



VILLAGE VOICE

April-May, 1995



Published bi-monthly.

Founded by Dudley Drabble.

Cover pictures by Len Hubbard

EDITED AND PRINTED BY

KENDALL AND PENNY McDONALD

at

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THIS ISSUE WAS PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NEW EDITORS, PAT MACDONALD AND JO PARKIN. COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO 25, MEAD LANE, THURLESTONE, TQ7 3PB.

Number 73. Thirteenth Year of Publication. April-May, 1995.

THIS IS THE last issue of Village Voice with Kendall and Penelope McDonald involved as Editors, and a memorable editorship it has been. The journal started in 1982, at the suggestion of Dudley Drabble, then Clerk to the Parish Council. The Council readily agreed to sponsor it and the Chairman, Peter Hurrell, quickly raised £300 from parishioners for the purchase of a duplicator.

Within a year, with Dudley as Editor, and subscriptions from advertisers, it became self-supporting and has flourished ever since.

Our Journal does not just happen. Its production and printing, by the editors themselves, has been and still is very demanding and time consuming; its delivery free of cost to all residents by Peter Bromfield and Mrs Jean Hurrell has been a major undertaking, yet these various people have persisted in their self-imposed tasks and we are indeed grateful to them.

Village Voice has arrived regularly with the milk every two months for the last twelve years. What has it achieved? Ask one resident and he says he does not bother about it, ask another and he says he reads every word. In between, those of us who read at least most of it gradually become addicted, realising that it is both informative and instructive and also entertaining. Most of its information is contained in advertisements and notices of coming events where we may find the name and telephone number of, for example, an electrician, a skip hirer or a chiropodist; it also gives details of forthcoming charity sales and the activities of the Women's Institute, the village school and the horticultural show. Such information is invaluable and cannot easily be found elsewhere. It is the essence of village life.

In an instructive mood, Village Voice seeks to show Thurlestone is rather more than just a seaside resort with a golf club and an hotel and that it has a history of its own, not necessarily a distinguished one but a history none the less. Over the years it has included an array of articles ranging from celtic ruins and country cooking to the lifestyles of the birds of the air which, taken together with intriguing line drawings on the cover page and Kendall's recent illustrated book on the parish, gives a pretty comprehensive account of the place over the centuries. Thus regular readers must surely be aware that they are no more than transient mortals who, like their predecessors, will leave traces of their passing to succeeding generations; some may feel that, in a small way, they have become part of the place.

It is impossible to dismiss Village Voice as just another publication. If for no other reason than that it tells us what is happening and has happened in Thurlestone. Primed with this information, which is supplemented every two months with a fresh instalment, we gradually gain an insight into the real Thurlestone. We remember, perhaps, the pictures in Kendall's book of children playing in the village street a century ago and wonder why there are so few now. Their thatched homes are still there.

The new thatching is no longer simple wheat from the harvest or reeds from the Ley at the back of Thurlestone Sands, but more refined varieties from Norfolk or Central Europe. We see Church House; was it really built 450 years ago in order to provide a place for merry-making well away from the Church? One is tempted to run one's fingers over its rough surface to make certain that it is real. Further down the street lies The Cottage, an idyllic yeoman's dwelling built some 350 years ago. In the Church one finds every century represented, back to the north wall of the chancel and its narrow lancet windows dating from the 1200s.

Future generations may wonder what on earth happened to the parish in the twentieth century, during which the population doubled, introducing an entirely new way of life. Many of the answers will be found in Village Voice.

N.C.O.

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

Let this be a warning - to all those who leave the keys in the ignition when popping into a local shop. That's what happened in Churchstow and in those few moments the car was stolen. It was later found dumped in Bantham.

What was the point of such a theft? Well, it seems our local car nickers steal a car in one area to get all the police units looking for it, dump it and then go off in their second car to commit villainy nearby having drawn the police away from that area.

Don't let them use your car for this trick. Take the keys out and lock the car - even if you are only going to be just a second!



DUNNO WHAT ALL THE FUSS is about. Few rumble strips won't make a lot more noise than the surf on the beach in a Force Ten. And you have to think positively about it all. Just like all those useless roundabouts and "controlled uncertainties" and humps and things they'll keep a lot of people in work repairing them every five minutes.

Course we must be a few forwards short of a whole pack if we thought those rumbles were just to warn you that you were entering a police speed camera zone. Not really. They are what the traffic masterminds call Stage One of the Thurlestone By-Pass, 1997 Plan. Those rumble strips are to warn you that you are about to bear left on to the first section of the by-pass, already completed, from Kerse Cross to the Mead.

The next stage, which might need some compulsory purchases, runs across the Mead to the Stid on Suspension Bridge across the Leys Foot Lake to join up with the Links Court Roundabout. From this magnificent roundabout, capable of carrying over 500 golf trolleys an hour, the by-pass will speed traffic through South Milton to the Salcombe motorway, though of course in deference to the wishes of South Milton residents, it will not be signposted anywhere along this specially widened section.

However, these last sections are still in the planning stage and several demonstrations against the by-pass are already planned to lobby the Highways Committee's next meeting. In particular, the Thurlestone Be Kind to Rabbits Group plans a sit-down on the cattle grid at the entrance to the Mead on April 1st to protest at the disturbance the by-pass will cause to the rabbit habitat at the foot of the Estate. Extra police are being drafted in from Plymouth and Cornwall to cope with the disruption that the Mead picketing will undoubtedly cause, even though the organisers insist that their sit-down will be non-violent. Special "grannie cells" are being prepared at Kingsbridge Police Station.

AND TALKING ABOUT FUSS..What a right old to-do about the Post

VILLAGER CONTINUES:

Office and pillarbox in Kingsbridge! How lucky we are with our own post offices! Friendly service, no queues and no need to go trudging off for miles to find the nearest pillarbox - our post offices have them already attached! All in all, the muck-up in Kingsbridge must mean that only the insane would bother to try and use the one in Kingsbridge. There's no place like home, now is there?

WHERE WERE YOU ON MAY 8th 1945? Wherever it was, I do hope you'll be around the bonfire 50 years later when it is set alight in Gordon Bronfield's field where we had the Armada Beacon byck in 1988. Course it isn't exactly on the site where they lit the 1588 beacon - that's one of those bumps on the golf course - but it's as near as dammit.

There should be another chain of beacons right around the coasts again on May 8 and the Queen is lighting the National Beacon in Hyde Park at 8 p.m. to start us all off.

We're to have street parties and dancing on the Village Green and a barbecue and bell ringing. And remember this is for VE-Day, we've still got VJ-Day to come on the weekend of 19th-20th August. Is that the cue for another beacon? See you there!

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

In April last year Thurlestone was host to a plant sale for the Kenyan Water Project - to raise money to provide clean water to a small community of the Maasai people in the Rift Valley in Kenya. More money is now needed - drilling needs to go deeper than was estimated - and Dr. Susan Dwyer (560648) has organised a bazaar to be held in the Market Hall in Kingsbridge on April 22 at 10 a.m. She asks for your support.

Thanks to all those who supported the Ivor Novello show and Peter Hurrell's picture show.

Easter cards are on sale after Morning Service, during Thursday morning Coffee Time at the Rectory Barn, or from Liz Webb (560090)

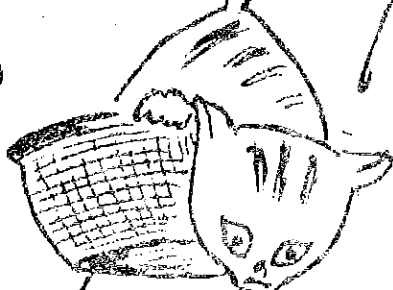
DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING!

It's in the Parish Hall
At 7.30 p.m.
On Tuesday, April 18th.
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Tell them what you want!

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BREAD



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PUZZLE CORNER

A
T
M
A
C
H
I
N

CLUELESS CROSSWORD

No clues are given, but each number represents a letter.

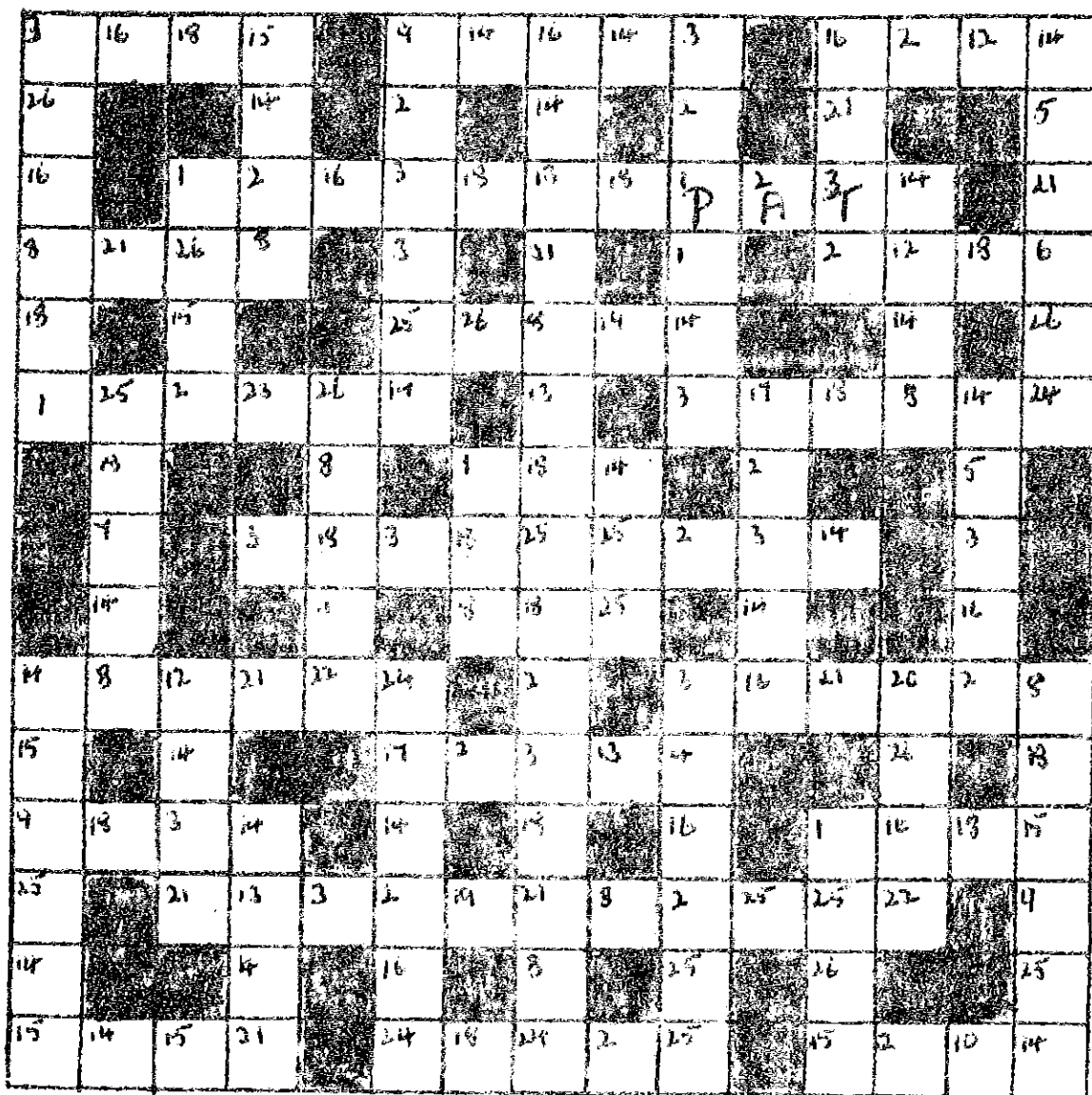
For example, 1 is P, 2 is A and 3 is T.

So begin by repeating these letters where these numbers appear in the grid.

Identify other numbers with their letters and when finished the diagram will resemble a normal crossword. Each letter of the alphabet is used. Answers are on another page.

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M

N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z



REFERENCE GRID

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
P	A	T										
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

PJP

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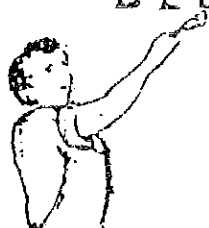
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Neville OSWALD reports



The coastal resorts of Devon have come a long way since they began to welcome holiday visitors some 250 years ago. They are now the biggest industry in the county, employing directly or indirectly the greater part of the indigenous coastal population and contributing much to the county's exchequer and the livelihoods of the professional and business community. Whilst Devon remains comparatively poor, the resorts make the difference between modest prosperity and, virtually, dependence on agriculture. Individually, they have varied considerably in the ways and the extent to which they have developed. The consurbation of Torquay is now larger than Exeter, whereas some coastal hamlets have barely changed, providing no more than limited accommodation in lodging houses with, perhaps, an inn or a small hotel. Thurlestone itself has made a substantial contribution with its golf course, elegant hotel and private houses, whilst Bantham has a fine beach with sailing and fishing.

Anyone trying to piece together the development of the resorts might first go to the West Country Studies Library in Exeter. There he will find row upon row of little books devoted to individual parishes alongside longer historical volumes, any of which may reveal snippets of relevant information. To obtain anything like a composite picture would be a laborious undertaking. Fortunately, this task has been much simplified by the recent publication of *The Rise of the Devon Seaside Resorts* by John Travis, a tutor at Exeter University, which recounts a remarkable story.

The environment in which the resorts originated in the 1700s and, after a hesitant start, went on to thrive may best be judged against the background of the county as a whole. Devon's principal industries, other than agriculture, suffered a series of setbacks during the 18th century. Mining, which at times had involved tin, copper, iron, silver and lead dwindled and, by 1800, had petered out. The wool trade, which at the beginning of the century involved virtually all the whole county right down to housewives spinning in remote villages and had a flourishing export trade, gradually diminished.

* Travis, JF. 1993, *The Rise of the Devon Seaside Resorts 1750 to 1900*. Exeter Maritime Series. University of Exeter; £30.

Serges, the principal product, lost their overseas markets during recurrent wars and then yielded to the new Norwich 'stuffs' and the mechanised wool industry of Yorkshire; they were finally ruined by the Napoleonic wars. When the first National Census was taken in 1801, agriculture was by far the largest occupation, followed by quarrying, fishing and, of all things, lace making. By then, there had been an exodus from the countryside to the towns and the industrial centres in the North of England and to the American colonies. While Plymouth prospered from its maritime connections, Exeter and smaller towns became quiet residential areas, having lost their sparkle. Half the population lived in villages and hamlets, with most people depending on some aspect of farming for a living. Against this rather depressing background, the resorts came to the rescue.

In the early 1750s many people of wealth and distinction went to inland spas such as Bath and Tunbridge Wells. There, they found a complete routine of bathing and medicinal waters with appropriate accommodation and amenities that allowed them to pass the time in an environment of which they approved. Some gentlefolk, perhaps those who tired of the elaborate conventions of such places, sought somewhere quieter and simpler "where they could calm down both their minds and bodies at leisure."

They were attracted by the claims made from little known resorts in South Devon for the health-giving properties of sea water. Exmouth was the first in the market, in about 1750; it was then little more than a collection of fishermen's huts with an inn and a few lodging houses. It was quickly followed by Teignmouth, a small market town with a harbour and an inshore fishery. Lacking the facilities of the inland spas, they both endeavoured to establish a routine of bathing and drinking sea water. AS EARLY as 1762, Teignmouth boasted two bathing machines, that is, small sheds on wheels drawn by a horse, which bathers wishing to avoid the roving eyes of strangers could hire to take them from their lodgings all the way down to the beach and onto the water's edge. There they were met by male and female attendants or 'dippers' who ensured that they were totally immersed. This rather unpleasant routine was followed by the drinking of a pint of sea water, which made some of the visitors violently sick. The whole exercise had to be completed by 10am so as to "invigorate their constitutions for the rest of the day".

The initial response to the publicity was meagre, until the 1760s when several distinguished physicians wrote in praise of the health-giving properties of sea water. Many more visitors came to the resorts, nearly all from the southern part of Devon because of the state of the roads. Ilfracombe, in North Devon, made similar endeavours, naively claiming "what pleases strangers most is the conveyance to the bathing beaches"; alas, it was to remain a poverty-stricken community until improved means of access favoured its development.

In the early years all resorts were handicapped by being virtually cut off from the rest of the country. The main roads were deeply rutted by coaches and wagons and were sometimes made impassable by floods. Their maintenance was the responsibility of the individual parishes through which they passed, but sufficient money was rarely forthcoming. Most roads to the coast were no more than tracks.

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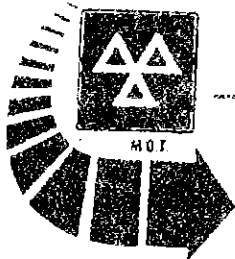
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Anyone wishing to visit Devon from London in 1740 to 1760 would expect to cover the 170 miles from London to Exeter in 4 days. Then there was the problem of reaching the coast; a coach left for Exmouth daily, but Teignmouth had no more than 3 a week.

The first turnpike with tolls in Devon was opened in 1752, between Exeter and Honiton, thus rehabilitating part of the old Roman Fosse Way which had survived as the principal route from London to the South West. Indeed, a postal service from the capital to Plymouth had existed on this same route at least since 1501. Doubtless the needs of the postal service's were considered when laying the turnpike, alongside those of casual travellers who placed their destiny in the hands of private coach owners, some of whom were more reliable than others.

By 1780 the postal services themselves had fallen into a state of disrepair. Mail was carried by relays of postboys, usually men, who were employed by and supplied with horses by postmasters, most of whom were inn-keepers. The postboys were increasingly being attacked and robbed of their mail while the postmasters paid little attention to punctuality and the Post Office remained complacent. The response to this breakdown in services was dramatic and entirely laudable. Given the improving state of the roads, the magnificent Royal Mail Coaches began to grace the countryside. The first on the scene travelled from London to Bath in 1784, beautifully turned out and bearing the royal insignia with two pairs of horses and an armed guard dressed in scarlet livery. They were privately owned and hired by the Post Office on a rate per mile, except that the guard was a Post Office man. They travelled untaxed on the roads, claiming the right of way over all other transport.

A few years later "The Quicksilver" coach, travelling from London to Devonport, was the fastest long-distance mail in the country. It covered the 213 miles in 24 hours with 20 changes of horses and two half-hour breaks for meals. Leaving Hyde Park Corner at 8.30 in the evenings, it made for Salisbury, Shaftesbury and Chard, arriving in time for lunch at Honiton, a busy coaching centre with a main street wide enough for coaches to turn and over 50 inns. Reaching Exeter, it went to the New London Inn, at the junction of the High Street and Sidwell Street; it was the largest inn in the West and with stabling for 300 horses and survived until the 1930s, when it was demolished to make way for a cinema. Further calls were made at Chucleigh, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh, Ivybridge and Plympton before drawing up at Elliot's Royal Hotel, Devonport at 8.30pm.

Coaching of all kinds was at its peak in the years 1820 to 1840 when up to 370 coaches reached Exeter each week. With the coming of the railways the Royal Mail coaches ceased in 1846 and few of the others survived beyond 1860.

To be continued in our next edition.

BRIDGE IN VILLAGE VOICE...

As the "second" fastest growing sport in the West, I thought it might interest readers to have one or two interesting hands that have been played at Thurlestone Bridge Club. These are shown so that people can bid and try for themselves, to achieve the best results. These are hands dealt on an ordinary club night. Of course we have many dull hands to play, when the difference between winning and losing can be to play in 1 No Trump, or other similar part score.

The results of the calling and the play are on another page in this issue.

Rosemary Mackay

	<u>North</u>
S	9 6
H	3
D	K. Q. 10
C	A. K. Q. 9. 7. 4. 2

West

S	K. J. 10. 4
H	J. 10. 9. 6. 5. 4
D	7
C	10. 5

East

S	Q. 8. 5. 3. 2
H	8. 2
D	A. 9. 4. 2
C	6. 3

South

S	A. 7
H	A. K. Q. 7
D	J. 8. 6. 5. 3
C	J. 8

TRAMPS PROGRESS

The first two walks of the year, on January 18 and February 15, were organised and led by Bob Nicholls. Eighteen went on the first one and 12 on the second.

The January walk started from Loddiswell with field and lane walking via Yanston to Chantry. We continued across fields (very muddy) to lunch at the Taverners in Aveton Gifford where the food was excellent and very welcome soup was available. The return was again a mixture of lanes and fields back to Loddiswell.

The February walk started in a fierce hailstorm on the far side of Salcombe Harbour and after the first half-mile all 12 walkers agreed to vary the walk from the very exposed coastal route to the path up the valley to Gara Rock. The sun broke through and the walk round the cliff path to East Prawle although muddy and occasionally very windy was enjoyable. Lunch was taken at the Pig's Nose in E. Prawle. After lunch a field and lane walk took us to Waterhead, Goodshelter and continuing round the Estuary to Portlemouth and the ferry back to Salcombe. Both of

EASTER SERVICES continued:

April 14th. Good Friday

10.30 a.m. The Good Friday Liturgy, South Milton
(Ante Communion and Litany with hymns).

2-3 p.m. "The Last Hour Devotion" Thurlestone.

this year: "The Crucifixion" - Sir John Stainer

"A choral Meditation" - Revd.W.J.Sparrow-Simpson.

April 16th Easter Day

Easter Eucharist 8 a.m. Thurlestone (sung)

9.30 a.m. South Milton (and Egg Gift
Service)

Festal Mattins. 11.10 a.m. Thurlestone.

SIR LANCELOT PASSES BY..

I WONDER HOW MANY Thurlestone golfers imagine at times that they are latter-day Sir Lancelots. I do; further, I have had a fleeting glimpse of my Lady of Shalott.

It all started a few weeks ago when I was loading up my car in a Kingsbridge car park. A charming little elderly lady came up to me and asked why I was not playing golf.

I told her there was an important ladies' competition going on and I was not allowed on the course. She said she always looked out for me on Wednesday mornings from her ivory tower on Yarnmer as I pass by oblivious of her gaze.

Such a scene, it seems to me, has much in common with the tale of the Lady of Shalott, so memorably described by Tennyson. We have the ivory towers of Yarnmer which may, somewhere, hide a lonely soul staring wistfully at the 18th fairway as her Sir Lancelot strides by "within a bow-shot of her bower-eaves....his broad clear brow in sunlight glowing"!

Such a phantasy may have no substance, but any member having a modicum of doubt may be inclined to glance in her direction and possibly "to see her wave her hand or at the casement see her stand". Such thoughts might enliven the final hole of an otherwise uneventful round.

N.C.O.

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

The Pump House in Thurlestone's village street is under threat. The roof needed repair, but when they started to assess the cost of this, they found the walls bulging ominously. Estimates of cost boomed like an electricity chairman's salary and became so high at one stage that there was talk of bricking it up. No one quite knows the date - it was probably the late 1700's, because before the pump was installed in the 1800's, this was the site of the village well complete with rope and bucket and the place the villagers drew their water. The Pump House mustn't be abandoned - perhaps this is the time to bring back the pump?



The Rector Writes...

WE HEAR MUCH today of changing patterns in the countryside, and indeed the changes are obvious for all to see, old families, or more particularly, the young offspring of the old families move away, new families move in - many, as in the case of our own parish, for retirement, from many different backgrounds, and many different parts of the country.

And so we hear much about the need to rebuild "Community". For that to happen there needs to be "Communication" and Village Voice, as its name suggests, is just one of those ways of "Communication". So we thank all who have helped us communicate in the past, thinking especially at this time of Penny and Kendall, and we wish well those upon whom this mantle of responsibility is falling.

When I was a boy I really did know a clergyman by the name of Canon Ball, though I suspect that the bishop had been unable to resist the obvious temptation, deliberately to offer a Cannony to the Revd. Mr. Ball.

In similar vein there really is a Roman Catholic Cardinal (the Cardinal Archbishop of Manila) who is blessed with the surname "Sinn" so he really is a Cardinal Sinn.

The good Cardinal was recently hosting an inter-church conference on the subject of "Communications" and particularly on "Communicating the Gospel", but he warned the delegates that it is just possible to be too zealous and communicate just that bit too much. By way of illustration, the Cardinal told the story of the young Philippino couple who were madly in love and were simply devastated when the young man heard that his job was going to take him a long way away to work for a whole year. After many tears he promised: "Never mind, I will write to you absolutely every day!" And so he did. And each day the young postman would deliver his letters. Good as his word, the young man kept sending the letters every day for the whole year, and when the year was nearly up, he wrote saying he loved her even more and hoped they could marry on his return. Imagine his amazement when, by return, he had a letter from the girl saying sorry, but that would not be possible as she had just married the postman!

So I had better stop this bit of communicating, but not without saying that I hope to be "communicating" most of you myself when you come to your Easter Communion, details of which follow.

PETER STEPHENS. Rector.

Services for Holy Week and Easter, 1995. In the Benefice of All Saints Thurlestone with South Milton.

April 13th. Maundy Thursday. "In the same night he was betrayed"
7.30 p.m. Holy Communion. South Milton.

continues..

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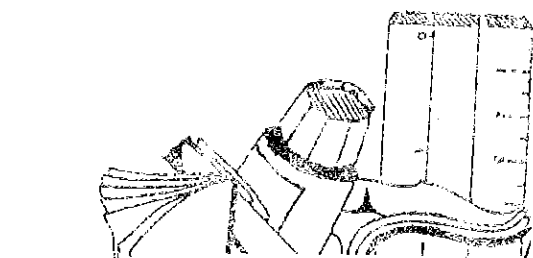
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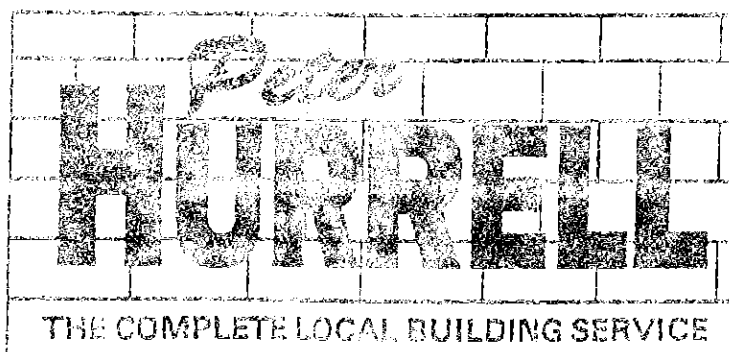
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POSTBAG..POSTBAG..POSTBAG..POSTBAG..POSTBAG..POSTBAG..POSTBAG..

Dear Madam,

A lot of us have become progressively more and more horrified as the Throw-Away Society seems to have taken over lives.

Appliances seem to be made to last just a little longer than their guarantee, and in most cases are not repairable. Do you remember when you could buy a new element for your Electric Iron for 2/6d- and fix it yourself?

However, perhaps this trend is reversing, as I see a New magazine called 'Penny Pinchers' or similar has just been launched. Are we quitting our throw-away society and returning to our former, more economical, caring way of life?

I recently tried, as an experiment, to see how cheaply I could feed my family of 2 for a week. I bought a Turkey, before Christmas, for £2.01, and deep froze it. After de-frosting this made Hot Roast Turkey - cold Turkey and later a luscious curry; then pancakes in cheese sauce stuffed with minced turkey.

A pound of Minced meat gave us 3 different meals. We had muesli, toast, butter and Marmalade for Breakfasts, and lots of apples, oranges, and bananas and fresh vegetables. All in all, I spent £7.00 per head for the week, on food.

Thus inspired, I thought of other ways of saving money. While cleaning my teeth, I wondered why I didn't use just a toothpick and a good rinse with SW water? Or why not a twig from the garden to replace the toothpick?

I'm sure the good burghers of this parish who have survived the war know of many a thrifty tip. Why not send in your ideas to Village Voice so we can start our own Crafty Cuts Corner in Village Voice.

Rosemary Mackay
(with a few crafty cuts
from Bruce)

Landpath, Thurlestone.

DEAR EDITORS,

As this is our swansong edition, we'd like to take our last chance of putting into Village Voice absolutely anything we fancy. At this moment we really fancy saying thank you to everyone who helped us in any way over the years with the magazine. Thank you, too, for your kind words (and pictures).

We know that your new team will make Village Voice better and better as the years roll by and that you will support them as you have with the production of 73 editions so far.

We are looking forward to the 100th Edition Celebrations!

PENNY AND KENDALL McDONALD,

Cradles Cottage, Thurlestone.

TRAMP'S PROGRESS (continued)

These walks were approximately 10 miles with about four and a half hours of actual walking time each.

Our March 1st walk was organised by Stuart Reynolds and took place in the Dart Valley between Hembury Woods and Holne Chase. However, as this walk is in the main over privately owned land, where written permission well in advance has to be obtained, and is seldom given, I will not detail the route other than to say that all 10 walkers thoroughly enjoyed the day, although afternoon hail storm did have a dampening effect.

Our April and May walks are as listed in the last issue of Village Voice, but full details will be found both at the Post Office and Village Stores approx. 10 days before the events (April 5th and 19th and May 3rd and 17th).

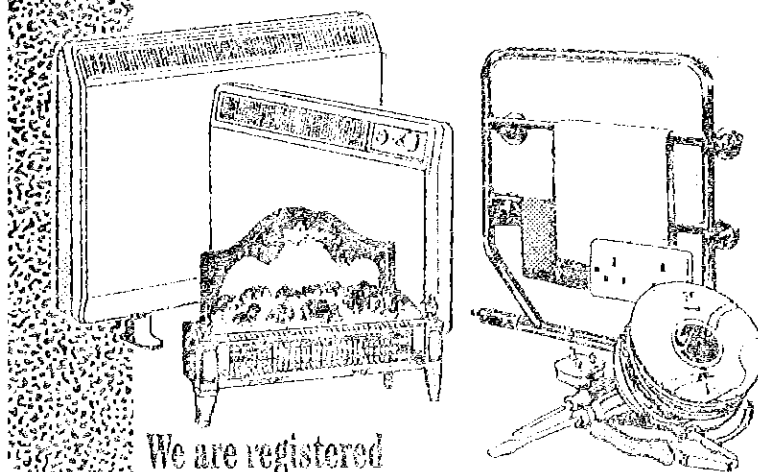
D.M.Y.

PRONUNCIATION FOR FOREIGNERS.

I take it you already know
of TOUGH and BOUGH and CAUGHT 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 BBARD and sounds like BIRD,
And DEAD is said like BBD 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 in MOTHER
Nor BOTH in BOTHER nor BROTH in BROTHER,
And HERE is not a match for THERE,
Nor DEAR and YEAR for BEAR and PEAR,
And then there's DOSE and ROSE and LOSE -
(just look them up) - and GOOSE and CHOOSE,
And CORK 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!

Pauline Eaton.

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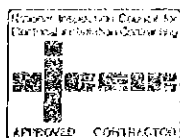
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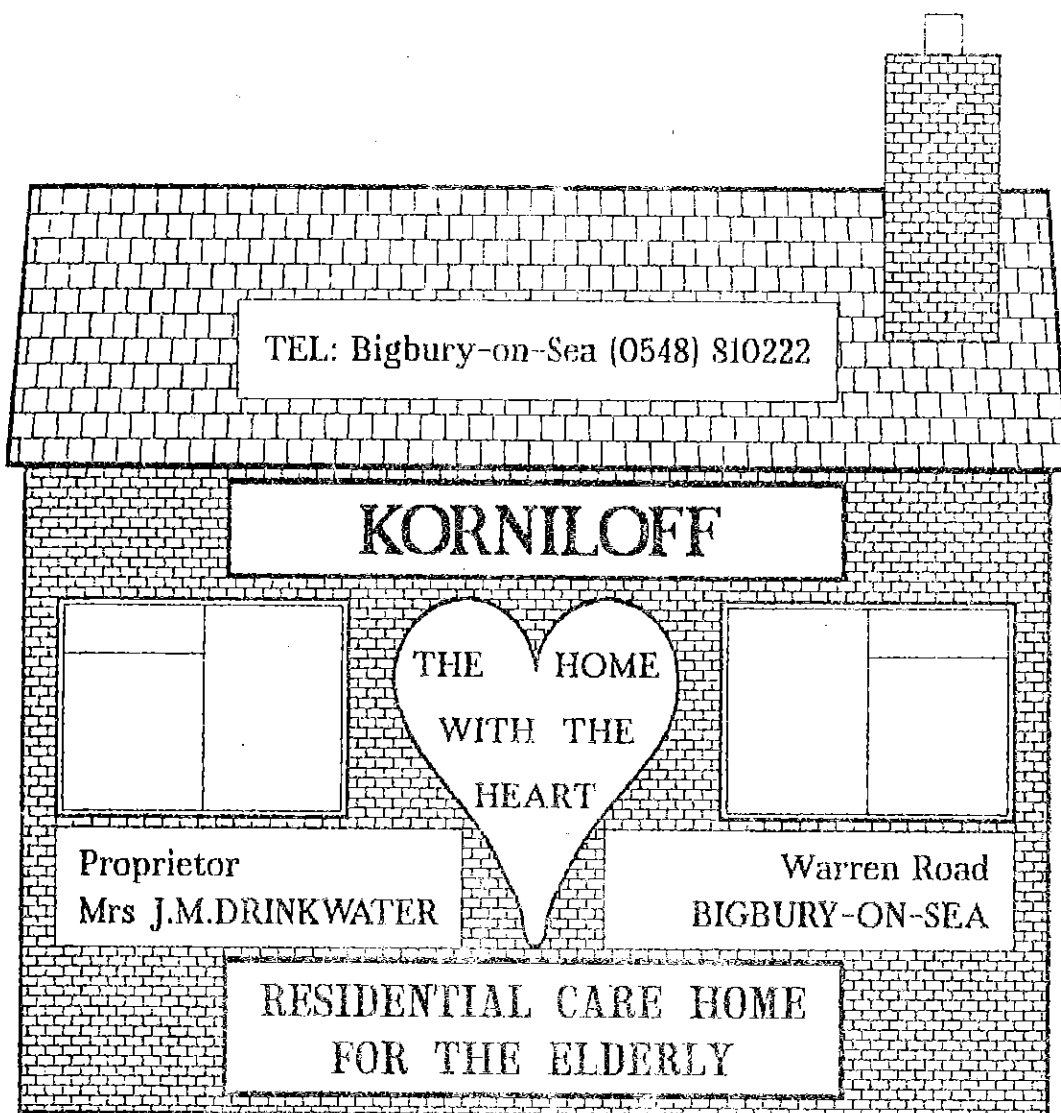
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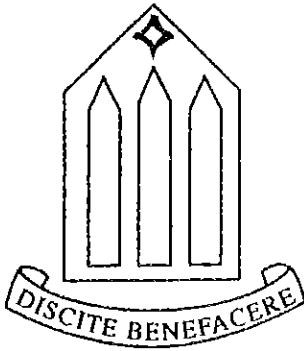
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ALL SAINTS SCHOOL THURLESTONE

VILLAGE PEOPLE.

IT IS SOMETIMES said that primary schools provide a storehouse of memories that enrich and inform the rest of our lives. One of the great benefits of a village school is that so many people from the local community—who have no particular link with the pupils—regard the school with such interest and affection. This greatly enhances the experiences of the children who are aware from their earliest years that the school is an essential part of the village and that they have a mutually enriching effect upon each other.

Just last week, the television cameras were in school and we featured in the West Country Live programme on March 3rd. The focus of interest was our link with a school in Russia and the fact that we are at the moment trying to put together a video of the school to send to the children of School Number 4, Yaroslavl. One of the principal aims is to show the richness and variety of experiences in our school.

Yet it was the cameraman from Westcountry Television who assumed that we would not be focussing wholly on the school. He said that almost 30 years ago he had been involved in making a film about Thurlestone entitled Village People. This was made in the days of Westward TV and is still held in their archives. It was made in Black & White and some people reading this may remember it. Certainly it is available on loan & it may be possible to arrange a viewing. If anyone is interested or is able to remember the film I should be glad to hear from them.

The really important point however, is that a link should instantly have been made between the school & the local community with scarcely a moment's reflection. It seems to me that one of the most worthwhile activities that we can pursue is to try to do this by trying to help children to make sense of their world. As teachers we try to do this by exposing them to new & interesting experiences that enlighten their minds and stir their imaginations. Later this month the school orchestra will be performing in the Devon Proms Concert in Torquay before we break up for Easter, some children will be visiting The Exploratory - a science centre in Bristol. And next term there will be a week's residential experience in N. Wales. All these, & others before, have been deliberately contrived to enliven children's experiences. Sometimes, however, it is the sense of feeling part of a caring & interested community that provides the worthwhile and enduring elements within all our lives.

ALUN WILLIAMS
Headmaster.

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Closing Date for the June-July issue of Village Voice is

M A Y T H E F I R S T .

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VE-DAY CELEBRATIONS

in

THURLESTONE PARISH

on the

8th MAY 1995

Programme:

3 p.m. Street Party for School children

**4 p.m. Peace-A-Peal. Sponsored bell-ringing
in aid of The Children's Society**

**6 p.m. Dancing on the Village Green and
Bar-B-Que.**

**8 p.m. Lighting the Beacon. On the site of the Armada
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**Any help with the celebrations (and any donations) would be
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"PARISH ASPECTS"

Thurlestone Parish Hall

Saturday 1st April 10am - 4pm

&

Sunday 2nd April 10am - 1pm

THE RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN AT
12 NOON ON SUNDAY

As you know the Parish Hall Committee is applying for a Public Entertainment Licence for Thurlestone Parish Hall. This is going to involve certain additional expenses the biggest of which will be the replacement of the EXIT/FIRE door (which will be required by the Health & Safety Inspectors). We know this will cost in the region of £500/£600.

Over the week-end of 1st/2nd April I am holding a two day exhibition (10am - 4pm Saturday, 10am - 1pm Sunday) at which will be on display all the original drawings of the front covers of Village Voice from the Jan/Feb 1987 issue when I first became involved with the bi-monthly magazine. Also on show will be the exhibit I created with the help of Kendall McDonald (based on 'The Story of Thurlestone, Bantham and West Buckland') for the 'Featured Village' at the Cookworthy Museum last year and a collection of pictures produced by the 'Rising Generation' Art Group.

The purpose of this notice is twofold. Firstly, to ask if you would very kindly advertise this event at your forthcoming gatherings and secondly, to ask if you would very generously provide a raffle prize. The raffle, which we hope to make a big 'draw' will be the only fund raiser.

The intention is to provide the opportunity for parishioners and visitors to see, and hopefully enjoy, different artistic aspects of the parish. Light refreshments will be available (coffee, tea, soft drinks, biscuits etc) very kindly provided and organised by the Mums of the Junior Art Group. The raffle will be drawn at 12 noon on the Sunday and all proceeds will go towards the cost of replacing the EXIT/FIRE door.

I am hoping that with your help this venture will prove a worthwhile and memorable event.

Thank you.


Len Hubbard

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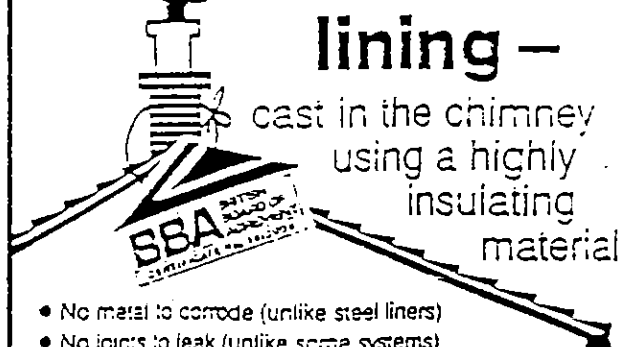


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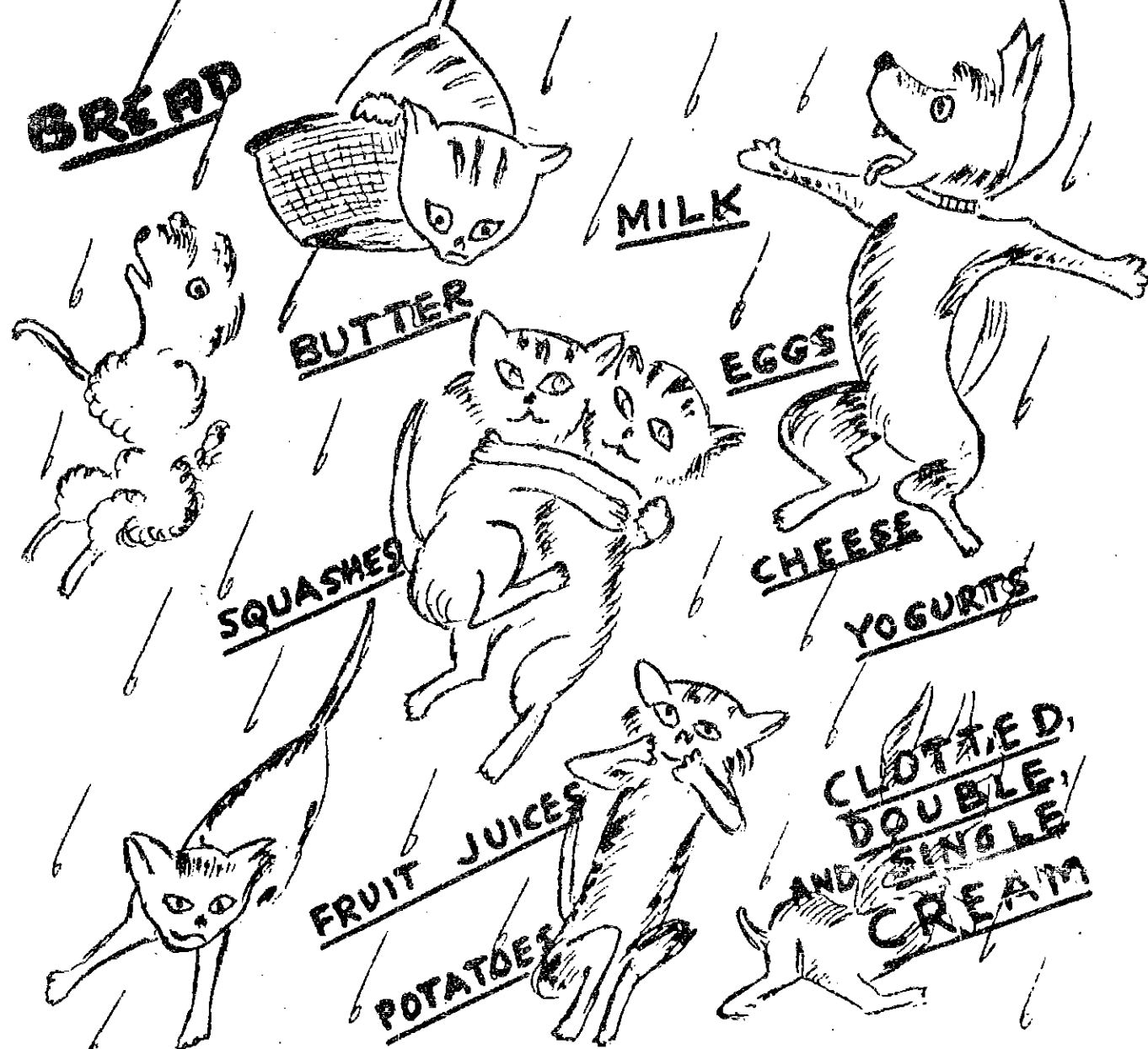
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THURLESTONE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held in The Parish Hall on 19th April, 1994, at 7.30 pm.

Chairman: Cllr. Derrick J. Yeoman, (Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council).

Speakers: Mr. Edward Chorlton, (County Engineer & Planning Officer).

County Councillor Simon J. Day.

Police Inspector P. Patrick and Constable M. Rushworth.

District Councillor A.R. Watson.

Cllr. Mrs. V.P. White, (Member of Plymouth Community Health Council).

Present: Cllr. C.B. Mitchelmore and 32 other Parishioners.

Clerk : Mr. W.G. Ladd, (Clerk to the Parish Council).

The Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council took the Chair, explaining that Cllr. Peter Hurrell had been delayed on an important exercise for the Coastguard Service but hoped to present his Chairman's Report later in the proceedings. Cllr. Yeoman welcomed all present and introduced the County Engineer, Mr. E. Chorlton to address the Meeting.

Mr. Edward Chorlton proceeded to describe the work of his Department which ranged from Highway Design and Traffic Management to Strategic Planning and Waste Management for the whole of Devon.

The County had some 9,000 miles of carriageways, more than any other County, with 97,000 lamps, 12,000 traffic signs and thousands of bridges, milestones, and other monuments, plus public rights of way involving another 6,000 signs. A traffic management centre controlled all Devon's traffic signals and was the first in the country equipped to anticipate ice and other climatic conditions. Salting of our roads costs £20,000 a time so Centre had satellite imaging with thermal mapping to guide where salting desirable and where snow blowers, bulldozers, etc. likely to be needed most.

However, despite all efforts more than 4,000 traffic accidents still occurred annually in Devon, the numbers of vehicles having increased by 30% since 1985 and were forecast to double in the next ten years. Thus traffic matters were still of high priority and the county book on traffic calming had become the international reference book on that subject. The Police placed great attention to driving standards, particularly with campaigns against drink-driving and also on the dangers of sleepy driving, and a skid pan had been created at the Devon Drivers' Centre which had cost £500,000 but sponsorships had contributed over half that sum. Very good courses on skid control were now available. Speed cameras, rumble strips, chicanes, etc. were some of the methods now being used to restrain anti-social driving. A child hit at 40 mph was certain to be killed, at 30 mph had a 50/50 chance of surviving, and at 20 mph only 20% were likely to prove fatal.

In all these ways, great efforts were being made to improve the quality of life as the world grows smaller. The recent Rio Conference and Agenda 21 proposals with local conferences were all aiming to make the 21st Century more environmentally friendly with a better Devon in a better world. Management of more than 197,000 tons of waste each year, as well as all minerals, quarries, and many other environmental and civic amenity issues, listed buildings and archeological sites all had to be cared for, some by the County Council alone and others jointly with the District Councils.

The County Engineer clarified queries concerning the Park & Ride Schemes for which District Councils are responsible, Government funding of some highway improvements, problems of road works by public utilities which now included Cable TV companies, and roadside verges grass cutting. He acknowledged being aware of the repeated requests over several years for traffic calming actions in Thurlestone and Bantham which even lacked 30 mph speed limits, but explained that all such measures, even rumble strips, cost money when financial considerations necessitated expenditure being controlled, so that such needs had mostly to be restricted to locations where people were dying.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Chorlton for his informative and enlightening report and invited Councillor Simon Day to address the Meeting.

Continued.

County Councillor Simon Day endorsed the County Engineer's comments, adding that it would cost an impossible £12 millions for the County to meet all requests for traffic calming schemes.

Cllr. Day mentioned that he was now Leader of the National Association of County Councils, but no longer Leader of Devon County Council, now a "hung" Council with the Liberal Democrats the largest party and so deciding the County budget within the terms set by the Government. Regrettably the County was currently being treated very unfavourably by HMG when compared with Kent and the Home Counties; for example the transport support grants to Devon were very poor indeed this year. Representations were being made accordingly!

The future local government of Devon was still being studied by the special Commission and the wishes of everyone had been sought. It appeared that most currently favoured retention of the two-tier system except for Plymouth - the 10th largest City in the country - as was evidenced at the meeting held jointly by Thurlestone and Malborough last November which overwhelmingly supported that system. The alternative proposal of creating six Unitary Authorities in Devon would cost some £18 to £20 millions.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Day and welcomed Inspector Patrick and Constable Rushworth to the Meeting.

Inspector Peter Patrick outlined the new Divisional structure expected to give improved Police coverage for the South Hams, confirming that public order and crime prevention remained the top priorities. Burglaries had locally decreased by 20% and marine crimes were now the main issue involving teams of criminals from Plymouth and elsewhere. Vigilance and prompt actions were necessary and he commended Constable Rushworth for arresting two most difficult criminals at 3.30 am only the previous week. Being invited to comment, that Constable said his involvement in the Parish - now in his second year - showed the important contributions made by Residents by participation in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, now including Lambs Close, and general support from the Parish as well as the co-operation of the School to enable instructions of young cyclists. The installation of a closed circuit TV camera on the Sloop Inn was an especially valuable assistance towards Policing in Bantham.

Answering questions, the Inspector observed that crime prevention was not always assisted by magisterial decisions; sometimes they were disappointingly too lenient. He also agreed to study the Parish Council's suggestion to improve safety at Chapel Cross by changing the traffic priorities in favour of the Thurlestone - Bantham route.

The Chairman thanked the Police Officers whom all present applauded.

District Councillor Tony Watson then reported on District Council matters and the efforts made to protect the environment and help employment, such as by building more industrial units for small businesses; 75% of those constructed to date were already fully used.

Referring to the Local Government Review, he explained why he shared the District Council's opinion that South Hams residents would be better cared for in a unitary single-tier council than under continuation of the present two-tier system, even if independence of the second-tier County Council involved the South Hams being merged with Teignbridge and West Devon. That would carry status comparable to Plymouth and avoid the South Hams being in an unequal fight with Plymouth which had aspirations to enlarge its territory. However, everyone had now had the opportunity to make their own submissions currently being considered by the Commission and everyone awaited their final recommendations due to be announced in mid-June.

Councillor Mrs. Veronica White next addressed the Meeting to explain the work of the Community Health Council as part of the independent Government Body created in 1984 to watch on behalf of the public the actions of the National Health Service. Improvements to the South Hams Hospital were a special involvement and the new extension would cost £1.7 million towards which the League of Friends had pledged £500,000 of which £350,000 had already been raised in addition to their efforts to create the Day Hospital.

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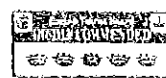
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Mrs. White described in some detail the Hospital's planned enlargement on which work would commence next September, involving a new wing with 20 beds and 2 consultation suites for optical, dental and orthodontic treatment as well as occupational and physio therapy, all served by a large new car park. As a totally separate project, a new Health Centre to be financed by the F.H.S.A and Doctors' G.P. Practice, was to be built on adjacent land with access from Trebble Park and with 50 car parking spaces. That would enable the Doctors to have close contact with their hospitalised patients.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Tony Watson and Mrs. Veronica White for their helpful contributions to the business of the Meeting and awareness of Parishioners.

Cllr. Yeoman observed that Cllr. Hurrell had still not been able to join the Meeting and on his behalf presented the Chairman's Report for the year just ended:

- a). The Precept for the current year 1994/95 had been set at £4,600, an increase of £100, so the Parish charge for a Band 'D' property would be about £7.63 compared with the District average parish charge of £14.84 and charges of £23.36 and £36.89 for Kingsbridge and Totnes respectively.
- b). Village Voice magazine continued to be much enjoyed by everyone thanks to the efforts by Penny and Kendall McDonald (applause by all), but they would welcome more feed-back from Parishioners.
- c). Parish Hall problems demonstrated the eventual need to replace the Hall, but in the light of the suggestion by Evans Estates Ltd. offering a possible playing field behind the Church, study was being made whether that might also be a possible site for a new Parish Hall.
- d). 31 Planning Applications had been considered, 26 having been supported, the objections including two schemes on the Rowan Cottage site, and one at Mill Barn, West Buckland.
- e). Bantham Beach had been awarded a Blue Flag by the Tidy Britain Group despite opposition from the Parish Council on fears about the inadequacy of the roads, but it had succeeded in excluding Leas Foot Beach from SHDC's application because of its inadequate car parking facilities.
- f). Traffic priorities at Chapel Cross were hopefully to be changed in favour of Thurlestone to Bantham traffic.
- g). The security camera at Bantham was to be totally controlled by the Police and thus assist their Policing of that vulnerable area.
- h). Installation of an automatic arm to regulate charges for cars parking on Bantham Ham had been proposed by Evans Estates Ltd. but was unlikely to be operative this year.
- i). Erosion of passing places on the Bantham Road had been discussed with the Divisional Surveyor, but a remedy not yet evolved.
- j). Maintenance of Thurlestone Bus Shelter was being arranged by the Parish Council and a new pathway suitable for wheelchairs being constructed.
- k). The Local Government Review had been given much attention and no change preferred.
- l). Starter Homes land off Seaview Road had been acquired by SHDC and it was hoped that finance from Housing Associations would be available in 1995/96.
- m). The Village Skip Service was to be repeated by SHDC in week from 20th June.
- n). The Sewage scheme now operated satisfactorily.
- o). Les Dyer's efforts as the Parish Street Sweeper were commended.
- p). Oil Boom Buoys with anchorages prepared at Bantham by SHDC were ready to be placed across the River Avon if more oil spillages occurred.
- q). The Parish Tree Warden, Cllr. Charles Mitchelmore, had advised on many problems and attended several meetings.
- r). The Parish Clerk had written many letters and his work on behalf of the Parish was commended by all.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50 pm, thanking all present for their support and attendance, and then presenting a Chairman's gavel to the Parish Council for use at future Meetings.

Chairman of the Meeting.

SPEED LIMIT and TRAFFIC CALMING

The Parish Council has at last managed to convince the County Council, the Highways Authority, of the desperate need for action to deter vehicles being driven at speed through our Villages, as has been so vehemently discussed at most Parish Annual and Council Meetings for several years.

Accordingly a 30 mph speed limit is soon to become operative for the Villages of Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland in one speed-controlled area linked also to the part of South Milton near the former Links Hotel.

To emphasise the urgent traffic-calming needs, modest rumble strips in silver-grey thermoplastic are also being laid as soon as possible across the three principal access roads at Kerse Cross, Bantham and Leas Foot. They will be laid in groups of ten strips, 150mm wide, 6mm high at 500 mm spacings, which should be sufficient to remind drivers not to drive too quickly, without impeding emergency vehicles or creating problems for agricultural loads, animals, or undue noise or vibrations when slower speeds are achieved.

The strips of silver-grey colour will be similar to those being used in Dartmoor National Park and a few other conservation areas, being considered more environmentally friendly than yellow strips. They will be non-luminous but clearly visible in headlights and neither the rumble strips nor the speed restrictions will necessitate any additional street lighting, although five 30 mph roundels, non-illuminated, will be sited on the access roads nearing the Villages, and on the South Milton road.

Maps showing the precise locations of the 30 mph signs and rumble strips are displayed on various notice boards around the Parish.

For further information please contact the Parish Clerk on Kingsbridge 560686.

P.W.J. Hurrell,

Chairman of the Parish Council.

LOCAL NEWS VIA A FAX FROM FRANCE:

The W.I. would like to thank everyone who kindly responded to our appeal for goods that could be offered for sale in the St. Luke's Hospice Shops.

We received gifts from Thurlestone, West Buckland and South Milton, and when the large Hospice van left for Plymouth, it was full! On arrival, a team of volunteers was waiting to sort and distribute the goods immediately to their various shops.

St. Luke's Hospice tell us that they are delighted with this W.I. venture - the first of its kind - and have expressed their gratitude.

In our turn we thank Peter Bromfield, our local milkman, who distributed our publicity for the appeal - one more good reason to buy our milk at the doorstep!

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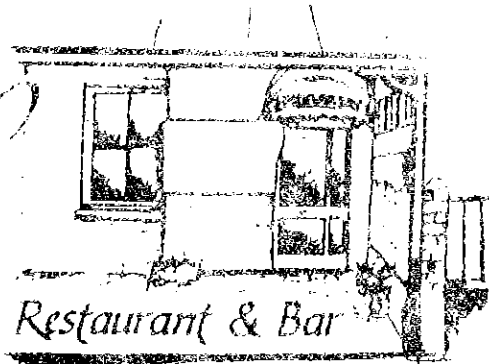
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Kate's Kitchen



CHOCOLATE is enjoyed by everyone as a confectionery or in cakes and puddings.

It was the firm of Fry & Sons of Bristol who around 1845 combined the extracted cocoa butter with chocolate liquor and sugar to make the first eating chocolate.

Plain chocolate, and only the best should be used in cooking for richness in taste and flavour.

Give your family an Easter treat with this chocolate cake recipe.

Chocolate, Cherry and Almond Cake.

5 ozs Margarine; 5 ozs Caster Sugar; 3 ozs Self-raising flour; 2 ozs Ground Almonds, 1 oz Cocoa, 1 tabls. Golden Syrup, 2ozs Plain Chocolate (grated), $1\frac{1}{2}$ ozs flaked almonds or mixed chopped nuts; 4 ozs Glace Cherries (quartered). 3 Eggs (separated).

Grease and line a 7" cake tin. Pre-heat oven to 170/180c. Beat together the margarine, c/sugar, G/almonds, S.R.flour, cocoa, golden syrup and egg yolks; also grated chocolate. Whisk the egg whites till stiff, then fold into choc. mixture together with nuts and cherries. Put into tin, turn oven to 160/170c. and bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour approx. Leave to go cold before decorating.

Topping. 4 - 6 ozs marzipan; 4 ozs Plain chocolate.

Roll out marzipan to fit top of cake, brush cake with a little apric jam or golden syrup warmed. Place marzipan on cake, press firmly and leave for about an hour to dry out.

A softer chocolate coating can be achieved by either adding a knob margarine to the melted chocolate or put 2 tabls. of single cream into a saucepan, heat but do not allow to boil and add chocolate broken into pieces and stir until melted and allow to cool slightly before spreading over the marzipan and letting it run down the side. Decorate with tiny eggs and chicks, flaky bar or you can just leave the cake plain and dredge with icing sugar.

Please note Last month's recipe for a Curried Soup, should have stated 4 ozs cooked chopped chicken etc. - My sincere apologies.

Have you given Village Voice Your Dates for the June-July 1995 issue? Don't miss getting your event into Superguide. Don't delay. On a postcard through the letterbox of the Editor Mrs Pat Macdonald, 25 Meadow Lane, Thurstone. Now please. Next copy deadline for the June Edition is MAY THE FIRST. All copy to be delivered to Mrs Pat Macdonald,

ANSWERS. ANSWERS. ANSWERS. ANSWERS. ANSWERS. ANSWERS.

Answers: to the Clueless crossword

Across:- TRIM, BERET, RAVE, PARTICIPATE, NOUN, AVID, LUNGE,
PLAQUE, TWINES, PIE, TITILLATE, NIL, ENVOYS, TROJAN,
WATCH, BITE, PRIM, OCTAGONALLY, MEMO, SISAL, MAZE.

Down :- TURNIP, MEAN, BATTLE, RECONCILIATIONS, TAPPET, ROTA,
EXODUS, PUMA, EVEN, LIKEN, UNIFY, WATER, EXTRA, PIN,
ELL, EMBLEM, VETO, SWEARS, THRALL, JURY, NUMBLE, ECHO,
PLUM.

OR; :- A1, B9, C13, D6, E14, F11, G19, H4, I 18, J20, K7, L25,
M15, N8, O 21, P1, Q23, R16, S24, T3, U26, V12, W17, X5
Y22, Z10.

ANSWERS - TO THE BRIDGE:-

Pairs	No.	Contract.	Tricks.	By.	North Plus	South Minus	Match Points
1	3	5D + 1	12	S	620		10
2	5	5D + 1	12	S	620		10
3	7	6C - 1	11	N		100	1
4	9	5C - 1	10	N		100	1
5	2	5C + 1	11	N	620		10
6	4	5C	11	N	600		5
7	6	3NT +2	11	N	660		14
8	8	6C*	12	N	1540		16
9	1	5C	11	N	600		5

*=Doubled,

LETTERS EXTRA...LETTERS EXTRA...

Dear Sir and Madam,

When my grandson, Alistair aged nine, went to school, his form mistress addressed the assembled class and told them all that it was the first day of Lent and that during Lent they would be expected to give up something.

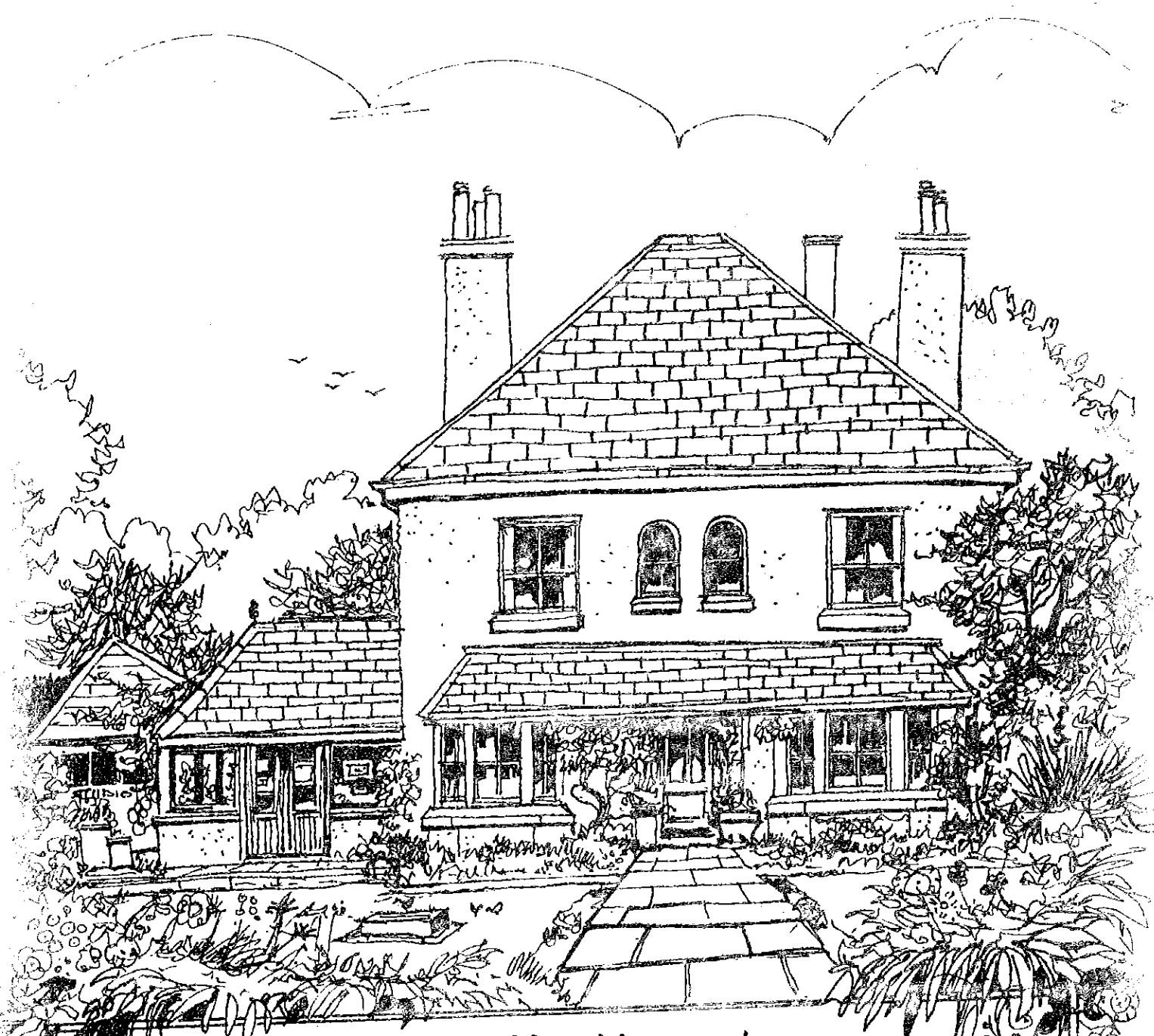
Alistair's hand shot up immediately. "Well, Alistair," she said, "what is it going to be?"

"I'm going to give up school," he said.

"That's going to be a bit of a problem, you see you're meant to give up something you really like".

"That's all right," said Alistair, "I LOVE school!"

PAMELA DARBY,
Heathfield,
Thurlestone.



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Lasagne Verde
Jacket Potatoes
Cottage Pie
Fish Pie

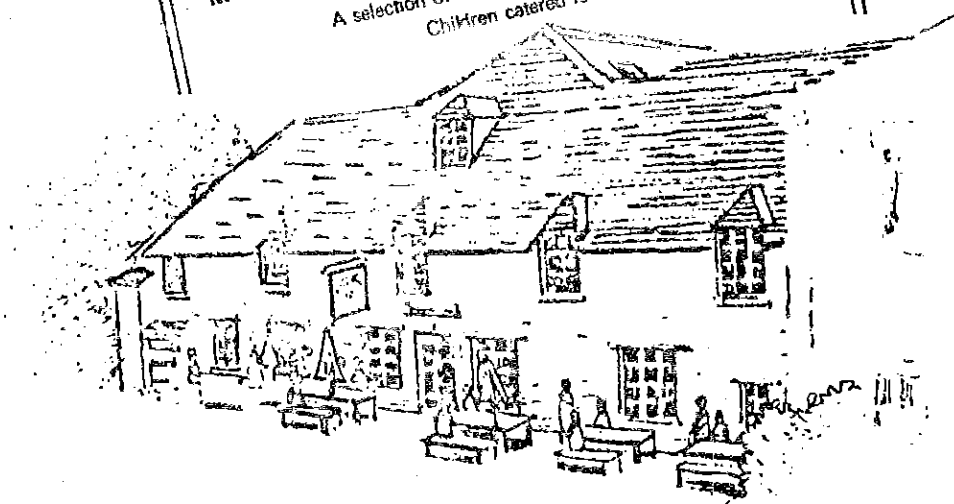
EVENINGS

Prawn Cocktail
Home-made Soup
Smoked Salmon Pate
Fillet Steak
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Grilled Plaice
Chicken Kiev
Lasagne Verde
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Scampi
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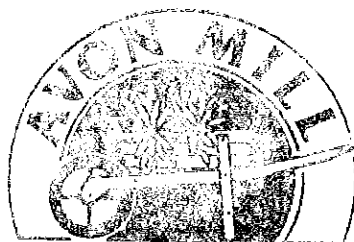
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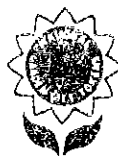
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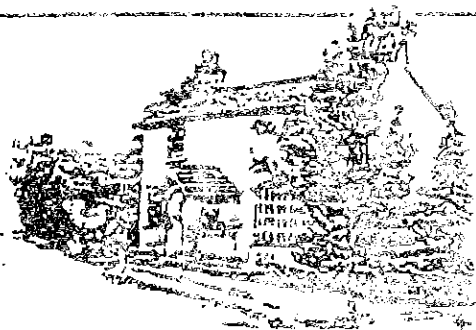
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Village Voice Superguide

April

- Sat 1st Parish Aspects, Len Hubbard Exhibition. Parish Hall. 10a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun 2nd Exhibition continues. Parish Hall 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tues 4th Parish Council meeting. Parish Hall. 7.30p.m.
Wed 5th. Tramp Walk. Lee Mill.
Sat 8th NSPCC Jumble Sale. Parish Hall 2.30 p.m.
Tues 18th Annual Parish Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Wed 19th. Tramp Walk. Kingston.
Fri 21st Merrie England Barn Dance. South Milton Hall 8pm.
Thurs 27th Antiques and ceramics valuation by Bearne's of Torquay.
Thurlestone Hotel 6.30 p.m.
Mon 24th Mead AGM. Parish Hall. 8pm.

May

- Wed 3rd Tramp Walk. Horrabridge.
Thurs 4th District and Parish Council Elections.
Tues 16th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Wed 17th Tramp Walk. Local area.
Sat 20th Flower and Plant Sale. Horticultural Society. Parish Hall. 2.30pm.

June

- Wed 7th Tramp Walk. Yealmpton area.
Sat 17th Tramp Walk. A trial Saturday walk.
Tues 20th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Wed 21st Tramp Walk. Details to follow.

July

- Sat 1st Conservative Coffee Morning. Thurlestone Hotel 10.30 a.m.
Wed 5th Tramp Walk. Bow Creek/ Ashprington.
Wed 19th Tramp Walk. Newbridge area.
Sat 22nd Church Fete. Rectory Garden 2.30pm.
Tues 25th. Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.

August

- Wed 2nd Tramp Walk. Down Thomas area (West of Yealm).
Sat 5th Thurlestone and South Milton Horticultural Show. Parish Hall
Wed 16th Tramp Walk. North Moors
Tues 22nd Barbecue on the Thurlestone Village Green 6pm.

September

- Wed 6th Tramp Walk South Moors.
Tues 12th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Wed 20th Tramp Walk Moors (Six Stepping Stones)
Fri 22nd Harvest Thanksgiving. All Saints Church 7pm. Supper Parish Hall.

October

- Wed 11th Tramp Walk. Colonel Jones Path (Dartmouth area)
Tues 24th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Thurs 26th Conservatives Bridge Evening. Thurlestone Hotel 6.30 p.m.

November

- Wed 8th Tramp Walk. Marlborough/South Milton.

December

- Sat 2nd Conservatives Christmas Bazaar. Parish Hall 10.30 am.
Tues 5th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 p.m.
Wed 6th Tramp Walk. Christmas Lunch. Details later.

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