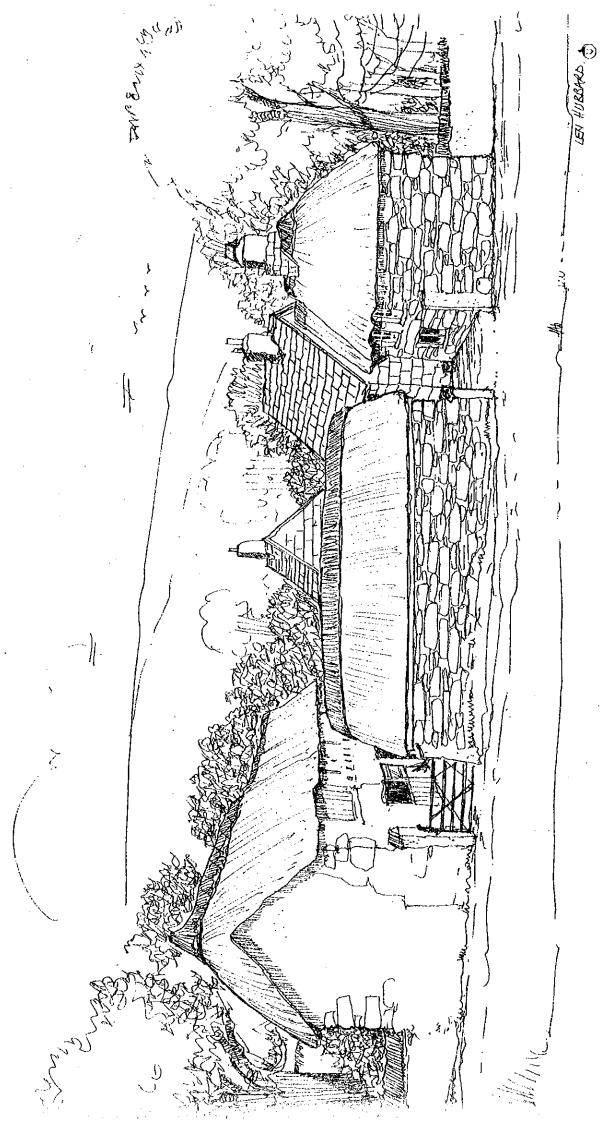
Mrs Atrain.

199 APRIL - MAY





DRABBLE 1982.

Cover pictures by

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY.

EDITED AND PRODUCED BY

& PENNY McDONALD

AT Cradles Cottage Thurlestone.

Tel: Kingsbridge 560239

by
LEN HUBBARD.

NUMBER 49.

NINTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

APRIL-MAY, 1991.

IT IS A SAD THING that Roy Adams of West Buckland Farm is retiring from the Parish Council due to ill-health. He has given 20 years of service to the Parish Council and through that to us all.

It is people like him, who give up their time without thought of reward, who are the backbone of the community and our first line of defence against all those who would destroy country life.

Roy Adams has been one of the most regular attenders of Parish Council meetings and has never been afraid to give down-to-earth advice. He will be missed, but we expect another, equally concerned with local matters, to stand in his place.

No doubt someone will come forward. We shall know very soon because there is not much time before nomination papers have to be delivered for the election of District and Parish Councillors with polling on Thursday, May 2nd.

The air at the moment is full of the abolition of county councils and new ways of funding local government, so much so that one is tempted to call down a plague on all their houses. But that would be the easy way out.

The elections for both Parish and District have never been more important. And now is the time for us to vote up or shut up. There can be only one test of the candidate to vote for. Not his politics. Or her politics. But simply is he or she the right person to do the best for our villages? And that only you can decide.



IT WILL NOT HAVE ESCAPED YOUR NOTICE
THAT THIS IS A PARTICULARLY
WELL-ILLUSTRATED EDITION OF
VILLAGE VOICE. NO EXPENSE IS SPARED
TO BRING YOU THE BEST AND OUR
PAGE THREE GIRL OPPOSITE JUST SHOWS
HOW'WITH IT' WE ARE.

ON THIS PAGE AND OVERLEAF, VILLAGER
TELLS THE TALES BEHIND OUR FRONT COVER
AND THE PICTURE PUZZLE OPPOSITE...

FIRST THINGS FIRST. So let's take a look at our front cover. This, believe it or not, is probably how the Rectory looked in 1680, if you stood in Thurlestone's only street, just down from from the present position of Thatchways. That low thatched roof straight in front of you is today's Rectory Barn, but then it was probably the Rectory's Brewhouse!

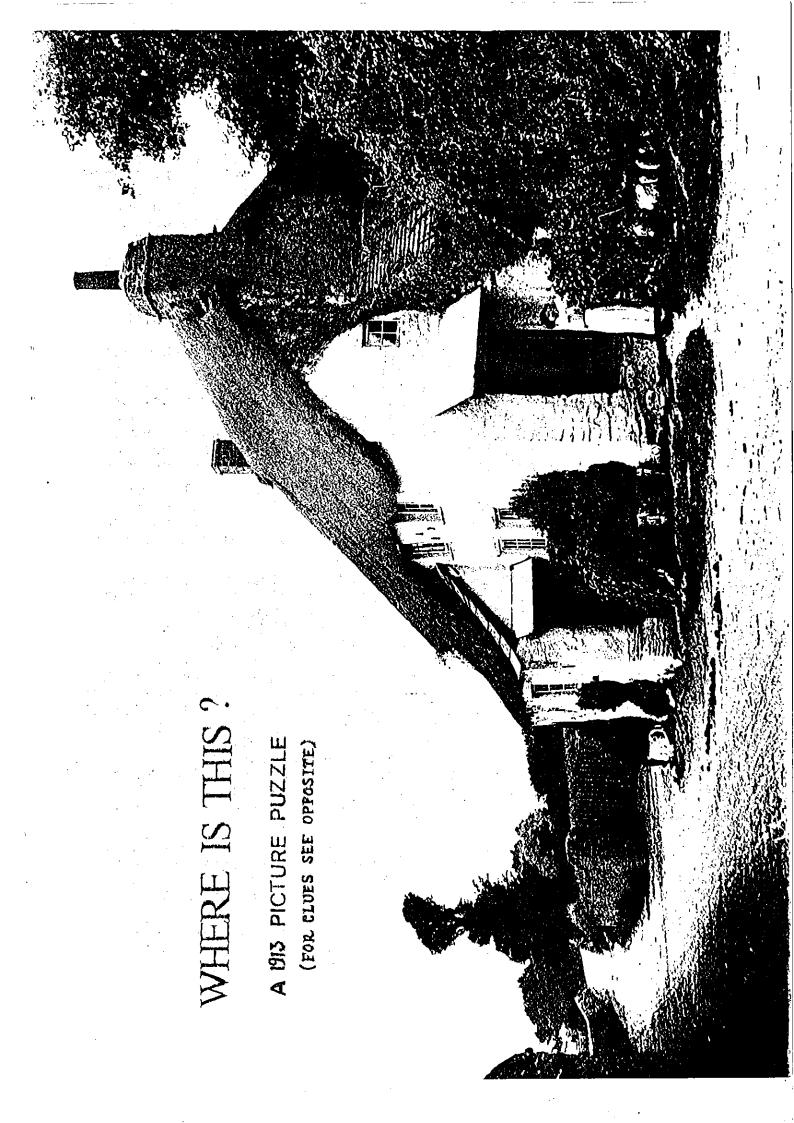
The picture by Thurlestone artist Len Hubbard, to whom we are indebted for all our splendid covers, was the result of a challenge from Village Voice. We gave him a copy of a description of the Rectory and its surroundings written in 1680, threw in a copy of the Courtenay map of 1770, and asked him to show us how it looked in the days of William III. Our cover is the result of Len's careful interpretation of the words and the shapes shown on the later map. Len also walked the ground and you will see how well his projection fits with the ruined walls still standing in the present Rectory garden. In fact it is an odd quirk of fate that the very modern present Rectory was built in the 1930's for the retirement home of a tea-planter called Macintosh almost on the site of the Rectory of the 1600's.

The "Old Rectory" was built away from the old site by the Rev.Peregrine Ilbert in 1836, just before he became Rector in 1839.

In the 1680 description of the "Rectory house", we are told that the house was in the shape of a court and when you included the gardens took up some "sixty pearches" and was bound round with hedges and walls. There was an inner and outer court and the mud walls surrounding them were thatched to stop them getting wet inside. There was a stone porch which was roofed with stone, probably slate, and over that was a room with a well-planked wooden floor.

The Rectory Hall was floored with earth, but there were two rooms upstairs with floors of deal. The Hall parlour was also floored with wood and there was mother room above it. "On ye north side of ye parlour there is a little buttery floor'd with earth". There was a separate kitchen with a slate room and a passage from the kitchen led to an earth-floored cellar. Over the cellar was another wood-floored room and from the cellar you could get into the Dairy. Over the dairy was the Study with a deal floor. All these inner houses were walled with stone and had slate roofs except the parlour which was thatched.

continued overleaf.



VILLAGER continues:

And now we come to the Rectory Barn, which until very recently was called the Glebe Cottage. It was rebuilt by the Rev.F.E.Coope during the pre-1914 War years. He left details of what he did in a novel way. In his book about Thurlestone he wrote: "When the cottage shall be pulled down in years to come, a bottle containing an account of its rebuilding will be found in the west wall". In the recent re-roofing and other work, the bottle was not found.

the recent re-roofing and other work, the bottle was not found.

The Glebe Cottage, alias Rectory Barn, is, I think, the old
Brewhouse - for the 1680 details contain this: "On ye north west
side of ye inner court there is a Brewhouse floored with earth
walled partly with stone and partly with mud and cover'd with

thatch". (The Barn used to be thatched).

On the south east side there was a Poultry Court with stone and mud walls topped with thatch. On the north east of the outer court there was a large Barn and Stable which was thatched. On the south side was a parlour garden and the kitchen garden was to the north east side of the barn dnd stable. And there was a cnc-up one-down thatched house attached to the end of the barn. And round all of it was an orchard of forty "pearches" and a two-acre field called Meadow Park all hedged around and all belonging to the Rector.

You'll see that Len has put two entrances to the Old, Old Rectory. You can still see the different walling of the higher one and Ida Smith tells me that she remembers a "court gate" there in the days of her girlhood. A "court gate" she tells me is what I would call a field gate, five-barred.

AND NOW to our picture puzzle on the previous page. Where is it? All the evidence suggests that it is within walking distance of Thurlestone. And we do know that it was taken in 1913.

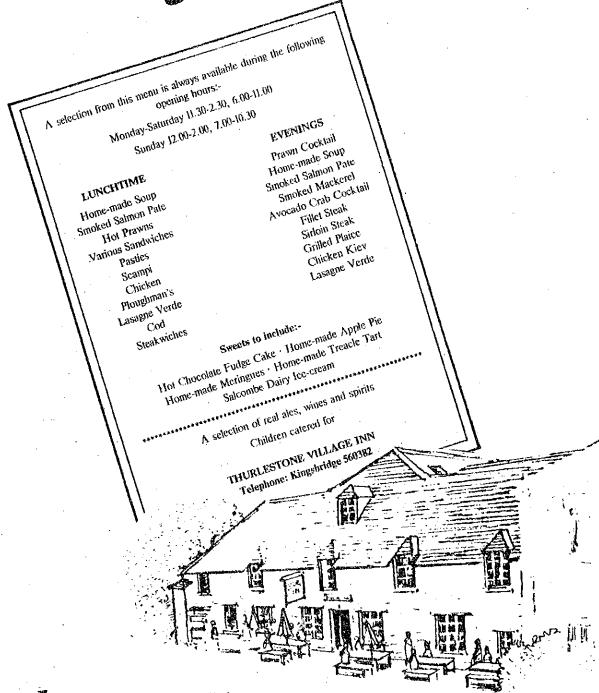
We know that because our picture is taken in 1913.

We know that because our picture is taken/a very handsome photograph album - all leather and gold-leaf - lettered in that same gold "THURLESTONE 1913". It was found by Mr. and Mrs John Duckett of North London, who sotted it in an antique shop, bought it and kindly presented it to the Rector when they were next down. It is full of super sepia pictures taken by an obviously skilled photographer. There is a picture of the family (presumably) on Page One, and others of members of that same family in easily recognisable places in the district, such as Buckland, South Milton, Thurlestone itself (including amazingly a picture of the Editor's grandfather!), Bantham and so on. But highly-skilled though our photographer was, he failed to put a single name - not a word! - anywhere in the 'whole album. Who were they?

They obviously stayed in Thurlestone, there is no sign of a car and they apparently went off on walks with photography in mind. It is possible to make an educated guess at most of the places photographed - but the one reproduced here seems to have everyone guessing.

Can you put a name to the place? Who is the girl in the photograph? Was she your great—aunt, granducther, cousin 15 times removed? Let us know - please. It's driving us mad!

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



Thurlestone Village Inn

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PROPOSED NEW SEWERAGE SYSTEM

This report is being written before Thurlestone's Annual Parish Meeting on 26th March, at which South West Water will have explained their proposals to improve the South Milton Sewage Treatment Works to deal more effectively with the sewage from that Parish whilst also treating efficiently and properly the sewage from Thurlestone at present discharged untreated into the sea at Leas Foot and the bay surrounding Thurlestone Rock. It is hoped that this summary of the proposals as advised to the Parish Council in advance of the Annual Meeting will assist Parishioners unable to attend that Meeting to appreciate why and how the new system is projected.

The first stage will be to construct a pumping station and collection tank adjacent to the toilet block opposite the Golf Clubhouse, but screened from view. The collection tank should be operative before this summer, 1991, to stop the main sewage outfall overflowing into the stream which crosses Leas Foot Beach. The urgent solution of that cause of children playing in rock pools of raw sewage is vital and long overdue. The tank will then be pumped out through the outfall when conditions permit, but once the South Milton Works have been enlarged, all Thurlestones sewage in the public system will be transferred to those Works. The outfall to Leas Foot will then become obsolete and unused.

The South Milton Works is to be upgraded to provide full primary and secondary treatment with biological processing and final 'polishing' through two reed beds, before the waste water is released into the South Milton Stream. Even with the addition of Thurlestone, the effluent will represent on average, only four per cent of the stream's flow, so that after the treatment now planned, the quality of the stream water will be no worse than that of a lower grade river. Thus the stream will be less contaminated than at present, because the Works now only provide primary and very limited secondary treatment before discharge into the existing reed bed.

However, the effectiveness of such reed beds is illustrated by the sampling tests carried out there last September, when the sewage arriving at the Works was found to contain up to 4,700,000 units of E. Coli (per 100 ml), falling to 148,000 below the Works, and only 1,550 below the bridge over the Ley. Accordingly the pollution to be diluted in the sea after filtering underneath the beach, is usually quite small, but on occasions it can be most unsuitable for children to play in the Ley pool. That hazard will be much reduced when the new system is operative. In fact, the quality standard of the new scheme will be higher than most other sewage works, even many 'full treatment' ones which do not have the 'polishing benefits of reed beds. Reed bed systems are in operation in many parts of the UK and other countries, having been proved to be one way to eliminate the need for expensive long outfalls to the sea, a method now becoming unacceptable under EEC regulations for raw sewage disposal.

The operating efficiency of the new installations will all be monitored continuously at South West Water's Paignton Control Centre manned all day every day, (24 hours per day 365 days of the year) to detect at once any defect or breakdown. Moreover, the pumps will be duplicated so that if one should fail, its twin automatically takes over. Should the power supply fail for longer than the stand-by equipment can cope with, the Control Centre has to take whatever action is necessary to maintain the service, even providing an emergency generator by helicopter if that warranted. Of course, much of the mechanical equipment in a treatment works is operated by gravity flow, so is not vulnerable to power failures.

At the present time, the sludge removed at South Milton is dried in open beds, probably the source of most unpleasant snells which may emanate at times from such installations. With the upgrading proposals it is intended to eliminate those beds and incorporate fully enclosed tanks from which it will be transferred in sealed tankers to the new sludge treatment works being constructed in Totnes and Kingsbridge.

It should be remembered that sewage is not the only odourous matter or pollutant in a rural area. Rotting vegetation and seaweed have been known to create unpleasant smells in the district; and as regards pollution, Environmental Scientists confirm that the liquid discharged by grass silage is 200/300 times more potent than human sewage. The pollution generated by a silage clamp for say 150 cattle is comparable to the sewage output of Plymouth. The slurry from cattle is four to five times greater than hunan sewage, while pig slurry is twelve Hopefully the silage clamps and slurry pits in this district do not leak and are sited at least a couple of hundred yards from known water courses so that the biological and filtration processing through the soil has the opportunity to combat any seepage which may accidentally occur.

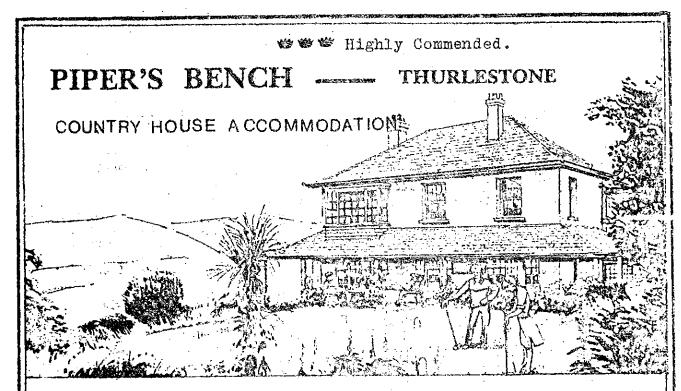
The new system has been designed in close conjunction with the Nature Conservancy Council and the National Rivers Authority who are the guardians of our environment and safeguard us against pollution of the rivers and coastal regions. South West Water has given them undertakings that South Milton Ley will not be impaired by the scheme, and therefore its flora and faund will not be harned, nor will that Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Some South Milton residents consider that Thurlestone's sewage should be . dealt with in Thurlestone at a new sewage works to be built at Leas Foot, which is about 150 yards outside the South Milton Parish. That site was considered by the Water Company but excluded for a number of reasons: the site is very boggy, prone to flooding in winter, very close to many dwellings from which it is highly visible and adjacent to the main road. All obvious disadvantages in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Moreover, the additional costs imposed upon South West Water's ratepayers by having two treatment works within three quarters of a mile of each other would be considerable, even if the existing Works adequately met the standards now required and the needs of its users, all of which it fails to do satisfactorily.

The South Milton pumping station and tanks will' be mostly underground with only small projections above ground level. The Works lie at the bottom of a valley, albeit an attractive one, but they are out of sight to nearly everyone. Nevertheless, it is proposed to screen the Works and security fences with hedges, improving the one on the eastern side and planting new indigenous hedges on the northern and western boundaries, so that the existing Works will be blended into the environment and additional habitats provided for some of the fauna. Apart from enlarging the entrance to permit easier access for the necessary vehicles, the public rights of way in the area will not be affected.

Most people concerned with the region and our environment will appreciate the importance of the proposals being implemented without delay, whilst South West Water is willing and able to finance a scheme to renedy the unhealthy and environmentally bad situation which has blighted our coast for so long. Hopefully, within a year, the beaches and bathing waters around the ThurleStone can be among the cleanest in the country without detriment to the inland scenery, instead of being one of the most polluted in the whole of the West Country.

W.G. Ladd,
Thurlestone Parish Clerk.



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DAVID MAYO ASSOCIATES

9 THE CRESCENT, PLYMOUTH, DEVON, PL 1 3AB TELEPHONE: 0752 226777 FACSIMILE: 0752 226796

PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING

Everyone has some kind of financial arrangement because we all have financial needs. Your present affairs have probably been managed by a number of individuals. You may be receiving advice from a Bank or Building Society, Solicitor, Accountant, Insurance Agent, Investment Manager, Stock Broker, Tax Consultant, Pension Advisor, Mortgage Broker or even a colleague down at the pub, all willing to advise on their own piece of your financial jigsaw. Problems arise because they often tend to work in isolation so there is no co-ordination and organisation of all the pieces that form your Personal Financial Plan.

BUT WHO CAN CO-ORDINATE IT ALL?
A Personal Financial Planner.

WHERE BEST CAN I OBTAIN ONE?

David Mayo Associates, based in Plymouth, are part of The Burns Anderson Independent Network, of which Sir John Harvey-Jones is the Chairman. The principal, David Mayo, is a founder member of The Institute of Financial Planning and has sixteen years experience in broking and financial planning. An ideal choice for your consideration.

ANOTHER ADVISER?

Yes, but as you would expect your linancial planner does not replace any of your existing advisers, instead he works with them to achieve your present and future goals. He does this through the preparation of a written Financial Plan which is designed and implemented following consultation.

Your planner's aim is to make money for you and also to save you money. He will often bring to your attention ideas that may reduce your taxation, improve investment, increase income or capital growth, check out existing financial arrangements such as life and pension products ensuring that they are doing exactly the job you want them to, or even ways of reducing your costs and expenses budget. He will prepare a business plan which will help you identify and make full beneficial use of your current resources. Above all, your Personal Financial Plan will be your control document giving you a clear grasp of your present and future finances. Your plan will not just be a calculation of assets and liabilities, or incomes and outgoings. It will be much more, simply because it will clearly define your objectives, ambitions and goals over a timescale decided by you. Your plan is therefore individually tailor-made to your own specifications.

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Most Professionals base their fees on the complexity and amount of time spent dealing with your affairs; A Financial Planner is no different. Fees are agreed depending on the depth of service required, and prior to the implementation of a Business/Client agreement. One unique feature of our service is that should any financial products be arranged involving commissions, after normal Broking Department's costs have been deducted the balance earned is credited to a "client account". This clearly has the effect of reducing the costs of our services.

HOW, DO I BEGIN?

No matter what age, position or circumstance, it is never too late to start. Take the first step by completing and forwarding the enquiry coupon below.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If you have indicated that you are interested we will contact you to ascertain a convenient time and date for an initial discussion, which is FREE AND WITHOUT OBLIGATION.

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,	Address
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ί,	Tel No
	AgeMr/Mrs/Miss/Ms







SAYS KATE: Carrots, which most of us use nowadays as a vegetable, were used by the Romans and up until the 18th century for their sweetness and colour in recipes of those times. In fact, they were known as "honey underground" because of the sweetness they brought to food.

BOTH OF THESE RECIPES are quick and simple to make and use carrots in their raw state and cooked.

CARROT CAKE 1.

8 ozs Grated Carrot (after peeling)

4 fl.ozs Oil

4 ozs Soft Brown Sugar 2 tbsp. Clear Honey 1 tsp. Vanilla Essence

2 Beaten Eggs

4 ozs Plain Flour

4 ozs Wholemeal Flour

1 tsp. Bicarb of Soda

tsp. Salt
tsp. Cinnamon

2 tsp.Grated Orange Peel

Grease a 21b loaf tin. Mix the grated carrot with the oil, brown sugar, honey, vanilla, orange peel and beaten eggs. Sift together all the dry ingredients and mix into the carrot mixture. Spoon evenly into the loaf tin. Bake at Gas Mark 3 160-1800 for approx. one hour. Test with a skewer to see if there is any uncooked mixture in the centre before taking from the oven.

CARROT CAKES OR COOKIES 2.

l Beaten Egg 📉

l fl.oz Cooked Carrot

2 ozs Caster Sugar 2½ ozs Plain Flour

‡ tsp. Baking Powder † tsp. Salt † tsp. Grated Orange Rind

4 tbsp.Raisins

½ tsp. Ground Ginger.

Place the cooked carrot in a sieve and puree. Add all the ingredients to the puree and stir until smooth and well mixed. Drop teaspoons of the mixture on to an oiled baking sheet and cook for approx. 10-12 minutes 160-1750 until firm and golden brown.

Note: If you have a Magimix or other food processor, puree the carrot first, then add the egg unbeaten and all the other ingredients except the raisins, process until smooth, add raisins and switch on and off two or three times to mix in.

The first recipe will freeze or keep well in an airtight tin for several days. Both have a super taste - not at all like carrots!

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE APPLES, AND ORCHARDS - AND CIDER: the South Homs Environment Service eventsdetailed in their free "Jigsaw" events brochure for March to May (obtainable from local shops or telephone 0803 864499 Ext. 118) are concerned with a "Celebration of Orchards". Apple cookery demos are included.

PAT MACHIN'S PUZZLE CORNER

HERE'S ANOTHER IN THE MISSING LINK LINE. If you can, find the missing link between these pairs of words and fill in the space in the brackets. Each word has four letters. For example - cow (slip) shod..

```
1. hay (
                 ) shaw
 2. horse (
                   ) string
    scape (
                   ) skin
 4: sham
                   ) salmon
    tithe (
                   ) owl
    me
                   ) ace
    bay
                     let
 8^{7} whip (
                   ) wain
 9 pepper (
                   ) flakes
10; die (
                   board
ll now
                    with
12^{\frac{\pi}{4}} mole (.
                    billy
13; wise (
                     age
14. powder (
                   ) in
15; rain
                 ) kick
16. Tark
                   ) wort
17. pea
                    spoon.
18. trade
                    screen
19. imp
                  ) rain
20. back
                  ) escape.
```

The answers are on another page in this issue.

STOP PRESS.

A 'Butter Pat' demonstration will be given by Mrs.J.Rossiter in Thurlestone Parish Hall on MONDAY 8th APRIL at 2.30 p.m. See the wonders that can be made from butter and have-a-go yourself afterwards. No charge will be made. Bring the family. Tea available.

Bruce Kemp



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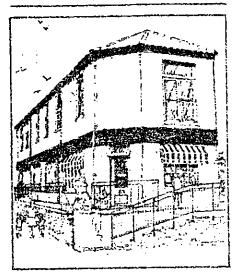
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I remember...

In the last issue Gert Burns told of Thurlestone in days gone by. In this issue her son, Derek Burns, tells of his time in the village when the Royal Marines O.C.T.U. was here:

"READING IN VILLAGE VOICE ABOUT THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE Royal Marines taking over the Thurlestone Hotel as their Officer Cadet Training Unit during the last war has brought back memories of my life at that time.

My mother and I had left Plymouth after our home had been damaged by bombs during a raid and we came to Thurlestone to live with my mother's sister and husband, Mr.and Mrs.Hoskins, who lived in the cottage within the ground of Thurlestone Hotel, my uncle being employed as a gardener at the hotel.

Living in the cottage and so being within the 'Establishment' meant that we had to have access at all times. For some time this was made difficult by our being challerred by the Marine sentry on duty with the words 'Halt. Who goes there?'. I would reply 'Derek Burns' and he would say 'Step forward and be recognised'. When he was satisfied with our identity we could go into the cottage. After a while we were issued with passes and it became easier to go about our daily lives.

Once we had settled into the daily running of the establishment, we were invited to functions in the Sergeants! Mess and to the ENSA shows. We were also allowed to the picture shows; the villagers were also allowed to these shows on one day of the week.

I remember there being an assault course in the field opposite the Village Inn with ropes and nets hanging from trees. We used to watch the officer cadets climbing these ropes. One chap became stuck about 20 ft above the ground on a rope slung between two trees. He shouted to the instructor that he couldn't go on. Two cadets were told to get a blanket in a hurry from the hotel. Four cadets held the blanket beneath the chap on the rope. 'Drop!' shouted the instructor. Down he came, but hit one corner of the blanket, wrenched it out of the holders' hands and hit the ground with a thump. He was told he was all sorts of an idiot and told to get back onto the assault course pretty damn quick.

In a field behind the Church, the cadets carried out their horse riding training with all sorts of jumps built around the field. Watching this activity one day I was amused to see the cadet going flat out to take the horse over a jump, the horse stopped dead at the jump, and the cadet went over the jump on his own. The sergeant bellowed at him 'Who told you to dismount, sir? Get back on that horse - sir!'

During my stay at Thurlestone, I became a choir boy. One day after choir practice we were larking about in the Church and I tripped over a mat, hit my head against a radiator and got a nasty cut near my eye. Across the road from the Church, the Marines had their Hospital. I was rushed over there and the Marine Doctor put two or three stitches in the cut, without any pain killers I might add. Some days the Marines would be exercising on the cliffs above

' I REMEMBER' (Derek Burns) continued:

Yarmer beach and one day they were using Sten guns and firing down into the sand from the cliff top. When they had gone we used to collect the empty cases and then go down and dig in the sand for the bullets. Then we put them back into the cases and stuck them in our belts.

I remember the mines all around the beaches and the day the Wren was killed, very sad day. At the end of the war I watched the Americans clearing the mines at Thurlestone beach near the Links Hotel. At Bantham you could see the mines sticking up out of the sand after a high wind had blown the sand away.

The Wrens were a very smart detachment and they lived in the big houses by the golf course. I used to watch them in the garage of the Hotel marching up and down and very good they were too.

The big event for the village came with the Passing Out Parades. The Royal Marines band would march and play down through the village and the actual parade was held in the field behing the Church, always it would seem on the hottest day of the summer. Several cadets would faint and it seemed to take hours for the ceremony to be carried out.

I remember some nights we would hear whistles blowing and shouting and then a banging on the cottage door and a voice saying that enemy aircraft were attacking Plymouth and we were to get out and away from the main building in case the Hotel was bombed. As it was painted white, it must have been easy to see on a moonlit night. I think the German aircraft used the hotel as a marker when approaching Plymouth.

We became very friendly with the Marines and used to give them rabbits when we caught them and my uncle who kept ducks and chickens would let them have some of the eggs. One of the Marine officers had some chickens which he used to keep in our garden.

There are so many things I remember about those times. One summer day a Marine went to sleep while sunbathing on the balcony rail at the front of the Hotel. He rolled over and fell about 15 ft breaking his arm... One year the Marines were given the task of attacking the village from seaward. The village was defended by the Home Guard. We shhool children were to be the casualties. I had a label attached to my coat stating that I was a stretcher case as I had a fracture of both arr and leg, cuts and bruises about the body. I was lying on the cold step of the house opposite the village pump, waiting for the stretcher party to arrive, when some clown thought it would be more like the real thing to let off thunderflashes and tear gas.

Then I became a real masualty, crying my eyes out and was rushed off in the back of a lorry with some other affected people to 'Swallows', near the war memorial which was to be the hospital for the exercise. After treatment we were given a fancy cake, and a strong cup of tea, patted on the head and told we could go home, quite good fun really."

More about wartime Thurlestone in our next.

THIS SPECIAL APPLICATION FORM IS FOR BOTH PAST AND PRESENT LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO WISH TO ATTEND EVENTS CELEBRATING THE

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL MARINES MILITARY SCHOOL IN THE THURLESTONE HOTEL FROM 1941 to 1946.

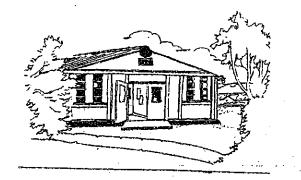
The number of former Marines and their families wishing to attend these events is, at the time of going to Press, expected to be extremely large, and they will of course take priority over everyone else. So space is likely to be very limited and in any case will be confined to those who have a very special connection with the Marines! OCTU during the war years.

Those who have such a connection should fill in the form and send it to Mr. David Grose at the Thurlestone Hotel, as soon as possible.

50TH.ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL MARINES MILITARY SCHOOL,

THURLESTONE HOTEL, ON THURSDAY, JUNE 20TH, 1991.

SIGNED:



THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

IN FEBRUARY our Secretary Doris Tyler died. She will be greatly missed as she was a tower of strength to the hall with her excellent minutes and help given at all our events. Always first there and last away. I am delighted that our scrapbook shows excellent photographs of her in action.

Pancake Race. A big thank you to the runners, marshals and spectators who made the day such a success. It also turned into a social event with coffee kindly being provided by Mr.David Grose at the Village Inn. This also gave us another chance to meet PC Shepherd and for him to talk to residents. The pancakes for the race were also provided by the Thurlestone Hotel.

Best Run Village Hall. When we received grants for the roof last year we were expected to enter this competition. But it was really too soon. But we are now intending to enter this year. Judging takes place in the summer and before that we shall be asking for DIY help especially from the men folk in order to give the hall a face lift.

Derek Yeoman (Hilltop) writes: Make a note in your diary of

10/11 May. This is to be our D.I.Y. weekend when amateurs and professionals alike are needed to help sort out the Hall and the Car Park area prior to the unannounced arrival of the 'Best Run

Village Hall' judges sometime in June or July.

The jobs are many and varied to suit all skills - painting, grass cutting, weed spraying, fixing window ledges, general tidying of the area at the rear of the stage and so on. If painting is your strength then please bring brushes, otherwise materials and equipment will be supplied. Either ring me or just turn up on the day. DMY 560300.

Autumn Fair. Please enter SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2.30 p.m. into your diary too. Put it in red; This is the PARISH HALL'S ONLY MAJOR FUND-RAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR.

Annual General Meeting. At the A.G.M. of the Parish Hall the following were elected:

Chairman: Mrs.J.Mackenzie. Secretary and Booking Secretary: Mrs. S.Yeoman. Treasurer: Mrs.E.Spear. Representatives: Parish Council, Mr.P.Hurrell; W.I., Mrs.A.Grose; PCC, Mrs.T.Woodrow; Bowls, Mr.J. Dayment; Football, Mr.Sullivan; Horticulture, Mrs.P.MacDonald; Bridge, Mr.P.Machin; Junior Art/Drama, Mr.L.Hubbard; Wednesday Bridge, Mr.A.Chapman; Keep Fit, Mrs.M.Oswald.

Committee elections: Mr.D. Yeoman, Building/Car Park; Mrs.J.

Drummond, Legal; Mr.A. Chapman, Financial affairs.

Trustees: Miss J.Yeo; Mr.D.Grose; Mr.D.Yeoman. We are grateful to Mrs.Alison Bushell, who so kindly provides a more professional look to our administrative documents with her skilled typing.

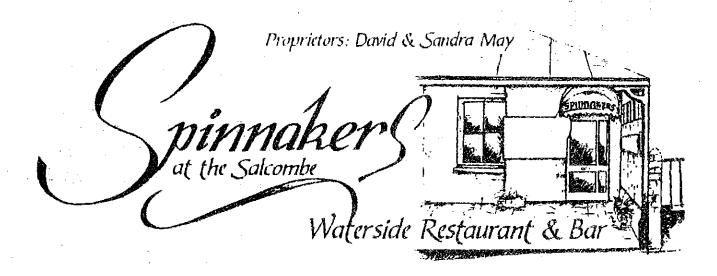
Mrs. Joan Mackenzie and a small team of helpers will be printing an inexpensive book of Thurlestone's favourite recipes to be sent in by residents and to appear under their names. Look for more details in the June issue of Village Voice.

JOAN MACKENZIE, Chairman.



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YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Peter Hurrell 560496 560607 V/CHAIRMAN: Mr.D.J.Yeoman 560247 Mr Roy Adams 560295 Mr John Dayment 560695 Mr Geoffery Stidston -560375 Mr David Grose 560512 Mr G.S. Wilkinson 560686 PARISH CLERK: Mr W.G.Ladd Dist. COUNCILLOR Mr J. Thomas 560269 Cty.Counciller Mr Simon Day Plymouth 691212 SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL: All Depts: Totnes (97) 864499 KINGSBRIDGE BOLICE STATION \$5 2326 KINGSBRIDGE HEALTH CENTRE: 85 3551 SALCOMBE HEALTH CENTRE:

LOCAL EMERGENCY OFFICER: VILLAGE VOICE MAGAZINE:

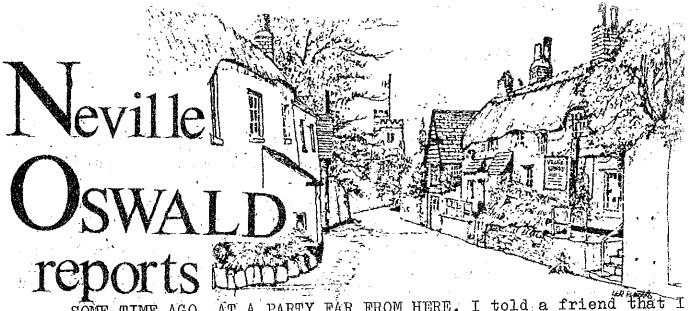
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SOME TIME AGO, AT A PARTY FAR FROM HERE, I told a friend that I planned to retire to Thurlestone. "Oh yes", he said, "that's the place with the green church made of slate".

I did not believe him, but, on my next visit, went down to have a look. Going up the steps to the lych gate I noticed the walls were apparently of slate with, here and there, a large grey stone which looked like marble to me; how on earth did they get there?

Over to the left I saw an ancient crucifix in the cemetary which was obviously made of granite. The church itself was slightly green, I suppose, but I would have thought it was grey; certainly the individual blocks of stone had the lamination of slate. Going into the porth I saw a large tablet made of a different kind of slate. Inside the church I was struck by the impressive granite pillars and the reddish baptismal font, which I took to be sandstone. Where on earth did all these stones come from?

Thoroughly confused, I got in touch with Mrs.Anne Born of Salcombe, who is an expert on geology and has recently written a fine, illustrated book on the History of Kingsbridge and Salcombe. With her aid, I think I have learned a little, but still find geology to be about as difficult to grasp as a slippery eel just after it has been hooked.

As I understand it, about 400 million years ago, when the whole of Devon was submerged beneath the sea, the earth's crust was shaken as new rocks came to the surface, in the so-called Devonian period. Much fragmentation took place and the bottom of the sea was covered with a sediment of sand and grit. From this sediment, as a result of pressure and heat over many centuries, rocks were formed which comprise the present slates and sandstones. Thurlestone is part of a layer of slate, but odd bits of sandstone have broken through here and there.

The other kind of stone we have is schist which is particularly plentiful between Start Point and Bolt Tail, but can be seen here; this is the stone I thought was marble. It probably arose when the sand and slate were subjected to external pressure and changed their composition; it tends to occur in twisted and contorted folds in the earth. If you go down on the beach below Links Court you can see slate and the odd bits of schist sticking out.

Granite has rather a different story. It is an igneous (from fire) rock arising when extreme heat pushed it up in the form of a volcano or volcanoes and went on to occupy about 300 square miles of what is now Dartmoor; it is younger than sedimentary rocks.

Armed with this esoteric information, I wondered how our church fitted in. Some kind of building probably existed on the same site up to the 1200s or 1300s, being made of cop and wood with a thatched

roof. Then a stone structure was erected, of which the north wall of the chancel with its narrow windows may have been a part. During the next two centuries the present massive slate church was built.

There was certainly no shortage of slate for the new church. Practically every farm had its 'farm pit' for walls and where the stone was of good quality, quite large mines were started. The best was at Charleton from which stone was taken in barges to build the square tower at Dartmouth Castle. We have our own pit on the golf course which players have to negotiate when they drive off the old second tee. How long it has been there I do not know. The stone could have been used for walls and buildings but, more probably, it was one of the many shafts that were opened along the coast hereabouts in the late 1700s in a fruitless search for profitable quantities of iron or possibly copper or lead.

At all events as far as our church was concerned, there was plenty of slate available, the main difficulty being to find the means of transporting it and erecting it. Slate has the advantage of being easily rendered into blocks and it is durable; at also has an attractiveness that enhances its rural setting.

Another feat of engineering was needed to transfer the massive pieces of granite for the columns which support the roof all the way from Dartmoor. Maybe horses or the precursors of our South Devon cattle managed to pull them up the hill after they had been deposited on the beach from barges.

The origin of the font is uncertain. It is late Norman and is made of sandstone. There are outcrops of sandstone here and there in the vicinity, notably in the grounds of Horswell House in South Milton; the Thurlestone Rock itself is a stack of sandstone on a base of slate. It does not exist in any quantity nearer than Brixham. Doubtless the font is of local origin as it resembles several others nearby, but it has been rather knocked about during the 800 years of its existence. The corners of the base were worn away by the feet of priests and others and have been repointed, various cracks have been repaired, the bowl has been relined with lead and the whole mounted on a granite base.

Coviously, there is far more to a church than the stones with which it is made. Yet for many of us the sight of one such as ours, surrounded for the most part by green fields, is the image of England that we retain when we are far from home.

ANSWERS TO PAT MACHIN'S MISSING LINK PUZZLE:

- 1. rick. 2. shoe. 3.goat. 4.rock. 5. barn
- 6. grim. 7. leaf. 8. cord.9. corn.10.hard
- ll.here. 12. hill. 13. acre. 14.puff, 15.drop.
- 16. spur.17. soup. 18. wind. 19 rest. 20% fire.

LOCAL NEWS.

FOLLOWING HER EXCELLENT series of lessons, Mrs.Alice Foster will now be giving a flower demonstration for the henefit of the Parish Hall on Monday, May 13th at 10.30 a.m. Tickets are £1(to include coffee and biscuits) and can be obtained from Mrs.Mackenzie(560671); Mrs.Oswald (560555); Mrs.Drummond. Or any committee member (see election results under Thurlestone Parish Hall heading).

THURLESTONE TORIES hold their AGM at the Thurlestone Hotel on April 18th at 12 noon, followed by lunch. Contact: Secretary Joan Sparrow on 560324.

THURLESTONE PROBUS CLUB

The 62 members, wives and guests attending the Ladies Evening at the Cottage Hotel voted it a great success and fitting end to Bruce Mackay's year in office, and, thanks to the members who switched from car to coach travell, the evening was also financially satisfactory.

At the AGM on February 8 Chris Clark took over as Chairman with Roland Lewis being appointed Vice-Chairman. The only other change was John Griggs taking over from Ron Nabarro on the 'Speaker Finding Committee'. Many thanks to Ron for a very successful year.

At our April 12 meeting Ed Welch will be talking about 'Writing: Music for TV Programmes' and on May 10 Wing-Commander Luke will be telling of his experiences as an air attache. DMY. Hon Sec (560300)

TREVOR WITH THE WEATHER is leading a Heritage Coast Service walk on April 3 around the Erme Estuary. Trevor Appleton, when not forecasting the weather on TV, is a keen countryman. The Erme is one of his favourite places. The walk starts at Mothecombe Car Park at 10.15. Back by 3; bring a packed lunch. Charge:£1 adults; 25p for children.

FERGUS MACKENZIE, Thurlestone's own field historian, is leading another of these Heritage walks, this time on May 8. Want to know about scratching posts, gates, troughs and why fields are such funny shapes? Fergus is an expert on fields and their furniture. Meet at West Alvington Car Park at 10.45 a.m. with packed lunch. Return at 2 p.m. Charge £1 for adults; 25p for children.

JUMBO (Better than Jumbie!) SALE

Saturday, APRIL 6 at 2.15 in the Parish Hall

This super sale of good quality clothes, bric-a-brac, cakes, and home produce of all kinds is in aid of the Heart Foundation.

Come and get your bargain of the year! Win on the super raffle!

And if you have goods which fit the bill, please ring Ella Jarvis on 560248 for them to be collected or you can leave them at the Hall before the sale.

VILLAGE SKIP SERVICE.

AN AMAZING AMOUNT OF RUBBISH is piled in the skips when they come to Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland. Some people must save up their unwanted articles for a whole year, and specially for those who do here is the South Hams District Council schedule for Spring and early Summer 1991:

One skip will be placed adjacent to the Barn next to Thurlestone Church from June 10 to June 14.

One skip will be placed adjacent to the Parish Hall Car Park from June 17 to June 21.

Two skips will be placed in the layby at Valleyside, West Buckland from June 17 to June 21.

One skip will be placed inside the entrance to Bantham Ham on the left-hand side from June 24 to June 28.

One skip will be placed outide the entrance (cattle grid) to the Mead Estate from June 24 to June 28.

WHERE IS BANTHAM'S ROMAN LOO? To find out you should join Martin Catt of Kingsbridge Natural History Society for lunch at the Sloop on Thursday, May 2 before setting off at 2.15 for a look at the Roman Loos and a walk along the estuary to look at the wildlife on display. This is another Heritage Coast Service walk and will return to the Sloop about 5 p.m. Charge is £1 for adults; children 25p. And don't think for one moment that the charge covers lunch at the Sloop! Neil Girling puts on super meals, and you could get a pastie for 85p and a portion of chips for 60p, but the charge of £L is strictly for the walk, and payable outside the pub!

Thurlestone Parish Emergency Officer Derrick Yeoman is the man who is going to be able to speak to the outside world in some weather or other emergency when all the phone lines are down. He will use CB Channel 32 radio. That's fine but Thurlestone for some strange reason has been given the call-sign of "SCH". Can anyone think why?

And while on the subject of emergencies, the Devon Emergency Volunteers are looking for more volunteers in this area. The Volunteers are trained by qualified instructors in many skills including fire-fighting and light rescue. If you would like to be able to help in time of trouble or disaster - in any capacity - then you can either ring the Devon Emergency Volunteers on 0392-383443 or contact Derrick Yeoman on 560496.

lst May and 30th September each year according to South Hams District Council. Consideration is being given to spreading the ban to Leas Foot and Yarmer.

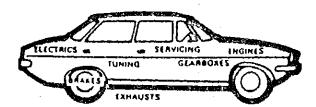
You've heard of bottle banks, well now farmers are getting "bag banks" into which to put their surplus plastic at market days in cattle markets. Silage bags and fertiliser sacks are the target.

SOUTH HAMS CLUTCH CENTRE

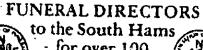
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CAL NEWS., LOCAL NEWS.

.. FROM THE WI.. FROM THE WI... FROM THE WI...

A silence was observed at the February meeting in memory of one of ThurlestoneWI's longest-serving and most devoted members, Poris Tyler, who died peacefully in hospital the day before the meeting. Tribute was paid by President Tricia Millman to Doris's many qualities - hernever-failing good humour and interest, and her willing participation in all the movement had to offer made her someone very special who will be sorely missed, for there was never a WI event which she failed to support to the hilt. She was loved by her fellow members and will always be remembered by them.

Judging by the magnificent total of over 20 children's scrapbooks produced for the 'Parcels for Romania' scheme, there must have been many a clipping-strewn and glue-besmattered carpet in the parish as members toiled to present such an original and colourful collection - to say nothing of the fun some of them probably had in tracking down the material! The next 'leg' of the scheme will be the making

of a child's soft toy for the March meeting.

Five members attended the special meeting at Charleton (one of five venues throughout the county) to help choose the resolutions for the National Federation Triennial Converence in June. Since these meetings in Devon, nationally it had been agreed that three resolutions should figure on the Final Agenda (a) encouraging the provision of high-quality child care services (b) giving more publicity to the dangers of paracetamol (c) asking for the abolition of state pension deductions after hospitalisation exceeding six weeks. Tricia Millman would be the delegate to the two-day conference.

Thanks were expressed to Eve Cuming for her run to uphold the honour of the WI in the Ladies Pancake Race. Although not among the prizewinners, she kept up a steady pace somewhere mid-fmild. Eve was the official entrant, but it was observed that other WI members ran the race under different banners...one disguised as a leek, another a playing card and third a very confincing tramp. Give you one guess as to the organisations they were representing.

The history of Big Ben was the subject of the speaker, Mr.A.D. Elliott (formerly of London, now of Hope Cove) and he said he was a fourth generation horologist whose family firm took over the contract for looking after the famous clock. It all started when King Edward I put a clock on the site by the Thames and this was replaced eventually by William III's gift of Great Tom. By eighteen hundred and something Sir Charles Barry designed the Big Ben we

know today.

Here are the staggering statistics: the face is 23 ft in diameter, with the minute hand measuring llft and the hour hand $9\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The figures are two feet high and there is a one foot space between the minutes. The dial is 184 ft from the ground and 289 steps have to be climbed to reach the first stage, and then another 246 to get to the top. The Clock has to be wound three times a week - it used to take two men five hours to do this, but by 1913 a motor had been installed and today it only takes about 45 minutes. Old pennies (pre-decimalisation) are used to adjust the tuning finely, 4/10ths of a second being put on or taken off by the cunning use of these coppers.

JL

The clock is never allowed to stop officially - except, if it proves necessary at New Year to make sure it strikes 12 and on Remembrance Sunday to make sure it strikes 11 a.m. (at the right times!). When the hour is put forward or backwards the exercise takes all night and the lights are switched off behind the face so

NEWS FROM THE WI continued:

that the public cannot see what is going on. Refurbishing the gold finish on the dial uses up 32,500 sheets of gold leaf. The original big bell was cast at Stockton-on-Tees and weighted 16 tons. This was eventually broken up at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and re-cast at 13 tons. The 'Westminster Chime' - G sharp, F sharp, E natural and B natural - came from Cambridge. The WI will now be looking at, and listening to, the old familiar clock with new eyes and ears when the ITN news comes on!

Three visitors were welcomed at the March meeting. Members will attend the Agenda Conference at Charleton in April and go on the county's Heritage Walk at Plympton St. Maurice in May. There will also be an outing to Knightshayes on May 23, starting at about 10 a.m. Husbands and friends will be most welcome to come, and if you haven't got your name on the list please ring Tricia Millman (560788) or Val Brown (560202) as soon as possible. Members would be acting as Stewards at the Devon County Show on 16th May and anyone wishing a lift should also contact Tricia or Val.

It was agreed that £25 should be sent to the South Hams Hospital Summer Fair and Connie Hughes gave a report on the Hospital League of Friends meeting she has attended, drawing attention to the fact that the new X-ray department would be having an Open Day on May 11th, 10 to noon, when the public could see the new unit. She has also raised with the Hospital the possibility of having an eye clinic for glaucoma patients.

The speaker was Commander Crowley on the Hospice Movement, and he showed a new slide collection of St. Lukes, Plymouth, In proposing the vote of thanks Pat Macdonald reminded members that since 1983 the NFWI has had a mandate to promote and support the hospice movement. A special raffle and sales dable raised approximately £120 for St. Lukes.

Tea hostesses for April are Mesdames Jo Lee, Sally Yeoman and Pat Hudson!

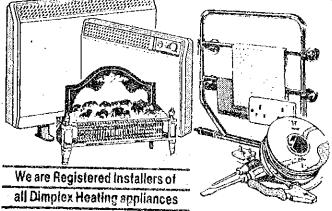
PAT MACDONALD

A NICE THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

TF NOBODY smiled and nobody cared,
And nobody helped us along...
If every moment looked after itself,
And good things just went to the strong...
If nobody thought just a bit about you,
And nobody cared for me...
And we stood all alone in the battle of life,
What a dreary old world this would be!

ANON (but seen in a magazine by P.E.)

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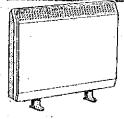


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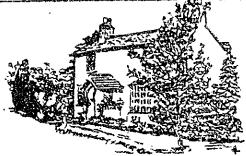
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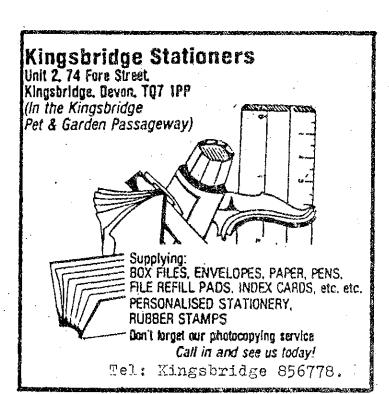
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COMMUNITY CHARGES IN THURLESTONE

The Personal Community Charge payable by most Thurlestone Parishioners for 1991/92 will be £376.77, being an increase of £44.1 or 13.23 per cent. made up as follows:-

<u>1990/91</u>	and the second of the second o	•	1991/92		
per veek per annum			per annum	per week	
£ 5.57 £289.81	DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL.		€ 329.31.	€ 6.333	
.13 6.82	National Safety - net pool			·	
. 60 31 . 30	SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL		44.18	850	
4.65	THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL		3.28	•063	
£ 6.39 £332.58	TOTAL PERSONAL CHARGE		£ 376.77	£ 7.246	

The forecast expenditure of the County and District Councils amounts to nearly £50 million, of which Central Government Grants and the allocation out of Business Rates, will finance over £27 $\frac{1}{2}$ million 55.4 per cent). The South Hams District Council's expenditure is set at £5,887,000 or some 11.8 per cent of the total, a rise of about £1 $\frac{1}{2}$ million (34.7 per cent) on their 1990/91 expenditure of £4,370,000. See overleaf for further details of these figures.

The Parish Council's share of the Community Charge will be £3.28 per person, on £2,300 in total, a reduction from last year's £3,224 because of the Parish Recreation Area Reserve Fund reaching the £5000 target set at the 1990 Annual Parish Meeting, pending clarification of the land situation.

It had been expected that the Parish Charge would have been further reduced to £2.30 as a result of our getting, with the help of Mr. Anthony Steen, MP., the Environment Minister's agreement that the charge should be calculated having regard to the number of holiday homes in the Parish as well as the number of personal chargepayers. Holiday home owners pay their share, but it is kept by SHDC without allocation to the Parish Council. SHDC regrets having found it impossible to titer their calculations for the coming year, because of administrative problems and the many last minute changes made in the rules in recent weeks: They hope to do better for 1992/93 if Community Charge principles still apply.

Significant changes made in the Community Charge regulations will reduce the amount of the Charge payable by a number of persons. The The PRINCIPAL NEW CONCESSIONS will be :-

- b). ELDERLY OR DISABLED PERSONS NOT FORMERLY RATEPAYERS. The Charge to such persons is being reduced from £156 last year to £134 in 1931/92. For example, an elderly lady living with her married son will probably have to pay only the £104, but APPLICATIONS FOR THIS RELIEF IS ESSENTIAL.
- holiday Accommonation. Short-stay, Bed and Breakfast type facilities within one is home will not be liable to a business rating assessment unless it is provided for more than SIX persons, excluding the family and resident staff, and the activity is no more than a subsidiary use of the proprietor's home. However, short-stay self-catering facilities intended to be let to others for 140 days or more may be liable to classification as a business and rated accordingly, instead of being charged double the standard community charge.

Continued - 2 -

Ocamunity Charges in Thurlestone - continued.

The concessions previously granted for young persons over 18 but still at school, mentally handicapped persons, and patients in residential care homes, still apply for them to be Totally Exempt from the Charge, and the Partial Relief obtained by persons with very low income whose savings do not exceed £16,000 for one or two chargepayers, continue unchanged.

The UNIFORM BUSINESS RATE will be 38.6 p in the £ of the value of the business premises set by the District Valuer. If short-stay self-catering accommodation is so assessed, but longer term letting is made to occupiers subject to the personal community charge, then arrangements can be made to delete the property from the rusiness rating list during the letting period, to avoid double charging.

COMPANITON
COMPARISON OF PERSONAL COMMUNITY CHARGES BETWEEN 1990/91 and 1991/92.
ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL
Approx
Estimated: Totals person
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S.H.D.C. share of charge for 1990/91 INFLATION not of factor 1990/91
The total ties of tees, and noteted to
statutory REQUIREMENTS of £17 million 556,000 9.4
Additional street & beach cleansing and 250,000
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buildry extras [dog control water and]
TOUTING EMPROPHAY PROCEEDING TO THE STATE OF
through recession or Gov't grant reductions: Planning & Building Control fees.
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nouse nemovation (rants
Hent Allowances & Rebate administration
Community Charge Benefits 54,000
EXTRA HEIRING & MAINTENANCE
with west revenue contributions 4. c.
210,000 2.5
1NCREASED REVENUE DYDEND THYPE
Less Government Grants & Business Rate allocation 56.4
S.H.D.C. SHARE OF THE COMMITTEE ALLOCATION 12.2
S.H.D.C. SHARE OF THE COMMUNITY CHARGE FOR 1991/92 approx.
DEVON COUNTY AND SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCILS NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE
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140,800 + 7.39 43,878 88.2 % DEVON C 0 (70.45 +25.12 99.15
45-230 + 10 (13 + 40 - 83 739.00
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THURLESTONE PARISH EXPENDITURE
THURLESTONE PERSONAL COMMUNITY CHARGE
My settrates are believed accurate had
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(Thurlestone Parish Clerk - W.G. Ladd.)

18th March, 1991.

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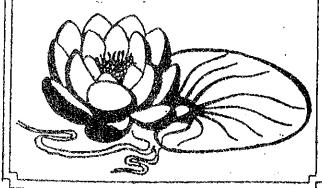
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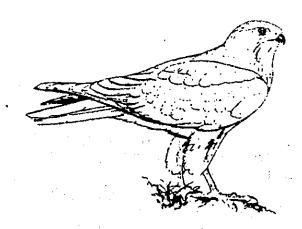
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HARRY HUGGINS

IN MADEIRA WE SAW ONE really spectacular kind of butterfly. It is as big as an open hand; its wings are bright amber, they have black edges with little white spots and their veins are picked out with black lines. The old books called it the Black-veined Brown - a truly romantic name! It is not unknown in England, indeed a friend says he saw one once in Thurlestone. In America, Its native land, they call it the Milkweed butterfly, because of what the caterpillars eat, or the Monarch, a fine name for a fine insect.

We argue sometimes as to whether butterflies migrate. There is no argument about the Monarch - it does, summering in North America and wintering in Mexico.

There was a TV programme about it some years ago, You hesitate to trust the media - the "Telegraph it's the truth, the Sun it's lies" syndrome - but the wildlife things appear to have the ring of truth about them usually, they do not normally have an exe to grind, and there seems no reason to doubt what was shown about the Monarch butterfly.

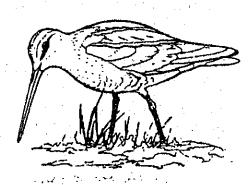
It is after all a simple story to tell.

Most of our British butterflies have a life cycle of several months, maybe as much as a year, because of their need to lie dormant over the winter. Not so the Monarch; it breeds continuously and quickly, its cycle from being laid as an egg to emerging as an adult insect being little more than a month. Like our Painted Lady, whose story is similar, it cannot survive cold weather. So the Monarchs go north for summer and south for winter. But not the same butterflies. One individual does not live long enough to make the round trip from Pennsylvania or wherever down to Mexico and back again. They stop and breed on the way, the old ones die and the progeny goes on.

They are doing what it is said people will do when manned and womanned spaceships are sent to some other place in the galaxy; as the journey will take more than a human lifetime they will have to breed on the way. Some people have pretty ghastly existences now, like those living in a Galcutta railway station, but to live your whole life shut up in a spaceship hust belworse. By contrast the

butterflies are free with air to breathe and proper milkweed to eat.

Finding their way is not a problem; many migrating creatures need no others to show them where to go. The swans do - when the Bewicks arrive at Slimbridge in the autumn it is as family groups and the old ones have their cygnets with them. But when the young



cuckoo sets off for Africa, its parents, which it never knew, will have been there for months. What are regarded as its parents, a pair of Meadow Pipits or Hedge Sparrows, do not migrate.

The Monarch is an altogether obliging butterfly. It sits with its wings spread open, so you can admire it, and photograph it. At rest most butterflies close their wings together above their backs for concealment, but Monarch has no need of that; its smell and colours warn birds and other things which might eat it that it tastes nasty. Flying, it flips around like a shuttlecock, with wings just above the horizontal.

We wondered how this American butterfly got to Madeira in the first place. We saw another interesting species, the Indian Red Admiral, very like the Red Admirals we get her in Thurlestone on our Buddleias, but the red band on the upper wings is wider and much more broken. Our butterfly identification book, written by people who knew what they were talking about, and accurate for its time (20 years ago) comments that the Indian Red Admiral is not known in any locality between the Canary Ishands and India. No explanation is offered, it is not that sort of book.

If it is found in India and China and then nowhere until the Canaries and Madeira, it must have been brought to the latter. Maybe it came by accident, as eggs or caterpillars or pupae on plants. When the plant hunters were introducing foreign things to Europe they often grew them for a spell in the Atlantic islands as a kind of half-way house. We didn't visit the Funchal botanical gardens, but we have been to those at Puerton de la Cruz in Tenerife. You would not call them colourful - the gorgeous things, the Poinsettias, Lantanas, Bignonias, Golden Challices, were all growing in the hedgerows beside the streets. But what was in the gardens was interesting and rare - and mostly downright dull!

Alternatively, Indian Red Admiral might have been brought deliberately. People do that sort of thing. They took Songthrushes and Goldfinches to New Zealand. These are not specially harmful. But they took Opossums, which are, and they took rabbits to Australia.

And after the Falklands war someone brought a Sheathbill to Plymouth. Sheathbills, colloquially known as Paddies, look like chickens and fly like pigeons. They live in Antartica, eating the debris of the seal and benguin breeding colonies in summer and scavenging as best they can in winter. Some go notth to the Falklands then and obviously an anonymous matelot must have made a pet of one, which was all right until his ship returned to Plymouth and he was due to go on leave. So Paddy was popped out of the porthole to fend for himself, which he did for a time and the twitchers went to see him (one more for the life-list). As far as I recall, eventually he was taken into custody and died off, whether with assistance I do not know.

There is a bird, Azure-winged Magpie, with distribution similar in some ways to that of the Indian Red Admiral. It is a little smaller than our familiar magpie; its wings are blue as the name indicated, likewise its tail, its body buff and it has a black cap. It is found in China, and in south-west Spain and Portugal. We have never seen it, but hope to go one day if the crows don't get us first. They used to refer to the Iberian birds as forming a relic population, a small remnant of what must once have been spread right

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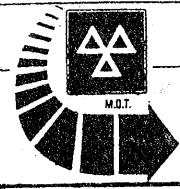
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HARRY HUGGINS CONTINUED:

across the Old World from China to the Atlantic, the ones between China and Spain having been wiped out by causes unknown.

Recently it occurred to someon however that this must have been a very popular cage bird for seafarers to buy in Chinese markets and bring home to Lisbon and places near. If a few got loose, or were let out - think how often a window is left open and Budgie escapes - they would be enough to start a population which was never a relic of anything.

When we lived on the coast of north Essex we used sometimes to get a Ring-necked Parakeet in the garden. Then, as now, we grew a Red Sentinel crab-apple tree; it does not get big and has fruits which if not molested will stay on the tree until the next year's blossom is out. The Essex one was a beautiful thing and did far better than ever does the one in Thurlestone. The parakeet used to come to eat the apple pips and the bright green bird among the red apples was a sight for sore eyes in a dull east coast winter.

The Ring-Mecked Parakeet's native land is in India and tropical Africa. But like many birds it can live in cobler climates, provided the food is there. After the sharpest of the last cold spell had begun, we had a Blackcap in our garden; she was trying to eat crab apples until a Fieldfare drove her off. And there were several Chiffchaffs about. Both are summer birds, the latter eats only insects. We did not see a Blackcap after the thaw came, but found at least one Chiffchaff, which shows birds' capacity to survive.

Our parakeet was one of a colony which had taken to living and breeding quite happily in the wild. Sadly there were a lot of fruit farmers in the area, trying to grow apples. They were wasting their time and money, they might just as well have planted spaghetti seed for all the good they did: to grow apples you have to have climate and the French growers have a better on. The Essex men knew it, you had only to whisper "Golden Delicious" to one of them, provided you were sure you could run faster than he could! But they were quite sure the poor parakeets were wrecking the bottom line of their balance sheets and shot the lot.

How the Monarchs got to Madeira I do not know. We have seen them also in Tenerife, in the middle of Puerto de la Cruz, and the book says they are to be found in the Azores, but not Africa nor continental Asia. They might have been conveved by human means. But it seems just as likely they flew from America: this is a strong tough butterfly which performs prod gious migratory flights and individuals could easily be carried on a strong wind across the 3,000 odd miles of Atlantic to the islands.

I do not know whether any of our British butterflies can be regarded as real migrants. Several species come north to us each year - Painted Ladies, Red Admirals and in varying numbers Clouded Yellows. Except perhaps the odd Red Admiral, all are killed off by the cold of winter. But true migration, as opposed to dispersal, infers an element of going back again, just as our summer migrant birds go to Africa for winter and return in spring. It does not have to be the same place each time: during the last cold spell in February we had hundreds if not thousands of the migrant northern thrushes, Fieldfares and Redwings, around Thurlestone. During the previous winter we did not record a single one.

To be true migrants; having arrived across the Channel in spring,

HARRY HUGGINS CONCLUDED:

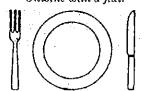
our butterflies would have to go back in the autumn. Not the ones which came, but their descendants. We have seen hundreds of Red Admirals heading for the coast on a September day when the shoreline was alive with small birds waiting to fly to France as soon as an adverse wind fell light. But whether the butterflies were going to go, or try to go, remains a mystery.

You can catch a bird and put a ring on its leg. There is a chance it will be recovered, either another ringer will catch it again, or it will be shot, or someone's cat will bring it in. The number recovered is small, maybe .(1 per cent of all those ringed, but it is enough to show a trend.

But you cannot put a ring on a butterfly's leg. People have attached tags to their wings, but that must impair their ability to fly, and anyway the chances of recovery are so small as to be negligible. So the migration of butterflies south across the Channel remains for the present an intriguing mystery!

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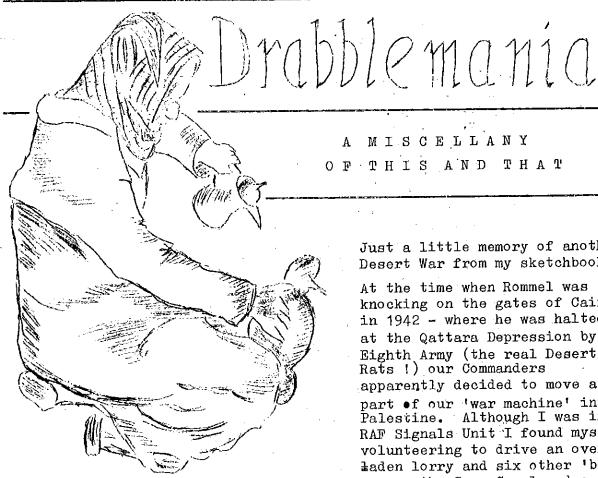
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MISCELLANY OF THIS AND TAHT

> Just a little memory of another Desert War from my sketchbook.

At the time when Rommel was knocking on the gates of Cairo in 1942 - where he was halted at the Qattara Depression by the Eighth Army (the real Desert Rats!) our Commanders apparently decided to move a part of our 'war machine' into Palestine. Although I was in a RAF Signals Unit I found myself volunteering to drive an overladen lorry and six other 'bods' across the Suez Canal and over

the Sinai Desert - across a track rather than a 'road' - armed and equipped for any eventuality for a journey that proved quite uneventful. Halting for a short break outside Beersheeba I made a rough sketch of a Palestinian Arab and his tea making apparatus.

Before flying back to the Sahara area, three of us managed to cram in a few days in Jerusalem and visited the 'Fourteen stages of the Cross' the IWailing Wall' - only the people facing it do the 'wailing' ! - the Dead Sea, Bethlehem and the fascinating Bazaar area of Jerusalem. I must admit the Arabs were more friendly than the Jews! Even in wartime life is not all bullets and bull !!

In an effort to cope with the homelessness of the era, a Workhouse was established in Kingsbridge in 1837. In an Editorial in 1885 the Gazette appeared highly critical:

"In a union, the poor man does not look upon the Workhouse as his legal refuge in distress, but as a prison; it is worse than a prison, for a man in a union has to pick 41bs of oakum* a day to a prisoner's 31b. He is, moreover, worse fed, bedded and cared for. Again the ratepayer in a union loses the notion that he is paying for his own poor. Let him have the knowledge before him that the men of his parish are cared for at his proper cost and he will look with much less distaste on rates which should be regarded by him as a contribution to the sacred cause of charity, not as a hateful tax."

* Oakum is a loose fibne obtained by unravelling old rope, used especially for caulking seams in wooden ships.

They lived in a beautiful apartment overlooking the rent!

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It's wondrous what a HUG can do. A H U G can cheer you when you're blue. A HUG can say, "I love you so," or, "Gee, I hate to see you go." A HUG is, "Welcome back again," and, "Great to see you," or "Where've you been?" A HUG can soothe a small child's pain And bring a rainbow after rain. The HUG! There's just no doubt about it We scarcely could survive without it. A Hug delights and warms and charms -It must be why God gave us arms. HUGS are great for fathers and mothers, Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers, And chances are some favourite aunts Love them more than potted plants. Kittens crave them. Puppies love them. Heads of state are not above them A HUG can break the language barrier And make the dullest day seem merrier. No need to fret about the store of them The more you give, the more there are of them, So s t r e t c h those arms without delay and give someone a HUG today.

SISTER ROMAINE SAMUEL, S.C.C.

(Thank you Mrs Strain for offering Drabblemania readers this charming little poem)

+ + + + + + +

Middle age is when we can do just as much as ever - but would rather not !

+ + + + + + + +

It would seem there has been a very considerable rise in the popularity of bottled beer, and those who drink straight from the bottle should keep an eye on their teeth for it is reported that dentists are finding these bottle drinkers suffer from chips and cracks to the enamel of the upper incisors and canines. The damage would appear to be fairly superficial but occasionally it seems extensive work is required. I understand we all drank from a bottle once - before we had teeth!!

++++++

What action can a community take when developers supported by the District Council Planners are hell bent on imposing their proposals on any parish? A Parish Council has only the lawful right to receive notification of all planning applications and within 14 days make observations and recommendations, normally based on the opinion of the community, but it is my humble opinion that many plans submitted have already had the planners decision who will pay only 'lip service' to what the Parish Council has to say.

What parishes need is single parish not multiple parish representation.

Every parish with its own District Councillor! Surely the planning 'overlords' would take more notice, and it would make Parish Councils much more cost effective. If the District cut down on so many unnecessary committee meet—ings with their attendance and travel allowances any additional cost would easily be covered. Unless of course too many Dist. Councillors put in annual claims for £12,000 or so !!!

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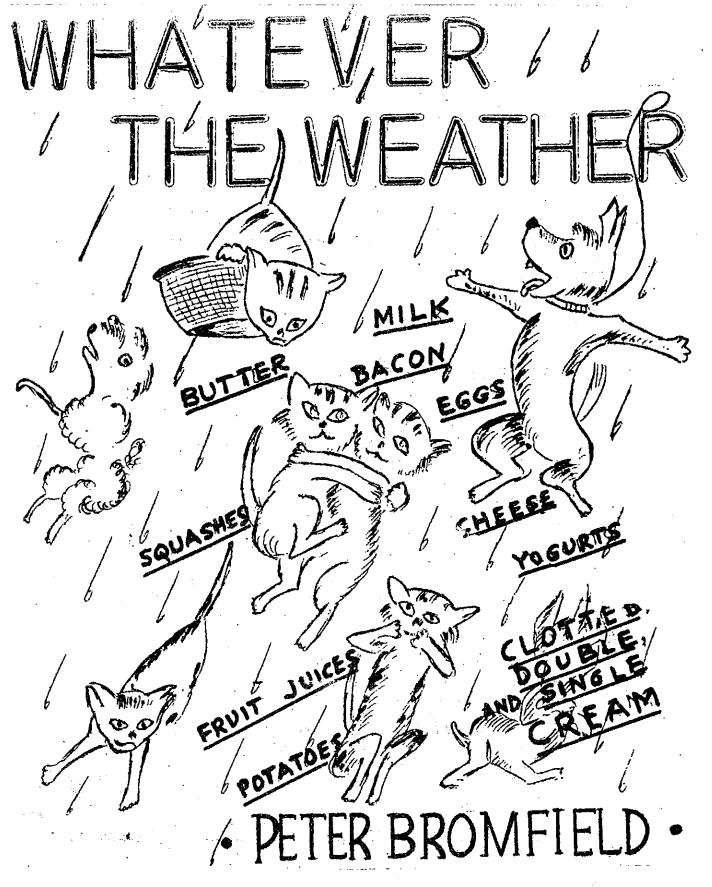
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NOT READING FOR THOSE WITH A CLOSED MIND !

Proposed new Sewage Treatment Works at Sth Milton to also treat the Thurlestone sewage

A recent report from the Friends of the Earth stating that at least 71 of the <u>Sewage Treatment Works</u> in the South West, operated by South West Water, were polluting rivers and estuaries beyond the legal limit, and that nationwide there is, in numerous cases, similar 'over limit' problems with Sewage Treatment Works, I find I am not alone in wondering why we have to witness this perpetuation of pre-historic methods of disposing of human waste matter, and at such great cost.

As David Bellamy, Honorary President of the Marine Conservation Society says in an article in the current issue of Natural World"there is no doubt an enormous challenge ahead for the planet and its seas.
....why should we throw away millions of tonnes of potential energy and organic fertilisers and cause massive pollution of the sea at the same time. There is no doubt we should be using our rubbish and our sewage in co-generation of energy and the manufacture of organic soil conditioners. Despite over three billion pounds for dealing with sewage off our coasts almost nothing is being spent on devising practical benefits of using sewage as a resource."

I, and I am sure very many others, must be delighted to see people of David Bellamy's standing in respect of protecting the environment and the people who live in it is also unprepared to accept the unacceptable. All human sewage should become a processed product. You have only to visit any good Garden Centre to will less the obvious demand for the variety of processed animal manure that is available for horticultural use.

Sadly, if you are one of those people, professional or otherwise, who relates to my heading to this article and have read this far, please do read on, for you undoubtably consider the idea of provessing human waste as rediculous. You must be counted among those of earlier years who considered the aeroplane would never fly, the motor car would never replace the horse, neither the telephone or 'wireless' could ever be 'developed, Baird and his television 'pictures' was a pure visionary, perhaps even ridiculed the idea of heart transplants and micro surgery.

Surely sewage disposal - human waste matter - is one of the most vital subjects for all civilised races. Everyone has to sit on the loo - and it costs billions of pounds. Is nt that rediculous? If you consider for a moment what science, technology and money has done for the variety of ways they can destroy the human race in a time of war is it too rediculous to propose that a measure of science, technology and money be applied to human sewage processing and recycling for the benefit. . . it would give to the human race in dividends of improved health and cleaner rivers, estuaries and seas.

Of course, if the mind is closed

'Devon Village Schools in the 15th Century (R. Hellmans) - Extract by M.S.

Towards the end of the 19th Century physical exercise and drill along military lines became accepted as part of the regular routine, and at the very end of Victoria's reign a special impetus was given to this trend in some of Devon schools when servicemen were engaged as drill sergeants. Indeed, in the Parish of Thurlestone the boys were provided with toy guns, sailor suits and two airguns 'in the hope of making them good marksmen', under the direction of the local RNVP Coastguard.

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL, THURLESTONE.

IF THE EXPERIENCE of teaching in three village schools has taught me anything, it is that the schools are the property of the entire community; for schools, and especially village schools, evoke many emotions: nostalgia, affection, dark and light moments, all of these tend to become distorted with the passage of time, but there can be few of us that remain untouched by the peculiar magical Christmas-like excitement that tingles its way through the more engaging periods in a child's life at primary school. And to those whose entire lives have been spent in a single community the sense of attachment to village institutions is all the greater.

Schools have long recognised that the wealth of local interest and expertise not only enriches the community itself but is a potential resource for providing genuine learning experience for the present generation. By the end of this term some of the older children of All Saints School will have taken part in a residential weekend at Slapton. Each child will have produced a portfolio of drawings, diagrams, descriptive work etc., which will form the basis of a local studies project next term. We shall be seeking archive material. If anyone has any local memorabilia, photographs, memories or local knowledge, and is willing to share them with us we would be delighted to hear from you.

For the first time all primary and secondary schools are bound by a national curriculum. But one of the great themes of this curriculum is the environment. This has important implications for all subject areas and is not merely concerned with the natural world, but puts the onus on schools to design their own history and humanities projects from which we gain glimpses of the great events that have shaped our civilisation and culture; through the richness and variety of local traditions and experience our overall landscape acquires detail, dimension and colour.

A,F.WILLIAMS, HEADMASTER.

LOCAL NEWS . LOCAL NEWS .

The preacher at the 50th Royal Marines Military School anniversary service in Thurlestone Church will be Bishop Maurice Wood, DSC, MA, RNR.

Maurice Wood was a former Bishop of Norwich and was a Chaplain with the Royal Marines during the 1939-45 War.

The service will take the form of a church parade with a gathering point at the Parish Hall car park at the top of the village. A full band of the Royal Marines will then lead the way down to the Church where the special service will begin at 11.30 a.m. on June 20th, 1991.

POSTBAG LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir.

I understand that you are the Editor of Thurlestone "Village Voice".

It was with regret that I received a copy of the "Village Voice" giving a statement concerning the loss of the lime tree at the development at Merchants Gardens for which this company is responsible.

I am sorry that this statement must be regarded as libellous, but I do not propose to take legal action on behalf of this company provided that an apology and the facts are included in the next edition of "Village Voice".

I am attaching for your information a copy of a letter received from the tree specialist recommended by South Hams District Council and employed by this company to inspect the tree, which had clearly been dying over a number of years and well before the development was started.

This development has been undertaken in a thoughtful and caring manner and an attack of this nature is not warranted.

I look forward to hearing from you and receiving a copy of your proposed statement.

Yours faithfully,

HENLEY AND CAPITAL PROPERTIES LIMITED

DAVID AUSTIN, D.F.Austin.

TREE INSPECTION REPORT

MERCHANT'S GARDEN FLATS - THURLESTONE

Introduction.

game all all mands

This report concerns a single tree located North of block 2. currently under construction at the above site.

The report has been commissioned by the site's Architect and its purpose is to detail the condition of the tree and make recommendations in relation to the development.

Description of the Tree.

The subject tree is a mature Lime (Tilia cordata), approximately 17m high with a radial crown spread of 7m and a trunk diameter of 1.3m.

The trunk, which forks into several main stems at lm, has weak forks liable to future fracture. The crown of the tree has 50% dieback and is showing obvious signs of extreme stress.

At the base of the trunk on the Northern side, fruit bodies of Honey fungus (Armellaria mellea) were found growing in the soil Rhizomorphs of the same fungus were also evident on some of the exposed root buttresses of the tree.

Conclusions and Recommendations.

The crown dieback shows an advanced attack by Honey fungus, which has probably caused the death of at least 50% of the tree's roots and will progress to kill the tree in 1-2 years.

Continued overleaf

In view of the tree's location and the risk of instability as root decay progresses, the only suitable course of action is to fell the tree without undue delay. S.J.Morris, M.Arb, (RFS). F.Arbor.A. November 1990.

SIR; who die to the control of the control of the second second decided the control of the contr

We are not told who Mr. Young's friend Mr. Rob Roy is, but it is to be assumed from his obvious interest in what for want of a better generic term must be called music that he is a connection of the late and much lamented band leader Mr. Harry general programme and applicable of the con-

It is not possible to attribute the Scottish pipes to Scottish inventiveness. This is an instrument which many hundreds of years ago was widespread across Europe. One has only to look at the reproduction of Pieter Broughel's enigmatic picture painted in 1565 and known as "A Peasant Wedding" to see that there are pipers present and that their instruments look similar to the Scottish pipes of today. Pipes appear in at least one other of Broughel's pictures.

The pipes would have been universal and popular being an instrument which a country craftsman could make from simple. materials readily to hand.

As subsequent technology improved they were superseded in most countries by fiddle, accordion and so on, and now by electronic things like Yamaha organs.

Far from showing Scottish inventiveness therefore, the pipes typify the backwardness of the nation, indicated also in the persistence of the gentlemen in wearing a form of skirt, presumably because no one north of Hadrian's Wall could make a pair of trousers.

I am second to none in my admiration for the Scots, and applaud Mr.Roy's resolve not to sell his countrymen short. I must remind him however of something read recently in a book about Scotland: a Scottish gentleman is one who can play the pipes, but doesn't! HARRY HUGGINS, Thurlestone.

DEAR LADY AND GENTLEMAN,

I was most outraged to read Villager's report of a lovely gentleman spreading good curry on his lawn and even, goodness gracious, putting splendid vindaloo around his fruit trees to frighten off badgers. However, it is not in my nature to waste good business opportunities and so I would like to say in the marvellous pages of your wonderful magazine that my touring take-away van called "Sweaters" will be available in Thurlestone car park on Thursdays at 6 p.m. for the purchase of specilly hot badger vindaloos. Your readers of high class may also like to know that I have successfully negotiated a contract with your splendid golf club to supply specially hot biryanis to all the rabbits on the course. My stand will be in the first bonker as you call it on the left from April 1. GUNGA SINGH, Sweaters Ltd.

THURLESTONE & SOUTH MILTON HORTICULTURAL SHOW

At the Annual General Meeting held at 7 Crosslands Thurlestone on 15th October 1990 Mr R D White was re-elected President, and Dr N Oswald and Mrs P Macdonald were reelected Vice Presidents.

Mr B Horn, Mr D Coward, Mr A Amess and Mrs V White were respectively re-elected Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Elsewhere in this issue appear tributes to Doris Tyler who did so much for the Parish. Not least for the Show of which she was a founder member working tirelessly on the Home Economics front. We relied on her to organise the Handicrafts Section on Show Day and every year to win at least one of the Preserve Classes which were her speciality.

In memory of their Mother. Sue McGinn and her sister Pat have very kindly donated a Cup to be awarded in one of the Home Economic Classes. The Committee is very grateful for their generosity.

The Jumble Sale held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 16th March raised £165 thus enabling the Show to be held this year, next year, and hopefully the year after, without any financial worries. A very big and heartfelt THANK YOU to each and everyone of you who helped, purchased and came to the event, making it such a success. In particular a special Thank You to Pat Macdonald without whose organisation and hard work the Jumble Sale would not have happened.

This year as you already know the Show is being held on Saturday 3rd August (the Schedules will be included in the next issue of Village Voice), but before then there is the ANNUAL PLANT SALE on SATURDAY 16th May at 2.30 pm in Thurlestone Parish Hall.

Growing conditions permitting we hope to have perennials and annuals of all kinds, including anterrhinums, mesembryanthemums, geraniums and pelargoniums together with fuschias and hebes (to replace those lost in the recent cold snap.) On the vegetable side there will be tomato, pepper and runnerbean plants among others.

So PLEASE come and buy your plants at YOUR Sale and help support YOUR Show!

The Committee March 1991 It was with a strong feeling of outrage that I read in the National Press the announcement that the West Midlands Education Officer had banned as SEXIST, "Thomas the Tank Engine", "Postman Pat", and other cimilar books. He based his accusation on the grounds that the engines all had Boys names and had adventures, while the carriages which trailed behind had Girls' names, and Postman Pat spent most of his time bossing helpless old women about. The Officer thinks that if children read these books they will be "brainwashed" into the belief that Males have, by right, the dominant role, and Females just tage along behind.

In defence of the Male Ego, and to put the record straight, I wish to point out that the Heroines and Chief Female characters in Childrens' stories are much more dangerous to the moral fibre of the nation than a few steam engines and a fussy Postman.

All the deadly sins which afflict modern society are displayed and actively encouraged, by female characters in story and rhyme. Take the rhymes which are taught to every child, by their Mothers. I would point out Fathers have nothing to do with this spread of evil.

"Jack and Jill went up the hill. Jack falls, obviously as the result of an attack by Jill, resulting in grevious bodily harm.

"Old Mother Hubbard promises her dog a bone, and goes to an empty cupboard. A definite encouragement to cruelty to animals.

The Fairy Godmother in Cinderella changes, without informing the R.S.P.C.A. six innocent mice into champing white ponies, so administering a culture shock from which the mice may never recover.

Cinderella herself encourages disobedience. She stays late at the Ball and instead of being punished she is allowed, in fact encouraged to marry a Prince.

The Queen in Snow White openly uses poison to get rid of her rivals. Little Red Riding Hood talks to Strangers in the wood, and in Alice in Wonderland the Queen ignores all United Nations rulings on Human Rights by beheading, without trial, anyone who annoys her, while with fiendish cruelty she uses flamingoes as croquet mallets.

Goldilocks continues the encouragement towards animal cruelty by eating the Bears porridge, and then smashes up their home.

Alice herself in her adventures encourages the use of drugs to reduce her size in order to enter a 'Never never land' of adventure and excitement not available to those who fail to drink.

To condemn a child to sleep for years without nourishment or comfort in a weed grown palace, just because she pricked her finger, as the Witch does in the story of Sleeping Beauty encourages child abuse, which is brought to a climax in the story of Hanzel and Gretel, when the Witch prepares to eat the children. Come back Esther Rantzen, all is forgiven!

Postman Pat, Thomas the Tank Engine, and their friends may be male Chauvanistic Pigs, but there is no doubt that the foundations of the British Way of Life, perhaps even the foundations of Western Civilization are under a much greater threat from the evil machinations of the popular female role models in the Nursery Tales which, I would remind you, are introduced to innocent minds by our MOTHERS! +! +!

Researched and written by IAN C. YOUNG with a degree of Moral Support from Dudley Drabble!

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Rector

O IN THE LAST ISSUE I made mention of The Decade of Evangelism" and indicated that I would write a little on that subject in this

In one sense every decade is and must be, for the church, a decade of evangelism. The word 'evangel' from the Greek means 'the good news'. Evangelism then is sharing the Good News. It is not as easy as it sounds! Why? Because not everyone wants to hear it!

Having lived through the Plymouth Blitz, I was very interested to see the stage show at the Theatre Royal recently, which so well captured the atmosphere of those days 50 years ago. News was readily passed on, must as it, recently, has been again, with the dread words 'we are at war'. But good news was passed on eagerly in those days 'There's Spam at the corner shop'. The Co-op's having cakes this afternoon. . And when the longed for Good News came -V.E.Day - everybody told it as fast as they could and innumerable street parties and parish parties were arranged to celebrate

together the good news that the job had been done!

Every time I announce that there is to be a Celebration (not the word always used) of the Holy Communion at the Parish Church that is exactly what we are about, holding a Celebration meal - a parish party to celebrate the great victory after apparent defeat, To celebrate the good news of V.E.Day - 'Victory at Easter' Day following Good Friday. But for the Christian there has to be the perception that Good Friday was also a victory - not for those who brought about Christ's death, but for our Lord Himself. Good Friday was the victory of the submission to the Father's will, and, far from being good news, it is to many, very unpalatable news, that there can be no Easter Victory without the Victory of Good Friday, declared by our Lord's great shout from the Cross "It is accomplished".

Part of the problem of sharing the Good News, then, is the difficulty of ensuring that 'The Good News' is properly perceived, and it cannot necessarily be instantly perceived - and we do like

'Instant' everything these days.

A second problem is that for some the Good News has become 'stale news'. Usually because they have never perceived the true nature of the Good News nor their own debt to it. Growing out of this to some degree, emerges what some have called our 'post-Christian' society which we must not mistakenly assume means anything anything to do with being ex-Christians, for I have never yet found an 'ex-true Christian'. Rather the term post-Christian society recognises that only about 10 per cent of the population would claim to be anything more than nominally Christian. For the rest there are the nominally Christian - still a largish proportion, I guess, the apostate, the openly pagan, the Agnostics, the followers of other faiths and the relatively few, I think, who are decleared atheists. To such an enormously wide-ranging strata of society there

is an enormously difficult task in seeking to make known the Good News, and especially to those to whom the Good News has been so mis-represented as to make them suppose it is stale news and, at worst, bad news.

A third problem for would-be evangelists is that we all try to possess a proper sensitivity to the feelings and views of others. We must therefore respect the views of those of other faiths and no faith at all, whilst still seeking to remain true to the scriptural imperitive to go and proclaim the Good News to all. All of these considerations get us into the difficulties recently featured in the Press when the Queen attended a multi-Faith service at Westminster Abbey. All these things are made the more acute because of political overtones with anti-semitism again raising its ugly head, and some only too anxious to stir up trouble between Christian and Muslim.

It is to safeguard all these sensibilities, no doubt, that the sort of religious education to be given in our state schools is described as "broadly Christian" - whatever that may mean!

Another ever-burning issue is the language of the Gospel, Ws Eternally Good News best conveyed in Elizabethan English - by which I mean the English of the first Elizabeth - the language of the Prayer Book and the Authorised version? Or must we descend to jargonese as some apparently would? Or may we find some creditably good modern English that would be acceptable? And acceptable to whom?

A few of the other problems which I can only mention without attempting to develop is the worry, to me anyway, of seeking to make worship more attractive by reducing it to entertainment. And then of having to compete with unashamed other entertainments, put on to clash with the main worship time on the Lord's Day, and that often by those who pay lip service to teaching duty to God e.g. the Scouts who took boys to camp over Mothering Sunday not only precluding their being in God's House but also preventing them from being with their mothers. Oh, I know it was only thoughtlessness—but so is so much else which leads to Godlessness and so makes the more necessary a special "Decade of Evangelism".

As I was writing this the post came (fortunately mostly for my wife this time), only one for me, and in it a sentence than which I could not wish for better with which to conclude:-

could not wish for better with which to conclude:"Our longing for each one of our friends. is this, that in this promising decade of renewed dedication to reaching the world for Christ, that you will share with us a living confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ".

ONE FOR THE AMAZING CO-INCIDENCE Department?

A diver in Hope Cove found a little pewter travelling communion cup last year crushed into a crevice of a rock. Experts date it as "about 1600" and say it was carried by priests on ships or on other travels to give communion to the sick.

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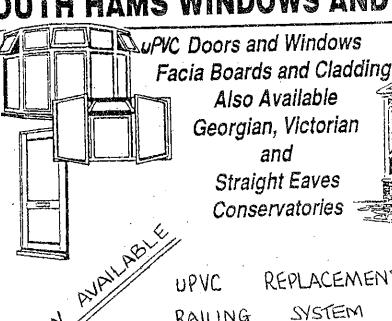
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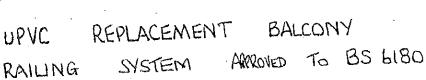
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VILLAGE VOICE'S TOP DATES FOR 1991

Mon 8th April. "Butter Pats". Designs with butter.Mrs.J.Rossiter.
Parish Hall. 2.30 p.m. No charge.

Tues 9th April. Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m.

Wed 17th April. TRAMP walk. Newbridge.

Sat 20th April. Mix and Meet Chicago evening Bridge. Parish Hall 7p.m. Sun 28th April. Thurlestone School Fun Run.

Wed 1st May. Tramp walk. West of Chagford. Sat 4th May. N.S.P.C.C. Jumble Sale. Sat 11th May.St.Luke's Hospice Bring and Buy. Rectory Barn 10.30 am. Mon 13th May. Flower demonstration. Mrs.A. Foster. Parish Hall. 10.30 a Tues 14th May. Annual Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.

Wed 15th May. Tramp walk. Dart Estuary. Sat 18th May. Horticultural Show Plant Sale. Parish Hall 2.30 p.m.

Wed 5th June. Tramp walk. Avon Reservoir. Tues 11th June. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m. Wed 19th June. Tramp walk. Dartmeet. Sat 29th June. Thurlestone School Summer Fair.

Thurs 20th June. Royal Marines Anniversary celebrations.

Wed 3rd July. Tramp walk, Dartmoor, Tues 9th July. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m. Wed 17th July. Tramp walk. Kingston.

Sat 3rd Aug. Thurlestone and South Milton Horticultural Show Thurlestone Parish Hall Wed 7th Aug. Tramp walk. Dartmoor. Tues 13th Aug. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.

Tues 10th Sept. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m. Wed 18th Sept. Tramp walk. East of Salcombe. Sat. 28th Sept. Thurlestone Parish Hall Annual Fair. 2.30 p.m.

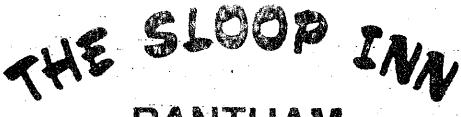
Tues 8th October. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m. Wed.16th Oct. Tramp walk, From Start Point.

Sat 9th Nov. Thurlestone School Autumn Bazaar. Tues 12th Nov. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall. 7.30 p.m. Wed 20th Nov. Tramp walk. Swincombe Valley.

Tues 10th December, Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m. Wed 11th Dec. Tramp Christmas walk. Dittisham. Mon 16th Dec. Rising Generation Christmas Show. Parish Hall 7.60 p.m.

WHAT ARE YOUR EVENTS FOR 1991? PLEASE HELP TO KEEP THIS LIST UP TO DATE. EVENT ORGANISERS USE THIS LIST TO PLAN THEIR DATES AND AVOID CLASHES. DON'T LET YOUR FUNCTION MISS OUT.

DETAILS OF EVENTS TO MRS. JOAN MACKENZIE, WHO PREPARES THE LISTS FOR VILLAGE VOICE AT 7, OLD RECTORY GARDENS, THURLESTONE -IN WRITING PLEASE - BY MAY 1st FOR INCLUSION IN THE JUNE-JULY EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE.



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