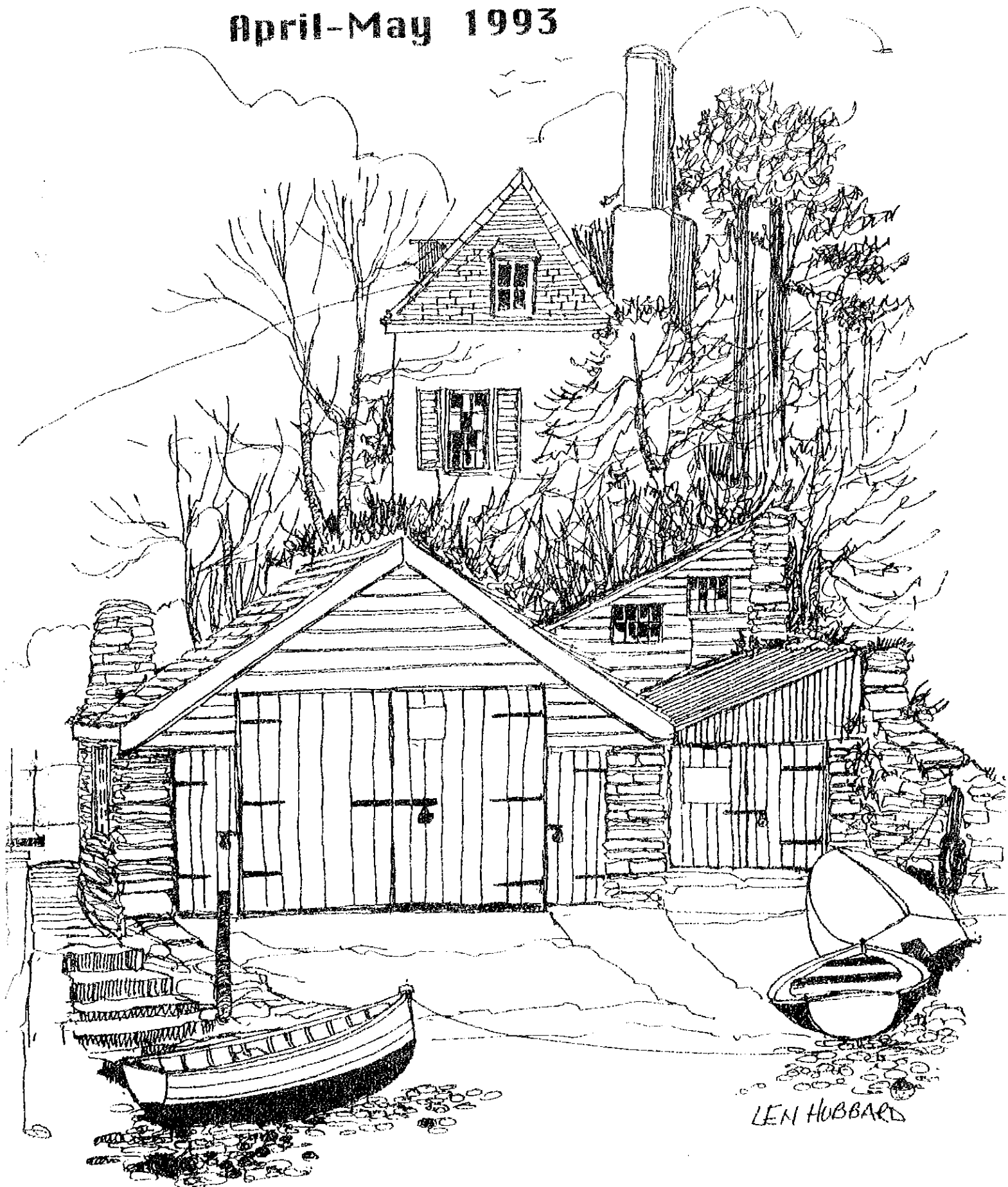


VILLAGE VOICE

April-May 1993



Founded by Dudley
DRABBLE
1982.



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KENDALL McDONALD
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Thurlestone.

Tel: Kingsbridge
560239

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by
LEN HUBBARD.

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WHILE NOT SUGGESTING for one moment that we all take the law into our own hands, there never has been a time when it was so necessary to stand up for our rights.

Day after day we read, or see on the television, the wishes of ordinary folk being over-ridden by planners and long-distance civil servants...multi-storey car parks in the middle of country towns...supermarkets being allowed to build in direct opposition to a town's small traders...traffic being diverted away from main shopping streets while money is found to erect bandstands.

Take Kingsbridge. There is a last-minute delay on the disastrous traffic plans of some mad planning department. And though the planners do not like such disturbance of their power, it is interesting to note that the delay - it is no more than that - was only brought about by a near revolt of the shopkeepers who were being put out of business by the crazy scheme.

There is nothing more objectionable than a French fisherman, particularly if he interrupts your short break with Brittany Ferries, but it must cross many a British mind that this might be the way ahead when all appeal to reason fails against those who refuse to give way to the public will.

That is why it is essential that all of us attend the Annual Parish Meeting when the traffic in our villages is to be the main point of discussion. This is when we tell them, the police, the planners, the civil servants, what we want. We can hardly blame them later if we don't make our wishes clear now.

THURLESTONE
PROBUS
CLUB

Yeoman's Farewell

BY THE TIME you read this report we will have had our AGM and the new officers and committee members appointed

After seven years as your Secretary I have at last found a volunteer to take my place and subject to the members approving Ian Mackay (560291) will be taking over. To those members not present at the AGM I would like to extend my sincere thanks for the help and co-operation received during those seven years.

Following a moments' silence at our February meeting during which we remembered Peter Auster who had been a member of the Club almost since its inception, our speaker for the day gave a well illustrated and interesting talk on the various jobs he had held in Customs and Excise - from VAT to Drugs.

Our next meeting will be on April 2nd (please note the change due to our normal meeting day being Good Friday). The speaker for that day will be Dr. Ian Fraser who had only recently joined the Club. His subject is the National Blood Transfusion Service, something he was very closely connected with in Bristol.

On May 14th another of our members Ken Slater will be talking about "The Baltic Exchange"

Last, but certainly not least, some 59 members, wives and guests attended our Ladies Evening at the Cottage Hotel on February 16th. Judging from the comments received it was just as successful as past evenings, particularly as our Chairman refrained from following his predecessors innovation of 'singing the praises of the ladies'

D.M.YEOMAN. 560300.

SLOOP Inn Carnival Club - formed to raise funds for the Carnival Float, which was such a feature of last year's Kingsbridge Extravaganza - plans an even more extravagant float for this year. The new float will travel to other Carnivals and will be at the Kingsbridge Extravaganza on November 20.

To do this the Carnival Club are holding a Spring Bazaar at the Market Hall, Kingsbridge on Saturday April 24 from 10am to 1 pm. There will be a tombola, raffle, white elephant stall, good jumble, toys and books, cakes, plants, tea and coffee, guess the weight of the cake and a name the dolly competition.

More fund-raising will come from Cream Teas at North Upton over Whitsun Bank Holiday.



ONE OF OUR MOST distinguished residents was to be seen the other day taking Thurlestone's traffic problems very seriously indeed. Carefully counting his paces, he seemed finally satisfied he had found the right spot and scratched a mark with his heel, "This," he told me, "is where we'll put the first of the sleeping policemen, then their exhausts will fall off right outside Maurice Blight's. Don't want to upset people, Maurice'll be able to give them a quick repair."

The move towards sleeping policemen seems to be gathering pace. But local farmers seem a bit against them, saying that they'll damage the tractor's trailer bar. If that's true then I reckon they need to change their brand of tractor for something stronger.

And while on the subject of roads and cars and things, I hear that a woman driver in the parish proved to be the most economical woman driver in Devon in a recent contest. She managed 63.4 miles to a gallon. Course her husband said he wasn't surprised, she'd never changed gear since she took her driving test!

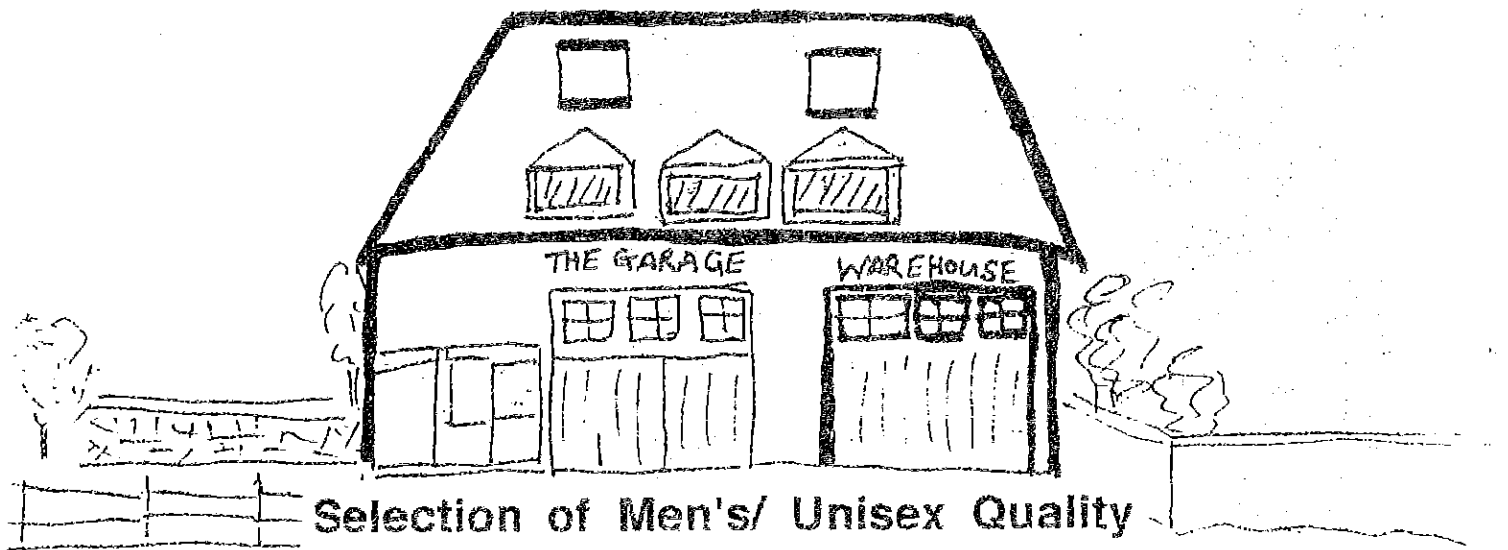
There's a big run on the complete works of Shakespeare and encyclopedias - it's all because of the Village Quiz, which is being held at the School at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18. Entry forms for teams are available at the School.

Don't suppose you knew until you read your Daily Telegraph on March 4, that Bill Ladd, our parish council clerk, was a big wheel in London gaming casinos before coming down to join us. Bill featured in a big spread about South West Water's clean-up Thurlestone operations and was given due credit for his drive to get Leys Foot clean again.

The Telegraph said that Bill was in charge of Playboy magazine too. But that apparently is wrong. At least his wife denies that he was the magazine's first male centre-fold picture!

Don't know about you, but I'm looking at Bantham surfers suspiciously these days. And have done ever since I read a report in a West Country paper ^{which} said that "drug barons are smuggling huge consignments of cocaine worth up to £1.5 million into the South-West - using teams of wind-surfers on hollowed-out boards".

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The Value They Put on Your House...

Do You Want to Appeal?

To help you to decide whether an appeal can be justified, as a public service Village Voice is printing the council tax banding of each house in the parish taken from the Draft Valuation List of December 1st. Appeals must be lodged between April 1 and November 30, 1993. Houses on the business rate are not included.

THURLESTONE.

Appletrees	F	Renside	B
Avon Rock	F	Rockhill	G
Barton Brow	D	Sea Haze	D
Barwood	G	Seaview House	D
Celts Corner	G	Smeaton	D
Charnwood Court	A	Pierces Farthing	G
Court Park Cottage	D	Thatchways	F
Court Park Farm	A	The Cottage	G
Cradles Cottage	E	The Old School	D
Cross Park Farm	G	The Rectory	H
Easton Court	E	Swallows	M
1 Furzey Close	C	The Thatches	G
2 Furzey Close	E	Thurlestone Hotel	A
3 Furzey Close	F	Thurlestone Hotel Cottage	E
4 Furzey Close	D	Fiat 1 Thurlestone Hotel	A
5 Furzey Close	E	Fiat 2 Thurlestone Hotel	A
Grey Cot	G	Thurle House	G
High View	D	Tree Tops	G
Hillcrest	C	Trethurle Cottage	F
Homefield	G	Trevilder	F
Home Cottage	G	Village Stores	B
Home Lea	F	Vine Cottage	C
Jubilee Cottage	C	Wayfarings	F
Kennedy	F	Western Lodge	G
Kirkdale	G	West View	D
Little Stretton	G	Whitley	G
Lower Kerse	H	Woodbine Cottage	G
Mallards	G	April Cottage	C
Merchants Garden	G	2 Court Cottages	D
Moonrakers	F	Nuthatch	E
Mountstone	F	The Flatt	E
Nether Mead, Court Lane	G	1 Church Cottage	C
Old Rectory Cottage	D	2 Church Cottage	C
Penwood	D	3 Church Cottage	C
Pipers Bench	G	Roughover	C
Redlands	F	Tamarisk	G

THURLESTONE con'd

2 Court Park	F	12 Crosslands	G
3 Court Park	E	13 Crosslands	G
4 Court Park	E	14 Crosslands	G
6 Court Park	F	15 Crosslands	G
7 Court Park	F	16 Crosslands	G
8 Court Park	F	The Chalet	C
9 Court Park	F	Cutaway Cottage	D
10 Court Park	F	Query	F
12 Court Park	F	6 Eddystone Road	E
14 Court Park	F	11 Eddystone Road	G
17 Court Park	F	21 Eddystone Road	G
18 Court Park	F	Strand End	G
19 Court Park	F	6A Eddystone Road	E
20 Court Park	G	Sanderling	G
21 Court Park	G	Turnstones	G
22 Court Park	G	Arpinum	F
23 Court Park	G	Beacon	G
24 Court Park	G	Fiferail	G
25 Court Park	G	Four Winds	H
26 Court Park	G	Furlong Gate	G
27 Court Park	G	Highfield	G
28 Court Park	G	Lampreys	G
29 Court Park	G	Pillars	D
30 Court Park	G	Pathways	G
31 Court Park	G	Peckwater	G
1 Court Park	F	Seafarings	G
5 Court Park	E	Stickledown	G
12A Court Park	F	The Resting Stones	G
15 Court Park	F	Torcroft	G
16 Court Park	F	Upper Pillars	D
1 Court Park House	D	1 Glebe Field	B
2 Court Park House	D	2 Glebe Field	B
3 Court Park House	D	3 Glebe Field	B
4 Court Park House	D	4 Glebe Field	B
5 Court Park House	D	5 Glebe Field	B
6 Court Park House	D	6 Glebe Field	B
7 Court Park House	D	7 Glebe Field	B
Badgers	G	Avoca	C
Cedar Rose	G	Bella Vista	F
Madron	G	Campions	F
Pilgrim Cottage	G	Cedarwood	G
Rose Lawn	G	Cowries	F
Beechlawn	G	Glebe Banks	G
The Paddocks	G	Lower Side	D
Whitley Lodge	G	Mandalay	D
2 Crosslands	G	Nightingales	E
3 Crosslands	G	Glebe House	G
4 Crosslands	G	Sou West	C
5 Crosslands	G	The Flat, Golf Club	D
6 Crosslands	G	Albermar	H
7 Crosslands	G	Broadsands	H
8 Crosslands	G	Cool Bawn	G
9 Crosslands	G	Cowrie House	G
10 Crosslands	G	Deveron	E
11 Crosslands	G	Dormers	G

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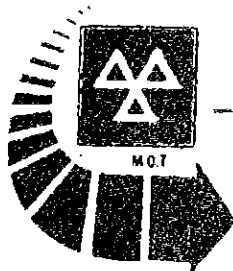
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THURLESTONE con'd.

East Seacombe	F	3 Linkside House	E
Goosewell Cottage	F	4 Linkside House	E
Greenways	H	Hilltop	G
Lea Side	H	Jasmine Cottage	C
Lower Furlong	G	2 Mead Drive	G
Lower Goosewell	H	3 Mead Drive	D
Mariners	G	4 Mead Drive	G
Rydens	G	5 Mead Drive	D
Seacombe	E	6 Mead Drive	G
Southerly	E	7 Mead Drive	D
Still Meadow	G	8 Mead Drive	E
Sunny Bank	G	9 Mead Drive	D
Thorpe Arnold	G	10 Mead Drive	F
West Seacombe	G	11 Mead Drive	D
Yarmer	G	12 Mead Drive	F
Yellow Sands	G	13 Mead Drive	D
Upper Goosewell	H	14 Mead Drive	G
1 Island View	D	15 Mead Drive	D
2 Island View	D	16 Mead Drive	G
3 Island View	D	17 Mead Drive	D
4 Island View	D	18 Mead Drive	E
5 Island View	C	1 Mead Lane	G
6 Island View	C	2 Mead Lane	G
7 Island View	C	3 Mead Lane	G
8 Island View	C	4 Mead Lane	G
9 Island View	D	5 Mead Lane	G
11 Island View	D	6 Mead Lane	G
12 Island View	C	7 Mead Lane	G
13 Island View	C	8 Mead Lane	G
14 Island View	C	9 Mead Lane	G
10 Island View	D	11 Mead Lane	G
Appledore	F	13 Mead Lane	G
Rowan Cottage	G	16 Mead Lane	G
1 Lambs Close	E	17 Mead Lane	F
2 Lambs Close	E	18 Mead Lane	E
4 Lambs Close	E	19 Mead Lane	F
5 Lambs Close	E	20 Mead Lane	E
6 Lambs Close	E	21 Mead Lane	G
7 Lambs Close	E	22 Mead Lane	E
8 Lambs Close	E	23 Mead Lane	F
9 Lambs Close	E	24 Mead Lane	G
10 Lambs Close	E	25 Mead Lane	G
11 Lambs Close	E	10A Mead Lane	E
12 Lambs Close	E	10B Mead Lane	E
3 Lambs Close	E	12A Mead Lane	E
Land Cottage	F	12B Mead Lane	E
1 Landpath	F	15 Mead Lane	G
2 Landpath	F	14 Mead Lane	G
4 Landpath	F	1 Meadcombe Road	G
3A Landpath	G	2 Meadcombe Road	G
GlenLyon	G	3 Meadcombe Road	G
2 Leonards Close	E	4 Meadcombe Road	E
4 Leonards Close	E	5 Meadcombe Road	G
6 Leonards Close	E	6 Meadcombe Road	D
8 Leonards Close	E	7 Meadcombe Road	E
1 Linkside House	E	8 Meadcombe Road	E
2 Linkside House	E	9 Meadcombe Road	G

THURLESTONE Cont'd.

11 Meadcombe Road	F	Strawberry How	G
12 Meadcombe Road	G	1 Parkfield	D
14 Meadcombe Road	G	2 Parkfield	D
15 Meadcombe Road	G	3 Parkfield	D
16 Meadcombe Road	G	4 Parkfield	D
17 Meadcombe Road	G	5 Parkfield	D
18 Meadcombe Road	F	6 Parkfield	D
19 Meadcombe Road	F	7 Parkfield	D
20 Meadcombe Road	F	8 Parkfield	D
21 Meadcombe Road	G	9 Parkfield	D
22 Meadcombe Road	G	10 Parkfield	D
24 Meadcombe Road	G	11 Parkfield	B
1 Meadfoot	G	12 Parkfield	B
2 Meadfoot	G	13 Parkfield	B
3 Meadfoot	G	1 Parkfield Walk	C
4 Meadfoot	G	2 Parkfield Walk	C
5 Meadfoot	G	3 Parkfield Walk	C
6 Meadfoot	F	4 Parkfield Walk	C
7 Meadfoot	G	5 Parkfield Walk	C
Flat 1 Merchants Garden	G	6 Parkfield Walk	C
Flat 2 Merchants Garden	G	1 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 3 Merchants Garden	G	2 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 4 Merchants Garden	G	3 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 5 Merchants Garden	G	4 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 6 Merchants Garden	G	5 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 7 Merchants Garden	G	6 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 8 Merchants Garden	G	7 Sea View Terrace	C
Flat 9 Merchants Garden	G	8 Sea View Terrace	C
Braeside	G	9 Sea View Terrace	C
Marshall's	H	10 Sea View Terrace	B
4 Henley House	G	11 Sea View Terrace	B
1 Henley House	G	12 Sea View Terrace	B
2 Henley House	G	13 Sea View Terrace	B
3 Henley House	G	14 Sea View Terrace	B
5 Henley House	G	1 Stoke Damerell	D
6 Henley House	G	2 Stoke Damerell	D
1 Arden House	G	3 Stoke Damerell	E
2 Arden House	G	4 Stoke Damerell	E
3 Arden House	G	Sunny Ridge	D
4 Arden House	G	2 The Downs	F
5 Arden House	G	3 The Downs	E
1 Tanworth House	G	4 The Downs	B
2 Tanworth House	G	5 The Downs	G
3 Tanworth House	G	8 The Downs	F
4 Tanworth House	G	9 The Downs	D
5 Tanworth House	G	10 The Downs	D
6 Tanworth House	G	11 The Downs	G
Orchard Brae	F	12 The Downs	G
South Riding	F	The Sea View Apartment	E
5 Old Rectory Gardens	F	1 The Drive	F
6 Old Rectory Gardens	G	Waskerley	E
7 Old Rectory Gardens	G	2 The Nook	D
8 Old Rectory Gardens	F	1 The Old Rectory	G
9 Old Rectory Gardens	F	2 The Old Rectory	G
10 Old Rectory Gardens	F	3 The Old Rectory	G
Byeways	E	Bay Tree Cottage	E

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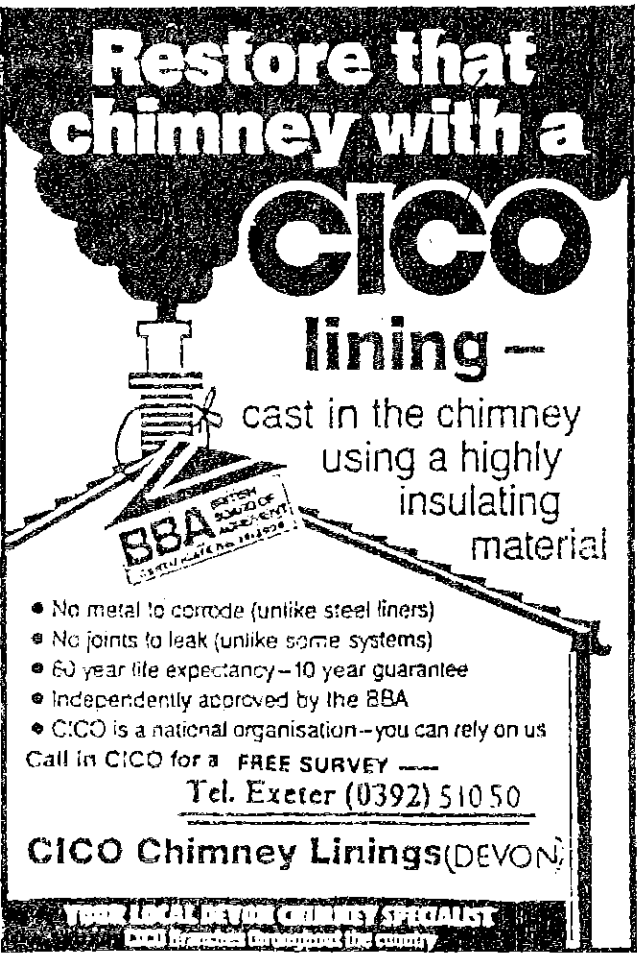
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Edens	G	3 Warren Court	E
Gulls Cry	G	Warren house	H
Heathfield	G	West Wing	G
Higher Furlong	G	4 Warren Court	E
Longstone	G	Langdon	E
South View	G	1 Wingfield	F
The Chase	H	2 Wingfield	G
The Fairway	G	3 Wingfield	F
1 Warren Court	E	4 Wingfield	G
2 Warren Court	E	5 Wingfield	G

BANTHAM

1 Stabling Cottage	D	Reynolds Park	G
2 Stabling Cottage	C	Sloopside	G
Aune Cross House	G	Sloop Inn	B
Aune Cross Cottage	G	Street Cottage	E
Aune Cross Lodge	F	The Beach Shell	E
Harcourt Cottage	G	1 The Cottages	C
Herons Reach	F	3 The Cottages	C
Westering	F	5 The Cottages	C
1 Avonside	E	6 The Cottages	C
2 Avonside	D	8 The Cottages	C
3 Avonside	D	8A The Cottages	C
4 Avonside	D	9 The Cottages	C
Aunecliff	G	10 The Cottages	C
Avon Cottage	G	The Dog Watches	G
Bantham House	F	The Nest	D
Buckland Park	G	The Old Shop	C
Buckland Park Farm	G	Tongue Park	F
Carew	F	West Down	G
Clock Cottage	G	White Horses	G
Farthings	F	Worthy	G
Higher Aunemouth Farm	G	The Boathouse	E
Higher Langmans Farm	B	Sherriffs	F
Higher Worthy	G	Gables End	F
Kearney Point	H	1 Riverside	E
Lower Aunemouth Farm	G	2 Riverside	C
Morstones	G	Crackelfield Cottage	F
North Upton	G	Flat Gnd Flr. The Whiddons	F
1 North Upton Barns	F	Flat, 1st Flr. The Whiddons	F
2 North Upton Barns	F	Ham Cottage	G
3 North Upton Barns	F	1 The Watch	D
Butterwell	F	2 The Watch	D
1 North Upton Cottages	B	3 The Watch	D
2 North Upton Cottages	B	4 The Watch	D
The Old Bakehouse	F	2A The Watch	C
Onnalea	G	4 Zealands Corner	A
Wilchard Cellars	G	5 Zealands Corner	A
Quayle	F		

BUCKLAND.

1 Kathleen Cottages	B	Hillgarth	G
2 Kathleen Cottages	D	Holbrook	G
3 Kathleen Cottages	E	Josephs Garden	G
1 Valleyside	C	Langmans Bast	F
2 Valleyside	C	Langmans Quarry	G
3 Valleyside	C	Greenbank Cottage	C
4 Valleyside	C	Marsh Cottage	E
5 Valleyside	C	Mayflower Cottage	C
6 Valleyside	C	Meadow Cottage	D
Abbotcoss	B	Old Farm	G
Appletrees	E	Old Farm Cottage	C
Barn House	G	Old Mill	F
Belle Vue	D	Pear Tree Cottage	E
Broadacre	F	Peep O Day	G
Brook Cottage	G	Springhill	F
Buckland Cottage	C	Rock Cottage	G
Buckland Lodge	G	Rose Cottage	E
Buckland Mill	G	Seven Steps Cottage	D
Burgt House	G	The Malthouse	F
Canford House	G	The Old Chapel	G
Cedar Cottage	E	Old Coach House	G
Clannacombe House	H	Well Cottage	C
Clannacombe Lodge	F	West Buckland Farm	G
Clematis Cottage	C	Langmans West	E
Cob Cottage	D	Wisteria Cottage	F
Cross Patch	E	Yorick	E
Dolphins	E	1 Grove Cottage	D
Edgecombe House	G	Old Rifle Range	E
Elm Cottage	G	May Cottage	G
Greenbank	C	Wuz Ruin	D
2 Grove Cottage	D	Ross Dale	E
Hawks Rise	G	1 Woodlands	D
Henrietta Cottage	C	2 Woodlands	D

THE BANDS: A - up to £40,000. B - 40,001 to 50,000.
C - 52,001 to 68,000. D - 68001 to 88,000.
E - 88,001 to 120,000. F.- 120,001 to 160,000.
G - 160,001 to 320,000. H - 320,001 and over.

THE TAX BILL: Latest figures indicate that tax bills in the bands
Will be as follows in Thurlestone.

A - £324.18. B - £378.21. C - £432.24. D - £486.27.
E - £594.33. F - £702.39. G - £810.45. H - £972.54.

You can't beat
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Monday-Saturday 11.30-2.30, 6.00-11.00
Sunday 12.00-2.30, 7.00-10.30

LUNCHTIME

Home-made Soup
Smoked Salmon Pate
Hot Prawns
Various Sandwiches
Pasties
Ploughman's
Lasagne Verde
Jacket Potatoes
Cottage Pie
Fish Pie

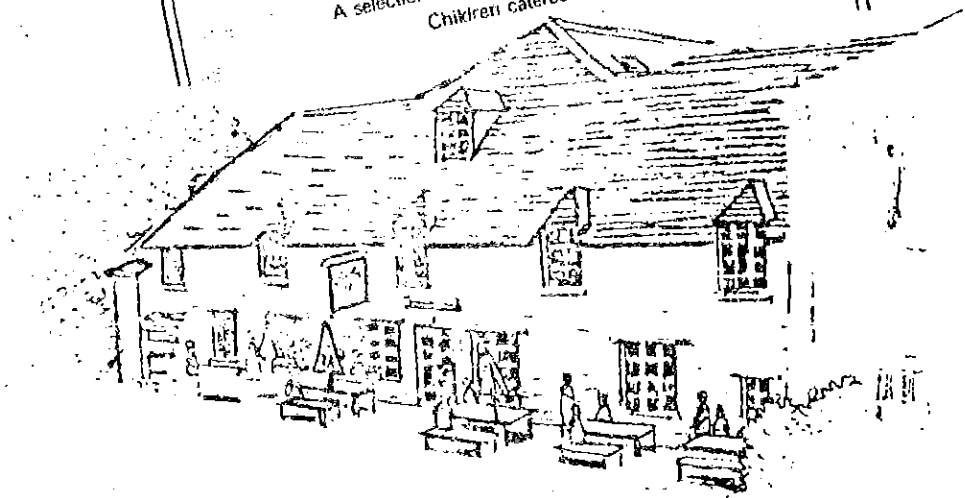
EVENINGS

Prawn Cocktail
Home-made Soup
Smoked Salmon Pate
Fillet Steak
Sirloin Steak
Grilled Plaice
Chicken Kiev
Lasagne Verde
Grilled Cod
Scampi
Selection of Salads

Sweets to include:-

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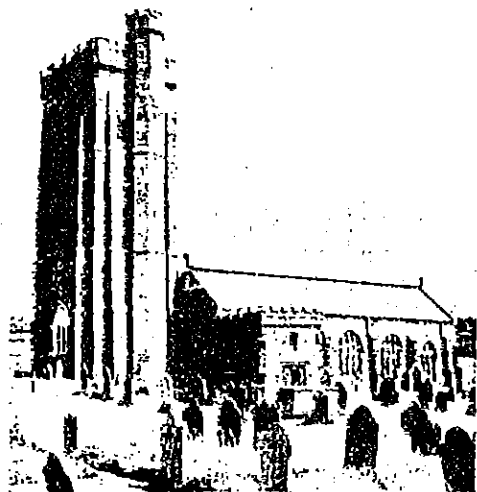
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+ + + + + M I L K + + + + +



The Rector Writes

ON A visit to our elder son in London, just before Christmas my wife was enabled to visit Lambeth Palace, not the parts normally opened to the public, but an area where a friend of our son's was engaged in sorting through large piles of ancient documents mostly relating to a 19th Century Church society which did considerable work assisting financially in building and repairing many of the churches of our nation. As they moved through the large area where he was working, he indicated the vast quantities of documents, piled from floor to ceiling which still required sorting and sifting and then the considerably smaller number of piles which had been completed. As my wife glanced at the plans on top of a half completed pile she was quite astonished to see that out of all the churches in the land it might have been, the plans were in fact of St. Michael Devonport, the church in Plymouth which we had both attended since childhood and where in fact, we were married!

After my wife had expressed her surprise, the young man concerned asked whether there were any other churches we were particularly interested in, and was, of course, told of "All Saints Thurlestone" and "All Saints South Milton", and he promised to consult his records and let us have sight of any interesting material. The search for South Milton proved fruitless, but eventually I received a folder of photo-copies of a few documents concerning Thurlestone. One an impassioned plea from the then Rector, Revd Frank Coope claiming that the church was in a disastrous state, and in part in imminent danger of collapse, especially the partly thatched roof!

In the enquiry sheet as to how many parishioners there was the Rector had entered 350, and in response to the question how many "are" Poorer" the answer was 320! with the note that 320 excluded the gentry, farmers and hotel keeper.

Many of you will know that in response to a number of requests the PCC has undertaken to "Pew" the north aisle of the church to make it match up better with the South aisle and to assist the elderly in kneeling, sitting and standing where the pews give better support.

This exercise necessitates disposal of a number of the wooden chairs presently in church in addition to the 'spares' stored in the Tower vestry, the latter to be replaced with what, we hope, will be more comfortable, but also more convenient 'stacking' chairs.

It was in the very week that I was myself investigating the replacement chairs and Churchwarden Jim Woodrow was arranging the disposal of the wooden chairs, that I first had sight of the documents from Lambeth Palace - and here's my second co-incidence, the other papers in the folder dealt with the provision of 151 wooden chairs for the Church in 1903, some of which we were at that very instant engaged in replacing!

Incidentally, there did seem rather a lot of paper and form-filling involved in view of the subsequent grant received which was just £25!! Even allowing for inflation it doesn't seem much, although bearing in mind that that would have been 25 golden sovereigns, I daresay we should add a couple of noughts to it, which would make it very worthwhile.

Much of the restoration work then under consideration had to be deferred - (or cancelled) due to an under-estimate of the cost by the Architect! He had under-estimated by £1,000 which was no mere sum. If my guess of two more noughts is correct that's an under-estimate of £100,000 by today's costs. I wonder if they retained his services?

Peter S. Stephens.

Special Holy Week and Easter Services etc in the United Benefice are as follows:-

April 4th - Palm Sunday	6 pm Passion Play at South Milton
April 5th - Monday	7.30pm " " at Thurlestone.
April 8th - Maundy Thursday	8.30am Holy Communion at Thurlestone
	7.30pm Holy Communion at S. Milton
April 9th - Good Friday	10.30am Ante Communion & Litany
	at S. Milton
	2pm Last Hour Devotion at
	Thurlestone.
April 11th - Easter Day	9.30am Eucharist)
	3pm Egg Service -) S. Milton
	8.00am Eucharist)
	11.10am All Family Service } -
	Thurlestone

LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS.

A KEEN RNLI supporter has Dahlia tubers now available.

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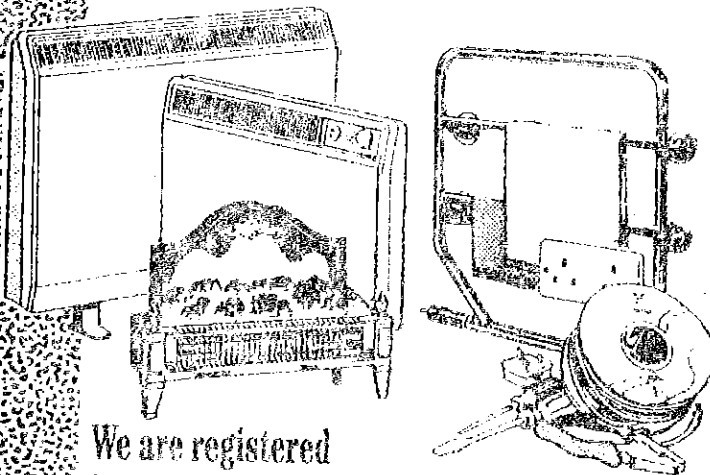
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Pat Machin's Puzzle Corner

W O R D P A I R S

From the list of words, take out two which go with each clue.
This will remove 36 words, leaving just one. What is it?

CLUES

- (a) Two linked with court.
- (b) Two words with boxing
- (c) A Scottish resort
- (d) Wonderful
- (e) A football team
- (f) Two dailies
- (g) One who looks up
- (h) Two connected with oil.
- (i) Two dogs
- (j) A boards game
- (k) Two anagrams
- (l) Two palindromes
- (m) Two linked with Hack.
- (n) Redeeming soldiers
- (o) Two capes
- (p) Much loved heroine
- (q) Two going with stamp.
- (r) One who steals

WORDS.

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. Ass | 20. Pocket |
| 2. Cod | 21. Remark |
| 3. Day | 22. Shadow |
| 4. Rig | 23. Tennis |
| 5. Able | 24. Counter |
| 6. Army | 25. Darling |
| 7. Back | 26. Radiant |
| 8. Deed | 27. Repaper |
| 9. Duty | 28. Steeple |
| 10. Fort | 29. Trounce |
| 11. Mail | 30. William |
| 12. Pick | 31. Chihuahua |
| 13. Ship | 32. Salvation |
| 14. Star | 33. Sheffield |
| 15. Album | 34. Telegraph |
| 16. Boxer | 35. Wednesday |
| 17. Gazer | 36. Finisterre |
| 18. Grace | 37. Camphorated |
| 19. Gammon | |

(ANSWERS APPEAR ON ANOTHER PAGE IN THIS ISSUE)

TAKING AVOIDING ACTION...

There was I in the lounge at the Golf Club with a newspaper, a cup of coffee and a touch of lumbago when a member came up and greeted me with "Hullo, how are you?". That, it seems to me, is always a dangerous question to put to a senior citizen in Thurlestone. It is an open invitation to describe the symptoms of current disorders and then, as a corollary, to listen to the questioner's medical history.

I wished to avoid this; indeed I was in no mood to bandy civilities with anyone about anything. How should one react without spoiling a friendship or at least giving offence? With a smile, I caught his eye and answered "All the better for seeing you" and resumed my reading. He took the hint and moved on.

N.C.O.



ALL SAINTS SCHOOL THURLESTONE

THE SCHOOL has made a very busy start to the new year with a much increased roll (now at seventy) and the prospect of a number of new ventures being planned. The Friends of Thurlestone School held a bazaar/jumble sale at the beginning of February and raised over £450 for school funds. This event would have passed almost unnoticed had it not been for the inadvertent sale of a Parker Knowle armchair which was loaned to the school. This brought in far more publicity than we could have expected (we even made the front page of the local paper) and we are most grateful to the lady from Loddiswell who thought she had obtained a bargain but who kindly returned the chair when she read of our plight. Now, when visitors come into school, they defer with a subtle movement of the eye and say, almost in whispered tones, "Is that the chair?" The question is almost rhetorical.

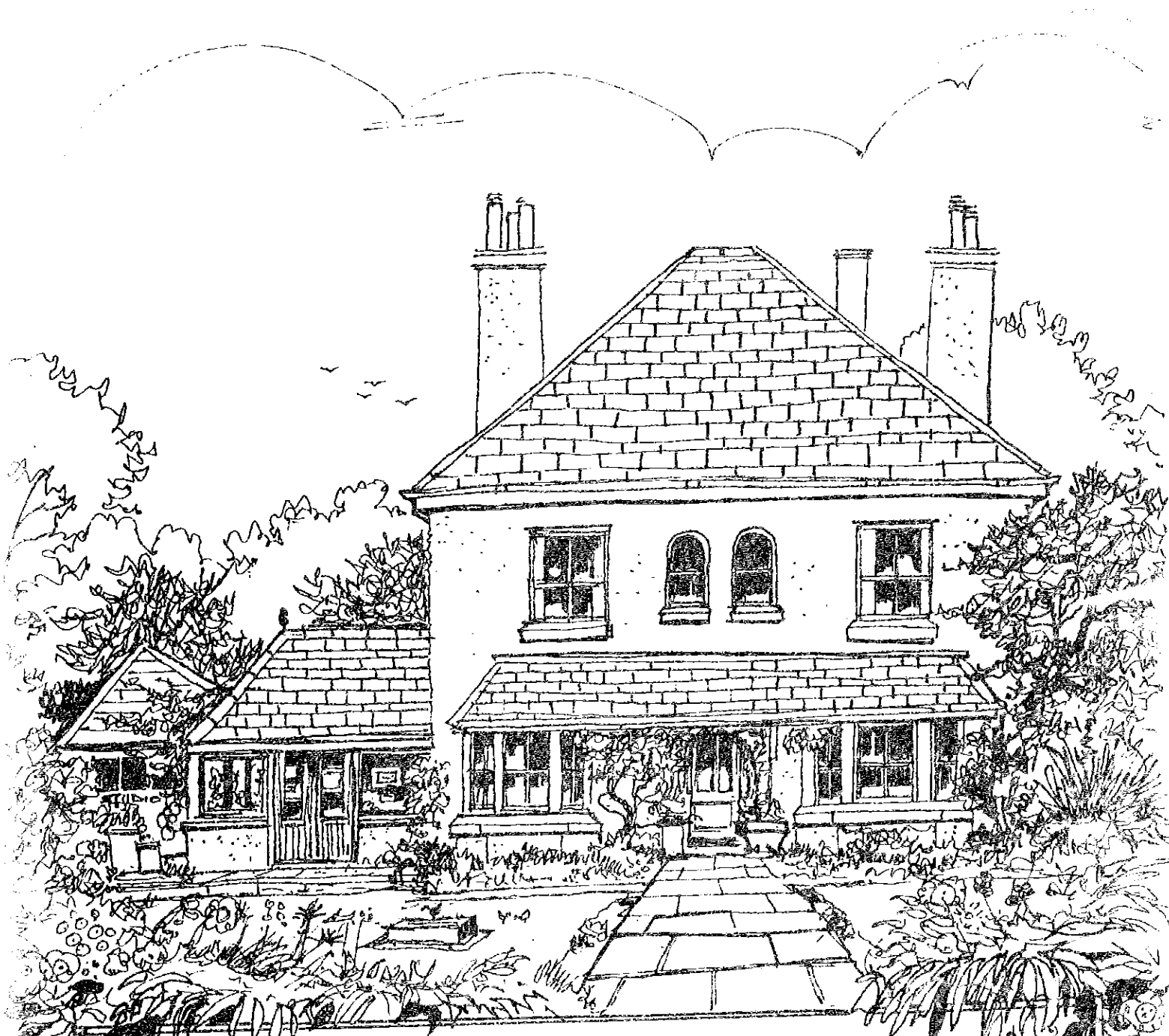
The children have raised, mostly through individual sponsorship, almost £300 towards the charity Help the Aged and will be presented with certificates shortly. One child, aged only four, raised £41 single-handed! In addition to various national appeals the school independently tries to raise money for a different charity each term.

Two children from the school have narrowly missed selection to the Devon Under-11 and Under-9 chess teams. Jacob Surrey, aged 11 and Richard Bromfield (9) qualified in the earlier rounds and missed selection by only half a point in the final tournament. Nevertheless, to have come to close is itself a considerable achievement, and of course, their success encourages others in the school. At present we have more than a third of the school (about twenty six children) who regularly come to chess club on a Monday evening. About the same number attend Mrs Jackson's school band, also after school, and with equal regularity and enthusiasm. It seems to us that such involvement not only encourages skills and commitment, but also encourages children to think positively about curricular aspects of school life.

Many of you will know that we have had planning permission for an office extension which will be built on the west side of the school. We expect work to begin by about the middle of March and the extension should be completed by early next term. We are hoping that the office will not only be a much needed and valuable addition to the school, but also enhance the appearance of the front of the building.

ALUN WILLIAMS
Headmaster.

LOCAL NEWS: The NSPCC Jumble Sale on March 6th at the Parish Hall raised £310.



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Every day, one of our fully equipped mobile patrols visits various houses and commercial properties in the Thurlestone, South Milton and Bantham area.

If you are concerned about leaving your house or holiday home for long or short term periods and would like a daily or weekly visiting service, please do not hesitate to contact us without obligation at the address shown in the below advertisement.



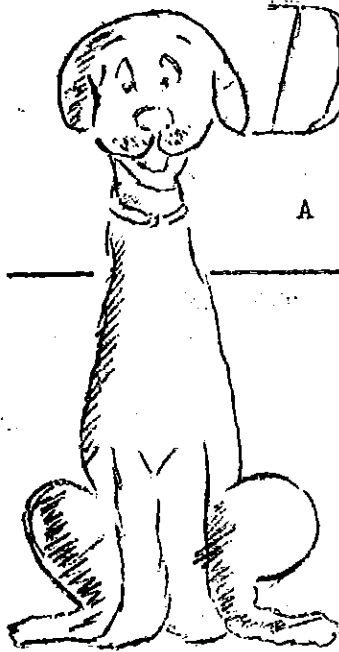
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Drabblemania

A MISCELLANY OF THOUGHTS AND REPORTS

WEATHER FORECAST

Swallows and Martins usually arrive around the middle of APRIL. If they arrive earlier this indicates a fine summer. The later they arrive, the shorter and more unsettled the summer will be.

Old weather lore

+ + + + +

THE COUNCIL TAX AND SECOND OR HOLIDAY HOMES

This information is dated 22nd February 1993.

If a property is let to a person(s) and as a consequence that property becomes their sole or main residence, in other words their home, then they will be liable for Council Tax in the usual way. This will apply even if they are only in residence for a few days.

If a property is unoccupied and available for short term lettings for over 140 days in any one year then it should be assessed for business rates and Council Tax will not be applied to it. As a consequence the income is paid into a 'national pool' and effectively lost to the area.

If a property is unoccupied and available to let for less than 140 days in a year or is being used as a second home, then it will be subject to Council Tax and a 50% discount will apply.

(Source: Community Charge & Rating, South Hams District Council
February 22nd 1993)

+ + + + +

Drabblemania understands that the 50% discount to second home owners will cost the District Council an estimated one and quarter million pounds - which has to be made good by the amount of Council Tax you and I pay !

+ + + + +

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Apparently children are no longer going to see those mainstays of nursery rhymes and fairy tales which we have had for many generations, because publishers are forcing authors to keep pigs out of children's books. Horse riding, Ballet, and grassy lawns are also out of favour 'because they are symbols of wealth and too middle class. It would seem that the dead hand of political 'correctness' is now to hit children's books.

P.R.O:

S P R I N G . . .

ON every spry, expectant twig
The tears of April shine,
The lapwing finds his furrowed field
And I'll attend to mine.
A fallow stretch and a heap of turf
Back of a dry-stone wall,
I'll dig and lay through the spring soft day
And hear the linnet call,
Marshall the annual exodus
Of citizens of the soil.
God of the Garden, smile on us,
My rustic friends and me -
And noon will bring a promise bright
Of summernoons to be!
Weary of breath and bone, I'll sink
My spade with the westering sun
And a thrush shall come to the hawthorn tree
To praise what I have done!

JUNE M. ALLSO

+ + + + +

A good leg will fall; a straight back will stoop; a black beard will turn white; a curled pate will grow bald; a fair face will wither; a full eye will wax hollow: but a good heart, Kate, is the sun and the moon; or rather the sun and not the moon; for it shines bright and never changes, but keeps his course truly.

(From Henry V)

+ + + + +

"THERE ARE MORE SAINTS IN CORNWALL THAN IN HEAVEN"

Yet they have little or no place in the recognised list of canonised martyrs. Many Cornish saints were simply visitors from other Celtic areas such as Ireland, Wales and Brittany. However, the patron saint of the miners was Piran, who has given his name to several villages in the County, such as Perranwell. It is reputed that he arrived in Cornwall round about 490 and was said to have floated across the Irish sea on a millstone. St Piran's Day (5th March) is still celebrated in various ways. He founded an Oratory (or church) at Perranzabulee, which suffered a chequered career, but described in 1873 by Dr. Benson, Bishop of Truro at that period, as possibly the oldest surviving sanctuary in the land.

Whenever you have visited Penzance area you must surely have visited St. Michael's Mount, a place with strong associations with the female saint Keyne, said to be one of the numerous offspring of King Brychan of Wales, all of whom were saints!. Saint Keyne bestowed on the castle a stone chair said to give domination in marriage to whichever partner sat in the chair first! A similar power was said to be bestowed by the water of St. Keyne's Well, a belief which has led at least one bride to carry a phial of the water into church with her. Many saints wells or springs are reputed to have healing powers for specific ills - probably due to a high content of minerals and other natural substances lacking in normal drinking water.

+ + + + +

The second Devon and Cornwall hot air Balloon Fiesta will be held at Tavistock College on May 29th 1993. Last year's Fiesta attracted more than 40 balloons and crews. All being organised by the Lions Club.

H.R. ADAMS

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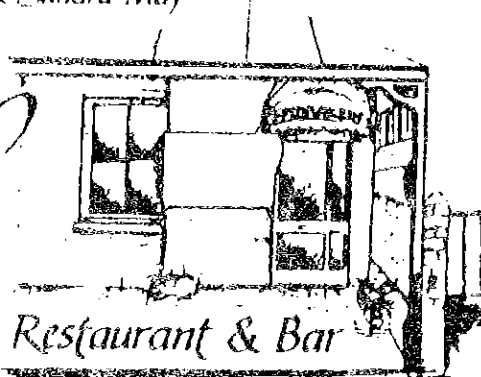
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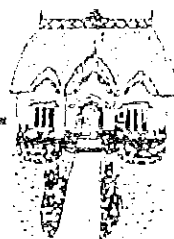


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D R A B B L E M A N I A P a r t I I I

Before the Embankment was constructed beside the River Thames in the nineteenth century, London's wide and sluggish river often froze over. In severe winters from the fifteenth to the early nineteenth century, the period known as "The Little Ice Age", the ice was sometimes thick enough for a 'Frost Fair' with shops, sideshows and other activities including ox roasting on the ice!

In 1778 the river was frozen over for nine weeks. The last Frost Fair took place for just a few days in 1814, when an elephant walked down the Thames !

+ + + + +

OMENS IN THE HOME (4)

Many of the mystical superstitions which have surrounded the home have largely disappeared, yet it is perhaps not surprising how many people still pay heed to occurrences during the course of the day which are said to presage omens of the future.

Such beliefs go back a long way. Even moving home has its own secrets of good and bad luck. The first three things that should appear in any empty house before any furniture even were installed is: a Gold Coin, Honey and Bread. These three together, it is said, will mean you will never be short of money (coin), or happiness (honey) or food (bread). In order to ensure that a happy atmosphere would always remain in the home, it was a custom for friends to give gifts of plants and flowers to place here and there in the rooms. Sweet smelling plants waft perfume to every corner of the home, and this perfume means that only good spirits of good luck and joy will be present from that moment onward.

+ + + + +

WHEN AGRICULTURE was primitive and the countryside was nearly empty of inhabitants and largely virgin, and when no effective central authority existed to enforce daily orders, the 'Manor' was simultaneously a collective farm, a unit of local administration and police and defence organisation, its inhabitants were the lord of the manor, his retainers and the free and unfree tenants who were bound to each other by a network of obligations and services - everything was pretty basically simple and straightforward. Today I would suppose the free don't owe the bank anything and the unfree have the millstone of a mortgage in excess of the value of their house !

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END

POLICE VOICE...GOES TO A PANCAKE RACE..

At no stage in my career did I ever imagine myself policing a Pancake Race and, regretfully, I doubt that I will ever do so again! I must thank all of you who turned up for your excellent co-operation and friendly reception. It gave me a great chance to meet more of you and a good time was had by all.

Those of you who attended the December Parish Council Meeting will recall that I suggested a speed monitoring device be installed at the entrance to Bantham. This is in hand and you are on the list. Hopefully the procedure will provide the necessary evidence required to take steps to slow down traffic as it approaches the village.

Regarding a Neighbourhood Watch for the Main Road in Thurlestone, I have as yet received no response to my plea in the last issue of Village Voice. I would reiterate that this area must be a potential target for burglars as well as being their main entry and exit route. I appeal to you all to set up a Scheme here.

I am due to move to Newquay in May and it is doubtful I will be writing in Village Voice again. I would like to thank all of you for your support and kindness and until May please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any problems.

With best wishes for the future

Dean Sharp
Community Constable
March 1993

THURLESTONE AND SOUTH MILTON HORTICULTURAL SHOW:

We are delighted to say the the Jumble Sale held on 20th February raised over £150 and the proceeds will go towards the expenses of putting on our Annual Show on 7th August. It is at the Parish Hall Thurlestone this year - see you there!

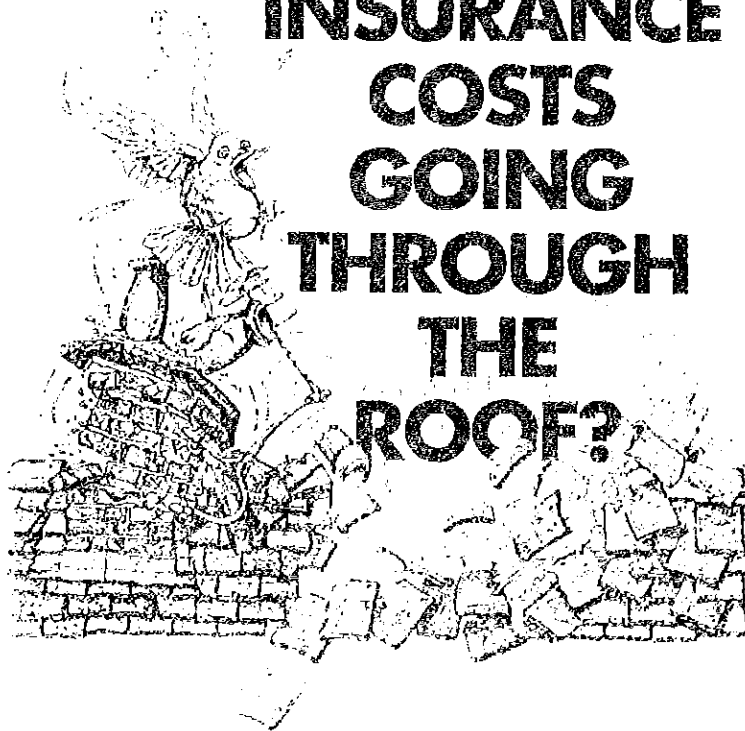
May we take this opportunity to thank all of you who donated goods, cash and gave their time to help sell and to clear up afterwards.

There are 2 'bodies' who are more often than not left out when it comes to the 'gratitude lists'. The first is the Parish Hall Committee because without the hall we could not put on our fund raising and social events so easily. They keep a good roof of our ever improving facilities. The second is the Village Voice team. Our magazine gives us the benefit of its pages for lots of valuable free advance advertising. We know the arrival of each edition is eagerly awaited and read from cover to cover by just about the whole Parish.

Warmest thanks!

Greenfly
March 1993

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The Village Voice Short Story is...

DIVE

by **Ken Hardy** - which is the pen name
of a world-famous short story
writer

MARU stood on the ledge, his toes curled over the edge, and watched the big wave as it came seething in over the rocks far below. The muscles in his legs gleamed for a moment in the sunlight and then relaxed. The wave was not big enough and he knew that the pool exactly beneath him, despite the white froth, was only half full of water.

To the tourists waiting on the rocks to see him dive, Maru was just a brown wood-carving against the white heat of the sky. Each time the water began to tumble over the rocks which lay in an almost unbroken line across the bay and sealed the pool from the sea, they shaded their eyes with their hands and wailed. They were too far away to see Maru shiver, although the rocks on which he stood were shimmering in the heat.

Maru was afraid. He was afraid now each time he climbed up to the ledge, but the thought of the gleaming coins which the tourists had thrown into the waters of the pool conquered the fear.

In the four years that Maru had been diving for money he had changed from a skinny, but well-muscled shrimp of a boy into a finely proportioned man. And that was just the trouble. For the past year he had been putting on weight. On his last dive last season he had scraped the bottom of the pool with his chest - even though he had strained upward until his back had bent like a bow.

Last season he had dived as soon as he had seen that it was a large wave that thudded against the rock barrier; now he waited until the rocks themselves gave him an all-clear signal - a long jet of spray as the wave struck.

This was to be his last season of diving and Pei would take over his pitch. There was a place for him next year in one of the fishing boats if he had enough money to buy a share.

The jet of spray rose in the air. The leg muscles tightened and the ledge was empty. The rocks rushed up to him. Then water. The tourists gasped. Some women turned away. The froth boiled and he was underwater. His audience waited.

When his head broke the surface Maru grinned happily. He hadn't touched the bottom this time. Above the fizzing of the froth dissolving, he heard the hiss of released breath from the waiting people. The next day the waves were bigger, or

they seemed so, the tourists were generous and each time there were many coins in the pool but Maru was not happy. The woman was too close.

She had appeared on a nearby ledge early in the morning and was still there when all the tourists went back to their hotels for lunch. In the middle of the afternoon she reappeared.

It was not that she was ungenerous. Quite the opposite. Each time before he dived she threw a shower of coins into the air and watched them fluttering over and over until they hit the pool like raindrops.

Maru did not expect to see the woman again, but she stood on the neighbouring ledge when he climbed to make his first dive the next morning. He was relieved to see that this time there was a man with her. And from the way the man held her arm Maru decided that this was her husband. He concentrated on watching for the spray signal.

When he glanced round he saw the woman throw some money into the pool. She turned to the man, and from her gestures Maru could see that she wanted the man to do the same. The man frowned and shook his head.

This Maru could understand. The woman had already put enough money into the pool for both of them. A man must look after his money. Perhaps the man was saying up to buy a share in a fishing boat. Women did not understand such things.

The woman evidently did not. Maru could hear angry words. They were still arguing when he dived.

Each day the woman came. Each day the man was with her. The man did not hold her arm any more- and he did not throw any money into the pool. **Maru watched them closely. It took his mind off the thought that he was too heavy to dive any more.** Once he was so interested that he missed the spray signal twice running and the tourists below had to wait twenty minutes for another wave to fill the pool.

That night Maru counted his hoard of coins. He counted it several times and got a different answer each time, but there was no doubt that he had nearly enough money. If the tourists money rolled in at this rate he could stop diving at the end of the month.

Maru smiled at the tourist woman the next day. The coins went fluttering down. The man grabbed the woman's arm. For a moment they looked as though they were going to fall. Then the woman regained her balance - and slapped the man's face. The man stared at her for a moment and then started to scramble back down the cliff to the ground.

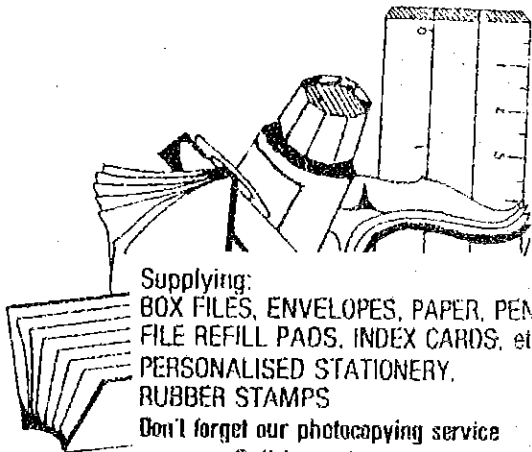
The woman watched him for a moment and then turned back to the pool. Maru was sure she was crying, but she kept her face down towards the water.

She fumbled with her hands for a moment, and then something that gleamed turned over and over into the pool. Maru was puzzled. More money. If this went on he would stop diving next week. Before he had time to consider the money-flinging woman any more the spray shot up. He sprang out in his dive.

Before his feet had left the ledge he knew he was too early. The spray had not risen high enough. The pool would be only half full.

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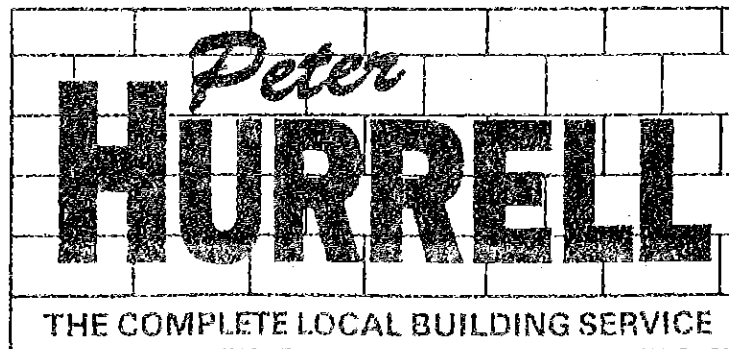
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SHORT STORY CONCLUDES:

He flashed down. It was useless, but he twisted and wriggled in the air in a hopeless effort to slow up. And he struck the water almost flat. His lungs felt as though they were going to burst and the whole of his chest was a pain.

The rocky bottom rushed towards him. He folded his arms around his head instinctively. He struck and a pain tore along his left arm. In a daze he started to pick up the coins with his right hand. Thin lazy red streaks swayed in the water around him. His legs struck a rock and he pushed hard. When his head broke the surface he fainted. A woman screamed.

It was Pei who dragged him out. Pei who brought Maru round by slapping his face. And it was Pei who prised the coins and aring that gleamed in the sunlight from his clenched and useless left hand.

Two days later Maru was about again. He was a figure of some importance among his own people, for it was not everyone who had a plaster cast put on his arm by the white doctor. And despite the big purple bruises Maru grinned. The man who had stood with the woman on the ledge and had refused to throw money into the pool had paid handsomely for the return of the ring.

"A first quarrel," the hotel-keeper had said, and winked. "And talking of honeymooners, when are you going to get married, Maru, my lad?" Maru had grinned even more then, but said nothing. Now he was a fisherman, and fishermen could put on as much weight as they liked. Marriage could wait for a while.

LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS..

The Kingsbridge and Thurlestone Branch of the NSPCC has for many years been very active - resulting in thousands of pounds being raised for this worth-while charity, whose work with deprived and abused children seems to increase daily.

The branch has continued to flourish and has just completed another successful year, but, sadly, several of our senior members now feel that the time has come for them to make way for new people.

So we very much hope that some volunteers will come forward to join our Committee. This only entails about four meetings a year and involvement in the various fund-raising events.

If you feel you would like to join us, please get in touch with:

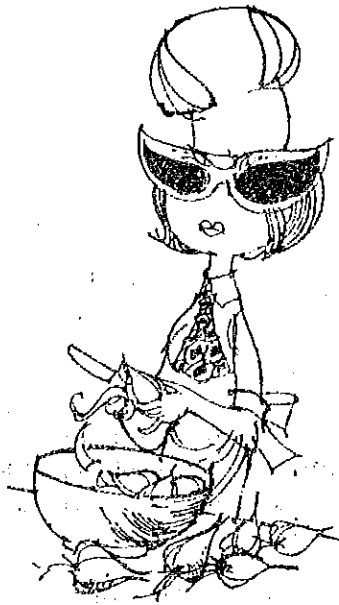
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HERRING & MACKEREL, both oily fish, are high in protein and vitamin content. There are a variety of ways they can be cooked and eaten, either hot or cold.

Both these recipes use cider. A Devon dry or scrumpy is preferable of course, but a medium bottled cider would do.

Mackerel in Cider Sauce.

Small onion, peeled and very finely chopped.
1 Tabbsp. flour and a knob of butter.
3/4 pint medium dry or dry cider
Salt & freshly ground black pepper
4 Mackerel (approx 6 oz each) filleted.
2 small eating apples, peeled, cored and finely sliced.
Freshly chopped parsley.

Melt the butter in a large frying pan. Add the onion and fry gently for 5 minutes or till golden and soft. Stir in the flour and cook for a further 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in the cider gradually. Season to taste and add the mackerel fillets. Cover the pan and simmer gently for approx. 15 minutes till the fish is tender. Test with a fork; the flesh should flake easily. Put the mackerel on to a hot platter or serving dish and keep warm. Add the apples to the pan, increase the heat slightly and simmer for 5 minutes or until the sauce is reduced to the consistency of double cream and the apples are glazed. Adjust seasoning. Pour over the fish, sprinkle with the parsley and serve immediately.

Soused or Sozzled Herrings.

8 Herrings (cleaned, with heads and fins removed)
For the pickle - 1 pint dry cider, 1/4 pint water, 3 sliced onions, juice of 1 lemon, 3 crushed garlic cloves, 4 bay leaves, 2 sliced carrots, 1 teasp. Thyme, 1 tabbsp. Parsley.

Lay the fish in a large dish, head to tail, add 1/2 teasp salt and 6 black peppercorns. In a pan, put all the ingredients for the pickle and bring to the boil, simmer for approx. 45 minutes, strain and pour over the fish, which should be just covered. Cook in a slow oven (250F; 120C) for six or seven hours (or overnight). Eat them cold. They are even nicer after two or three days when they are matured a little.

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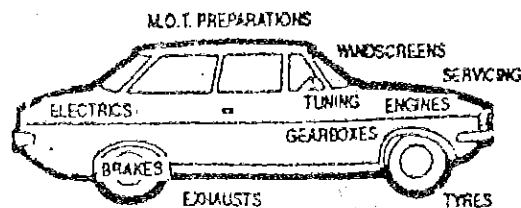


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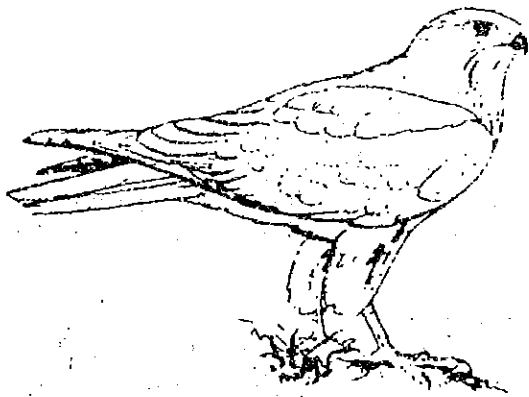
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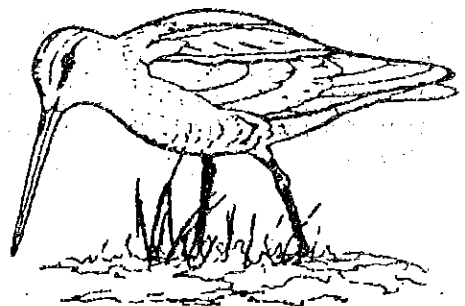


HARRY HUGGINS

AS SUMMER approaches (we hope) someone who visits might want to see birds. A few words therefore on where to take her, or him. I say "her" deliberately - there are just as many females interested in birding as there are males, more if the membership of our bird society is any indication. Not twitching, the single minded chasing of rarities, that is a male phenomenon, being more than a bit senseless and a throw-back to the hunting instinct, when the father of the palaeolithic family went out to hunt sabre-toothed tigers & if they didn't hunt him. Recently I read a book by an American professor of biology (why do the Yanks seem to write more readable books than our people?). He had worked with tribes in New Guinea only just out of the stone age and by analogy with them he reasoned 1. that early men killed very few sabre-toothed tigers, nor anything else for that matter, though if they did they did an awful lot of talking about it. 2. the ladies who found fruits and nuts and dug up roots were the people who really fed the families.

So where to go? To begin with, nowhere. Like charity, birdwatching starts at home and you look out of the window. Of course a substantial garden is a great help. But it is not essential to live at Clanacombe House nor the Old Rectory. In our patch on the Mead we have no worthwhile trees and little in the way of shrubs over five feet high, but we get a lot of birds - Robins, Blue Tits, Wrens, Hedge Sparrows, Pied Wagtails. Most gardens have those, and a Sparrowhawk often drifts through, a brown bird, almost pigeon sized, with short stubby wings and long barred tail. She - the large ones are always she, the males are smaller and coloured blue if they survive to maturity - flies over our lawn at an altitude of about three inches to snatch a small bird availing itself of our hospitality. Once, recently, a Merlin, a tiny falcon with pointed wings, little bigger than a Blackbird, flew across. A few winter in South Devon, and one would be a real prize for someone from elsewhere to see.

I know I denounced twitching, but rarities or semi-rarities are the cherries in the cake and we all like to see them. In our dozen years or so on the Mead we have had Subalpine Warbler (from southern Europe) last autumn my wife drove out a Wryneck (used to breed in England, not now) - she and



HARRY HUGGINS continued:

the dog were trying to dislodge the resident rabbit; and at the other end of the size scale there was once a Black Stork, strayed from the forests of eastern Europe. Well, not actually in the garden, but right over it!

A Desert Warbler hit the headlines last autumn. It was in a garden in the Mount Gould area of Plymouth; we didn't go to see it, so I cannot comment on the garden, but assume it is far from large. This little bird, a stray from central Asia, is like our Whitethroat, but paler and more undistinguished looking. It must surely have gone unrecognised had not the garden been that of Peter Aley, a very fine birder and a prime mover in Birding South West - you ring 0891.884500 to ask what's about.

Early this year there was a Yellow-browed Warbler in the back yard of one of the buildings in Kingsbridge Fore Street. This had wandered from Russia; as luck would have it it came to the garden of South-west Travel where another professional birdwatcher, Paul Dukes, who runs Cygnus Wildlife Holidays, happened to be looking out of the window.

All the above were birds which turned up when someone happened to be looking and recognised what he saw. You wonder how many were not seen or were not identified if they were.

But if someone comes to stay, you cannot just tell them to look out of the window; you have to take them somewhere.

One of my favourite bits of Thurlestone, the Leasfoot area, has gone to pot. SWW's Clean Sweep, as well as making a clean sweep of our bank balances, has swept away the birds for there is nothing now in the sea to attract them. The interesting gulls and grebes and divers have stopped coming.

However, there are a few favourite places which are worth telling about. I have yapped before about the tidal road at Aveton Gifford and make no excuse for doing so again. You can watch from your car. This is not just laziness, though I admit that I don't walk if I can sit. The birds are so used to cars that they take no notice, hence you can watch and get really close to them. There are Oystercatchers and Redshanks, ducks and for someone who is into gulls there are hundreds of them. Often there is a Little Egret, sometimes a Kingfisher, and last autumn we saw two American waders on the same day - Lesser Yellowlegs and Pectoral Sandpiper.

Then, for a stroll, leave your vehicle in the little parking place at the Bigbury end, where the road goes off up the nasty winding hill. A valley runs inland from the river; you go up one side and down the other. You cross some stepping stones to follow a public footpath through someone's garden and along their drive. There are always Nuthatches and Treecreepers, lots of tits, including Long-tailed if you are lucky, Goldcrests in winter, Mistlethrushes and Jays (scarce around here) and if you wander to the right along the road at the far end of the path you will find Bullfinches.

Next, to what we call the airfield. You drive as for Soar Mill Cove, but where the road eases off to the right to go down towards the hamlet and the hotel, you take a left work which brings you to a large car park. Thence you walk along a lane towards the wartime pill box where there is a sign saying path to the cliffs or words to that effect



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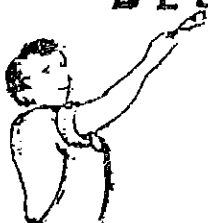
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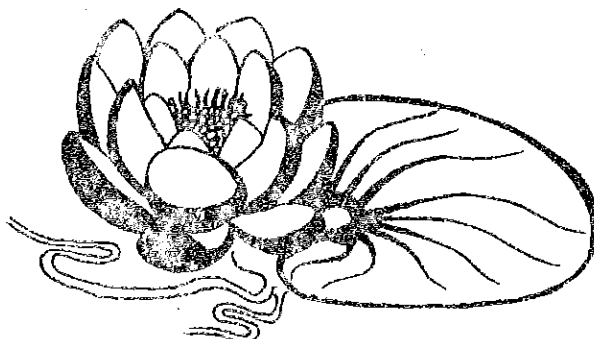
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CLARINS

— PARIS —

HARRY HUGGINS continued.

The fields are apt to be inundated with sheep - if you take a dog, keep it on a lead. You pass some ruined barns with what had been a tumble down farmhouse, which someone in his wisdom has been trying to renovate, doubtless to let as desirable holiday accommodation. Work has stopped; there are neither services nor a road. I do not like the recession any more than anyone else does, but am not sorry it has stopped what was going on there. Beyond the farmyard and through a gate is the coastal path, which here is divided into two - one strand goes along the cliff top, the other a few hundred yards inland. You can either go straight ahead out to the cliffs, or turn right as we often do and follow the stone wall along to where there is a magnificent view down into Soar Mill Cove. Especially at autumn migration time there are lots of birds, Northern Wheatears, warblers, Swallows and House Martins working east to cross the channel where it is narrower than here, and once there was a flock of over 2,000 Linnets, with attendant birds of prey. Then we turn back east along the cliff path; with luck there will be a Raven's nest, and in April there are Shags nesting in the coves. Usually we don't go out to Bolt Head, but bear left down the valley inland, which the map calls Sarehole Bottom. There are a couple of ponds and a stream running down the valley, with plenty of bushy cover for birds. Incoming migrants can teem in spring. In autumn, sometime in October, you can see migrating Ring Ouzels, like Blackbirds with white shirt fronts. If you are incredibly lucky you will find a Dartford Warbler, a little purplish brown thing with a red waistcoat and a tail which sticks up. Once when we took a party from Devon Wildlife Trust there one sat on a bush in front of us and sang. They all thought we knew it was there and would perform to order. Nothing was further from the truth!

Try West Charleton Marsh. Coming out of Kingsbridge you find Marsh Lane, a tiny road between houses on the right just before the Ashburton Arms. It is best to leave your car in the side road by the pub, but you can bump down Marsh Lane to where there are two or three muddy parking places near the SWW sewage works. The latter and a nearby pond are excellent birding value - pied Wagtails, which are grey, Grey Wagtails, which are yellow, and wintering Chiffchaffs. There is a public footpath down the left hand side of the marsh; look out for Shelducks and Curlews and at migration time odd waders such as Little Ringed Plovers and Spotted Redshanks.

Especially search for a Kingfisher around the water by the wall which cuts the marsh off from the estuary (built by French POWs in Napoleonic times). It might be here, or over the wall by the sluice. If you climb over the stile you find yourself on the foreshore of Kingsbridge estuary. You can turn left and walk along the foreshore to Wareham Point, opposite the yachts moored above Salcombe and where Frogmore Creek goes off. Have a care, it is very slippery; I have fallen on my backside and so have many of my friends.

The best time to bird on an estuary is when the tide is flooding, because it brings the birds in. But not here. No way. Close to the stile is a high rocky outcrop impassable at high water and if tide is coming in you will get cut off. The bank behind the foreshore is pretty impenetrable and if you got up that there is farmland which for all I know is impenetrable too. So you would have to wait until the tide went out again, by which time you would be cold and hungry.

HARRY HUGGINS concludes:

You might not starve; there is plenty of sea beet growing along the shore, but I am not sure you can eat it raw - we always cook it like spinach, which is what it is.

So go along as the tide is falling - if you get to the shore about two hours after high water it is about right, the mudflats will just be uncovering and the birds will be fairly close; later they will be very distant. Summer is not the best time, but at other times there ought to be Curlews and Godwits, Redshanks and Dunlins, a few Brent Geese and hundreds of Wigeons.

It is worth walking along to Wareham Point where you will see Great Northern Divers and the Little Grebes swimming about. Usually there are Goldeneye ducks - the drakes are black and white, the females have grey bodies and brown heads. There may be Red-breasted Mergansers too.

If you don't want to return the way you came you can go along the side of Hrogmore Creek (past another outcrop impassable at high water) and turn left where a public footpath is signed at the old quarry, now grown up with trees. You follow a lane inland and cross a field where it runs right - thereafter the lane is not a public right of way and Mr. Rogers is apt to get excited if he finds you. Then over a stile into a grassy field with a duck pond. There is another stile with a little path which brings you into West Charleton Village, or you can follow a path to the left across the grassy field and so back to Marsh Lane.

If it is ducks you want, go to Beesands. You can park in the village where the road meets the sea and walk to the left along to Beesands Ley (the proper name of which is Widdicombe Ley). It is a good stretch of water, not so big as Slapton Ley where birds can be rather distant. If you wish you can drive along the bumpy road by the beach and leave your car right by the ley.

There will be Mute Swans and several species of ducks - Shovelers, with massive bills, Gadwalls (recognised by their black sterns), Tufted Ducks, whose males are black and white, and Pochards, diving ducks like the Tufteds; the males are grey with chestnut heads. Once we saw an Osprey there, and once a Purple Heron, very rare in Britain, came stalking out of the reeds.

It is not so good since they got rid of all the caravans which used to be there; in windy weather it was very useful to be able to set up one's telescope in the lee of a caravan, but you can't have everything.

SOLUTION TO PAT MACHIN'S PUZZLE CORNER:

- a) 13.23 b) 3.22 c) 10.30 d) 21.5 e) 33.35 f) 11.34 g) 14.17
h) 4.37 i) 16.31 j) 7.19 k) 24.29 l) 8.27 m) 1.28 n) 32.6
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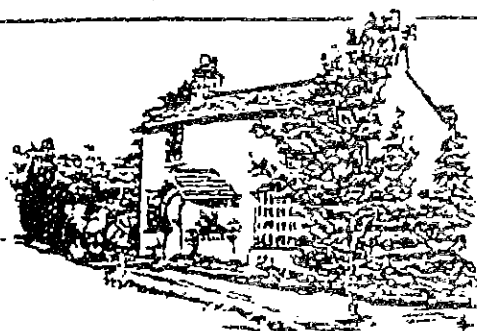
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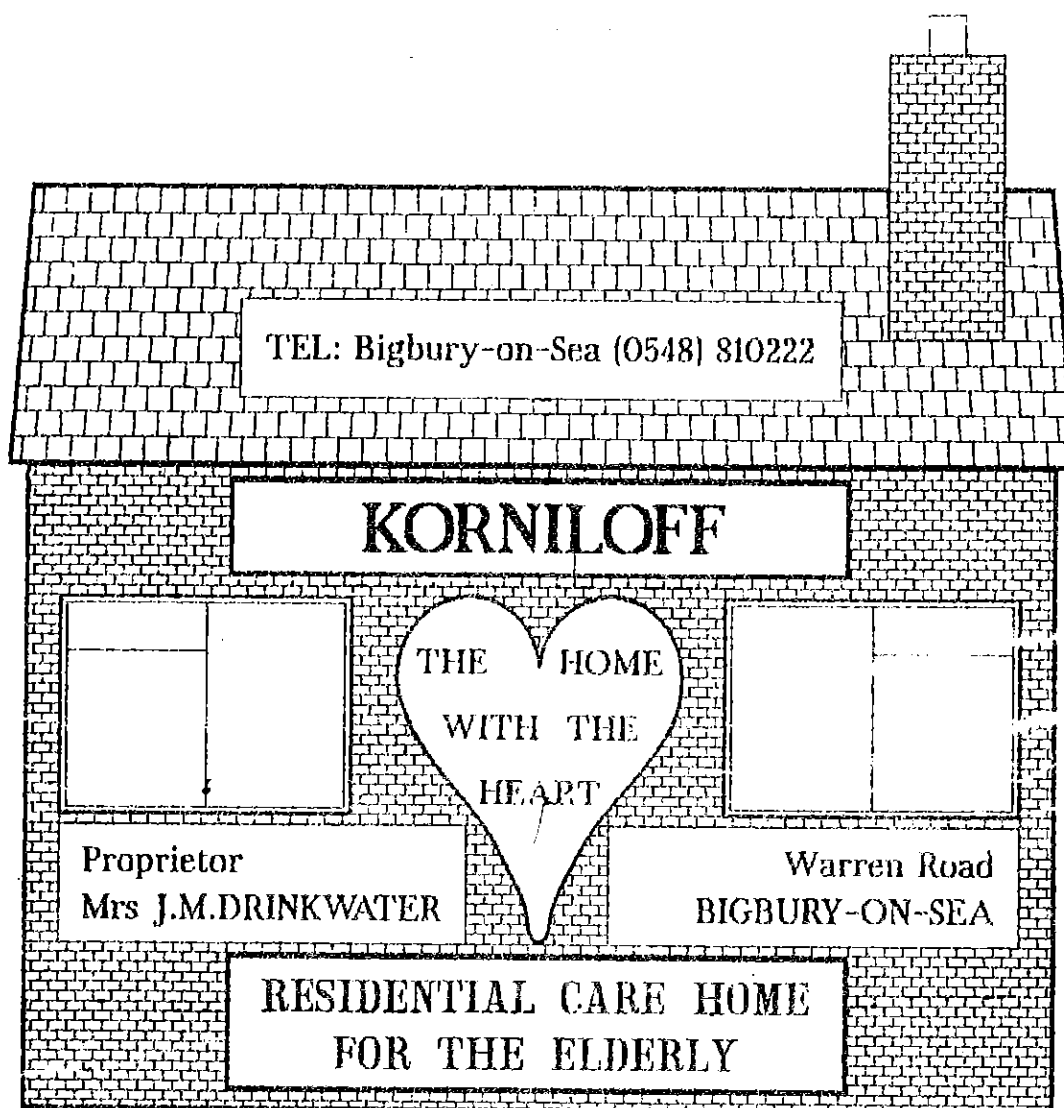
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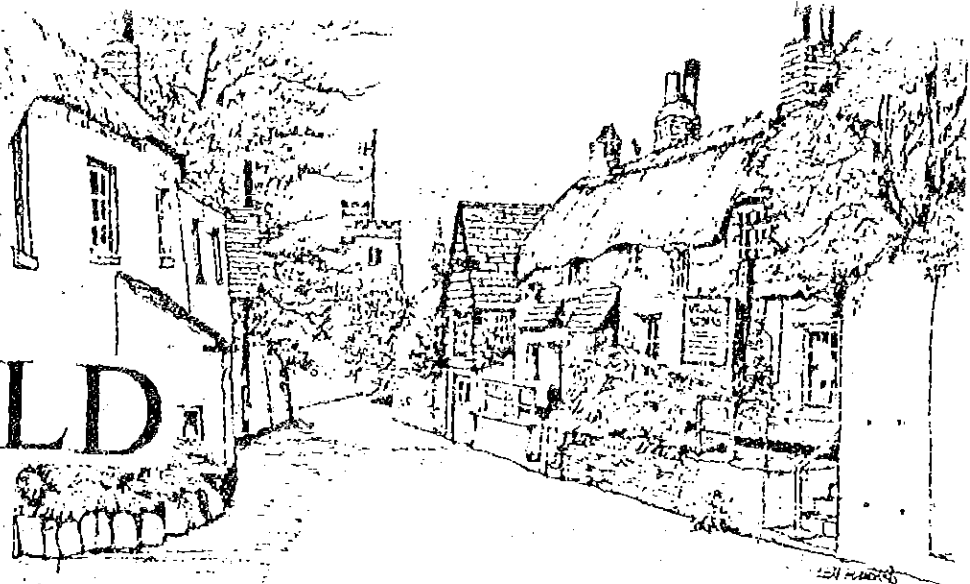


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Neville OSWALD reports



THE LIDSTONE DIARIES

THE LAST ISSUE of Village Voice contained abstracts from the diary of my great-grandfather, who was born in Thurlestone in the year 1600. I was born here exactly a hundred years later and, like him, have kept a diary. Now, in 1770, I have time to think at leisure of all the various aspects of village life and the influences that external events have had on them.

Surely the outstanding feature of my lifetime is that I have been able to enjoy an age of peace and prosperity. With food both plentiful and cheap, we and many of our friends have raised large families and, thanks to improved standards of living, have seen more children survive the hazards of infancy and early childhood.

Thurlestone has always struck me as being remarkably self-sufficient. In addition to our meat, corn, fruit and vegetables, we make our own cloth, blacksmiths tend our horses and fashion farming implements, boots can be made and repaired, we have our slaughter house over at Buckland and there are several cider presses in the parish. Simple houses are assembled without difficulty and those who can afford them build impressive houses for their families. Indeed, when my father moved from a small-holding to a mixed farm of over a hundred acres, he built a new house much on the lines of Worthy, the Polybank's house on the broad from Thurlestone to Kingsbridge. Then for our leisure, we have fishing, shooting and the snaring of rabbits.

1720. There was a rare to-do up at Clannacombe, a couple of months ago. A party of ladies and gentlemen came down from London to stay for a few days. The men brought their swords with them which, I suppose was alright, not that many of us possess one; maybe they thought they might be attacked by footpads on the way down or need to defend themselves if they wandered about down here. Anyway, we expect such people to carry swords when visiting strange places.

Their entertainment on the Saturday started with a visit to a cock-fight in Modbury, to which most of them rode over. They enjoyed the sport, drank too much and were fascinated to see, throughout the meeting, a man gesticulating in a large basket about eight feet above ground and suspended by a rope slung over a tree. He was being punished in the recognised fashion for failure to pay his gaming debts.

LIDSTONE DIARY Continued:

Roistering went on into the evening when an argument was followed by a challenge to a duel, in which the challenger dispatched his opponent. A well-known J.P. was summoned and, after having satisfied himself that the contest was fair and square, gave a verdict of manslaughter with a light sentence.

1728. In my youth, I often wondered whether to cut loose and try my luck in London but, having no special purpose in mind, it came to nothing. I was interested therefore when John Gay, whose family in Barnstaple we knew well, set off to embark on a literary career. At first, he paid his way as an apprentice to a draper and then, finding a market for his poems and essays, he became acquainted with and accepted by the leading writers of the time, including Addison, Pope and Swift. He wrote to me suggesting that I should visit him to see his Beggars' Opera on the stage; Having never been to London before, I was impressed by the bustle and contrasts of the capital, but did not really take to the opera with Polly Peachum in the midst of all those robbers and ne'er-do-wells in Newgate Gaol. (John was a good mixer and went on to acquire friends in high places with whom he enjoyed a life of ease. When he died in 1732, he was buried in Westminster Abbey).

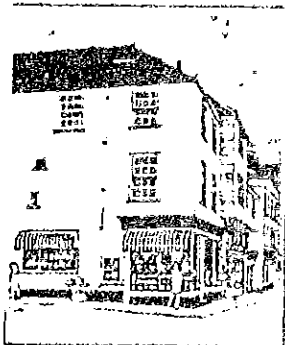
1731. Devon saw the last of the plague some 80 years ago, but since then we have been increasingly troubled by smallpox. There is now some smallpox nearly every year in large towns with epidemics every few years. Almost everybody catches it sooner or later and villagers visiting crowded places may be fatally infected, especially if they are adults. An estimated one in 13 of the entire population dies from it and those who survive often have unsightly pock marks on their faces.

As far as our parish is concerned, we are trying to recover from a terrible outbreak with 20 deaths from smallpox last year and another 12 this year; out of a population of about 350, these 32 deaths represent almost one-tenth of all the people living in the parish. Many children have died, but perhaps the saddest have been several young adults with families, who have been cut off just when they were needed most.

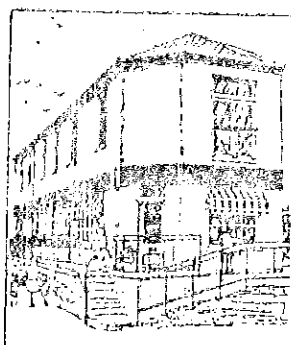
1740. I have been elected to be one of the parish's two Overseers of the Poor. It is an honour, I feel, to help to perpetuate a system that goes all the way back to the Poor Law Act of 1601. Quite a lot of our old books have survived, some of the entries making rather sad reading. For example, one pound a month to old Mr. Shepherd, 3 shillings for a pair of shoes for Mrs. Prowse, 6 shillings monthly to a 'woman' for her bastard child, 5 shillings for Mr Luscombe's funeral, 10 pence a week for a bottle of port for Mrs Pope. Gifts in kind, particularly timber and foodstuffs, are most welcome for distribution in the winters.

With cider and ale the staple drinks for people of all ages, there is obviously some drunkenness in Thurstlestone; indeed it is a national vice of all classes. Fortunately we have avoided most of the

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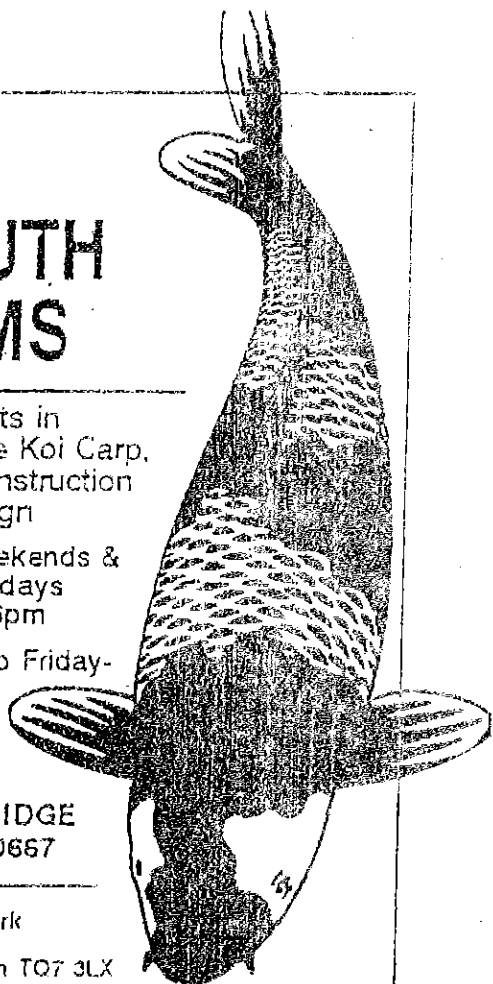
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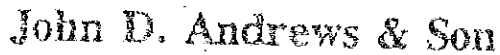
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VILLAGE VOICE can only be distributed FREE to RESIDENTS of the villages of the Parish.

The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the Parish Rate, but it was founded on behalf of the Parish Council and is delighted to remain under the Council's sponsorship.

But this does not mean that the views and opinions expressed in these pages are the views or opinions of any member of Thurlestone Parish Council and should be ascribed only to the authors concerned.

Your copy is delivered to you by our volunteer distributors. In Thurlestone, this is dairyman Peter Bromfield, and in Bantham and West Buckland, Mrs. Jean Hurrell. Extra copies may be bought from local newsagents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Morley at the Village Stores.

There is also a subscription service, which already sends copies to readers all over the country at an annual cost of £6, which includes postage.

MAINTENANCE

GARDEN RUBBISH COLLECTED..

D. BICKLE

Telephone: (0548) 560831.

Evelyn B. Snowden,
"Cranbourne"
16 Backshay Close,
South Milton,
Nr. Kingsbridge.

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Lidstone Diary concludes:

disastrous consequences of cheap gin that is drunk in towns throughout the land (it continued until 1751 when a still tax was imposed).

Vagrants, of course, are a problem. We try by one means or another to rid ourselves of any newcomer who might be a burden on parochial funds but, with every other parish trying to do the same thing, a permanent state of friction exists between us.

1751. At last something is being done about our highways. Although we have had a privately owned turnpike between Kingsbridge and Plymouth for some years, it has never been properly maintained, mainly because the ultimate responsibility rests with JPs, who are not really interested in potholes. Since an official Turnpike Trust was formed last year, the whole roadway has been transformed. In other words, as long as we can get our farm produce and wool to Kingsbridge or even Churchstow, the way is clear. Now it is the first part of the journey which is causing trouble. In winters and bad weather, wheeled transport cannot attempt the narrow, steep and slippery lanes to Kingsbridge. Instead, trains of packhorses are organised to transport farm products and wool. As these are usually difficult to pass, solitary riders usually start early to keep ahead of them.

I mention wool because it is now a very important part of the parochial economy. Housewives are able to spin and weave at home and earn half as much as their husbands who work on the farms. The provision of spinning wheels and looms and the distribution and collection of wool and made-up cloth are now highly organised, most of the cloth finding its way to Totnes for finishing before being sent to London.

Maybe a descendant of mine will continue the diary in the next issue of Village Voice.

LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS..LOCAL NEWS..

Michael Allen of Salcombe has raised over £2,000 for The British Heart Foundation in sponsorship by taking part in the Heart Cycle Ride in the past two years.

In this year's event he sets off from Tiverton on May 30 and hopes for generous sponsorship in his efforts to raise funds for equipment for Derriford Hospital's Cardiology Department.

So, if a handsome young man cycles up to your door with his sponsorship form, please give him all the support you can.

W.R.Stevens

Chairman, Thurlestone, Salcombe and
District Heart Foundation.

THURLESTONE
PARISH
HALL

FIRST a big thank you to all who supported and came to cheer on the runners at the village second pancake race. There were thirty two representatives from the age of ten to their seventies. They included L The Sloop Inn - splendid effort; both the Bridge Clubs; the W.I.; Meals on Wheels - very well thought out entry; 'Tramp'; Bowls; Parish Church; Horticulture; THURLESTONE + Hotel, School, Country Club and the ladies section of the Golf Club.

Winners: Ladies 1st: Kathryn Bromfield (School)
2nd: Anna Bates (Thurlestone Hotel)
3rd: Ellen Seccombe (Golf Club)

Men 1st: Lewis King (Thurlestone Hotel)
2nd: Richard Parkman (Sloop Inn)
3rd: Phil Way (Sloop Inn)

We were very grateful to the Thurlestone Hotel who again provided the pancakes for the race.

SECOND thank you goes to the Parish Hall Committee and all residents of our three villages who have given me such great support over the five years I have been associated with the hall - not forgetting the publicity given by Village Voice. The money you successfully raised at the Annual Fair has now been spent on the improvements. This has led to an increase in bookings for the hall.

I am delighted to be able to hand over the hall and its finances in very good order to a most capable new Chairman and I feel certain you will give him all the support that I have received.

The new committee for 1993 are:-

Chairman	Mr J. Slinger
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs E. Spear
Hon Secretary	Mrs D. Stone
Hon Booking Secretary	Mrs J. Lane
<u>Management Committee</u>	
Horticulture	Mr D. Yeoman
Keep Fit	Mrs M. Oswald
W.I.	Mrs A. Grose
Parish Church Council	Mrs P. Mc Donald
Parish Council	Mrs V. White
Thurlestone Bridge Club	Mr A. Caunce
Wednesday Bridge Club	Mr A. Luddington
Bowls Club	Mr J. Dayment
Art & Drama	Mr L. Hubbard
Football	Mr S. J. Sullivan
Hall Maintenance	Mr R. Drummond

JOAN MACKENZIE

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APRIL.

Tues 6th Annual Parish Meeting, Parish Hall 7.30pm
 Wed 21st Tramp Walk, Dartmoor foothills.
 Thurs 22nd All Saints Fellowship "Well, What Do You Know?"
 The Rector's Quiz, Rectory Barn 2.30pm
 (Sat 3rd Pearson Play Group "Great Jumbly Sale" Parish Hall 2pm.

MAY.

Wed 5th Tramp Walk, Dartmoor foothills.
 Thurs 6th County Council Elections, Parish Hall,
 Sat 8th Friends of St. Lukes Hospice. Coffee Morning, Parish Hall
 Tues 11th Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall 7.30pm
 Tues 18th Thurlestone Village Quiz. School 7pm
 Wed 19th Tramp walk, Moors foothills.
 Sat 22nd T & S.M. Horticultural Show Plant Sale, Parish Hall.
 Thurs 27th All Saints Fellowship "Musical Tea-Party"
 Rectory Barn 2.30pm

JUNE

Wed 2nd Tramp Walk, Ivybridge/Moors foothills.
 Thurs 3rd Bridge Drive in aid of Church. Thurlestone Hotel.
 Wed 16th Tramp walk. Nonsworthy Bridge/Moors,
 Tues 22nd Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall 7.30pm

JULY

Wed 7th Tramp Walk. Horrabridge/Moors foothills
 Wed 21st Tramp Walk. Hexworthy/Moors.
 Sat 24th Thurlestone Church Fete, The Rectory, 2.30pm
 Tues 27th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30pm

AUGUST.

Wed 4th Tramp walk. Moors.
 Sat 7th T & S.M. Horticultural Show. Parish Hall.
 Wed 18th Tramp Walk. Dart Valley/Moors.

SEPTEMBER.

Wed 1st Tramp Walk. Horrabridge/River valley.
 Tues 7th Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall 7.30pm
 Wed 15th Tramp Walk. Burrator Reservoir.
 Fri 24th Harvest Festival Supper at Parish Hall, follows 7pm
 Service in Church.

OCTOBER.

Wed 13th Tramp Walk. Coastal Path
 Thurs 14th Bridge Evening in aid of Army Benevolent Fund.
 Thurlestone Hotel.
 Tues 19th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30pm

NOVEMBER.

Thurs 4th Conservative Bridge Evening, Thurlestone Hotel.
 Wed 10th Tramp Walk. Local countryside.
 Sat 20th Church Christmas Bazaar, Parish Hall 10.30am
 Tues 30th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30pm

DECEMBER.

Wed 8th Tramp Christmas Walk. Pickwick Inn.

FEBRUARY 1994.

Mon 14th Valentine's Day Barn Dance at Parish Hall.

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