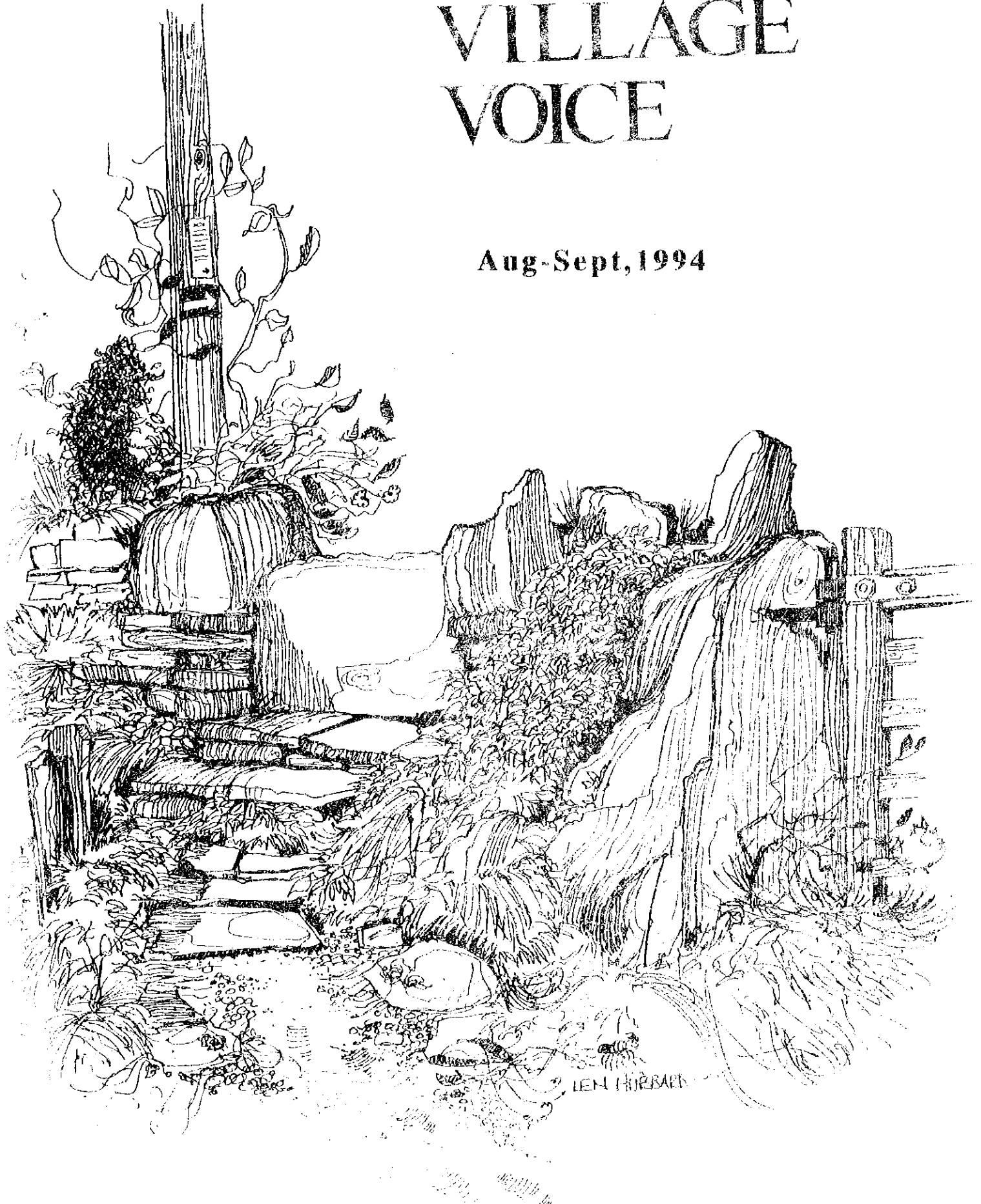


VILLAGE VOICE

Aug-Sept, 1994





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Founded by Dudley Drabble.

Cover pictures by Len Hubbard

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at

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TWELFTH YEAR of PUBLICATION.

AUG-SEPT, 1994.

AFTER THIS ISSUE, there will be four more Village Voices. And then there will be no magazine at all. It will soon be forgotten. Papers and magazines that die are not mourned for very long. Who, for example, remembers the News Chronicle? Or the London newspaper sellers crying: "Star, News and Standard"? Both the Star and the Evening News are gone and many of today's Londoners have never even heard of them.

Not that Village Voice was ever possessed of those sort of circulation figures. And as a result will be forgotten all the quicker. A new resident, settling in next Spring, will not miss it - they will not have seen it. Perhaps someone will mention that once upon a time every resident had a free 30-page magazine delivered with the milk every two months, and the new resident will think that was a good idea. But that's all.

But...but...but...Perhaps we are being un-necessarily gloomy. Perhaps Village Voice will survive. Perhaps new editors and printers will come forward.

Many locals have said how sad they are at the idea of losing their magazine. Many have written kind things to us as you will see from the letters on our Postbag Page and elsewhere in this issue.

And we hear talk of a group planning a take-over. We hear talk too of the possible involvement of the W.I. And if that talk turns into action then the whole parish will be delighted!

Who knows - one day we may all be celebrating Village Voice's 21st anniversary.

NOW THAT REALLY WOULD BE A PARISH PARTY!

PUZZLE CORNER

A
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CATHEDRAL CITIES.

The following are anagrams of cathedrals or cathedral cities in Great Britain. See if you can solve them.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. LEY | 18. LAST BANS |
| 2. OR PIN | 19. BINDER HUG |
| 3. OR RUT | 20. DUG FLORID |
| 4. HAD RUM | 21. CHIEF DILL |
| 5. TEE REX | 22. CHORE REST |
| 6. ROD FOX | 23. BUSY RAILS |
| 7. INN COLL | 24. STORE CREW |
| 8. LOST RIB | 25. PROVE LILO |
| 9. HER SECT | 26. CUBAN TERRY |
| 10. SAG GLOW | 27. CHEERS ITCH |
| 11. LAST SUP | 28. MA BRING HIM |
| 12. WHIT SIC. | 29. GOUT CREELS |
| 13. ROW CHIN | 30. NITRE CHEWS |
| 14. PASS HAT | 31. MERRY TO SINK |
| 15. HOD REFER | 32. STEMS WINTER |
| 16. BARE NEED | 33. HOT REP BROGUE |
| 17. CORNY VET | 34. DID VASTS |

Just a Joke...Or Two...

A senior member of our golf club recently visited his former workplace where he was shown the latest computer, which was able to recognise spoken words.

"Try it", said the manager, "ask it whatever you like".
 "Where is my father now?" In a flash the computer replied:
 "Playing golf at Bigbury". "That's impossible", said our member, "because he died several years ago".

Back came the computer: "The man your mother married is dead, but your father is playing golf at Bigbury".

A local amateur dramatic society put on a popular play in the village hall, but it attracted smaller and smaller audiences. Then a man rang to book four seats for that evening's performance.

"By the way, what time does it start?" he asked.
 "What time can you manage?" came the reply.

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While we're marking 50th anniversaries of the war in Europe, we missed the anniversary of another victory in Europe, a battle which if lost, would also have changed our lives for ever. And that anniversary was, of course, the 179th of the Battle of Waterloo. But here, with the help of a splendid letter written on that battlefield by the great grandfather of Anne Jenkins of Buckland, who has kindly lent it to us, we mark that anniversary all the same.

Thank You, Gallant Lads

(Said Lord Wellington)

My dear Mother,

Monday, 19 June
Neville - 1815

I hope you excuse my not writing to you before but since we left Enghien on Friday morning at 3 o'clock, I have not had the least opportunity. We received orders to march at one in the morning in consequence of Bonaparte's having crossed the frontiers and attacked the Prussians. Col. Woodford was at a Ball with Lord Wellington at Brussels when the news came and they all set off directly for their different posts and arrived at them about the time we were ordered to start in their Ball dresses - We marched at 3 o'clock (the 16th) thro Briene-le-Compte where we halted for about 4 hours and then went on towards Neville and were going to Wironac when we heard cannon firing on the other side of Neville. We then marched forward and reached the place of action at Quatre Bras at about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 - having marched 25 miles since 3 in the morning. The men were very much fagged indeed. The 1st Brigade of Guards being in front went into action immediately and in a very little time lost 500 men and nearly 30 officers killed and wounded between the 2 battalions. (Promotion for Glanville at least 10 steps or perhaps 15). Our Brigade was drawn up in a road on the left of a thick wood (Bois de Bossue) to be ready to relieve the 1st Brigade and about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 we received orders to march thro the wood in line and charge the French on the other side. However, they retired beat throughout the day by the English, Brunswickers and Dutch tho' not half our army had arrived. The Belgians ran at the 1st Shot. We then retired to our position and I being 1st for duty went on the out-lying piquet it being the 1st time I was on this duty and nobody to direct me. I kept a sharp look out and did the best I could, by placing my sentries to give the alarm in case any attack should be made. The night, however, passed off very well tho' the groaning of the wounded was rather disagreeable or so for the first time. I was very hungry the next morning having had nothing to eat since 10 o'clock the day before but a ship biscuit. I was called in about 4 o'clock. I then went to sleep and awoke about $\frac{1}{4}$ past 5 when I found Whitaker had sent me some bread and meat and a bottle of brandy which, I assure you, was a great comfort not being able to draw rations.

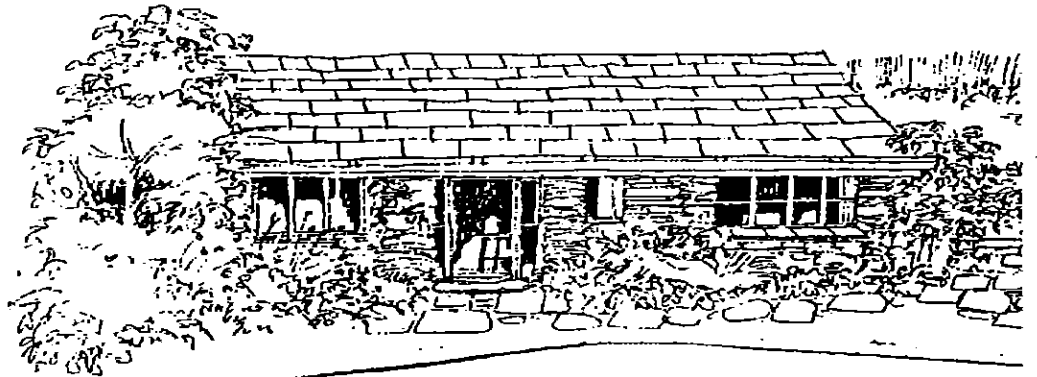
Lord Wellington, who had pulled off his ball dress, commanded and we found it necessary to make a retrograde movement rather to the left to communicate with the Prussians who had been also attacked and beat the French back but they made an attack in the middle of the

night with the whole of the cavalry and broke the Prussians who retreated in consequence. We also retreated (the 17th) to a position about 8 miles on the other side of Genappe in the direct road to Brussels. The name of the place I do not know. You will see it in the Gazette and it will be remembered by Europe as long as Europe is Europe. We had just arrived, pitched our blankets and the men began to make themselves comfortable when cannoning was heard and the Rear Guard was engaged with the French. The Rear Guard was composed of cavalry who came up in the night. The French took up a position opposite ours. Our Right rested on a wood in which the Light Infantry of our Division was posted it being most likely that would be the point the French would make their attack on. Our Brigade was on the right of the 1st line on a hill above the Wood. We were under arms the whole night expecting an attack and it rained to that degree that the field where we were was half way up our legs in mud. Nobody of course could lie down and the ague got hold of some of the men. I, with another officer, had a blanket and with a little more gin, we kept up very well. We had only one fire and you cannot conceive the state we were in. We formed a hollow square and prepared to receive cavalry twice but found it was a false alarm both times. Soon after daylight, the commissary sent up with the greatest difficulty, some gin and we found an old cask full of wet rye loaves which we breakfasted upon. Everybody was in high spirits. We broke up the cask and got some dry wood and made some fine fires. Got some straw and I went to sleep for a couple of hours. About 10 we were formed finding that the French were advancing to the attack in very large columns. We opened some artillery and checked them a little by shells but soon after the Light Troops commenced the attack on the wood in which our Light Infantry were posted and the firing commenced in prime style. Some Belgian Light Troops were in the wood and when one man was wounded at least a dozen would carry him out so that the chief of the work was left for our men. The French were too strong for us and after about a couple of hours they succeeded in driving us back to a large farmhouse in the wood (Hongonmont) and the rest of our battalion moved on to support the Light Infantry when the 2 rear companies were ordered to remain with the Colors. General Byng thinking that the Battalion would be too much cut to pieces as the firing was so very rapid, the 7th and 8th companies stopped with the Colors and 2 companies of each Battalion of our Division. (I believe I told you in my last of my being recently appointed to the 7th Company). We were ordered to lie down in the road, the musket shots flying over us like peas. An officer next to me was hit in the cap but not hurt as it went thro and another next to him was also hit on the plate of the cap but it went thro also without hurting him. Two Serjeants that lay near me were hit in the knapsacks and were not hurt, besides several other shots passing as near us as possible. I never saw such luck as we had. The Brigade Major was wounded by a canon ball which killed his horse and broke his arm, & General Byng was wounded slightly whilst standing opposite to me about 5 paces. General Byng did not leave the Field. Lord Wellington with his Ball dress was very active indeed, as well as Lord Uxbridge and the Prince of Orange, both severely wounded, the former having lost his leg and the latter being hit in the body. General Corke commanding our Division lost his arm.

The Battle kept up all day in this Wood where our Brigade was stationed. The Farm house was set on fire by shells, however we kept possession of it, and several wounded men were actually roasted alive. The Cavalry came on about 5 o'clock and attacked the rest of the Line, when the Horse Guards and the other Regiments (except a few) behaved most gallantly. The French charged our hollow squares and were repulsed several times. The Imperial Guards with Napoleon at their head charged the 1st Guards and the number of killed and

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wounded is extraordinary, they lie as thick as possible, one on top of the other. They were repulsed in every attack and about 3 o'clock the whole French army made a general attack for their last effort and we should have had very hard work to have repulsed them when 25,000 Prussians came on and we soon drove them like chaff before the wind, 20,000 getting into the midst of them played the very devil with them and they took to flight in the greatest possible hurry. The baggage of Bonaparte was taken by the Prussians and the last report that has been heard of the French says that they have repassed the Frontiers and gone to Charleroi hard pressed by the Prussians. The French say that this Battle beats Leipsic hollow in the number of killed and wounded. Our Division suffered exceedingly. We are to follow on Thursday. Today we bivouac nr. Nivilles. Lord Wellington has thanked our Division thro General Byng and says that he never saw such gallant conduct in his life. The 7th Hussars behaved very badly on Saturday, they were ordered to charge the Polish Lancers and when they got to them (the Lancers remaining steady) they turned about and away they went, the Lancers then charged them and the Horse Guards and Blues charging the Lancers overthrew them and cut them nearly all to pieces. The Horse Guards and Blues have behaved famously. Lord Uxbridge would have been taken only for our Infantry, in consequence of some of the Cavalry running away and he rode up to the Company and said he owed his life to them and that his cavalry had deserted him. I was on piquet that night but the French were beyond the Frontier before 12 o'clock. There was never such a glorious day. Everybody agrees. Send me the Gazette. It will tell you more than I can. You must excuse the mistakes I have made I am in such a hurry. I will give a fuller account of some little things relative to myself, the narrow escapes we had and so on when I have time. I had my Horse killed It was beautiful to see the engagement tho horrid afterwards. The French killed a great number of our wounded soldiers. We have taken 120 pieces of cannon. The Prussians are coming up every hour and cheer us as they pass. I have a great deal more to say but I have not time as I must be back at the Camp by 8 o'clock. All the baggage was sent to Antwerp in case we should have been defeated yesterday. The number of prisoners is immense, I must conclude. God grant that I may live to see you again. We have only 2 officers killed but several severely wounded. My love to all. I have heard nothing of Major Hodge.

I remain your dutiful and affectionate son

C.W. Short.

---

ANSWERS to Pat Machin's Puzzle Corner:

1. Ely 2. Ripon. 3. Truro. 4. Durham. 5. Exeter. 6. Oxford
7. Lincoln. 8. Bristol. 9. Chester. 10. Glasgow. 11. St. Pauls.
12. Ipswich. 13. Norwich. 14. St. Asaph. 15. Hereford.
16. Aberdeen. 17. Coventry. 18. St. Albans. 19. Edinburgh.
20. Guildford. 21. Lichfield. 22. Rochester. 23. Salisbury.
24. Worcester. 25. Liverpool. 26. Canterbury. 27. Chichester.
28. Birmingham. 29. Gloucester. 30. Winchester.
31. York Minster. 32. Westminster. 33. Peterborough.
34. St. Davids.

# Local News from the W.I.

Sundials came under examination at the June meeting. Ann Born told members that a papal directive of 600 AD had ordered them to be placed on all churches. Some early ones were merely scratch dials marking off the times for the saying of Mass. Mottoes such as "With swift foot time doth fly", "As time and years pass away, so doth the life of man decay", "The law of God is the light of day" down to the more mundane "Time flies" and "Carpe diem" are often to be found inscribed on them. Locally, look out for sundials on the south walls of the churches at: Diptford, Dodbrooke, Halwill, Malborough, Staverton, Stokenham and Woodleigh.

In July the speaker, Margaret Pratt, had the audience roaring with laughter as she recalled the influence the golden years of Hollywood had on her formative years when she was "going to the pictures" during the 1930's and 1940's. Dozens of appropriate props. were expertly slotted into her dialogue to recall the age, and Norma Kendall modelled some glamorous pre-1939 'evening' coats.

The time at the embroidery day school slipped away fast as the members taking part were persuaded most enjoyably that they could be creative and adventurous with their stitches. An eminent member of the embroidery world, Cherry Crawford, was the tutor. She 'just happened' to be visiting Thurlestone, thanks to President Wyn Cousins!

Members and husbands from Whitchurch (Tavistock) WI came on a walk along the coastal footpath and stopped off at Wyn's for a cream tea on a perfect Sunday afternoon. Flawless weather also greeted the midsummer garden lunch at Rosemary Mackay's. A competition was held for the best-decorated garden hat and Geraldine Bezzant took the prize for the prettiest with Dy Newcombe's Wimbledon tennis concoction judged the most inventive. Talking of hats, Margaret Illingworth's name came out of the draw for the £100 bursary to Denman College which Thurlestone & W.Buckland WI award each year.

Going further afield, some members joined West Alvington WI for their June meeting, whilst "Looking Good Feeling Great" was the title of the day several members enjoyed at Ivybridge Leisure Centre; others went on a Tamar Cruise and even the delights of Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire were explored.

In the pipeline are -

Flower Workshop, 2.30 pm Parish Hall, 3.8.94 (Alice Foster)  
Cornworthy Hike, 10.9.94; Autumn Council Meeting, Plymouth Guildhall  
on 19.10.94 (speaker Jonathon Porritt)  
Federation visit to the House of Commons 26.10.94  
Art afternoons, four Tuesdays from 4.10.94 (Laurie Cotton) Parish Hall  
Furniture Restoration day, Parish Hall, 14.11.94 (Jill Cobley)

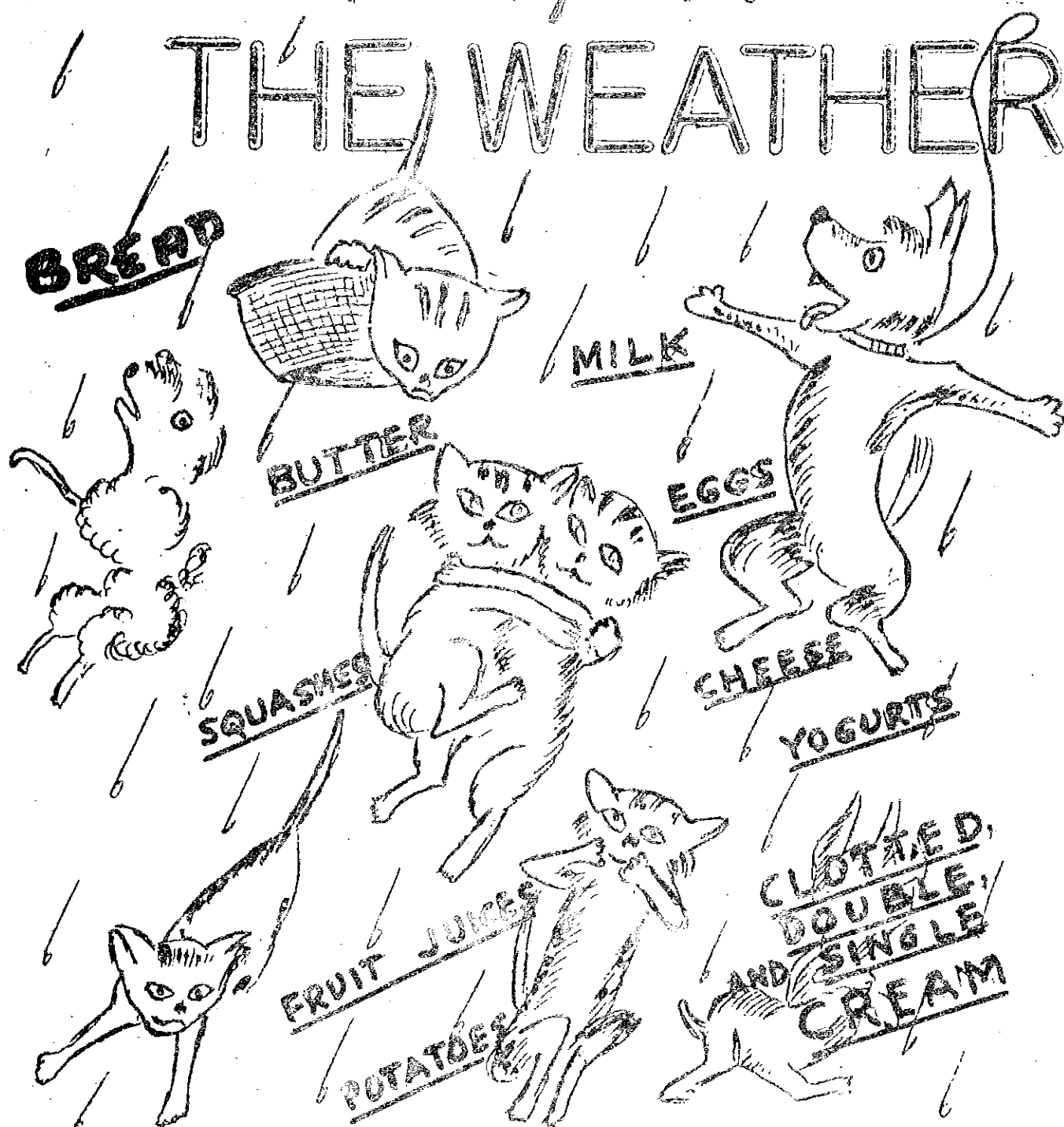
Visitors are always welcome to come -- we meet on the second Thursday each month, 2.30 pm in the Parish Hall. Mr.J.Miller is coming on September 8 to talk about Childhood Games...the lore and language of childhood.

P.M.

TOO LATE FOR SUPERGUIDE...A VERY LATE DATE:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23rd - BARBECUE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN  
(in aid of the restoration of the  
Church's stained glass windows),

# WHATEVER THE WEATHER

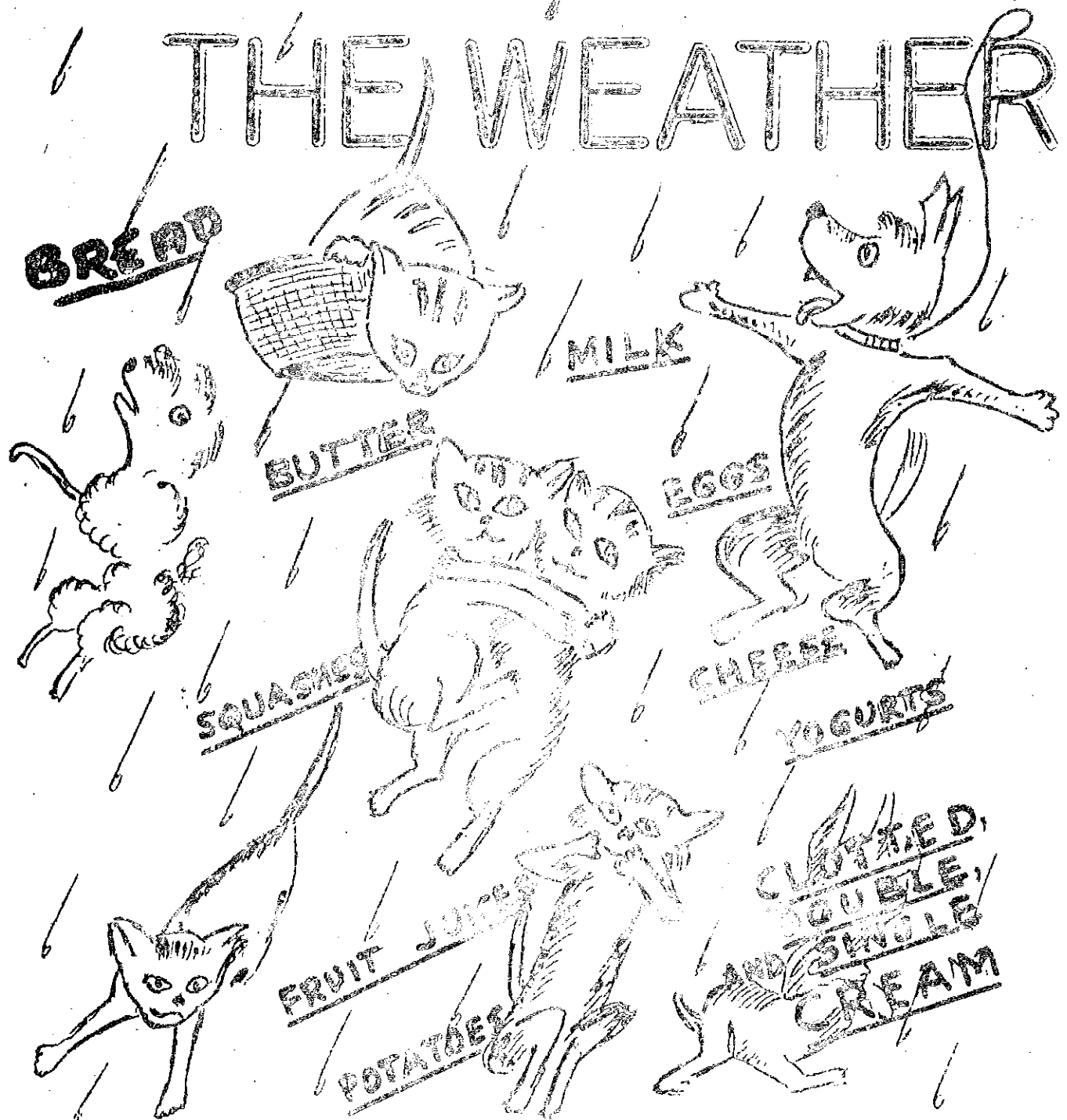


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# Kate's Kitchen



HOMEMADE ICE CREAM need not be expensive or difficult to make. You can also choose flavours which are not available in commercial production.

I am fortunate to have in the garden right outside my kitchen a variety of mints, which are wonderful for mixing in drinks and fresh fruit salads.

The iced dessert, which follows, can also be used as a chilled fruit fool. We particularly like this fresh tangy one, using gooseberries, but you can use any fruit puree.

## INGREDIENTS:

1 lb Gooseberries, topped and tailed.  
4 ozs Granulated Sugar.  
450 gram Natural Low Fat Set Yoghurt.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  pint Double Cream, lightly whipped.  
1 tbsp Elderflower Cordial Concentrate.  
Large bunch of Mint (I use a pineapple or lemon mint, but any will do.)

Put the gooseberries and sugar into a pan with 2 tblsp water and cook gently until really tender. Remove from the heat, add the bunch of mint and allow to stand for 30 mins approx. Place a fine sieve over a large chilled bowl and press the fruit and mint thoroughly until only the seeds and stems remain.

Using a whisk fold in the yoghurt and whipped cream. Pour into a chilled plastic container and freeze for a minimum of two hours. Always remove from the freezer about 10 to 20 minutes before serving. Time is approximate, and will vary according to room temperature.

This is delicious served with Melon and Kiwi Fruit or just by itself with tiny almond biscuits.

To use as a Fruit Fool, pour into a glass dish or individual size bowls. Wine glasses slightly dampened round the rim and dipped into caster sugar, then put into the fridge to chill, look extra special.

All of which keeps Kate cool in the kitchen!

Many people in the parish sponsored Michael Allen, so here is his story of...

TIVERTON HEART CYCLE RIDE '94'

On Sunday May the 29th I, along with about 1400 others, took part in the Tiverton Heart Cycle Ride '94'.

It comprised two routes, one of which was 25 miles and one of 50 miles, which have been selected for their scenic beauty. The bright weather helped to emphasise this, unlike last years conditions.

I once again tackled both courses, back to back. After checking in I set out on the shorter course first which wandered around the country lanes through Uplozman, Huntsham and Burlescombe before the two courses split at Waterslade Cross. I turned off the main course at this point and passed through Uffculme and Willand before arriving back at Blundell's School on completion of the first leg.

I spent 15 minutes having some refreshments and then set out on the larger 50 mile course before everyone had set off. Once again passing along the lovely country lanes I arrived at Waterslade Cross, but this time I carried straight on. I stopped at Hemyock, outside the St. Ivel factory, for something to eat and drink. Between here and Redlane is the longest hill on the course. Luckily it is not too steep, it just seems to go on and on and on. With this completed I knew the hardest part was now behind me.

After stopping at Overday Farm for some more refreshments I continued on my way to Broadhembury and Kentisbeare, along some delightful country lanes. I was soon at Uffculme once more and the courses merged again. Just six miles to go, I was on the home stretch.

Blundell's soon came into sight and I was welcomed in by the spectators lining the school entrance. Was that really 75 miles? It had been very enjoyable, unlike the previous year which had been a struggle against the elements.

I should like to express my thanks to everyone who has sponsored me for their tremendous support again this year. Without you all my efforts would mean nothing. I hope to have raised over £3000 for the British Heart Foundation this year and this will once again be used to support a 'Heart Appeal' in Devon as in previous years.

Thank you all once again.

Michael Allen.

---

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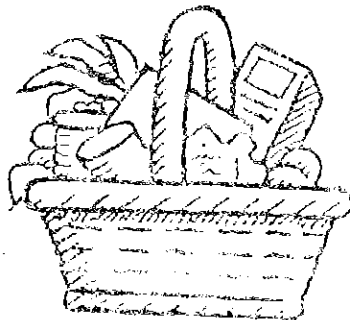
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# Neville OSWALD reports



IN THE FIRST week of April 1991, we all sat down on the same day or filled in a complicated form for the national Census; indeed, the whole nation has done so early in April every 10 years since 1901. Among the mass of information from 1991, we find that the population of Thurlestone was then 819; in other words, that was the number of people who were here on that day. It is a figure of real if limited value. For the most part, it represents the number of residents in the parish; it includes casual visitors but takes no account of residents who happened to be away on business or holiday or in hospital; it certainly ignores the many visitors who come here during the short summer season. Yet it is a useful yardstick for comparisons with previous censuses. For example, the population in the 1901 Census was 354, less than half that of 1991. The populations of several local parishes are compared in Table 1., to show differences during the present century.

TABLE 1. Rises in the population of various parishes between the Censuses of 1901 and 1991. Rises expressed as percentages of the 1901 figures.

| Parish     | 1901  | 1991  | Rise. | Parish.     | 1901 | 1991  | Rise |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|------|-------|------|
| Modbury    | 1,330 | 1,399 | 5     | S. Milton   | 287  | 346   | 38   |
| A. Gifford | 657   | 731   | 11    | Thurlestone | 354  | 819   | 131  |
| Charleton  | 451   | 509   | 12    | Bigbury     | 260  | 600   | 131  |
| Churchstow | 311   | 380   | 22    | Salcombe    | -    | 0,187 | -    |

Note: Figures for Kingsbridge are not comparable because of changes in parochial boundaries between the censuses.

On the left of the Table are 4 parishes situated a few miles from the coast, with very modest increases. On the right, South Milton, with easy access to the sea, increased by more than one-third whereas Thurlestone and Bigbury, well-known holiday and retirement areas, more than doubled. The figure for Salcombe in 1901 was still entered as part of the parish of Malborough; it became a separate parish only in 1894.

Thus the overall trend during this century has been for the inland parishes to maintain a steady population whereas the seaside resorts, by acquiring new residents, have increased in size substantially.

Excluding for the moment the new residents in the resorts, the resident population has altered in composition quite considerably during the century. All over Devon, there has been a spectacular increase in the number of one-and-two-person households, especially in the last 30 years. This has been partly due to the growing number of elderly couples whose families are no longer with them and the drop in birthrate since the mid 1960s; this has led to an increase in separate houses, as more people have been able to afford them. This process may, of course, be observed in Thurlestone and exemplifies the paradox that the provision of more homes is not necessarily followed by a comparable increase in population.

The size of the population in any parish obviously goes a long way towards determining the nature of the life in the parish. Some villages in the South Hams have altered little in the past century and retain an intimacy which is impossible in larger communities. Others, such as South Milton, have successfully absorbed limited invasions by new residents whilst at the same time retaining their identities. Thurlestone has gone a step further, with new residents almost swamping the previous residents; the same has happened in Salcombe and Bigbury. Why? Quite simply because Salcombe has sailing, Thurlestone golf and Bigbury sandy beaches and golf and local builders have been quick in providing appropriate accommodation for new residents, owners of second homes and holidaymakers. The extent to which these three groups have penetrated the South Hams has been quantified (see Table 2).

TABLE 2: Household occupancy by parishes (1991 Census).  
Percentages of all households in brackets.

| Parish      | All house-<br>holds. | With<br>residents | Second<br>homes | Holiday<br>accommodation |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Kingsbridge | 3,672                | 3,497 (95.7)      | 28(0.8)         | 3 (0.1)                  |
| Modbury     | 618                  | 570 (92.3)        | 7(1.1)          | 21(3.4)                  |
| Churchstow  | 182                  | 155 (85.2)        | 7(3.8)          | 9(4.9)                   |
| A.Gifford   | 310                  | 274 (88.4)        | 11(3.5)         | 25(8.1)                  |
| Charleton   | 291                  | 224 (77.0)        | 25(8.6)         | 31(10.6)                 |
| S.Milton    | 214                  | 158 (73.4)        | 34(15.9)        | 10(4.7)                  |
| Bigbury     | 338                  | 229 (67.8)        | 33(9.8)         | 57(16.9)                 |
| Thurlestone | 584                  | 379 (64.9)        | 135(23.1)       | 41(7.1)                  |
| Salcombe    | 1,691                | 977 (57.8)        | 358(21.2)       | 294(17.4)                |

Note:

There was 4 to 5 per cent. vacant accommodation in each parish.

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Table 2, extracted from the 1991 Census, shows the distribution of households between residents, second homes and holiday accommodation in the parishes shown in Table 1., with the addition of Kingsbridge (with Dodbroke). They are listed in descending order of percentages of households with residents. The upper 5 parishes, situated away from the coast, had few households occupied as second homes or holiday accommodation; Aveton Gifford, beside the river Avon, had attracted some holiday visitors, South Milton had an unusually high number of second homes. There followed Bigbury with its holiday accommodation, Thurlestone with second homes and Salcombe with both. In Salcombe, little more than half the households were occupied by residents, an understandable figure for anybody who happens to visit the deserted little town in the early days of April. With so much accommodation given over to second homes and holiday accommodation, the three resorts have an average of only 1.32 people per household, compared with 2.15 in the inland parishes.

Anyone with experience of statistics will be aware of the difficulties in trying to reduce people and places to figures. The short-comings of total populations have already been mentioned. The accurate division into old residents, new residents, owners of second homes and holiday-makers is virtually impossible. With households constantly changing from one use to another, some owners of second homes spending half of the year here and then staying permanently, the arrival of newcomers to work locally, boarding accommodation being turned into flats and fixed caravans appearing here and there, even the national Census can never be more than approximately correct. In other words, Thurlestone showed the features common to popular coastal resorts worldwide, all because the Golf course was opened in 1897.

How should the influx into the three resorts be regarded? After all, there are still coastal communities such as Thurlestone Sands and Hope Cove which have, for the most part, not been exploited by developers; maybe, those who live there think they are the lucky ones. Yet Devon, a rather poor county, relies much upon monies brought to it by new residents and holiday makers, not least the working populations of Kingsbridge and the coastal resorts it serves. Indeed, Thurlestone, Salcombe and Bigbury between them make a sizeable contribution to the county's economy.

Having come to know Thurlestone over the past 40 years, first as a holiday visitor, then as owner of a second home and, since 1975, as a new resident, it is possible to observe the way the three groups of them have settled down. They have in common a liking for the place, having been attracted by the annexation of the coastal strip by the golf club followed by the erection of an hotel and rows of stylish accommodation in the adjoining acres (no less than 40 per cent of the houses are in Band G with a rateable value of £160-320,000), giving the place a modern elegance that is unusual in Devon.

For some holidaymakers, one visit to Thurlestone is enough. Much depends upon their age and their attitudes to the comparatively limited facilities. For adults, there is golf and tennis, for children, there is tennis and the beach, but golf is difficult; most older children and students these days seem not to find quite what they want. Yet some families return year after year, during August, and find old friends sometimes extending over 2 or 3 generations. The holidays are self-contained, having little contact with local affairs, any more than a couple of visits to a costa leads to an understanding of Spain.

Owners of second homes are quite different. They spend large sums on a property that was probably built and is maintained by local labour; they use the local services while they are here. With most of them coming from London or the Midlands, they find that Thurlestone is too far for a casual day trip or even a short weekend. Instead, to have somewhere that is always available, thus avoiding the hassle of finding accommodation in an hotel or elsewhere, is a pleasureable convenience and a reasonable investment. Some are attracted by the golf, which is available for green fees or temporary membership, but full membership is hard to come by. They can do more than enter their names on the waiting list for non-residents which at present stands at about 10 years.

New residents, many of whom are former holiday visitors or owners of second homes, are for the most part retired couples although a significant minority work in Kingsbridge, Plymouth and elsewhere. They comprise roughly half the resident population and peacefully go in their separate ways alongside the more conventional rural population which still cultivates the fields and raises livestock and supplies the skills essential to the well-being of the neighbourhood.

(My thanks go to Bill Ladd, Clerk of the Parish Council, for supplying me with some parochial statistics.)

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#### SPEAK ENGLISH?

The following "poem" on the pitfalls of English pronunciation was discovered in Spain by Bruce Mackay of Glen Lyon in Landpath and brought back to Village Voice for your delight...

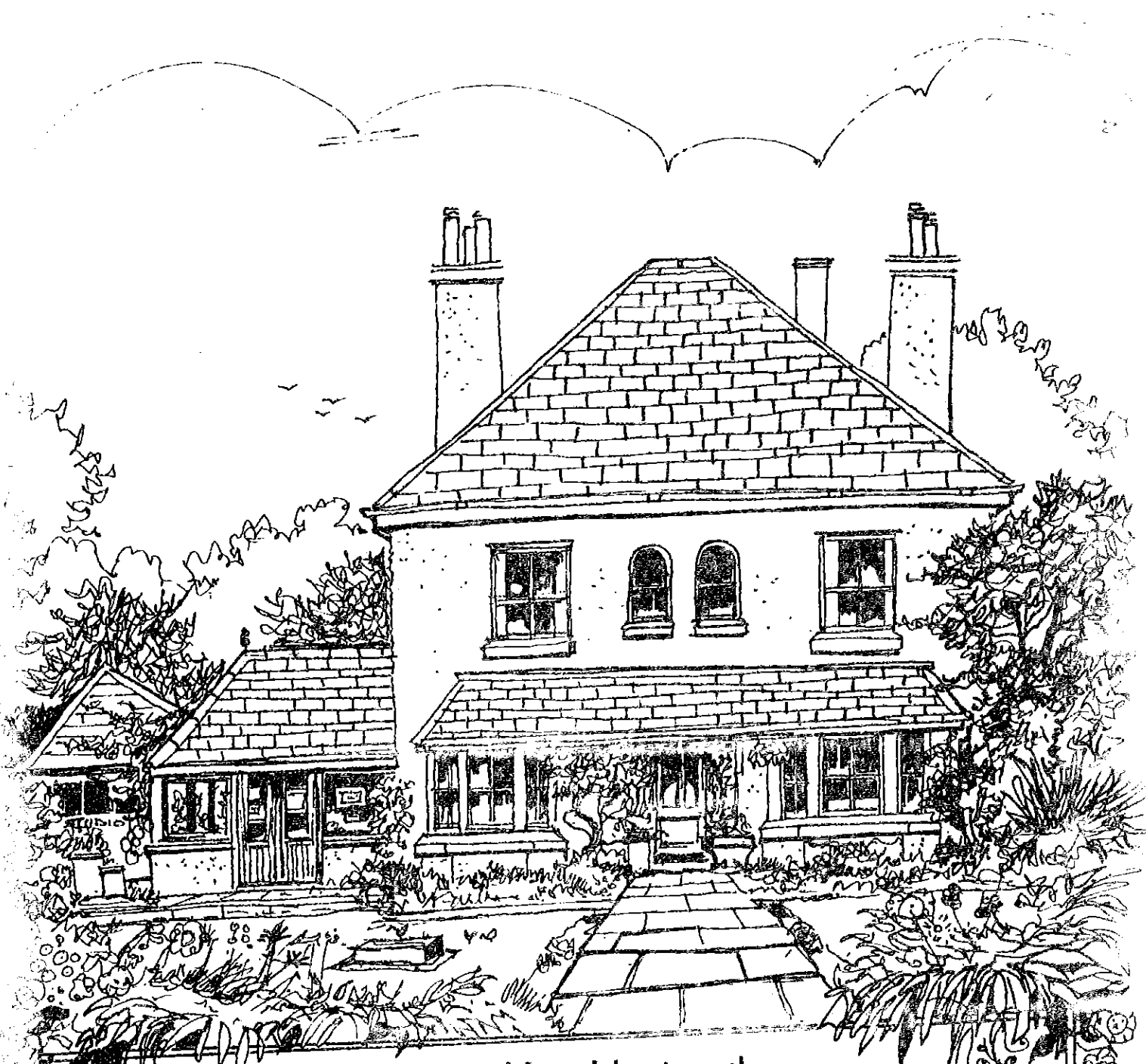
I take it you already know  
Of tough and bough and cough and dough  
Others may stumble but not you  
On hiccough, thorough, laugh and through?  
Well done! And now you wish perhaps  
To learn of less familiar traps?

Beware of heard, a dreadful word  
That looks like beard and sounds like bird.  
And dead: it's said like bed, not bead  
For goodness sake don't call it "deed".  
Watch out for meat and great and threat  
They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.

A moth is not a moth in mother  
Nor both in bother, broth in brother,  
And here is not a match for there  
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,  
And then there's dose and rose and lose -  
Just look them up - and goose and choose.

And cord and work and card and ward,  
And font and front and word and sword,  
And do and go and thwart and cart -  
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!  
A dreadful language? Man alive,  
I'd mastered it when I was five.





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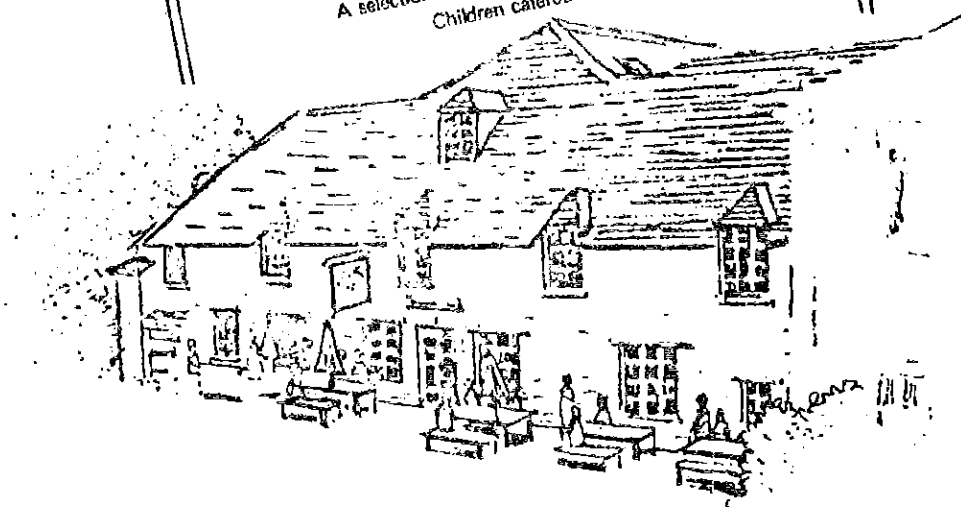
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# HARRY HUGGINS



DID YOU WATCH the television "Bird in the nest" things presented by Bill Oddie and Peter Holden?

If they showed one thing, it was the high death rate among bird chicks, especially in a cold, wet spring like we had in 1994. Of their nine Blue Tit nestlings, four died in the nest. Par for the course, they said that was. Don't think that when the surviving five left the nest box their troubles were over. Once out they never go back and perils abound. Few, if any, of the five would survive; they faced bad weather, getting lost (they still needed parents to feed and guide them), Sparrowhawks, Magpies, Crows, cats. Especially cats.

The family of Swallows all flew and so did the Robins (both of these species had the advantage of nesting in buildings). All but one of the Pied Wagtail chicks vanished without trace. They said at the start that they had been watching two more nests of Blue Tits and one of Great Tits, all of which had failed.

The family of Kingfishers grew large and all died. Of cold, they said. The blame was laid on some people who drove cars for an hour up and down a lane close to the nest. Maybe. But if as the camera crew did you put up a huge canvas tent in the river only yards from the branch on which the parents alighted before going into the nest hole, the birds are hardly going to think it the finest thing since sliced bread. Then there was the matter of a jolly great hole dug beside the nest tunnel. For those who did not watch the series, Kingfishers excavate into a river bank a tunnel which is a yard or more long. At the end of that is a widened out nest chamber where the birds lay the eggs and raise the young. I say nest, There is no nest as most birds know it. Just an earthy hollow which as the chicks are fed fills with fish bones and droppings. All most insanitary. It is marvellous how these brilliantly coloured birds rear their young in the most awful conditions. But if they did not nest in such places they could not afford to be so brightly coloured.

Having dug the big hole, the film crew made a little one from it into the nest chamber; through this they poked the lens of a camera and a lamp to light up the scene. That too must have frightened the parents.

Although the chicks grew quite large they had not yet got proper feathers and could not generate warmth of their own. When the mother

bird was prevented for a little while from coming in to cover them they became chilled and all died. Simple as that. Bill Oddie said with glee that the old birds were trying again. I hope they left them alone this time.

When the television people do these programmes in a series, I suppose each bit has to be self-contained as well, so that if somebody watches only one piece, it is still comprehensible. "Bird in the nest" was repetitive, but quite watchable in small doses, if that is what you like.

The natural history programmes are about all we do like, those and weather forecasts. We found the "Beachwatch" thing, about the north Norfolk coast, almost completely resistable. There was that nice young lady in a beret trying to enthuse about seals. Now it is fun to stand on Warren Point, by the fourth tee, watching a big Grey Seal stick his head up out of the sea and gulp down a large bass (fish not beer). But watching seals sleeping on sandbanks, as the young lady's were, has all the hilarious excitement of watching paint dry. Then there was the young man who spent the day with Sandwich Terns. They are handsome birds, like all our British breeding terns, and we always enjoy seeing them off Leasfoot Beach when they pass through in spring and autumn, but at a nesting site, once you have seen the birds, and a few chicks, plus some sand eels brought in to be fed to the chicks, you have seen it all. Five minutes - well, be generous, say ten. But for the somnolent seals, and the terns, and not very much else they took a total of one hour and fifty five minutes during the day. I did like the bit when a lass made a pancake for the presenter man. She put sea beet in it. Not much, just one single leaf. He took one bite, said very nice, they always do - I long for the day when someone says "Ughm filthy!" about something cooked on television. Then he put the pancake down (I didn't actually see him spit his mouthful out). She tried it and didn't like it any better. Do you eat sea beet? We do. It grows along the coast path; we try to pick it where the dogs have not got there first. My wife cooks it like spinach, which is what it is, and it is delicious. I don't reckon I would go much on that young lady's cooking.

Back to home, the Blue Tits in our nest box were at best a partial failure this year and for all we know a total disaster. I am quite sure that if we think about it we are downright selfish in putting up a box. We want to have the pleasure of seeing Blue Tits popping in and out, and if very lucky watch the young birds leave the nest (something one seldom manages to witness). We told ourselves we are helping the birds. But we are not - if we really wanted to help we would plant several oak trees in the garden and to hell with the rule which says nothing over eight feet high. I forget how many species of uggies they say feed on oak trees; it is certainly more than two hundred. A little moth called the Green Oak Tortrix is the really important one. You see its caterpillars dangling on silken strings, like bungee jumpers. There can be enough of them to strip every leaf off an oak tree. No matter, it grows some more. They are perfect food for tits to feed their families on, and the birds try to time their nesting to coincide with the flush of caterpillars. We have no oaks. There is a little crab apple tree, which must help a bit but is too small to provide much. We have New Zealand Flax, Elaeagnus (from Japan), Escallonia (South America), Olearia (New Zealand) all put in to make hedges because they are evergreen and



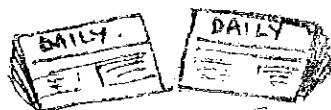
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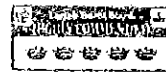
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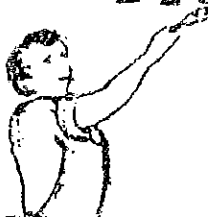
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stand wind and salt. In their native lands they may teem with uggies, for all I know. But they don't here and are useless for providing food for young Blue Tits. We tried to do our bit. We kept the peanuts going; whole kernels in the wire basket and minced nuts scattered about. The tits got some (don't believe it that you should not put out artificial food when they have young - in a spring like that of 1994 they need everything they can get, and then some). But we were not feeding only Blue Tits, there were Blackbirds, Green Finches, House Sparrows, Uncle Tom Cobby and all, in fact, and it was hard for the tits to compete.

To make matters worse, our hen - we think it was the hen, it is usually the males which wander - became a single parent. We don't know if he was swiped up by a Sparrowhawk or went off with another woman; the latter probably, birds do. But one bird was left trying to cope with the feeding on its own.

We could hear young ones squeaking in the nest box. Then one day all went quiet and the parent bird disappeared. After about a week I climbed up and looked in the box; five dead chicks, not just little naked things but quite recognisably Blue Tits and due to fly in two or three days I would think. We do not know whether some of the nestlings fledged and the parent went off with those, deserting the remainder. Or whether five were all she had. We would have expected more than that, because a normal clutch is around ten eggs. But in a difficult year she might not have been able to get enough to make more than five eggs. Some of the bigger things, birds of prey especially, will just miss out on breeding altogether for a year if they cannot get enough food for the female to develop eggs (did anyone see young Tawny Owls in Thurlestone this year? - we didn't). Then in a good year they will lay huge clutches. The northern owls, which have usually three or four eggs, will produce eight or ten in a year when there are lots of lemmings.

This single parent thing is quite common in birds. Usually the female does the incubating. How long it takes depends on the species. It is about twelve days for very small ones, up to a month, or even more, for bigger birds. Meanwhile the male potters about. If a songbird, he sings, to keep intruders out of the breeding territory and to let her know he is still there. Often he feeds her on or near the nest. But he has time on his hands and if he has a roving eye he finds himself with a second mate and family. It isn't only humans, you see.

In early June we went to Yarner Wood, which I have told about before. It is a National Nature Reserve. You go up the A38 to Bovey Tracey, take the Manaton road and it is on the left. A more congenial way is through Ashburton and past Hay Tor, pausing for lunch at the Rock Inn in Haytor Vale village. One of our preferred eating places and much more get-inable now that it is having been chosen as pub of the year has largely been forgotten.

Yarner Wood is old oak woodland. It used to be coppiced - cut down to ground level every so often (twenty/thirty years?) when they grew oak as a crop like wheat or raddishes, to make charcoal. But they haven't done that for a good many years now and the trees have grown big. Like many nature reserves it hides its secrets pretty well. Except that is during the nesting season when it teems with singing Wood Warblers, like Chiffchaffs with white tummies. There is a good population of Pied Flycatchers, summer migrants like the Wood Warblers.

The latter make a domed nest on the ground or in a bank. Pied Flycatchers have to have holes in trees. Quite small holes. There are not that many trees these days, the forest which once covered Britain having been mostly cut down. What trees there are don't have that many holes. And what holes there are are usually occupied by tits before the flycatchers get here from Africa. So the latter would be on a pretty sticky wicket if the wardens at Yarner Wood had not put up a lot of nesting boxes. If you stroll onwards up the path from the car park you will see numbers of these boxes nailed to trees, with birds going in and out. We usually walk back from the car park to the warden's house, then go up a steep little road on the right. After about a quarter of a mile there is a hide, which is a large wooden hut with benches to sit on and slots you gaze out of. From this you look down into a steep narrow wooded valley. There are lots of trees and on many of them there are nest boxes. The warden puts them quite close together. Then tits occupy some, but will not tolerate the presence of other tits in nearby boxes, which are thus left empty for late comers such as the flycatchers.

When we went in June we could see two boxes occupied by Blue Tits. One of these was certainly a single parent family. There was a Great Tit, likewise we thought a single parent. And a Redstart which undoubtedly was. In the case of the tits, obviously they can tell male from female themselves. But we cannot. Not so the Redstarts; the sexes are very different. This was a so called Common Redstart, not a Black Redstart, which is a bird of bare rocky places. Sometimes we see the latter on the houses in our parish in spring and autumn and maybe one will spend the winter by the sea shore. Common Redstart (a pretty rare bird, despite its name) is a migrant like its relative. It nests in holes in trees and stone walls, and will adapt to nest boxes. The male is a splendid creature, grey back and head, white forehead, black face, reddish breast and brilliant orange tail - hence the name "redstart". This time we saw no male. he must have defected and the lady was feeding her family alone. She is brown but has the brilliant tail which we could see flickering in the wood as she came and went.

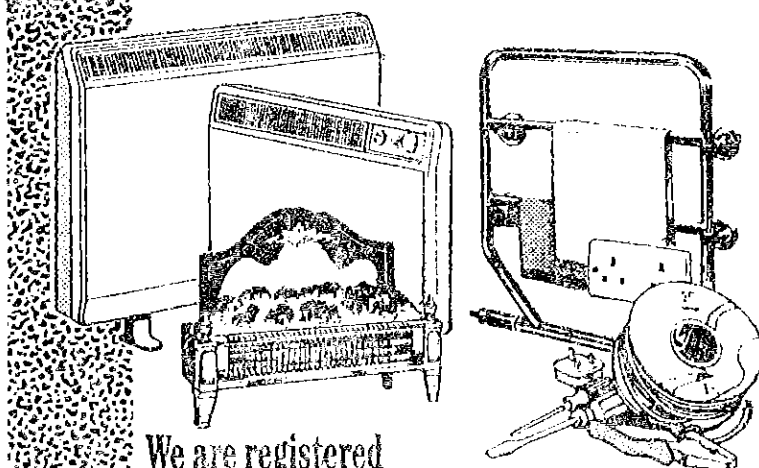
Tough, I reckon, when the male deserts. And nature has no welfare state to help single parent families. But one can cope on her own in a place like Yarner Wood with its native trees each of which swarms with moths, beetles etc. As you sit in the hide and look down into the tree covered valley you realise this is what most of Britain was like before Homo sapiens came with fire and axe. And you think how many birds there must have been then.

Two birds still together were a pair of Pied Flycatchers. The gentleman is black and white, a bit like a Robin in evening dress. She is similar, but brown. They were using a nest box built into the end of the hide - we could hear her scratching about in it as we sat on our bench. Every few minutes he flew in to sit on a nearby branch and called her out to be fed with a huge spider he had brought. We could see their legs wiggling in his beak. All quite romantic.

The rain and cold of spring 1994 was disastrous for many nesting birds. But not all. Our local swans, for example, Mute Swans often seem to be, like Giant Pandas, a species with a death wish; they just don't want to produce any young. This year, though, the pair in South Milton ley hatched off four fine cygnets. I don't suppose



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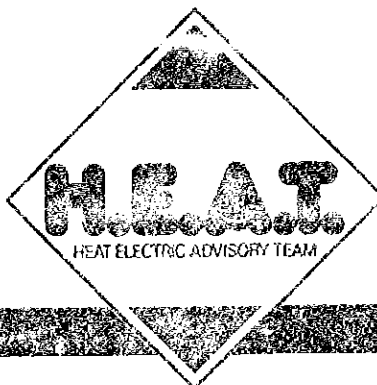
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all will survive, they don't. But so far they have done well. And Rodney Bone, the bird expert of the Avon valley, rang to say his swans had three families, eighteen cygnets, more than ever before.

Dartford Warbler has been another success. They call it Dartford Warbler because when folks started to get interested in these things, a couple of hundred years ago, it was found on Dartford Heath. I doubt if there is a heath there now, certainly no warblers. It lives in gorse and scrubby bushes, is one of only two British warblers which do not migrate and is therefore almost wiped out in very hard winters. We have not had one of those for some years and it has spread from its stronghold on the East Devon commons to our part of the world. There has been a pair at Bolberry and another on the slopes of Bolt Head. The latter has young, we saw them.

Better still, while looking for the Dartford Warblers we saw a Golden Oriole. Too good to be true, but true it was. The male is golden yellow with black wings. He sings his name "Oriole" in a mellow fluting whistle. The female is duller, green with brown wings. It was a female we saw. She flew away over a hill and we never found her again, nor did anyone else. She must have been on her way to East Anglia where they breed in very small numbers in poplar plantations. But she made the month of May for us.

---

### FLOWERS

Some men never think of it,  
You did. You'd come along  
And say you'd nearly  
brought me flowers  
But something had gone wrong.  
The shop was closed  
Or you had doubts -  
The sort that minds like ours  
Dream up incessantly, you thought  
I might not want your flowers  
It made me smile and  
                    hug you then.  
Now I can only smile  
But, look the flowers  
You nearly brought  
Have lasted all this while.

---

I wonder if anyone knows the author  
of this? RUTH JORDAN.

# I remember...

## A SPECIAL TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE FOR THOSE BORN BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1939

WE SURVIVED THE WAR. We also survived those sponge cakes made with dried egg and liquid paraffin and some other unmentionable recipes which are best forgotten.

We were born before television, frozen foods, plastic goods, nylon tights, and drip-dry clothes. We were before ball point pens and our writing deteriorated rapidly when fountain pens dried up. We arrived before penicillin - not for us the sophistication of antibiotics. Goose grease and warm flannel slapped on the chest cured many a nasty cough. We were before credit cards, radar, split atoms and laser beams. And before man walked on the moon. And tennis players wore those funny great shoes.

IN OUR DAY the sound of music really was the sound of music. Rock music was a Grandma's lullaby and pop was fizzy lemonade. Children were called children and not the off-spring of nannie-goats, and the word teenager hadn't been invented.

WE ARRIVED IN THE WORLD when Woolworth's didn't sell anything over 6d. Anything made in Japan was cheap and nasty and British was Best - apart from the perfume when we tried to choose between Californian Poppy and Evening in Paris. Our boy-friends even survived that.

WE WAVED GOODBYE to our 3d bits, bobs, tanners and half-crowns and floundered among the silly ps. When we hit the scene, so to speak, we thought fast food was what you ate in Lent, and we had never heard of Yoghurt, instant coffee, pizzas or McDonalds. Old McDonald hadn't even left his farm then.

WE HAD NEVER HEARD OF single parents, day-care centres, group-therapy or home-helpers. Counselling was having a cry with Grannie.

WE WERE BEFORE electric typewriters, artificial hearts, micro wave ovens and computers. A chip meant something wrapped in newspaper with the fish; hardware meant something from the hardware shop and software wasn't even a word. Gay meant happy, Brilliant meant very bright, and tremendous meant very big. And awesome means just that.

JEAN'S MEANT SOMETHING that belonged to JEAN, and a vest was a vest not a T-shirt. Men usually wore trilbies and suits, the only one with a ring stuck in his ear was a Gypsy.

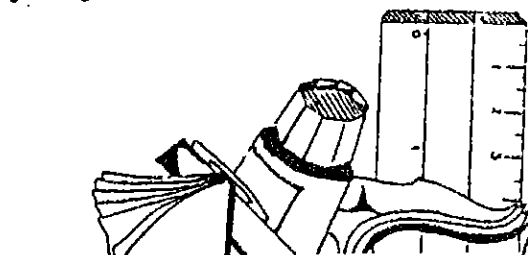
IN OUR DAY we actually got married first then lived together, so perhaps we sometimes get confused & people talk about a generation gap.

But we've managed to keep pace with it all and WE'VE SURVIVED.

(Given to us by a reader's uncle who lives in Scotland).

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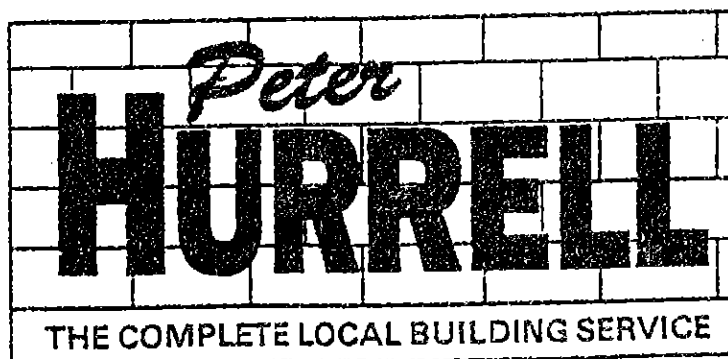
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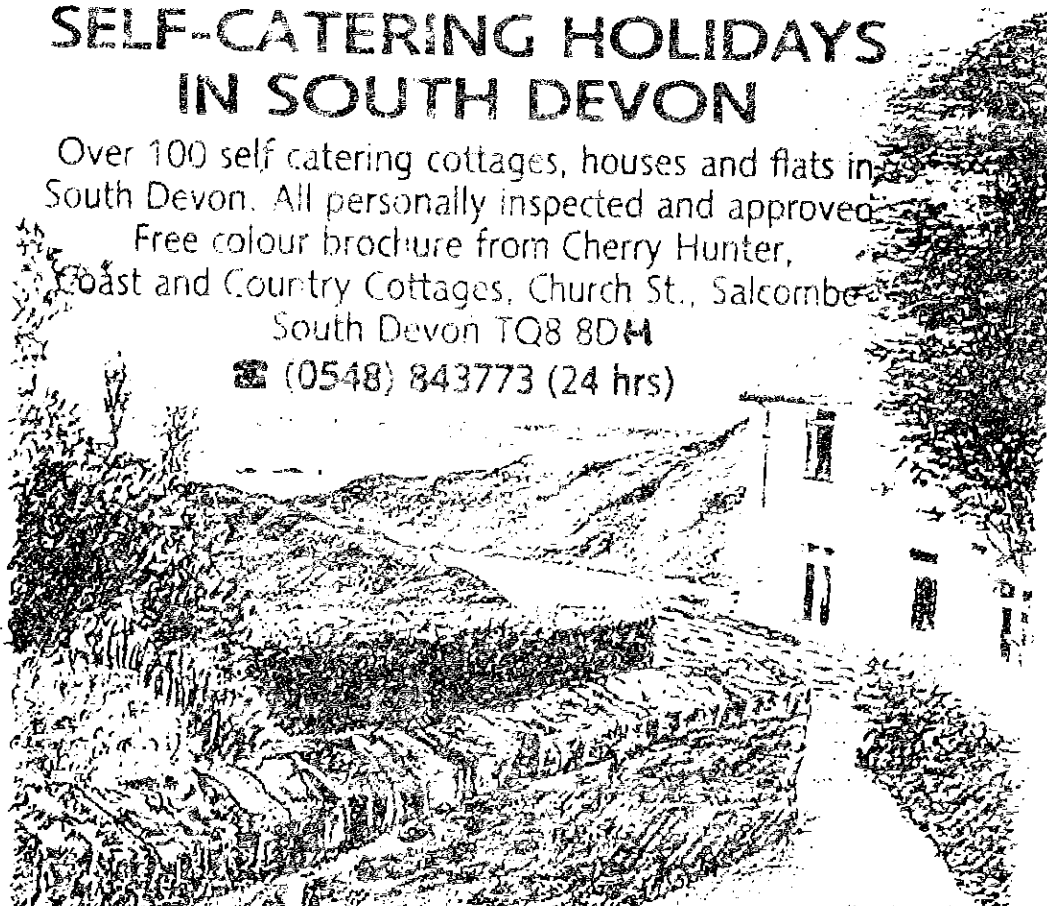
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## Eric Williams

is a frequent visitor to Thurlestone and has a holiday home at Batson Creek. He wrote this article for his church magazine and it is republished here with his permission. He called it...

# Faith and the NHS

I swung my legs down from the examination couch, looked at my GP and waited. His eyes met mine and there was a moment's pause before he said "I'm sorry, but I think there's something there which needs looking at by a specialist. I'll give you a letter." He scribbled a note.

Two days later I presented myself at a local hospital and was examined by a consultant: friendly, cheerful, quick and very much to the point. "I'm sorry to tell you, Mr. Williams, that you have a growth which I believe is malignant and will need surgery as quickly as possible."

My fiercest fears were suddenly - even explosively - realised. I looked at him levelly and without expression. As I sat there accepting the verdict, I suddenly and wonderfully had a message on my mind screen: 'For lo, I am with you always, even unto the end.' Immediately I had no fear or apprehension whatever.

We discussed arrangements for hospital treatment. I preferred to go into Kingston Hospital as an NHS patient for a range of reasons.

Within a week the date was set. On a bright Thursday morning I presented myself to the Admissions with a suitcase of clothing, a cheerful heart - and feeling tremendously fit!

I was fed, given a bed in a ward of six people, dressed in a gown to make my theatrical debut, and given a number of tests. Doctors and nurses came to discuss my medical history, which was pretty uneventful as I had never been in hospital before as a patient, and never had an operation. The anaesthetist came to tell me what would happen next morning, and I just lay quietly and ruminated on the situation. Everyone was friendly and helpful and the nurses were cheerfully considerate.

I slept.

Next morning I was wheeled down to the theatre. I had planned my 'entrance'. As I saw the surgeon before my anaesthetic, I gave him a letter. I had typed:-

'Dear Mc C', it stated. 'Fifty-one years ago today precisely at lat. X and long. Y in mid-Atlantic, I was torpedoed and became a survivor. Today under Providence and your skiöls, I hope history will be repeated. Go to it!'

My last memory before I went under was of people laughing, which isn't a bad way to go.

Margaret was with me when I woke. 'I'm so happy', I repeated euphorically. And so began my recovery.

There were problems, but nothing overwhelming. Everyone was so kind. The nursing and medical staff could not have done more, or done it more pleasantly and willingly and with such patience with someone who had to begin again like a baby.

My family were wonderfully supportive, including my Doctor sister, whose advice and re-assurance was invaluable throughout.

Jonathan came to see me, there were many cards and notes from you, and I was much cheered by this concern. I had one enormous card from friends attending an ecumenical service in One World Week, who had signed their good wishes and greetings. I felt very much moved by all this.

The morning of my departure from Kingston Hospital the chaplain, the Revd Aled Griffiths, wheeled me down to the chapel to share Communion with four others. It was a precious half-hour.

I said good bye to everyone within range, and thanked them. Everyone had been amazingly kind, and every patient had been treated with the same way. I was leaving friends.

Margaret and daughter Anne drove me back home in sunshine, and I crept up to my bed and slumped gratefully into its warm softness.

'For lo, I am with you always, even unto the end...'

My life had been punctuated suddenly and unexpectedly by illness, but it was a semi-colon, shall we say, and not a full stop!

I am making my way back to full health. Meanwhile thank you all for your loving concern and for your prayers. I had not realised I had so many friends.

ERIC WILLIAMS.



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## Andrew Hurrell

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# Drabblemania

I see it reported that 90 per cent of hot-air hand driers are infected with bacteria which cause disease, according to the Applied Ecology Research team at the University of Westminster. Bugs found in the study included bacteria which can cause bronchio pneumonia, food poisoning, abscesses and toxic-shock syndrome. "It's a misconception that these machines are more hygienic," says Keith Redway, senior lecturer in microbiology. They include bacteria sucked into the machine in the normal flow of air when people flush the toilet or turn on a tap, and distribute them in the hot air round the washroom."

+ + + + +

You've probably heard of boil-in-the-bag rice. Well, now earthworms are also available in bags - not for wating but as a new method of introducing worms to areas like rehabilitated coal tips - or anywhere the local worm population has been depleted. The proper term is 'earthworm inoculation,' and consists of a bag containing a kilogram of soil and worms at various stages of their life-cycle, from egg to adult.

the inoculation units are plugged into the surface of the area which the worms are to colonise. Their beneficial effects in terms of soil structure and drainage are well known. "By introducing the worms in the soil plugs they are far more likely to survive and colonise the soil than if adults are simply scattered on the soil surface," says Dr. Fredrickson of the Open University.

- The industrious worm has much to offer the environmentalist. Experiments show that worms are capable of converting some types of waste paper into a valuable garden compost, saving space in landfills.

+ + + + +

- You often hear complaints from neighbourhood farmers about the growth of the rabbit population. In Australia the rabbit population is now put at between 200 and 300 million, causing crop losses in the region of £40 million. Scientists in the 1950's thought they had the problem solved when the release of the myxomatosis virus produced a crash in rabbit numbers. But eventually, less lethal strains of the virus began to replace the more virulent ones. This coupled with the development of genetic resistance in rabbits, set the stage for another population explosion.

Now, Australian scientists hope to write another success story in biological control with 'immunocontraception' in rabbits. This new method is actually a form of biological birth control that utilises an animal's immune system. One of several remaining hurdles is how to inoculate animals in the wild with the antigenic proteins. In the case of foxes the scientists plan initially to use baits containing capsules of the purified proteins.

Personally, I just wonder if it would not be possible to make rabbit meat in some form, available to some of the Third World countries or is it beyond the wit of man to do something more useful than expend time and money on how to exterminate. ? ?

+ + + + +

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

A CORNISH LITANY.

T H E   P O L I T I C S   O F   F O O D   !

. . or how to use profits from oil wells !-

Saudi Arabia's lavish investment in agriculture continues to perplex many Western observers, but Saudi policy might be better understood when seen against the backdrop of events of just over twenty years ago, when Saudi Arabia was paying of very high price for imported grain even before the oil crisis of 1973 sent crude oil prices soaring. In recent years oil importing nations may have felt that the Saudis had them over a barrel, but in the early seventies they also felt vulnerable- and it's easier to survive without petrol than bread. This desert kingdom had the money, the water, and the political will to do something about it. They brought in agricultural experts. These experts applied the latest technologies. At one point the price for imported wheat grain soared to more than £600 a ton. Their own wheat production went from less than 300,000 tons in 1975-76 to 4 million tons in 1991-92. !

Growing wheat in the deasert sands became both fashionable and profitable as well as patriotic. They consider wheat to be a highly strategic commodity says Benoit Gauthier, an analyst with the Canadian Wheat Board. "They believe it is not in their interest to rely on outside supplies of wheat." The importance of wheat in the Saudi diet can well be realised when the per capita consumption averages about 220 pounds a year compared to about 140 pounds in the West.

Saudi Arabia could be an agricultural force for many years. In addition to fossil water reserves, the country has fairly good renewable sources of water which include highland runoff collectable behind dams. Farmers in Europe might look enviously at a country that has the will and the money to defy nature and turn the desert into a breadbasket, but one cannot help feeling that something is very wrong in a world economy which makes the desert bloom in Saudi Arabia and sets fertile and productive land aside in Europe while millions remain undernourished in the Third World.

Now rated to be the sixth largest exporter in the World of wheat grain !

(I would like to acknowledge my basic information comes from .

'The Furrow' published by the John Deere Company, Tractor and agricultural machinery manufacturers)

+ + + + +

SOME PROVERBS WORTH A THOUGHT !

Hope is a good breakfast but a bad supper

Night is a good herdsman - she brings all creatures home.

Do wight and fear no man; don't write, and fear no woman !

The best preacher is the heart; the best teacher is time; the best book is the world; the best friend is God.

Why does the eye see things more clearly in dreams than the imagination.

+ + + + +

On the wall in our kitchen my wife Lilian has a Teapot Stand- MY KITCHEN PRAYER

Bless my Little Kitchen Lord  
And Bless me as I do my Work.  
I Love its EVERY NOOK,  
Wash Pans and Pots and Cook.

May the Meals that I Prepare  
Be Seasoned from Above,  
With Thy Blessing and Thy Grace ,  
But Most of all - Thy Love.

END.

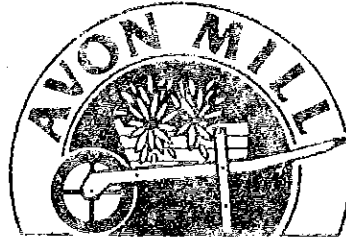
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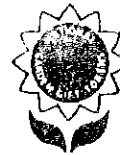
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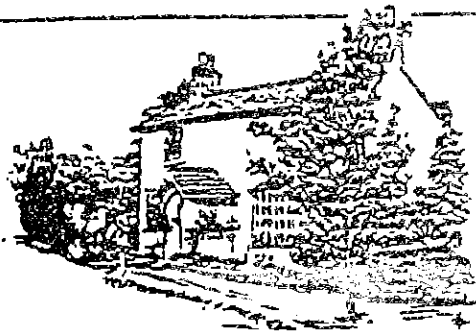


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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

2480

DEAR EDITORS,

Very sorry to hear of the possible demise of Village Voice. As one of the furthest outposts on your circulation list, I am sure we will miss reading it just as much as the "locals". Thank you for giving us so much enjoyment.

SIR ERIC YARROW,  
Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire.

DEAR SIR AND MADAM,

Sorry to hear this is your last year - good luck with finding your successors!! The magazine is brilliant.

JACKIE ROBERTSON,  
Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.

DEAR EDITORS,

Hope you will find a successor so that it won't be the "last five copies".

J. T. LEAF,  
Harrow on the Hill, Msex.

DEAR MR. AND MRS. McDONALD,

We were sorry to hear that you will not be continuing to produce Village Voice, but hope that someone else continues. The magazine provides a useful contact with the area when we are away, and we both thank you for all your work in what has been a very worthwhile and interesting service.

MARGARET AND TREVOR PILBEAM,  
Wrighton, Bristol.

DEAR PENNY AND KENDALL,

At the last committee meeting of the Directors of Yarmer Estates, the Village Voice was highly praised; everyone saying how much they enjoyed the magazine.

I was asked to write and thank you both for all the time and effort you put into its production, and to say your work and the magazine are much appreciated.

VAL BROWN, Hon. Sec.,  
Yarmer Estates, Thurlestone.

DEAR MADAM EDITOR,

Only four more issues.

KENDALL McDONALD,  
Cradles Cottage, Thurlestone.

POSTBAG EXTRA..POSTBAG EXTRA...POSTBAG EXTRA...POSTBAG EXTRA...

DEAR EDITORS,

I am sure I am not alone in reading with dismay that you will no longer be editing Village Voice from next May.

While fully appreciating the reasons for this, I could not let the opportunity go without thanking you for the outstanding service that you have given the Parish for so long.

We all look forward to each new edition and Village Voice will be sorely missed if no one comes forward to continue this magnificent publication.

ELIZABETH WEBB,  
Old Mill Cottage, West Buckland.



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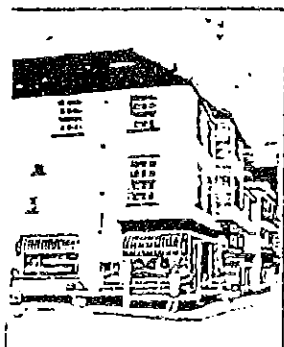
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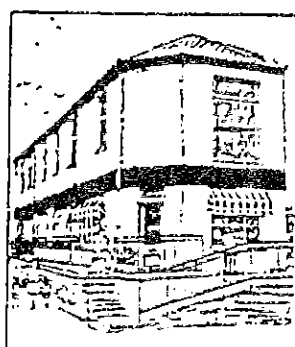
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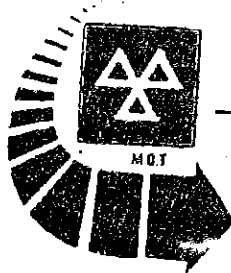
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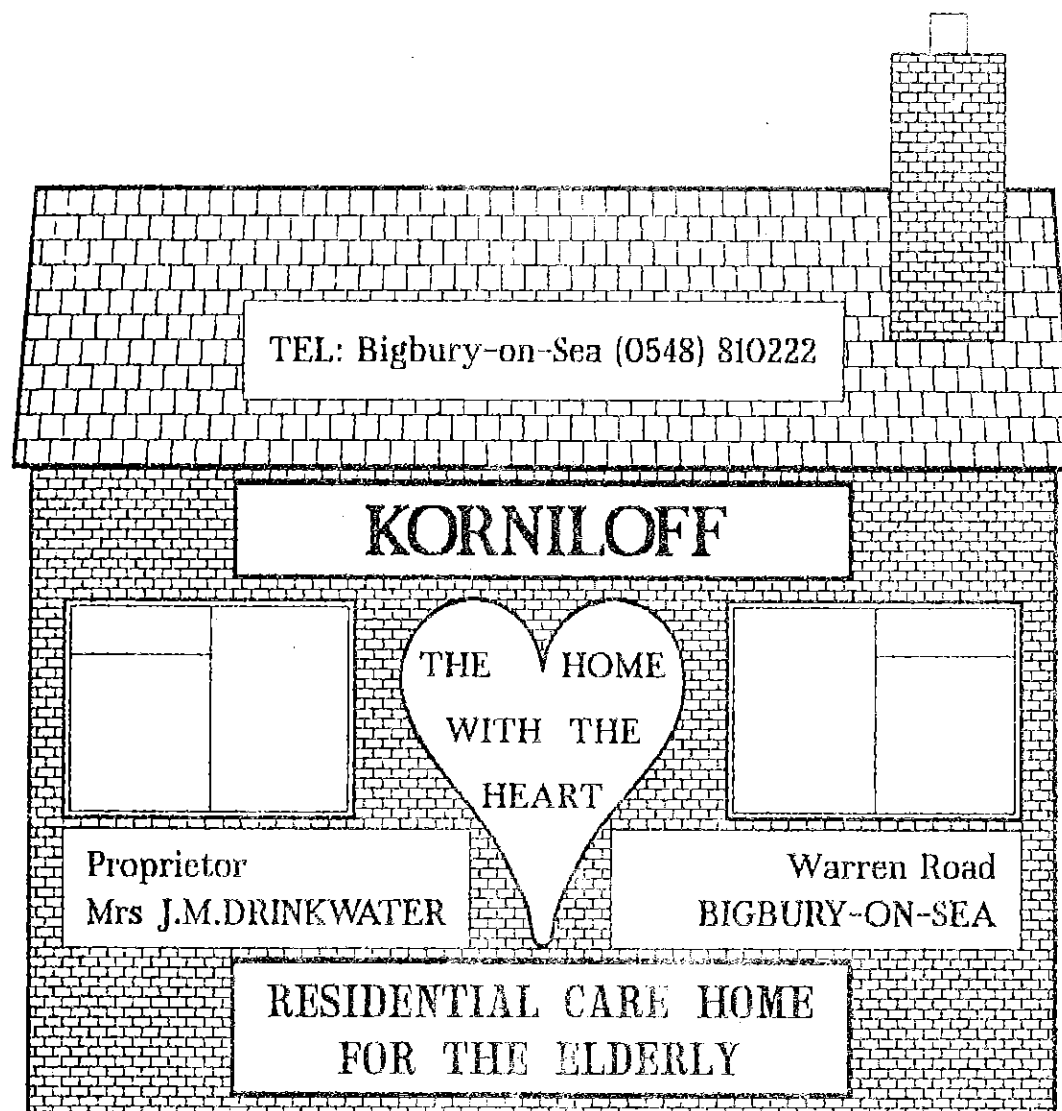
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Don't miss that special date! Read the

# Village Voice Superguide

|           |                                                              |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| August    |                                                              |
| Wed 3rd   | Tramp walk. Northern Moors from Merrivale.                   |
| Sat 6th   | The Horticultural Show. South Milton Village Hall 2.30 pm.   |
| Wed 17th  | Tramp walk. North Moors from Postbridge.                     |
| September |                                                              |
| Sat 3rd   | Kingsbridge Show. Stumpy Post Cross.                         |
| Tues 6th  | Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 pm.                 |
| Wed 7th   | Tramp walk. To the Dancers.                                  |
| Wed 21st  | Tramp walk. Moors from Burrator.                             |
| Fri 23rd  | Harvest Supper. Parish Hall, 8pm following service.          |
| October   |                                                              |
| Sat 1st   | Anthony Steen, M.P. on villages tour. Parish Hall 12.15 p.m. |
| Wed 12th  | Tramp walk. Gara valley and coast.                           |
| Sat 15th  | Parish Hall Fete. Parish Hall.                               |
| Tues 18th | Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 pm.                 |
| Thurs 27  | Conservatives Bridge Evening. Thurlestone Hotel 6.30p.m.     |
| November  |                                                              |
| Wed 9th   | Tramp walk. Local including Bowcombe, Malston Mill.          |
| Sat 12th  | Christmas Bazaar of NSPCC. Parish Hall 10.30 a.m.            |
| Sat 26th. | Conservatives Christmas Bazaar Parish Hall 10.30 a.m.        |
|           | NSPCC Christmas Bridge. Parish Hall 6.30 for 7 p.m.          |
| Tues 29th | Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 pm                  |
| December  |                                                              |
| Sat 3rd.  | Church Christmas Bazaar. Parish Hall. 10.30 a.m.             |
| Sun 4th.  | Village Voice Printer's birthday party. Ritz, Madrid.        |
| Wed 14th  | Tramp Christmas walk. Lunch at Hunters Lodge, Cornworthy.    |

Have You given Village Voice Your Dates for 1994? On  
a postcard through Cradles Cottage letterbox. Now please  
Next Copy Deadline for October-Nov  
issue is...SEPTEMBER THE FIRST.

# THE SLOOP INN

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