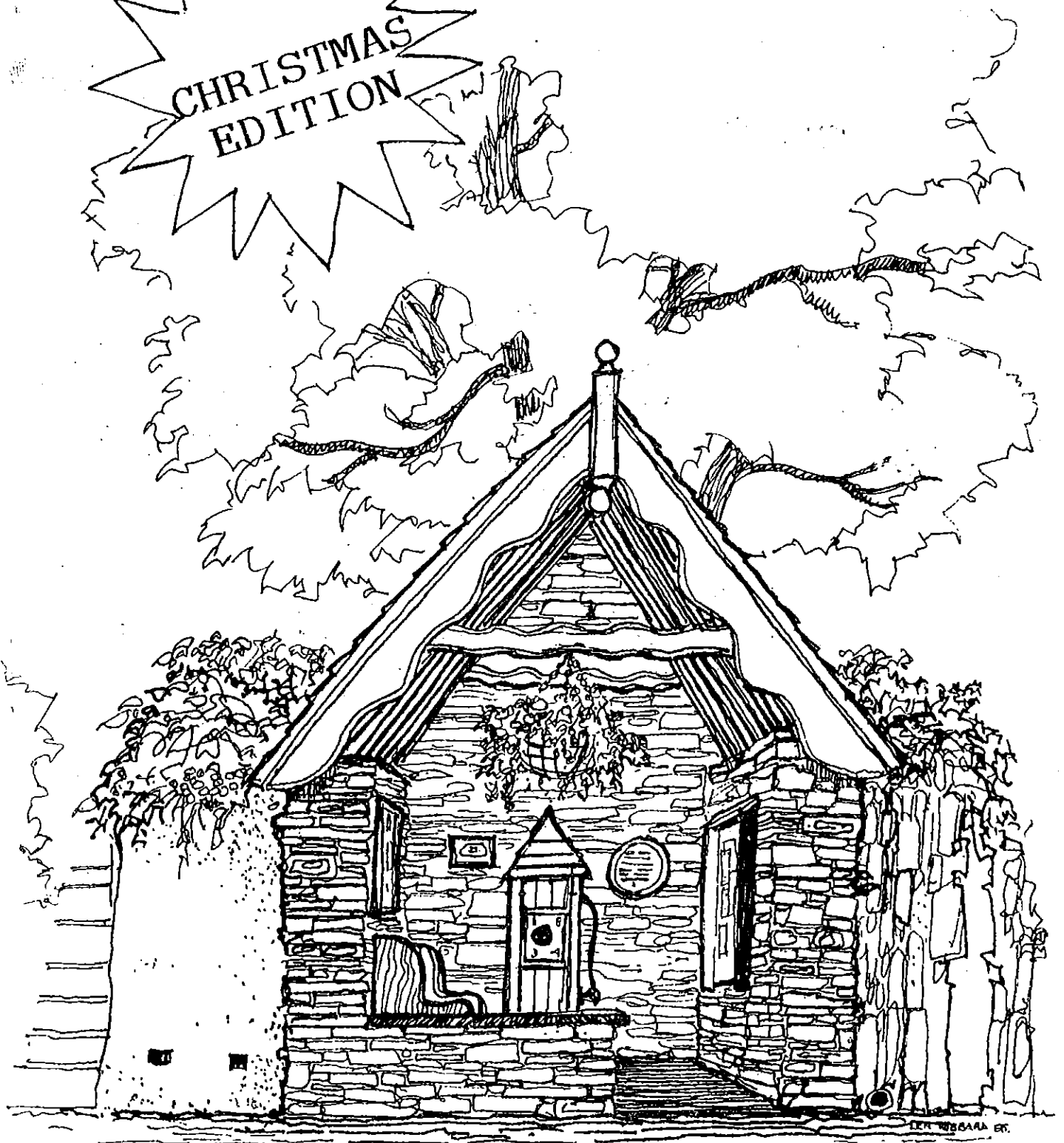


VILLAGE VOICE

CHRISTMAS
EDITION



DECEMBER/JANUARY 1996



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Covers LEN HUBBARD

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THIRTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

DECEMBER 1995-JANUARY 1996

Len Hubbard has asked us to put into print his gratitude to all co-workers on the Pump House project, and to the many people who contributed to the speedy completion of this scheme. The happy village occasion of the Grand Opening (and the cream tea in the Parish Hall afterwards) will long be remembered.

The two subsequent broadcast features on BBC Radio Devon ensured that Thurlestone's endeavour was well and truly aired. There were also several local press articles, including one in the Gazette which was drawn to our notice. It said "One final touch remains to complete the pumphouse - a yolk, which would have been used by villagers to carry water back to their homes." Sorry, Gazette - this time the yolk's on you!

Village Voice would like to say "Thank YOU Len for the great enthusiasm and drive with which you saw this project through to completion. The result is just great!"

In this issue you will find a Christmas short story from the pen of Pru Elder, and a pudding recipe in Kate's Kitchen for the festive time ahead - a sure sign that we are now fast approaching the season of goodwill.... and endless lists! Making any New Year Resolutions? How about putting yourself on the KADSPA diet for 1996 (see our last issue) and helping the swimming pool and bowling facility to become a reality?

Meantime, a Happy Christmas to all our readers!

FROM THE RECTOR

St Crispin's Day, 25 October 1995

I am writing this exactly two months before Christmas. First, a "thank you" to all parishioners who supported the church's St. Crispin Fayre. It had a number of benefits:

- (1) It introduced a number of folk to a new confectionery "Crispins", invented by churchwarden Joan Galloway
- (2) The sale of cakes, cards, candles etc. had the desired result of producing some cash for the church coffers, which without continual topping up would otherwise soon empty
- (3) It has moved one event a little further away from the crowded pre-Christmas calendar
- (4) Lastly, it provided a good time of fellowship amongst our parishioners and also with the large number of visitors still about.

The two months between now and Christmas will soon disappear, so I give below details of the services at both churches in the benefice, since there is much interchange these days, and especially at the major church festivals.

First, **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES** at which we will keep our silence and lay wreaths at Memorials:

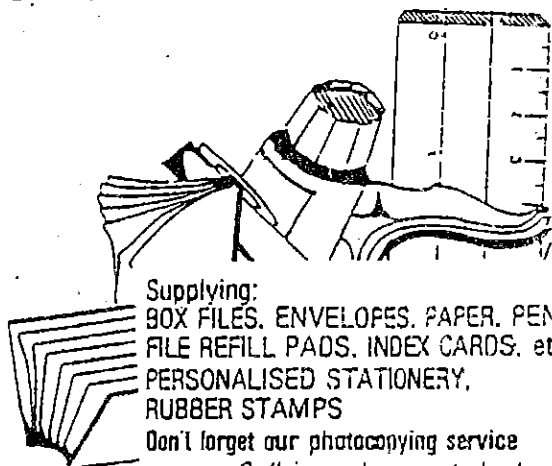
November 12th	9.30 am South Milton Parish Church 11.10 am Thurlestone Parish Church
---------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

Secondly, CHRISTMAS & PRE-CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 10th	9.30 am South Milton 'Toy Service' and Lighting (for both parishes) of the Christmas Tree
December 17th	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 11.10 am Thurlestone, 6 pm South Milton
December 23rd	Placing Figures in the Crib 3 pm South Milton, 4 pm Thurlestone
Christmas Eve December 24th	First Communion of Christmas (or 'Midnight' Eucharist) 10.15 pm South Milton 11.45 pm Thurlestone
Christmas Day December 25th	8 am Thurlestone Holy Communion All family worship followed by Holy Communion 9.30 am South Milton 11.10 am Thurlestone

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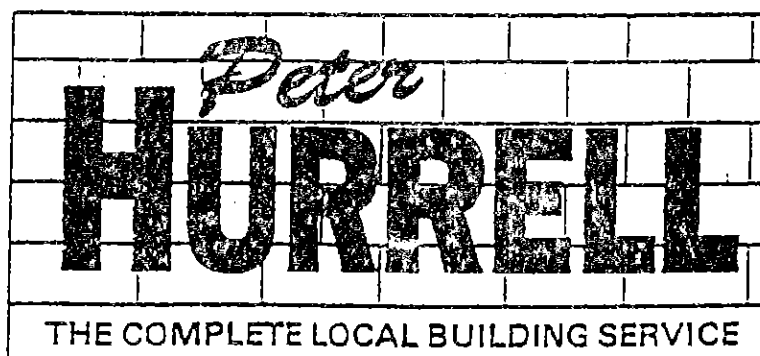
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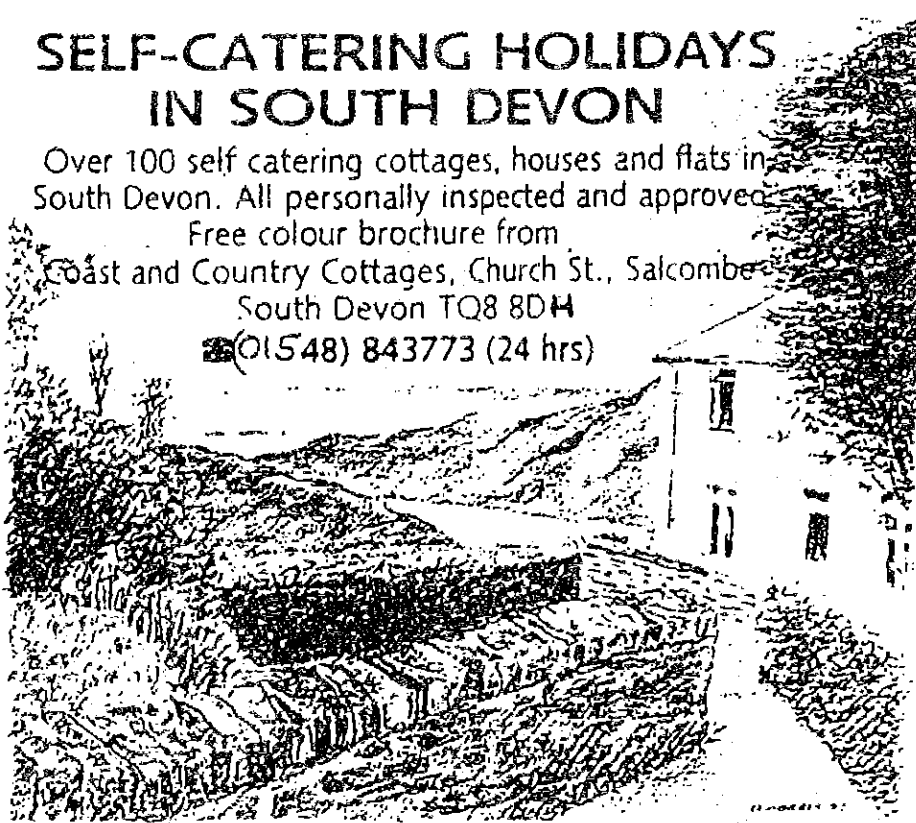
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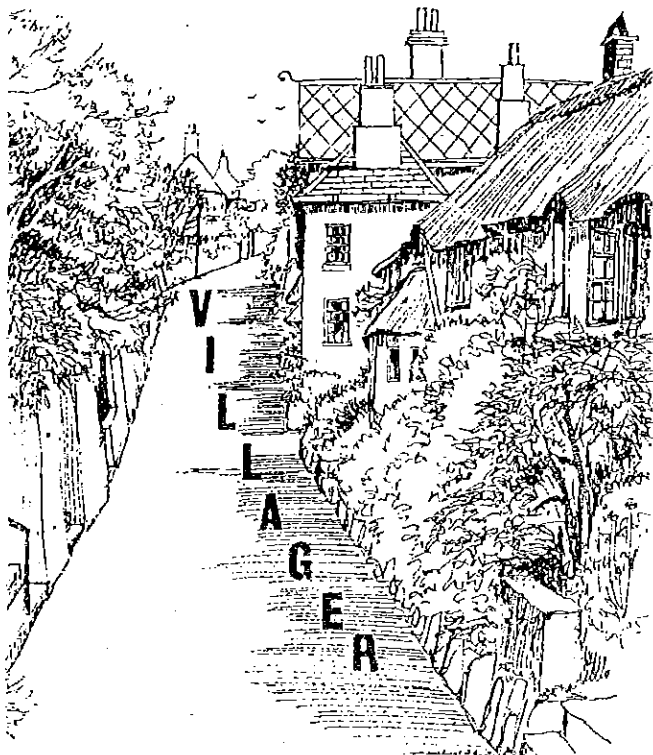
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LOTS OF LIFE in the old village yet!

That's what I thought when I saw the huge turnout for the grand opening of the Thurlestone Pump House by Ida Smith, ably assisted by Len Hubbard. Seriously, Len has done a great job and without him I doubt if the pumphouse would ever have been restored. Every village needs a Hubbard in its cupboard!

All those flowers, shining paintwork and neat walls. I doubt if anyone who drew water from the well or pump in the good-old, bad-old days would have recognised it. Or ever will now that Derrick Yeoman has promised

to keep the flower baskets on it in bloom summer and winter!

That's not the only change worth noting in the village. While the village celebrated in front of the pumphouse, an overalled figure leant on his fork and rested for a while from his task as the new owner of Trethurle of clearing out the roof of the dust and chaff of centuries past. That creature with straw in his hair is Ian Fredericks who, with Jeanette, has come to live in the village. You may be sure that they received the usual warm welcome that older residents reserve for those who come to live among them! 'Cos its nice to see the young moving in to live here, now isn't it? Hope they don't think we have pumphouse parties every week!

Trethurle dates from the mid-1600s and the old beams, woodwork and concealed fireplaces that Ian is uncovering are an amazing sight. He has to preserve all the features he uncovers, no matter how fragile the wood has become in places, because this building, like much of the village, is listed. By the time you read this, re-thatching should be underway in the very local and capable hands of Chris Broomhead. The front of the building has now had the old hedge cleared away and you can see how big the cottage really is.

Something else that's changed in the village is the re-naming of the 'Bantham Turn' - or 'Buckland Turn' - as some who live that way have called it for generations. Suddenly someone has put in a new signpost and labelled it "Rockhill Corner". Now who's done that? Whoever it was didn't bother to consult the Parish Council. This unauthorised name change has confused a lot of people including, it would seem, that nice Police Inspector - last seen directing traffic from the Pump House Party round the Bantham Turn to send them home to Kingsbridge!

Can anyone name a corner or cross-roads? Offhand, I can think of a few choice names for junctions in the parish, can't you?

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

17th OCTOBER 1995

POLICE

Police Constable Martin Rushworth will be returning to our area, having recently been elsewhere as part of a team targetting "baddies", during which 140 search warrants were issued and over 200 arrests made. As a result a lot of stolen property has been recovered. However, we are still being warned not to leave any items of value visible in our cars, and even warned against leaving valuables in locked car boots.

ROAD SIGNS

The promised 30 mph road signs may be erected by November.

PUMPHOUSE RESTORATION

Len Hubbard reported, saying there had been some criticism of the stone used. It had not been feasible or practicable to use local stone on the project but, given time, it would 'weather'. An attractive cast iron plaque had been donated, and would be placed inside the pumphouse with a smaller one at the front. It was with some amusement the meeting heard that "... kindly folk had given the builders quantities of crumpet during the course of the work on the pumphouse". (It is rumoured that the workmanship achieved the high standards it did because of this generosity!)

NEW TOWN?

Councillor Derrick Yeoman reported on meetings about a proposed new town of 6,000 dwellings to be built somewhere in the South Hams. Where will these folk find jobs should it ever get built? No one wants to have this development on their doorstep, - a N.I.M.B.Y. situation.

REGISTER OF ELECTORS

Many people have not returned their voting registration forms to the Returning Officer, so their names will not appear on the electoral register. No register, no vote.

"CITIZEN"

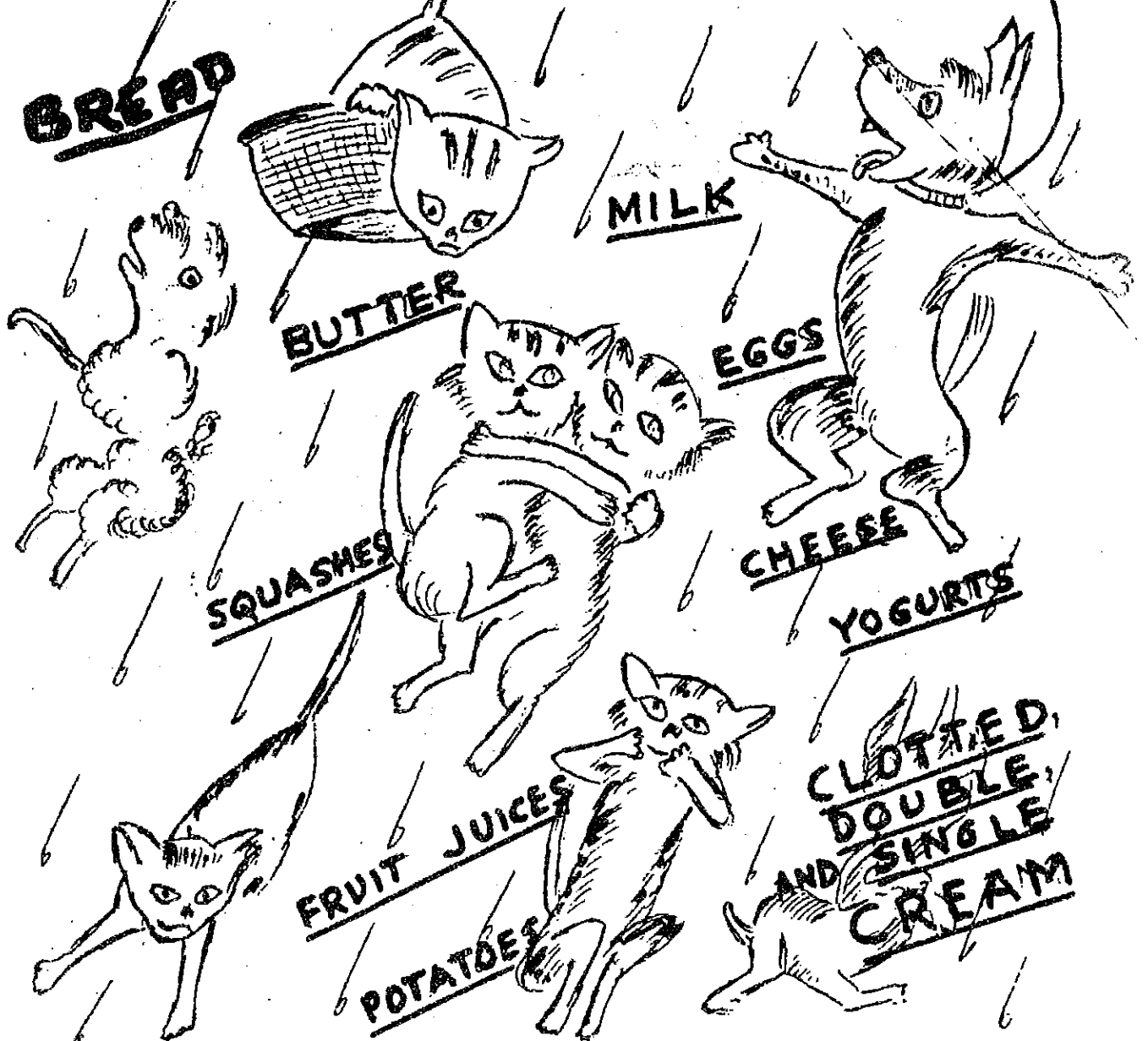
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WISE WORDS

"When you are born, you are given two suitcases. Into the first go all the birthday presents, the sweets, the pretty clothes, the car, the computers...in short, all the material goods that life can give. But in the other suitcase you put all the friendships, good thoughts and love that you gather. And it is only with the contents of the second suitcase that you can travel securely through the world."

Veronica Berlusconi (wife of the former PM of Italy)

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Kate's Kitchen

COUNT-DOWN TO CHRISTMAS

In the last two Christmas issues of Village Voice I have given recipes for main courses....so this time I bring glad tidings to pudding-lovers.

This is a dessert that can be made now, put in the freezer, then brought out to defrost a few hours before it is needed.



CHOCOLATE & TIA MARIA TORTE

3 ozs. butter
3 ozs. caster sugar
1 ozs. cocoa
1 egg yolk
1 tablespoon (approx) Tia Maria (or you can use Rum or Brandy)
2 ozs. chopped hazel nuts
30 to 36 sponge finger biscuits
a generous quarter-pint of strong black coffee

You will also need a quarter-pint of whipping cream to finish, but if using it from the freezer make sure it is defrosted.

Line a round tin approx. 8" in diameter with cooking foil. Soften butter slightly and cream with sugar until light and fluffy. Stir in cocoa, egg yolk, nuts and the alcohol. Mix well, adding a little more alcohol if necessary to make a nice spreading consistency.

Dip sponge fingers - sugar side down - quickly into the coffee, arranging a layer in the base of the tin and covering with half the filling. Repeat the process. Add a final layer of coffee-soaked biscuits with the coffee side uppermost. Cover with foil, seal in a plastic bag and freeze.

When you are ready to use it, unpack and place on its serving plate to defrost in the fridge (about 4 hours). Cover with the whipped cream and decorate with a few chocolate leaves or grated chocolate.

In addition, try this quick Christmas tip: Sprinkle hazel nuts on Brussels sprouts instead of chestnuts. And finally, "Eat, drink, be very jolly, and have a happy New Year!"

TRAMPS PROGRESS - by DEREK YEOMAN

SEPTEMBER 6th LEADER - PAM BREWSTER. After many weeks of Grougth and sunshine, today we were promised rain. Nine of us met at Norsworthy Bridge and setting a fair pace we climbed Downtor, afterwards descending to a "stone row" and thence to Hun's Cross. An early picnic was consumed quickly - in a convenient hollow to escape from the wind - as we could see rain already on the horizon. A quick descent to Sheepstor village was agreed. Declining a suggestion to climb Sheepstor we walked through the Beechcroft plantation and back to our cars...just in time as it started to rain almost immediately. It was a short walk but one which everybody enjoyed, with the leader earning a Gold Star for timing as none of us got wet! (0 miles)

SEPTEMBER 20th LEADERS - DEREK & SALLY YEOMAN. This was originally Ron Savage's walk but as all our members know, he is unable to walk with us at present. As it turned out this walk, known as "Stepping Stones", was voted by the 14 walkers as the best ever - perfect weather, and a real sense of achievement, having crossed the Dart and Swincombe rivers six times without a single person getting wet.

Starting from Dartmeet we immediately crossed the West Dart and then re-crossed upstream at Week Ford. Heading in a generally westerly direction via Hexworthy, we crossed the Swincombe river before heading northwards towards Sherberton and re-crossed the Swincombe. Lunch was taken on the banks of the West Dart at its junction with the Swincombe. After crossing the Dart we headed northwards to Laughter Tor before descending to cross the Dart once more at Laughter Hole. Before reaching Babeny we turned off the road and followed a river path back to the cars. We didn't realise at the time how lucky we were to complete this walk, as one week later we attempted it with some friends only to find some sets of stones completely covered. (9 miles)

OCTOBER 11th LEADERS - DEREK & SALLY YEOMAN. After the glorious weather on the last walk we encountered drizzle, mist, and low cloud on what should have been a splendid walk around the coast on the north side of the mouth of the River Dart. 19 members assembled at Kingswear to follow a route taking us inland past Coleton Fishacre to Scabbacombe Head, where we joined the coastal path. We had hoped that the weather forecast was right and that the mist would clear before we started the very beautiful walk back to Kingswear. Sadly it didn't and we picked our way along the cliff path at times unable even to see the sea. Despite the hills and valleys (which tend to take the strength out of one's legs), we arrived back in Kingswear having traversed the length of path donated to the public by the widow of Colonel H. Jones of Falklands fame. A good walk which would have been so much better had the weather smiled on us. (8 miles)

CHRISTMAS WALK. This is being planned by Stuart & Audrey Reynolds. Audrey unfortunately broke her arm whilst sailing off the French coast. We wish her a speedy recovery.

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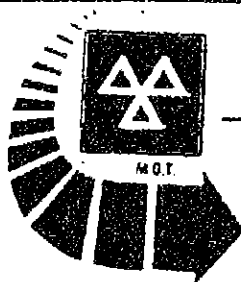
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* NOTABLE RESIDENTS *

* OF OLD THURLESTONE *

* THE *

* SQUARE *

* FAMILY *

* * * * *

The Squares were one of the most prominent families in Thurlestone for at least 200 years up to 1900; at times, they were probably the most prominent. Some of their headstones, neatly aligned, may be seen on the narrow spit of cemetery in the far (north) side of the church, in a privileged position as near as possible to the altar. They date from the second half of the 19th century and are all that remain of the many Squares that were interred over the years. The Squares were already established by 1650 and thrived especially in the 17th and 19th centuries. Their name, which appears no fewer than 158 times in the parish registers of baptisms, marriages, and deaths, virtually disappeared by about 1900, although the last recorded member of the family was Miss Anne Jane Steer Square who was baptised in 1873 and died aged 76 as recently as 1949.

It is sometimes difficult to trace family relationships very precisely with so many of the boys called Henry, William, and Thomas, or to identify all the Square girls who lived in the parish after changing their names on marriage. Yet the figures are large enough to confirm that the Squares were well represented in the village, at least from 1650 to 1900. They frequently inter-married with the other dozen or so leading families in the neighbourhood, most of whom were entitled to use the prefix of Mr. or Mrs. as a form of social distinction and who, with no resident lord of the manor, conducted the affairs of the parish between them for many years.

When in 1777 the Earl of Devon, who then owned all but the northern part of the parish, ordered a meticulous survey of his holdings, Thomas Square was shown as the tenant of a farm of about 250 acres which roughly covered the present golf course, Yarmer, and up to the church and beyond. His house, The Farm, was on land opposite the church now occupied by Kennedy and Furzey Close, with a stretch of parkland bordered by the lane down to Merchant's Field with fields beyond and more fields westwards to include the miniature golf course and the western part of the Mead. Another Square, John of Pearse's Farthing, farmed 70 acres between Buckland and Bantham.

Evidently Thomas Square lived in considerable style and, with almost the whole of the working population employed directly or indirectly by the farmers, the farmers themselves had time to extend their interests further afield. Indeed regular visits to Kingsbridge for the weekly general market and monthly cattle and sheep sales were essential for the disposal

THE SQUARE FAMILY (continued)

of their produce and in order to keep themselves informed on agricultural matters, quite apart from the business and social opportunities that Kingsbridge had to offer. What were these opportunities?

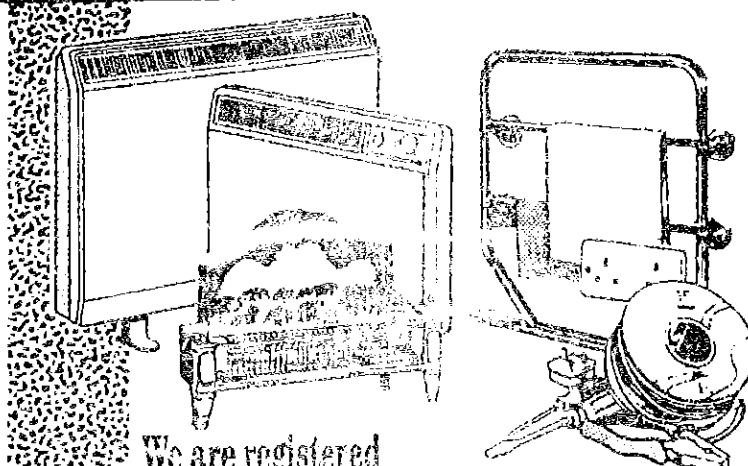
In the period 1650 to 1800 the estuary was a backwater, being completely overshadowed by the ports of Plymouth and Dartmouth. It had fishing and a modest coastal trade, exporting farm products and high-quality cider and importing coal and manufactured goods. By 1650 piracy, which repeatedly put property at risk, was being replaced by smuggling, mainly brandy, wines and tobacco. Trade overland was greatly impeded by the appalling state of the roads. Then, during the Napoleonic era from 1790 to the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, the estuary suddenly came to life, when the demand for farm products and sailing ships vastly increased.

After the wars the estuary continued to prosper as more and more ships were built, ranging from schooners to brigs and barques. Between 1800 and 1880 about 250 were launched, 200 at Salcombe and 50 at Kingsbridge; Date's yard, where the Crabshell Inn now stands, built at least 85 between 1837 and 1912, when it closed. About one half of them were light top-sail schooners of about 100 tons, built for speed and carrying a crew of only 5 or 6 men; they were called "fruit clippers" or "Salcombe fruiterers". They sailed to the Azores for oranges and lemons and then, fully laden, raced to London to catch the best prices.

Unhappily, half of them sank, were wrecked, or lost at sea, mostly because they were too light to withstand heavy seas or hit rocks around the Azores. Some ventured on the hazardous trip to the Bahamas for pineapples. Flags were put out to welcome them home, especially if they returned laden, having failed to find a market for their fruit. The trade reached a peak in the 1860's and had virtually vanished by the 1880's when the crop of fruit was reduced to a third by disease, and steamships replaced sail. Kingsbridge reverted to a calmer existence.

How did the Squares fit into all this? Well, during the comparatively peaceful years from 1650 to 1790 the head of the estuary in Kingsbridge was gradually being developed. The water and foreshore then reached up to Prince of Wales Road (where Boots the Chemists now is), giving two quite separate quays. On the east lay Dodbrooke which was beginning to be involved in ship building. On the west or West Alvington side lay the main waterfront which gradually extended from the bottom of the hill from West Alvington (and was indeed in the parish of West Alvington until it was ceded to Kingsbridge in a change of boundary in 1886) and along the quay past Creek End (Woosters) and on to the existing car park. During this period there were six principal holders of leases and assignments, including a Mr Square and a Mr Ilbert. The whole was called Square's Quay, a name that was generally recognised at least until World War II, and now ordinarily refers to the waterfront occupied by the new car park.

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THE SQUARE FAMILY (continued)

During the Napoleonic wars and subsequent surge in ship-building Square's Quay became in many respects the business centre of the town. In the 1850's land was reclaimed at the head of the estuary (between Boots and the public lavatories) to enlarge available space for transport and goods, whilst the Quay filled with sheds and warehouses, stacks of timber seasoning before being sold for shipbuilding, bunkers of coal and the loading and unloading of local products. To support these activities, other enterprises in the town included a rope walk (opened in 1789), tanneries, sail making, an iron foundry, coach building, a flour mill, serges from wool, two breweries and 25 public houses.

The Squares do not seem to have been overly interested in buying ships, shares in which were almost all owned locally by individuals, families and syndicates. Each ship was put up for sale as 64 shares. John Square bought 16 shares in a schooner in 1828 and sold them two years later; no other reference to a purchase by a Square has been found. On the other hand, the Squares entered into the business of the town. John Henry Square of Thurlestone was an attorney in 1850 and a member of Haley & Co., solicitors of Kingsbridge. John Square was instrumental in founding the first clearing bank in Kingsbridge in 1806.

Several snippets of information suggest an intriguing relationship between the Squares of Kingsbridge and the Ilberts of Bowringsleigh in West Alvington. Both families lived in considerable style and both had trading interests cheek by jowl on Square's Quay - a designation that perhaps the Ilberts resented. Both had substantial holdings on the Quay in the 1600's and 1700's. In 1769 the Ilberts extended their holding and then in 1789 they built Quay House and surrounded it with a low wall (opposite the library) and opened it as a girls' school.

In 1867 the Ilberts claimed Square's Quay as their own and installed an entrance gate which was promptly torn down - as such structures often are in Devon when they are put up in the wrong place. In 1878 J.N.Boon, a coach builder, was appointed collector of Quay Dues for W.R.Ilbert Esq., Gent. Alas that coincided with the end of Kingsbridge's prosperous age. How this sequence of events was received by the Squares is not known. After all, the distinguished parson the Reverend Peregrine Ilbert was Rector of Thurlestone from 1839 to 1895. Now, long after the Squares have gone, we have our Ilbert Road and no more than a few headstones, rapidly becoming illegible, to commemorate the Squares.

Neville Oswald

(My thanks go to Mrs Jeanne Stoggall of the Cookworthy Museum for supplying some notes on Square's Quay)

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THE MIDNIGHT CHIMES

by
Pru Elder

I first heard it from my father, and he from his grand-father, the legend that at midnight on Christmas Eve the oxen kneel down in the straw and bow their heads.

"Well," said my father, "It was a beguiling story but even at the age of ten I was a dyed-in-the-wool sceptic ... 'seeing is believing' was always my motto and the tale of the reverential oxen preyed on my mind. Somehow I had to find out the truth for myself. Even in the dark ages when I was a boy oxen were rare, but there was one old farmer down in the valley who kept a pair. Obstinate old bugger he was - didn't hold with new-fangled ways."

My father smiled, looked at the clock and said "The sun must be over the yard-arm by now. Nip into the kitchen and bring us both a beer."

Dutifully I trotted out, returned with the beer, handed a glass to my father and sat down to await the rest of the tale.

"Those oxen" he said, "huge great beasts with horns that could run a boy through and leave inches sticking out the back, but for all that as docile as new-born kittens. Just as well, as things turned out". He paused for dramatic effect and took a long, slow slurp of his beer. A great one for drama was my old man.

After a moment I grew impatient and asked "So what happened? Did you climb out of your window on Christmas Eve and hot-foot it down to that farm in the valley?"

"Of course" he said. "And I'd have learned the truth if it hadn't been for that little sister of mine - your Auntie May. She was about seven at the time. She must have heard me scuffling about at the window. No sooner was I climbing from the sill to that branch of the apple tree than she was there, hissing that wherever I was going she was coming too. You know how she hates to be left out of anything!"

I certainly did know. It was only by the skin of our teeth that Jenny and I had avoided having her company on our honeymoon. I nodded and Dad went on. "Well, I hadn't much choice but to take her with me, otherwise she'd have been trotting downstairs to tell them what I was up to."

"When she learned the object of our journey she was full of enthusiasm but it was a fair step down to the valley and she was soon whining 'my feet hurt -- it's cold -- I want a drink'....you know what May's like! By the time we arrived at the farm it was nearly too late".

"There was a bright moon that night, a bomber's moon they called it during the war. It was simple to find the barn where the oxen were kept. We were fortunate to find an open window high up in the wall and climbed up with the aid of a wheelbarrow and empty oil drums, then we sat on the sill

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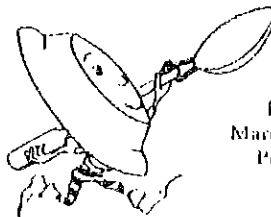
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THE MIDNIGHT CHIMES (continued)

gazing down on the back of the huge, pale beasts." He paused again and drank some beer, enjoying my obvious impatience. "Come on", I said, reacting on cue. "Did the oxen bow down?"

"Wait a bit, lad", my father said, "I'm getting to it. As I said, May and I were sitting there in the moonlight, when suddenly the church clock struck midnight. I'd forgotten the church was so close. The sound hit our ears like a thunderclap".

"May was so startled she lost her seat on the sill, yelled, and plummeted down right on to the neck of one of the oxen. Well, the poor creature made a curious, gasping sound, bowed its head and knelt heavily in the straw. Wouldn't you with your Auntie May landing from a height on to the back of your neck?"

I felt suddenly sad - resenting this intrusion of twentieth century logic - wanting the myth to be true.

My father laughed, then sat quietly, staring dreamily at a point on the wall above my head. "Funny thing, though", he said after a time. "While I was comforting May, searching her for broken bones and soothing the oxen I could swear that I saw, from the corner of my eye, the other beast lift its head and rise slowly from its knees in the straw".

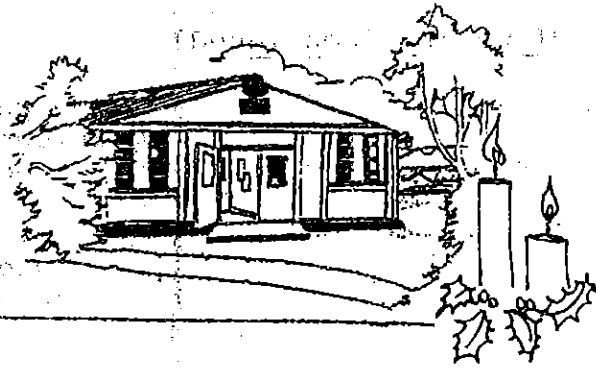
He stared into his glass for a moment, drained it, then looked up at me and smiled. "Anyway" he said "that's my story and I'm sticking to it. If you know any oxen go see for yourself".

* * * * *

A WINTER'S DAY

I bain't a one to make a fuss
And what's the use to swear and cuss?
But it do seem as somebody
Out there do 'ave it in fer me,
Fer I wakes up to soppin' floors
The wind do blow the rain indoors.
The grass outside be like a bog
With this incessant mist and fog
The cold and damp and dearer fuel
Oh deary dear, tes awful cruel.
But I be tougher than old boots
And England 'ere do 'old me roots.
So foreign climes be not fer me
I'll stick it till eternity
To watch the daffies come in spring
And hear the Sunday church-bells ring.
This is the place fer me to be
Fer just as long as I can see.

Hilda R.Davies 1995



THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

The Chairman reports:

In the last issue of Village Voice I reported to you that the rear of the Parish Hall had reverted to the committee and that some £5000 to £6000 would have to be spent on repairs and renovations.

At a recent meeting of the committee it was decided that we should seek the views and suggestions of the parish residents for the future use of this part of the Hall. To this end:

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
will be held on
MONDAY 15th JANUARY 1996 at 7.30 pm

The Parish Council has asked for use of the old kitchen at the rear as an office, where filing cabinets and papers could be stored on a rental basis. The committee are sympathetic to this request, but have resolved that a plan should be evolved for the whole area before any parts are dealt with separately.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS BUT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT OUR SECRETARY, DOROTHY STONE (560708).

We will be very sorry to lose the services of Evelyn Spear, who has been our Hon. Treasurer for no fewer than 19 years. She has taken great care of Hall funds and has ensured that the maximum interest has been obtained on monies in hand - whilst paying bills with due expedition. Her assistance will be greatly missed.

Resulting from this the 'Situations Vacant' column has increased as we now require volunteers for a replacement Treasurer, a 'clerk of works', and any further nominations for Chairman. Again, please let Dorothy Stone, or myself know if you are interested.

The Autumn Fair raised £476 on the day, and we have also received generous donations from the Wednesday Bridge Club and the Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show, which are greatly appreciated.

Very many thanks to all those who helped to run the Fair and also those who supported us by attending.

Rosemary Mackay has just been appointed to the Hall committee as the Thurlestone Bridge Club representative to succeed Alan Counce - to whom we also give our thanks for his help over the past three years. Welcome Rosemary!

John Slinger

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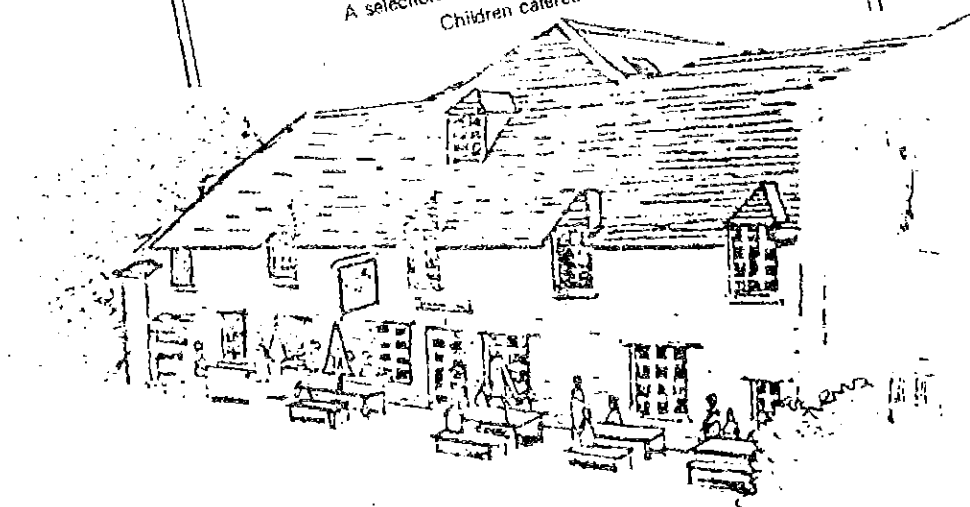
EVENINGS

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Lasagne Verde
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Selection of Salads

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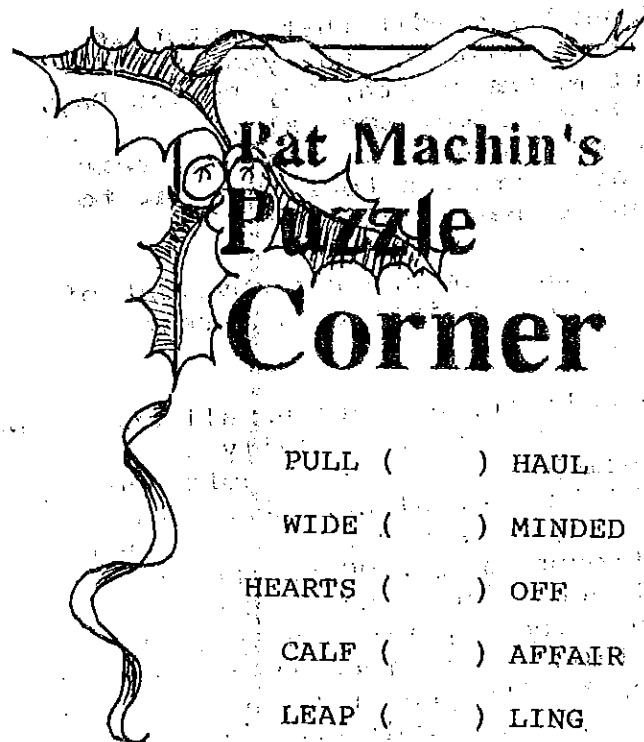
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XMAS PUZZLE

MISSING LINKS

Find the missing link between these pairs of words by filling the space in the bracket with a word associated with both. Each word in the brackets has FOUR letters e.g. sign (post) haste.

PULL () HAUL	-	STOP () ROACH
WIDE () MINDED	-	CHECK () LOT
HEARTS () OFF	-	PORT () SEAMAN
CALF () AFFAIR	-	BLACK () PENCIL
LEAP () LING	-	HOW () GREEN
BULL () MARCH	-	MARBLE () BISHOP
CAST () AGE	-	CON () ATE
BE () MOST	-	COLTS () PRINT
PLUG () SISTERS	-	PAINTED () BIRD
STEEPLE () POT	-	ARM () ELF
SCOTLAND () ARM	-	BE () CASTLE
STRATFORD () AVON	-	EMU () RALLY
NITRIC () DROPS	-	EAR () LING
PEBBLE () BOARD	-	IN () FULLY
REST () BOW	-	TURN () NATION
THERMAL () ARIAN	-	BLACK () BAG
RAM () RIDGE	-	NOW () TIC
MAC () ANT	-	MERCHANT () BLUE
JAM () AN		

When completed, the first letters of the words will spell out the first two lines of a **CHRISTMAS CAROL**.

Salisbury Playhouse programme note for a production of Jack Shepherd's 'Comic Cuts' states: "The play contains language which may offend; please telephone the theatre for further details."

WEATHER WAG - JAN TURNER

Today, October 31st, one would hardly credit that winter is just around the corner. The first frosts of the year are usually experienced around about November 5th, Guy Fawkes Day. This means that the weather is fine, clear and calm. Alternatively it can be a ferocious night with wind and rain spoiling the fun and causing tears from the tots who want to watch the displays and eat baked potatoes and sausages.

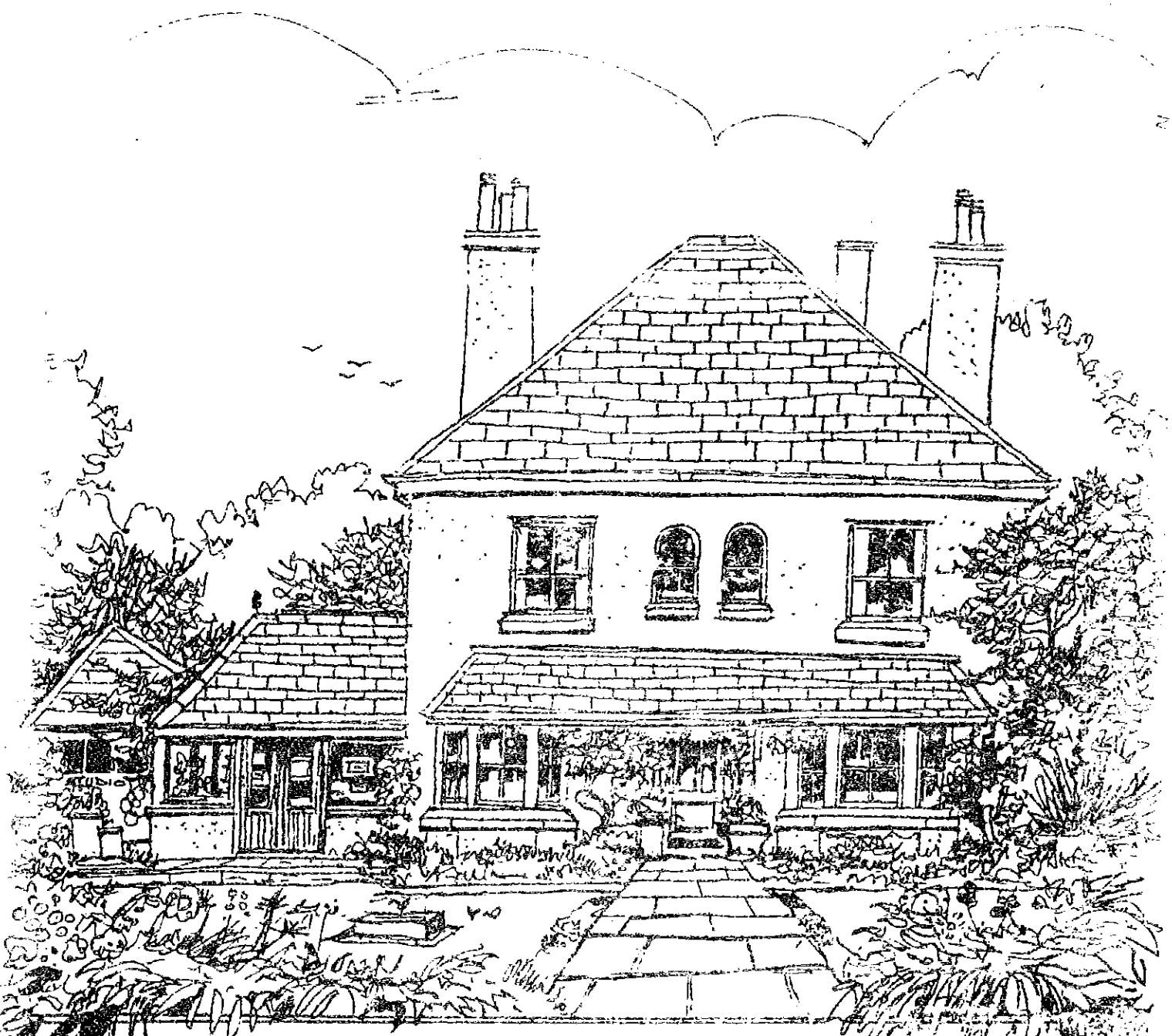
This month's phenomenon is **WIND** - the atmospheric movement of gases, the reasons for, affects of and points of interest about.

'The wind' as we affectionately call it, affects us all one way or another. This wind we refer to is technically a surface wind and blows up to a height of 30ft (10m) off the ground. It therefore affects all the normal activities of life and is probably the most keenly observed weather element of all time. An early Greek astronomer (c.100 BC) built a tower with a frieze carved on it depicting people dressed according to the character of the wind experienced on that side of the tower. He depicted **EIGHT** differing directions and associations. The tower was topped with the statue of the sea god Triton which turned with the wind and indicated its direction. This was the first use of a weather vane. Weather vanes are commonplace on churches today. Often a cockerel is depicted, representing the cock that crowed three times at St. Peter's denial of Christ.

A wind is named after the direction **FROM** which it blows towards the observer, and is labelled either by a point of the compass or by degrees from the North, e.g. NW or 315 degrees. As wind direction changes it is said to "**VEER**" (moves in a clockwise direction, e.g. NW - NE) and "**BACKS**" (moves in an anti-clockwise direction, e.g. NE - NW). There are many winds that have very particular characteristics and have been given local names in addition to their direction.

In Britain we have the **HELM**. Found on the western slopes of Cross Fell in Cumbria, it is a strong and often violent NE wind, very gusty, occurring in late winter and spring. The **CHINOOK** (Indian for "snow eater") is a warm dry wind, often turbulent, that blows down the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains in N. America. It causes a rapid rise in temperature up to 36 degrees F (20 degrees C) in a very short time (hours) and can cause severe flooding and avalanches. The European equivalent is the **FOHN**. The warming is caused by compression of the air whilst descending the mountains. In SE Australia the **SOUTHERLY BUSTER** is a sudden cold southerly wind usually succeeding a wind from the north. It is strong and can lower the temperature 36 degrees F (20 degrees C) in a very short time.

Winds are caused by a fluctuation of air pressure, and as a rule of thumb air moves from '**HIGH**' to '**LOW**' pressure areas. In the northern hemisphere air moves in a clockwise direction around a high and in an anticlockwise direction around a low. (Air pressure patterns and effects a subject next time!).



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

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

Your copy is delivered to you by our volunteer distributors. In Thurlestone, this is Chairman Peter Bromfield, and in Bantam and West Buckland, Mrs. Jean Furrell.

Extra copies may be bought from local newsagents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Morley at the Village Stores.

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



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WEATHER WAG (continued)

The speed of wind is measured by a cup anemometer, invented by John Robinson in 1846. Three or four cups are mounted on a spindle and rotate in the wind, each rotation being counted electrically and displayed on a dial. To assess and specify speed, Sir Francis Beaufort, a contemporary of Lord Nelson, created a scale indicating the amount of canvas which a sailing vessel could carry in those conditions. He eventually settled on a 12-point scale in 1805, the **BEAUFORT SCALE**. On this scale:

F 0 = **CALM** - average wind speed below 1 mph (1.6 km)
F12 = **HURRICANE** - average wind speed above 74 mph (119 km)

When you hear of winds up to 80/100 mph, on headlands, in this country it is always a **GUST** that has been recorded, not an average.

As the lower atmosphere is heated by radiation during sunny times, the air above the surface rises according to the laws of science and cooler air is drawn in to replace it (e.g. a tarmac drive warmed by the sun pulls in cooler air from the grassy areas nearby). The formations of the land surface (buildings, forests, fences, hills and valleys) all cause deviation in the pattern of the wind. Turbulence is caused, e.g. at the front of our house the tamarisk bushes lean at an angle of 45 degrees towards the sea because of the backwash of westerlies off the house. Between our house and the next one up the slope the opposite is the case!

There are two final items I would like mention:

1. **WIND CHILL**. You will soon begin to hear Craig Rich, and others, mention this in their forecasts. It is the chilling effect wind has on the temperature.....how many of us resorted to fans last summer to cool us down? It describes the dissipation of heat from bare skin, e.g. with a wind speed of 20mph and an air temperature of 34 degrees F (1 degree C) skin cools at the same rate as it would in calm wind with a temperature as low as minus 38 degrees F (minus 30 degrees C). The Americans have devised a scale - Rule of Survival for the Arctic and Antarctic = when exposed to a wind of 30 mph with a temperature of minus 30 degrees C, human flesh freezes solid in 30 seconds. They call it the 30-30-30 Rule. So watch out for your noses, fingers, ears and toes!

2. **JET STREAM**. This is a narrow belt of high speed wind near the tropopause (the area between the troposphere and the stratosphere). It was suspected to exist in the 1920's and confirmed during the second world war by American pilots flying at high altitudes towards Japan across the Pacific. They found that a ground speed of 350 mph was reduced to 200 mph. There are two Jet Streams in each hemisphere - one Polar and one sub-tropical - and they blow in a westerly direction at speeds of between 100 and 200 mph. They become stronger in winter and exert a greater influence on weather patterns beneath them. It is a sort of drag effect, and can alter the course of depressions and anticyclones considerably.

WEATHER WAG (Continued)

Finally, did you notice the huge swell off our beaches in the last week of October? This was the result of storms way out in the Atlantic, and the effect of winds on the movement of the sea.

Here's one for you! What would kite flyers, free-fall parachutists, gliders, and birds do without **THERMALS?**

(How do you know that free-fall parachutists wear them? Ed.)

WEATHER STATISTICS FOR 3rd QUARTER 1995

	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT	TOTAL
RAINFALL				
Month Total (mm)	54.22	17.37	109.78	181.37
Days of rain	13	5	15	33
Wettest day (mm)	26	14.08	38.12	38.12
TEMPERATURE				
Month Average (C)	19.81	20.07	15.10	18.26
Highest temp	29.4	32	23.6	32
Lowest temp	7.3	10.4	4.5	4.5
WIND DIRECTION				
Westerly (Days)	10	9	12	36
Easterly	12	22	17	51
Northerly	1	1	0	2
Southerly	0	0	1	1
WIND SPEED				
Strongest (mph)	41	45	50	50
Days below 5 mph	1	1	0	2
SUNNIEST DAY				
Number of Hours	N/A	12.78	10.92	N/A
Date	N/A	Aug 10	Sep 23	N/A

HEARING LOGS FOR THE DEAF

Local Branch Secretary Wendy Yates writes to thank the cast and all who supported the August concert which raised £500. She can be contacted on 01548-853728 and would much welcome your further fund-raising ideas.

HAPPINESS IS.....

Derrick Yeoman has sent us the following old Chinese proverb

If you want to be happy for a few hours - get drunk
If you want to be happy for weekend - get married
If you want to be happy for a week - barbecue a pig
If you want to be happy all your life - become a gardener!

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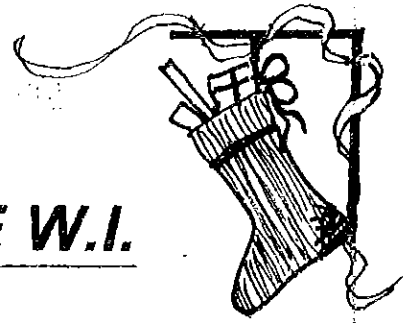
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NEWS FROM THE W.I.

PRESIDENT WYN COUSINS was bidden a fond farewell by members at the end of her term of office. Thanking everyone for their support over the past three years, she said how enjoyable the involvement had been - not only with Thurlestone WI but also with the Sea Coast Group and with the County. Wyn was warmly thanked for all she had done to keep Thurlestone an enjoyable and forward-looking WI. A gorgeous basket of flowers in all shades of yellow and gold, arranged by Alice Foster, was presented to Wyn on behalf of the members.

THE 'DICKENS OF AN EVENING' supper and entertainment plans were going well. The Christmas Lunch Party would be on 14th December, when former Rector Rev. John Delve will tell us 'The Story of Christmas Carols'. Val Brown's drama group will also be putting on a short humorous Christmas sketch.

OUR CAKE STALL at the Parish Hall Autumn Fair raised £74 for the Hall and representative Dorothy Candy thanked us. Joan Lane's report from the Autumn Council Meeting at Barnstaple urged us all to take more advantage of the many events put on by the county.

CALLIGRAPHY sessions in the Hall had been much enjoyed.

THE WESTERN MORNING NEWS half-page article on the WI in general and Thurstlestone in particular following their visit to us in October was voted "not at all bad!"

NEXT PRESIDENT will be Pat Macdonald. Pam Brewster bows out as Secretary, but will remain on the committee. Tricia Millman takes over as Secretary, while Norma Kendall remains as Treasurer. The other members of the committee will be Dorothy Candy, Wyn Cousins, Alice Foster, Janet Fraser, Margaret Illingworth, Mary Johnson, Joan Lane, Joan Reece.

AN ITEM in the Wells Journal recently apologised to members of Westbury-sub-Mendip WI as follows: "Our report last week unfortunately stated that members were mortified by the increase in subscriptions. It should have read they were notified of the increase." (Daily Telegraph)

LESLIE DYER

for your

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DUPLICATE BRIDGE by Rosemary Mackay

HAND OF THE MONTH

North

S 10 9 7
H Q 10 6 2
D 7 6 5
C 9 8 3

West

S A K Q 8 5 3 2
H 7 4
D K 9
C 5 2

East

S 6
H A J 9 3
D A Q J 10 8 3
C A 4

South

S J 4
H K 8 5
D 4 2
C K Q J 10 7 6

Dealer North - North/South vulnerable

CONTRACTS AND RESULTS AT EIGHT TABLES

Table	Contract	Tricks	Player	N/S Score		Match Points
				Plus	Minus	
1	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7
2	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7
3	5D + 2	13	E	-	440	0
4	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7
5	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7
6	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7
7	6NT + 1	13	E	-	1020	14
8	4S + 3	13	W	-	510	7

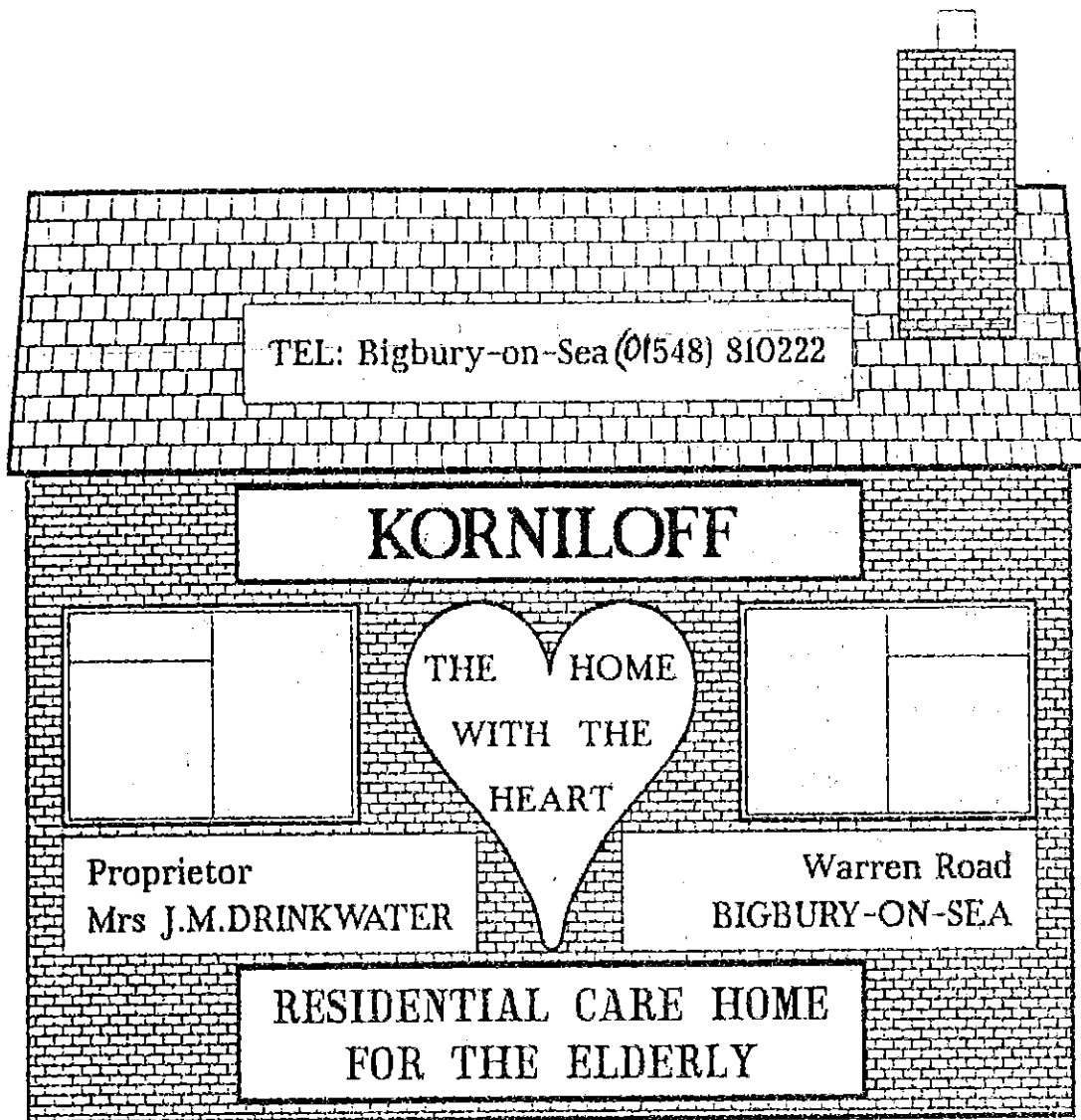
You will see that every pair took all thirteen tricks, and yet only one pair bid a Slam (a small one - and interestingly in No Trumps). A grand Slam is undefeatable in either Diamonds, Spades, or best of all in No Trumps. We seem to be a timid lot at Thurlestone Bridge Club, but I wonder how many top players elsewhere, with their complicated systems, would bid this Grand Slam.

* * * * *

Answers to Puzzle Corner

Over, cock, open, mate, ease, able, love, lead, year, ever,
frog, arch, iron, test, hind, foot, ugly, lady, jack, ours,
yard, fore, upon, late, acid, nest, dash, tact, rain, into,
unit, mail, part, here, Adam, navy, tart.

Giving....."O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant"



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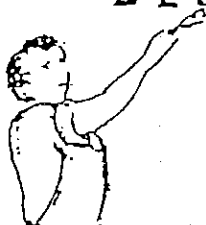
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FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Bouncing Czechs

For a week at the end of October, the South Hams rang with the sound of Czech singing, following a request to the Stanborough Chorus, only five weeks previously, to host the children's choir, Jerabinka, from the Elementary School of Arts in Opava in the Czech Republic. Concerts were organised, outings arranged and accommodation found for the thirty-eight children and seven adults in the party, each of whom had had to pay about £25 for their travelling costs, which represents an average week's wages in the Czech Republic. The proceeds from the sale of tapes of their singing help to reimburse the poorer children and all other costs of their visit were met by The Stanborough Chorus through the concerts and through the generosity of the hosts.

Although the children, whose ages ranged from seven to thirteen, were exhausted when they arrived after 44 hours travelling, Kingsbridge Quay was soon alive to the haunting sound of Czech folk singing. After meeting their hosts from the Stanborough Chorus and Thurlestone School, they were off for a well earned night's rest and, for some, a first sight of the sea and a beach.

The sun shone all week as the children were introduced to the various attractions of the area. They played on beaches, collecting shells to take home; they walked along the cliffs, where they saw a dry stone wall being built; they visited Overbecks, Pennywell Farm and Wildlife Centre, Woodlands Leisure Park and Plymouth Dome, where they gave informal concerts; they met and sang to the children at Dartmouth and Thurlestone Primary Schools; they swam at South Dartmoor Leisure Centre and even had a chance to play cricket!

On the formal side, receptions were given at both Follaton House and the Mayor's Parlour in Torquay, where the choir sang for the Mayor's of Kingsbridge and Torbay and for the Chairman of the South Hams District Council. Those lucky enough to be at the Joint Parishes Eucharist in Thurlestone Church on the Sunday, were given a preview of the evening concerts to be given at Kingsbridge, Torquay, Dartmouth and Plympton, when six of the choir, who were staying with Thurlestone School children, sang a Czech hymn as part of the service. The discipline of the choir was quite astounding. The conductor only had to raise his arm for there to be immediate silence; there was total concentration when singing and eyes never left the conductor; orderly crocodiles were formed to walk along the roads; no litter was dropped; the slightest kindness was greeted with "Thank you very much", for some the only English words they knew!

In spite of the language barrier, anyone who met the children could not have failed to be affected by them and many a tear was shed by those that were fortunate enough to hear Jerabinka singing. They sang nearly one hundred songs during the week, in Czech, German, Latin and English - all without the words and music in front of them! How many of us could sing in Czech even with the words?

I should like to take this opportunity of sincerely thanking all those who helped to make Jerabinka's stay in England so memorable - without you it could never have happened.

Liz Webb

Honorary Secretary, The Stanborough Chorus

REQUIESCAT

A cat was run over and killed one night in October and lay in the middle of Thurlestone's village road.

Next morning its body was found, placed carefully at the side of the road, with the following note nearby:

"Time 1.00 a.m. To whoever finds this poor little cat: Driving through Thurlestone at 12.40 am I found this cat in the middle of the road. He didn't have a collar, so there was no-one I could ring. Perhaps if his owner is found you would let them know that I stayed for a while and wrapped him in my coat, just in case he was still alive and hurting a lot. I gently tried to see if he was still alive but although warm he was already dead. Poor thing, I didn't like to leave him in the road as he may have got even more damaged and that would have been even worse for his owner. So I laid him here and hope that someone kind may know of his owner.

I shall ring the police when I reach my home to let them know he is here. Didn't like to leave him but didn't know what else to do. Some people are so unkind when they hit animals - they just leave them where they hit them. I am so sad - but he had a little company for a moment."

(signed) Sarah

(Reaffirms your faith in human kindness doesn't it? A very happy Christmas to you, Sarah. Ed.)

* * * * *

BADGERS

Sbirley Chapman has sent in a press release from THE COALITION FOR BADGERS (*) and we include the following extract:

"Hysterical utterances of 'badger population explosions' fill the media today. However, the badger is one species which does not multiply regardless of pressures upon it. The reverse is true. Stress, even from its own kind, results in non-breeding and even in favourable conditions this is not a prolific species. Badgers do not mature until two years old at the earliest, do not produce large litters, and do not necessarily produce young every spring. The reason for apparently large numbers in certain areas is due to pressure from man, causing concentration of the species in a rapidly shrinking habitat."

(*) If you want further information about THE COALITION FOR BADGERS please contact Mrs. Ruth Murray (01822-880265).

* * * * *

Exasperated mother to small daughter: "Eleanor, I have told you a million times not to exaggerate!"

January is Marmalade time

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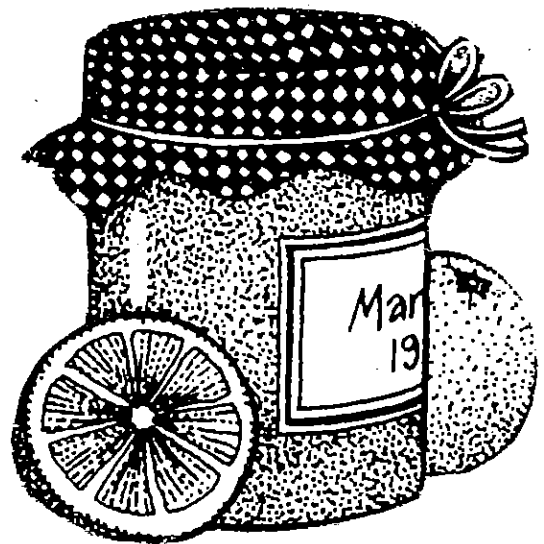
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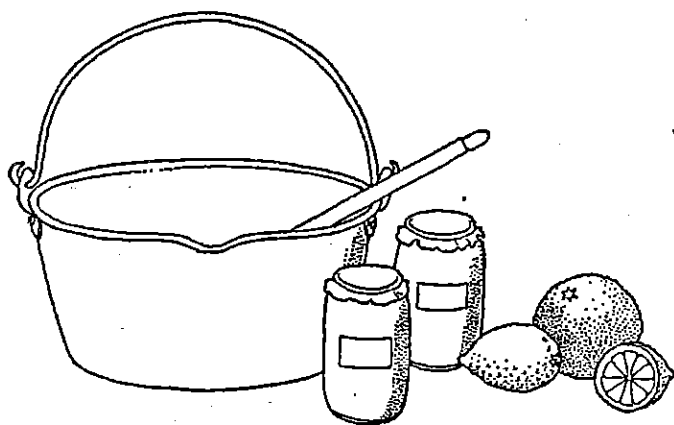
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THURSDAY DECEMBER 21st

Buckland and Bantham
Meet 6.15pm by Buckland Farm

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd

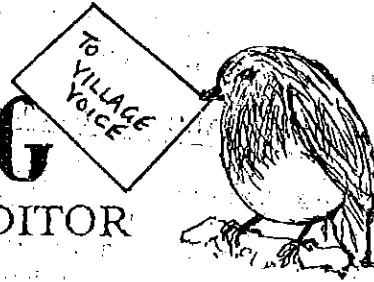
Main Street & Yarmer
Meet 6.15pm Parish Hall car park



Unfortunately it is not possible to sing at every house in the Parish. If you would like us either to sing at your house or do not wish us to call, please tell Pam Brewster (560345) or Liz Webb (560090).

POSTBAG

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor

May I, through Village Voice columns, ask motorists please to give a thought for we elderly pedestrians when it rains?

We can protect our heads with umbrellas but can do without a shower from every passing vehicle. The other day I was well splashed by a van going down the village road which was bad enough, but to add insult to injury it did the same thing minutes later when coming back.

I appeal to you please slow down when the road is wet and you're passing someone who is on foot who perhaps isn't capable of moving quickly to dodge the dirty water your tyres fling up from the road!

Indignant Pedestrian
(name & umbrella supplied)

Dear Editor

I read with alarm of the proposal to mount a cannon on the Village Green.

It will probably satisfy the ego of the sub-aqua gentleman who found it to have his trophy publicly displayed, but the Village Green is the place for a War Memorial - not an instrument of war.

Nor can we discount the possibility of an inquisitive pyrotechnic loading and firing it.

I suggest it be recycled and the scrap iron proceeds donated to the maintenance of the Pump House.

Thurlestone Pacifist
(name and address supplied)

A BIT DRAUGHTY

One of our regular contributors says that driving off the first tee at Thurlestone Golf Club is rather like talking to a politician.....you must not forget to allow for the wind!

FROM THE SCHOOL

We are pleased to be able to include these examples of the work of four young (under 11) poets from All Saints Primary:

IN A GRAVEYARD - Harriet Alderson

Walking through the graveyard
On a cold and gloomy night
Where the loneliness and ghostliness
Makes me suddenly jump with fright
I thought I saw a face just now
An old and wizened face
But I know it's an illusion
From the darkness of the place
Then the damp and misty air
Lights up the shimmery grass
As if it placed itself on purpose
To watch that rabbit pass.

THE SOUL KEEPER - Amy Carpenter

The Soul Keeper bends his old
stonework around the heart
of the silent damp yard.
The shadows move like spirits,
breaking the restful peace.
The ancient solemn granite
stands hatefully in the dark
beckoning graveyard.
Death hidden beneath the
ground of the soul keeper.

GRAVE YARD - Laura Woodham

The grave yard spooks me
Like a moving shadow
Fluttering
And edging nearer
And nearer.
The yew trees rustle
In the wind.
Shadowy figures are
Behind every
Granite grave.

RAIN, STEAM AND SPEED - Andy Simmons

A cloak of mist gathers around the grimy bridge.
The silence of the hills is broken by a chugging train.
A distant black image glides nearer the sooty arches.
The rushes rattle as the black train speeds away to its
destination.
The blurry image of a boatman in his craft waves at the
drowsy passengers.
The chugging traveller trundles across the bridge.

(This poem was based on the painting
"Rain, Steam and Speed" by J.M.W. Turner)

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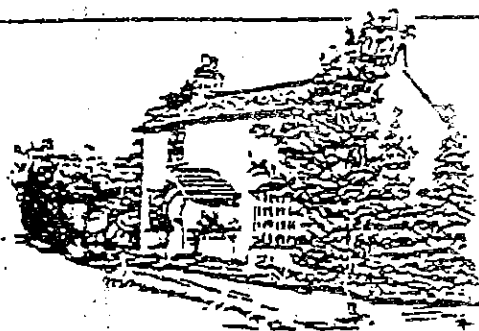
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SUPERGUIDE

The essential social calendar - priorities for your diary!

DECEMBER

Sat. 2nd	XMAS BAZAAR, Conservatives, P.Hall, 10.30 am
Tue. 5th	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Parish Hall
Wed. 6th	TRAMPS WALK - Xmas lunch - details later
	Golf Club - XMAS FOURSOMES SUPPER
Sun 10th	See 'From the Rector'
Thur.14th	WI XMAS LUNCH - 12.45 Parish Hall
	WI 2.30, "Story of Xmas Carols" Rev John Delve
	S.Milton WI Xmas Supper - 7.30 pm S.Milton
Sun 17th	See 'From the Rector'
Mon 18th	ALL SAINTS CAROLLERS - 6.15 pm Mead area
Thur 21st	" " " - 6.15 pm Buckland & Bantham
Fri 22nd	" " " - 6.15 pm Village street
Sat 23rd	See 'From the Rector'
Sun 24th	See 'From the Rector'
Mon 25th	See 'From the Rector'

JANUARY

Thur 11th	WI 2.30, Parish Hall "Birds of Salcombe Estuary"
Mon 15th	Parish Hall Extraordinary General Meeting 7.30 pm
Thur 25th	ARRANGING DRIED FLOWERS workshop - 2.30 Parish Hall
	BRIDGE EVENING, Hotel (ring 560070)

FEBRUARY

Thur 8th	WI 2.30 "Unusual Cottage Garden Plants" Jane Hollow
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* * * * *

THE DEADLINE
FOR ALL CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPERGUIDE ITEMS
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS

WEDNESDAY 3rd JANUARY

TO BE SURE OF A SPACE
PLEASE SEND IN WELL BEFORE THAT DATE!

DROP ITEMS (MARKED V.VOICE) THROUGH LETTER BOX AT 25 MEAD LANE

STOP PRESS

1. Village Voice production manager Al Parker and his wife Sheila (also on the VV team) were successful in the recent Unigate milk-top Scrabble contest which attracted 14,000 entries. The Parkers just missed the top prize, but came in the second twenty or so who each won £100. Many congratulations!
2. Thanks go to the South Hams District Council for a very generous donation of £721 to the Pumphouse appeal.

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