

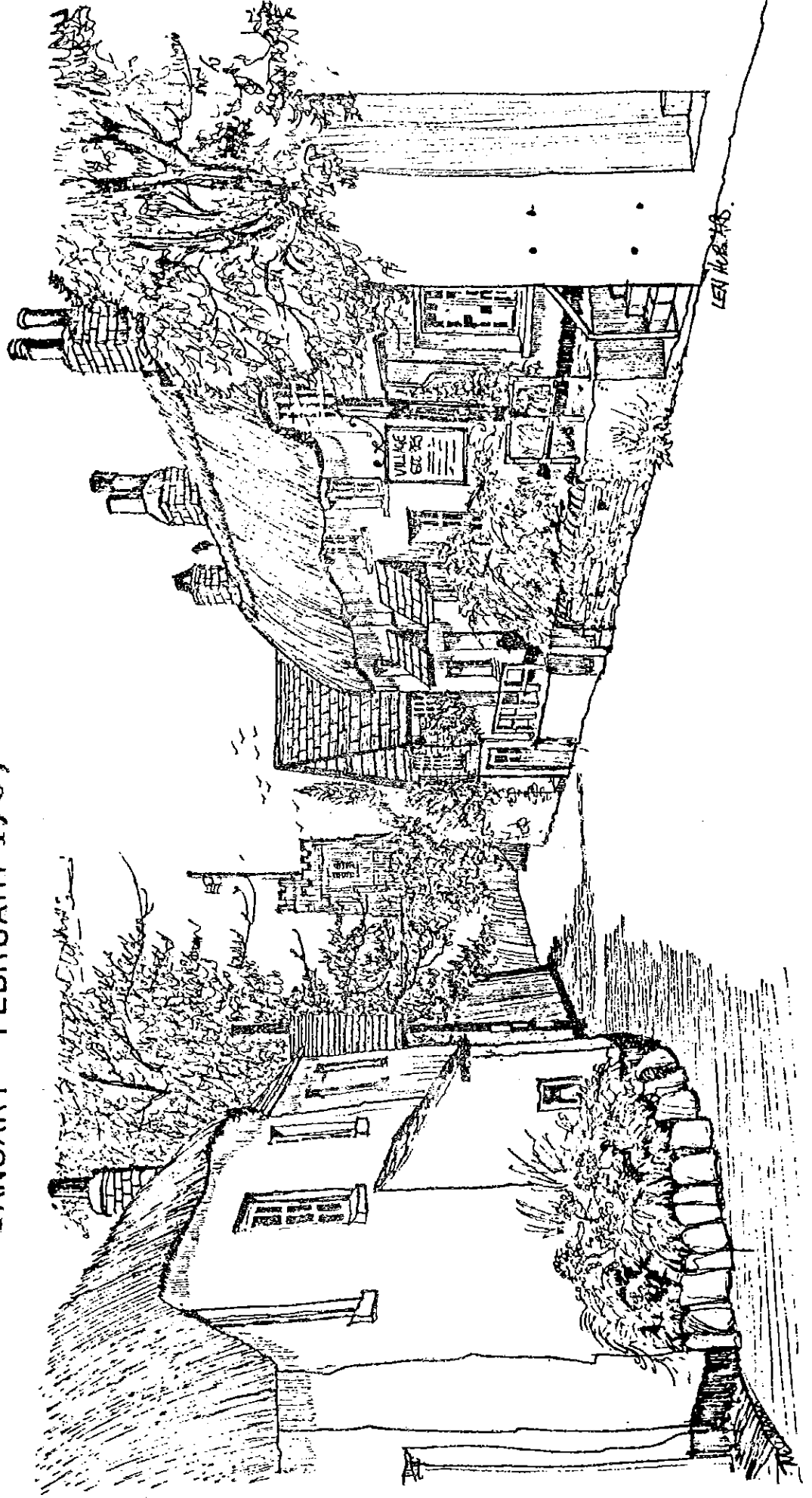
Thurlestone Parish

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VILLAGE VOICE

JANUARY — FEBRUARY 1989



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Thurlestone Parish VILLAGE VOICE

EDITED & PRODUCED BY DUDLEY DRABBLE, KENDALL & PENNY McDONALD
at Cradles Cottage, Thurlestone, Kingsbridge 560239

All communications relating to ADVERTISING should be addressed
to Dudley Drabble, Village Voice Magazine, 10 Backshay Close,
South Milton, Kingsbridge TQ7 3JH. Tel: Kingsbridge 560533

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Cover Picture by LEN HUBBARD of BURWOOD GALLERY, Thurlestone

Number 36.. Seventh Year of Publication. JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1989.

Something has got to be done. Somehow local people have got to have a say in the way they live. Sadly, the truth is that today your Parish Council can protest against a planning application until they are red, or even blue, in the face, but nothing they say will protect us from the vandals who shelter under the name of development. Nothing they can say will stop Mr. Grab from putting up totally unsuitable buildings in the place where we live.

Something has got to be done. The law as it stands is no friend of our village. To be frank we have no say in our surroundings, no weapons to defend us against the planners.

But change is in the air. Village Voice is delighted to tell you that your Parish Council - tired of years of useless kicking against the planning pricks - is now spearheading a campaign for a change in the law.

They say that if a developer has the right of appeal against that rare thing a planning refusal, then the people should have the same right of appeal against a planning approval. They are asking influential people to help them change the law and they have included Prince Charles! And that is what we call a good start!

It has come as a bit of a surprise to Village Voice to discover that Thurlestone had its own magazine in 1897. Perhaps there was only one edition - all we have been shown is a report of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, tastefully printed on blue-grey paper, and headed "Report taken from the Thurlestone Magazine". It tells us what happened in Thurlestone on June 22, 1897, and we hope readers will find it just as fascinating as we did. So here it is.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND
JUBILEE.

CELEBRATIONS AT
THURLESTONE.

(By our own special mounted correspondent.)

It looked at first as if in S.Devon at least, Her Majesty would for once be unfavoured by the weather; the dull sky that met one's view on rising, was not the welcome one could have wished for. But Thurlestone was not to be discouraged. At an early hour, a merry peal on the Church bells reminded Thurlestonians of the great national festival to be kept, and as one passed through Buckland to attend the special service, Sunday clothes, bright dresses, horses decked with ribbons, and carts with flowers and Union Jacks showed that the day would be fully honoured. As the scene of action Thurlestone village had received the chief share of decoration; public spirit had draped the entrance with four enormous flags, and private effort had not been wanting, more especially at the Rectory, Mr.Yarde Buller's, and Mr.Byrne's.

The bell was ringing for Church; but no call was wanted, it seemed as if the whole Parish was there. A short but very impressive service was held, the Te Deum and special hymns were sung to the accompaniment of an admirable orchestra, formed by Miss Square, Miss Baron, and Mr.Broad, and an eloquent sermon, of which one could only say that it was just what one would have like to be able to preach oneself, had one been in his place, was preached by the Rev. R.Smeaton, so well known and liked as a former Curate.

As the Church goers passed out of the gate, a gay but curious spectacle met their gaze (whilst the bells were pealing in the tower above). Grouped in the wide roadway by the Church wall, a motley crowd - wagons, carts, horsemen, a clown on horseback, an ancient pedlar with his donkey and umbrella, a small savage, from, it is hoped, some distant wilds, coast-guards, goats of unknown breed and hue, dogs and sheep, all displaying their loyalty in fitting colour - waited in apparent expectation. Their suspense was not of long duration: with some trouble the clown hunted up an insignificant parishioner, who was apparently under the impression that Her Majesty preferred yellow and grey to the colours of the Union Jack, and had left the correct display of loyalty to his

horse; having found the man the clown had next to find the loyal horse; and then, with much shouting from the grey and yellow, and quiet assistance from the clown, the crowd resolved itself into an orderly and interesting procession. With the exception of one or two features of pure ornament, including a maypole with its bright crowd of dancers, this procession illustrated the various industries carried on in the village, and the progress made in them during Her Majesty's reign.

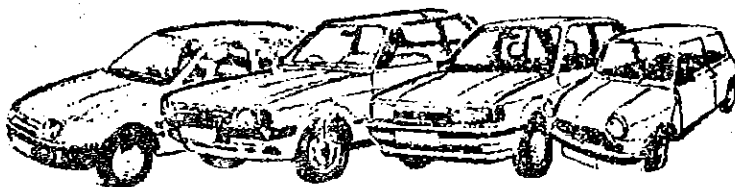
Brilliant in sound and colours, with maypoled dancers singing and flags and ribbands flying, and headed by Thurlestone's Rural District Councillor, it passed up the village. Turning by Mrs. Ilbert's picturesque house, Mr. Stidston, on his handsome, bright, bay pony and his sheep dog in gay leash, led the way to breezy North Down. Here the sports were to take place in the afternoon, and there in the centre of the course were the judges who were to award the prizes given by the Rector, the Rev. F.E. Coope, and the Committee. The judges were Mrs. Harcourt, Miss Coope and Miss Topping, a lady visitor, who most kindly and opportunely lent her assistance. And now the grey and yellow man appeared again and wheeling them to the left paraded the procession once round the course, and then halted them, while photos were taken by Mr. Topping and Miss Square and the judges deliberated. The latter had no light task before them; Mr. Stidston looked exactly what he represented, a typical farmer, but not being a vehicle was out of the running, and so were the cavaliers and ladies on ponies who followed him and so were Mr. H. Sherriff, Mr. J. Sherriff, and the little savage and the goats. Mr. J. Sherriff having with his donkey panniers, the nearest approach to a vehicle, was on this score apparently, and also from the great excellence of his get-up, awarded an extra prize.

But how to distinguish between the care and taste displayed in adorning the vehicles proper! So great was the general excellence, that the Committee had, at the request of the judges, to award four extra prizes on the spot, and then the decisions were as follows:- Mrs. Toms, 1st prize for her tableau; and extra 1st prize to her driver, Mr. Sydney Foote, and an extra 1st prize to Mr. Urban Moore, the driver of the maypole waggon; Mr. Whitford for his boat with the Queen's portrait on the mainsail 2nd prize; Mr. Jeffrey for the waggon representing trapping and other extra work on the farm 3rd prize; Mr. Hancock with his tableau representing ploughing and sowing 4th prize; and Mr. Moore for his representation of building work 5th prize.

Rosettes were handed to the winners indicating and distinguishing their respective titles to the more valuable prizes to be distributed in the evening, and then after one more parade round the field, which Mr. Sherriff's donkey thought one too many and declined to take part in, Mr. Stidston led the way home. There was one object in the procession which does not find mention among the prize winners, because it was not for competition, and that was the Rectory donkey cart; it represented in the most charming manner the gentle art of Gardening; four little girl gardeners and one little boy rode in a carriage apparently composed of flowers, and the donkey was led by the gardener himself, who hat-ribbon matched the colouring of the flowers on the cart. "Pyne" the Rectory dog, formed an escort, evidently attached to the garden to prevent fowls from scratching it up, a duty, which I am told, he most effectually executes by swallowing them whole when occasion arises.

And now the dinner hour approached, and kind folk were seen carrying shares of the feast shortly to be held to the old and infirm at their homes. The scene of the feast was the large barn at the upper end of the farm buildings adjoining the Church, and as

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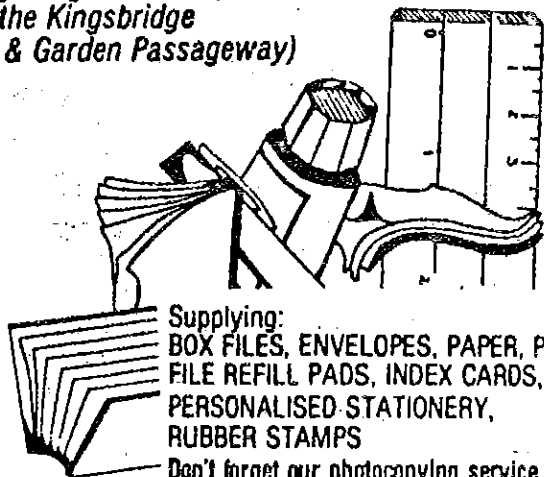
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I passed along the road to find my place at the dinner, I met Hardy in his pensioner's uniform and two other very old inhabitants of the Parish returning home from their drive in the carriage kindly lent them by Mrs. Jenkins to view the procession from.

By 1.30 practically the whole parish, and numerous visitors, numbering close upon 350 persons were assembled in the barn, and after grace had been sung by the School choir, sat down together to an ample meal. At the close of the dinner the health of Her Majesty was proposed by Mr. Jenkins, with that conciseness which is the soul of eloquence, and needless to say, it was drunk with great enthusiasm, and then the whole company remained standing and sang "God Save the Queen."

Next the Chairman of the Parish Council proposed the health of those absent friends of the Parish, who, by their gifts, had helped it to distinguish itself as one of the very few small parishes, which had instituted a permanent memorial of the Diamond Jubilee. Not only had an ample fund been collected for the Festivities, but £40 had been put together to add to the £10, which the former Rector, the Rev and Hon. R. J. Yarde Buller, had collected towards rebuilding the voluntary school. The names of those, to whom he wished them to drink as absent friends were: Lady Churston, Mrs. Moore, of Appleby Hall, the Rev and Hon. R. J. Yarde Buller, Mr. John Crimp, Mr. Harris Crimp, Mr. T. B. Foale, and Mr. Robert Campbell. Concluding, the Chairman said that he believed the Rector had a very pleasant announcement to make. The Rector, rising, said that indeed this seemed to be the Jubilee year of the School as of Her Majesty. The School had done so well that it had had the honour paid it of being exempt from examination for the ensuing year, and had obtained an extra grant and this, notwithstanding the fact that the School had unfortunately been without a Head Teacher for a great part of the year. It gave him great pleasure to acknowledge that the principal credit of this result was due to Mrs. Toms, the assistant teacher. And now body, loyalty and intellect were all satisfied and the company adjourned to the sports field.

With a lovely distant view of Dartmoor and W. Devon and the Cornish coast, the spectators found that an excellent 200 yards course had been mown, and marked out under the superintendence of Mr. East, a member of the Sports Committee, and by the energy of himself, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Whitford, and other volunteers. At the end two interesting objects appeared:— one, a set of four flights of hurdles, the other a maypole. Round the latter the spectators speedily congregated and under the directions of Mrs. Toms, and to music provided by Mrs. Connolly and Mr. Broad, the wrapping and unwrapping of the maypole in its brilliant plaiting was successfully accomplished in graceful dance by 16 little girls, all uniformly dressed in white frocks with bright coloured sashes.

Then a move was made to the other end of the field, and Mr. H. Sherriff as starter, and the Rector and Mr. East as judges, were soon busy with their programme, and 13 races of various kinds including a dog race, were run before tea; all created great interest and many afforded much amusement. Among the successful competitors numbering for the whole programme 63 in all, the performances of Ernest Snowden, William Coombes, Miss Square, Blanche Elliott, Mr. Martin, Mr. Hancock, Laura Robins, Arthur Coope, Mr. H. East, Fred Moore and Rev. R. Smeaton were specially worthy of praise. About 5 o'clock a second maypole dance pleased the spectators, and made a break in the sports, and then it was time to return to the barn for tea. Here Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Coope, Mrs. Godfrey, Mrs. Harcourt, Mrs. Stidston, Mrs. White, Mrs. Burgoyne, Mrs. Broad, Mrs. Toms, Mrs. Hannaford, Mrs. Moore, Miss Foale, Miss Byrne and Miss Nicoll were dispensing that ever acceptable meal.

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Both here and at the dinner the tables were so nicely arranged and the service so admirably effected that one forgot that three and a half centuries of people were feasting together; I discovered the secret of it afterwards and found that most unselfish and extremely hard work was done, before and after both meals by Miss Sherriff, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Pepperell, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Whitford, Mr. Broad, Mr. Martin, Mr. Pepperell, and Mr. Whitford. The last four were also hard at work during part of the afternoon and evening serving refreshments.

Immediately after tea, the prizes for the children's races including several handsome Jubilee mugs were distributed by Mrs. Jenkins. This ceremony was hardly concluded when the peal of bells began to ring for evensong. A smaller congregation assembled for this service; the music and singing were again excellent, and "God Save the Queen" was sung as a hymn with great spirit and effect. Shortly after Evensong the Sports Committee re-assembled in the field and the Rector, Mr. East and Mr. Sherriff were again busy with five further races. Before the programme could be completed, unfortunately it had become so late that Mrs. Jenkins, having visitors in her house, was obliged to ask the Committee to invite some other lady to present the prizes in her stead. Your correspondent arrived on the scene again just after Mrs. Jenkins had gone, and to his great regret too late to see the Rector win in a canter a spirited flea and elephant race. However, two very amusing wheelbarrow races followed, and great fun was afforded by a three-legged race for boys and another for girls which closed the programme.

The Committee then approached Mrs. East, who kindly consented to distribute the prizes in Mrs. Jenkins' place. That ceremony forthwith commenced, and 55 prizes starting with seven for the procession were handed to the various winners. The attractions of "Kiss in the ring" and dancing down by the maypole rendered the audience at the prize-giving somewhat smaller than could have been wished for so important a ceremony, but those present evinced great interest in it, and at the conclusion gave three hearty cheers for Mrs. East.

A large bonfire which had been carefully stacked under the superintendence of Mr. H. Sherriff, on the brake at the head of Ball Park the adjoining field, now became an object of interest. The Committee had invited the Rev. R. Smeaton, and his fiancée Miss Fellowes to light the bonfire, the humorist of the day remarking that they would make a good match, and just after flares had appeared on Bolberey Down and at Galmpton, Miss Fellowes applied a torch of gorse. In a moment a blaze and roar rewarded her efforts, and all near had to draw quickly back.

Very impressive was the scene, and very interesting it was to see a series of other fires light up in various directions; Churchstow showed next, quickly followed by Western Beacon, and one in the direction of Holsett or Prawle Point, then another towards Blackawton, and later two green fires and a red one above Ivybridge, but owing to the mist apparently none could be seen down the coast. A Rocket or two were seen over Plymouth, and a few above Kingsbridge, and then after being in some danger of being roasted by our own bonfire, your correspondent and most of those present turned homewards, and thus closed a memorable day, and celebrations worthy of the occasion, and of Thurlestone.

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Janet Lemmy

FROM THE RECTOR:

"A Very Happy New Year". This is, of course, my wish for all of you, and our traditional greeting to one another, and yet deep down we all know it can't be that for all of us - for some, like every other year it will turn out to be sad or unhappy yet somehow we manage to play tricks with our mind and shut out that possibility.

It may surprise us to realise that the ability to do that is both God-like, and God given. A gift, the ability "Deliberately not to call things to mind".

Most of us complain as we get older that we can't remember things that we should. That is no doubt true, but we don't always recognise that many of us can't forget things as well as we should either. God makes us a lovely promise in scripture:- "I will blot out their transgressions and their sin will I remember no more".

Right back in the Old Testament we have a picture of a young man who had learned the lesson well. Joseph, despite all that he suffered at the hands of his cruel, zealous, brothers, resolved to forgive them and forget the evil they had done to him. In order to help him 'remember to forget' he called his son "God hath made me forget".

So I add to my New Year Greeting, the wish that you may be enabled to develop a good forgettery as well as a good memory. This poem by an unknown author expresses it well:-

The Year That Has Gone.

Let us forget the things that vexed and tried us,
The worrying things that caused our soul to fret,
The hopes that cherished long, where still denied us,
Let us forget.

Let us forget the little slights that pained us,
The greater wrongs that rankle sometimes yet,
The pride with which some lofty one disdained us,
Let us forget.

But blessings manifold past all deserving,
Kind words and helpful deeds, a countless throng
The fault o'ercome, the rectitude unswerving -
Let us remember long.

The sacrifice of love, the generous giving,
Where friends were few, the handclasp warm and strong,
The fragrance of each life of holy living,
Let us remember long.

Continued overleaf.

[illegible]

So pondering well the lesson it has taught us,
We tenderly may bid the year "Goodbye",
Holding in memory all the good that it has brought us,
Letting the evil die.

Sincerely,

PETER S. STEPHENS. Rector.

THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THANKS..THAN

VILLAGE VOICE would like to thank all its readers and all its advertisers for their support in the past year.

VILLAGE VOICE would also like to thank those advertisers for the vote of confidence in this publication which they have expressed by renewing their advertising for the coming year.

VILLAGE VOICE WOULD LIKE TO THANK TOO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THESE PAGES IN THE ISSUES OF 1988 - AND SINCERELY HOPES THEY WILL CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK IN 1989.

WHAT MORE CAN WE SAY? EXCEPT . . .

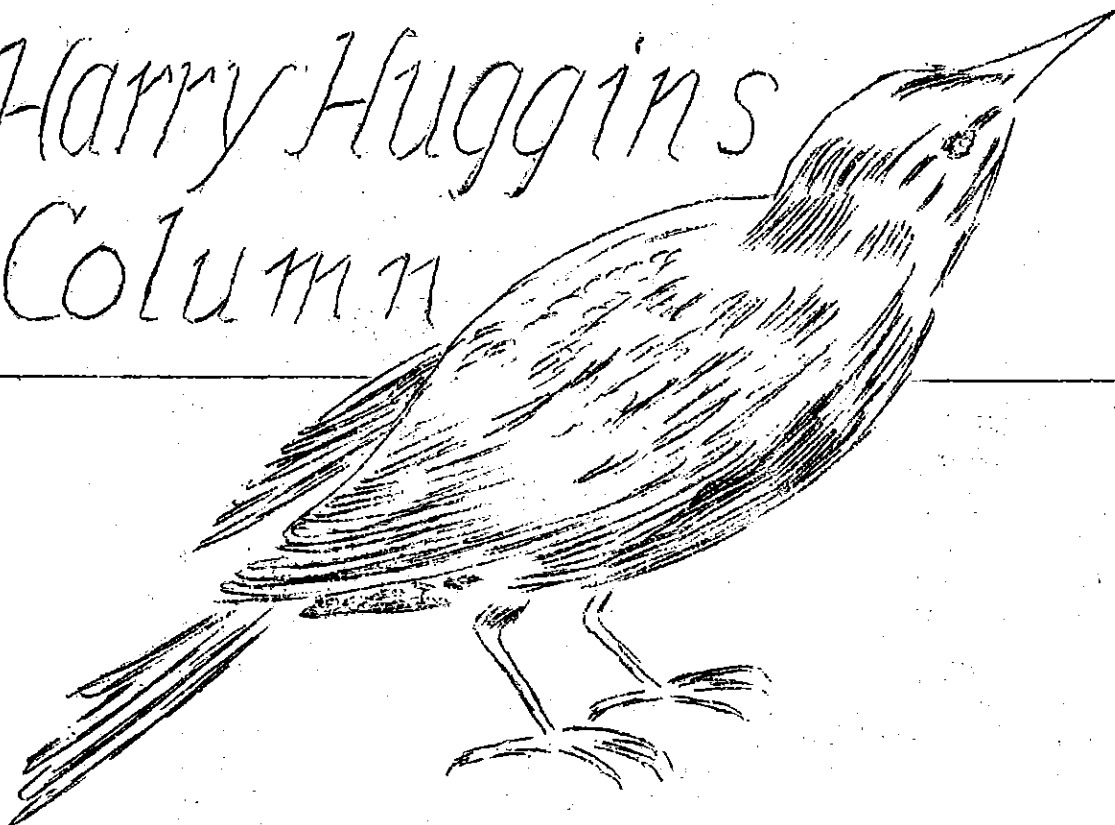
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!

SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORRY..SORR

An apology is due to Mr.W.G.Ladd with regard to his article about footpaths and the golf course in the November-December issue of Village Voice as I overlooked a written note requesting that the title "Parish Clerk" should not be included after his name, the article not having been cleared with his Parish Council.

DUDLEY DRABBLE (Joint Editor).

Harry Huggins Column



MAYBE AS YOU READ THIS THERE WILL BE A HOWLING EAST WIND BLOWING: It was written in November and for much of that month it blew from the east, sometimes strongly and sometimes less so; sometimes warm and on occasion very cold.

As usual when conditions are a bit different - and when they are not for that matter - the dog and I went to view our favourite piece of sea, off Leas Foot beach. It is occasionally good for birds when the wind blows strongly onshore: it is usually good in winter when it blows offshore because various things which are on the sea off the Slapton Line find themselves on a lee shore and come here for shelter.

Early in the month there was a Scoter, one of the diving sea ducks. Most times you see them only as a dark skein of birds flying at wave-top height well offshore. The males are black. This was a female, brown with offwhite cheeks, and she stayed for several days.

Later there was a pair of Goldeneyes (we have friends who had a handsome sailing boat of that name: they, and we, who thought of the name, were most upset when people talked about ointment!) These are also diving ducks, seem more often on freshwater lakes than on the sea. The female looks brown; in fact her head is chocolate and her body dark grey, but she sits so low in the water that her true colour is hard to discern. There is no difficulty about the male, for he is a real smasher. His body is white, with black on top and his head black with a prominent white spot between his bill and his eye. Both sexes have the bright yellow iris from which they are named, but you have to be close to see that. The people who did the naming had their birds in the hand, of course, having killed them in the furtherance of science.

Easterly weather in January and February may bring Eider ducks. We do not usually get the black and white males, just the grotty brown ones, identifiable by the fact that their heads and bills make a straight line from crown to bill tip. There may be divers, Black Throated or the big Breat Northern, and there may be grebes.

Harry Huggins continued:

Great Crested is easy, even in winter plumage when it has lost its splendid ear tufts. Little Grebe, of Dabchick, which you seldom find on the sea, presents no problem. But the two slightly bigger ones, Slavonian and Black Necked, both of which visit Thurlestone at times, are more than difficult to tell apart when in winter plumage. Please do not ask me to pronounce on one!

If you want to do a birding walk sheltered from the wind, try the Yealm estuary. You park by the gates of Kitley Caves car park. You used to be able to go into the car park, but hippies riding around in old buses found it a home from home or whatever hippies want (it has always looked a dull life to me), and now the owners keep the gates locked in winter, it being easier to keep them out than to get them out once in.

You cross the road, creep round the gate post, and find yourself on a path through the woods, parallel to the river. I am quite sure it is not a public path. It is shown on the Ordnance Survey map in black hyphens, not the red dots they give for a public footpath. I must ask one of my Rambler friends what that means (we don't Ramble with a capital R - too far, too fast and too noisy for birding). So please don't blame me if you get thrown out. All I can say is that we have gone there for a number of years, as do a good many other people, and have not been ejected yet.

In the woods there are always Long Tailed Tits, with bell-like calls interspersed with splutters; there are crests, Usually Goldcrests, although we saw a couple of Firecrests one January day: these are greener than Goldcrests, with a big white stripe over each eye. There are many other tits, Marsh and Coal as well as the commoner Blue and Great. In the freshwater swamp there are Water Rails. You don't see a Water Rail, you hear its wailing scream. They say it is like a pig being killed. I am not too familiar with the killing of pigs, it is not a thing you do every day, but once you have heard this noise you will neither mistake it nor forget it.

Along the banks of the Yealm, which is only a little river, there are Dippers, Grey Wagtails, Common Sandpipers and Kingfishers. You won't find all of these on one day, and will maybe have to go several times to see any of them, but we have come across them all at one time or another.

After a few hundred yards the path has crumbled away and you have to climb on to the track of the old railway; but soon you can get back to the path, still sheltered by trees, and find yourself beside the shallow muddy basin of the tidal estuary. Try to time your visit for about two hours before high water, so that the flood will bring the birds towards you. There should be Curlews, Redshanks, Greenshanks on the mudflats, and perhaps Mergansers drifting up on the rising tide. This estuary is frequented by numbers of Shelducks, the big handsome black and white ducks with scarlet bills and chestnut breast bands. Unlike most ducks both sexes are alike: the female makes her nest down a rabbit hole, or in a hole in the cliff, and has no need of camouflage.

The food must be to the liking of the Shelducks on this estuary, because you don't find them on the others nearby; you see Mute Swans and gulls on the Avon, Mallards and Wigeons on the Erme - there is an interesting research project for someone here.

In the big trees to the south of the estuary there is a sizeable heronry. A Heron always looks a crazy bird to alight in a tree top, but that is where they nest. You have to retrace your steps after about a mile, and if, like me, you are always hungry and

Concluding Harry Huggins.

thirsty, head for a trough. There is the Rose and Crown in Yealmpton and other good ones in Holbeton and Ugborough. We cannot speak for Ermington, we have never tried the watering holes there.

The Yealm is a good place for a cold and winy day. For what follows, the Exe estuary from Powderham to Turf, you need a calm one: the walk is along the sea wall, and in other than still conditions, you begin to wonder how painful a death hypothermia is.

You leave the car by Powderham Church (usually we have our coffee in Haldon Forest, somewhere near where the B3381 leaves the A380, and make a comfort stop in Starcross). There is room to park a few cars by the railway; if these places are full among the trees behind the church there is a large parking area, intended for the pious - do put something in the collecting box.

You walk north for about a hundred yards, along a very puddly lane beside the railway, then cross the line to the sea wall and go north along that - it can be very muddy and slippery. Again, choose a time when the flood tide is bring the birds in. There will be ducks - Mallards, Wigeons, maybe Pintails (quite the most elegant of ducks) waders - Bar Tailed and Black Tailed Godwits, Curlews, Knots, Dunlins in thousands, Golden Plovers, Avocets: there is no room to describe all of these and you will have to look them up in the book. The birds are apt to be a bit distant, but this is by far our best estuary. Across the river, towards Topsham and near Exmouth, there are Brant Geese.

And keep an eye on the sky, not too high; there is always the chance of a Peregrine, for the wader flocks are her meal ticket. About a mile and a half along the wall and across the lock at the seaward end of the Exeter canal is your meal ticket - the pub at Turf!

Local news..Local news..Local news..Local news..Local news..Local He

HAVE YOU JOINED CARLOTTA'S CLEANERS?

A letter from Carlotta Roberts to Village Voice started it all: "The beauty of Leas Foot, " she wrote, "is often spoiled by the debris washed up by the sea and left there. I would be very willing to start clearing it with the help of a few friends. If anyone is interested please ring me on 560904"

And people were interested. Soon Carlotta's Cleaners had smartened up Leas Foot and then got to work on Yarmer.

And even more people were interested. Suddenly Carlotta and her team were news. A double-column spread in the Gazette was quickly followed by radio interviews with Carlotta and husband Stan.

And then even more people were interested. Soon the BBC television camera were following the clean-up on Yarmer. Where will it end? Have you joined Carlotta's Cleaners yet?

The Words we use

KENNETH WEEDY

More years ago than I care to remember my education passed into the hands of the most formidable master I have ever encountered. Tall and angular, wrapped in a scholastic gown that had once been black but which age had turned to the green of a peewit's wing, he strode among us like a crow in a flock of starlings. He ruled his class not with a rod of iron but with some four feet of best quality Whangee cane, an instrument with which he was a virtuoso. Even to-day I often wonder what modern, enlightened educationalists would make of his methods.

Every fortnight marks gained for work in the previous two weeks were totalled and a Form Order was produced from them. At the foot of the list the last three names were written in red ink, a dreaded signal for those so identified to present themselves outside the classroom at noon on the next Saturday morning to receive two, three or four strokes - what a misnomer! - which your position in the order warranted. I recall on one occasion being foolish enough as to ask if execution could be postponed for a week, as I was playing in the final of the inter-house Rugby that afternoon. Not only did I get my quota, I suffered one more for 'preferring a frivolous excuse'. But among his many dicta, one has always remained with me. He was wont to say "With an enquiring mind, plus a smattering of Latin and Greek, the derivations of the English language are a treasure which will last you all your life." Two examples will suffice.

In the Middle Ages, when the science of poultry ~~breeding~~ and feeding was in its infancy, a young pullet coming in to lay for the first time was liable to produce some pretty odd looking eggs, until her inner workings got the correct hang of things. In East Anglia these were called her "Cooking Eggs", which was slurred in the local vernacular to 'Cockeneggs'. Even in those days rural dwellers, who were in the majority, looked askance at the townees, with their out-of-place dress and behaviour, and so the epithet 'Cockenegg' was applied to them, most particularly to those from London. As the years passed, pronunciation gradually changed until the descendants of those same urban dwellers would say "I'm a Cockney" and the epithet became a badge of pride.

Much later, in the second half of the 1800's, the London Zoological Society acquired a rarity in the shape of a tame African elephant; rare, because at that time it was believed that only the Asiatic elephants could be tamed. This was a large specimen, weighing between six and seven tons, and he dwarfed his Indian and Burmese cousins. His keeper, no doubt a Cockenegg himself, used to say to the gaping children "Now this 'ere is no ordinary elephant. He comes from Africa, the land of savages and witch doctors and mumbo-jumbo." And thus the name Jumbo came to be applied to the whole species of Proboscidea. Poor Jumbo - he was killed when he was hit by a railway engine on a level crossing in 1885.

And so on a clear day when I look up at the vapour trails marking the passage of the Jumbos carrying their loads of Cockeneggs and others on their journeyings, I think back to that master of long ago. No doubt he has long since gone to his rest and I expect that even now he is chastising the Cherubums for their failure to match his efforts to educate them. I think back to his dictum and say to myself "How right you were, old Man, how right you were!"

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 1989

All Meetings are on a TUESDAY: 17th JANUARY. 28th FEBRUARY. (at Sloop)
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 21st. MARCH. ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4th APRIL
9th MAY. 13th JUNE. 18th JULY. 22nd AUGUST. 26th SEPTEMBER
7th NOVEMBER and 12th DECEMBER. All at the Parish Hall EXCEPT 28th FEBRUARY
to be held at the SLOOP, BANTHAM

Tramp = Tramp = Tramp

(THURLESTONE RAMBLERS)

Listed below is the proposed list of six walks for the six months period January to June. All walks (unless stated otherwise) take place on the 3rd Wednesday of each month and set out at 10.30 am from the rendez-vous (RV) stated. In general a picnic lunch should be brought but where there is the alternative of a 'pub lunch' this is indicated.

Nota Bene

The venue for the January walk, previously published in VV, has been changed as the proposed walk is now thought to be too strenuous for the majority of members.

- 1). JANUARY - Wed 18.1.89 RV Malborough village hall car park (Townsend Cross). A triangular walk to Soar Mill Cove, along the coast to Hope Cove, and returning by the "Ridge Route" to Malborough. About 8 miles. Not tough. Leader. Stuart Reynolds (560643)

- 2). FEBRUARY - Wed 15.2.89 RV South Milton (By the Garage)
A triangular course. Leg 1: To Malborough via Sutton & Davy Park.
Leg 2. Ridge Route to Hope Cove. Leg 3: Return to South Milton via South Huish. About 8 miles. Not Tough. Leader Chalky White (560236)

- 3). MARCH - Wed 15.3.89. RV Loddiswell Car Park (on the East side of the main road). Route: To Hatch Bridge. Avon Valley to Topsham Bridge. Return to Loddiswell along the West bank and thence to Loddiswell via Reads Farm. About 8 miles. Not Strenuous.
Leader: Stuart Reynolds (560643)

- 4). APRIL Wed 19.4.89. RV Malborough Village Hall Car park (Townsend Cross)
Route: Visit the new National Trust Area at Snapes Point.
Collaton, Maryknowle, Batson, Snapes Point, Lincombe, Blanksmill Bridge, Yarde, Malborough. About 8 miles. Not strenuous.
Leader Chalky White (560236)

- 5). MAY 17.5.89. RV National Trust Car park Warren Point (Grid Ref: East 542/North466) (Wednesday, of course!)
Route: Coastal path round Gara Point (almost level): Follow the left bank of the Yealm Estuary to Noss Mayo (Pub lunch available at the 'Ship'). Return cross country to the car park. About 6½ miles
Not strenuous. Leader Stuart Reynolds (560643)

- 6). JUNE Wed 21.6.89. RV East Prawle green (Grid Ref: E782/N.364)
Route: Coastal path to Gara Rock. Retrace steps to Gammon Head then return cross country to East Prawle. About 8 miles. Not strenuous.
Leader: Chalky White (560236)

' L I F E '

One ship sails East and another sails West

With the self-same winds that blow.

'Tis the set of the sails and not the gales,

That determine the way they go.

Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate

As we voyage along through life;

'Tis the set of the soul that decides the goal,

And not the calm or the strife.

Pauline Eaton

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After all the excesses of the Christmas table, it is nice to have a simple dish. With an abundance of superb cauliflowers in the shops and on the farm stalls, what better than this quick and tasty recipe...

Crunchy Cauliflower. Serves 4.

- 1 medium cauliflower
- $\frac{1}{2}$ pint white sauce (seasoned to taste)
- 2 ozs. Cheddar cheese (grated).
- 4 ozs. Smoked or tendersweet streaky bacon.
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. French mustard.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. butter
- 4 tablesp. fresh breadcrumbs.

- 1). Cook the cauliflower in salted water, drain and put in a dish. Keep warm.
- 2). Chop the bacon into small pieces and fry until lightly brown and crisp.
- 3). Make up the white sauce and add the cheese, bacon and mustard. Pour over the cauliflower and keep hot.
- 4). Melt the butter in a small pan and add the crumbs. Fry until golden brown and crisp. Sprinkle on the top of the sauce. Serve immediately.

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR..AND BON

APPETIT!

Did you know that....

Somewhere around the 12th century certain words such as monk, son, tongue, wonder, honey, worry, above, love, dove, come and some, and Somerset, were changed in customary spelling from "U" to "o". Place names and personal names followed suit. Cume, cume, huney, did you wurry about it?

If the world were good for nothing else, it is a fine subject for speculation!

VILLAGER

A MOST HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR to everyone who reads
my column.

: : : : :

There is no telling what sort
of a winter we may yet have -
but I would just remind you
that we do have a Parish Emerg-
-ency Officer - Parish Council
Vice Chairman Mr. Derrick
Yeoman of 8 Parkfield. Telephone
No. 560607.

If you have not yet done any-
-thing to protect exposed water
pipes it is not, hopefully, yet
too late. If you are in need of
professional advice and help
contact our own local plumber
- Simon Hurrell on 560496.

: : : : :

THE GOOD NEWS - WE HOPE !

Headline: Councils to get £1.1
billion to help keep rate rises below inflation for 1989-90 provided that
councils spend within Government guidelines. Environment Secretary, Mr Ridley,
says rates ought to rise significantly less than inflation !

Let us hope the County and District Councils read the same paper I do !

: : : : : : :

NOW - THE BAD NEWS. Headline: South West Water consumers face huge increases
- possibly as much as 25 per cent - because of the Government's new found
commitment to 'green' issues. Now the Government is tightening up its
environmental standards and wants beaches and rivers cleaned up, and sewerage
outflows conforming to European standards. Somewhat before the Authority
expected, it seems. But 25 per cent - before privatisation !!

: : : : : : :

A friend's sister-in-law and her husband had been abroad on holiday and
brought some delightful scent for her mother. They presented it to her at a
family gathering and, since everyone seemed to want a 'smell', it was passed
around. A cousin, quite recently married had his turn. His eyes popped wide
open. "Gosh!" he exclaimed, "I've been out with that." !

: : : : : : :

"When I see pictures of Nigel Lawson, I think it would be a good idea if he
lived on an old age pension for a month. He would benefit by losing two to
three stone and might perhaps have a great insight on how people on very
little money manage." A Mrs Mackie writing to the Sunday Express.

: : : : : : :

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WI NEWS

A debate on the desirability of a 'Well Women Clinic' for Kingsbridge was held at the November meeting, which resulted in a resolution to contact the Community Health Council and the Family Practitioner Association to ask if there were any plans in hand for the provision of health screening locally. Members agreed that not only were cervical and breast screening services vital, but early detection of other health problems could be helped by the provision of such a 'preventive medicine' service, which should be readily available to all women in the South Hams. Contact is to be made with other WI's in the area to encourage them to support our concern by writing similarly to the appropriate health authorities.

Two years' intermittent work on a patchwork bedspread was crowned when its raffle enabled members to donate a cheque for £400 to the Hospice movement which Barbara Smith, the Kingsbridge Macmillan nurse, collected. She told members about her work - caring not only for patients themselves but also, where needed, their families in every possible way. Patients can be referred to the Hospice service by anyone - hospital, doctor, nurse, relative, with prior permission from the patient's own GP.

The bedspread, worked in traditional hexagonals, was won by Mrs Sheena MacKay. Mr Keith Millman kindly attended the meeting to take photographs for the archives.

Closure of sub post-offices was one of the main discussions at the recent Autumn Council Meeting in Plymouth, members heard, when the manager of Post Office Counters Ltd., and the Chairman of the Federation of Sub Post Masters were the speakers. Use your village post office as much as you possibly can, members were urged - pay your bills, get your pensions and allowances through them, and make every effort to ensure that the level of business is sufficiently high to warrant it remaining open. A 'Community Office' open perhaps two hours a week, would never replace the friendly service on 5½ days a week we get from our local post office, which is very often the hub of village life - a place which someone who is perhaps elderly or lonely looks forward to visiting for social contact, and vital for those who suffer from lack of rural transport. The National Federation of WI's is keen for members to get in touch with them immediately they hear of a threatened closure in their village, and the meeting was left in no doubt that they must USE IT OR LOSE IT when it comes to the local post office.

East Allington WI's challenge to a return skittles match at The Taverners, Aveton Gifford, would be taken up on November 22.

At the ensuing Annual Meeting outgoing President Mrs. Val Brown paid tribute to the committee who had served with her and to the Institute as a whole which she had found "Interested, articulate and friendly". She, in turn, was thanked by the members for her excellent and enjoyable term of office, and Mrs. Connie Hughes was a popular choice as her successor for the year ahead.

P.M.

From a recent advertisement in the Sunday Express Magazine:

... . Fran Cotton and Steve Smith have teamed up together to design and manufacture some fantastic 'international' rugby-style leisure wear. . . . Whether you scrum down at a party or exchange jerseys after the game (with him or her) is entirely up to you. Girls look fantastic too...even without the trousers !

VILLAGE VOICE obtained a Certificate of Merit in the competition to find the best Devon Village Self-Help Project in October 1984 ! Remember?



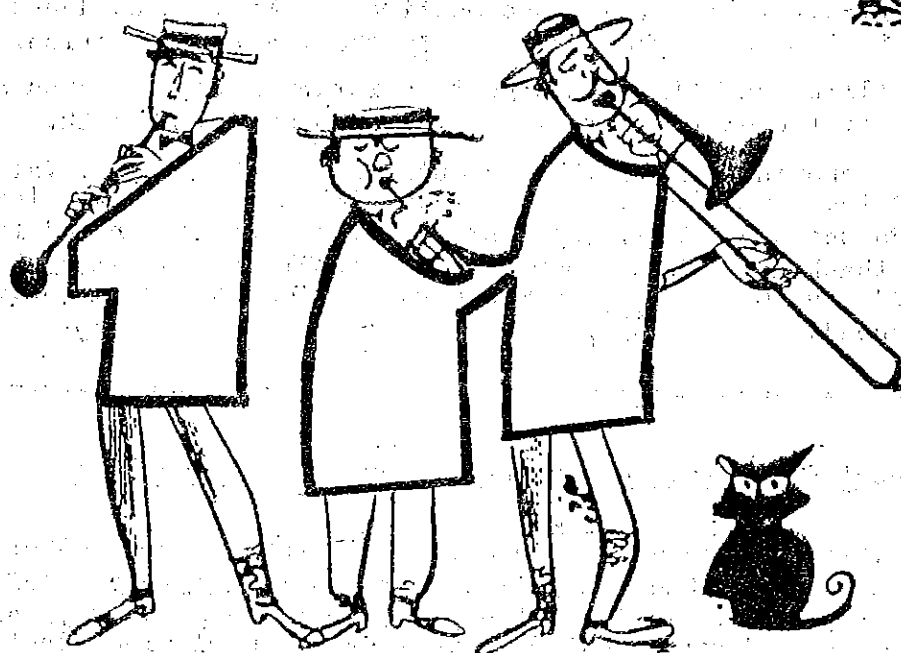
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NOTE: If you're wanting something special for Christmas order now.

Here's a thought: Why not let US take care of your CHRISTMAS or BIRTHDAY PRESENTS to your friends and relations abroad? Just call into the shop, choose the gift(s) and write a card to go with them. We'll pack them up and mail them (gift-wrapped, of course) to arrive at the right time.

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The late LORD HALIFAX once said: "The best party is but a kind of conspiracy against the rest of the nation."

Drabblemania

It appears that few cereals give much more fibre than a slice of wholemeal bread. The Consumers' Association advise us "not to be fooled by claims like 'high fibre' cereals which don't necessarily contain any more fibre than those which make no such claim" !

+ + + + +

THE BIRD, however hard the frost may be, flies briskly to his customary resting-place, and, with beak tucked into his wing, falls asleep. He has no apprehensions; only the hot blood grows colder and colder, the pulse feebler as he sleeps, and at midnight, or in the early morning, he drops from his perche - dead.

Yesterday he lived, and moved, responsive to a thousand external influences, reflecting earth and sky in his small brilliant brain as in a looking glass; also he had a various language, the inherited knowledge of his race, and the faculty of flight, by means of which he could shoot, meteor like, across the sky, and pass swiftly from place to place; and with it such perfect control over all his organs, such marvellous certitude in all his motions, as to be able to drop himself plumb down from the tallest tree-top, or out of the void air, on to a slender spray, and scarcely cause its leaves to tremble. Now, on this morning, he lies stiff and motionless; if you were to take him up and drop him from your hand, he would fall to the ground like a stone or a lump of clay - so easy and swift is the passage from life to death in wild nature! But he was never miserable.

W.H. Hudson - Birds in Town and Village.

WILL YOU FEED & WATER THE BIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN THIS WINTER - PLEASE.

+ + + + +

Talking to another about reactions to his sermons, the Minister said: "I don't mind so much when a man looks at his watch; it's when he shakes it and holds it to his ear that I feel annoyed."

+ + + + +

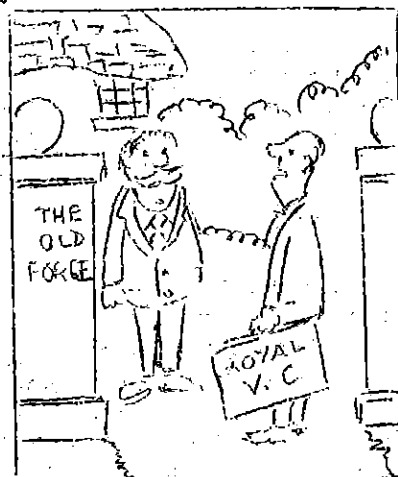
I observed a custom in all those Italian cities and towns through which I passed, and that is not used in any other country that I saw in my travels. The Italians do always at their meals use a little fork when they cut their meat. The reason of this curiosity is, because the Italian cannot by any means endure to have his dish touched with fingers, seeing all men's fingers are not alike clean.

CORYATE (Crudities 1611)

+ + + + +

Could this apply to a few of our politicians? - 'Tis better to remain silent and be thought foolish than to open your mouth and remove all possible doubt!

+ + + + +



I'm from the Royal Veterinary College, Colonel, and I've called to establish you're not an unregistered farrier

MORE ! !

HEALTH WARNING - reading this may not be desirable:

From the Western Morning News in 1984: "Mrs J....D...., a Newsagent, has been obliged to withdraw a card from her advertisement panel because of the excitement it caused among her customers. The card, which was the handiwork of a person calling himself G.....O..... read: "Free to any lady able to cook and clean - a man still warm from his previous owner."

+ + + + +

This is interesting - the public's right to use a particular way if that way is shown on the parish Definitive Footpath Map as a 'Footpath'. It would seem that where a footpath is shown on such a map it has to be taken as conclusive evidence that the only public right on such a path is on foot only. No member of the public can claim a right to go along such a path in any fashion other than on foot. Skateboarders, cyclist and motor cyclist please note.

+ + + + +

Dropped through my letter box - name and address supplied, obviously an Old Age Pensioner:

I took Thatcher to be my Shepherd,
For thus I thought I should not want
She, of all people, would never leadeth me to privation
Nor yet depriveth me of my simple benefits,
Or guideth me into poverty for the Party's sake.
Never -- annointeth my pension with price increases
That would seeth my expense over-runneeth my income
Nor yet ensure Poverty and hardship to become my lot.

+ + + + +

That little piece made me wonder about all the properties now used for what can surely only be termed 'commercial purposes' - Holiday Homes. If the Government is so anxious to screw down the less well-off pensioners surely they should classify such properties as 'business premises' and rate them accordingly. This could surely be a very important factor when all the owners' of such properties will have to pay in 1990 is the Community Charge. Taken throughout the South Hams it might well help to hold down the amount of the annual community charge - and such people can well afford to pay more for the money they take out of the area.

This column is open for comment !

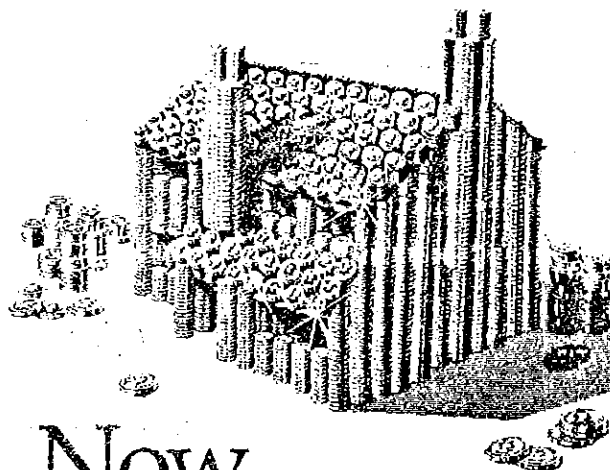
+ + + + +

Did you know - that every Waterloo Day - June 18th - the current Duke of Wellington formally presents the Queen with a small tricolour flag at a special dinner held in the Waterloo Chamber at Windsor Castle. The flag is the rent due for the lease of the Strathfield Saye estate, granted to the first Duke after his victory over Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. The rent has never gone up !

+ + + + +

It seems there is a suggestion from those Brussels 'harmonisers', who daily tend to create more disharmony than your average pop group, wish all EEC Member Countries to use numberplates of identical size, shape and colour. Perhaps the wonder is they don't require all numbers to be identical, but one must suppose they have to keep suggesting something in order to justify their enormous salaries. Soon, they'll be asking why we Anglo-Saxon nonconformists are driving cars that are 'nt all of identical shape and colour and always on the left !

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Young people in Thurlestone round about the year 1800

NEVILLE C. OSWALD

My instruction in history at school extended no further than 1485, a date that I reached at least twice. I committed to memory the names of the early kings and queens of England and the various battles they fought and then took my leave with Richard III lying dead at Bosworth Field, with blood congealing in his many wounds. Anything that occurred after 1485 is outside my experience. For instance, such worthies as Perkin Warbeck and the Tolpuddle Martyrs command far less of my attention, and indeed respect, than presumably they should. As for the ordinary man in the street and the farmer ploughing his furrow, they might as well have never existed.

As a matter of fact we know very little about the lives of agricultural labourers and their families before about 1800, as Professor Hoskins points out in his book *Old Devon*. Rather turgid official statistics report that one-third of the total working population of Devon was employed in agriculture, the figure rising to two-thirds in rural parishes. The Thurlestone parish registers show that three-quarters of the population worked on the land. What about their children? In 1800, at least a quarter of the 400 people living in the parish were under the age of 14 and rather fewer were teenagers and unmarried young adults. With no village school and very few of them able to go to the Grammar School at Kingsbridge, they needed a lot of supervising. Unfortunately, nobody has written a comprehensive account of the way young people in Devon filled in their time in those days. Instead, we must rely on scattered accounts often in the form of letters, from which we may deduce a pretty accurate description of the lives they led in Thurlestone and similar rural parishes.

If we look at the thatched cottages in the village street above the Old Rectory, we see where the Lidstones and Tabbs and Shepherds and other farm labourers lived in 1800. In those days a family of ten children was by no means unusual; it would have taken a lot of fitting into a two up and two down, especially when there were grandparents about the place

OVERPAGE:-

YOUNG PEOPLE IN THURLESTONE....continued

doing everything in their power to avoid being sent to the workhouse in Kingsbridge. Further, the farm labourer and his wife were in no position to support a large family; he would have no more than a weekly wage of about seven shillings, a small allotment and maybe a few chickens and a pig whilst she, whose forebears for generations had been able to earn a few pence a day from spinning wool, saw this useful extra income disappear during the Napoleonic wars around 1800, due to the collapse of the export trade.... In practice, of course, some of the family had to move; the grandparents might go elsewhere in the parish and the older children would be apprenticed to farmers.

The system of apprenticeship, which had grown up over the centuries, applied to most Thurlestone children in 1800. Boys and girls would leave home at the age of about seven and go to a farm where they would be housed, fed and clothed and instructed in farming methods. Boys were more easily placed than girls because there was always work to be done on the land, whereas most girls preferred to work indoors where the opportunities were limited. Hence, some girls perforce remained in their overcrowded homes where food and clothing were often in short supply and, because supervision tended to be lax, some of them found themselves in trouble of one kind or another. Apprentices usually continued as such until their late teens when the boys would be free to leave and earn their living as trained farm labourers and the girls as trained domestic servants.

Several farm buildings dating at least from the early 1800s still exist in the parish. One of the larger ones might need to accommodate quite a lot of people to get the work done with the rather primitive facilities of the time. There could have been a grandfather dividing his time between caring for a cabbage patch and sitting in an armchair beside the fire while his wife busied herself in the house. Then there were the farmer and his wife and several children, half a dozen paid labourers and domestic servants and a similar number of apprentices. Usually, they all sat down to meals together and the boy apprentices slept with the farmer's sons and the girls with his daughters. The day began somewhere between two and five in the morning according to the time of the year, when the cattle were collected, fed and milked and the pigs were attended to.. Then, after breakfast, the men and boys would go off to the fields, each with his own packet of bread and cheese and keg of cider, to harness the horses, lead bullocks at the plough, sow corn and potatoes, pick stones and weeds, pull turnips and do whatever else needed to be done. Girls worked mainly in and around the farm house, but they might go out to collect faggots for the fire or help with the milking; certainly, they would be very busy in the fields round about harvest time.

Naturally, there were good and bad farmers and apprentices. On a good farm the apprentices were well fed and were taught to read and write, often by the farmer's wife during the long winter evenings. They went to church in a smart suit or dress on Sundays. The younger ones were not allowed out after 7 p.m. nor could they go to fairs, or wakes, especially the girls. They had five days holiday a year, three at Christmas and two at Easter, when they usually went home for the day but were not allowed to be away overnight. Their parents called on them from time to time and, by convention, were given a meal. In a bad farm children had few clothes, were half starved and were sometimes beaten. Bad apprentices could not be dismissed by their masters; they could be referred to the magistrates, but they rarely were because their masters did not want their own reputations to be put on the line. Alternatively, the apprentices' parents could appeal to the magistrates if their children were maltreated. In a place like Thurlestone in 1800, when everybody knew everybody else, the merits of the various farmers must have been freely discussed and there must have been some manoeuvring when deciding which apprentice could go to which.

Concluded overpage...

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EVENINGS

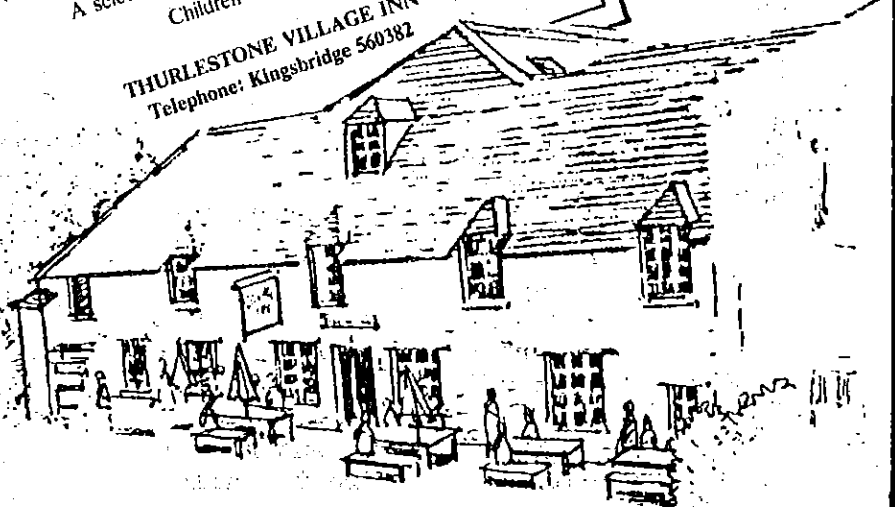
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Telephone: Kingsbridge 560382

Concluding...Young People in Thurlestone...

Looking back at apprenticeship a couple of hundred years later, the practice may seem to be rather unusual, but it must be judged in its context. Thurlestone was then an isolated rural community which lived off its fertile land. There were half a dozen farmers and a similar number of gentry who ran the place for modest profit. Regrettably, the standard of living for the ordinary farm workers steadily declined from Elizabethan to Victorian times, principally because rises in wages did not keep pace with the cost of living. By 1800, day labourers living out simply could not afford the ordinary necessities of life; few of them were able to survive without relief from the parish, wither in the form of money or corn. And, during the period 1750 to 1850, they followed the national trend in having large families with inadequate room to house them. Hence, the simplest way out, short of the farmers building more houses for them and paying them more, was to board their children out. The whole system was disruptive of family life, but that is how it was.

NEVILLE C. OSWALD.

IMPORTANT NOTICE...IMPORTANT NOTICE...IMPORTANT NOTICE...IMPORT

THE RISING GENERATION.

That's the name of a craft group for young people which is being formed for Thurlestone and roundabout.

The Rising Generation group will teach music, stagecraft, and art to local young people.

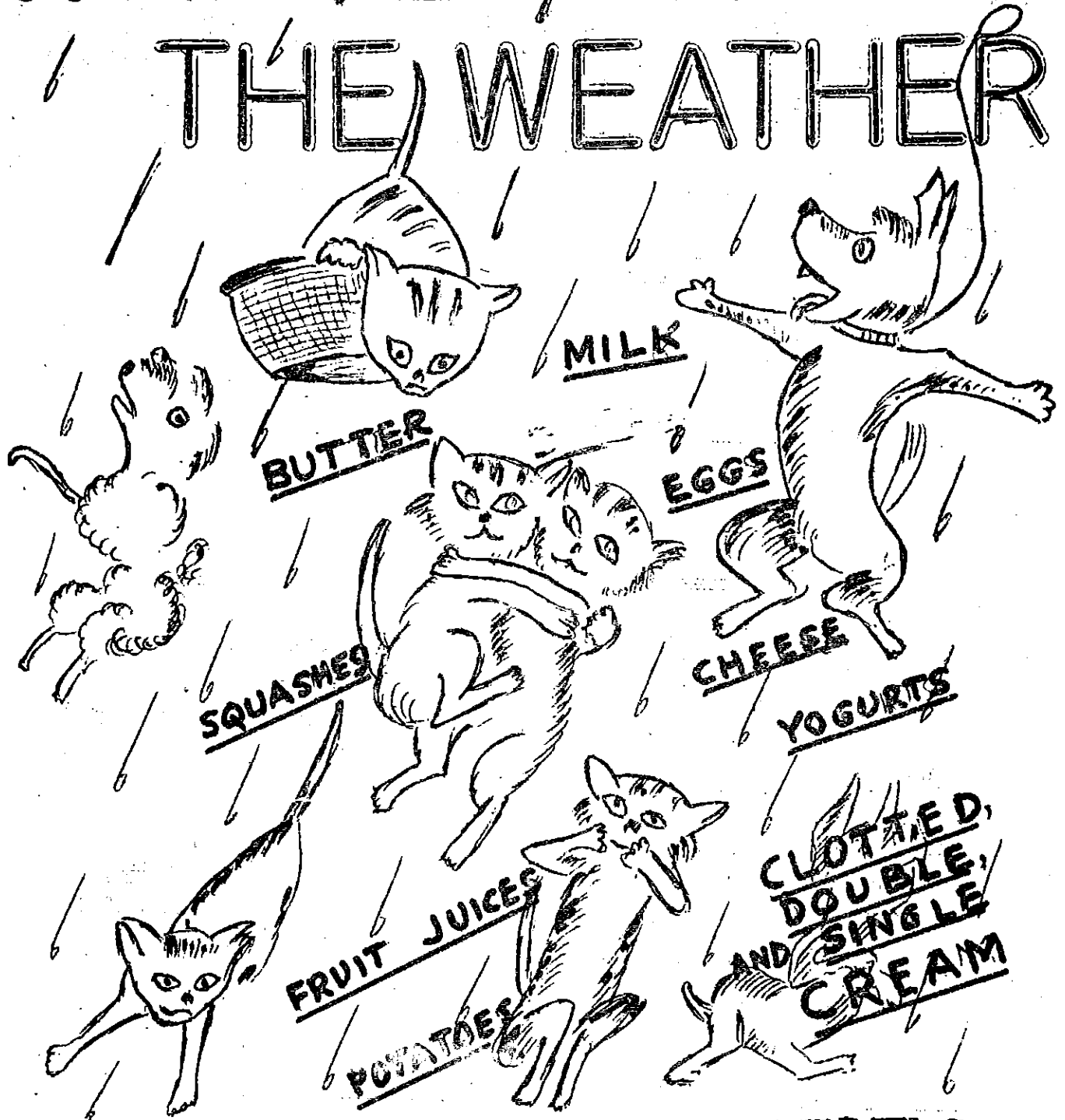
So anyone who has youngsters between the ages of 10 and 18 and think they would like to take advantage of this new opportunity, should contact Len Hubbard at Burwood Gallery (560731). All tuition will be free, but those taking part will have to supply materials.

Anyone of any age who would like to help to run the group should also contact Len Hubbard.

CAN ANYONE TELL US...

...if that little arch on the side of the road opposite the Old Rectory is really the last resting place of Alice Burgoyne? Now that Mr Dyer has cleared away all the growth you can see quite clearly the inscription on the slate. It says "A.B. 1870". And it is true that an Alice Burgoyne, aged 79, did die at Thurlestone on October 26, 1870. But surely they didn't bury her beside the road? Or did they? Tell us please.

WHATEVER THE WEATHER



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Thurlestone Short Mat Bowls Club

Our winter season is now well under way with regular meetings every TUESDAY and THURSDAY from 7.30 pm to 9.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Hope Cove looked after us well when we played our first match of the season against them - and we are pleased to report that we won.

New members are always welcome on either evening whether you be experienced or a novice, all we ask is that you have a good sense of humour as Short Mat Bowls is that sort of a game. Don't worry if you have never played before, many of the regular players have evenings like that

Should you want to have a chat before committing yourself, pop in and see Jean Yeoman at the Post Office

SPECIAL NOTE! SPECIAL NOTE!

South Hams District Council Chief Housing and Planning Officer Mr Michael Carpenter has accepted an invitation to attend the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on the 17th JANUARY 1989 for a discussion on HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

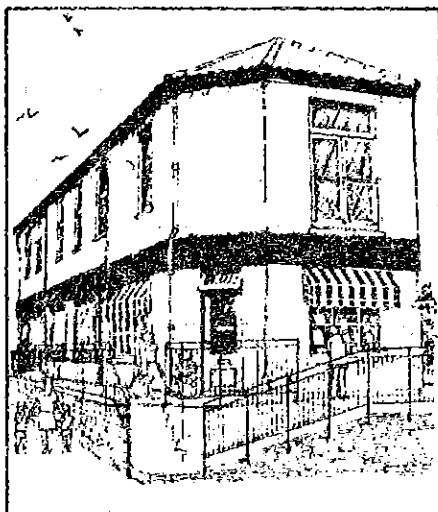
THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

Work on improving the Hall continues apace, the floor is now completed, slippers only please, and we are promised delivery of the chairs in time for the WI Christmas Lunch on the 8th December. In addition the main hall has been emulsioned leaving only the kitchen, entrance hall and toilets to be done. The areas on either side of the stage require a lot of work and this may have to be done professionally when funds permit.

As most of you are aware no regular assistance is received to assist in the running of the hall, and it survives almost entirely from Fund raising, such as that so generously supported for new chairs, Jumble Sales and the occasional grant for specific projects from outside sources such as the Parish Council. The only regular source of income which nearly meets our general overheads is from Bookings, such as the regular users: Bridge, Bowls and WI. and the increasing numbers of receptions, parties and disco's. Even so there are still a number of days when the hall isn't used, so if you are thinking of organising an event why not look at your Parish Hall first and see whether it meets with your requirements.

One point to bear in mind when booking the Hall is that we do not have a Public Entertainment Licence and therefore you cannot under any circumstances charge an entrance fee. Any tickets for disco's, etc. must be sold privately beforehand and not at the door. A notice to this effect has been on the Board for some years, but recently has been overlooked, and could have led to a prosecution. This restriction does not, I understand, refer to any money collected from their members by Clubs, etc. by way of subscriptions or optional refreshments. Should anyone wishing to book the Hall not know of the facilities available, then please do not hesitate to contact either myself or any Committee Member.

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Now Christmas is over, can you find these festive words in the square. They may be across, down, backwards, up or diagonal - but always in a straight line. One word is done for you...

ANGEL
BIRTH
CAKE
CAROLS
CHIMNEY
CHOCOLATES
~~CHRISTMAS~~
CRACKER
DECORATIONS
FAIRY
GOODWILL
GOOSE
HOLLY
INN
IVY
LIGHTS
LOVE
MINCEMEAT
MISTLETOE
NOEL
PANTOMIME
PARTIES
PEACE
PIES
PORK
PRESENTS
PUDDING
REINDEER
ROBIN

P	E	T	S	I	N	G	E	R	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
T	G	L	H	A	O	W	O	N	S	I	P	J	L	K	E	L	H
U	M	N	B	L	N	O	P	O	F	U	R	S	C	E	E	T	E
R	U	V	E	A	W	T	X	N	D	Z	A	B	H	S	O	Y	P
K	O	L	C	C	T	D	A	D	N	W	F	G	O	H	L	N	H
E	U	B	I	R	J	S	I	C	K	I	I	O	G	L	P	M	E
Y	V	I	I	N	A	N	N	O	L	P	G	L	O	Q	R	S	R
E	R	S	T	N	G	C	R	O	U	A	V	H	L	L	E	T	D
N	W	O	A	Z	A	E	K	X	I	B	U	Y	A	I	S	U	S
M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	E	T	A	S	T	G	E	N	G
I	N	B	I	D	F	A	E	M	R	Z	A	R	E	H	N	L	N
H	B	C	N	G	S	E	I	P	D	N	A	R	S	T	T	A	I
C	L	I	M	O	H	M	P	O	G	P	R	R	O	S	S	W	K
A	E	A	R	G	O	E	U	E	N	E	A	T	L	C	A	K	E
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O	F	E	N	A	H	N	B	F	L	C	V	M	A	N	E	D	R
L	L	A	T	F	A	I	R	Y	M	E	O	X	S	R	P	D	H
S	P	O	R	K	I	M	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	F	A	T

SANTA CLAUS SHEPHERDS SLEIGH SNOW STABLE STOCKING THREE KINGS TREE
TURKEY WALNUTS YULE LOG

PAT MACHIN'S PUB ANAGRAMS

How is your 'LOCAL' knowledge ? Here are anagrams of a score or so of Pubs or Inns in the South Hams. The words 'the' and 'inn' have been omitted. e.g. POLOS would represent THE SLOOP INN.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. PIN COVERED | 7. TROOPS BELT | 13. Bed Bite | 19. NAVE STRESS |
| 2. SPONGE IS | 8. THE RAW HIT | 14. SPOKE OR CIDER | 20. NEVER STAR |
| 3. BEGIN ROLLS | 9. THEIR GAME | 15. DARN FAST SILT | 21. TUNE LOVER |
| 4. MARK SINGS | 10. CLAMMY SOUR IDOL | 16. SO WORN DANCER | 22. NOUGHT |
| 5. NON HOARD PEACH | 11. NIP HOLD | 17. STAB TRAY | DINGLE |
| 6. PA KISSING FOUR | 12. FORCE SUET | 18. ONES DRY JUNE | 23. DAMN SORRY
MAN |
| 24. RAN MASTED MASS. | | 25. NIGHT WAS PILED | |

ANSWERS FOR THE 'PUB ANAGRAMS'. Only to be read when standing on your head!

1. Providence. 2. Pigs Nose. 3. King o' Bells. 4. King Arms. 5. Hope & Anchor
6. King of Prussia. 7. Lobster Pot. 8. White Hart. 9. Hermitage.
10. Midway Colours. 11. Dolphin. 12. Fortescue. 13. Ebb Tide. 14. Crooked
Spire. 15. First and Last. 16. Rose and Crown. 17. Start Bay. 18. Journeys End
19. Seven Stars. 20. Taverners. 21. Volunteer. 22. Hunting Lodge.
23. Normandy Arms. 24. Tradesmans Arms. 25. Pig and Whistle.

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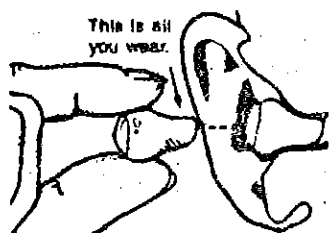
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Local small Talk

I know you have been waiting a long time, but it is Christmas.
... Ecology, environment, quality of life, we've got the lot ...
I enjoy my golf and have been happily married for years and I'll tell
you why; I'm never at home ... He stepped out of the car and disappeared;
some ass had removed a manhole cover ... You can't get there from here ...
If I caught chickenpox, I'd like to be really ill right away and get it
over with ... When I saw what he'd done, I said to myself, What has he
done? ... I know you have breakfast at seven; there is no need to brag
about it ... Sure, wife beating in Devon is above the national average,
but that should not worry you because you are only staying for a fortnight
... I looked and saw my husband; how he got there I never asked him ...
My advice to you is to take the sandwiches and eat them at home. ...
Believe me you can be sure as eggs are eggs that in due course your golf
handicap will go up and your wife's will go down ... Marriages hold
together pretty well down here; it is the life-style... My bones are
letting me down; it must be the damp ... What's next? we keep asking
ourselves ... Let us hide our light under a bushel where it may be
seen ... Dressed by Dingles? No, village hall jumble ... He came
down from somewhere in the North of England with his caravan, his telescope
and his wife just to look at our whiskered tern; I can't understand it ...
Nothing ever happens here ... You should have been here last week.

One has a social duty to listen to inane remarks, in exchange for
being allowed to recite one's own.

ANON

Who is a Senior Citizen?

"We were here before T.V., penicillin, Anti-biotics, open-heart surgery and
hair transplants. Before frozen foods, nylons, terylene, radar, Xerox,
fluorescent lights, credit cards, Biro's and B.M.W's.

We were here before drip-drys, dishwashers, freezers and electric blankets.
Before men wore long hair and ear rings - and plastic - and 40 hour weeks.
We got married first, then lived together. Strange, eh? Girls thought
cleavage was what Butchers did.

We were before Vitamins, jeeps, jets, pizza, take-aways, face lifts, de-caff
or MacDonalds.

We thought fast food was what you ate in Lent.

We were before transistors, word-processors, fax, computers, pocket
calculators. Grass was for mowing - coke was a fuel, not a drink - or for
sniffing.

We're today's Senior Citizens - a hardy lot when you think how our world has
changed and the adjustments we've had to make. I'm pretty proud of us ! ! "

B. MacKay

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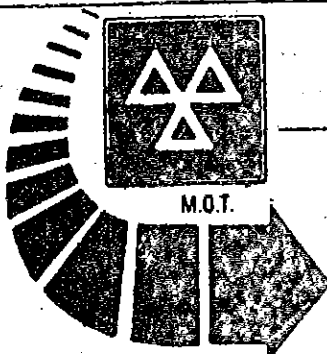
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LETTER PAGE

The Editor
Village Voice

The End Cottage
Bantham

D O G S

There must be a great number of people who enjoy the beautiful walk round Bantham Ham. Therefore I cannot understand the inconsiderate dog walkers who allow their animals to foul the footpaths in such a disgusting way. The mess grows worse all the time and now it is almost impossible to enjoy the walk looking at the scenery as the path is so dirty underfoot.

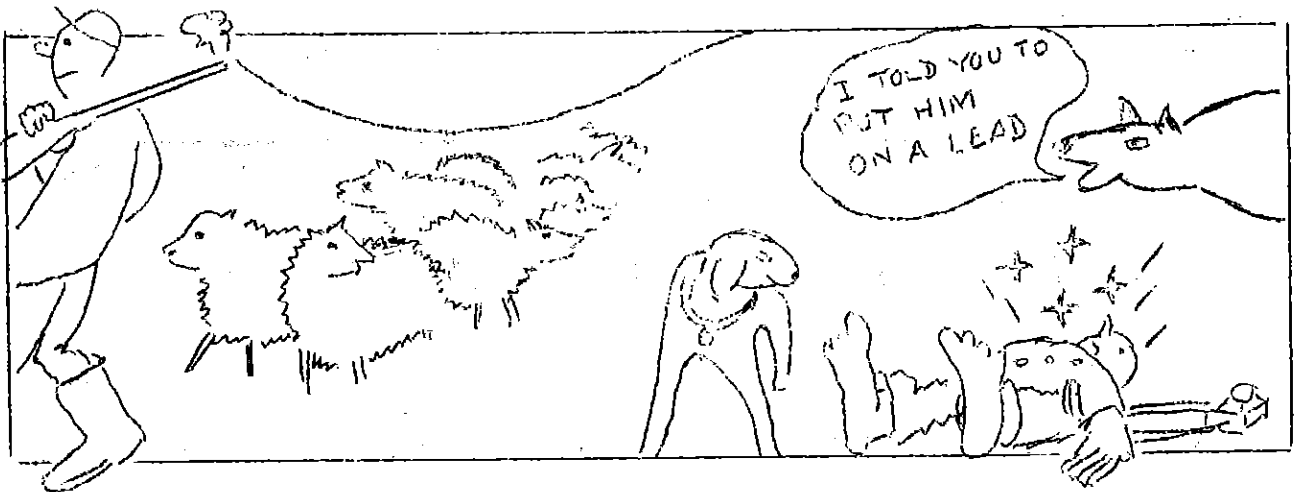
Surely the people who bring their dogs here have gardens of their own or at least could train them to an area off the paths. Perhaps the notice at the beginning of the path should read "PLEASE do not let your dog foul the footpaths. At present it refers to the car park and the beach.

It is an established fact that dogs' faeces are a potentially serious health hazard, especially to young children, and owners should bear this in mind.

It would be a good idea if the dog walkers would look at the paths themselves, because it isn't until they see the mess the dogs have made they will become more considerate of others.

Dog owners please read this appeal and give it some thought.

J. Sowry



Mrs Pat MacDonald sends us the following extract she recently received from an elderly acquaintance who lives at Teignmouth:

"...One night, very misty and rainy, when I was stationed with the Women's Land Army at a farm at Hope Cove, we were roused from our sleep with cries of 'wreck'. We immediately set off from the farm with the horses, myself leading a huge shire called 'Hector'. We arrived at Thurlestone and the horses were attached to the breeches bouy, Hector being the fore horse. After several false shots and moving position a mile, they eventually got a line aboard the boat - the 'Louis Sheid' - and as a result all were saved - by the horses and us, and the Salcombe lifeboat. I recall we spent the rest of the very wet and cold night in the garage of the Links Hotel, with not even so much as a cup of tea to cheer us up !

We really do love to hear from our readers - especially about any item of parish concern or interest.

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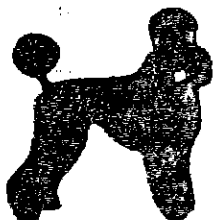
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Thurlestone & West Buckland Women's Institute 1928-1988

...by VAL BROWN.

PART 1

The 20's

On Monday 12th December 1927 a meeting was held at the RIFLE CLUB ROOM, West Buckland, to discuss the possibility of forming a WOMEN'S INSTITUTE in this village. 32 ladies were present. 16 Committee Members were elected including 2 Vice Presidents and 2 members were co-opted. The first Committee Meeting was held on Thursday 29th December.

Owing to a blizzard only 5 turned up

Tea, it was decided, would be charged at the rate of 1d per cup with 1d each for cake or bread and butter. A sale table with all articles, old or new, supplied by members to be sold outright for W I funds or at a commission of 1d in the shilling with the 1d going to the funds.

1928 There were now 42 members. Aveton Gifford was the link W I. The May Whit Monday commission on the W I stall at Bantham was given to the Building Fund for the Bantham Hall. Although the National Anthem was always sung at the close of meetings, at the 1st Annual Meeting members were taught by 2 VCOs to sing Jerusalem. In December Mr Woodley offered seed potatoes 'Scottish Farmers' late variety, to be grown by members for THE COTTAGE HOSPITAL. Mrs Radcliffe moved a Vote of Condolence with the Queen on the King's serious illness.

1929. In January Miss Ilbert collected clothes from members for the South Wales Miners and their families.

The April Meeting was postponed as it clashed with
the opening of the Cottage Hospital

The June Meeting was held with Aveton Gifford members at Lower Goosewell. Lady Clinton, the speaker, received a stirring welcome. The outing in July was to Flete by kind permission of Lady Mildway.

Cost 2/-.. Members to bring tea and own cup to drink out of

In October members entertained the men with a Play written by the Misses Figgott, followed by a Whist Drive. The competition for a 1lb jar of jam had 21 entries. In November Mr Harold Lakeman presented the Institute with a large box with lock and key. At the Christmas Party, children of 42 members were entertained, each receiving a gift costing 1/-.

READ ON.....

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-ion facilities VILLAGE
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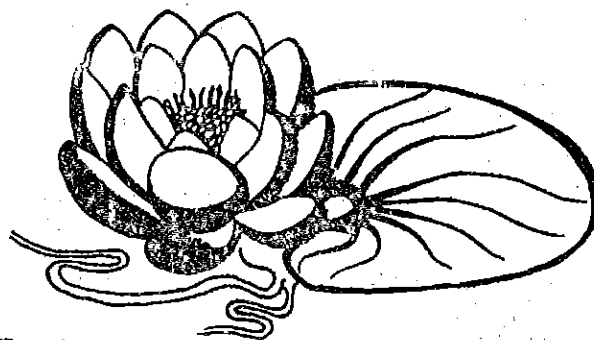
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Saturday - 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon

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VILLAGE VOICE

THURLESTONE & WEST BUCKLAND W.I. - 1928-1988. Part 1 continued:

The 30s

1930. Meetings held at Leaside, The Thatched House, Widdons (Bantham), the Rifle Club Room. Speakers included a talk by Mrs Barnes on her work in a Tuberculosis Hospital, entitled 'Open Air Schools' and a Millinery Demonstration. Members continue to send potatoes to the Cottage Hospital. Mrs G. Prowse obtained 28lbs from her original 3 potatoes. In a competition for 'The most articles in a match box', Mrs Hosking won with 128. Hamper of goods given to Plymouth Poor Families.

1931 Members and their children enjoyed a picnic at Bantham.

1932 A Resolution was passed asking M.P. (Major Rayner) to support a Parliamentary Bill on Cheap Milk for expectant mothers and young children

1933 Committee officially reduced from 16 to 12 members.

1934 A WI Choir was formed. A Fete was held in June to raise funds for a Village Hall for Bantham: £30 was given to this project. Lots of Whist Drives, Dances and Fancy Dress Parties were held.

Also the Annual Men's Party

1939 In May there was an outing to Fry's Factory, Bristol. A letter was received concerning the Formation of the Land Army in the event of War, appealing for volunteers.

There were no volunteers

At the Annual Meeting the President urged members to

keep a happy frame of mind despite these difficult times.

30 guineas was donated to the Finnish Relief Fund.

The 40s

It was decided that until the end of the war, instead of Jerusalem, the National Anthem would be sung at the opening of each meeting. The Government urged that extra carrots and onion seeds be raised and members were reminded that ALL SUGAR allocated to the W I for jam making must be used for that purpose only. A Knitting Circle was formed to knit comforts for the troops.

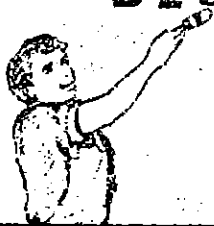
In one year the village sent 800 knitted items to the Royal Navy

1942 It was proposed to Adopt a Prisoner of War. 6d per month from members would enable a parcel to be sent every 3 months. The Red Cross sent parcels weekly and it was suggested the money be forwarded to the Central Fund. This was done throughout the war years. An appeal was made for foxglove leaves, for their medicinal value. Sackfulls were gathered from Oxon Woods and forwarded to Newton Abbot via Kingsbridge Station. £11. 2. 6d was sent to the Devon Air Squadron. £20, 9s. 6d. was sent to the Merchant Navy Comforts Fund. £60. 17s. 10d. was sent to the Prisoner of War Fund and £6 to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. A Savings Group was formed and Salvage Drives were made.

1943 First hints of American presence in the neighbourhood and offers of hospitality for the soldiers sought and much appreciated. Blackberry parties were organised. 10 tons of vegetables sent to Mine Sweepers. Lectures connected with the Domestic Front called 'Make Do and Mend'

READ ON....

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DECORATING
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INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

Contact

DAVID M. COWARD

5 VALLEYSIDE
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KINGSBRIDGE

TEL: KINGSBRIDGE 560792

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V/CHAIRMAN: Mr. D.J. Yeoman 560607
Mr. Roy Adams - - - - 560247
Mr. John Dayment - - - - 560295
Mr. Geoffery Stidston - - 560695
Mr. David Grose - - - - 560375
Mr. G.S. Wilkinson - - - - 560512

PARISH CLERK: Mr W.G. Ladd 560686

Dist. COUNCILLOR Mr J. Thomas 560269

Cty. Councillor Mr Simon Day
Plymouth 691212

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL:
All Depts: Totnes (97) 864499

KINGSBRIDGE POLICE STATION: 2326
KINGSBRIDGE HEALTH CENTRE: 3551
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Saturday: 9.30 am to 1 pm.

Sunday: Closed.

attend with the men. Mrs Yeo gave a piece of Glebe as an allotment and offers received from Canada of tomato seed which can be grown in the open. The question was raised: would it not be a good idea to have a place of our own? £35 was raised for the Hut Fund.

1944 Knitting for liberated Europe. More Salvage Drives.

1945 Members were asked what they would like after the war:

Sons and daughters back safely
Greenwich time again
Decent corsets
Silk Stockings
Permanent Home Help

Houses for the bombed out
No blackout
More food and petrol
Reduced Income Tax

In October members felt they were all too war worn to restart Folk Dancing but they hoped to at a later date

which they did

Carol singing raised £7. 2s. 6d. towards the Xray unit at the Cottage Hospital.

In November the W I Sea Coast Group formed consisting of: Salcombe, West Alvington, Malborough, South Milton, South Huish and Thurlestone and West Buckland. The Naval Comfort Fund closed but garments still required for men on mine sweepers. Mrs Stocken asked for volunteers to save soap when it was next washed in: for the Ministry of Food.

1946 Mrs Marshall bought the canteen china from Mrs Orde for £3. 10s. and presented it to the Institute as a parting gift. Plans for the new council houses were laid out for members to see and criticise

which many did

D F W I asked to:

ascertain if a bus could be run from Thurlestone to Kingsbridge at 8.30 am.

At the May Meeting Mrs Playden was asked what was being done for the Children at the Victory Celebrations. Subject referred to the Parish Council. At the June Meeting in reply to a question as to whether there would be a celebration tea for the children on Victory Day, the President replied that the Parish Council had decided not to do anything. Denmen College was founded in 1945 and bought by the National Federation in 1947.

The suggestion to start a Percussion Band met with approval. A Resolution was sent to Devon County Council:

That this Meeting strongly urges the County Council to take steps to provide a Maternity House in the Kingsbridge Rural District

1947 The President reported that a Maternity House would be established in Kingsbridge probably at Tresillian. 4 dozen steel chairs at £2.25 each were purchased out of W I Funds for the Hall. £8 proceeds from the Carol Singing given to Dr Barnados Home in Kingsbridge.

1948 It was decided that the 'W I Chairs' would not be lent but kept until the temporary Parish Hall materialized - when they would be handed over.

1949 W I 21st Birthday Celebrations. On September 8th the first W I Meeting took place in the Parish Hall. The President said a few words about the new hall and reminded members that the W.I. was one of the instigators of the plan and a special debt was owed to Mrs Lancey, Mrs Dempsey Prowse and Mrs Yeo in this connection.

Look out for PART 2 in the next issue.

Thurlestone PROBUS CLUB

A record number of members attended our November meeting to hear Peter Tremlett, Director of Finance S.H.D.C give a very interesting and enlightening talk on the forthcoming Poll Tax. Regretfully our own suspicions were confirmed when he told us that implementation would be both expensive and complex, with a number of areas still requiring a solution.

Question time was far more extended than usual and I hasten to add that not a suspicion of heavy-breathing was recorded. An altogether very worthwhile talk.

Our next firm meeting will be the A.G.M. and election of Officers and Committee at the Thurlestone Hotel on February 18th. although if it be the wish of the members a meeting may be arranged for January at the Golf Club as the Ladies Evening will more than likely be in February.

D. M. Yeoman - Hon Secretary
(560300)

=====

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Declaring an Interest

The difficult matter of pecuniary interests of councillors - Parish, District or County is bound to arise from time to time, and when and how any such interests can debar councillors from speaking or voting.

Because of the infinite variety of cases in which a councillor may have an "interest" it is not easy to provide the complete answer in every case, but I quote from the Legal Notes of the National Association of Local Councils.

LAW. The basic rule is that a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a matter coming before his council must declare his interest and neither speak nor vote on the matter. He is not debarred by reason of such an interest if either (a) his interest is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence his consideration or his vote or (b) the district council has removed his disability to speak or vote resulting from the interest.

A 'pecuniary' interest is one where the councillor may benefit or suffer in financial or economic terms from a decision by his council. The obvious case is where a council is discussing a contract proposed to be made with the councillor but the disability covers many other types of case where a councillor would suffer or benefit financially. For example, where the value of the councillor's property would be affected by the decision, he has a pecuniary interest. It is this wide ranging effect of the interest rule which sometimes makes it difficult to give a simple 'Yes' or 'No' to the question, 'Has this councillor a pecuniary interest in this matter?'

A married councillor is treated as having a pecuniary interest if his spouse has to his knowledge a pecuniary interest in any matter. The interest of any other relatives is not imputed to the councillor. A councillor who is a member of a company or other body which has a pecuniary interest in a matter has himself an interest if he holds for his own benefit any substantial quantity of securities of the company or body. A councillor employed by anyone other than a public body has a pecuniary interest in a matter if his employer has such an interest. These last two cases are, of course, subject to the general rule about remote or insignificant interests. ('Substantial' in respect of securities means a nominal value of £1,000 or more or a holding of one-hundredth of the total nominal value).

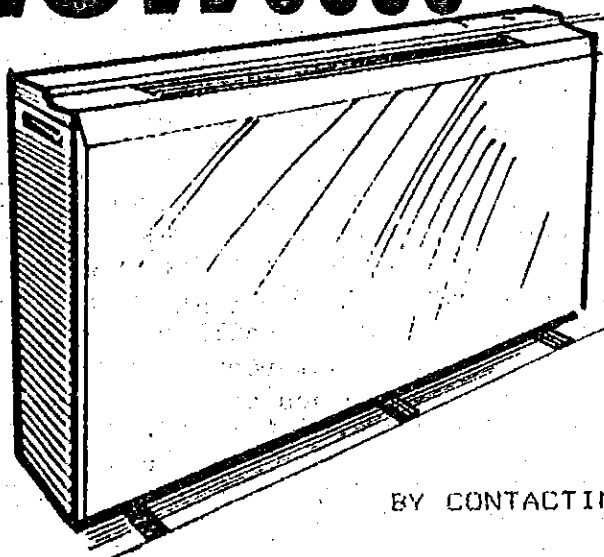
Non-pecuniary interests do not debar from speaking and voting.

A council or a chairman cannot forbid a councillor to speak or vote because the council or a chairman believes that there is a pecuniary interest. Until the councillor declares his interest he is entitled to take part in council's business. Of course if he has an interest and fails to declare it and speaks and votes he can be prosecuted by the Director of Public Prosecutions for his failure and is liable to be fined. If the council has made a standing order to that effect, a councillor who has declared a pecuniary interest may be required to leave the meeting while the relevant matter is under consideration. A councillor is not debarred if his interest arises only by reason of his being a ratepayer or an inhabitant of the area or as an ordinary consumer of water or the question before the council is the terms on which a right to participate in a service is being offered to the public.

If the honest answer to the question "Will my general financial affairs be affected by a decision on this matter"? If the answer is "Yes" - the interest must be declared. Although non-pecuniary interests do not debar a councillor from taking part in business there is in general a public distaste for a strong partisan of a sectional interest casting his vote in council in a way which protects or benefits that interest. This situation is dealt with in the National Code of Local Government Conduct issued by the Department of the Environment - ... 'interests which are not pecuniary can be just as important. Kinship, friendship, membership of an association, society, or trade union, and other kinds of relationships can give the impression that you might be acting for personal motives. (Extract)

D.W.D.

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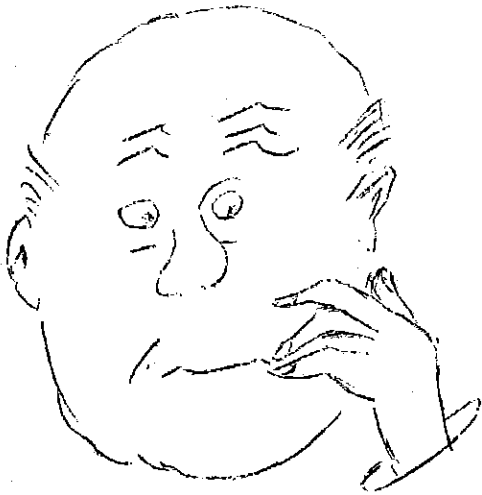


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ONCE UPON A TIME.....

the indigenous population of our parish could look with pride and pleasure upon an environment created by their forefathers.

NOW that environment is cared for by a very different species. They are looked upon as highly qualified with no end of lovely letters after their names, and they are very literate indeed. They are called

'PLANNERS'

THESE 'planners' work in a place called 'Follyhouse' and they are appointed by people known as 'Councillors', many of whom live in 'Committeeland'. These councillors are people who are elected by residents of the communities in which they live, to concern themselves and to protect the interests and desires of the people who elected them, and it must be admitted a few do so.

His Royal Highness, Prince Charles has told us what he thinks and our own Member of Parliament has expressed a very similar opinion - directed more firmly at this South Hams place called Follyhouse.

PLANNERS are a specie appointed by councillors to advise them on all planning matters,

and the councillors sit in Committeeland listening to what these veryb learned planners have to say about various planning proposals, and with all their knowledge and learning they seem to overawe many councillors into accepting whatever they say.

THERE ARE. strangely enough, people who condemn a specie known as 'Developer'. Many people get really angry about them. This is quite wrong, In all truth no developer can develop without the consent of the planners, and no planners can acquiesce without the consent of the councillors in committeeland.

IT IS quite impossible to deny this.

MUST WE ASSUME the Councillor in Committeeland has lost control of the very monster they have created who appears to be out to destroy the environment we have cherished for so many years. When pests begin to overwhelm our growing crops people called scientists develop an insecticide to control or destroy them. Is it possible someone can produce something to destroy the present specie of Planner before our environment is completely ruined.

THERE. just might be a better way - a return to really local LOCAL GOVERNMENT. but for the present there seems little chance that everybody will live happily ever after.

! ! ! ! ! ! ! !

I was saddened to learn of the death of one of the Committee's most valuable members, Someone Else.

His passing creates a vacancy that will be hard to fill. Someone Else has been with the Committee from the beginning, and did far more than the normal person's share of work.

Whenever there was a job to do, a helping hand needed, or just a decision to be made, these words were on everybody's lips, let Someone Else do it. Whenever there was a need for volunteers, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would volunteer.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing super human. But a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everyone expected too much of Someone Else.

+ + + + +

NEXT ISSUE : MARCH/APRIL distributed end of February.

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Malmesbury - Home of a King -

THE WILTSHIRE TOWN WHICH GAVE AMERICA A FAMOUS PRESIDENT

To live in Malmesbury in Wiltshire is to live with history. It is the oldest borough in the country, it has an Abbey that goes back to the first century, a market cross erected in the early part of the sixteenth century, and Athelstan, the first king of all England made Malmesbury his capital. It occupies a picturesque position on the high ridge between two converging rivers which form the Bristol Avon. The houses built chiefly of Cotswold stone are so irregular in size and shape they remind one of the time of Charles Dickens.

The Abbey dominates the scene, and almost the whole of Malmesbury at one time had some connection with it. This magnificent building, of which only one third remains, became one of the finest in England, with a spire 23ft taller than that of Salisbury Cathedral, with one of the finest libraries in Europe, and with lands extending from Cornwall to Yorkshire. It lasted for 847 years, until the Reformation, when it had already fallen into decay.

Its treasures were scattered, wonderful manuscripts were thrown to the winds, and as late as the mid-nineteenth century they were being used as 'bungs for beer barrels, for wrapping up parcels, and for glove making and such mundane affairs.' Part of the nave was rescued from destruction, decay and neglect, and has been preserved as a parish church for all time.

Malmesbury has changed little over the years; only the High Street with its modern shops has a touch of the twentieth century about it, for the rest almost every building is in keeping with its ancient past. Just outside the old town, however, one enters the young and active Malmesbury, with its modern streets of council houses, private houses, modern schools and modern times.

John Leland, the Tudor historian, wrote:- "The toune of Malmesbyri standith on the very toppe of a great slaty rok, and ys wonderfully defended by nature." Hed added - 'The walles in many places stond ful up; but now very feble.' There are still fragments of these mediaeval walls by the town bridge and near the road to Cirencester.

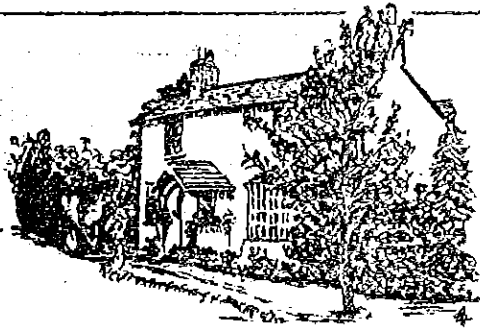
History is still around every corner. The St. John almshouses date from 1694 when they replaced the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem which was a Saxon foundation. King Athelstan bestowed on it ten pounds a year, which is still being paid. The present building incorporates late Norman arches. Near it is the former Court House, and further on stands the four-storeyed 18th century mill, on the site of an old mediaeval mill. In these historic mills broadcloth was made in the time of the first Queen Elizabeth. Now they house one of the finest collections of antiques in the West Country.

Malmesbury has many claims to fame. The first man to attempt man-powered flight was Elmer, a monk of the Abbey, who between the dates of 1000 and 1010 A.D. made himself a 'glider' and dived off the west tower of the Abbey and covered more than a furlong in active flight, but 'agitated by the violence of the wind and swirling air as well as awareness of his rashness, he fell and broke both his legs and was lame ever after'. He lived to a good old age and turned his talents to astronomy..

Malmesbury and district has a number of connections with America. Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, was a Malmesbury woman, and migrated with her husband to America on the 12th February 1809 in Hardin, Kentucky, Lincoln was born. About three miles from Malmesbury is Garsdon Manor, where in the 17th century lived Sir Lawrence Washington. He was a son of Sulgrave Washington, from whence came the famous George, the 1st President of the U.S. Sulgrave Washington is buried in Garsdon Church, and his memorial plaque has a coat of arms, the 'Mulletts & Bars' which became the stars and stripes of the American flag. And the Penns of Pennsylvania came originally from the district in 1560. and some are buried at Minety, some five miles away.

(With acknowledgement to Rev. Arthur H. Bird)

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