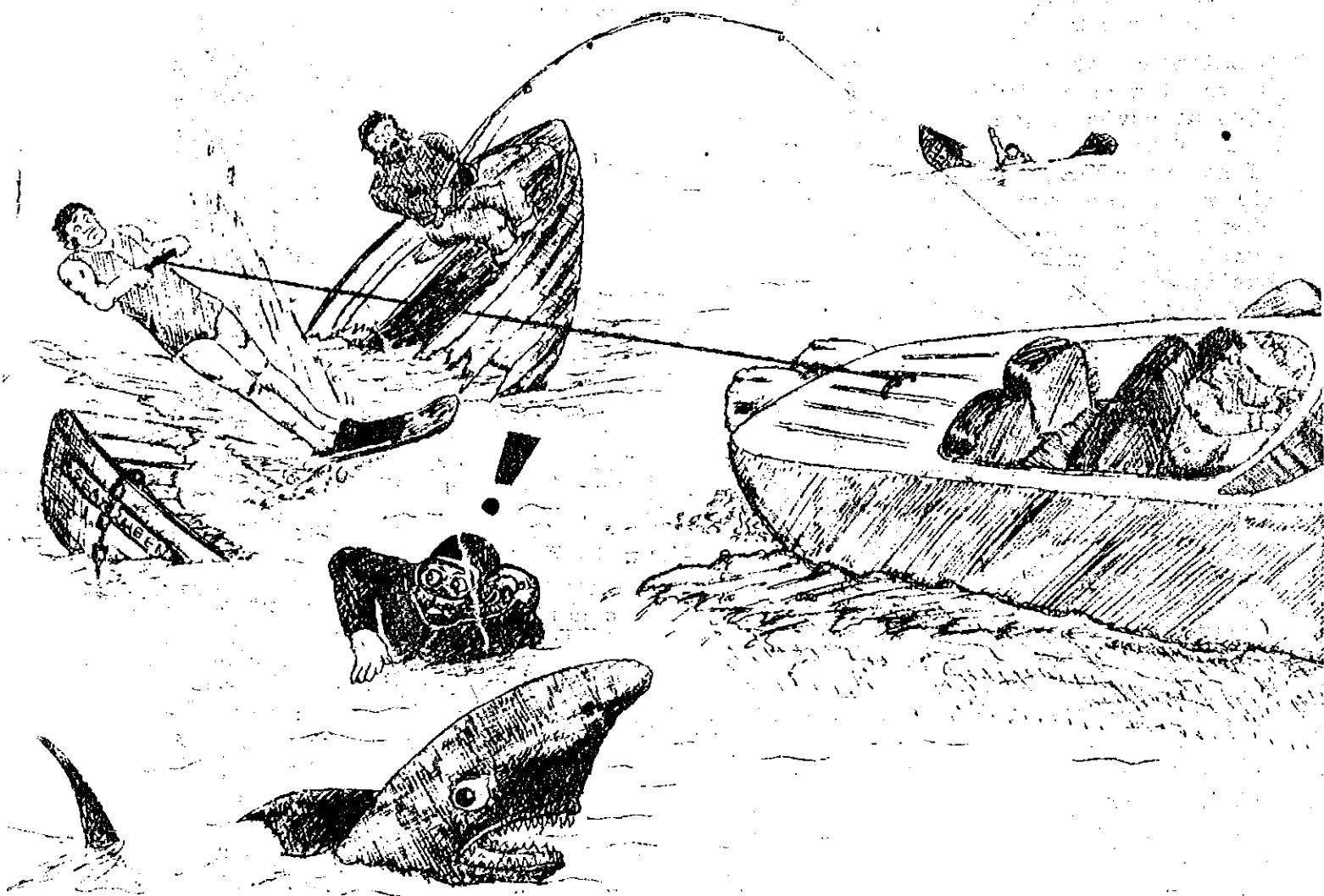


# THURLESTONE PARISH VILLAGE VOICE

No.11. • MARCH-APRIL • 1984



*G. Blight*

*Published for Thurlestone Parish Council*

# Covenants

LAW SOCIETY

FEATURE

The expression "An Englishman's home is his castle" gives an impression if not of an impregnable fortress then, at least, of unchallengeable rights.

Apart from the planning restrictions (which are beyond the scope of this article) the law is quite clear that you may use your property in any way you wish providing you do not cause a nuisance to your neighbours. But there may be conditions attached to the land itself prohibiting its use in a certain way or for certain purposes.

Conditions attached to land are known to the law as restrictive covenants and without advice anyone can easily fall foul of them. A landowner, for example, might enter into an agreement not to allow his land to be developed for certain purposes.. Or again he might agree not to carry on a trade or business on the premises. Such a covenant, to be enforceable, must always be for the benefit of nearby land.

Restrictive covenants can take many different forms and cover practically every conceivable circumstance.

The negative type of covenant - which obliges the landowner not to do anything positive, but to refrain from doing something - is probably the most common in existence today. In a leading case on this subject which was heard in 1848 the courts ruled that a negative covenant "ran with the land" for the benefit of adjoining property. That means that it may be enforceable against any purchaser who later buys the land even though he did not enter into the original agreement for the covenant.

The person with whom the original landowner entered into the agreement - or a person who bought or inherited the land from him - may be able to get damages or a court order stopping any use of the land in breach of the agreement.

This is one of the reasons why it is so important when buying a house or taking a lease to consult a solicitor who will be able to advise on whether or not the property can be used in the way the proposed buyer or tenant wants to use it.

Tenants can also face restrictions on the way they use their property.

Landlords are entitled to put reasonable conditions into tenancy agreements restricting the use of the premises and tenants are bound by them.

However, restrictive covenants are themselves not impregnable. They can be overturned by application to the Lands Tribunal for variation.

One of the grounds on which a variation order might be made is that, because of the change of character of the property or the neighbourhood, the restrictive covenant is now obsolete, and its continuance would impede reasonable use of the land for private or public purposes without providing any benefit to others.

Finally, a word about nuisance. The occupier can not use his property in such a way as to cause a nuisance to his neighbours. Nuisance can take the form of indirect physical injury to other property or interference in a substantial way with another person's enjoyment of his own land.

Whether or not any noise or smell constitutes a nuisance is a matter of degree for a court to decide. In 1940 the House of Lords giving judgment in a case of nuisance that had gone to the Law Lords on appeal said: "It is impossible to give any precise or universal formula, but it may broadly be said that a useful test is perhaps what is reasonable according to the ordinary usages of mankind living in society..."

As in many branches of law the touchstone is reasonableness.

Copyright The Law Society.

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The Editor accepts that errors of transcription and spelling inevitably occur in producing this magazine - and apologies to contributors and readers.

# VILLAGE VOICE

A DIGEST OF NEWS & A FORUM FOR VIEWS

Number ELEVEN

MARCH - APRIL 1984

PUBLISHED ON A BI-MONTHLY BASIS for THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL by  
the EDITOR: D.W.DRABBLE, at 10. BACKSHAY CLOSE, SOUTH MILTON, near  
Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 3JU. Telephone THURLESTONE 533.

All contributions for the contents will be welcomed by the Editor.

Enquiries for ADVERTISING should also be to the Editor.

## SPECIAL NOTE

The opinions and views expressed in the pages of this magazine are  
those of the contributors absolutely and should not be construed as  
being the views and opinions of any member of the  
Thurlestone Parish Council

# Thurlestone

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Will be held in

THE PARISH HALL - THURLESTONE

on

# TUESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH 1984

at 7.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: Mr. P.W.J.HURRELL

SPEAKERS INVITED:

COUNTY COUNCILLOR Mr. SIMON DAY, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR Mr. J. THOMAS

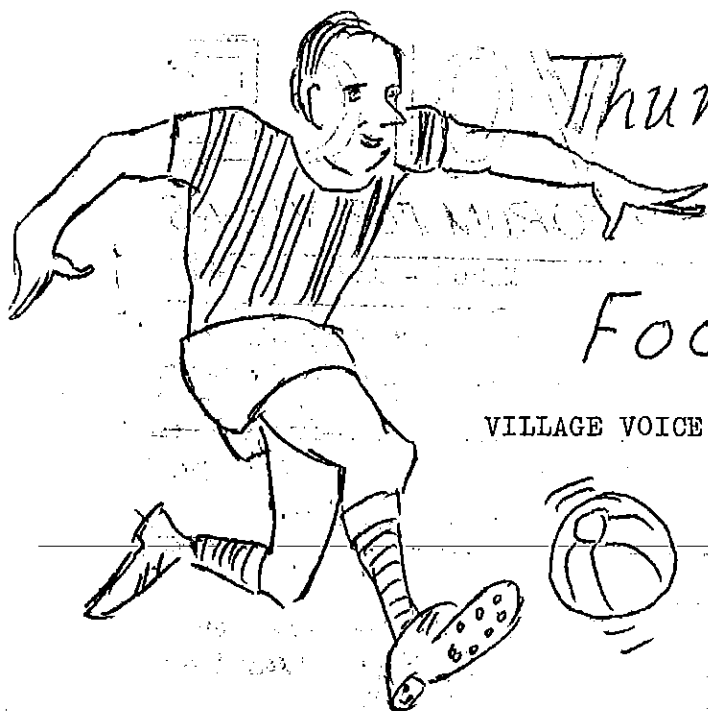
A DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING OFFICER

ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY POLICEMEN

The main item on the Agenda for OPEN DISCUSSION will be the SOUTH HAMS  
DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE SOUTH HAMS. Thurlestone  
is included in the KINGSBRIDGE AREA PLAN full details of which will be  
on PUBLIC VIEW in Kingsbridge from TUESDAY 6th MARCH.

If you are interested in the future of your Parish and the Kingsbridge  
Area you simply must go and view that plan. Look for details of times  
and place at the back of this publication.

What does all this planning cost us and how will it benefit us?  
Come and find out!



# Thurlestone and South Milton Football Club

VILLAGE VOICE SPORTS CORRESPONDENT WRITES.....

The First team have now settled into a mid-table position after, at one stage being up among the leaders, and looking one of the teams to beat in the League. They have had three good cup runs, one of which they are still in.

The problem is getting a settled side out to play each week. Early season they were able to do this and a string of good results proved the point. The Second Team has improved as the season has gone on and they appear to be getting a lot more respect from their opponents. Steve Sullivan must take a lot of credit for this with his organisation. Once again the club has fielded two teams each week which in itself is quite an achievement compared with some clubs in the league.

Off the field there have been some unhappy moments. Before the season started the Club Chairman, Mike Langman resigned. Mike did a tremendous job for the club over the seasons. On some occasions he held the club together on his own, and he also had a great deal of support from the villagers of Churchstow, who ran a Jumble Sale to raise funds for the club. Tony Lyle has now taken over as Chairman.

In early October there was the sad death of Mr. Reg. Penwell, a former Secretary of the Club. Mr Penwell and his family ran the club for several years and were respected throughout the South Devon League for their hospitality to opposing teams. Mr Penwell was also a great favourite with his own players. They would travel from all parts of the district to play under him. In Mr. Penwell's memory Pete Bromfield arranged a game between the promotion side against the current team, and his side showed they hadn't lost their touch by winning 5 - 1, with Dave Hammett scoring three ! The large crowd which turned up showed just how they felt about Mr. Penwell's contribution to local football.

This year we had a very successful Christmas draw night at the Sloop Inn, Bantam, with a darts match between Club members. Many thanks to Neil for the use of his premises, and thank you to everybody who bought a ticket and all those who so kindly donated the prizes.

The one thing the club would like is their own pitch. Each year they have to rely on the generosity of the local farmers, and team members envy some opponents who have not only their own pitch, but changing rooms on the ground. Some places smaller than Thurlestone and South Milton have superb playing fields. To get together a really successful team again the club need a pitch which they could look after themselves, and it would be advantageous to the local youngsters of both villages. They would be able to go and kick a ball around without fear of putting it through somebody's window ! The Draw winners were:

BOTTLE WINE: Mrs Jordan. 6 SHERRY GLASSES. M.Langman. BASKET OF FRUIT. D.Lee  
DUCK DINNER: Mrs Adam. BRUT SET: Mrs B.Mann. GLACIER MINTS: F. Rowe.  
CHAMPAIGN: Mrs Kayes. MOONLIGHT CHOCOS. Hermitage. BOTTLE WINE. Mrs M. Moore.  
MARTINI: Jonathan Hurrell. POTTERY NOWL: A.Turner. TELEPHONE GAME: G.Wolstencroft.  
TEDDY BEAR: N. Berryman.

# WOMEN in the COMMUNITY

THIS YEAR 1984 is a special one for the W.I. We want to tell everyone and especially women who are not yet members, about all we have already done and about the immense range of interests and activities available through membership. In other words, during 1984 we want to PROMOTE the W.I. and encourage more people to share with us the fun, friendship and sense of achievement we enjoy as members.

The breadth of W.I. involvement and the range of W.I. interests at national level is best demonstrated by focussing on three major areas which embrace all the W.I. do - Women in Public Life, Women and Education, Women and Health - and so the title "Women in the Community" was chosen for our Promotion.

Everything the W.I. has ever done to improve and develop conditions of rural life has been about women's contribution to the community whether it be at parish, district, county or national level. We're proud of what we've done. Since 1915 the W.I. in its quiet way has been a powerful influence in the social life of our country. It has campaigned on countless issues concerned with, for example, agriculture, the environment, health, family life, the status of women. As an educational charity it strives to achieve excellence in teaching, public speaking, drama, crafts, and so on, and we have a well-deserved reputation for sanity, common-sense and integrity.

Some people who don't know much about W.I., what it does or what it has to offer, think of it vaguely as having something to do with "elderly ladies who are good at home skills..." ! Elderly ladies may be included in its membership (some marvellous at home skills and some definitely not) but there are lots of young too, and all find so much available not only from their village W.I. but from the County and National Federations as well. So, what we want to do in 1984 is to convey to the public the TRUE image of the W.I. not a new image - Jam and Jerusalem yes, but lots more besides !

Nationally we have a number of new sponsors - British Home Stores, the National Bus Co., National Westminster Bank and International Stores. In "W.I. Fortnight" (21 May to 4 June) it is hoped that every W.I. in the country will take a day to introduce itself and its achievements to the local community by planning a special event. From 11 - 17 June our own residential College, Denman, (near Oxford) will hold a special Open Week to highlight the general educational work of the W.I. and the College. Then from 26 June to 1 July we take over Olympia for our National Exhibition. This will reflect all the aspects of W.I. life under the promotion theme "Women in the Community." To help make it financially possible, part of the Exhibition will include commercial exhibits, which will be integrated with the W.I. input, and members are contributing hand-made goods for sale in the Shopping Arcade. The issues Women in Public Life, Women and Education, Women and Health will be used as key factors in the Exhibition, and as many members as possible will be invited to demonstrate their skills and discuss their activities. If ever an event was destined to convey the true image of the W.I. our National Exhibition is it !

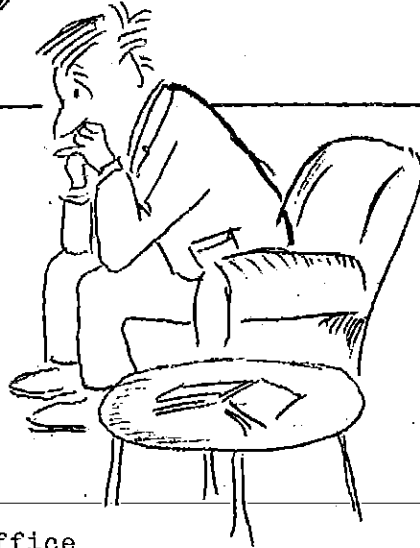
If you think you'd like to come along to W.I. a warm welcome awaits you. THURLESTONE meets at 2.30 p.m. on the SECOND THURSDAY each month at Thurlestone Parish Hall and SOUTH MILTON meets on the THIRD THURSDAY each month at South Milton Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

If you'd like to know more please phone the Thurlestone Secretary, Valerie Brown, on 202, or the South Milton Secretary, Daphne Julian, on 745.

Look forward to meeting you.

Pat. MacDonald.

# Villager Still Worried!



There must be few who could disagree when I say that the decline of a public service is usually caused through lack of support. Take the local 'bus services. The steady growth in ownership of a car or motor-cycle has rendered local bus services so uneconomic that without something like a 50% subsidy they would just not run.

Can the same situation arise with the village sub post-offices? Certainly no authority will offer a subsidy to keep them open and the Post Office itself does not appear to hesitate in closing down any sub office that falls below some prescribed figure of turnover.

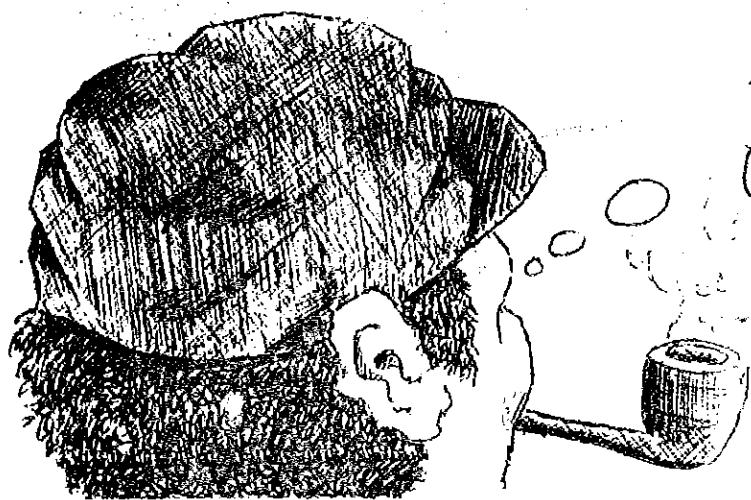
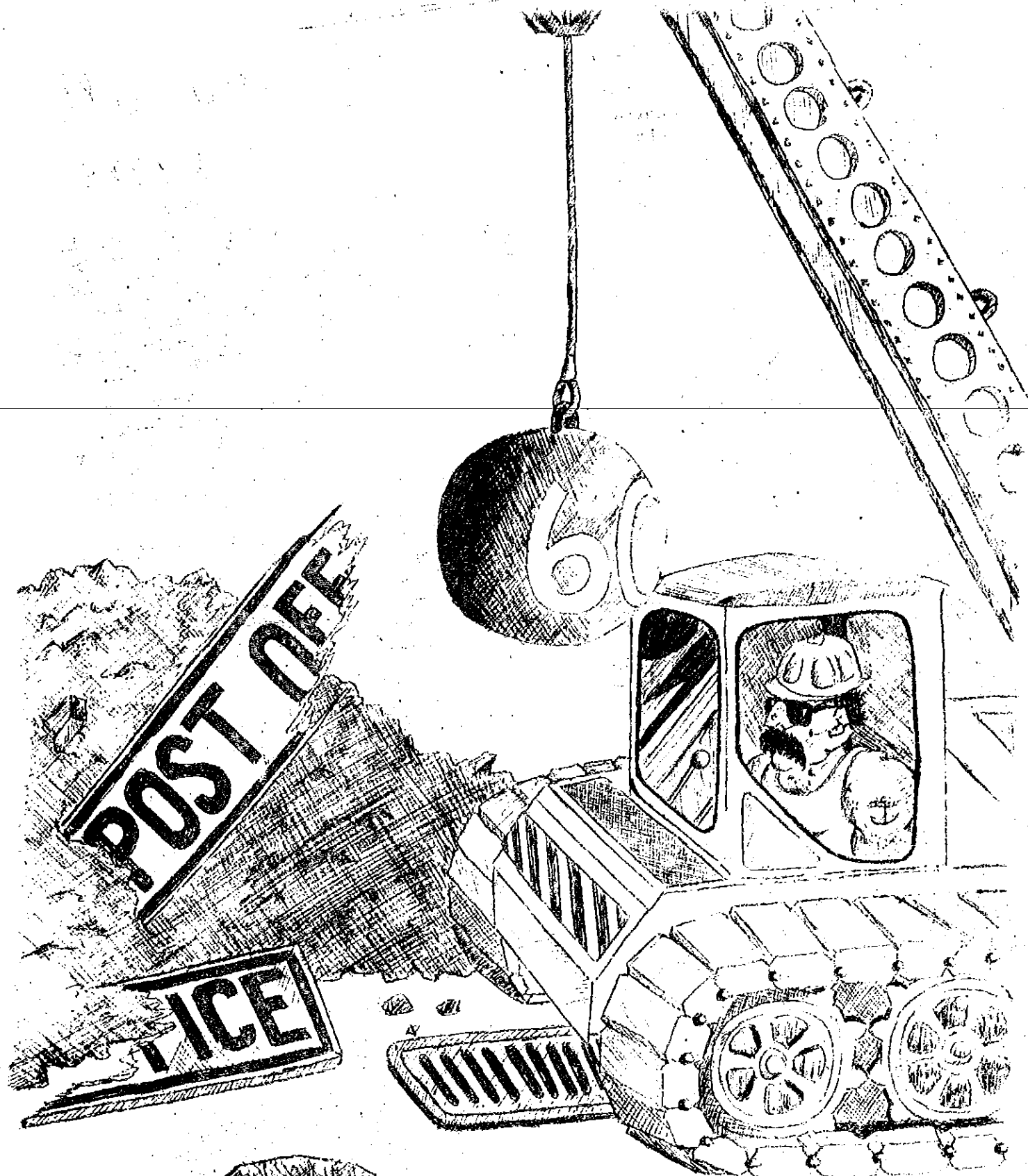
There is a drawing in this issue that may give you a laugh - but if you treat the demolition ball as the call for people with pensions and allowances to have them paid direct into a bank account then you will get the point. The village post offices cannot survive only selling postage stamps. An essential to their existence is the counter business with pension, allowance, giro, savings bank, television and dog licences, telephone accounts and the posting of your letters and parcels. Without that business your village post office could not remain viable either to the people who run it or the authority who are its 'masters'. It would be very worrying indeed, for all the elderly for young mothers and people without their own transport - if they had to trail into town to draw their pension or allowance, etc. And if you do have it paid straight into a bank account - you still have to trail into town to get your money! It is a worry!

=====

Parish Council elections don't come all that cheap. Thurlestone Parish has to pay out £376.31 for the election held in May 1983. What is the alternative to an elected council? One that has a number of 'press-ganged' members to make up its numbers? Surely an 'elected' council member is going to be far more interested in the goings on in his/her community - far more interested in fighting for what that community wants. Let me cut the cackle. Thurlestone has just 7 elected members and they will serve (D.V) for four years - that works out (I haven't got a computer!) at just about £13.50 each year for each member as the cost to the community. They are paid nothing at all for their services - unlike their County and District 'brethren' who collect more than that amount for just attending one meeting. So personally I would say the community doesn't get a bad deal. There is just one thing - £376.31 for a by-election if one were necessary - that would be a worry! However, ten people on the electoral register have to put their names forward before a by-election can be called - so perhaps I needn't worry, too much?

=====

The South Hams District Council 'Kingsbridge Plan' will be on display in early March in Kingsbridge. This Plan covers numerous parishes including Thurlestone. Until I can see that plan I am worried - and so should you be. I may be worrying for nothing, of course, but I gather the Parish Council are calling the Annual Parish Meeting on March 27th. 1984 in order to debate the whole thing with you - the community. The thing is you simply must go to see the Plan when it is on display - for there will be a definite period for the parish to make its objection to any proposal considered undesirable or unsuitable. So, do turn up - and save me at least one worry. Not enough people turning out to give a fair representation of parish opinion.



IF ONLY I'D USED  
IT, THEN I  
WOULDN'T HAVE  
'LOOSED' IT!

Dear Sir.....

Calling all  
Teenagers

I was amused by the anonymous "Peter Pan's" letter concerning my comments on the possibility of a Nudist beach at Thurlestone. What his "brain that never grew up" failed to notice was that I wrote about the effect on the locality, not on my own personal feelings. Let us not be misled by quotations from the poets, or the hackneyed and abused "Freedom of Speech" and "Live and let live" - a nudist area here might do his aged circulation good, but will it enable his brain, still in "never never land", to grow up and see the many real problems that such a development might produce.

Yours faithfully,

A.H.Dudley Tyas.

Thurlestone.

+++++

47 Years Ago

In 1937 the Parish Council Resolved that the sum of one shilling per meeting be paid to the Managing Body of the School for the use of the School Room for parish council meetings.

+ + + +

In October 1937 a letter had been received from the Kingsbridge Rural District Council enclosing a copy of a poster relative to Air Raid Precautions and asking that..("it be exhibited in the Parish Hall or in some other suitable room where it could be inspected by the public."

+ + + + +

During 1937 a letter had been sent to the Kingsbridge Rural District Council .."My council desires me to bring to your council's notice the extreme shortage of houses in this parish. The need for a dozen more is imperative!"

More - of the right kind - were eventually built. What is there for the younger generation of today who want to continue to live in the parish they were born in ?

+ + + + +

This coming Easter I am organising a walking holiday in the Lake District for teenagers above the age of 14 years. This trip is for six days, leaving early on the morning of Wednesday 11th. April, and returning by the evening of Monday 16th April.

It is planned to travel to the Lake District by Mini-bus, and stay in two Youth Hostels at Grasmere and Keswick, and from there go out for the day walking and climbing.

This is a repeat of a similar trip which I organised last Easter which was a tremendous success. The price of the trip is approximately £55. - which covers the hire of the Mini-bus, food, petrol and accommodation. There are only two places left to make a team of fifteen. If you are interested and would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at Kingsbridge Police Station - telephone Kingsbridge 2326.

In the last eighteen months that I have been one of the local Police officers at Thurlestone, I have organised trips for teenagers of the parish to places like - Police Headquarters at Exeter, the Royal Marines at Lympstone, and the Lake District, and, of course, a series of judo lessons.

If anybody has any ideas for trips or activities for teenagers, their ideas would be greatly appreciated and, if possible, I will arrange them. Please contact me at Kingsbridge Police Station - telephone as above - or write.

P.c. 13. John CASSON.

=====  
From Witches, Warlocks and Wurricoes,  
From Ghoulies, Ghosties and Long-  
leggity Beasties,  
From all Things that go bump in  
the night  
Good Lord deliver us !

A Cornish Litany.



# Thurlestone Conservatives

WILL BE HOLDING AN

## ANY QUESTIONS SESSION

CONCERNING ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT - in

the PARISH HALL, Thurlestone

at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m.

THURSDAY 3rd MAY 1984

SPEAKERS. Mr. ANTHONY STEEN M.P. (for National questions)  
Mr. ARNOLD SAYERS C.C. (Devon County Council)  
(Leader of the Conservatives)  
Mr. JACK THOMAS (South Hams District Council)

Admission to this event will be by ticket only which will include refreshments. These tickets will be limited to 100 (capacity of the Parish Hall) and can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Jean Sadler, Cedar Rose, Thurlestone.

(At the time of going to press the cost of the evening has not been finalised - but will be just to cover refreshments)

BOOK YOUR TICKET FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENING EARLY TO AVOID  
DISAPPOINTMENT

'Village Voice' is non-political and the above advertisement has been charged at the normal rate

## Reminder

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE SCHOOL  
are holding a

## JUMBLE SALE

at ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Thurlestone

on SATURDAY 17th. MARCH 1984.

10.30 a.m. - 12

CAKES & RAFFLE

PRODUCE AND PLANTS

WHITE ELEPHANT

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE  
SCHOOL.

+++++  
Secy: Jane Howey. (Thurlestone 600

## COMMUNITY CARE

TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE VOLUNTARY  
THURLESTONE COMMUNITY CARE CO-ORDINATORS

MORNINGS: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mrs Mary Moore - Thurlestone 548

Mrs Mary Elliott - Thurlestone 463

AFTERNOONS: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Mrs Lottie Jeffery - Thurlestone 676

Mrs Mary Elliott - Thurlestone 463.

EVENINGS:

Mrs Pauline Eaton - Thurlestone 404

Miss Rosemary Stocken - Thurlestone  
257 or 563.

If no reply on one number please try  
the alternative given.

JUST A LITTLE LOCAL SCHEME TO TRY TO  
HELP ANYONE OVER A TEMPORARY 'CRISIS'

+++++

# THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

WISH TO ANNOUNCE

+ + NEW HEATING INSTALLED + + + +  
+ + HIRE RATES CUT BY 50% + + + +

DO YOU

- (a) REQUIRE A MEETING PLACE
- (b) CLUB, DAY or EVENING VENUE
- (c) DAY OR EVENING CLASS/  
ACTIVITY LOCATION

WHY NOT CONSIDER 'THURLESTONE PARISH  
HALL ?

FIRST BOOKING FREE OF CHARGE  
TO NEW HIRERS !

TRY IT AND SEE

For full details please contact :

Mrs. PENWELL, HIGH VIEW, THURLESTONE  
Telephone 666

Thurlestone  
— WI —

ARE HOLDING A

# JUMBLE SALE

on SATURDAY 7th. APRIL 1984

in the PARISH HALL, Thurlestone  
commencing at 2.30 p.m.

DO PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS  
DATE !

NO CHARGE IS MADE FOR ADVERTISING  
LOCAL EVENTS (non-political ! ) in  
the pages of 'Village Voice' - the  
Newsletter/Magazine that goes into the  
home of every resident in the parish

## Thurlestone Conservatives

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held in  
THE PARISH HALL, THURLESTONE  
on FRIDAY 30th. MARCH 1984  
at 7.30 p.m.

The Guest Speaker at the Meeting  
will be Mr. ALAN GILBERT (Vice  
Chairman of the South Hams  
Constituency Conservative Assoc)  
THIS MEETING WILL BE FOLLOWED BY  
THE ANNUAL WINE AND CHEESE PARTY.

ADMISSION FREE

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Acknowledgement to 'Daily Telegraph'

## Inside Local Government;

A case for Radical Reform:

Alex Henny, the author, is a manag-  
-ement Consultant, one time Chief  
Housing Officer of a London Borough  
and subsequently advisor to the  
Department of the Environment.

In a closely argued, richly  
documented study he demonstrates  
that local government suffers from  
built-in inefficiencies which lead  
to massive waste of resources,  
political manipulation, nepotism  
and often downright corruption.  
The criticism of planning powers  
and their exercise is scathing.  
The cost of operating the system  
- as borne by ratepayers and  
applicants for planning permission  
- is equal to as much as 20% of  
annual expenditure on actual  
building..."when planners have  
exercised their powers to the full  
in inner cities some of the  
results have been disastrous."  
All associated with local govern-  
-ment (ministers included) should  
read this book. "Local Government  
Men" would do well to reflect that  
unless it is reformed soon, public  
discontent might well cause it to  
be swept away entirely.



# THE SHEEP DOG TRIAL

by  
John Eve

The moment that Green 164 slipped out of the release pen with five of her friends, I knew that I had made a terrible mistake. I ought to have known that something like this would happen when, reluctantly and obviously against my better judgement, I allowed the local sheep dog society to hold their annual trials on the farm. Too late and too horrified to attempt to retrieve the situation, I watched her familiar back-side disappear down the field. With a sideways skip and a toss of her head, she playfully bunted her nearest woolly companion before setting about the endless task of filling herself with grass.

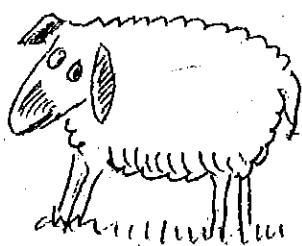
Green 164 (named from the eartag she had been given at birth and reared with some difficulty on the bottle) had been thoroughly humanised and imbued with a sense of humour and an almost devilish intelligence. To complement these undesirable attributes - undesirable in a sheep, that is - she also had an uncanny sense of the theatrical. It was 164 that stampeded a prize herd of Friesian cows when she appeared in our neighbour's milking parlour with a paper bag wedged firmly on her head. Of course she had only been checking to make sure that it really was empty!

"Did you know," said the village policeman one day, "that there is a dead sheep in the field over the road - and are you aware," he continued pompously, "that it is an offence under the act to leave dead stock lying about the place?" P.C. Tope had long been anxious to get his revenge on me since my sheepdog puppy had chased him and pulled off his bicycle clips as he pedalled majestically past the farm; wobbling desperately out of control, he had crashed through the gate to the sheep pens, skidded wildly down a steep incline straight into the sheep dip, which, fortunately, was full at the time. P.C. Tope did not seem to appreciate this when I told him that this fact had undoubtedly saved him from a nasty injury.

But I digress, and to return to his question about the dead sheep, I answered with the standard shepherd's reply to this query with a rather unconvincing - "they were all right when I looked at them this morning." We went down to the field and there, right in the middle of the twenty-acre, was an unmistakeable body, sadly lying on its side and devoid of any sign of life. "There you are!" said Tope triumphantly, as he reached for the button of his tunic pocket with an unerring hand and placed a large and well-polished boot firmly on the offending carcass. It was at this precise moment that 164 decided that she was not dead at all but had merely been enjoying a very sound snooze. She leapt to her feet with a guilty start, throwing the long-suffering Tope flat on his face, and disappeared through the open gate. It was an hour later that I found her in the churchyard paying her respects to a parishioner who had only been buried the day before, and with the remains of a floral tribute fast disappearing down her rapacious throat. She always had a liking for bright colours and had conveniently ignored the poisonous and rather dull laurel wreath that had been laid reverently against the bright new cross.

MORE.....

## The Sheep Dog Trial



One could go on for pages relating traumatic events like these disasters that had punctuated 164's life with an unreasonable frequency, but I had better return to the sheep dog trials that began the narrative.

The handler's dog had already made a very creditable wide sweep round the six sheep and was about to earn the maximum 20 points for the out-run and lift, when 164 must have noticed him out of the corner of her eye. She left her friends and wandered over to see whose dog it was. He retreated to his owner with his tail between his legs. All credit to him that he tried again when asked and although he had lost valuable points and time, managed to gather the ewes and eventually bring them down the field. The driving, which every discerning viewer of B.B.C.2 will know should be in a straight line, ended up on this occasion as a sort of zig-zag as 164, in the lead, tacked like a sailing dingy for every likely looking clump of grass or promising thistle. Many points were lost here.

\*The final attempt at penning was nothing short of disaster. Every time that patient and remarkably even-tempered dog manoeuvred the ewes to the gate of the pen, 164 would detach herself, step delicately over the crouched and trembling collie and walk to the handler in order to carefully inspect his pockets for the odd sheep nut or digestive biscuit, of which she was particularly fond.

Eventually the dog's temper snapped and he made a wild and savage lunge at his tormentor, missed her by an inch as she side-stepped to examine a chocolate wrapper blowing in the wind, and planted his sharp canines in the luckless handler's calf. With an agonised cry, the wretched man vaulted into the pen to the enthusiastic applause from the crowd, just as the whistle was blown to disqualify them on time penalties.

Green 164 still survives and is enjoying retirement - I could have sworn she winked at me the other day as walked past her field!

## MAKE A NOTE

### THURLESTONE & SOUTH MILTON

#### HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Show Committee is in the process of considering the Schedule for the 1984 Show - to be held at SOUTH MILTON on SATURDAY 4th AUGUST - and would like to hear from any residents with ideas for new or improved classes.

Please contact Pat Macdonald on Thurlestone 436 before 5th March.

#### on MONDAY 9th. APRIL

Mrs Jackson has kindly said she would hold a COFFEE MORNING - BRING & BUY to raise funds for the Show - 10.30 a.m. to noon at the Old Rectory, Thurlestone.

#### On SATURDAY 28th. APRIL

##### a JUMBLE SALE

will be held at SOUTH MILTON  
VILLAGE HALL

at 2.30 p.m.

also in aid of Show funds.

We should be most grateful for any support, goods to sell, offers of help and so on.

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#### THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 28th

APRIL 10th.

are the dates of the next two Meetings. 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, Thurlestone.

OPEN FORUM SESSION at both of these meetings.

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#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

for MAY AND JUNE

Please send in as early as possible - NOT LATER than the 15th APRIL

\*\*\*\*\*

Peter Bromfield

DAIRYMAN

Would like to convey his thanks to all his customers for their kindness, generosity and support during the Christmas period

Well Park,  
Links Road,  
SOUTH MILTON. Tel : Thurlestone 888.

\*\*\*\*\*



"PETTICOAT LANE" - AN APPEAL  
TO ITS WELL-WISHERS



In response to hundreds of requests from residents of the South Hams, "Petticoat Lane", the two-day super bazaar held to raise funds for South Hams Theatre and Arts Trust, is to be held again this year after a well-earned and much-needed respite for its many workers. It will be staged in Kingsbridge Market Hall on Monday and Tuesday, APRIL 16th and 17th, from 10am to 4.30pm each day.

The proceeds this year will be devoted to the decorating and furnishing of Kingsbridge Theatre's new upstairs Gallery Club coffee bar and lounge, which will replace the somewhat inhospitable atmosphere of the Town Hall entrance hall, where coffee has hitherto been served to theatregoers.

It is not too early for well-wishers to offer their help and/or items for sale - anything from a packet of pins to a herd of elephants will be welcomed by the organisers! - and collecting points for information or delivery of goods include the following:

Mrs Esme White, 24, Mead Lane, Thurlestone 368;  
Mrs Molly Oswald, The Old Rectory, Thurlestone 555;  
Mrs Helen Mortimer, The Red Box, Kingsbridge 2391;  
Mrs Joy Gaze, Buttville House, Kingsbridge 3439.

When you read this, there will be six weeks left for the organisation of the event, so please hunt out any belongings you can do without and offer your help as quickly as possible. You will be giving invaluable assistance to the Trust in its unceasing endeavours to make your Theatre more comfortable and more attractive for you all.

\*\*\*\*\*

ADVERTISING in 'Village Voice' reaches all the residents of Thurlestone, Bantham, West Buckland and a considerable number in South Milton, and the friends and relatives of readers passing it around. The cost is very little indeed at just £5 for a quarter page, with most attractive discounts for a series of six.

# PLANNING

## PERMISSION FOR NEW DWELLINGS WITHIN THURLESTONE PARISH

Reference to the Devon County Structure Plan provides the policy background to planning permissions for new dwellings within the parish. A dwelling will be permitted where it is well related to the existing village and where it is necessary to the economic or social well being of the area or where it will enhance its character. The economic/social/enhancement criteria was introduced in 1981 by the then Secretary of State for the Environment when he approved the County Structure Plan, and applies to the parish because it lies wholly within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In the rare case that the planning authority might wish to grant consent contrary to the Structure Plan, then it would be required to advertise its intention locally, seek the views of the County Council and then give due consideration to any objection before making its final decision. The danger would be setting an undesirable precedent.

Within the Structure Plan, provision is, however, made for permitting dwellings on agricultural holdings where the planning authority, having taken professional advice (either from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) or the County Estates Surveyor), is satisfied that there is an acceptable agricultural or horticultural need. If such a permission is granted then the occupancy of the dwelling is restricted by condition to those persons employed locally in agriculture. The planning authority has been most reluctant in recent years to subsequently remove such a condition as it considers such dwellings should be retained in the rural areas available to those persons who work in agriculture.

Further details can be obtained by reference to Planning Policies Practices and Programmes Vol.1 Paragraph 5(i) - (ix) which is available for inspection at the District Council Planning Dept Totnes.

J.V.THOMAS

This is the pancake season - why not have a cook-in and make some.....

## Stuffed Pancakes

for the freezer and for supper?

Make about 16 thin pancakes from your usual recipe

### STUFFING

1lb lean minced beef  
1 onion (finely chopped)  
2 level tablespoons flour  
1 clove garlic  
2 tablespoons oil  
16oz. tin tomatoes  
1 level teaspoon salt  
Black pepper  
2 teaspoons tomatoe puree  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  pint red wine  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  pint stock  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 teaspoon Basil.

(The Italians are so keen on this herb that they grow it in their greenhouses for use fresh in the winter).

METHOD. Heat oil and cook onion gently for 5 minutes. Add crushed garlic and beef and stir until meat is brown. Mix in the flour, tomatoes, seasoning herbs and tomatoe puree. Pour over wine and stock and bring to boil. Cover with lid and simmer very gently for 30 minutes.

SAUCE. Make a pint of milk, 2oz. flour, 2oz marg. salt and pepper into a sauce. Add a grate of nutmeg. This gives it the something different flavour. Don't use too much or it will give a bitter taste.

TO MAKE UP. Cool stuffing and fill and roll up pancakes with the filling.

UNCOOKED. Cannelloni can also be used instead of pancakes. Arrange in dishes and cover with sauce. These can then be frozen like that or put in the oven and cooked for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour at Gas No.5. Electric 180c or 360f.

When bringing them out of the freezer allow an extra  $\frac{1}{4}$  hr. if not unfrozen.

"Salute"

Recipes in 'Village Voice' are very kindly devised for you by a resident Cardon Bleu cook !



South Hams Theatre & Arts Trust

Monthly Programme of Events at

# KINGSBRIDGE THEATRE & CINEMA



Tuesday, March 13th, to Saturday, March 17th, at 7.30p.m.

Kingsbridge Dramatic Society presents:

## "THE RAPE OF THE BELT"

An hilarious comedy by Benn W. Levy



Seats £1.50 and £1 (under 18s & OAPs 75p), bookable at Ashby & Rogers, The Camera Shop, Fore Street, Kingsbridge or at Theatre Box Office on evenings of performances.



Wednesday & Thursday, March 21st & 22nd, at 8p.m.



## "MONTY PYTHON'S THE MEANING OF LIFE" (Cert 18)



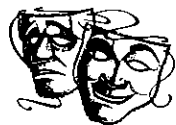
with Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin.  
The exhaustive and exhausting Python treatment expected for such a sacred subject.  
A brilliantly funny film.



Friday, March 23rd, at 8p.m.

The Orchard Theatre Production of:

## "ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA"



One of the most popular of Shakespeare's plays.

The last visit of The Orchard Theatre players to Kingsbridge produced a brilliant performance of "As You Like It", and the company's production of "Antony and Cleopatra" is said to be of an even higher standard.

Seats £2.50 (under-14s £2), at The Music Centre, Fore Street, Kingsbridge or at Theatre Box Office on evening of March 23rd.  
(N.B. A 20% reduction for parties of 10 or more).



Wednesday & Thursday, March 28th & 29th, 8p.m. to 10.30p.m.



## "SOPHIE'S CHOICE" (Cert 15)



Starring: Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline and Peter MacNichol.

An autobiographical melodrama with an Oscar-winning performance by Meryl Streep.



### ADVANCE NOTICE



Monday, April 2nd — Saturday April 7th (6 days only) at 7.30p.m.

K.A.T.S. presents the popular Rogers & Hammerstein musical:

## "CAROUSEL"



A moving love story packed with colourful scenes full of lively and unforgettable melodies.  
All the fun of the fair!

Seats £2 (under-14s £1), at The Music Centre, Fore Street, Kingsbridge or at Theatre Box Office on performance evenings.  
(N.B. MONDAY EVENING ONLY: ALL SEATS £1.00).

The Trust's Theatre and Cinema are operated entirely by volunteers—for your enjoyment

# Kingsbridge Theatre and Cinema • APRIL Events

+ + + +

MONDAY, APRIL 2 - SATURDAY, APRIL 7  
(six days only), at 7.30 pm.

K A T S presents  
the popular Rogers & Hammerstein musical

"CAROUSEL"

A moving love story packed with colourful scenes full of lively and unforgettable melodies. All the fun of the fair!

Seats £2 (under-14s £1) at The Music Centre, Fore St, Kingsbridge, or at Theatre Box Office on performance evenings.

N.B. Monday evening only. All seats £1

\*

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, APRIL 11th & 12th  
at 8 pm.

Ian Charleson, Ben Cross, Nigel Havens  
"CHARIOTS OF FIRE"  
(Certificate PG)

An outstanding award-winning film of human endeavour and courage.

\*

FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, at 8pm

VOVKA ASHKENAZY

The brilliant son of a brilliant father in a pianoforte recital including works by Chopin, Beethoven, Schumann & Prokofiev.

Seats £2.50 (under-14s £2) at the Music Centre, Fore St, Kingsbridge, or at Theatre Box Office on evening of April 13.  
(N.B. A 20% reduction for parties of 10 or more)

\*

MONDAY & TUESDAY, APRIL 16 & 17,  
10am-4.30pm, at Market Hall

By Popular Request the Return of

"PETTICOAT LANE"

the famous two-day bazaar in aid of the funds of South Hams Theatre & Arts Trust, where you find the year's best bargains of every description. The proceeds of this year's event will be devoted to the furnishing and decoration of the new upstairs Gallery Club coffee bar and lounge at Kingsbridge Theatre.

\*

See next column.....

## DRAFT KINGSBRIDGE DISTRICT PLAN

TOWN HALL, Kingsbridge:

Tuesday 6th March - 10am to 6pm  
Wednesday 7th March - 2pm to 6pm  
Thursday 8th March - 10am to 6pm  
Friday 9th March - 10am to 7.30pm  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Friday 9th March at 7.30pm

## PROBUS A.G.M

Thurlestone Probus Club held their sixth Annual General Meeting at the Thurlestone Hotel on Friday 10th. February, and 33 members attended.

Dr. Neville Oswald proposed Alec Morrison as his successor for the coming year, with Dr. Finn Lindahl as Vice Chairman. There were no changes in the other offices: Secretary: Dudley Tyas Treasurer: Harry Huggins, Committee: Harry Stribley and Harold Petrie.

Neville Oswald reported on a quite successful years' activity, and was thanked for his services by Admiral Sir Lancelot Peile.

PLEASE NOTE: The next two meetings will be on Fridays - Friday 9th March and Friday 13th April.

A.H.Dudley Tyas  
Hon. Secretary

Tel. Thurlestone 656

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY,  
April 18th and 19th, at 8 pm

Matthew Broderick, Dabney Coleman and John Ward..

"WARGAMES"

(Certificate PG)

Tense, exciting drama about a computer-adept teenager who causes an alert for World War III

\*

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
April 25th & 26th, at 8pm

Roger Moore & Maud Adams

"OCTOPUSSY"

(Certificate PG)

Bond's resourcefulness and ability to escape unscathed continues in this super-movie.



# YOUR 'LOCAL' OMBUDSMAN

For your 'Local' Ombudsman you write to 21, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BU !

If you consider that you have suffered because of maladministration by a local authority, (except a parish council!), by a police authority or a water authority, you may be able to have your complaint looked into by an independent 'Local' Commissioner (or 'Ombudsman').

Provided the action complained of was taken on or after the 1st. April 1974 (when the new authorities and this new system began), the Ombudsman will decide whether to investigate. If he does, then after he has finished the investigation he will write a report which normally must be made available to the public and press by the authority. The report will not normally mention people's names. If the local Ombudsman finds that someone has suffered injustice because of maladministration, the authority must tell the Ombudsman what they intend to do about it.

The Local Commissioner (Ombudsman) cannot investigate complaints about commercial transactions, job grievances and other personal matters, the general level of rates or water charges and certain education matters, including teaching and the internal organisation of schools and colleges.

Complaints about action by the police, as distinct from the administration acts of the police authority, should be made to the Chief Constable under separate procedure.

The Ombudsman can only investigate a complaint after you or a member of the authority have brought it to the attention of the authority and they have had a reasonable time to reply

If you have a complaint against an authority, you should first

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ATTENTIVE REALISTIC SITE SUPERVISION

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CONVERSIONS OF BARNs  
TO HOUSES AND COTTAGES

A SPECIALITY

complain to the department involved or the Chief Executive of the authority. If any action taken then does not remove your grievance you should then get in touch with an elected or appointed member of the authority against which you have a complaint. Generally this would be your local District Councillor, and ask him to help you to possibly proceed with a complaint through the 'Local' Ombudsman.

Sadly, the Ombudsman cannot force an authority to act if they decide not to

### FUNERAL DIRECTORS

to the South Hams  
for over 100 years



## J. & G. PERROTT

(D. O. I. Boulden)

15 Duncombe Street, Kingsbridge 2302

Private Chapel of Rest Day & Night Service

## VILLAGE VOICE

Written at the period of the 1930's Depression - they now call it 'Recession'  
- but so much of what is said here could so readily be applicable to  
the events of the 1980's.....

# *The Spring Clean*

Learn to make the most of life,  
Lose no happy day,  
Time will never bring thee back  
Chances swept away !  
Leave no tender word unsaid,  
Love while love shall last,  
The mill cannot grind  
With water that is past.

In these days of suspense and anxiety, when our nerves are keyed up to the highest pitch and most of our plans seem to go awry, we feel that life has lost its savour. There are times when it seems the strain to which we are subjected is more than we can bear, and frequently we hear someone say that 'Life is not worth living'.

Are we quite fair in blaming life, when, in all probability, our condition is brought about by our own mode of living? Life is a mixture of bitter sweet. It is good for us that it is so. God sends us trials to test us. We all get our share of trouble, as well as joy. Pain comes to each one of us, as well as pleasure, and failure as often as success. If life were always as sweet as honey, or as soft as a bed of rose petals, we would become too self centred, too self conceited, and make ourselves a nuisance to everyone around us.

Difficult as the times are, there is a ray of light shining through the darkness. We should remember that we get from life very much what we put into it. If we put in good things, we get good things in return; but if the reverse, then we are sure to suffer for it.

Most of us envy those people who have an abundance of this world's goods. How happy we should be, what we would do, we say, if we had a share of their riches, deceiving ourselves into the belief that the possession of money brings happiness.

Men and women spend all their lives working hard to amass wealth, only to find in the end that they have missed the richest blessings life can offer. The 'great' American millionaire, Vanderbilt, once said, "I have not had an hour's happiness in my life. My millions cause me endless anxiety day and night".!

In our feverish scramble for place and power we fail to see that the world is full of beautiful things. Like those of old, "we have eyes but we see not". If good fortune passes us by we are unhappy, and complain that life is not giving us a fair deal.

A well known advertisement reminds us that "Inner Cleanliness comes first." This is certainly true. Possibly our unhappiness is due to the fact that our inner lives are so clogged up with fears and suspicions that we see life far too darkly.

In the springtime of the year, housewives start on that great upheaval of the home known as 'spring cleaning'. Let us all do a little spring cleaning on our own account. Subject ourselves to close inspection. Examine our inner selves. Have a good 'clean up'. Turn out all the rubbish. Sweep away all those unkind thoughts we have cherished and stop fault finding and complaining! Put away all uncharitableness. Open wide the windows of our hearts and let in the sunshine of brotherly love. Resolve to make each day happier and brighter for our having lived through it, and experience the happiness which can come from unselfish, loving personal service. It is the little things that count. A kind word, a cheery smile, a word of praise and encouragement, a kindly action and banish the gloom from our own hearts and the hearts of others.

J.P.

Herringcove  
Point

BOROUGH

ISLAND

Murray's  
Rock

River Ham  
-End  
Avon

BANTHAM

WEST  
BUCKLAND

Kendall McDonald

Introduces you to a new .....  
..... LOCAL GAME

# NAME THAT ROCK!

Long Stone  
Butter  
Cove

THURLESTONE

Loam  
Castle

Warren  
Point

The  
Delves

The Books

Thurlestone  
Rock

Beacon Point

Woolman Point

Mouthwell Pt

Shippen

The Old Priest

Brandy Rock

Bury Stone

BOLT TAIL

Wolf Rock

IF you live near Thurlestone, you know them. After all you see them every day. Well, practically every day. But you can't tell me though how they got their name.

That's the trouble with old names - the names get passed on but not the reasons for them. And so many old names don't actually describe the thing to which they are attached. Oh, yes, there was a reason once. But what is it, that's what I want to know.

But I'm wandering away from the point - or several points in this case - and as usual I don't expect you know what I'm on about. Penny says it's a sign of old age....

Well, what I'm on about is books. Not your ordinary common-or-garden books...read one you've read the lot I say. No I'm on about the books. The Books. Yes, that's right, those Books, those rocks which rise up and break the surface each low tide, out at sea right opposite the middle of Thurlestone Sands.

Now why do you think they called them the Books? Can't say that they look the least bit like books to me, unless I'm always viewing them from the wrong angle. I mean why not call them South Milton Rocks or something like that? Well it could be, just could be because of something that happened in the forenoon of October 23rd. 1808.

Then the boom of guns filled our bay and an English merchantman came desperately close round Burgh Island and headed fast for Hope.

Ship on the run was the George and Ann of Exeter. Waterspouts from near-miss cannonballs gouted up on either side and her captain knew that it would need only one better-aimed shot to make his capture certain. The Captain knew too that capture meant a long spell in a French prison for him as the ship in hot pursuit was a French privateer and we were at war with France.

He didn't need his telescope either to know that the lugger racing along in his wake was a chasse-maree and not the kind of lugger normally used for fishing. This one was much bigger than the fishing lugger - 65 feet long, carrying up to ten guns, and a crew of over 70.

She was fast, much faster than her quarry, and though the chase had gone on all day the gap had closed steadily and now the raked-back masts of the French ship carried topsails as she closed in for the kill. English merchant  
MORE...

CONTINUING.....

# NAME THAT ROCK!

by KENDALL McDONALD

captains during the time of the Napoleonic wars feared these chasse-marées as many English ships had already been captured or sunk by this type of privateer in the channel. It looked as though the "George and Ann" was to be the next victim.

The English captain, however, knew these waters well; some reports say he was a Kingsbridge man. So he decided on a desperate ploy. The Book Rocks were not yet uncovered though the tide was going down. Gambling that the French captain lacked his local knowledge, he took the "George and Ann" right over the centre of the Books. The French ship kept right on after him.

Suddenly on the French ship there were yells of alarm. Perhaps they heard the first grating of the outer rocks on her hull. The next second the privateer struck hard and those tiled back masts came tumbling and toppling forward.

But the English crew had no time to cheer. The next moment they were in the same mess - firmly aground on the centre group of the Books! And there the two enemies stuck only yards away from each other!

So do you think the name of the reef had something to do with "being brought to book"? You see I can't find out exactly when the books became the Books. Of course the two ships in that 1808 chase were not the only, nor the first, ships to come to grief on those same rocks.

I expect you've often seen divers in their inflatable boats around the Books. Well, some of them tell me that they've seen very big anchors, very old and covered with growth, among the rocks. One in particular is said to be huge and some think it might have come from the "San Pedro El Mayor" the Spanish Armada hospital ship which was wrecked on the Shippem Rock in Hope Cove in 1588. The big anchor's stock is broken and that might well mean that it was Spanish. Way back in those Elizabethan days they had a saying "As rotten as a Spanish anchor," because the Spaniards' anchors were notorious for their weakness.

Hold on a minute. The Shippen Rock ?

Now that's another strange name. Why would anyone call a rock that? It doesn't look like a cattle-shed or byre to me. And I'm dead certain it was not called that after the farming writer in the 'Gazette', tho' they do say his farm is not all that far away!

Favourite reason for the name is that it has nothing to do with a shippen, but is a corruption of 'ship-in' or 'ship-on' to mark the spot where the Spanish Armada ship ended up when all on board were too weak to handle her and the winds which had blown her right around the British Isles finally dumped her in Hope Cove. Is that right? I doubt if we'll ever know.

But I do think I know why a nearby rock in the Cove to the Shippen is called The Old Priest. Not because it looks like an old priest, because it certainly doesn't. Nor does the rock look like that other kind of priest, the club used for whalloping congers or other big fish to kill them after being hauled aboard. No, my explanation emerged from the research I was doing for a book on South Devon diving and shipwrecks. I wanted to include in the book a photograph of one of the Spanish coins which are sometimes found under the sand near the old lifeboat slipway at Hope. They are said to come from the same Spanish Armada ship, the "St. Peter the Great". So when I found a letter in the 'Gazette' from Mr. T.A.P. Perring, who lived in Hope from 1907 to 1969 before moving to Somerset, saying that he had one of the coins, I wrote to him asking if I could photograph his Spanish coin.

I was, I must say, a little surprised when he said I couldn't because he hadn't got one! He had, however, got a Portuguese coin which had been found by the slipway. He added for good measure that quite a few of them had been found there when the slipway was being built for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution between 1912 and 1914.

Never mind, I said, I expect Spanish ships carried Portuguese

CONCLUDING.....

# NAME THAT ROCK

coins in 1588. Not these, they wouldn't, said Mr. Perring. The coins he had were Cruzados of Joao IV of Portugal and that particular King John hadn't reigned until 1640. And he had a letter about his coin from the British Museum to prove it. And he had too!

So I had to do some more research for my South Devon diving guide and finally came up with this description of a ship which would fit the date of the Portuguese coins. It was in an old book and after telling of the Spanish Armada shipwreck in Hope went on:

"At a later date a foreign ship went upon the rocks, and the inhabitants of the village were soon aboard. Having found there a Roman Catholic priest, they concluded that he was a Jesuit, come as in Elizabeth's time to conspire against the government of the country. So they locked him up in the cabin and sent for the Malborough dogs - that is the local pack of hounds - to hunt him about the country, this being a form of insult offered in former days to unpopular people. The unfortunate man was saved from this outrage by the intervention of the local gentry."

Though no date of the wreck was given, it was clear that "Elizabeth's time" was not long past so it could well be in the middle 1600's. I would ask you to note too that being torn to pieces by a pack of hounds was only a 'form of insult' handed out to unpopular people. By gosh and by golly I'd have tried to stay popular in Malborough and Hope, wouldn't you?!

So where do you think the wreck took place? Well, it was obviously somewhere in Hope where "the inhabitants of the village were soon aboard". And that sounds to me as though she hit the rock they still call "The Old Priest" to this very day.

I think you must agree that was

an outstanding piece of rock detection. I mean some names are hardly worth bothering about. Take all these Mewstones you find dotted around the South Hams coast. Mewstone? Simple. The name "Mew" was just another word for the common seagull. Any rock on which they spent any length of time was likely to end up a Mewstone.

Oh, yes, I am really into rock names at the moment. Just say "Name That Rock" and away I go. For example, a rock in which I am particularly interested just now is the one that sailing folk at Bantham will insist on calling Murray's Rock. It's the one beside Burgh Island that's a good mark for coming out of the Avon.

Well they call it Murray's, but it hasn't been that very long as rock names go. In 1884 it was the Merries, and further back in 1765 the locals called it the Merris Rock.

Before you ask who the heck was Mr. Merris, I think I've found a clue to the name. Merris might well have come from the early French name for the wild black cherry - meries. In early English days we called the wild black cherry, a "merry". So do you think there were wild black cherries on the rock? Or sloes? Well, I only asked. And if you think you can do better - YOU name that rock!

K. McD.

=====

On the 15th OCTOBER 1854 there appeared the following advertisement.

TRENDWELL.  
South Milton.

Situated in fertile Parish of South Milton, comprising new built FARM-HOUSE, with barns, stables and other requisite buildings - now in the occupation of Messrs and Mrs Hannaford.

The Estate is conveniently situated for manure - part of it adjoins Thurlestone Sands where sea weed can be procured at a trifling expense, and lime kilns are within a mile.

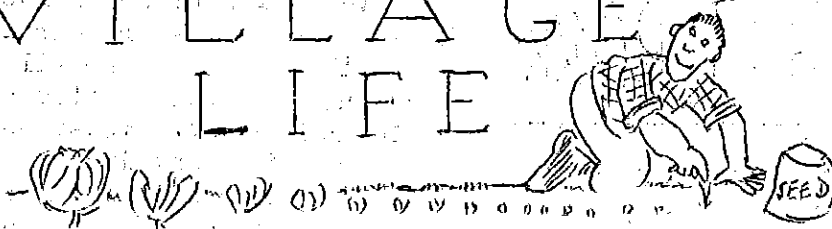
For viewing

Apply: Mr Timewell, South Milton.

=====

Thank you D.J. for this bit of history!

# VILLAGE LIFE



There's nowhere to go in the villages the unknowing town's folk say;  
And "What do you do in the winter to keep yourselves happy all day?"  
They do not know what they are saying, or surely the wise ones would know  
That there's always something to do, and frequently somewhere to go.

You can join, depending on age range, the Play Group, or Youth Club, and then  
There's W.I. and Church-going; Parish Council, F.T.S. or a yen  
For handicrafts - knitting and sewing; or green fingered plant growing too;  
Those who do flower arranging; keeping fit, playing golf; even you

May feel able to join a Committee; in which case, that's only the start;  
Coffees, teas, lunches and jumbles; the Fete, where all play a part.  
Raffles and sales and an auction; the Horticultural Show;  
Harvest Festival; carol singing; Christmas Dances; Did they say "Nowhere to go!"

Meals on Wheels, and other assistance will rapidly pass the day by;  
Playing bridge, you will find in the winter, will help the evenings fly;  
Leaving not enough time for the housework, and things you really should do  
At home - the children demanding, and sometimes your better half too!

Weekends are a time for the family; and shopping and washing the car;  
Then there's the cleaning and cooking, and not feeling like going too far  
When you think of things needing attention - each day there's not enough time  
To do all you planned at the outset; so enjoy it and never mind.

Ah, well, there's always tomorrow - manana, again and again,  
My article's nearly written, there's no time for more now, the rain  
Has started to batter the windows, I must stop to pick in the clothes  
Which I washed, between jobs, this morning, interrupted by telephone calls.

I hope this has given an insight into ordinary country life -  
If everything goes very smoothly, perhaps a husband and wife  
Can occasionally sit with their feet up and snatch a quick cup of tea,  
And if nothing is on in the village - there's always the faithful T.V.

E.B.S.

## THIS - FROM SWEDEN!

"The Haggis is a vicious breed,  
with habbits like a sloth,  
It builds a nest of Harris Tweed,  
and bits of a Tartan Cloth.  
It only ventures out at night  
and hunts in packs like dogs,  
It gives a green and ghostly light  
and makes a noise like frogs.  
The natives catch them by their tales  
to dodge their beating wings,  
Then fix a clothes peg on their nose  
and eat the blooming things!"

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES ON

13th October 1937

## HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES

A letter was received from the Rural District Council enclosing copies of reports of proceedings at Meetings of the Housing Committee from which it was noted it had been decided to make application to Mr A.E. Stidston for a 12 months option of purchase of one acre of land at £200 per acre with water laid on !

# Information

Access to local government information: Your legal rights and how to get them - is the title of a booklet produced by the Local Government and Health Rights Project. It explains in detail the public right of attendance at local authority meetings, the right to inspect minutes and financial documents, and rights to inspect documents relating to housing, planning, education, social services, roads and pollution - and gives advice on how to obtain those rights.

Copies may be obtained Price £1 plus large stamped addressed envelope, from the Project at 157, Waterloo Rd, London SE1 8XF

+++++

The Countryside Commission has published 'Our programme for the Countryside 1983-88' - a five year programme of action to conserve the countryside and provide for public enjoyment and recreation. Copies may be obtained from the Commission at John Dower House, Crescent Place, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3RA.

+++++

'Swimming in the community' has been compiled by the Sports Council from a postal questionnaire which received a 98% response from local authorities in England. It reveals those authorities are planning to build over 200 new indoor pools in the decade ahead, and one third of them are likely to be 'leisure' pools!

Not likely at the Kingsbridge Sports Centre I fear.

## SOUTH MILTON • STORES • and POST OFFICE

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• FRUIT and VEGETABLES •

LOCAL BREAD • OFF LICENCE

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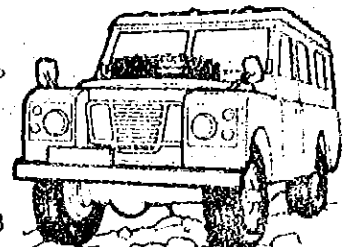
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The following are from LEGAL NOTES in the Local Council Review

NEW REGULATIONS FOR FEES FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

With effect from 1st. December 1983 some aspects of the fees scheme for planning applications have been amended and the level of fees has been revised. The new Regulations, which consolidate the existing ones, reflect the conclusions of a review of the operation of the fees scheme last year.

A general increase of 7 per cent in all fees has been made. For example, an application to extend a dwellinghouse now costs £24, while an application to erect a dwellinghouse costs £47 per house. The National Association of Local Councils secured a 50% reduction in the fee for applications by parish councils.

A 'free go' is allowed where a planning permission has already been given within the previous 12 months and a slightly revised permission is requested by the developer.

A new category exists for agricultural glasshouses and polythene tunnels; a flat rate of £280 is payable for all non-outline applications to create over 465 sq.m. floorspace, and no fee is payable below that size.

The exemption from fee of applications to improve a house for the benefit of a disabled person is being extended to cover cases where he or she is not yet resident, and also to cover improved access to public buildings of any kind.

SPEED LIMITS & STREET LIGHTING

In a circular issued in August 1983, (Department of Transport) to county and district councils the effects of the changes made by the Transport Act 1982 on speed limits and how they are signed are explained. This subject is important to all local councils which provide lighting systems and also those pressing for speed limits in their areas. Since 1st November 1982 the provision of a street lighting system on any road has automatically attracted a 30 mph speed limit, except where the road is already subjected to a higher limit.

Without street lighting there can be no speed limit restriction imposed.

CAMPAIGN TO STOP MISUSE OF AIR WEAPONS

A free leaflet "Gun sense is good sense", is available to the public at police stations.

LOCAL OMBUDSMEN REPORT

The three English Local Ombudsmen have reported a slight increase in complaints against local authorities in the year ended 31st March 1983. As usual most complaints were about housing (35%) or planning (30%).

The Local Ombudsmen found maladministration in 59 per cent of the 316 full investigations which led to published reports. But overall it was found in only 8% of the complaints considered. A further 14% were settled locally without formal investigation.

All three Ombudsmen record that local authorities are generally ready to accept criticism and redress injustice, but they criticise the few councils which do not adopt that positive approach. They also agree that citizens should be able to approach them direct as well as through a councillor.

PARISH COUNCIL PLANTS STINGING NETTLES

Belmont Parish Council, Durham, has recently scheduled a piece of land on 24.4 acres of rough pasture land which it owns to be planted as a 'butterfly garden'.

Mrs Jean Middlemass, Chairman of that Parish Council, comments that it is a sad thought that our children and grandchildren may miss seeing some of the wild life and wild flowers that we have taken for granted. Butterflies are particularly at risk as herbicides and modern farming methods have destroyed their habitats.

'Butterfly Gardens' are very simple to establish and can be as small or large as you want, she says. It has been so simple & inexpensive to establish this garden and urges every council & garden owner to do the same.





## *"The Poem"* by Janet Ann Jacobs

'BARBARA HARRIS SERIOUSLY ILL - STOP - COME AT ONCE' said the telegram. It was signed by their doctor. Ruth Luxmoore had left with Barbara her London address for this brief holiday, and she winced at the ungenerous thought that it was just like Barbara to spoil it for her! Her second reaction had been that if Barbara died, 'The Poem' - Ruth always thought of it as if it were within quotation marks - might at long last come into her own rightful possession.

Fiercely ramming both thoughts back into her subconscious, Ruth had caught the first possible train to Exeter.

Now, watching the countryside slip backwards past the carriage window, she let her thoughts slip backwards with it: backwards over the barren life she had lived since that moment of heartbreak when she had lost Robert to the more flamboyant Barbara. From then on, Ruth had built on the ruins of her romance that façade of efficiency which for thirty years she had presented to the world.

It had been less than a year after her friend's wedding, and on a day when she had dropped in casually for tea, that Ruth learned her heartbreak was a heartbreak shared by Robert.

Barbara greeted her excitably.

"Ruth!" she cried. "Just look what I've found!" And she waved a sheet of paper at Miss Luxmoore just as Robert wandered in from the garden, and she caught his startled look of alarm as Barbara said "It's a poem. I found it in his desk. My dear, it's too, too divine!"

Ruth, glancing at Robert, saw the anguished appeal in his eyes, and quickly turned back to Barbara, who was fluttering like a silly bird.

"Fancy!" Barbara trilled. "A love poem written specially for me!" And she handed the poem to Ruth.

As she scanned the lines in that well-known handwriting and took in the secret references that only she could understand, Ruth knew for whom the poem had really been written, and realised the truth of that absurd cliché about one's heart turning over. She knew, in a fleeting telescoped series of revelations, that she had lost Robert by a stupidly prim fear of being rebuffed if she had too obviously shown her love for him; that he was profoundly unhappy now that he had realised Barbara's essential shallowness; that she, Ruth, could no longer comfort herself with the thought that at least she had surrendered him to a woman whom he loved; and that his heart's outpourings in this wonderful poem were, by a final bitter irony, to be stolen from her along with everything else that could have made life liveable.

Ruth experienced a moment of whirling mental indecision in which she saw herself thrusting the poem into the modest décolletage of her blouse, running away with it to her cottage and locking herself in.

But of course she did nothing of the sort.

As she handed the poem back to Barbara, she caught an imploring look from  
MORE....

CONCLUDING.....

## "The Poem"

Robert and essayed what she hoped was not too twisted a smile of congratulation to Barbara. "You see!" said Barbara triumphantly. "A love poem for me. I shall keep it forever."

And then, only a few months later, Robert's car accident. The call had come from Much Welton Hospital, and Barbara had rushed across to Ruth's cottage in a panic.

— They had reached him only just in time.

Before Robert died, he had turned his head on the pillow and looked into Ruth's eyes. "You'll take care of Barbara, won't you," he had murmured, and, after a pause, "I'm sorry, Ruth." She had nodded speechlessly, pressed the limp hand lying on the coverlet, and fled. And presently Barbara had come out, staggering like a drunken woman, and collapsed into her arms.

Barbara had paraded her grief inconsolably over the succeeding months and years, and Ruth had had to bully her constantly. It was a continuing battle between sense and sentiment until one day she had surprised Barbara in the act of writing a letter to the Help One Another column in the 'Much Welton Examiner' over the pseudonym "Friendless."

"You'll see," Barbara had said defiantly. "I shall get some sympathy now, even if it is anonymous."

Ruth had doubted this, but it seemed she had been wrong when, on the following Friday week she had scarcely put her foot through the doorway of Barbara's house before a copy of the "Examiner" was being triumphantly waved in her face.

And there, indeed, in the Help One Another column, was a reply to "Friendless" Written over the pseudonym "Comforter", it was, as Barbara was at pains to emphasise, most kind and sympathetic.

Thereafter, the affair had become an intermittently regular correspondence, and whenever Ruth had occasion to chide Barbara for any backsliding in the matter of "little illnesses", her friend would invariably produce some cutting or other of a "Comforter" letter and ask Ruth why she couldn't help her like this other friend did.

Between them, Ruth had had her hands full. But now it seemed that her hands might be empty. By the time the taxi

Exeter got her to Barbara's house, her friend was sinking and only able to speak slowly and a few words at a time. "Missed you, Ruth," she murmured as Ruth came quietly to her bedside in the train of the nurse who had opened the door. And then, after a pause, Barbara added with a pitiful little air of triumph, "You see, Ruth, I was ill - all the time."

After a few minutes, Ruth saw that Barbara's hand was groping, and she put out her own, the act bringing a sudden heart-piercing memory of those last few moments by Robert's bedside in the hospital ward. Her hand was taken in a hold whose feebleness forced tears into her eyes, and it was still being held when, a little later, Barbara died.

For the first time in years, Ruth's carefully preserved facade crumbled. She laid her face on the bed and cried like a child....

It was on the day of the funeral that she learned, from Barbara's lawyer, that her friend had left her house and the bulk of her money to Ruth. But there was, it transpired, one curious bequest.

It concerned a poem by his client's late husband. It seemed, the lawyer explained, that his client cherished this poem and had chosen it as the one most treasured thing in her possession to bequeath to a pen-friend with whom she had corresponded for a number of years through the columns of the "Much Welton Examiner".

Ruth for the life of her could not stifle a startled cry. She felt a flush of embarrassment as she saw the lawyer's raised eyebrows, and she found herself floundering as she tried to explain to this poker-faced man of the law the hidden sentiment that had let her, while chiding her friend with one hand, into comforting her with the other: To confess, in short that the pseudonym "Comforter" concealed the identity of Ruth Luxmore.

And even as she made clear her legal claim to 'The Poem', she realised it was not her years of self-sacrificing duty, but her one moment of weakness in yielding to the promptings of her heart that had brought this one priceless thing to her at last.

## DID YOU KNOW?

There are a number of earth-works of archaeological interest in the South Hams.

At Blackdown, about half way between Kingsbridge and Dartmoor, is a large earth-work with motte and inner and outer baileys. This site is called the Loddiswell Rings and covers about 10 acres. Near to it are several hut circles.

There are two impressive earthworks at Halwell on the Totnes Road, the smaller Stanborough Camp, being of the elliptical type with one entrance.

Another, of the promontory type, as at Bolt Tail, and there is one of a simple enclosure type at Bantham Ham.

On the opposite side of the Salcombe Estuary is Rickham Common, surmounted by more earthworks.

=====

THE NEXT ISSUE OF 'VILLAGE VOICE' WILL BE FOR THE MAY/JUNE PERIOD

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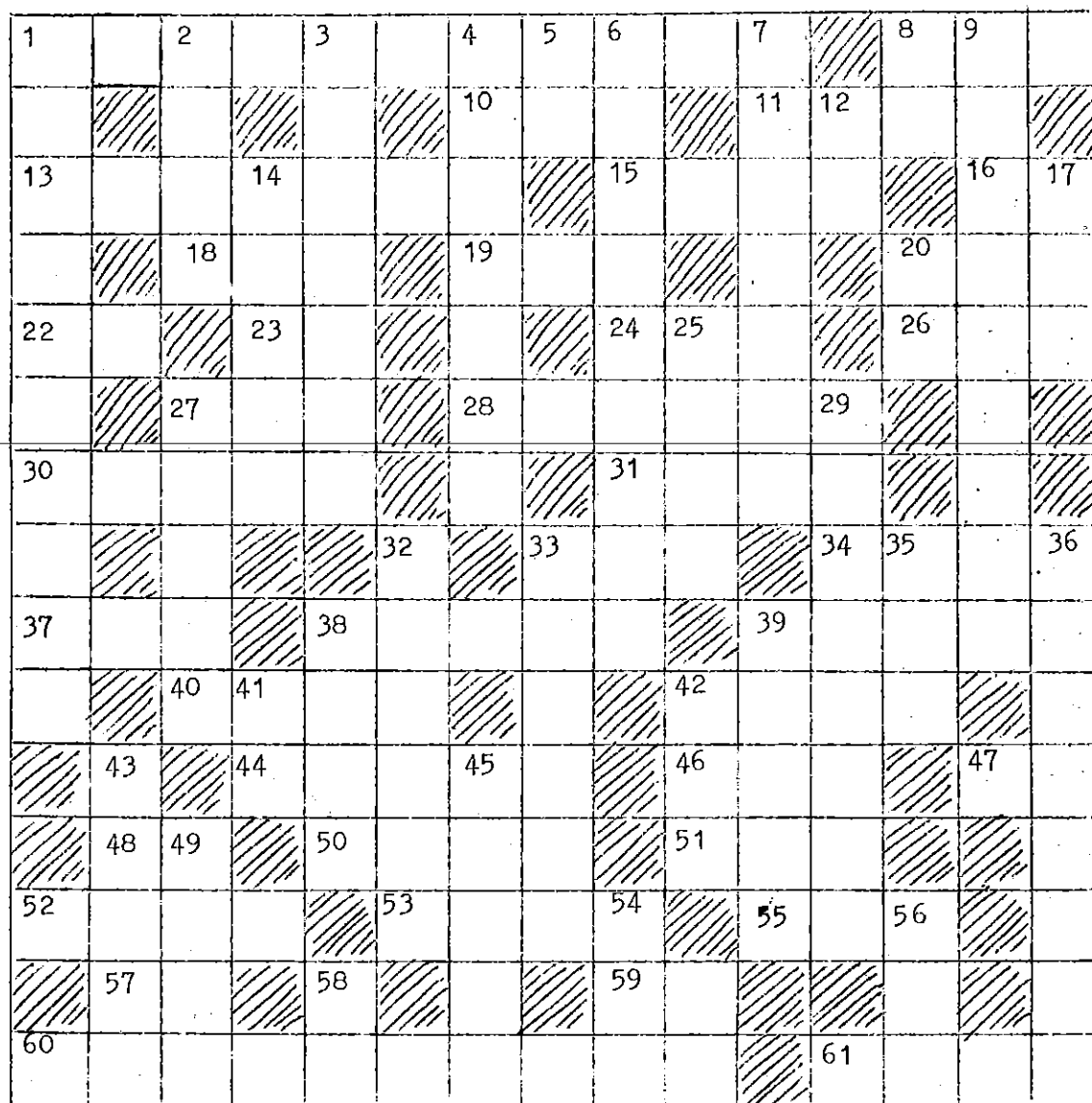
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VILLAGE VOICE CROSSWORD NUMBER 6



Compiled by Bruce MacKay

CLUES ACROSS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Are only Royalty allowed to cross here? (11)  | 37. Belongs to us (3)                                    |
| 8. East Anglian Cathedral (3)                    | 38. Scots king, with webbed connections (5)              |
| 10. Girl's name (3)                              | 39. Lardy is not a cake, but place near East Kilbride(5) |
| 11. Jumbled care provides 4840 Sq.Yds            | 40. Not mine (4)   |
| 13. Town sacked by the Medes(7) (4)              | 42. The Dame's the name here(4)                          |
| 15. Used on old convicts (4)                     | 44. Fight flab, if you have this tyre (5)                |
| 16. 'I would' - shortly (2)                      | 46. Mrs Peron (3)  |
| 18. Poetic before (3)                            | 47. Stars and stripes (2)                                |
| 19. The U.K. & the Arabs gush about              | 48. Hear the gentle lark (2)                             |
| 20. Solid H2O (3) it (3)                         | 50. Later - or nameless (4)                              |
| 22. On condition that (2)                        | 51. Would bird-watchers see this on Broadsands? (3)      |
| 23. Alternative gold in France (2)               | 52. Cipher - or morse (4)                                |
| 24. Remove loudness from hearth to get angry (3) | 53. Altho' no death penalty, moderns are hung here! (4)  |
| 26. How many Commandments? (3)                   | 55. 4'o(clock time (3)                                   |
| 27. She was "Sweet as Apple Cider"(3)            | 57. Old English (abbr) (2)                               |
| 28. Up or down (6)                               | 59. Exclamation (2)                                      |
| 30. Chairmen keep order with it (5)              | 60. Do they leap in this clearance (5,5)                 |
| 31. Nil (4)                                      | 61. If you used yours, would you be Upper Crust? (4)     |
| 33. The Apostles did (3)                         |  |
| 34. The 24 Blackbirds - or Magpies were (4)      |  |

# VILLAGE VOICE

CROSSWORD No.6.

CLUES DOWN

1. London Suburb, of Peter Pan?(10)
2. "The....Tailors" were bells (4)
3. Quite a lot (7)
4. Supply another dwelling (7)
5. Not out:(2)
6. 'The Primrose Path' to dawdling - or the SDP ? (9)
7. Opposite of Western (7)
8. Brief hesitation (2)
9. 'Dusty Hare & David Gower play here (9)
12. It shows the car's Swiss (2)
14. Grind - or wear down (5)
17. Maybe lair - or opium (3)
20. Preposition (2)
25. There's trouble when this Act is read (4)
27. We hear a Russki querying a tusk (5)
29. Divide (8)
32. "Ears like.....wings". G.K.C's Donkey (6)

33. Often used to emphasize - regionally ? (6)
35. Of that ... (3)
36. Do Undertakers use to colour fabrics? (8)
38. In short - the Nuffield Scheme(4)
39. Lower the boat, with this (5)
41. The Ordnance Survey - or largish ladies (2)
42. Jellies do it & Scots Dancers (3)
43. Have a drink in this vessel in Bantham (5)
45. These are narrow in S.Hams (5)
49. E.Europe river, not smelly (4)
54. These fish may be AC/DC (3)
56. In the past (3)
58. Article (2)

The solution to this Crossword will be found at the bottom of this page.

Can YOU compile a crossword as well as solve one ?

## What shall we do when there isn't one?

As part of the process of looking at expenditures which are not directly related to its rail services British Rail are discussing long-term plans for public conveniences at railway stations.

At present there are conveniences at about 1000 stations out of a total of 2,360. Improvements will be made at about 450 stations and at the rest the conveniences will gradually be closed down. The 450 stations will be those with buffet facilities and those important interchange stations where passengers may have to wait a long time for their connecting train.

The main reason for closing down the facilities at the other stations is their cost. Station conveniences if unmanned are particularly vulnerable to vandalism and the costs of repair are high and may be frequently incurred. The closure process is not expected to be sudden or final. It may take up to 10 years to close all the conveniences in the closure category. The date of any closure is likely to be fixed either by a bout of vandalism or by the need for substantial repairs or the rebuilding of the whole station. In their way the situation and the proposals are a neat example of the problems currently facing all kinds of public bodies in the provision of desirable facilities.

ACROSS. 1. Kingsbridge. 8. Ely. 10. Bna. 11. Acre. 13. Nineveh. 15. Lash. 16. I.D. 18. Ere. 19. 011. 20. Joe. 22. If. 23. or. 24. Ire. 26. Ten. 27. Ida. 28. stairs. 30. Gavel. 31. none. 33. act. 34. pled. 37. out. 38. Bruce. 39. Dairy. 40. your. 42. Sark. 44. spare. 46. Eva. 47. us. 48. to. 50. Anon. 51. Tlt. 52. code. 53. Tate. 55. tea. 57. OE. 59. Rh. 60. Spring sale. 61. loaf.

DOWN. 1. Kensington. 2. nine. 3. several. 4. rehouse. 5. in. 6. dalliance. 7. Eastern. 8. er. 9. Leicester. 12. CH. 14. erode. 17. den. 20. It. 25. riot. 27. Ivory. 29. separate. 32. errant. 33. accent. 35. ilk. 36. dyestuff. 38. BUPA. 39. Davlt. 41. OS. 42. set. 43. Sloop. 45. roads. 49. Oder. 54. Fel. 56. ago. 58. an.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No.6

VILLAGE VOICE

D I T T I S H A M

O Dittisham! O Dittisham!  
Village of beauty fair;  
We found you, yes we found you  
You were really there

Up and down the hills we rode  
Then pulled up with a rattle;  
For there stood right in front of us  
Were five large Friesian Cattle!

We looked at them,  
They looked at us  
In the way that all cows do  
And then one Dittishammed on the  
( road  
Without benefit of a lool

We rode to bottom of the lane  
But Alas! my dears, Alack!  
Altho' we'd hoped, hoped to get  
It was a cul de sac! ( away

So round we steered  
And drove uphill  
Along and up the lane  
And through the Dittisham on the  
( road  
Which we had met again.

The Tyres with their deep-cut  
(tread  
Had picked up quite a lot  
And soon we knew inside the car  
The Dittisham was hot!

We lowered windows - sped away  
To lose that perfume rare;  
And blessed the day we went for  
(plums  
To Dittisham the fair.

A. FRENLEY-GROCKLE

++++  
On Tuesday, December 19th 1893  
the first train was actually run  
from Kingsbridge.

Up to about 1900 Mill Street had  
formerly been the only access to  
Kingsbridge from the Salcombe Rd.  
W.R. Ilbert, then owner of Quay  
House had Ilbert Road constructed  
and presented to the town. This is  
the stretch of road from the Quay  
to the point where Mill Street and  
the old Salcombe Rd. (from Ticket  
Wood) join the present road.

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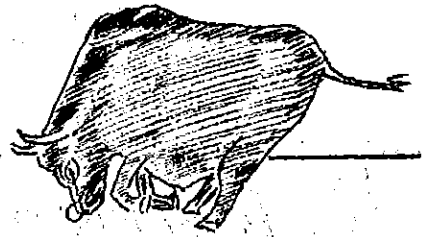
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# Bull Baiting



by Dr. NEVILLE C. OSWALD

Bull baiting was never practised in Thurlestone, as far as is known. It would have been inappropriate to have done so in such an out of the way place. Contests were held in market towns such as Totnes and Ashburton, usually on public holidays in the winters, and they drew large crowds from all over the South Hams with, doubtless, some from here among them. After all, enterprising villagers could easily arrange to sail from Bantham to Dartmouth in a coastal carrier, almost certainly a sloop, and then transfer to another for the trip up the Dart on a rising tide to Totnes. All they had to do then was to walk over the bridge and there they were, the baiting being held on the flat space in front of the Seven Stars Hotel. What an outing it would have been for a party of young people from the village.

Bull baiting has a very long history. It goes back at least to the twelfth century in London and was justified as a means of softening otherwise unacceptably tough meat, and thereby enhancing its value. For a time, all bulls had to be baited before they were killed, failure to do so being punished by a heavy fine, such as was inflicted on two Plymouth butchers in 1604. It was finally abolished by Act of Parliament in 1835. A sad relic of the sport may be seen in the old Town Hall at Totnes, namely a tree trunk transfixed near its base by a metal bar and surmounted by a massive iron ring to which the bull was tied by a rope measuring about four yards. It was unearthed a few years ago from the open space in front of the Seven Stars Hotel.

Dogs were specially bred and trained for baiting. They were necessarily bulldogs and mastiffs with upturned noses so that they could breathe after securing a hold on the bull. Indeed, they needed to possess uncommon courage and endurance to withstand the bull's bellowing and contortions. These various qualities were taken into account by fanciers when they laid wagers on their favourites' ability to hang on.

The setting at Totnes remains much as it was, with buildings overlooking the arena, now a car park, in which the tree trunk was buried. This last needed to be done securely because quite often the bull managed to break loose, either by dislodging the stake or by slipping the noose. Such a mishap caused utter confusion, what with the crowd comprising the "ring" standing as close to the bull as it dared. The less agile spectators, aware of potential danger, tended to view the proceedings from a distance or from windows of nearby houses or from the Seven Stars, which for years was a fashionable meeting place.

At the start of the contest a bulldog slowly advanced on its belly towards the lowered head of the bull and, choosing its moment, made a grab for its nose. If it failed, it might be tossed 20 or 30 feet in the air. Immediately, the ring would dash to catch it before it crashed to the ground (some women even wore stout aprons for the purpose) and ran the risk of being gored by the bull in the general excitement. If the dog secured a firm grip, its handler was required to seize the infuriated bull's foreleg and hold it up for two minutes. Should he do so, and the dog maintained its hold, he was declared the winner. Successive dogs tried their luck until, with the bull weakening, young dogs were given a chance to "taste its blood". Eventually, a butcher went in for the kill, dressed the carcase and sold the meat. Would it not have been instructive to hear, perhaps in the Sloop, what our returning villagers thought of this barbarous pastime?

# A Most Remarkable Lady



MEN are usually considered to be the pioneering sex, with women trailing well behind. However, it was a woman who pioneered school milk, evening classes, and classes for policemen, thus foreshadowing Hendon Police College. She was also a pioneer in the campaign against cruelty to children, and these were only some of the things she did.

Angela Burdett was born in 1814, when George III was alive, and when she died the Victorian age had come and gone and Edward VII was on the throne. Her father was Sir Francis Burdett and her mother a daughter of Thomas Coutts, the banker. Thomas Coutts married again when his first wife died in 1815. This time his bride was an actress called Harriot Mellon, over thirty years his junior. He died in 1822.

In 1827, the second Mrs Coutts married the Duke of St. Albans. When she died in 1837 she left her enormous estate to Angela Burdett, then 23, who thus became the richest woman in England. Angela's father was incensed to find his wife Sophia had been passed over. He turned his daughter out of the house and would have nothing to do with her for some time.

Angela now became Angela Burdett-Coutts and it is by this name that she has come down to us as one of the greatest philanthropists this country has produced. It seems that Harriot Coutts showed great perspicacity in choosing Angela to be the recipient of the vast Coutts fortune. Angela was to prove herself a prodigiously generous, compassionate and imaginative benefactor.

As a great heiress and a member of the aristocracy, Angela Burdett-Coutts moved in the highest circles and some of the great figures of the nineteenth century were among her friends - the Duke of Wellington, Thomas Moore, Sir James Brooke, General Gordon, Henry Irving and Charles Dickens. She met Dickens when she was 21 and he was 23. From this first meeting a friendship developed which was to span the years until his death. Dickens had experienced the shifts and shabbiness of poverty and passionately desired to help the unhappy slum-dwellers of nineteenth-century London. He gave Angela immeasurable help in the charitable works she undertook.

She was a willing pupil and apart from money, and lots of it, contributed her own personal touch to many of the charitable schemes she financed. She sometimes accompanied Dickens on his visits to the slums - places of indescribable squalor and filth. Her charities were unending. She built 'model' flats to re-house slum-dwellers. She assisted the Bethnal Green weavers and Bermondsey tanners. She promoted clubs for the London costermongers. She supplied nurses, food, drink and clothing during the terrible cholera epidemic of 1867. She founded a Flower Girls' Brigade and a Shoe Black Brigade. She started a home where distressed girls were rehabilitated.

She built churches in this country. She endowed the Bishoprics of Adelaide, Cape Town and British Columbia. She built schools and founded scholarships. She supported the ragged Schools, interested herself in Reformatories and pioneered evening classes. She instituted a scheme for giving needy children milk in school.

MORE.....



# A Most Remarkable Lady.

The first committee meeting of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was held in her drawing room. She was a keen supporter of the newly-formed society against cruelty to animals.

She pioneered classes for policemen so that they could be taught something of the law they had to enforce.

She donated well over £250,000 to help the indigent Irish. She also helped the Irish fishing industry. She assisted the Turkish refugees during the Russo-Turkish war.

When she had Columbia Market in Bethnal Green built, she insisted that a pub should be included, to the disapproval of other Victorian 'do-gooders'.

She was closely connected with Coutts Bank, and it was she who paid for the clerks lunch every day - a nice personal touch.

In 1871 she was made a Baroness, the first woman to have such an honour conferred upon her in recognition of her own charitable work. In 1872 she became the first woman to be presented with the Freedom of the City of London.

There is no doubt she sorely missed Dickens when he died in 1870 and her faithful companion, Mrs Brown who died in 1878, and in 1881, when she was 67, she married a young American, William Ashmead Bartlett forty years her junior. When Queen Victoria heard she was reported to have said she was 'a silly old fool.'

Once married, she forfeited much of her income and her charities were never to be on the same vast scale again.

Angela Burdett-Coutts died, aged 93, on 30th December 1906. She was buried in Westminster Abbey, the first woman, apart from royalty, ever to have this honour.

A stained glass window in Liverpool Cathedral describes her as 'God's Almoner'. A remarkable woman indeed!

S.W.

# Dear Sir,

The extracts taken from a consultative document on the South Devon Heritage Coast issued by the Devon County Council make interesting reading (Village Voice No.10). The prominence given to the numbers of retired people living in the parish in the opening paragraph is in keeping with statements and opinions expressed in previous articles in the journal. Perhaps we should consider why people do retire to Thurlestone.

The first reason is that there are houses on the market with estate agents anxious to sell them; exactly the same thing applies to Salcombe or Solihull or any other place. What makes Thurlestone special to many people is the golf course. Shortly after it opened in 1897, the Thurlestone and Links hotels and other smaller accommodation were developed to house the golf and tennis players. Some of these visitors liked the place and eventually retired here. Houses were built to accommodate them at Yarmer, then at the top of the village and latterly on the Mead.

We are all agreed, and said so in the Village Survey, that further development is undesirable and I sincerely hope that it will soon stop. Meanwhile, do not blame us for coming to live here. Blame the golf club or the hotels or the developers if you wish, but not us. I find any resentment there may be, real or imagined, rather sad in view of my life-long affection for the county and its people.

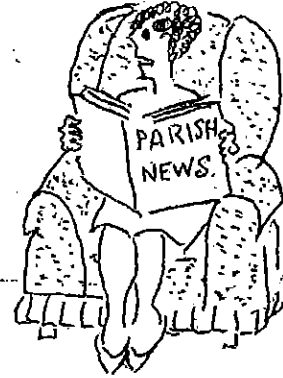
Yours sincerely,

NEVILLE C. OSWALD.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I would greatly regret any suggestion of resentment against people who have retired to our beautiful area. I am only able to establish 30 years of County residence myself! I do personally think (occasionally!!) however, and I believe there are many who have similar thoughts, that if the planning authority permit more and more development, the very factor that attracted many to dwell in the parish will be greatly diminished.-



# To Produce a Magazine



Does anyone really know how much work is involved in producing a magazine unless

they are themselves personally involved? Village Voice must consume a fantastic amount of time and energy in order to reach the final finished copy. I can only speak from my own experience over the past years in the production of the Church Parish Magazine, and perhaps readers may be interested to know what is actually involved in that each month.

The Parish Magazine serves Churchstow, Thurlestone, South Milton, West Alvington, Malborough and South Huish, and the duplicating process is carried out for all copies at Thurlestone School, by the kind efforts of Mr and Mrs Battell. To reach the finished article the following sequence of events should occur. (I say "should" as invariably there are many hiccups, about which I could write a book - and which, who knows, I may one day find time to compile.

In their respective parishes, the incumbents put pen to paper (or in some cases, typewriters) to produce a draft copy of their notes. For the Thurlestone/South Milton parishes in particular, these are then taken to Kingsbridge, where, given about an hour's peace and quiet at lunchtime I type them onto a stencil skin. Sometimes this happens on the following day to when the notes are actually written, but more often than not it is all done in a hurry the same day. (other notes are typed in their own parishes by press-ganged volunteers!). Transport has then to be arranged for these back to Thurlestone where, in the meantime, the notes from the other parishes have also mysteriously found their way; hopefully all arriving in good time for the Rector to embark on his task with the glue. I should explain that each stencil page before being typed, has to be cut in half, and when the notes have been typed on them they have to be stuck together again, in a different order, so that when eventual copies are run off, and put together, the page numbers will be in the correct sequence.

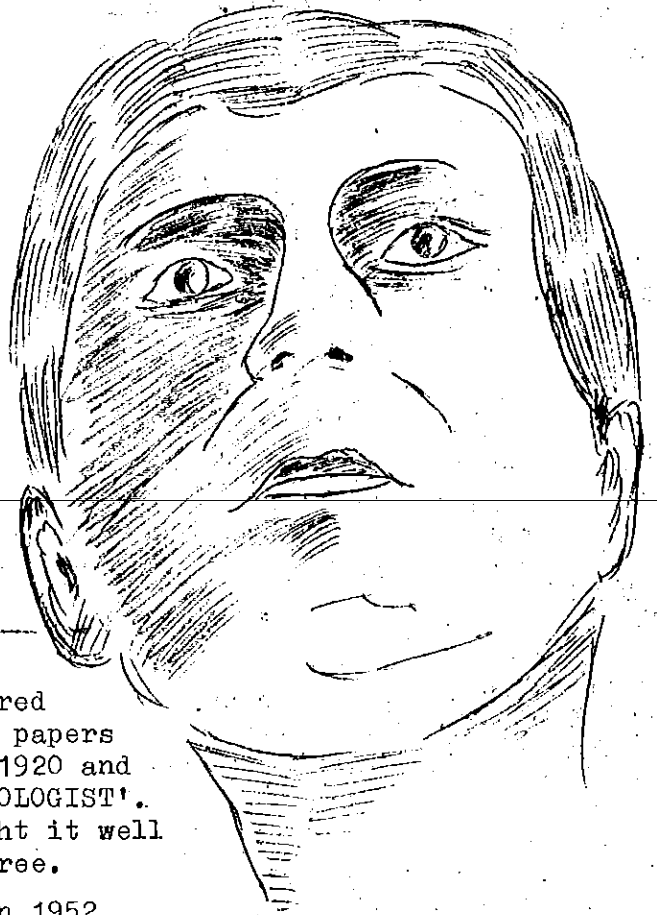
Now comes Mr and Mrs Battell's stint with the duplicator! Hopefully this runs smoothly but more often than not frequent problems arise and paper has been known to fly, literally, in all directions! However, after much patience 400 copies of each page are produced. These are counted out into parcels sufficient for each parish, together with the appropriate number of Bishop's leaflets and the covers which have been received previously by post. The parcels have then to be re-distributed to the respective parishes by some kind transporter.

There comes then the next phase of operations. The pages have to be sorted out; the covers and leaflets opened, centrally; one set of each page put into the correct order, placed in the centre of the opened cover, turned over and at last, a staple secures it into the finished article (provided of course the stapling machine works - but that is another story altogether). In the case of Thurlestone-South Milton there are 150 copies to be put together in this way, and this process, if done single handed, takes a minimum of three hours to complete.

For the six parishes concerned, a large number of voluntary help is necessary to co-ordinate things and enable this process to run smoothly every month, and I hope you will, after reading this, appreciate even more the news you get in your next copies of the Parish Magazine. If you multiply this type of work some 450 times for the number of copies and the considerably larger number of pages involved in the 'Village Voice', you will then have a more realistic picture of what is really involved. It is little wonder that 'Village Voice' is only produced every two months!

EVELYN SNOWDON.

# The Ambition of Bob Hedgers



Editor's Note: This story was discovered by my wife when going through some old papers of her father. It was written around 1920 and originally entitled 'THE AMATEUR PSYCHOLOGIST'. I found it quite interesting and thought it well worth publishing - I hope you might agree.

by HENRY F.W. PARKER who died in 1952

"Sounds good. Blowed if I don't try it."

Bob Hedgers was talking to himself as he sat reading by the flickering light of a candle in his little room on the fourth floor of a tenement house, just off the High Street. He had been born in that same house forty-five years ago. When his mother died, the landlady let him have the small top room for five shillings a week. This was as much as he could afford out of his meagre wages. The book which had called forth this remark was one which he had picked up on a stall for a few pence. It was called "Your Inner Power".

Over his supper of faggots and pease pudding, washed down by a pint of porter, Bob learned that he possessed what the book termed 'a wonderful personality'. All one had to do to cultivate this magnetic charm was to observe certain rules, and practice specified formulas. By so doing he would be able to contact with a mighty power which dwelt within him, and which the book described as his 'Sub-conscious mind'. This, he read, would enable him to do anything he wished to do, and get everything necessary to human happiness.

Visions of affluence and wealth floated before his eyes as he studied page after page of the wonderful book. "Crikey," he said, "Blowed if I don't try it," once again, then blew out the candle and went to bed.

Bob Hedgers was Clerk, book-keeper, and general factotum to Silas Roper, Potato Merchant. Their office was situated in a yard just off the High Street. It was a large shed divided into two parts by a partition, the smaller space being allotted to Bob as an office. Silas Roper occupied the other part, and devoted much time to watching his clerk through a small window. No potatoes ever came near the place, Bob was thankful for this, as old Silas, out of sheer oussedness, would have made him count the numbers in each sack! Each consignment was sold and disposed of almost before they were bought.

For over twenty years Bob Hedgers had slaved over ledgers and invoices, run errands, and endured the taunts of his employer, from eight o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock at night, for the princely sum of thirty shillings a week,

MORE....

Continuing....

THE AMBITION OF BOB HEDGERS by H. Parker

An indiscretion in Bob's younger days had lowered his market value. Silas knew of this when he offered him the job of keeping his books. But for this mishap Bob would never have toiled for old Roper as he had done.

Here thought Bob, here is the chance I've been waiting for. I'll cultivate this wonderful personality, I'll get this magic power which is inside me to come to my help. I'll succeed, I will. I'll show old Silas Roper he cannot keep me down!

For the next few weeks every moment that Bob could spare from his work, he studied his wonderful book. Each night in the seclusion of his little room he practiced the formulas laid down for his guidance. The more he dwelt upon the golden possibilities open to him, the more rosy seemed the future. Instead of being a down-trodden clerk he now strutted about as proud as a peacock. Silas Roper noticed the change in him, and assumed that his clerk was making an ass of himself over some girl he'd picked up.

Bob, however, kept his own counsel and plodded along towards the goal which was to change his whole life. Through all his waking hours the phrases ran continually through his thoughts. The words danced, like fairy sprites, across the pages of his ledgers, blotting out everything else and causing him to make many mistakes. Old Silas raved and threatened to sack him. Unperturbed, Bob worked steadily on, for he knew his employer could not get another man to do the work at the money he was paid - and Silas knew it too!

There were, however, two passages in the book which caused Bob a certain amount of uneasiness. He read them over many times - 'learn to like your present work' and 'love everybody and everything'.

"Bound to be a snag in it somewhere", he said to himself. "It's going to be awkward trying to love old Roper, but I must begin to do it."

When old Silas Roper came into the office the next morning Bob wished him a cheery "Good morning", remarking what a beautiful day it was. The old man sniffed, and marched into his room without answering.

When seven o'clock came that evening, Bob sang out "Goodnight, Mr Roper. Hope you have a pleasant evening!" Silas opened his door and threw a ruler at him. Bob ducked his head, just in time to save his hat - a rusty old bowler, and much the worse for wear. It was the only hat he possessed. This is a bad beginning, thought Bob. Never mind, I'm just as good as he is. The day of reckoning is coming and I'll make Roper apologise for all his insults to me!

After supper that evening, Bob put the finishing touches to his psychological education. Backwards and forwards across the floor of his little room he paced for over three hours communing with his innermost self. Not until he had extinguished the fourth candle was he satisfied. Suddenly a wonderful feeling of elation possessed him. "I've triumphed," he declared aloud, "I can feel it working in me!" Overcome by his feelings he danced around his room singing a popular song, until the people in the room underneath complained to the landlady "that old Hedgers had gone barmy, and if he wasn't stopped they would move." So he went to bed, and dreamed wonderful dreams.

The next morning Bob rose early. He carefully brushed his thread-bare suit, gave an extra polish to his shoes, and was hard at work in the office when his employer came in.

"Good morning, Mr Roper," cried Bob "Hope you're feeling fit this morning?" Silas glared at him as he walked into his room, and banged the door shut.

Ah! thought Bob, you don't know you've got a new man, a superman, in the office today. As he added up rows of figures, Bob's mind was still grappling with the wonderful influence he had absorbed. Everything appeared to be shaping in the way described in the book. Yes! he was confident of success.

Just before noon he closed his ledgers, knocked at his employer's door, opened it, and walked boldly in. This was an unheard of proceeding. Silas was too amazed to speak.

MORE....

Concluding:

VILLAGE VOICE

# THE AMBITION OF BOB HEDGERS

Seating himself on a corner of the table, Bob began:

"I have a proposition to make, Mr Roper. For over twenty years I've worked hard and helped you to build up this business, in fact, I've practically made you what you are today. I'm a part of the business and you cannot do without me. What about taking me into partnership with you?"

The old man swallowed hard once or twice but remained silent as Bob went on: "The arrangement would benefit both of us. I could look after the business, and you could take things more easily. I think I am entitled to this and it would be only fair to me considering how I've worked for you. I shouldn't expect too much money at first - say five pounds a week and a percentage of the profits. What do you say to this?"

Now Silas Roper was a bigger built man than Bob Hedgers. He was almost foaming at the mouth as he seized his unlucky clerk by the collar of his coat and hustled him out of the room. "You! you!!" he bellowed. "Me take you as a partner! Good God! Get out! I'll...! I'll...! Get back to your work or I'll....!"

As he sat down again to the monotonous task of adding up rows of figures, Bob decided that he must have used the wrong formulas.

And so concludes the Ambition of poor Bob Hedgers. Let it be a lesson that your ambition will be based on the right formula !

+++++

Over 60 years ago Henry Parker must have hoped to see his story in print - what a pity he didn't live to see it, but it can still happen for you

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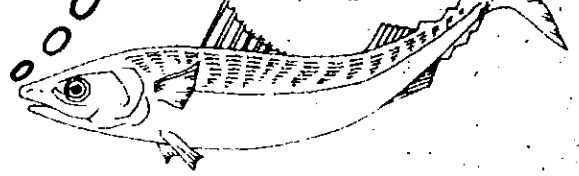
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## VILLAGE VOICE

# *Believe it or not...*

During the long hot summer of 1541, Katarine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, and Anne of Cleves, met two or three times every week and spent two of three hours in the gardens of Hampton Court, strolling along the flower bordered paths, sitting in the shade of the mulberry trees, and occasionally enjoying a picnic. Picnics were rather embarrassing because poor Anne Boleyn had difficulty in eating sardine sandwiches with her head tucked under her left arm, so most of the time the ladies spent talking, and recalling incidents in their married lives.

It wasn't very long before those of their friends who were still at court, came out to join them and the conversations became more and more scandalous, and common knowledge throughout the court.

One day while Henry and his latest wife, Katharine Howard, were walking on the terrace, the ladies came into view, chattering away like birds. Katharine turned to Henry and said, "I don't like these ladies, and I certainly do not like what they are saying about you my dear."

Henry laughed, and slipping his arm around her waist said, "Don't worry my darling. I have been married to all these ladies at one time or another. You are my NEW wife, and these stories they have been telling are just OLD WIVES TALES."

A further extract from Ian Young's 'Origin of Popular Expressions'.

=====

In 1824 the first Kingsbridge Coach, the Telegraph, to operate a regular service was started by Mr. R. Foale. It travelled from the Market Cross, Dodbrooke, every Monday and Friday to Plymouth and Devonport, returning the following day. It was afterwards driven by his nephew, Joseph Foale, who became known as Whip of the West.

=====

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# RIGHT TO WRECKAGE

THERE is an old and very curious custom as to the rights of the Earls of Devon to all wreckage on rather an extensive coast-line. The rights to unclaimed wreckage was originally vested in the Crown, but in very many cases it was made over by special grants to lords of the manors whose lands abutted on the sea. It is not known at what date this right was granted to the Courtenay family, but they can show a very ancient claim. It existed as early as the year 1416, and it was confirmed in the reigns of Edward VI. and Elizabeth I., and the late Lord Devon fully established his rights thereto at the Court of Inquiry held at Plymouth soon after the passing of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854, to inquire into the claims of the lords of manors on the Devon coast. Lord Devon's right extended from Dartmouth Castle to the eastern shore of the river Avon, below Aveton Gifford, and extended so far out to sea as a man on horseback could see an umber barrel. At stated periods, and also on the occasion of any wreck, Lord Devon held Admiralty Courts at the various places on this coast-line, but it is probable that they were generally held at Salcombe from its importance. The Court was composed of thirteen respectable men, and these had to settle all matters respecting salvage, pay the amount, and preserve the property for the owners till claimed. From the following will be seen the nature of these Courts, and some of the Rules and Regulations in force:

"What is enquireable in this Court is as follows: The Court is a Royal privilege granted from the Crown to the subject.

Wherein are inquireable all matters relating to the seas as wreck, which are three sorts - as 'Flotsam', 'Jetsam', and 'Lagan'.

'FLOTSAM' is when a ship sinks, and the goods that swim.

'JETSAM', when a ship is in danger, and the goods are cast into the sea to lighten the ship.

'LAGAN', is when the ship is in danger that they cast out the heavier goods into the sea to lighten the ship, and put a bouy or a light thing that swims to it to take it up again - if they are saved, and find it again.

Whosoever finds any wrecked goods ought to carry it to the chief inhabitants of the town or place next to where it was found, and there to remain until a claim be made to it, either by any person saved alive belonging to the ship; or their wives, children or executors, owner, merchant, or such a good title to the land. And if no claim is made within a year and a day, then it must be delivered to the Admiral, or such as hath the Royal privilege of the Royalty, paying reasonable for their trouble for salvage.

If any man or living thing escape to shore alive, it is no wreck.

If any one should have a lanthorne or make a light in order to subject them in danger of shipwreck (if no harm happen), yet it is felony.

If any one convey secretly any of the goods, if it be the value of a nail, it is a felony. Wrecked goods do not pay customs.

If any one cast out any ballast from any ship or boat within the port of Salcombe contrary to the statute forfeits 3s.4d. If it be let to lie there for forty-eight hours, shall forfeit 40s.

If any one doth labour within this Royalty between sun and sun on the Sabbath day forfeits 40s.

If any one ashore salt pilchards, and suffer the guts to be thrown or go into the salt water, forfeits for each offence 3s.4d.

If any one launch any boat within this Royalty on a Sunday before midnight forfeits 40s.

The persons who drew up these Regulations were, evidently strict Sabbatarians.

# RIGHT TO WRECKAGE

In bygone days, before lighthouses were generally established, wrecks were plentiful, and the coast-line on which the Earls of Devon exercised their rights, was noted for the frequency of shipping casualties. We can well imagine, therefore, in the olden times when beacon fires lit on some prominent headland were the only guide to mariners, and wreckers were numerous and eager to light false fires, that many in this locality would constantly be out prowling about the district between Bolt Head and Bolt Tail, always a dangerous coast line for shipping, carrying on this nefarious traffic, and with false lights in their hands draw hapless mariners to a cruel and bitter fate, caring little for human life, provided they could obtain their object and get possession of wreckage. These Admiralty Courts allowed salvors one-third of the value of any wreckage secured by them, and it is very satisfactory to find by the above Regulations, that the Courts dealt very severely with wreckers, treating them as felons if detected in the act.

The following is a good illustration showing how eager the inhabitants of the neighbourhood were for wreckage. In January, 1750, a Dutch galliott belonging to Hamburg, and of about 100 tons burthen, became a wreck on Thurlstone Sands. She was laden with wine, brandy, coffee, and indigo, and bound from Zante to Hamburg. She came on shore about ten O'clock on a Wednesday night, and on Thursday and Friday a large portion of the cargo was saved, although it was with difficulty that the country people were kept from plundering the goods. On the Saturday evening it was estimated that as many as ten thousand people congregated on the Sands and about the wreck, coming from all parts of a wide district, and for the sole purpose of stealing what they could of the remainder of the cargo, and they were only kept at bay by the arrival of a party of soldiers from Plymouth. The ringleader of this riotous crowd of people, however, was killed, for being in a very drunken condition, he came into conflict with the soldiers, and getting fixed on one of the bayonets, he received such serious injuries, that he died from their effects. Such riotous scenes were very common occurrences at wrecks.

These Admiralty Courts no doubt prevented a great deal of plunder, for if

those who picked up wrecked goods did not take them to Lord Devon's steward, if detected, the defaulters would be summoned before the Court and receive its sentence. The Court also decided the amount of salvage that should be given. The following is a copy of the presentments at one of these Courts held at Hope Cove, on the 21st. April 1737 :

"We present George Hamblin of Orford Jefford (Aveton Gifford) for taking up of a graper about fifty weight at the place the "Dagger" was cast away at Bantham harbour (1736)

We present a tierce of wine taken up in Salcombe by Roger Jarvis, Thomas Goss and Joseph Fairweather, now in the possession of the Lord of the Royalty to agree the salvage.

We present a mast of forty foot long taken up by Joseph Whiting of South Milton at Thurlstone.

We present a copper teapot and one pewter dish taken up by James Jarvis.

We present John Piles, of Kingsbridge, for taking up a small cannon where the "Dagger" was lost."

At one time the Earl of Devon's ancestors kept boats, anchors, and cables, for the assistance of any ships in distress. It often happened that vessels, after having been saved by these means from dashing on the rocks, the crews would take advantage of a change of wind to withdraw the ships without making any satisfaction for the risk of lives, labour, and service in giving them assistance. To prevent this unjust behaviour, a cable, anchor, or some other necessary material was detained by-way of deposit or security, until satisfaction was made for the assistance rendered to the vessel in distress. The lords of the manors are still entitled to all wreckage that may be found within the before-mentioned limits that is not claimed by anyone within twelve months. No Admiralty Courts, however, have been held for a long period, and they have fallen into disuse.



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# Up, Up, and Away



I RECKON you all bin up 'een a plane be now but I thought I'd tell 'ee 'bout my first trip. Arter us 'ad that accident us thought a nice 'oliday 'een good weather would be a proper job. So us went to Majorca. They only git vower days rain a year ther zo they say and yes -- you've guessed it, us 'ad two of 'em, while us wus there! But if I'd knawed 'bout the 'ole plane trip I aint sure I shoulda gone at all. Father 'ad flied bevore; so 'ee knawed the ropes. Fust thing you got to do 'vore you go abroad is go up doctors and git eenjected. They git awful things 'een they 'ot countries, malaria an yella fever an typhoid an smaal pox -- giddout I would'n live there fer innny money. Better stay yer an git 'flu an pneumonia an bronkitis laist you knaw wot you'm 'een for, don't 'ee? Well us goes up to Dr Norman an got eenjected. "Just a little prick, won't hurt" 'ee zed, you knaw like 'ee do "Damn nuisance but has to be done". Did'n say I should hev a great 'ole zore place on me arm fer a week di 'a? But I reckon 'ee thinks no use tellin' 'ee wot you'm gwain find out innnyway.

Nex thing is you must git yer photo took ver yer passport. Well! I've zeed better things 'een the Chamber O'Errors up London, than they photos! Awful, they wus. I zed "Us mus' draw this lot away an git some more done. They won't let us out o' the country wai these" I zed "Or, if they do they'll refuse ver 'ev us back again." Father looked like a 'ardened criminal an I looked fit ver 'elp'N all I could! But seems like all passport photos be like that an wot upzet me wos when the chap up to the airport looked at the photos an looked at us 'ee zed "Very good likeness" an let us droo. Did'n do nort ver me pride that did'n.

Well nex thing you do is zend yer luggage on a movin' belt thing. You 'ope to goodness tid'n gone to Bombay while you'm gwain to Spain but nort you cin do 'bout it innnyway. Arter that you got to walk droo a place wai a Hex Ray 'een 'en. 'Tis fer tell if you'm carrin' ort dangerous like guns er ort like that. Well iver since Dick 'ad polio 'ee wears a metal back support an 'ee drives th' 'ole Hex Ray crazy. 'Ee goes Clickety click, clickety click an little 'ole chaps rin out from all auver the place an ley old 'o Dick an start searchin' awn. 'ee properly injoys lettin' 'em think 'ees a terrorist er zummin! They don't 'alf look silly when they vind out wot tis. Frightened me to death fust time, but good job they'm zo sharp on it - makes 'ee veel safer dont it? Well then you go an wait 'een wot they caal the "Departure Lounge" till tis time ver go. Shakin' like a leaf I wus be then an I would gladly 'ev thumbed a lif' 'ome if I could! Arter a bit wan o' they loud spaiker things olleyed out zummin about Gate No 10. I could'n catch nort else 'cos 'tis like a cow rarin up a drain pipe but Dick zed twas our 'flight call". I told'n mus' be grand ver be zo educated an I zed "where's this blimen gate then? Only doors far's I cin zee." Zo 'ee zed ver me to be still an not shaw me ingerance an go wai the rest. There wad'n no gate neether but us walked droo a tunnel place an there us was 'een the plane. A bit like a bus tis but you cant zee outside very much an you veel like ort, cooped up. I was spaichless wai fright be that time (which was wan good thing zed me better 'alf!) an I zat 'een me sait wai me sait belt on an waited ver me end to come!

'Een front of us 'een a little basket thing there was zome papers an a paper bag. Dick zed that wan was ver us to be sick (een dreckly when us veeled like it! If I'd 'ad the strength I should 'ev gived 'en a piece o' me mind then but I was too scared, Then the 'ole plane started to go an twad'n too badd'ee went jus like a bus. But 'ee got vaster and vaster an vaster an roared fit to wake the daid an bust yer yerdrums. Then all to wance us wus up 'een the air an I did'n knaw whether ver be glad er sorry! Father looked at me an zed "Ow be 'ee you'm lookin' a bit wisht?" But I thought the wust of it was auver zo I zed "Aw I'm fine." Should'n 'ev zed it tho'. Jis then two of they maidens that work on the planes "Stewsresses" - they stood up een front an shawed us 'ow ver use the Hoxegen Masks 'een an "Emergency". They wus up auver our zaits they zed an under the

MORE.....

Concluding.....

UP - UP - AND AWAY .....

saits us should vind life jackets  
they zed in case us come down een  
the say! Dick zed not to worry,  
it didn' 'appen very offen! Zo I  
zed once would be to many ver me.  
I forgot ver tell 'ee us was  
flying be night an the pilot told  
us auver the loud spaiker thing  
that if us looked out us should  
now zee the lights of Paris.  
I thought to mesel "you're  
welcome to Paris mate, an if I  
iver live to zee Dinry again I  
shant laive it 'een a 'urry".  
Arter a bit a nice young chap  
walked droo the plane an spauk  
to us all an 'oped us was injoyin'  
the flight. Well I was gittin'  
used to it be that time an I zed  
to Dick (cos 'ee knawed it all  
zee) "Who's that young chap then?"  
an 'ee zed "Aw - that's the pilot"  
My dear saul 'ee 'ad ver 'ole me  
down then cos I zed "The pilot?  
Who's 'drivin' the blimen plane  
fer goodness sake?". "Giddout,  
do 'old yer tongue", 'ee zed  
"there's always two of 'em drivin"  
Well 'ow was I to know? Innyway,  
I'm brave 's a lion now 'bout  
flying but I shant fergit the fust  
time 'een a 'urry!

(With acknowledgement to V.R.P.  
and the 'Bradworthy News')

#### EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 1984

The dates fixed for the 1984  
European Parliament elections are  
14-17 June, as the European  
Parliament wished. Nationals of  
member states, as in 1979, will  
vote in accordance with the  
democratic procedures adopted  
nationally, but the Council is  
continuing its work to introduce  
a uniform electoral procedure for  
the 1989 elections.

#### SMALLEST NEW PARISH COUNCIL?

In 1983 a new council was formed  
at Chillingham, Northumberland,  
which may hold a record. The  
population of the parish is only  
75 and a penny rate yields £46.

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# When Great Great Grandma Lived in London

The first strawberries of the season are ripe, and the railway companies are preparing their special fruit trains which bring the berries on their journey to the London markets. Yet, a century and a half ago most of the strawberries consumed in the Metropolis were grown within ten miles of it.

At that time, the principal strawberry gardens were situated at Isleworth, Brentford, Ealing, Hammersmith, Fulham, Deptford, Mortlake, Hackney and Camberwell. As many as a thousand acres were cultivated to supply London alone. On a site adjoining the old Camberwell Railway station, now a thickly populated residential neighbourhood, stood a picturesque farm building in the midst of gardens that were celebrated for the quality of their strawberries.

With the exception of the men who dressed the ground, only women were employed to produce the fruit for the markets. About two thousand females were engaged each season to gather the fruit and convey it to London. Towards the end of May these women assembled in the gardens as soon as it was light enough to commence picking. The best fruit was taken to the packing room, and carefully put into "pottle baskets", fifty or sixty of which were then packed into a large basket, and before seven o'clock in the morning a number of women were despatched to the London markets. Each woman carried one of these large baskets on her head, using a small cushion to distribute the weight equally over the top of her head to contend with a weight of thirty to forty pounds, sometimes more.

When all was ready a party of these carriers set off with their burdens, walking at a quick pace, and sometimes running. They often accomplished five miles an hour on the journey, arriving at the principal London markets early enough for customers to be supplied with strawberries gathered the same morning. These women often proceeded to take a second load to London, even when the gardens were situated seven or eight miles from town. Pottle baskets were made by women and children in their own homes near the strawberry gardens, and were sold to the gardeners at sixpence a dozen.

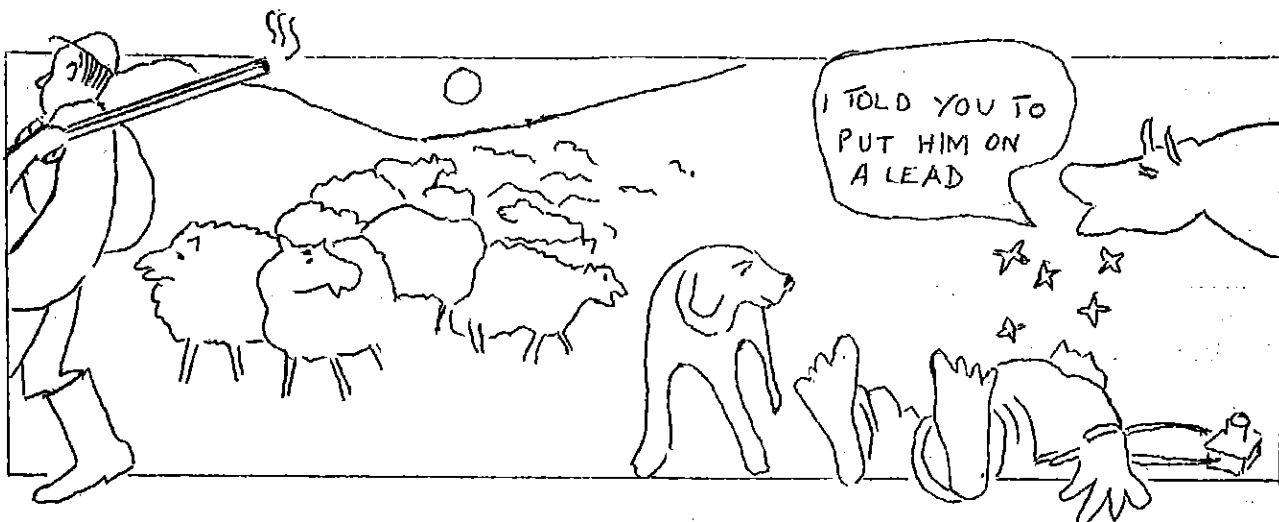
JOHN PINYON.

=====

The keeper of a dog is strictly liable for any damage the dog causes in killing or injuring livestock, but this does not normally apply if the livestock are trespassing on land occupied by the owner of the dog !

=====

JUST A REMINDER that in any field containing sheep or lambs IT IS AN OFFENCE FOR A DOG TO BE "at large". Owners face a fine of up to £200 if their dog is running loose in a field with sheep; it is no longer necessary to prove an actual attack by the dog. In extreme cases, the farmer has the right to shoot the dog - though most farmers would wish to avoid extreme measures.



# Which reports have just named us one of Europe's most reliable cars?

We've always known that our cars are probably the most reliable on the road.

(That's why only Colt has the confidence to give you a 3 year unlimited mileage warranty absolutely free).

But it's still good to know that other people agree with us.

In three recent major reports covering thousands of cars in every-day use Colts have proved virtually unbeatable.

Last year, for example, Germany's top motoring organisation (ADAC) once again voted Colt the most reliable car in its class.

At the same time journalists from West

Germany's influential 'MOT' magazine were busy deciding that Colts are a better buy than any other car in their class.

And even a well known British consumer magazine had to conclude we were amongst the very few stars when it came to reliability.

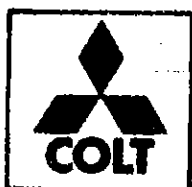
After reading all this we think you ought to come to a conclusion as well. That it's time you took a closer look at our 26 Colt models starting at just £4,100.

So call in now.  
Or phone us on the number below. We don't mind which.



**Free finance available on all Colts now.**

The Colt range starts at £4,100 for the Mirage 1250 EL. Price is a nominal fixed going to press includes car tax and VAT but not cash delivery and sundries prices.



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VICE-CHAIRMAN. D.J.Yeoman	607
Miss R.S.Stocken	257
Roy Adams	247
John Dayment	295
David Grose	375
Geoffrey Stidston	695

CLERK: D.W.Drabble 533

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR. J.V.Thomas 269

## At YOUR Service

FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS:  
David Frost Electrics Ltd., Bella Vista,  
Thurlestone. Tel. 348

TO MODERNISE YOUR KITCHEN OR DOUBLE GLAZING. Contact BILL LADD, at 'Thorntons', South Milton.  
Tel: Thurlestone 586. He happens to be the Managing Director of ARMADA KITCHENS & WINDOWS - see advert in Village Voice

CAR TROUBLE ?  
Call BANTHAM GARAGE (Blights Engineering) on Thurlestone 220 for prompt service

WHY MOVE when an EXTENSION will add the extra room you need?  
Dial 496 for HURRELL & WEEKS or 525/666 for JEFFERY & PENWELL and get a quotation

SOLID FUEL ? Then you need GORDON BROMFIELD - Thurlestone 230

CALOR GAS ? Give South Milton Garage a ring on Thurlestone 233.

Have you tried parking in Kingsbridge during December-February? Keep your blood pressure down - SHOP LOCALLY -

ALL YOUR GROCERY SUPPLIES & MORE:  
BROADS DAIRY - Thurlestone 230  
(Sub-P.O. number is 624)  
VILLAGE STORES - Thurlestone 211  
(You can get news & mags there too!)  
SOUTH MILTON VILLAGE STORES & P.O.  
(For everything a Village Store should have)

TAXI ? Ring ARROW CARS - Kingsbridge 6120.

# Free Parking - not for me!

Did you find parking your car in Kingsbridge as frustrating as I did during the December- February 'free' period?

I decided I'd rather pay and park or steer clear of Kingsbridge as a shopping centre. Lower the fee and cut out the 'free', I say.

Anyone agree ?

++ + + +

The South West Water Authority urge people to be careful about having water meters installed. Get in touch with one of the Authority's district offices first  
D.W.D.

TALKING ABOUT CARS - for a good second hand buy contact John Wallis at SOUTH MILTON GARAGE

MILK and ALL YOUR DAIRY NEEDS  
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YOU EXPECT FRESH FISH WHEN YOU LIVE NEAR THE SEA. HAVE IT  
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WINDOW CLEANING IS QUITE A CHORE  
Graham Jeffery - Thurlestone 851 will save you the trouble !

CARPET CLEANING is no worry -  
contact Moysey's of Kingsbridge  
Kingsbridge (9) 2168

For your local INTERFLORA SERVICE  
Just ring THE GARDEN SHOP, Fore Street, Kingsbridge- (9) 2541

The Kingsbridge HEALTH FOOD CENTRE  
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DECORATING? Outside or Inside - You've got a right good choice & can't go wrong: HURRELL & WEEKS On 496. JEFFERY & PENWELL on 525 & STAN COKAYNE on Kingsbridge 2645

## SOUTH HAMS D.C. KINGSBRIDGE PLAN

Will be on EXHIBITION at the TOWN HALL  
KINGSBRIDGE

on TUESDAY 6th MARCH - 10am - 6pm

WEDNESDAY 7th MARCH - 2pm to 6pm

THURSDAY 8th MARCH - 10am to 6pm

FRIDAY 9th MARCH - 10am to 7.30 pm

PUBLIC MEETING on FRIDAY 9th MARCH  
at 7.30 pm

in the Town Hall.

=====

STOP PRESS-STOP PRESS-STOP PRESS

Mr Michael Carpenter, District Council  
Director of Planning will be in  
attendance at the THURLESTONE ANNUAL  
PARISH MEETING on TUESDAY 27th MARCH  
(commencing at 7.30 pm.) and it is  
hoped to also have an Exhibition of  
this Kingsbridge Plan.

=====

DON'T FORGET-DON'T FORGET-DON'T FORGET

ALL THURLESTONE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

become KINGSBRIDGE from 0015 hours  
on THURSDAY 23rd. FEBRUARY, and  
will become SIX FIGURE NUMBERS from  
then on. For example 533 will  
become 560533.

The Area Code for TRUNK CALLS to  
other parts of the country will be  
(0548).

=====

mainly the surfers, but with sailboarding becoming more popular and Sedgewell  
Cove a popular launching place, most days, fine or rough, will see the sails  
shooting across the bay. Most are quite expert, but a few of the inexperienced  
get into difficulties with the high winds, and a lot of their equipment gets  
washed up on to Bantham beach.

Once again I am appealing for new members. We would particularly welcome  
anyone in the 18 - 30 age group, but anyone who feels they can put something  
into the Club will be most welcome. Full training for life saving awards will  
be given. We have qualified instructors and examiners within the club.

I would like to mention that for anyone keen on competition there is  
plenty of opportunity to progress from club to region, national and international  
teams and it is envisaged that a Great Britain team of Surf Life Savers will  
be visiting Australia and New Zealand during our 1985-86 winter.

Soon now members will be busy spring cleaning and repairing the Clubhouse  
and equipment to be ready for another busy season.

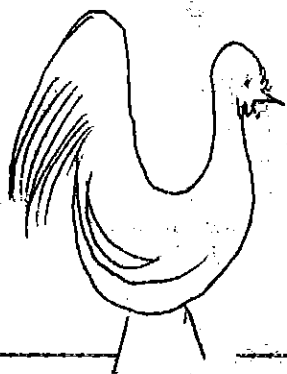
## BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

By the time this goes to print Spring  
will be well on the way, and our season  
of gales hopefully, will be behind us.  
The severe gales we experienced just  
before Christmas changed the look of  
Bantham Beach enormously. Prior to  
this the sand had built up all along  
the beach, almost to the top of the  
steps on the right, with a good bank  
of sand all along the beach to the  
clubhouse. However, the bad storm we  
experienced on the 19th. December  
sucked out a tremendous amount, leaving  
all the steps exposed, and this formed  
a new sandbank about 200m. out, with  
a deep channel about 3', on the shore  
side running from the river on the  
right across to the rocks on the left,  
and then out to sea, forming a very  
fierce rip current.

The force of the sea also damaged  
the two boat house doors of the Club,  
one wave in particular hit the door  
and parapet, built up, and the force  
of the wind took a volume of water  
way over the clubhouse roof!

We have been battered by gales  
which is continually altering the  
shape of the beach. One storm in  
particular deposited a lot of oil at  
the high water mark, but luckily a few  
days later this had completely disap-  
peared, covered no doubt by a thick  
layer of sand. During this period a  
few oiled-up birds were discovered on  
the beach and the finders were advised  
to take them to Mrs Williams at Higher  
Aunemouth Farm, who I understand,  
cleans them up effectively.

A number of people still enjoy using  
the sea at this time of the year,



I thought I heard  
a Chicken Sneeze!

says PETER GILES

I was up to my elbows in shampoo suds recently, when the phone rang. My obvious desire to return to my chore must have become apparent, as the caller asked "what's the hurry", and collapsed into peals of laughter when I informed him I was bathing a chicken !

Now it seem's that very few folks realise that one not only baths and shampoo's the cackling fraternity with the utmost care, but the aristocrats of the poultry world have their nails clipped, beaks polished, and have as much preparation as any canine object going to Crufts.!!!

I have been breeding and exhibiting "Silkies" for many years, and am suprised to find how few people even know of the existence of this very old breed of fowl.

Silkies are covered with the very finest of feathers, and as their name implies are of an extremely 'silkie' nature which gives them an altogether different appearance to your ordinary barnyard hen.

Aristocrats they certainly are. Their ancestry is Asiatic. Reports by Marco-Polo in 1298-99 described "hen which have hair like cats, and being either black or white." Aldrovandi of Bologna in 1599 found a picture in the margin of an old map showing "wool bearing hens". In 1555 a Swiss, Konrad Gesner whose "Historia Animalium" is the starting point of modern zoology described "Gallina Lanigera" as a woolly hen, without tail feathers, and rose combed. There can be no doubt that birds described by Aldovandi and Gesner were, in fact, Silkies.

The voyagers of the 16th and 17th centuries continued to bring back reports of these birds from China, Japan, Java and the West Indies. Darwin was interested in Silkies and carried out experiments crossing them with game type chickens. They do cross breed, although genetically slightly different Silkies have five toes on each foot and have feathers right down the legs and feet. The combs and wattles are not bright red as in our domestic fowls, but a deep mulberry colour with a beautiful almost sky-blue ear.

The Silkie came to England somewhere between 1865 and 1870, the first standard for the breed being set in American Poultry Association Standard in 1874. The pure breed finer types of true breed standard are very difficult to breed, the finest specimens being found in the white coloured birds. Other colours have been evolved, and over the last 150 years or so, plumage colours of Gold, Blue, Partridge and Grey are to be seen at shows throughout the country. There is a thriving "Silkie Club" which exists, and breeders travel all over the country with their pampered charges in healthy competition, where the conversation is usually of shampoo's rinses, louse powders, and the effect of all this paraphernalia relevent to producing the "Perfect Bird", which will never be attained !!

Just go along to your local poultry show and inspect all the pure breeds which have contributed to the production of the modern HEN which fills the Supermarket shelves with 'modern' eggs !! The show, a genetic "bank" if ever there was one.

(the drawing is just symbolic of a hen - unrelated to a Silkie!) Editor



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The Parish Council have asked the Coastal Anti-Pollution League, of which they are a member, to advise on the potential hazard to health of 'man and beast' from any raw untreated sewage in the Buckland stream.

## Parish Council Notes

At their meeting held on 17th January, it was decided to hold the parish rate precept at 1p for the 1984-85 financial year.

.....

Council member Miss Rosemary Stocken was thanked and congratulated for the marvellous job she does in her own time cleaning up the beaches - particularly Yarmer and Broadsands where no machine could reach.

.....

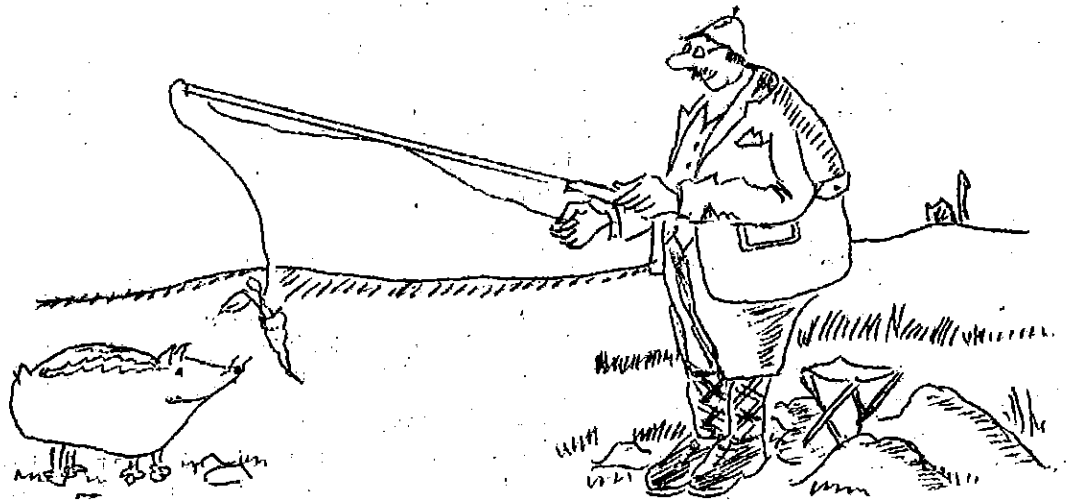
The County Council are going to erect a reflective type directional sign 'Thurlestone' at Elston Cross.

.....

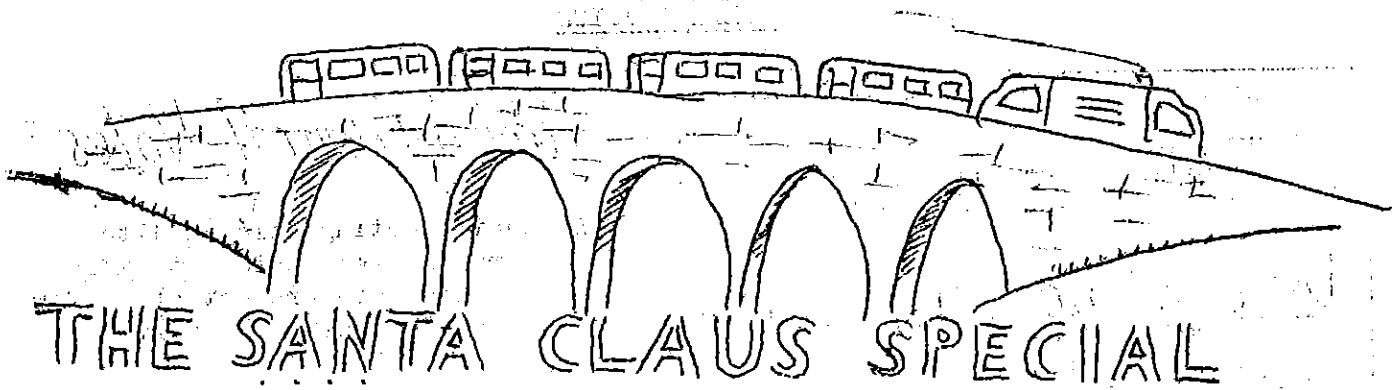
There are to be no up-dated footpath maps on "updated maps before the latter part of 1984 - at the earliest."

.....

Regrettably the duplicator which was purchased with donations so generously given by the people of Bantham and Buckland has needed the attention of an engineer. A new roller - and in due course a new clutch drive.



CATCHING HAGGIS IN SCOTLAND



# THE SANTA CLAUS SPECIAL

IAN C. YOUNG TAKES A TRIP IN A VERY SPECIAL TRAIN

There were about 200 of us waiting on Plymouth North Road Station. We were a mixed bunch, obvious Grandparents like myself and my wife, toddlers of both sexes, sophisticated young ladies and gentlemen in their early teens trying hard to look as if they found the whole affair a complete bore, and Mothers and Fathers looking harassed as they kept a check on their youngsters and preventing them getting too near the platform edge. Whatever their age and whatever their responsibilities, everyone had a look of eager anticipation.

Exactly at 11.15 am. a train approached the platform, slowed and then stopped. The front of the driver's cab carried a large poster, with a picture of Santa, our host for the day, on the front. Frosting glittered on the designs painted on the carriage windows, and inside we could see streamers, balloons, and bunches of holly decorating the inside of the train.

At a signal from the Gentleman in charge we all moved to take our places in the waiting carriages. Our party had been allocated seats in the last coach into which we climbed and settled in our places. Within a few minutes, however, we got up and hurried to the platform side of the coach from where we had an excellent view of the arrival of Santa Claus. He had left his reindeer outside because he was riding in a station luggage truck pulled by a little electric tractor. Some children were obviously disappointed that the reindeer had been left behind, but all cheered loudly when it was realised that Santa had two huge bags of parcels on the truck.

Before the train started a man came along and explained that Santa would be travelling with us for the entire journey, but as the train was very long and there were a lot of children on board it would take him a long time to visit every coach, but none need worry because he had a parcel for every child, and they would all get a present before the train got back to Plymouth.

There was a loud whistle and our train started. The first part of the journey was through the suburbs of Plymouth, with glimpses of the Dockyard and the upper works of H.M.S. Hermes, and a good view of other naval vessels. We passed below the famous Brunel railway bridge and the suspension road bridge before crossing the River Tavy by means of yet another bridge, and as we reached the western end we left the towns and docks behind and began our journey alongside the famous and beautiful River Tamar. The train was proceeding slowly so there was no difficulty in pointing out various points of interest and discussing with the younger travellers the rival merits of black and white cows in one field with those of Devon reds in the next.

After passing Bere Ferrers we were visited by a Clown, with a lovely red nose, who caused some excitement by trying to persuade various children that he should be allowed to sit near their Mummies, but he soon retired followed by screams of laughter, but managed to warn everyone that Santa would only visit 'our' carriage if we all behaved ourselves, and did what we were told!

Shortly after leaving Bere Alston the train began to slip slowly down the steep bank leading to Calstock Station, and the lovely viaduct, high above the river, from which it was possible to see the towers of Cotehele House in the distance. The climb up from Calstock to Gunnislake was very slow because the train was so heavily laden, but we all had a fine opportunity to look down on docks and buildings of Morwellham, at one time the most important mining complex in the country.

## The Santa Claus Special

About a hour after our departure from Plymouth the train slid to a stop at Gunnislake and our outward journey was ended. However, after a wait of about fifteen minutes the train started back down the hill which had taken so much effort to climb.

Suddenly the door at the end of the carriage opened and there, sitting comfortably surrounded by piles of parcels sat Santa Claus, smiling and waving. The children soon formed a long line, and each child took their turn to step up to Santa, shake his hand, exchange Christmas wishes and receive a beautifully wrapped parcel, before returning to their seat.

After this excitement very little interest was taken in the scenery or the cows in the fields as the children opened their parcels, studied their gifts and immediately started comparing their gift with those of their neighbours; but no one wanted to change because each child was sure that Santa Claus had made the selection personally for each of them.

When the last child had received his present, Santa then came into the carriage and had some conversation with every child before waving 'Goodbye', and wishing all of us a 'Happy Christmas'.

With all these exciting things happening it seemed only a few minutes before the train drew into Plymouth and the journey was over, but it will surely be many years before a journey in the 'Santa Claus Special' will be forgotten !

## Thurlestone PROBUS

The monthly meeting of the Probus Club was held on January 13th at the Thurlestone Hotel. Mr Douglas Lane of Bantham gave a long and erudite discourse upon the geology and

TAXI  
ARROW  
CARS

JOHN KEMP

ANY

TIME  
WHERE  
OCCASION

KINGSBRIDGE 6120

## The Milkman

called for his money this morning. A dreary morning, and the milk had gone up in price yet again this week! However, our milkman is a cheery fellow, and often his whistle is the first thing I hear in the morning, so it would have been churlish to greet him with grumbles.

I was so glad I restrained myself - he swung up the garden path. "Morning," he carolled cheerfully - "January almost over, soon be be April, brighter sun, warmer days, bulbs blooming, birds singing - keep smiling !

My goodness, how much brighter the day seemed after that - I didn't even begrudge the rise in the price anymore.

(Thank you Mrs Ruth Jordan for that cheery message)

formation of oil, which was much appreciated. He described the difficulties geologists and drillers have in finding their way through innumerable layers of stone before they reach "black gold".

Neville C. Oswald  
Chairman

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