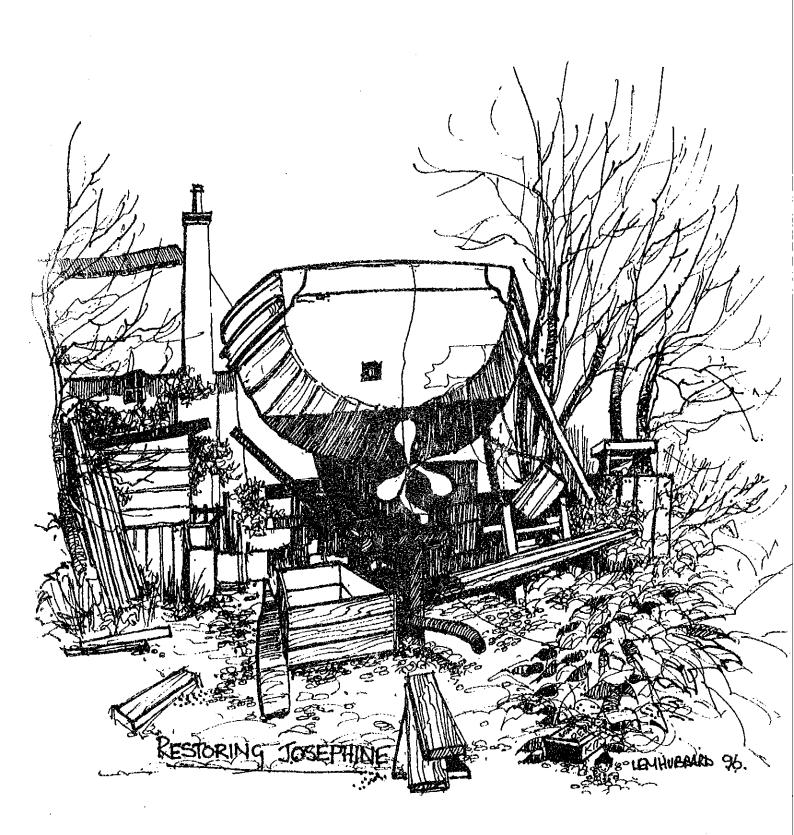
# VILLAGE AVOICE

APRIL - MAY 1996





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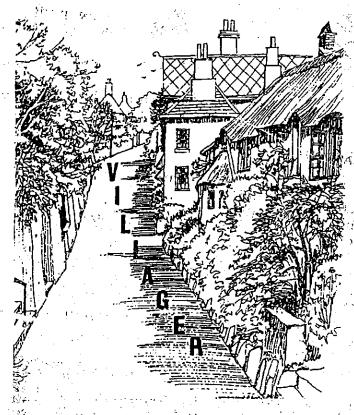
**APRIL - MAY 1996** 

Our front cover this month shows 'JOSEPHINE', a clinker-built ex-ferryboat from Salcombe. Aged about 80, she has been out of the water for some eight years but luckily is now in the capable hands of Thurlestone's Marsh Dawes who is engaged in a labour of love with her restoration.

Marsh has renewed her gunwhales, is currently making a two-bunked cabin, complete with portholes, and has plans to 'canvas' the deck. He reports that the engine, a 1930 Brit, is in good order. Her re-launching is due to take place this summer and Village Voice will issue a progress report later this year.

Have you got guests/family staying this Easter? Our master puzzle-setter Pat Machin has produced two teasers for us this issue, so if the weather turns against outdoor activities get them exercising their grey-cells indoors instead. Kate has also produced a scrumptious cake recipe...why not spoil them too?

A happy Easter to all our readers from the team at Village Voice! We hope you will enjoy reading this issue.



NOW KNOW IT'S THE PROUD boast of some villagers in Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland - or at least it used to be - that they had never been to Plymouth let alone London, but most of us can manage to make Plymouth on occasion these days. And as a result most of us have seen the new Fish Market and all the work done on restoring the Barbican.

But it's not all that easy to appreciate how much has been done, and is being done, to make good this part of Plymouth where Drake, Hawkins, Grenville, and Raleigh trod the mud; where the Black Prince brought in a captive King

of France; where Nelson stumbled on the cobbles and fell; and to which the Pilgrim Fathers waved good-bye.

It was a delight therefore to get my hands on a third edition of the little booklet "Plymouth Barbican Revived" by Crispin Gill, the famous Plymouth journalist and historian. His booklet, first published in 1966, is completely revised and is again published by the Plymouth Barbican Association at £1.50. Any local bookshop will get it for you.

By reading this and studying the full colour pictures I was able to find my way to the best of the restoration of the Elizabethan houses near the waterfront. But more than that, only from this booklet was I able to realise what a key role an Old Thurlestonian had played - and is still playing - in the revival of the Barbican.

At the heart of the fight against plans to destroy and redevelop this old part of Plymouth is the Barbican Association, and chairman from its foundation in 1966 until 1989 has been Jim Woodrow of Thurlestone. "CJ" is still an active member of the Association which only recently managed to reroof and repaint all the old properties in New Street.

The Barbican Association began when a small group of volunteers decided to save Plymouth's past from modern developers. They cared so much about this that many of them put up their own money to buy properties and restore them. Now, however, the Association is a property company owning eighteen properties valued at £930,000 (bringing in annual rents of £96,000 - all ploughed back into restoration work) and is a registered charity as well. It leads the fight to stop "Union-Streetisation" of the area, and seems to be winning. As you'll see, if ever you do manage to set foot in Plymouth! Go on, be a Devil!



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VILLAGE VOICE can only be distributed FREE to PESIDENTS of the Villages of the Parish.

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

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

Your copy is delivered to you by our volunteer distributors. In Thurlestone, this is dairyman Peter Bronfield, and in Bantham and West Buckland, Mrs. Jean Hurrell.

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

There is also a subscription service, which already sends copies to readers all over the country at an annual cost of £7, which includes postage.

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#### "WHEN GOD CREATED MOTHERS"

When God created mothers He was in the sixth day of overtime; an angel came to Him and said "You're doing a lot of fiddling on this one!"

The Lord said "Have you read the specifications on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic, have 180 movable parts, run on black coffee and left-overs; have a lap which disappears when she stands up; a kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love-affair. And six pairs of hands!"

The angel shook his head slowly, and said "SIX pairs of hands? No way!"

"It's not the hands that are worrying me. It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers need. One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks 'What are you doing inside there?' (although she already knows); another pair at the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know; and of course one pair in front that can look at her loved ones and say 'I love and understand you' - without so much as uttering a word".

"Lord", said the angel, touching His sleeve, "Come to bed now".

"I can't" said the Lord "I'm near to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when ill, can feed a family of seven on a pound of mince and get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower".

"It's too soft" the angel sighed.

"But tough" said the Lord. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure".

"Can it think?"

"Not only can it think but also reason and compromise" said the Creator.

Finally the angel bent over and ran a finger across the cheeks. "There's a leak", he pronounced. "I told you, you were trying to put too much into this model".

"It's not a leak", said the Lord, "It's a tear".

"What's it for?"

"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride!"

"You're a genius!" said the angel.

Submitted by Pauline Eaton----author unknown.

#### "THE RECTOR WRITES..."

Night and Day, and Darkness and Light, are recurring themes in the Christian scriptures, and also in other religious systems, for depicting the struggle between good and evil.

Just when we were hoping there was some light at the end of the tunnel the perpetrators of the deeds of darkness have struck again with murder and continued tethnic cleansing in Bosnia. Nearer to us, the Northern Ireland peace process, if not brought to an end, at the least suffering a severe setback with bombings in London. Similarly the Middle East peace process also in danger of collapse following the cowardly busbombings in Jerusalem. Deeds of evil and darkness have long been perpetrated in Jerusalem. As S.Mark has it (Chapter 15):

"and it was the third hour and they crucified Him" (v.25)
"and when the sixth hour was come there was darkness
over the whole land until the ninth hour" (v.33)

God's promise to us that darkness will not quench the light was demonstrated for us and for all on that first Easter Day, when Jesus having passed through the Gate of Death emerged - as someone has put it at "son-rise" - to the bright sunlit uplands of the Resurrection life.

This is God's pledge to us of the ultimate victory of light over darkness. Nevertheless we frequently feel ourselves impotent to do anything to further the cause of light whilst the skirmishes continue, and so I wish to share with you something I came across quite recently. There is an ancient Jewish story which runs as follows:

An old Rabbi once asked his pupils what was the precise hour when night ended and day began. The pupils thought hard. 'Is it' one of them asked 'when you can tell the difference between a sheep and a dog? Or a date palm from a fig tree?' The Rabbi shook his head. 'What is it then?' demanded the impatient pupils. The Rabbi answered 'It is when you can look into the face of anyone and see there your sister or your brother. Until then it is still night for you.'

I wish you all a thoughtful Passiontide and a very happy Easter, and shall look forward to seeing many of you at the services, details of which are as follows.

#### SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER - 1996

- APRIL 4th Maundy Thursday "In the same night He was betrayed" 7.30 pm Holy Communion, Thurlestone
- APRIL 5th Good Friday: The Good Friday Liturgy, South Milton (Ante Communion with prayer and hymns)
  - 2 3 pm The Last Hour Devotion, Thurlestone, Adramatic reading of "The Passion according to St.John"
- APRIL 7th Easter Sunday: Easter Eucharist, 8 am, Thurlestone 9.30 am South Milton (and Egg Gift Service)
  Festal Matins 11.10 am Thurlestone, followed at 12.30 approx. by Shortened Holy Communion

### "Children in Distress" aiding the children of Eastern Europe

Here, as promised, are the details about Miorica Pasca, the young Romanian girl who is being sponsored with part of the money raised by the All Saints Carollers.

Miorica was born on February 15th 1988 and, when she was four, was one of the original children admitted to the hospice. She was a thin, pale, sad looking little girl, weighing 17½ lbs and 2ft 8 ins tall. She was unable to crawl or walk but was able to sit unsupported and particularly enjoyed sitting in a baby bouncer. Initially she had to be encouraged to eat front, a spoon; however she soon developed a fantastic appetite and enthusiastically tried to feed herself by scooping food up with her hands covering herself and everyone else in the vicinity! Miorica could not speak or communicate, often staring blankly into space, although she was aware of her surroundings and often reached out for a particular toy.

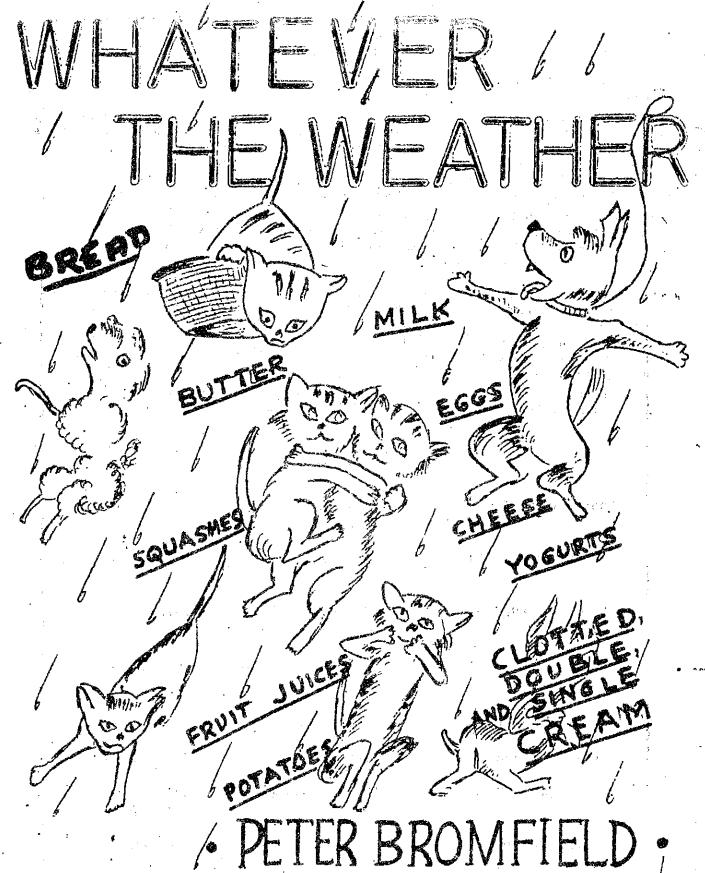
Miorica had improved greatly by the end of her first year at the hospice. She was walking very well holding on with one hand and loved climbing up the slide and had grown into a bright, beautiful and often excitable little girl, occasionally making a few sounds. She showed more awareness when playing with toys, particularly loved music, and enjoyed standing at a window for hours watching the world go by.

By her 6th birthday, Miorica had started nursery school within the hospice! She took her first steps in April 1994 and continues to climb everywhere, oblivious of any danger. Although she prefers to play by herself, she really enjoys watching video films and absolutely loves looking through picture books. Miorica has developed into a very happy affectionate, active little girl, with a beautiful quiet nature. Thankfully, she has been very healthy and now weighs 3 stone and is 3ft 8ins tall. She can concentrate for longer periods and, with a little encouragement, she can build blocks, sort colours and particularly enjoys messy painting, playdough and colouring.

If you gave up some luxury during Lent, then why not consider donating the money you have saved to help sponsor another child? Please send your donations to Liz Webb, Old Mill Cottage, West Buckland, TQ7 3AG.

#### Dates for the year

	Thurs March 21st 2.30pm	All Saints Fellowship The Italian Mission	Rectory Barn
	Thurs March 28th 7.30pm	Church Annual Meeting	Rectory Barn
۲,	Thurs April 18th 2.30pm	All Saints Fellowship A Coastal Safari	Rectory Barn
	Thurs May 23rd 2.30pm	All Saints Fellowship Tea Sounds Musical	Rectory Barn
	Sat July 20th 2.00pm	Summer Fete	Rectory Garden
	Tues Aug 13th 6pm	Barbecue	Village Green
	Friday Sept 27th 7pm	Harvest Thanksgiving and Supper	Thurlestone Church & Parish Hall
	Tues Oct 22nd 10.30am	St Crispin's Fair	Parish Hall
	Thurs Oct 24th 2.30pm	All Saints Fellowship	Rectory Barn
	Thurs Nov 28th 2.30pm	All <b>Sa</b> ints Fellowship	Rectory Barn
	Thurs Dec 19th 2.30pm	All Saints Fellowship Yule be Welcome	Church



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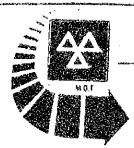
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#### TRAMPS PROGRESS - Pam Brewster

JANUARY Undeterred by the grey, misty weather, 19 of us (dogless for once), set off from the car park above Soar Mill Cove and reached the coastal path by a rather more adventurous route than originally planned. As we were making such good time we allowed ourselves another deviation before dropping down to South Sands, and thence into Salcombe to have lunch at the Fortescue Arms. An hour later by way of good post-prandial exercise we were led relentlessly up a steep hill to the Malborough road, and from there over fields and along lanes more or less directly back to our starting place.

FEBRUARY The nine walkers who met at Thurlestone Parish Hall and the three (and two dogs) who joined us at East Prawle had no need to be particularly intrepid, just warmly clad, as a vicious east wind was blowing although the sun was shining brightly. The beach provided the essential variety of terrain early on; in fact seemingly we so enjoyed it that we went too far and had to retrace our steps. Once up the cliff path and agross some fields, we followed the coastal path to Start Point where, agreeing that discretion was undoubtedly the better part of valour, we eschewed the lower path which led round the point. Instead we went straight to the road from the lighthouse: a wise decision for when we reached the car park the full force of the wind hit us icily.

The stretch from there to Hallsands was covered, by some at any rate, at scout's pace. At the inn we were joined by four would-be walkers and members of the fan club. Later, warmed and fortified by soup and sandwiches, we made our way inland along paths and over fields back to East Prawle.

Twenty of us, and two dogs, set off from Ashprington MARCH village on a grey, chilly morning for the first March tramp. At Ashprington Cross we turned towards Totnes and soon leaving the road and enjoying the beautiful views over the Dart, went down past Sharpham Barton to follow the track along the river. On the outskirts of Totnes we doubled back, but taking the higher path this time. To make sure we really deserved our lunch, we had a steepish climb through field and wood before our path levelled out and joined the road at the entrance to Here we were brought to order so that one of Sharpham House. our number could tell us a little about the house. (Culture!). From there it was a short, downhill road back to Ashprington. Ap optional cultural and spiritual visit to the church was available at this point. However, only one person took advantage of this, the others preferring to satisfy the needs of the flesh with the help of the excellent Durant Arms soup.

After lunch the personnel changed slightly, three people having left and three others (and a dog) having joined us. The figure-of-eight walk continued southwards out of the village. Our leader had thoughtfully provided a little adventure by taking us over some stepping stones across Bow Creek. It was, fortunately, low tide. Thence by road and track we circled round past Bow Bridge, Beenleigh (a delightful stretch this!) and back to Ashprington. Although the weather had remained determinedly grey it had been a most enjoyable and varied walk; and one, moreover, that was new to most of us.

## Pat Machin's Puzzle Corner

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#### WORD SEARCH NO.1

The answers to the clues are made up by combining 3 sets of 3 letters in the grid. When complete, 3 sets of 3 letters will remain. Combine these 9 letters to find another 9-letter word.

#### Clues

- 1. A European 11. A fruit capital
- 2. A sea bird 12. Musical instrument
- 3. An island 13. A poet state
- 4. A cheese 14. An army officer
- 5. American 15. English president battlefield 6. A cape 16. Science
- 7. A volcano 17. Type of horse
- 8. A dog 18. A sail
- 9. A sign of 19. A girls the Zodiac name 10. Vegetable 20.???

#### WORD SEARCH NO. 2

In this grid are the names of 32 birds. They can be read forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally.

Can you identify them?

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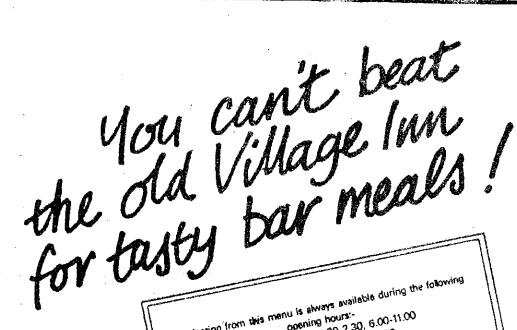
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## Report on the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at The Sloop on 20th FEBRUARY 1996

PARISH HALL: It was reported that the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer would be resigning from the Hall committee at their Annual General Meeting on MONDAY APRIL 1st.

POLICE: A message has been received from Inspector Patrick saying that PC Rushworth would NOT be coming back to his former beat here. The Inspector hoped to attend in the near future to detail police arrangements.

WATER-SKIING: It was reported from Bantham that too many unauthorised water-skiers were using the designated area on the Avon. This needs 'policing' in the summer and is the responsibility of the South Hams District Council. They authorised the skiing originally.

TREES: Councillor Charles Mitchelmore reported that several of the trees on the village green were getting to the end of their days, and would very soon have to be replaced.

NOTICE BOARDS: to be put up in the bus shelter (near hotel).

VILLAGE SCHOOL: The school wishes to use part of the playing field (which it rents from the Parish Council) to put in a pond and a 'Wendy House' etc. Councillor David Grose said that legal advice should be sought as to the Parish Council's liabilities.

REPLACEMENT SHRUBS: Replacement shrubs are being planted by South West Water around the holding tank by the golf club.

The first of the first of the second

## Report on the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at the Parish Hall on 19th MARCH 1996

MILLENIUM MONEY: South Hams District Council have outlined, in a letter to the Parish Council, what might be available from the Millenium Fund and how to bid for it. The mind boggled! A NEW PARISH HALL...NEW DRAINS...AN ASPHALTED CAR PARK...! There were some stings in the tail however, e.g. the amount to be raised in the village prior to the application! All will, however, be revealed at the Parish Hall A.G.M. on Monday April 1st, 7.30 pm WHICH ALL INTERESTED RESIDENTS SHOULD ATTEND.

PARISH HALL: The best estimate for new fire doors was around £1,000 including frames (which required replacement) and crash bars.

COMMUNITY POLICEMAN: Constable Steve Mutton was introduced and welcomed as our new community policeman. He warned against bogus "antiques knockers" - men who went from door to door allegedly seeking antiques for sale but who were in

reality 'casing the joint'. All such callers should at once be reported, by a 999 call.

The meeting was warned that some 16 cars were issued with fixed penalty parking tickets on Sunday 17th March, by Bromfield's Farm and vicinity, as some congestion had been caused.

HOUSING: District Councillor Martyn Grose spoke about the 'Affordable Houses Survey' re low cost/starter homes to be built in the village. He beseeched ALL to fill in, and return, the forms. The PC is also writing to the S.H.D.C. about the need, in future, for such houses/bungalows.

TELEPHONES: The red telephone kiosk in Court Park Lane is in a bad state of repair and needs renovating. Thurlestone does not want one of the new grey modern kiosks to replace it.

TREES: Some of the older trees (about 70 years old) by the War Memorial may have to be felled as they were causing the younger trees nearby to be misshapen. The S.H.D.C. tree officer is to report.

The next meeting will be on April 23rd, 1996.

"CITIZEN"

THE 1996 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 23rd APRIL, 7.30 pm AT THE PARISH HALL.

SPEAKERS AT THE MEETING WILL BE

MS CAROL ARTHUR, SHDC WASTE MANAGEMENT INSPECTOR PATRICK, DEVON & CORNWALL CONSTABULARY; MR ROBIN TOOGOOD, HERITAGE COAST OFFICER:
MR SIMON DAY, DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR.

TO REMIND YOU OF WHAT WAS IN THE PIPELINE LAST YEAR, HERE IS A REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th APRIL 1995.

The Council had obtained an additional 2%, increasing the precept to £4,692 (from £4,600) for the year. The bus shelter (opposite farm) has been repaired and a paved path made to the road. The pump house will be repaired and restored during the summer following the damage incurred during a spring gale. Mr.Len Hubbard will be spearheading the campaign under the auspices of the Parish Council. A cannon retrieved from a 1772 shipwreck near Thurlestone Rock is to be mounted next to the bus shelter.

The Parish Hall committee had applied for a Public Entertainment Licence and secondary glazing is to be installed following the generous donation of the frames.

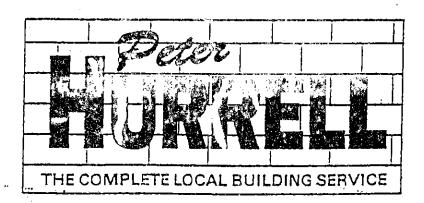
The Thurlestone Parish Church Building Trust has been formed for the restoration preservation repair maintenance and

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#### Your Parish Council

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Peter Hurrell	560496						
Vice Chairman							
Derrick Yeoman	560607						
Members							
John Dayment	560295						
David Grose	560375						
Charles Mitchelmore	560602						
Geoffrey Stidston	560695						
Veronica White	560236						
Parish Clerk	-						
John Lonsdale	560742						
District Councillor							
Martyn Grose	560396						
County Councillor							
Simon Day 01752 -	691212						
Parish Emergencies	560607						



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## Douglas V. Smith

M.S.S.Ch., M.B.Ch.A.

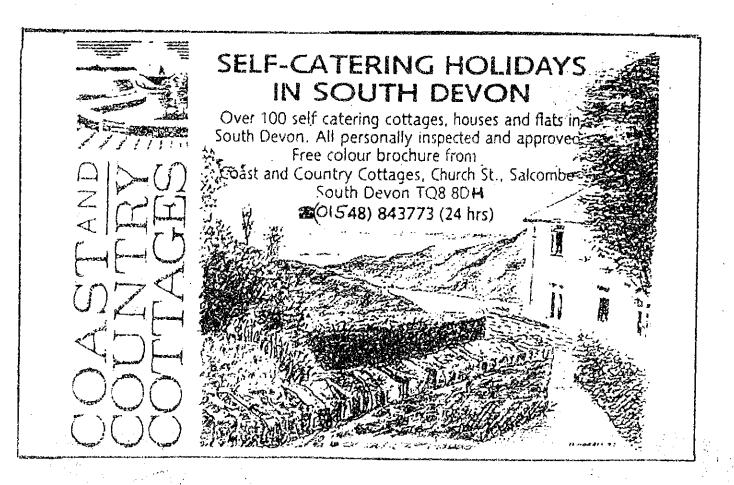
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improvement of the Parish Church of All Saints Thurlestone. Councillor Derrick Yeoman has been appointed the Parish Council's trustee. A society "The Friends of the Parish Church of All Saints Thurlestone" has been formed to raise funds for the trust.

As a result of a referendum conducted by the South Hams District Council the council had made a special submission to the Secretary of State for the Environment to amend the Commission's recommendations. The result of the Local Government Review are expected within the next couple of months.

The footpath round Warren Point is to be brought inland by several feet because of cliff erosion. The lane leading down to Bantham Quay from the turning circle on the edge of The Ham needs repairing. West Buckland stream continued to be polluted by sewage from adjacent properties. The Seaview Housing Project (starter homes) has been put on indefinite hold because of lack of funds.

Devon County Council has been asked for a 30mph speed limit within the parish which will enable the police to monitor vehicle speeds within the boundaries. It will also allow the Parish Council to approach the District Council if it is necessary to seek enforcement of the Dog Fouling law.

Concern has been expressed about the amount of damage incurred to the passing places by the increase of heavy vehicles in the lanes. Their wheels are eroding the baselines by up to 18 inches in places and some hedges are in danger of collapsing. The double yellow lines are to be extended in Bantham, on the north side of the road from Whiddons to Dogwatches. Devon County Council are also surveying the parking in Thurlestone at the Village Inn.

Mr. and Mrs.Kendall McDonald were thanked for producing Village Voice over the past nine years, and the new production team were welcomed. The Council also expressed appreciation to Mr.Bill Ladd [former Parish Clerk].

The benefits of traffic calming were explained by Mr Lavery, Area Environment Director (South) who promised that the rumble strips and the 30mph signs would be in place before the end of the summer. The parish was asked to monitor the effects of the rumble strips for 12 months, after which a decision will be made as to whether or not they require modification.

Inspector Patrick said that PC Martin Rushworth would be returning here shortly. He expressed concern over the recent burglaries in the village and reminded everyone to remain vigilant at all times.

#### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 15th TO 19th MAY 1996

Liz Webb would like everyone to know that "As a door-to-door collection is not possible, there will be collecting boxes in all the local shops for donations - please give generously".

## Kate's Kitchen

GINGER was thought to be a great cure-all by Victorian ladies. It was used as an aid for indigestion sufferers, to calm morning sickness during pregnancy, as a cure for fevers and chills, and even to put into the bath water to soothe away aches and pains.

I, however, use ginger quite a lot when cooking - both sweet and savoury dishes - and the following recipe, which also uses carrots and pineapple, makes a lovely moist cake.

#### GINGER, PINEAPPLE & CARROT CAKE

- 8 ozs carrots, peeled and grated
  - 8 fluid ozs vegetable oil
  - 2 medium eggs
  - 6 ozs self raising flour
  - 1 half-teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
  - l half-teaspoon salt
  - 1 half-teaspoon baking powder
  - 1 teaspoon ground ginger
  - l tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 x 8oz. can (227g) pineapple (crushed)
  - 6 ozs caster sugar
  - \*2 ozs walnut pieces

Using a food processor or mixer, put eggs into bowl with sugar and process for approx 10-15 seconds. With the motor running, pour oil in slowly then continue processing for 60 seconds or until mixture is smooth and thick. Add the lemon juice. Sieve together the dry ingredients, add to the mixture and mix well. Mix carrots and pineapple in a separate bowl, add walnuts and then combine with the rest of the ingredients and give a short whizz.

Turn into a greased and lined 7" cake tin and bake in a moderate oven (180 degrees C or 160 degrees C fan-assisted), for about one and a quarter hours or until risen, firm to the tough, and brown. Turn out and cool on a wire rack.

TOPPING: 3ozs. softened butter, 3ozs. cream cheese, 6ozs. icing sugar, 1 half-teaspoon vanilla essence, 1 piece stem ginger in syrup (finely chopped). Put butter, cheese and essence into a bowl and mix thoroughly. Add icing sugar, mix well, then add chopped ginger. Spread over top of cake when it has cooled.

IF YOU ARE ON A DIET OR PREFER TO HAVE IT WITHOUT THE LOVELY RICH TOPPING ABOVE.....mix together I tablesp. brown sugar with a quarter teasp. ground cinnamon and sprinkle this on the top of the cake BEFORE baking.



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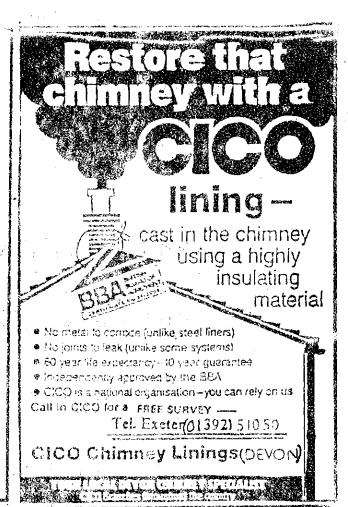
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(Kendall McDonald takes a backward glance at THE Hotel)

They say you should forgive someone who is celebrating a 100th anniversary almost anything. However, by reproducing, in a 1996 special centenary events list of the Thurlestone Hotel, some words written by a guest in 1902 in the hotel visitors' book, David Grose comes close to repeating the ultimate unforgiveable pun.

The words in the visitors' book are "It Grose on me here".

One can only hope that the man concerned was never allowed in the hotel again. Imagine his dreadful puns around the dinner table. But the truth is that, at that stage in the early life of the Thurlestone Hotel, the Grose family were not in a financial position to turn away anyone who wanted to stay with them. Since opening the hotel, they had struggled to survive once having only the money from selling goose eggs, which they carried on foot into Kingsbridge market, to buy enough food for their guests that night!

The Groses have certainly grown on Thurlestone in the past 100 years. In fact they have changed the whole face of this part of the South Hams. There can be little doubt that without the hotel, Thurlestone today would be little more than a small village in the South Hams with a remarkably large church. At the same time the village is fortunate that the Groses were the right kind of family for this village.

It would have been easy for a dynasty less caring for the good of the village as a whole to have wrought a great deal of damage. It is fair to say that the hotel has brought money and jobs, and the Grose family have supported the village and villagers in a multitude of ways. In contrast, before their arrival, there were some hard men from up-country who, having bought the village, were hell-bent on extracting every penny from it.

The Groses came from Cornish farming stock. They worked Trevilder Farm, near Wadebridge, but in 1894 William John Grose hired a special train, loaded it with all his stock and belongings, including a much-prized self-binder, and had himself, his wife, Margaret Amelia, and his four little sons, transported to Kingsbridge Station. The reason for this move is not entirely clear, but Grose family records suggest that William Grose moved to break away from the rest of his family at Trevilder mainly because his wife didn't get on with his mother! Two strong-minded women in one farm don't, work!

Whatever the reason, William Grose leased Court Barton Farm, near South Huish, from William Prowse, and settled down to farm in the South Hams. It didn't go well. In fact it turned into a disaster when foot-and-mouth hit the stock and most of them had to be slaughtered. There was no Government compensation in those days and finding the money to pay the rent to William Prowse became impossible. He promptly terminated the Grose tenancy. Only a small inheritance of Margaret Amelia's made it possible to clear their debts. And more farming without stock was clearly impossible.

It was then that Margaret Amelia and William showed amazing foresight. Forced to abandon farming they became hoteliers. I don't suppose they looked at it like that - taking in paying guests to pay the rent has been a fall-back for many when the mortgage becomes overdue. But their foresight was in the choice of place to set up in the guest business.

South Huish is not far from Thurlestone and on the local grapevine they heard that the man who farmed Thurlestone was keen to move out of the big old farmhouse (opposite the present farm) and move into Homefield (Bromfields now) and use that as his farmhouse. The Groses quickly took up the tenancy of the old farmhouse, moved in, and put up a sign on the wall nearest to the street.

#### THURLESTONE HOUSE GOLFERS ACCOMMODATED PICNIC PARTIES CATERED FOR TERMS MODERATE

Terms were indeed moderate - thirty shillings full board per person per week. But then the interior decoration of the bedrooms was moderate too - double beds with straw mattresses with a feather overlay, lino on the floor and a small mat beside the bed to stop your feet striking cold when you got up. However, Margaret Amelia presided at a long table over good food and plenty of it together with her own special desserts. They went down so well that repeat bookings were made almost as soon as the first guests left.

The golf club was officially opened in the same year as the Groses opened their hotel. Queen Victoria celebrated her Diamond Jubilee on 22 June 1897, and Thurlestone with the enthusiastic help of their new Rector, the Reverend F.E.Coope, celebrated too with a parade of decorated carts through the village and up into Ball Park. The hotel guests were much amused.

The hotel was away to a good start. Guests dressed for dinner. Soup was followed by William Grose's generous carvings from two roast joints. Then came the Margaret Amelia specials. Then, for those who could manage it, massive cheeses. Not surprisingly, the same faces, somewhat fatter, started to reappear round the table year after year. Some families stayed for the whole summer. And, as a waiting list for the 12 bedrooms made its appearance, the weekly full-board price rose to six guineas - and all the profit was ploughed back into the business.

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LETTERPRESS & LITHOGRAPHIC

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## RAYMOND WEEKS

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By 1908, the Groses had a big enough bank balance to approach Hubert Brunskill, who owned the land, to ask for permission to build an extension to the original farmhouse. He agreed on two conditions: one, that it didn't cost more than \$1,000; and two, that the hotel got a drinks licence. The Rector promptly objected, and organised a petition against such a licence. The Ilberts of Bowringsleigh signed it. So did quite a lot of the grander families. And, surprisingly, so did Hubert Brunskill. When the magistrates found out that Brunskill was responsible for the application in the first place, the opposition rather collapsed and the licence was granted!

The hotel bar was important to the hotel from that first moment, but it was also a focal point for the community - even at local funerals. In those days, the coffins were carried by hand from Bantham and other parts of the parish. Teams of bearers were used to cover those hilly miles for the funeral at Thurlestone Church. By the time the funeral was over, those tired bearers needed the comfort of the hotel bar!

(....to be continued in the next issue of Village Voice)

#### WEST COUNTRY SUPERSTITIONS - By Bessie Gill

\$ 11 T

West Country folk believe that to put shoes or boots on the table is to invite bad luck; to bring only two primroses into the house in Springtime is to ask for sickness; and to kill a cat is to court calamity.

Magpies are said to be unlucky if they build their nest near the house, and the old saying "One for sorrow, two for mirth, three for a wedding, four for a birth" is still quoted. Swallows' nests under the roofs are seldom destroyed, as they are supposed to, bring good fortune to the house.

To meet a piebald horse is a rare piece of luck, and if you wish before it goes out of sight, your wish will be granted. To meet a flock of sheep and not to part them is supposed to be a foolish thing, and it is amusing to see an old man or woman standing in the middle of the road with sheep hurrying along on each side, while the angry farmer shouts: "Keep to the side there, please, and let 'em pass." He knows very well why folks part them, but the sheep do not like it, and it sometimes gives the farmer a lot of trouble.

They say, too, that if the first lamb of the season born on a farm is a ewe, then the wife will rule the home throughout the year; but if it happens to be a ram, then the husband will rule,

Many of these superstitions, if not all, have been handed down from generation to generation, and who can say there is no truth in them, even in these enlightened days?

#### DOIDGE'S WESTERN COUNTIES ANNUAL 1938

(Thanks are due to Jane Marston for this contribution, Ed.)

- <u>2</u>

## Dear Editor..... principal de la Rubbish

#### RUBBISH

It would be appreciated if residents who use plastic bags to contain their household refuse, and who then put the bags out a day (or two or three or overnight) before they're due for collection, could spare a thought for their neighbours.

As likely as not a predatory badger/fox/dog/cat, or seagulls, will have got there before the binman and strewn the contents about. It is often the neighbours who have the dubious pleasure of picking up the debris before the wind carries it even further afield than their own gardens.

If rubbish must be put out much in advance of collection, please use a solid and secure bin, or if you are a holidayhome owner who sets off for home say on a Sunday evening, why not ask your neighbours if they will deal with your binbag? I believe either of these suggestions would be infinitely preferable to the neighbours than the tiresome task of dealing with others' scattered trash.

A litter-conscious resident (Name & binbag supplied)

#### ANIMAL RESCUE

I should like to thank my mother, Joan Galloway, Liz Webb, and their helpers very much indeed for organising my illustrated talk on "The Rescue and Care of Injured Wildlife" on February 20th. Thanks also go to all those who ventured out on that icy afternoon to listen to the talk and give their support. An amazing total of £165 was collected, for which I am extremely grateful. It has gone directly towards the cost of heating my First Aid unit and outside sheds for the sick swans and badgers. Thank you all for your help and generosity.

Margaret Morris Jones Cuan House Wildlife Rescue

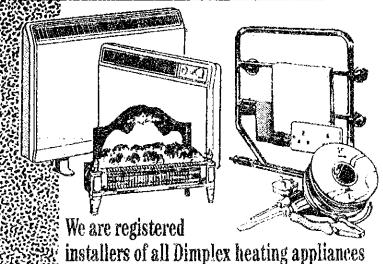
CHARITY CYCLING On 7th July I shall be marking the end of British Heart Week by undertaking another sponsored ride around the South Hams. As a variation I shall be reversing my route, with a few minor changes. With tremendous local support and encouragement I have raised £14,266 over the past five years, much of which has gone to heart appeals in Devon. Thank you.

I shall be around again seeking sponsorship over the next few months and I hope you will be able to see your way to backing me again as you have so marvellously in the past.

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Michael Allen Salcombe

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## A Neville Oswald Report...

#### THURLESTONE - IN ITS VERY EARLY DAYS

When William the Conqueror sent down a couple of men to look over Thurletone so that it might be included in the Domesday Book of 1086, they found no more than a few country folk living in a dozen scattered homesteads with their farms, with Buckland House listed as a manor. They had some rather skinny cattle to supply them with milk and pull their ploughs, sheep whose wool was spun by housewives and made into all the cloth they needed, fields of corn, fish in the sea and the river and, in the surrounding woods, wild pigs and deer. On the face of it an idyllic, if simple, existence but all was not well. Most of the buildings were only partly repaired after having been pillaged a few years before by a band of Irish raiders. Indeed, despite their many blessings, they had for centuries been no more than sitting ducks for any armed intruders who happened to be passing.

Who were these early Thurlestone people, and where did they come from? The shadowy figure of Stone Age (Palaeolithic) man roaming over what is now Devon before 2000BC finds substance in Kent's Cavern at Torquay, the oldest recognisable human dwelling in Britain, in which implements dating up to an estimated 100,000 years ago haved been found. Maybe the population of the whole of Britain at that time was never more than a few hundreds, mainly hunters ranging ovedr the countryside; of mixed races, they came from the shores of south-western and southern Europe. Many of them stayed while others, such as merchants from as far away as the Lebanon, sought gold and other metals, rather more in Cornwall than in Devon. They were known collectively as Iberians; some of them must have reached the South Hams, including Thurlestone, where their relics have been and still are being found along the coast. Whilst we cannot match the splendid battle-axe found at Hope Cove, we have a hollowed-out canoe of uncertain date, possibly late Stone Age, that was found wedged into the remains of the submarine forest near Thurlestone Rock, with tools nearby. Maybe the Iberians came here for the fishing.

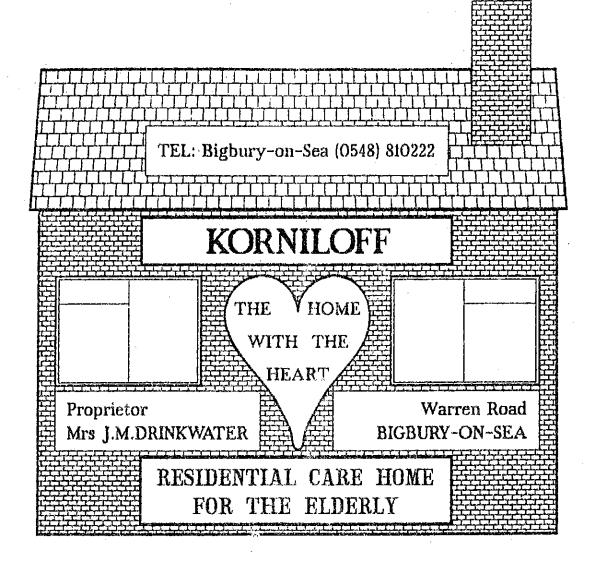
The Bronze Age (2000-500BC) which followed was dominated in Devon by the remarkable proliferation of dwellings and circles on Dartmoor. A considerable population lived up there and left behind several thousand nomuments of stone rows and circles, burial chambers and hut circles. Such evidence as there is suggests that some of them came from Britanny and others from south-eastern England and made their way up Devon rivers from the coast. Why they should have gone there in about 2000BC and virtually abandoned the place around 500BC has never been explained, unless perhaps they were guided by the climate, of which little is known. The settlers continued to occupy the South Hams during this comparativedly uneventful period. Pottery and burial urns of the time have been found along the coast of the South Hams but not specifically at Thurlestone. A Bronze Age wreck was discovered at Salcombe which yielded swords and axe-heads.

The Iron Age (500BC to 45BC) is dominated by the Celts. Starting in north-western Germany and the Netherlands, they spread out over western Europe and soon attacked England's eastern coastline. They swept all before them until they had pushed the Britons and Iberians into Wales and the S.Western peninsula. They retained their tribal loyalties at first, but eventually intermarried and created a reasonably stable Celtic England. Finding plenty of space in which to settle, they advanced husbandry and, with their settlements, founded many villages and townships. They left, with their hill forts and settlements, far more evidence of their sojourn than their predecessers had done. The camp on Bantham Ham dates from the Iron Age. An open settlement, occupied as a trading centre in several periods over the next 600 years, it has yielded a variety of pottery, axes, arrowheads, lamps and fish hooks.

The Roman occupation of Britain (45BC to 410AD) had little effect upon Devon and Cornwall compared with the rest of the country despite the importance of Exeter, the terminus of the great Roman road - Fosse Way. The Romans never occupied west Devon but, so far as the South Hams is concerned, there has been recent evidence of Romano-British camps at Oldaport near Blackawton and at Clannacombe, Thurlestone. Roman authority was maintained by a well-disciplined army, the like of which had not been seen before in England and which helped to preserve an era of peace and prosperity. When the Romans left, following attacks on their long line of communication with Rome, Celtic Britons had lost the rough vigour of their forebears and soon shook off the Roman venger.

The Saxon invasion (400-650AD), after the Romans had left, started as skirmishes on the east coast and then developed into@warfare in which the Celtic Britons were driven westwards. Jutes from the Natherlands and Saxon tribes, including Angles, from north Germany came over in waves, subjugating the whole country by 600AD and pushing the Celtic Britons into Devon, Cornwall and Wales. They were fierce and courageous fighters with loyalty to their chiefs, but at heart they were farmers seeking rich soil. In time they gave the country their language, English, and advanced civilisation through its petty kingdoms and its assemblies or moots. Indeed they were the most important force in the development of the Anglo-Saxon race. Devon was recognised as a county and given a Saxon tribal name. Having been quickly overrun the county, according to the flimsy evidence that is available, wilted with many former Celts crossing the Channel to what became known as Brittany. Some townships such as Ugborough, Yealmpton and Modbury were developed by the Saxons, but elsewhere the South Hams comprised isolated farms for the most part.

The Danes (835 to 1020AD) differed from previous invaders in that they were robbers interested solely in plunder; they founded no settlements. Their attacks on Devon started in 835; they occupied Exeter in 876 from which they were thrown out by Alfred the Great in the following year. They sailed up the Tamar as far as Lydford, went up the Teign and also landed at Exmouth. Their exploits in the parish of Thurlestone, real or imagined and including the slaughter of the roosticocks, merit consideration in some detail.



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Some 250 years ago Jeremiah Milles, Dean of Exeter Cathedral, intended to write a history of the county, for which he distributed a questionnaire to the parishes. The history was never written but the Milles Questionnaires, appropriately enough, were lodged in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, where The library, one of the best in the country, was named after Sir Thomas Bodley, who contributed generously to its foundation. He came from an old Crediton family and married a Totnes girl whose father had made a fortune from exporting to France barrels of pilchards that had been caught in Bigbury Bay. The Thurlestone Questionnaire describes some fields called Sentries that were held by the Danes "Tis said," that the Danes having ... killed the husbands in order to gain their wives to themselves, these brave women had a watchword concerning "roosticocks" so well communicated to each other, that the same night every bloody ravisher was sacrificed in the 18th revenge". The event was still being celebrated in the 18th century with bonfires and rejoicing.

Looking back at events from a distance, some aspects stand out. The Danes were habitually armed with heavy axes, five feet long and wielded with both hands; they must have scared the daylights out of the villagers. The foresight of the women in planning before yet another Danish assault was a entirely admirable. The attack on the roosticocks, perhaps aided by some of their menfolk, was sensibly executed at night. Then there is the question of the bonfires and rejoicing which were still being heldern the 1750's. Had they been held continuously since the Danes departed some 700 years before?

Eventually invalo20 the Teutonic (German) and Scandinavian conquest of England ended when Canute reconciled on equal terms the kindred races of Saxon and Dane, thus giving the nation some kind of unity for the first time. After the Norman Conquest of 1066, the links with northern Europe were quickly severed and the country settled down to many years of dominance by a French-speaking aristocracy and a Latin-speaking clergy, whilst preserving their Anglo-Saxon ways. They were the people who met William the Conqueror's representatives in Thurlestone in connection with the Domesday Book.

Neville Oswald

### THE BRITISH MNEMONARCHY

· 6.

(As updated by Kingsbridge School - courtesy of Al Parker)

Willie, Willie, Henry, Ste - Henry, Dick, John, Henry 3
Edwards 3, and Richard 2 - Henry 4, 5, 6, - then who?
Edwards 4, 5, Dick the Bad - Henry 7, 8, Ned the Lad
Mary, Bessie, James the Vain - Charlie, Charlie, James again
William Mary, Anna Gloria - 4 Georges, William, & Victoria
Edward 7 (a gay old sport) - George the 5th a nobler sort
Edward 8 did abdicate - And left George 6 to rule, the State
But in Elizabeth our Queen - A second Good Queen Bess is seen
And after she has had her day

King Charles the Third will step this way!

OBI

 $f_{\mathcal{L}}$ 

#### READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

Rosemary MacKay has kindly sent in to Village Voice these two reviews of books she has read recently:

"BOARD MEETING IN THE BATH - THE KNEBWORTH HOUSE STORY"
by Chrissie Lytton Cobbold.

A lively account of the hard work and enterprise that went into the restoration and revival of Knebworth. Remember the enormous pop festivals? A great credit to Chrissie.

"THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HOUSE OF VESTY" by Phillip Knightley

This is a fascinating description of the Vesty empire, showing the hard work and single-mindedness of the founders, true to their Victorian ethics. Through Machiavellian schemes they managed to evade tax on their huge profits for many years. They owned enormous tracts of land and when they finally pulled out of Australia they owned an area larger than Europe.

They also controlled all the means of rearing, transporting, storing and selling vast quantities of all meat. Until comparatively recent times a Vesty was roaming Britain making unexpected spot checks on Dewhurst the Butcher branches!

NOTE: Those are Rosemary's latest two 'good reads' - why not let Village Voice have yours? (Ed)

#### WINNIE ILLE PU

17.94

A resident of South Milton has kindly sent me a brand new copy of A.A.Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh. What a joy it has been to meet all over again Christopher Robin, his teddy bear Winnie, Piglet, and all his other little friends.

Their simple escapades remain as charming as ever, as do the illustrations of E.H.Shepard of Punch. We are able to follow them from the day when Winnie was ignominiously trailed downstairs to the final party in Winnie's honour...

"Christopherus Robinus convivium in honorem pui dat"

....for the whole text is in Latin!

17

The volume is freely available for borrowing by any reader of Village Voice who has a reasonable knowledge of the language. Ring 560555.

"KOS."

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### Harry Huggins

(Continuing about birds - and a butterfly's journey).

have seen it. If people don't see a great high hoonform of Black Storkethether hound hard on the see a great high strates and hard on the strate of the stra water meadows. When we got there we found 20 or 30 people scurrying about with binoculars and telescopes an witches for odf of the state of t got here. There were several deep teres of the serious of the seri is an RB Flicker, a Thrush Nightingale is a sprosser (please woll ringame and reverse the charges if you will exither achievoset use of the charges if you will exither achievoset use of the the last name of the species; actiney wol talk tabout a remediate and you don't know whether athey baiw mean faunced throated Diver that uncommon; look near all unliestoned to Rockscon off the Beach at Bantham during the wintern hor them and Red-throated Pipiti (very fare and a real twitcher is lain to a you don't be species; actiney wol them and account of the wintern hor them and some at the wintern hor them and a real twitcher is laint a you wont from west to east. There will also the state of the obstatuto beaking with the a search and the sample of the search of the sample of the search of the sample of the samp It is all to do with toes. Ducks and gulls have webbed feet, fully palmated. All other Sandpipers have bare toes. palmated means having little webs near the bases of the toes. They say that if you get near enough (they are usually pretty tame) you can see the little webs. Otherwise a Semi-P looks identical in the field to a Little Stint, which turns up here sometimes. But as far as we were concerned, identification and anything else regarding the Semi-P was academic. It was

What interested us was that the Semi-P is American. We had now way of knowing whether this one had just crossed the Atlantic. But if it had, the weather systems which brought it could have carried our Monarch butterfly also! We did not know then that around this time people were finding lots of small American birds - we read about it later in Bird Watching magazine. There were close on forty sparrow-sized things, plus a dozen or so wading birds and some ducks. These were the ones that were found by folks who knew what they were. Of course people were out looking for them. The twitchers go in force to the Isles of Scilly, Prawle Point and similar hot spots in October, hoping for such rarities. But many must go unseen and unrecognised. I never heard that the Semi-P was found again after it left South Huish.

for the twitchers also. The bird had been scared away by a

Peregrine falcon some hours previously.

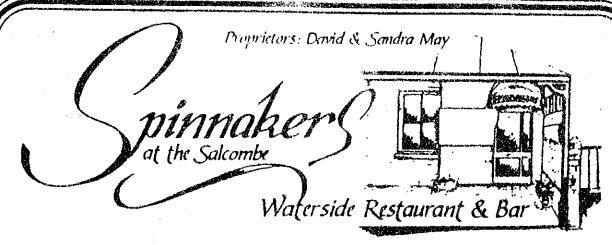
Not many people are interested in such things and to recognise them you have to be interested. Some years ago a Black Stork flew right over our house. It is a good four feet across the wings, with a long neck in front and long legs behind. My wife, who was gardening, saw it and so did the late and much-lamented Alex Morrison, who was on the golf course. I never heard that anyone else in our parish saw it. And if my wife had been indoors, and Alex had not been golfing, no one would

If I am not going to trespass on Jan's meteorological patch, I am certainly not going to get involved with navigation. Look at a globe of the Earth, though, and you will see the shortest route from Canada and the northern coastal states of the USA to South America is out over the sea. That is the route that many migrating birds, including quite small ones, take. I don't know about butterflies.

Imagine you are a little bird. You, and thousands of others, have set off down the north east coast of America, maybe heading on a course which will take you out to sea. Probably you started at nightfall, with a following wind to help, and clear skies so you could navigate by the stars. Yes, birds do that so they say. A depression comes roaring up. The storm force westerly winds snatch you up. Now I don't know for sure whether birds can tell if they are flying down wind, but it seems likely that they can. In any case, it is no use our little bird turning against the wind because it is blowing at probably more than 120 mph while the bird's maximum speed is 20 mph. So you go with it, and hope. If you are lucky you make landfall in the Isles of Scilly where a mob of appreciative twitchers waits to welcome you. Most of the birds which set out have perished in the ocean but a few have reached land as you have and, like you, will probably survive for a little while, although you will never get back to America. If you are a Yellow-billed Cuckoo you will die quite quickly because you will be unable to find anything you like to eat.

Only the Isles of Scilly are so well watched by birders hoping for autumn vagrants; the area is small and the numbers of birders large. Many more birds must cross the ocean to reach our shores; some are found, but probably most are not. As I said earlier, if we can miss a jolly great Black Stork, how much easier it must be to miss a dull little warbler.

Our Monarch butterfly must have come the same way. I reckon we were very lucky it came into our garden when we happened to be looking. And I would much rather see it than the Semi-P!



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### by Jan Turner

Winter seems to be retreating at last, to be replaced by springlike weather - with the occasional blip to remind ourselves of our position on the globe. Today is March 1st, St.David's Day. It is calm, dry and warm (relatively) but the saying goes 'In like a lamb and out like a lion', with in between, on March 21st, the Vernal Equinox. I wonder what the weather will be like around that period? It seems to me it does have a significance when thinking about a prediction for the summer.

#### Phenomena this time : CLOUDS

One Luke Howard (1772-1864) was the first person to compose a classification of clouds. He published a paper in 1804 containing sketches of the main cloud types. It remains the basic classification today. He did not know however why such clouds formed. Isn't it interesting how people centuries ago were so observant and meticulous in their recordings, that we use their information today because it cannot be bettered?

Howard used three main categories, each with a Latin name, so that they could be used internationally.

CIRRUS (curl of hair, today we call them "mares' tails")
parallel, flexous, or diverging fibres, extending
in any or all directions.

CUMULUS (heap) convex or conical heaps increasing upwards from a horizontal base.

STRATUS (prostrate) widely extended continuous horizontal sheet increasing from below upwards.

Later observers added to these categories, e.g. strato-cumulus as a name for flat sheet cloud with little rounded heads appearing within it. Then came the use of altitude to further refine the classification. In 1886 Ralph Abercromby from Scotland and H.H. Hildebrandson from Sweden together published a classification of TEN TYPES using photographs for the first time. 1891 saw the International Meteorological Congress in Munich agree to compile the first International Cloud Atlas, which was published in 1895. A Reverend Clement Ley attempted further refinements but it was too complicated. He has however left us with some lovely words, e.g. ANVIL. The final set of categories was published by the W.M. Organisation in 1956, keeping the TEN TYPES but with further detailed subdivisions.

WEATHER REPORT: With 10 hours of sunshine on 24th February, last month was not too bad. On the 12th, wind gusted to 70 mph with casterlies predominating. Rainfall 79.13mm, average temperature 5.58 degrees C, lowest recorded -1.9 degrees C on 4th/5th, highest temperature on 16th at 12.8 degrees C. Here's hoping for a goodly rainfall (but not too much) in March to help S.W.W. and our supply for the summer.



### BF BL. Y BOLD and

HSOLUTE ... as Macbeth was advised Clear your garage, your attic, your wardrobe, of all those "I'll never-use-that-again" items and let us have them for our annual

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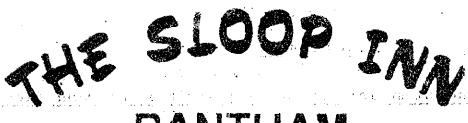


National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

### SUPERGUIDE

### The essential social calendar - priorities for your diary!

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