHAM

Tel: THURLESTONE 296

# BAD FOR BESSIE

by Kendall McDonald



THE plot thickens - it really does !  
Do you remember in the last issue I told you how worried I was about my grandmother, Elizabeth Hill, and how I suspected she might have been involved in smuggling in Thurlestone way back in 1880?

Well, now I fear the worst. Maybe I'm putting two and two together and making six out of them, but things look bad for Bessie.

I had decided to forget all about it and write a piece for you about a local shipwreck. To do that I wanted to check something at the Exeter Public Record Office. I went via Totnes where I stopped for a coffee and after that I found a shop which wasn't a baker's shop. Not as easy as it sounds. Have you noticed there's an awful lot of baking goes on in Totnes?...anyway this shop sold old prints.

Old prints and maps and things like that appeal to me so I went in and asked the nice man inside if they had any old prints of Thurlestone or Bantham. Well do you know what he said. He said he hadn't, there weren't any, and I could give up looking for them, and it was all because of the Customs and Excise.

Well, as you can imagine, I was a bit suprised about this and asked him to explain. It seems, or so he suggested, that there are no old prints of our villages because in the past the locals (that's our grand-parents) didn't want strangers wandering around - or Customs men masquerading as visitors - and they didn't want any pretty prints giving them the excuse to visit our beauty spots. They didn't want anyone stumbling right into some innocent little smuggling group on their Sunday outing.

This is an interesting suggestion. It seems to indicate that anyone who is against tourism today could easily put paid to it all be removing those gaily-coloured postcards of Thurlestone Rock from circulation. I was pondering this when the man in the shop went even further. "Why," he said and it wasn't a question, "why that long field that runs down to the Rock With A Hole in It is still known today as 'Smugglers

Field' (Editor's note: Is it?)

And then he went too far: "Of course they stopped smuggling in Thurlestone long ago, which is more than you can say for Bantham!" (Editor's note: Can this be true? On second thoughts, don't answer that!)

As you can imagine this conversation gave me much food for thought on my way to the Public Record Office in Exeter. Once there I shoved it out of my mind and got on with my research into the wreck of the Royal Navy's 90-gun man o' war, the Ramillies just round the corner of Bolt Tail on February 15, 1760.

There are five reasons why I thought you'd like to know about Ramillies.

First of all, this was the largest shipwreck disaster in terms of loss of life that South Devon has ever known. Of the 734 officers and men on board only 25 were saved. And it happened here.

Secondly, it is skeletons of the Ramillies crew which every so often are uncovered on Thurlestone beaches. Ten were unearthed by children in 1965. You see on the morning after that fateful night the whole of Bigbury Bay was a mass of wreckage and floating bodies. In those days after every use-able item, including buttons, had been stripped from the bodies they were buried where they came ashore. And it was not until July 1808 that an Act of Parliament was passed requiring that bodies cast ashore were to be given Christian burial in consecrated ground. I'm told those bodies found in 1965 were reburied at Galmpton.

Thirdly, I have dived down to her wreckage and touched her guns underwater in a deep red rock cave under the Bolt itself - and she isn't in the cove you'll find marked Ramillies Cove on some maps!

*[Handwritten signature]*

## BAD FOR BESSIE --

Fourth reason is that I think of her every time I see a South-West gale drive the spray up Bolt Tail and the wind pins it there for long seconds and I know that it was in conditions like those that 709 men died and 25 struggled upwards to safety with the last man trailing a broken leg.

And now the fifth reason is that my grandfather 'Lor Lumme' Hill told me that the cannonballs in his porch were from the Armada and he had dug them up in his Thurlestone garden, - it was a fib - and now I know they came from the Ramillies.

Here then is the story of the Ramillies:

The Ramillies was an old ship. And she leaked. If we hadn't been still at war with the French the old man o' war would either have been scrapped or sent for a major refit.

She sailed from Plymouth on February 6, 1760 with the rest of the Channel Squadron under Admiral Boscawen. He was trying to join the fleet in Quiberon Bay and impatiently pushed on down Channel in foul weather. By February 12 a vast South-Westerly began to blow and Ramillies was in trouble, leaking more and more as the wind increased.

Soon it was blowing a full hurricane. All hands were now at the pumps and teams with buckets were baling too. So bad was the leak that Captain Wittewronge Taylor was forced to the conclusion that one of her timbers had gone. Poor Taylor. He had not long before married in Exeter "Catherine Vincent, a spinster, of Stoke Damerel" Plymouth. Stoke Damerel in those days with its ancient church was a very smart area even though it was only a mile from the docks. Poor Taylor - he was never to see Catherine or Plymouth again.

And poor Ramillies. Launched at Portsmouth in 1749, she had been Admiral Byng's flagship in the engagement off Minorca as a result of which he was shot on the quarterdeck for cowardice. She had fought most of the Seven Years War, but missed the great battle of Quiberon Bay because she was even then leaking so much that she was not fit for battle.

Now there was no question of fighting against the hurricane and with

tons of water slopping in her belly, Ramillies ran before the wind up Channel.

At ten in the morning of February 15 no one aboard Ramillies had the slightest idea where they were. Then one of the midshipmen shouted "Land-ho!" as the spray around them parted for a moment. But it was only a second's glimpse and soon the mist clamped down again and all they could see were the giant waves hanging over their poop as the 90-mile-an-hour Waves pushed them ever onward. But they had to know where they were. So the sailing master put on some sail and steered for the North. For 30 minutes nothing happened.

Then once again the white curtain parted and this time the sailing master saw the land - an island off the main shore. Without hesitation he identified it as Looe Island and with great relief realised he was still Westward of Plymouth and the shelter of the Sound was not far away.

Unfortunately the sailing master was completely and utterly wrong. He had got the wrong island! The island he had seen was not Looe Island, but one 26 miles further to the East - Burgh Island.

And so as he set course for Plymouth, as he thought, he was running still deeper into the trap of Bigbury Bay - now he was caught on a lee shore with a giant South-Westerly behind blowing him to disaster.

As the Bolt loomed up ahead of him he made another terrible decision. He, thinking it was Rame Head, tried to weather it.

By now the Ramillies had been seen from the shore. Bent against the wind up the path to the top of Bolt Tail went most of the able-bodied population of Hope and probably Thurlestone. Bantham and Buckland folk tended to use Bantham Ham as their vantage point.

They would not be the only on-lookers for long. They would be joined by people from miles around. So valuable to ordinary folk was a wreck that at times as many as ten thousand people would gather as the news of an embayed ship spread and the coasts of Bigbury Bay would be black with people, moving back and forth as the ship desperately tacked to try and claw her way out to the open sea.

# BAD FOR BESSIE

CONTINUED - - -

A warship wreck was disappointing and would produce no riches, but any wreck was better than none. Even a piece of decent wood was worth salvaging.

Sometime at this point Captain Wittewronge Taylor took back command from the sailing master. But it was too late. They cut down the mainmast as the Bolt loomed nearer and nearer. The mizzen-mast went too to stop the wind using those giant masts to lever her on to the rocks. Now those on Bolt Tail were looking right down on her. Down went the anchors to try and hold her. Unfortunately cables got crossed and each rope sawed on the other. At dusk they cut right through one another. It was the end.

Now she hurtled for the shore. Her starboard side struck the rocks, her bow span round and drove into a cave and the waves crushed her against the cliffs. Walls of water swept over her. The Captain of Marines went off his head and marched about declaiming poetry. The bo'sun flung his young son towards the shore in a desperate attempt to save him and saw him dashed to pieces on the rocks. Men tried to jump for those same rocks and huge waves carried them screaming up the cliff like ping-pong balls on a fountain.

Only 25 men managed to get a grip and pull themselves away from those pounding waves. The last to leave the ship was William Wise, a seaman. As he looked back the hull was lifted up and dropped on his leg. Despite this injury though he climbed up to the top of the cliff and into one of the pits there. In this shelter he swooned away the night before his rescue. (For years one of those pits was known as William Wise's Pit but nowadays no one knows which one it was)

Those who had not been so fortunate as William Wise now floated in the bloody froth and the wind and tides began to fling their bodies on the shores.

Ramillies was pounded to pieces. So much so that this letter from Benjamin Hall, one of the Master Attendants of Plymouth Dockyard whom Admiral Boscawen sent to the wreck to see what could be saved, tells it all. The letter can still be seen in the Public Record Office in London. He wrote thus to the Admiral:

VILLAGE VOICE

JAN/FEB 1983

Thurlestone  
Feb. 17-1760

Honourable Sir,

At one this afternoon I got to the place where the ship was lost which is a litle to the Eastward of the Bolt Tail in the dismal spot that fate designed her - She is entirely under water and what comes from her no boat can ventur to save yet as the sea is very high but as the wind is at N.W. hope tomorrow at low water to take up all the Ironwork and gather things that comes on shore and give it to the care of the officers of the Customs. I cant see aney part of her, mast sails or yards soe I think the sea has split and torn them to pieces - without they lay in coves that I cant see without a boat - this evening I went to the village where some of the seamen was that was saved and told them the Admirals orders they that are able gave me there word of coming to Dartm. tomorrow and those that are lame ask me how there land-lords is to be paid to that I can give no answer - Sir I hope what I shale doe tomorrow will meet with your approbation to sound in her as the guns is faling in her hole and the Fishermen told me at low water its three fathom I shale take wot step I can to preserve all the stores I can and wait your Honble Command.

I am Sir you most obedient Humble  
Servant to command. BENJ. HALL  
(Transcribed as written by Hall)

And Benjamin Hall did keep his word - much of the Ironwork (cannon) were salvaged and the local Fishermen hauled up as much as they could with hooks. But then the Ramillies was forgotten for nearly 150 years...

On the 18th of May 1906, a diver resident at Hope Cove agreed to have a look at the site of the Ramillies. You see the Hope villagers had got together and purchased the wreck of the Brixham trawler Ibis and has done rather well out of it. Now they wanted the diver to look at other local possibilities and the Ramillies was top of the list.

The Hope Cove diver found iron cannon - one of which is still I think, rusting away on the top of the Shippen Rock at Hope - a great brass wheel weighing 60lbs, a brass belt buckle with the name Turner on it, sword handles, brass weights and other items. The other items must

## COPYMATE SERVICES

supplied the Duplicator  
Electronic Stencils  
and Paper for production  
of Village Voice

**STENCILS, INK AND PAPER SALES  
RECONDITIONED DUPLICATORS AND  
TYPEWRITERS**

Repairs and Service to all makes  
of Duplicators and Typewriters

Telephone Plymouth 266040

4 ADDISON ROAD ——— PLYMOUTH

LEYCARE SERVICING AND REPAIRS  
CRYPTON ENGINE TUNING  
QUICK-FIT EXHAUST SERVICE  
M.O.T. TEST CENTRE

plus

COMPREHENSIVE UNIPART AND B.L.  
FRANCHISE PARTS STOCKS

**QUAY GARAGE**

 **Service and Unipart Centre**

Union Road  
KINGSBRIDGE  
Telephone 2323/4



**Leycare**

## ADAMS & NICHOLLS

AUCTIONEERS - ESTATE AGENTS  
VALUERS AND SURVEYORS

For properties throughout the South Hams

**The Market Arcade  
Fore Street  
KINGSBRIDGE  
Telephone 3131**

**54 Fore Street  
SALCOMBE  
Telephone  
2977**

*Local office for the  
Provincial Building Society*

## HURRELL & WEEKS

GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS

**ALL BUILDING REPAIRS  
GARAGES • EXTENSIONS  
• DECORATING •**

**MAY WE GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE?**

WOODLANDS

WEST BUCKLAND KINGSBRIDGE

TELEPHONE

THURLESTONE 496 OR

EAST ALLINGTON 319

## *A little matter of Public interest ....*

Over the past years every Parish Council Meeting has been attended by at least 6 parishioners, more often by a dozen or more and just occasionally by 20 or 30 (perhaps when something a little contentious is on the Agenda for discussion) All meetings are publicly advertised some 10 days beforehand on the four parish notice boards and details given of 'Business to be Transacted' and every meeting has its 'Open Session' - when the Chairman suspends the Council Meeting - and invites parishioners present to discuss with Council members and himself any matter of general parish concern.

Our District Councillor is also almost always present, and may also be able to offer helpful advice or give you information on planning and other District Council matters.

These meetings are very friendly and often very helpful even on some matter which may be a purely personal problem.

Call it a 'Surgery Period' - though medical matters are not up for discussion, of course. !

### The Members of the Parish Council:

CHAIRMAN: Mr P.W.J.Hurrell.	Tel. 496
VICE CHAIRMAN: Mr D.J.Yeoman.	" 607
Mr E.T.Stidston	" 242
Miss R.S.Stocken	" 257
Mr R.Adams	" 247
Mr J.Dayment	" 295
Mr D.W.P.Grose	" 375
CLERK: D.W.Drabble.	533
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: Mr Jack Thomas	
(all Thurlestone Exchange)	Tel.269

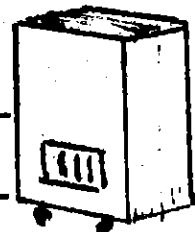
SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL - Totnes  
Area Planning Officer - Mr John Eaton.  
Totnes 997/864499  
Sewage problems - same telephone No.  
but ask for Technical Services Dept.

# **RICHARD McCARTHY**

## **DELIVERY SERVICE FOR BOTTLED GAS**



**SUPER SER HEATERS**



**At Competitive Prices**

**MILK and DAIRY PRODUCTS**

*Delivery to the Parish*

**TELEPHONE - Thurlestone 321**

Thurlestone Parish Hall

## Thoughts of a new Committee Member

Having been invited to join the Thurlestone Parish Hall Committee I attended my first meeting recently. It soon became apparent the difficulties the Committee face in endeavouring to raise funds. The cost of hiring the Parish Hall does not realise sufficient funds to cover expenses. The balance has been met by running Jumble Sales and other functions.

Your Committee are endeavouring to look ahead to the time when the Hall will need to be replaced. Any ideas on how to raise sufficient capital to assist in this project would be greatly appreciated.

One suggestion is to form a Memorial Fund whereby anyone who has lived in our village may be inclined to make a bequest to such a Fund, thus helping to ensure the future generations improved enjoyment of amenities over that which we currently provide. If desired a plaque could be erected in recognition of any such donation.

In the past we may well have been remiss in not providing suitable functions for parishioners to enjoy, in trying to remedy this we are proposing to organise in the Spring a Grand Antique Fair. This will enable anyone to have items valued professionally and if desired autioned at the Fair. A small percentage would be retained toward the Parish Hall Fund.

If you have any suggestions, please help by contacting any of the following :-

Mr Ron. Hughes on Thurlestone 829  
Mr Ted. Sadler on Thurlestone 410  
Mr Bill Hayward on Thurlestone 205.  
Mr David Frost on Thurlestone 348

I would like to thank you in anticipation of your help.

DAVID FROST

+

## A Shopkeepers Headache?

From January 1st, big changes came into force which could prove particularly troublesome to the small shop with limited staff. This means that the uncoded date marking of most pre-packed foods will be compulsory under the Food Labelling Regulations 1980.

It will undoubtedly be a marked improvement on the present voluntary system of coded markings, for the new regulation means that food will have to be marked with an indication of minimum durability. In plain language this will be the date up to which a food product can reasonably be expected to retain its freshness, but it is thought it will be several months before enforcement begins.

Belt up!!

From January 31st. you risk a penalty of up to \$50 if you do not wear your car seat belt. Though it is expected that a few days grace will be provided - you should'nt count on it !

A leaflet 'Seat Belts, the Law and You' gives hints and guidance on all aspects of seat belt law and also contains an application form for those on low incomes or who are disabled, for free medical examination. (The British Medical Association have recommended a charge of £19) ! Copies of the leaflet can be obtained from Dept. of Transport, (Distribution) Building 3, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0NZ - which is a Freepost address.



# Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Society

Mr Ben Horn was the popular choice as new Chairman of the Society when he was voted into office at the A.G.M. in October. It was also decided that in future the Society should have a President and two Vice-Presidents (non-executive) and pleasure was expressed at the appointment of Dr Neville Oswald, Mr Ernie Brinkworth and Mr John Lawrence to fill these positions.

The presentation of a book token was made to Dr Oswald, retiring Chairman, on behalf of the committee who expressed their thanks for his encouragement and leadership from the start of the Society in 1979.

The following were duly elected: Mr R White (Vice Chairman), Mrs P. Macdonald (Hon Secretary) Mr and Mrs E Milcoy (Joint Hon Treasurers), Mrs E Money (Assistant Hon Secretary), with Mrs B Jackson Admiral C. Bickford, Messrs D Coward, C Johns, R Rogers, C Thompson and D Yeoman forming the committee.

The Show will be on 7th AUGUST 1983 at Thurlestone, and on 10th January the Schedule sub-committee will be meeting to discuss items to be

included. It has already been suggested that there should be sewing classes in both Handicrafts and Senior Childrens sections and it was also agreed at the A.G.M. that the Vegetables and Fruit sections should have an Open section. Can you think of anything else you would like to have included or any alterations to the schedule? If so, please let Mrs Macdonald know by early January - telephone Thurlestone 436.

Make a note in your diary NOW that we are having a JUMBLE SALE at the Thurlestone Parish Hall on SATURDAY 26th MARCH 1983 to raise funds for the Show, so please start looking around to see if you have anything for us - WE WILL SELL ANYTHING !

Kingsbridge Home Gardeners Association have very kindly sent us an invitation to the BBC GARDENERS QUESTION TIME which is being recorded in Kingsbridge on 13th April 1983 (for broadcasting in May). If you would like to come along please let Mrs Macdonald know.

Finally, may we extend to all readers our best wishes for a good growing year, - and see you at the Show !

## THE EDITOR SAYS - - -

My thanks to young Malcolm Freeman (who lives at Parkfield, Thurlestone) for his pencil drawing of the Church and Porch reproduced in this issue. Another drawing of some village cottages is going to be used for the cover of the next two issues. Unfortunately pencil drawings do not reproduce too well on stencils, but

Mr and Mrs Battell came to the rescue Malcolm is now, I believe, working on some pen and ink sketches, which I look forward to seeing.

My grateful thanks also to Nicola Pedrick - who also resides in the village of Thurlestone - for her gay 'Happy New Year' cover to this issue. I find it tremendously inspiring that these youngsters have given their time for our benefit.

+++++

## The Garden Shop (KINGSBRIDGE) Ltd

QUALITY PLANTS for HOUSE & GARDEN

*The Garden Shop*

59, FORE STREET

KINGSBRIDGE

Tel: 2541 & 3888.

*AVON MILL*  
GARDEN CENTRE

Woodleigh Road  
LODDISWELL  
Tel: 338

*Landscape*  
Dept

GARDENS DESIGNED,  
CONSTRUCTED and  
MAINTAINED

*Interflora*

Julian & Mary Tregelles & Sons.

+++++

# WANT to KNOW... ABOUT THE W.I.?

Did you know that the W.I. has over 9000 Institutes in England and Wales with around 400,000 members? Devon alone has 370 Institutes with 9000+ members.

Founded in Canada at the turn of the century, the movement formed its first branch in Britain in 1915. Based on the ideals of fellowship, truth, tolerance and justice, it is a non-party-political and non-sectarian organisation and all women are eligible for membership no matter what their views on religion or politics may be! It is an educational charity which aims to improve and develop conditions of rural life by providing fuller education for countrywomen in citizenship, public questions, both national and international, in music, drama and other cultural subjects, it also secures instruction for its members in all branches of domestic science, handicrafts, health and social welfare. It also, most importantly, provides a centre for social intercourse and activities whilst giving its members fun and companionship.

When a member joins her local W.I. she also joins the County Federation, based in Exeter in our case, the National Federation, whose headquarters are in London, and also the Associated Countrywomen of the World which links 9 million women in over 60 countries.

W.I. has its own residential college, Denman, near Abingdon, at which over 4700 members annually take courses on anything from Archery and Architecture to Writing for Pleasure and Yoga and all skills in between. It has its own monthly magazine, Home & Country, with a circulation topping 100,000. It has its own book company, W.I.Books Ltd., producing delightful publications on every aspect of home crafts and skills. It runs 433 markets throughout the country which last year sold £32<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> million of goods produced by members.

It is the largest women's organisation in Britain, and every year, at the Albert Hall, 6000 members gather to discuss questions of importance to rural and national life, in the form of Resolutions. Those which have a two-thirds majority are brought before Ministers and Government Departments and form a solid foundation

of considered opinion on which further study and action, both local and national, is based throughout the movement. The W.I.'s views and comments are sought by Government and other official organisations, and its representatives serve on many national bodies and also on European Community committees. From its earliest days the W.I. has pressed for improvement in rural living standards and a lot of the things we take for granted today would not have come about as early as they did had they not been urged by the W.I. movement initially. W.I. continues its search for Utopia and, in the words of its 'signature tune', to build Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land!

Each W.I. is run for local people by local people, who all have a lot of fun enjoying the wide range of interesting activities the W.I. has to offer not only in their own village but also area, county and national levels. It is not just another village organisation, but it is very much part of the village. And the subscription is only £3.55 a year.

So, if you're lonely or new to the village and want to get to know people, or if what you've now learnt about the W.I. has stimulated your interest, why not come along and join us? There are two immediate local Institutes, one at Thurlestone which meets once a month, the second Thursday, at Thurlestone Parish Hall, 2.30 p.m. and one at South Milton, which also meets once a month but on the third Thursday, 7.30 p.m. at South Milton Village Hall. The respective secretaries are: Mrs V. Raymont, Thurlestone 542, and Mrs Joan Milcoy, Thurlestone 594. Either of these ladies would be pleased to give you any further information you require. We look forward to seeing you and giving you a warm welcome.

P.M.

JACK THOMAS, District Councillor for our Parish writes:

In turning out some old papers I came across the following letter, written by my uncle Ernest Thomas to his mother whilst he was on a trip to America, and I thought it interesting enough for people to see. I hope it will not offend our American friends in the parish! I estimate he was about 21 at the time, and I do not know the object of his visit except that I believe the family had a very good friend there named Tom Adams, a whisky distiller! Ernest's father had a Civil and Military Tailor business in Park Street, Bristol.

R.M.S. "Britannic"

Thursday morning July 20th 1893. 6.45 am

*My dear Mother,*

I hope you received the line I sent you from Queenstown letting you know I had arrived so far all serene; well from that time until now (a week) a pen has not been in my hand, but as we are now come to the last day of the voyage (Captain says we shall be in N.York tomorrow Friday before daybreak) I thought I would write you a nice long letter which I trust you will find interesting as I shall not have such a chance again for a long time.

In the first place you will be perhaps suprised to hear, although with us it is not quite seven in the morning, with you it is 11.35 am; every day travelling west we lose 50 minutes, so the clock is put back that much at midnight, and I can imagine where you are at this very moment. Perhaps I am right, perhaps wrong, but I should say you are at the new house getting things shipshape. I wonder what day you moved?

I think perhaps the best plan would be for me to give you an idea how I spend the days. They are all very much the same and so pleasant that I wish I was just commencing instead of finishing the voyage. At 6.15 the bathroom steward comes and tells me my bath is ready, so I turn out, go to the bathroom and revel for a time in the cold sea water - it is very bracing, but when we were passing through the Gulf Stream the water was almost tepid - now we are out of its track it is lovely. Well, I go back to my Stateroom to dress, then come up on deck and have a good walk round and round, chatting with the passengers &c until 8.30 am when a little sailor boy on a bugle gives the signal for breakfast, and you should see how quickly the deck clears, as the sea air is a splendid thing to make you hungry.

Breakfast is the only meal when the dining saloon is not fairly well filled as you can get that meal from 8.30 till 10.0 and so a lot of people don't turn up as early as myself. Now, about breakfast. The Americans (and I have fallen in with the custom) always start with some kind of fruit, generally an orange, after I always have porridge, a bit of fish, then an entree and coffee, so you see I do not do so badly, but I am nowhere with some of those darned Yankees, they are a caution. They start at the top of the menu card and they go right through until they come to the bottom. I would give anything for you to see the two men at our table. Yesterday morning they consumed as much as would have done for me for two days. I know for a fact they had two helpings of beefsteak and chipped potatoes and after that they put away a nice lot of ham and two eggs to say nothing of a lot of side dishes which I cannot get accustomed to, such as Indian Griddle Cakes, Buckwheat cakes with maple syrup, Corn Bread, &c, &c, &c., and then, talk about manners, especially at table, if what I have seen on board is a fair square example of American ones then I am jolly glad I don't belong to such a crew, they think nothing of picking up a bone in their fingers and gnawing away at it like a dog, and the men I spoke about previously actually used to use their fingers instead of a fork for the chipped potatoes. I thank my lucky stars I am not sitting next to such beauties, as they never think of passing you salt and similar table requisites, they simply look at their own plate, bolt their food and then leave the table.

Continued over----

LETTER TO my dear Mother CONTINUED

My right hand neighbour (Mr Hearne) is a very decent young Irishman who is going for a holiday to the States and who I am very friendly with, while the left one is an Englishman (Mr Darling) who lives in Toronto, and has just come to England for a few weeks on business.

The saloon is arranged as per rough sketch enclosed, but as the ship has accommodation for over 200 and we are only 120 in the saloon you will see we have plenty of room. After breakfast we nearly all come up on deck if it is fine. I am nearly always playing some kind of game. We have three very good ones - the first named Shovel Board is to push around discs of wood by means of a stick into some squares with numbers on them. You have 2 or 4 fbr sides, the first player tries to shovel or push his disc into one of the squares with a number on, the higher the better, as the winner is who gets 50 first. If he succeeds, the next player who is his opponent, tries to knock the disc out of the number, and generally succeeds. We each have 2 discs, and so the game goes on until one side wins. It is not so easy as it appears because we stand about 20 yards away from the squares, and when the ship is rolling a bit, unless you are an expert player it all goes askew, as the numbers are chalked on the deck, but I have played a good deal and so can hold my own with anyone on board. The second game is to pitch little canvas bags filled with sand on to a slanting board numbered somewhat like the above, the third is to pitch round quoits of rope onto a peg.

There is great excitement now, in the dim distance like the white feather of a bird is a sail which they say is a Pilot Boat who will come on board in order to take us to our destination. Well, the morning passes away very quickly and I am much suprised to hear the bugle going for lunch at 1.30 - or to use a more correct nautical phrase - 3 bells. All time on board all ships is denoted by means of bells - 1 bell is 12.30, - 2 bells 1.0, - 3 bells 1.30, - and so on until 8 bells which is 4.0'clock, after which we commence again - 1 bell 4.30 &c, &c. For lunch we get soup, cold salmon, &c, 2 hot dishes and any amount of cold ones, sweets, cheese and salad, but I have taken a set of menu cards so that you can see exactly when I return. The afternoon is spent in much the same manner as the morning, the people say they never saw such a lively boy as your son is, some people on board simply sleep, eat, eat, sleep, but that would not suit this child. I guess I have taken as much exercise on board as if I was on land, you don't see me very often sitting down (bugle for breakfast has just gone and so I must resume afterwards as I am awfully hungry.)

I intended resuming this letter after breakfast, but a man came and challenged me to a game of sandbags, and so the time slipped away until dinner time, then the S.S. Furst Bismark loomed in the distance and there was a good deal of speculation at what time she would pass us, as she is a 21 knot boat. Next a whale was seen spouting in the distance, and then a concert in aid of one of the passengers who lives at Cincinnati. She has been studying music in Vienna the last two years and is going home to see her mother who is very ill. Well, she told one of the lady passengers she had not enough money for her train fare from New York (although I for one doubted the fact) so a benefit concert was got up for her and the hat, or rather plate, sent round collecting, was found to contain \$15. I wish I could work on the feelings of the passengers the same way. The dinner came and just as I've finished, there was to be seen one of the most gorgeous sunsets I have ever pictured, so everyone was on deck, so unless I finish this letter now (10.0pm) I shall not get another chance as we expect to arrive in N.York tomorrow morning about 6.0 am. Must now see about finishing this scribble, please tell A & U I will write them in a few days. The voyage has been very pleasant and awfully interesting. Taken on the whole it has been a very good passage. Last Sunday, however, we ran into a regular S.W. gale, the waves were very high & the ship rolled & tossed & pitched very much, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the passengers were very ill but I am pleased to say I was not one of the number. Now good night, it is 2.30 in the morning with you so I expect you are fast asleep - with my best love to you, hoping you are all quite well "as it leaves me at present."

I am,

Your affec. son, ERNEST.

# Elayne Norris Column..

*It may never happen  
but*

Think back to November 6th. Do you recall a cold, windy and drizzly evening? If so you've got a good memory!

Now, what's so special about November 6th? The day after Bonfire night but....oh yes, the Bantham and Buckland bonfire celebration. About thirty-five families turned out on an inhospitable night to stand in a field previously inhabited by cows, but luckily we all wore wellies!

The bonfire was hard to light (well, it had rained remember) but after borrowing some hay from Roy Adams and spraying it with paraffin, the pyramid of wood topped by well made Guy Fawkes, burnt heartily, making the thermal underwear put on especially for the occasion, totally unnecessary!

Before the firework display began, the children produced their pumpkins which had been carefully carved out and designed, and paraded around the edge of the bonfire, rushing back to Neil Girling, who rewarded them with chocolate and sparklers. Then it was straight up to Roy's caravan to obtain their can of coke whilst Mums and Dads quietly drank their way through gallons of Roys real cider!

Whizz-bang and the black sky was penetrated by rainbow colours, rockets zoomed, waterfalls showered and catherine wheels spun. Then to everyone's delight jacket potatoes and a variety of hot soup were produced, making us realise that it is possible to turn a cold and cheerless evening into an enjoyable time for everyone. Thank-you to the organisers.

+++++

Editor's Note: I am hoping that Elayne will take on the task of being the 'Village Voice' of Bantham and Buckland!

+++++

WHY NOT HELP YOUR LOCAL EVENT BY GIVING IT THE GREATEST POSSIBLE PUBLICITY - 'VILLAGE VOICE' CIRCULATES THROUGHOUT THE PARISH

- The March/April issue will be circulating by the end of February - and will close for press on the 12th February. DON'T MISS OUT!

..no one can forecast what emergency situation may arise during the coming winter months.

If our villages become cut off for a prolonged period by heavy snowfalls there is bound to arise the problem of a shortage of some foods, the very probable failure of the electric power supply, creating a serious situation for those who rely on electricity for heating and cooking, and the possibility of some very sick person - old or young - needing to be taken to hospital.

Sounds terrible, doesn't it! However, there is already established a Parish Emergency Committee with emergency feeding centres listed within the parish for all those needing hot food, and even a signal code for emergency signals which can be used to inform a helicopter of our needs, and the means of radio communication if the telephone system is out of commission.

All very dramatic - and it is hoped none of it is needed. The Emergency Committee have completed a list to cover any event whether it be war, or the far more likely, more natural, event such as a severe winter.

What the Emergency Committee now require is to complete a list of people throughout the parish ~~of people~~ ready to help in any emergency. If you are prepared to help please get in touch with me ..

Derrick Yeoman, 8, Parkfield  
Thurlestone (Tel. 607)

## — PROBUS —

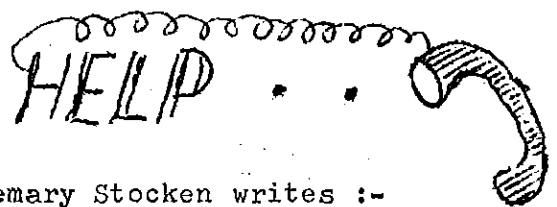
Members are reminded that our Ladies Night will be held on SATURDAY 15th JANUARY 1983.

Those who did not attend the December meeting and who wish to be there should get in touch with me immediately, as members have already been provisionally booked.

The tickets are £8 each - Dinner 7.30 for 8 p.m. - and a Magician will entertain us during the evening.

A.H.Dudley Tyas - Hon. Secretary  
Thurlestone 656

# Letter to the Editor



Rosemary Stocken writes :-

Dear Sir,

In the past we were served by the Kingsbridge Rural District Council, which represented a very much smaller group of parishes with elected members who really knew and understood about conservation and the needs of the inhabitants, without the costly business of a beaucratic set-up determined to plan our villages and our lives, which now seems to be our lot since the inception of District Councils. Now, it seems to me and many others, there is little real understanding of conservation and seemingly plenty of support for speculative building which in my view will only see the enhancement of more and more holiday homes, instead of suitable homes for the native young people who want a home of their own in their own village.

Despite the Village Appraisal which this village saw produced in 1980, and which gave an almost unanimous vote against any more major developments, we have had inflicted on us what I can only consider ugly buildings with the tragic loss of trees, old gardens and hedgerows. The songthrush is now rarely heard as the concrete takes over. What sort of price are we all to pay in ever increasing rate demands for an ever growing and highly paid beaucracy? Who really decides things - our elected representatives or the paid officials - who can only survive because of the rates the system compels us to pay. This once unspoilt village of ours is now little more than a shell of its former glory, and with much less of a community spirit with the growth of holiday homes.. And, to top everything else, the idea of the Chairman of the District Council being provided with an official car and chauffeur about caps everything.

Overcrowded roads - no adequate sewage system - I see around me, I regret to say, almost total apathy. Let us fight before more plans engulf us !

D.C.Douglas-Robertson.

Our own little 'Community Care' project went into action early one recent Saturday morning, when a call for help from one lady came through to Mrs Davenport - and within half an hour four members of our 'team' were available to help.

Such an immediate response and willingness are what this small scheme is all about, though I was just a little suprised when recently in Bantham, to be told by an elderly gentleman that he felt the launching of this project rather inferred that local people were unaware of, and unsympathetic to, those in possible need. He emphasized that he and others had many friends and neighbours in Bantham who would help at 'the drop of a hat', and I understood he thought it was unnecessary and tantamount to condemning a lack of caring in the community.

Such was never for one moment in our thoughts. We know that good neighbours abound, and thank goodness for them, but it can happen that someone living alone and suddenly being taken sick or has some other temporary crisis and no immediate neighbour - or the friendly neighbour is away, could hopefully be saved much distress knowing there was someone she could contact. And you should note, the scheme is not intended just for the elderly in our midst, but for folk in all age groups and for the newcomer who has not had time to know the neighbours.

Perhaps there will be little call upon our group, but, in a sense I feel it could be like having a Fire Brigade - you hope never to want them - but it is very helpful to know they are on call if you do.

Naturally enough, it is not possible for our volunteers to always be 100% available to the following times - so there are now two available numbdrs on the following times:

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mrs Davenport 297

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mrs Collett 543

Mrs Moore 548

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mrs Eaton 404

Mrs Jeffery 676

Also Evening period - Miss Stocken 257  
(All Thurlestone Exchange)



This article is published by permission of the Law Society. It does not cover Legal Aid to be represented in Court in the course of criminal or civil proceedings which is means-tested by the Law Society or the Court.

Have you got a legal problem? Are you putting off going to a solicitor for fear of running up a huge bill?

Chances are you needn't be. Until two years ago, you had little hope of getting legal aid if you were in full-time work. Most of those who got it were on supplementary benefit.

Since then, the limits of qualifying have gone up. Even if you're earning the average wage, your chances of getting legal aid are good, though your savings are taken into account as well.

If you have a problem you think may be a legal one - it's not always easy to tell - go and see a solicitor. Firms that do legal aid work display a pink and white 'logo': two stick men sitting on opposite sides of a table with the words 'Legal Aid' underneath.

A list of all the legal aid firms in your area should be in your library, town hall or citizens' advice bureau. Each firm lists the sorts of problems it can advise on - divorce, children, crime, accidents, debts, wills, employment and so on. If you're still not sure which solicitor to consult, ask at your nearest citizens' advice bureau.

Your solicitor will be able to tell you straight away whether you qualify for the Legal Advice and Assistance Scheme, also known as the 'green form' scheme. He'll ask for details of your earnings, and your

wife's or husband's earnings, unless you're living apart or seeking advice on marriage problems.

Your tax and national insurance, and an allowance for each dependent, will be subtracted from your gross pay. If the result is £40 or less, you'll get free advice and assistance. Between £40 and £85, you'll have to contribute something towards the cost of his help. Over £85 (or with savings of more than £600) you won't be eligible.

What sorts of problems will the green form scheme help you with? It's most often used for advice on criminal charges and divorce, but it's available for help on 'any question of English law'.

Daisy and Ethel, elderly spinster sisters, had their wills made by a doting nephew. Unfortunately, he wasn't a solicitor and knew nothing about the law relating to wills. Words in wills don't always mean the same as they do in ordinary speech.

The sisters were getting on a bit, and they started to worry whether their wills were watertight. A family wrangle after they'd gone was the last thing they wanted. The solicitor they consulted confirmed that new wills would have to be made. Some of the wording could have caused problems, and Daisy's will was completely useless - she'd forgotten to sign it!

Daisy and Ethel expected to have to pay, but as pensioners with savings under £600 each, they got their new wills free under the green form scheme. Government money paid for their solicitor's time.

Sue was suddenly sacked from her secretarial job. No reason was given, but she knew it was because she's reported a junior manager for making a pass. Legal aid isn't available for a solicitor to represent you before an industrial tribunal, where employment disputes are decided. But the green form scheme will allow your solicitor to prepare a case for you to present yourself. Fortunately, Sue didn't have to go that far: a solicitor's letter (paid for by green form) brought an immediate offer of compensation from her employers.

Doris and Jack rented their flat from a private landlord. The roof leaked and the walls were constantly



# LEGAL AID

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE:-

damp. Their decorations were ruined, and Doris' health was beginning to suffer. Appeals to the landlord were, in Jack's words, 'like beating your head against a brick wall'. It took a couple of solicitor's letters and the threat of legal action but eventually the roof was repaired.

George was off work for three weeks when a bus braked sharply and threw him against a bar. The bus company offered him £25 compensation. George was tempted to accept the offer, but his wife persuaded him to see a solicitor. With no wage packet coming in, he got free legal advice and assistance. The solicitor negotiated £200 compensation for him. Since legal aid had helped him get the money, the rules required him to pay the Government back his solicitor's fees of £50, but he was still £125 better off than he would have been, without legal aid.

And even if you're too well off to make use of the green form, going to a solicitor still needn't cost a fortune. For a fixed fee of not more than £5, you can have up to half-an-hour of a solicitor's time - enough to get general advice about your rights, or to discover whether your problem is a legal one and, if so, what can be done about it. The 'fixed fee interview' is offered by about 75 per cent of legal aid firms - see the Legal Aid Solicitors' List - and is not means-tested.

+++++

## Champ No.1 —

First man to be recognised as boxing champion of all England was John Broughton, who, on August 10th 1743, wrote boxing's first rules. Champion for 18 years, he offered to take on two regiments of German grenadiers, if he could have break-fast between the battles! In his last fight a blow between the eyes blinded him, and John's patrons, many of them royalty, lost thousands. He died in obscurity.

*It Makes you !  
THINK .*

THE GOVERNMENT of the day decreed that local authorities MUST sell off their stock of council houses, and there is little the authority can do about it. However, if my information is correct, and I have no reason for doubting it, as at April 1982 the South Hams District Council's Housing Stock comprised 4,418 dwellings - 835 one bedroomed - 1226 with 2 bedrooms, 2304 with 3 bedrooms and a small balance of 55 which are mainly with 4 bedrooms.

The average sale price appears to be about £10,000 - it depends how long the tenant has been in occupation - the average 'discount' £8,000. One does have to wonder at the basis for such a low gross valuation but, stop a moment, every time 100 houses are sold at £10,000 a time the result puts a £1,000,000 in the 'kitty' ! Just what happens to such a vast sum and can we all look forward to a period of 'rateless years' while sales proceed - for the County Council must have many times the number of council houses.

Of course, I suppose selling off council houses is one way of getting rid of 'waiting lists' though one has to wonder where the younger generation are going to find a home of their own in an area where active tourism and holiday homes puts buying a house out of the question. Governments I suppose, know best what is good - for governments !

Walter Dee

## Rossiters & Lidstones

YOUR FAMILY BUTCHERS

Fresh home-made sausages our speciality

We sell locally produced

BEEF LAMB PORK

70 Fore Street, Kingsbridge

Telephone 2313

AN ADVERTISEMENT IN VILLAGE VOICE  
IS VERY CHEAP - ASK FOR DETAILS !



**G. BROMFIELD**  
**BROADS DAIRY**  
**THURLESTONE 230**  
**YOUR LOCAL A.P.T. STORE**  
**DAIRY PRODUCE GROCERIES**  
**GREENGROCERY**  
**FROZEN FOODS**  
**WHY NOT COME ALONG AND SEE**  
**OUR FORTNIGHTLY OFFERS**  
**COAL MERCHANTS**  
**FREE CAR PARKING & DELIVERIES**

**KINGSBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB**

MEETING EVERY MONDAY  
 at 12.45 p.m. at the  
 KINGS ARMS Kingsbridge.

Secretary:  
 Mr Julian Tregelles  
 Tel: Kingsbridge 2541

**THURLESTONE & WEST BUCKLAND**

W. I.  
 MEET ON THE SECOND THURSDAY  
 EVERY MONTH  
 (Except August)  
 at 2.30 p.m. in  
 THURLESTONE PARISH HALL.

Secretary: Mrs M.V. Raymont  
 Court Park, Thurlestone  
 (Tel: 542)

**BANTHAM SAILING CLUB**

Secretary: Mrs Marilyn Cater  
 'Yorick', West Buckland  
 (Tel: Thurlestone 593)

**WHY PAY CAR PARKING FEES ?**

**WHY BURDEN YOURSELF**

**WITH CROWDS AND HEAVY LOADS ?**

**WHY NOT SAVE PETROL - AND SHOP**

**LOCALLY ?**

**IT MAKES SENSE !**

**LOCAL FRESH FISH**  
**Conington**



**TEL. THURLESTONE 355**

**DELIVERIES EVERY TUESDAY**

**BANTHAM GARAGE**

**BLIGHT ENGINEERING**  
**SPECIALIST ENGINEERING SERVICES**

MOT testing station • RAC rescue service • wheel balancing  
 Engine reconditioning • cylinder head facing • steering  
 transmission overhauling • headlight alignment • engine tuning  
 Complete service for all makes of car and light commercial  
 vehicles, British or foreign vehicle recovery collection  
 and delivery service.

Service also for mowers, cultivators

Telephone Thurlestone 220

**VILLAGE STORES**

**THURLESTONE 211**

**NEWSAGENT**

**GROCERIES BEACH GOODS**

**NEWSPAPERS & PERIODICALS**

**DELIVERED DAILY THROUGHOUT**

**THE AREA**

**GRAHAM JEFFERY**

**WINDOW CLEANING**

**SERVICES**

**10 ISLAND VIEW**

**THURLESTONE KINGSBRIDGE**

**TEL: THURLESTONE 851**

- - C O N T A C T - -



*David Frost  
Electrics Ltd.*

National Inspection Council for  
Electrical Installation Contracting



APPROVED CONTRACTOR

BELLA VISTA - THURLESTONE - KINGSBRIDGE - S. DEVON - TQ7 3NA

Telephone: Thurlestone 348

FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS FROM COMPLETE  
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS TO THE ADDITIONAL POINT -

SUPPLIERS OF ALL MAKES OF DOMESTIC APPLIANCES INCLUDING  
ELECTRIC SHOWERS - COOKERS AND HOB UNITS - STORAGE  
RADIATORS AND ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL HEATING EQUIPMENT.

FOR VISITORS AND NEW RESIDENTS :-

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Rector and Priest in charge :

Rev. John Delve,  
The Rectory, Thurlestone.  
(Tel: Thurlestone 232)

ALL SAINTS C.of E. PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Thurlestone

HEADMASTER: Mr T.E.E.Battell  
Tel: Thurlestone 494

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB

Secretary: Mr R. Marston, B.E.M.  
Tel: Thurlestone 405

THURLESTONE PARISH

EMERGENCY OFFICER:

Mr D.J.Yeoman, 8, Parkfield,  
Thurlestone (Tel: 607)

PETER  
BROMFIELD  
DAIRYMAN

TEL: THURLESTONE 888

• SUPPLIER OF •

MILK · CREAM · BUTTER

EGGS · YOGURT · SQUASHES

FRUIT JUICES

TO THE

THURLESTONE  
& SOUTH MILTON DISTRICT