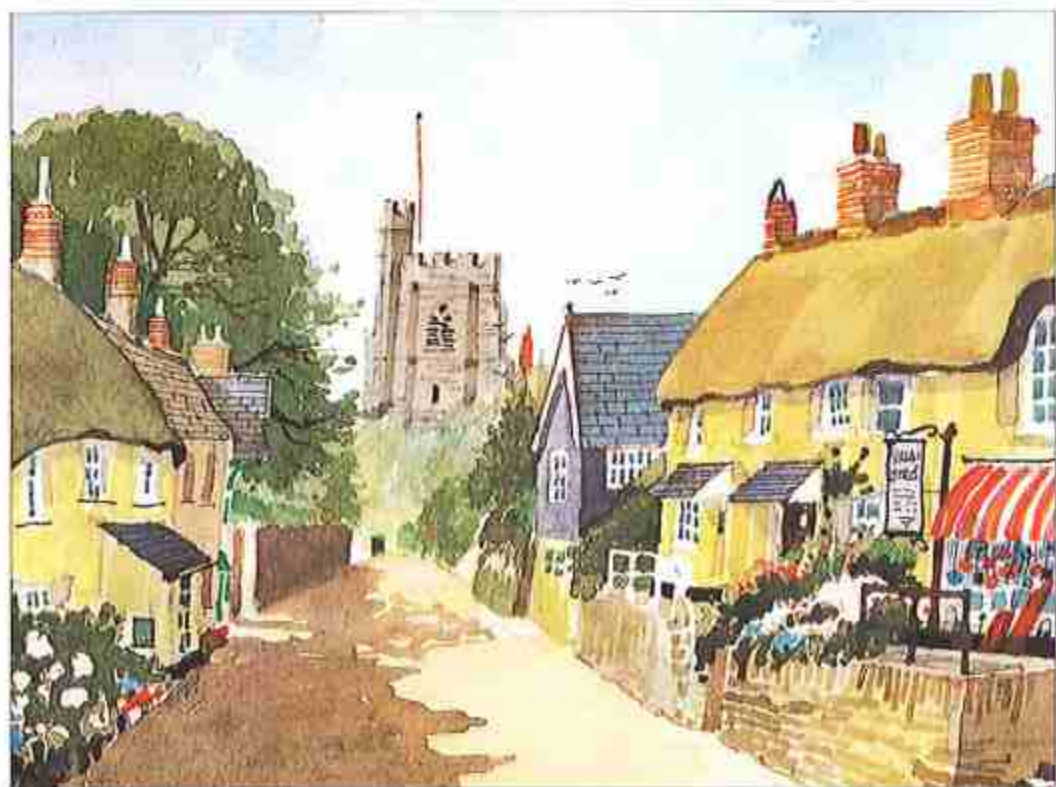


VILLAGE VOICE



THE
100TH
EDITION

DECEMBER
1999
JANUARY
2000



Our thanks to Len Hubbard and Burwood Gallery
for permission to reproduce two of his paintings
on Village Voice's special 100th front cover.

Our thanks too go to Nick Walker Printing for the
colour reproduction



NUMBER 100

DECEMBER 1999 - JANUARY 2000

Here it is - the 100th edition, complete with special colour cover. Hurrah! Hooray! Hurrah!

You know if we go on as we are our readers will be celebrating the 200th issue of Village Voice during the Third Millennium! And the Parish Hall is already booked for the 300th edition party.

When Dudley Drabble founded Village Voice, way back in July 1982, he wrote in the very first issue that he was hoping that Village Voice would become a "permanent institution".

He printed 360 copies of that first issue and so permanent did his brain-child become that today we print twice as many copies of each much bigger edition. Today too, as a result of our thriving postal subscription service, Village Voice is read countrywide - even in devolved Scotland and almost devolved Wales. Stories from our pages are regularly picked up and splashed by the national Press.

What a success story! But, you know, things don't change all that much in our placid parish. Just read through the first edition, which we've reproduced and bound in as the last eight pages of your magazine, and you'll see what we mean.

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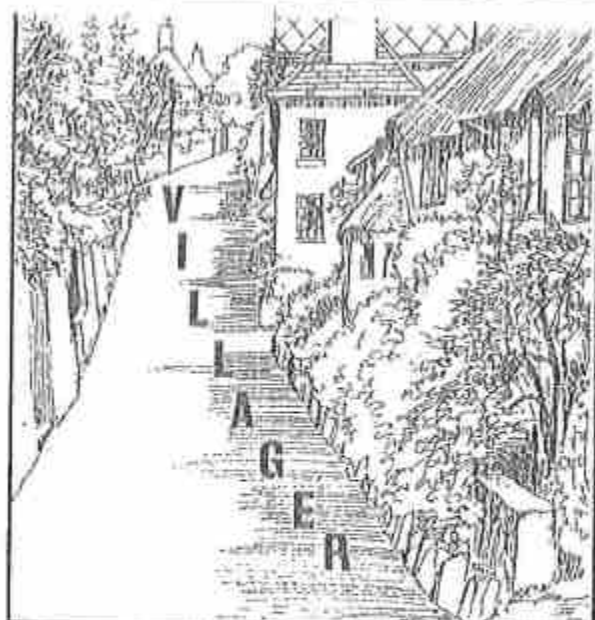
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Published Bi-monthly

IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T MEND IT



Of all the slogans in vogue at the moment, that one should be emblazoned on the Parish Hall walls for all meetings of our beloved Parish Council.

For sadly, I have to draw your attention to the fact that they are fiddling about with traffic once again.

Some villagers will not learn that there is nothing that you can do about the volume of summer traffic in our villages. There is no way of controlling it or enforcing any yellow lines or any other hideous signs.

If people want to holiday down here they will drive down in their cars and they will park those cars as close as they can to their holiday homes. I ask you - does it really matter? And please let's drop that myth about emergency vehicles not being able to get through. It hasn't happened and if ambulance drivers and fire brigade drivers are as good as they used to be, it will never happen.

The police take a sensible line over this. They like parked cars. They regard them as much better for traffic calming than any stupid humps in the road. So let's be realistic. Real traffic jams are very rare. And if anyone is held up for a few minutes in our little jams while on their way to the golf club, hotel, beach or shop, so what?

Better that than speedsters hurtling through our villages. And, talking of speed, did you note that at a recently Council meeting it was revealed that the fastest speed recorded through Thurlestone on a hand-held "speed gun" was just 25 m.p.h. Too fast you may think, but well within the speed limit.

Those who suffer from trafficphobia or signomania are always getting at the Parish Council and insisting that they "do something about it". So the Council at a recent meeting seized with alacrity on the suggestion of Councillor Kit Marshall that they should set up a sub-committee to look into such pressing matters. Now that same Parish committee has submitted its ideas for Thurlestone to Devon County Council, who are looking with some favour on the scheme. Whether those who actually live in the afflicted parts of the village street will look with similar favour on the plan is open to much doubt.

Basically, it is suggested that double yellow lines should run from the Farm on the left-hand side (coming up the hill) to just before Mount Stone. Parking would then be allowed on that side opposite the Churchhouse cottages and then "no waiting" would be signed from Vine Cottage right up to Kerse Cross. On the opposite side (the right coming up the village) yellow lines would run from Homefield site entrance through the narrows. Then parking would be allowed along the Old Rectory wall. More parking again from the porch of the Nook up to Just-a-Cottage and then no waiting up to Kerse Cross again.

To ease the pain of parking for those cut off by no-waiting, the committee suggest that the whole field side of Court Park should be designated a parking area and the deprived leaving their cars could then walk through paths to their homes.

But just imagine the horrific sight of all those parking, no parking, and no waiting signs on poles in front gardens or on walls up our once beautiful village street. Such vandalism just to solve problems that really don't exist except possibly for a few days in the summer. Please leave our villages alone.

The Battle of the Soaps.

The story so far: The *s.s. Persier*, an old British merchant ship was torpedoed by *U-1017* on February 11, 1945, when she was near the Eddystone, on her way to take relief supplies to the newly liberated Belgians. In the *Persier's* holds were 2,200 tons of soap, 6 tons electrical parts, 16 tons leather, 9 tons baby food, 5 tons woollen blankets, 968 tons canned meat, 1,186 tons dried egg, 16 tons rationing stamps and 8 tons lorry parts. She sank just off Challaborough in the night after being abandoned by her crew and no one saw her go down. But residents from all around soon found her cargo being washed up on their beaches. And though the Customs men nicked and fined quite a few, many got their beachcombing hidden away undetected.

Now Read On: Some bars of soap hidden in 1945 by a South Milton resident have recently emerged into newspaper headlines when they were to be auctioned in aid of South Milton Church. Soap manufacturer Proctor and Gamble who identified the soap as their green Fairy product, gave £150 to church funds. Good for them.

However, some Thurlestone residents have also come out as soap nickers and say that Fairy green soap was not the soap they found on their beaches over 54 years ago. Their soap is bigger, yellow and Sunlight. And they are going to auction their soap for Thurlestone Church funds later in the year. Oh, what a lather we're all in! To be continued in our next...

Father of Four from York Parish is Thurlestone Rector

By Our Ecclesiastical Correspondent

The new Vicar of the villages of Thurlestone, Buckland, Bantham and South Milton is 59-year-old Andrew Martin Girling from Dringhouses, York.

The Reverend Girling, who was ordained in Luton in 1965, is a former boy chorister of Canterbury Cathedral. He and his wife, Susan, whom he married in 1967, have four children, a son and three daughters.

A keen cricketer, rugger and hockey player in his youth, Mr. Girling was the son of a vicar and one of five children. He was brought up in Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey and was educated at the Cathedral Choir School, Canterbury and St. John's School, Leatherhead, before reading theology at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

He then joined Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, where he was Choir Master and President of the Common Room. After his ordination he was Curate at Luton Parish Church with particular responsibility for youth work and pastoral care.

In 1969 he became Chaplain to Hull University and later was chairman of the Church of England Board of Education Council for Chaplains to Universities. In 1975 he moved to York and was Vicar of St. Edward the Confessor, Dringhouses, York. During his time there, before being appointed to Thurlestone, he was a member of the York

Diocesan Synod and a member of the Diocesan Council for Women's Ministry. He was made an honorary canon of York Minster in 1977.

He was appointed First Chaplain to St. Leonard's Hospice in 1984 and later also became a member of that hospice's management committee.

The Rev. Andrew Girling will be installed as Priest-in-charge of the United Benefice of Thurlestone, Buckland, Bantham and South Milton at All Saints on February 25.



FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY
4th DECEMBER 1999

2.00 pm

THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

Lots and lots of stalls!
Come and do your Christmas shopping
Support the work of the NSPCC in Devon

Goods and donations gratefully received

Jax Auster
560578

Pat Clarke
561982

Joan Lane
560158



National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children



The Primrose Appeal
For a Breast Care Unit at Derriford Hospital
A Service to Celebrate
Christmas

with

The Stanborough Chorus
in

BUCKFAST ABBEY

Friday 10th December
7.30 p.m.

All are welcome

Retiring Collection in aid of The Primrose Appeal for an urgently
needed Breast Care Unit at Derriford Hospital

Registered Charity No. 1064277

WHAT TO DO ABOUT THAT FOUL DOG

Persistent fouling around the War Memorial has resulted in warning notices going up on site.

South Hams District Council have issued details of what residents should do about dog fouling in general.

Malcolm Orchard is the SHDC Dog Warden for Thurlestone parish. He says that if a dog is seen fouling public or private property first report what happened to the dog's owner if he or she can be identified.

If fouling goes on report the problem to Mr.Orchard (01803-861126) and he will have a word with the owner. If after this fouling

continues, contact the Dog Warden again and he will "take possession of the dog and the owner will have to pay £45 to get the dog back".

BROWNE OFF WITH DRINKING WATER?

Parishioners are being asked to record with dates and times instances of drinking water running brown out of taps. The extent of the discolouration - slight, medium or severe - should also be noted. Details should be passed to the Parish Council so that the collected results can be presented to SWW by Mr.Steen, M.P.

LOVELY JUMBLY

The Jumble Sale in aid of the Prawle Point National Coastwatch Institution raised £270.

FRIENDS GET EVEN MORE FRIENDLY WITH ASSETS UP

At their 4th annual general meeting the Friends of Thurlestone Church announced their assets up from £20,437 to £27,619.

Chairman Martyn Grose announced another increase - the total number of Friends was now 226, though the total of subscriptions, donations, gift aid and covenants fell by £400 compared with the previous period. The Friends Summer Ball, timed this year for the Eclipse, raised £2,500. The Ball is intended to be an annual event at the Thurlestone Hotel.

Following the retirement of Ian Fraser and Peter Wright who have both left the Mead, the newly elected members of the Committee are: Gavin Price, Graham Worrall, Eileen Perraton and Marian Rigby. Chairman Martyn Grose, Secretary Kit Marshall and Treasurer Ron Parkin were re-elected un-opposed.

CRISP CRACKLIES AT ST.CRISPIN'S

The Church's St Crispin's Fair didn't quite match the amount raised in 1998, but they had a darned good try. This year the Fair, held as usual in the Parish Hall, raised the fine sum of £640.95, which was only slightly less than last year's total. The raffle (£126) only just beat the cake sales for top slot (£124).

THE WAR MEMORIAL

Work continues to clear the stumps from behind the War Memorial at Thurlestone. The planting of 1000 crocus bulbs, given by Miss Yeo, around the Memorial is now complete.

Suitable shrubs for planting to provide an attractive background to the Memorial itself have been funded by a gift from the profits of the sales of the "Story of Thurlestone, Bantham and West Buckland", the book of the parish. All proceeds from the book are now given to the parish for suitable projects. Neil Girling, Peter Hurrell and Kendall McDonald, who were responsible for the publication of the book, would welcome any other ideas for the good of the whole parish which need financial help. The book sales have already provided over £1,000 for parish projects.

Fred Shillabeer 1922 - 1999

A twinkle has gone out of Bantham with the death of Fred Shillabeer. That was the way the orator put it at the packed funeral service in All Saints Church, Thurlestone. And no doubt all Bantham will agree.

Fred was born in Chudleigh in 1922, the eldest boy of eight children. His first job after school was as a milk delivery man for the Co-op.

At the outbreak of war, he spent a very short time with the Home Guard before enlisting in the Navy. He was in "heavy" action in both the North Sea and the Mediterranean in *HMS Undaunted*, *HMS Orion* and *HMS Unicorn*. He took part in escorting Malta convoys, working with the ship's anti-submarine sonar. Then he served in the Pacific and North Atlantic and was close offshore of Japan when the first atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

After the war Fred worked in the Newton Abbot clay pits, married Barbara, and had a daughter and two sons.

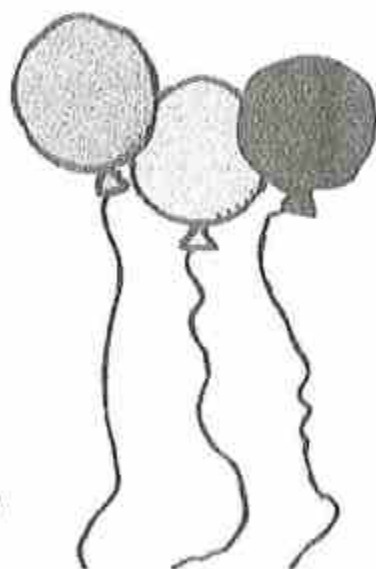
His interest in surfing had begun with a wartime ship's refit in Australia and visits to Bondi Beach. It was an interest that stayed with him for the rest of his life. He was a member of Bantham Surf Life Saving Club from the very first day it started. He trained hard for competitions and later became an examiner, travelling throughout the West and visiting clubs for training sessions, examinations or to referee events.

Fred Shillabeer was the first full-time beach safety officer for the South Hams and during the course of this work saw a lot of Prince Charles during the Prince's many visits to Bantham from the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth.

That mischievous twinkle was very much in Fred's eyes during his later years of retirement in Bantham. He was a gentle man, a kind man with a happy feel about him. He was active in all village activities, whether it was the carnival float, darts matches, gardening, fishing, dancing (at the recent Bantham Bash), or just chatting in the Sloop.

Parish of Thurlestone Society

The Millennium Video is now ready !



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*Thurlestone Parish Hall
on*

SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER

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from the video making as well as other items of interest*

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AVON CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION

The Otters Are Back...And The Salmon Are Just Behind...

Good news about the Avon River and its future was given by Dr. Peter Beale, when he spoke to 45 members of the Avon Conservation Association in the Memorial Hall in Aveton Gifford recently.

Dr. Beale, who has known the Avon valley since 1966 and is very fond of it, is also the author of "The Avon Valley Ecological Assessment Consultative Report". He is a consultant with the Devon Wildlife Trust and is working on contract with the South Hams District Council. He told his audience of the changes taking place in forestry and farming practices and their impact on the Estuary.

He said that otters have returned to the river and that the mink population has stabilised. Now the Environment Agency plans to develop a salmon action plan for 2001 aimed at improving the Avon's reputation as a salmon and sea trout river.

More good news: The Estuary can expect to benefit from designation under the EC Shell Fish Water Purity Directive. This is not only good news for the Oyster Farm, but also for all who enjoy using the river. With the directive in place the Environment Agency will have a strong hand to tackle all sources of pollution which could effect the river.

Dr Beale stressed the importance of volunteers in the management of habitats. Grants are available for initial conservation measures, but maintenance costs money and labour and needs to be supported by the enthusiasm of the young and the work of the physically able older enthusiasts.

John F. Crawford, Chairman Avon Conservation Assn.

NEWS EXTRA.

Professor Basil Smallman of Thurlestone is to give six WEA lectures on the life and music of Johannes Brahms at Dodbrooke Church Hall on Tuesdays afternoons, starting on January 11, 2000. The talks will be fully illustrated by recorded and live performances of the music. No previous knowledge is necessary. Enjoyment is guaranteed. Course fee: £16.50. Concessionary registration fee: £5. Enrol at first meeting.



THE VILLAGE INN

THURLESTONE

WHAT'S ON THIS CHRISTMAS

Fri 3rd

QUIZ 7.30pm

QUIZ NIGHT every Tuesday **STEAK NIGHT** Sundays til 19th

Christmas Week Happy Hour 6-7pm

Mon Tues Weds AND Thurs.....PLUS.....

2 for 1 Christmas Cocktails 6 - 9pm !!!

Mon 20th

Christmas Carols

Open

Tues 21st

Pub's Christmas Quiz 8.30pm

Wed 22nd

Christmas Draw @ 7.45

Thur 23rd

Christmas Party

8.30pm

Music from Howard Jones. Free Willies

Christmas Eve *Open 'til 11.30pm*

Christmas Day Merry Christmas Open 11.30-1pm

Boxing Day *Open 'til 11.30pm*

NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Pub's New Year Party 12.00-1.00 **Mon, Tue, Wed & Thur nights**

Pub's New Year Party 12.00-1.00 **MILLENNIUM**

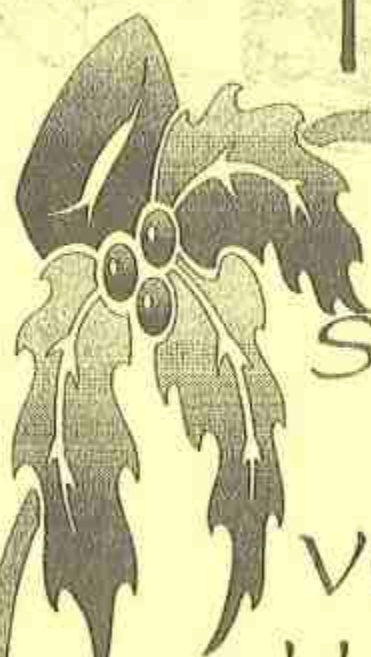
ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY. PARTY INTO THE NEW MILLENNIUM

New Year's Day

Pub's New Year Party 12.00-1.00 **Open All Day**

THE VILLAGE INN

THURLESTONE



Sarah, Steve &
the
Village Inn team
would like to thank all our
patrons for their
valued custom and
friendship throughout the
past year.

We wish you all a very
Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year.

Thousands of phone calls, bags of letters, e-mails, faxes and notes in forked sticks have poured into the luxurious offices of the Voice carrying congratulations on our 100th edition. Here, extracts from just a few of them make up our...

CENTENARY

POSTBAG

"Congratulations. Mummy sends hers too. Have you room for a small advertisement for my biscuits? Charles".

"All the best for the next 100 from the forces of conservatism. William".

"Well done! Glad you will continue to support my project to abolish the countryside. Tony".

"My Council is with you
all the way. Peter"

"My Friends think
you're wonderful.
Martyn".

"My Hotel would be empty
without you. David"

"Have backed you for the first 100. Hope to hold the end spot for your next thousand. Neil".

"Good show, but suggest Editor attends my literacy classes.
Alun"

"100 front covers. Is it
time for a pay rise? Len".

"With your circulation the cash must be rolling in. Do you want to buy a Parish Hall? Rowland".

"Going like hot cakes.
Send more. Adrian".

"Caroline and I are your greatest fans - Anthony".

"Superb record. All you need now is a boating correspondent. Open to offers. Hugh"

~~"Thank you for letting me service
Village Voice staff cars...
Surely cheque not still in the post? Maurice"~~

Don't use, Ed!



FROM THE BIRD ON THE ROOF

Migrating flocks on the wing

We understand recently that a well known Thurlestone bell-ringer and coast-watcher was fascinated to witness, on holiday and at first hand, "*french wildlife*" in the mountains ! Surrounded by over two hundred chattering and ravenous birds, hanging upside, perching precariously on the finest twigs, he watched the feeding habits of a mixed flock of *siskins* and *serins*. Their plumage was striking. Dark caps on the male siskins contrasted with yellow breasts, near white under-bellies on the females, bright yellow heads and breasts on the male serins and the females streaked underneath.

The food source in this instance was silver birch seeds. The birds fed there for two days. As they arrived suddenly, so they flew away. On the home front the only migrating flock witnessed in early November on Bantham Beach were a Salcombe couple out courting!

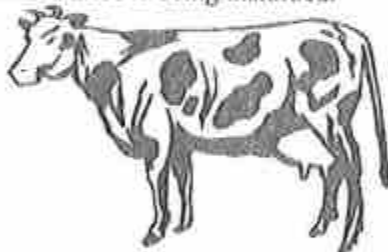
We always live in hope of rarer visitors from afar.....

Alternative farming practices

The "*Genetically Modified*" food debate hots up on all sides. Many who have, hitherto, never thought of the subject as relevant are now concerned. Supermarkets are concerned also, as witnessed by the organic produce appearing on their shelves throughout the country.

A little while ago a friend whispered to me that he had had news of a certain farmer who was "*going organic*" in the near future...! The question was it true or false? By chance, I talked to the farmer and his wife this week. He confirms that the planning process is well on the way and that by the year 2002 the farm will be totally organic. He has stopped deliveries of fertiliser completely.

This decision was not taken lightly - he farms a "mere 340 acres" - and I think that he should be supported in every way. In this magazine we have frequently drawn your attention to the wildlife implications and the way in which the balance of nature is being disturbed.



"Grumble strips"

What is the point of having the above at the entry of the Village when coming from Kingsbridge - after all we ignore pot - holes en route every time?

Our road surfaces are a disgrace. It makes you think that local district and county councillors always visit by helicopter....!

Tailpiece

Stringent restrictions are now set to become and enforced in local bye-laws.

The recent fatal outbreak of *e-coli* at Dawlish Warren, widely attributed to dog faeces on the beach in the holiday season, should give us pause for thought.

Whatever the cause, whatever the excuse a child has sadly died.

It's not so long ago that human faeces were washed up on Leas Foot beach when the tide and the wind were unfavourable. Courtesy of the work done, by the local water authority, including sewage schemes, a massive clean-up campaign has been accomplished.

However, irresponsible dog owners are still around.

What right have they got to use private roads and estates?

Non-residents of the Yarmer and the Mead estates, post office lane etc. are prone to use nearby facilities when their canine pets are being exercised - never a "*poop - scoop*" on display - never a plastic bag in hand.... Perhaps they have very deep pockets..



Roger Hind

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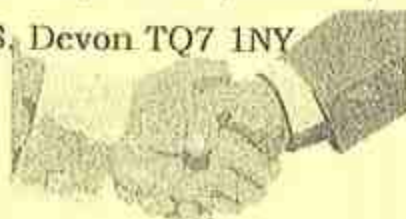
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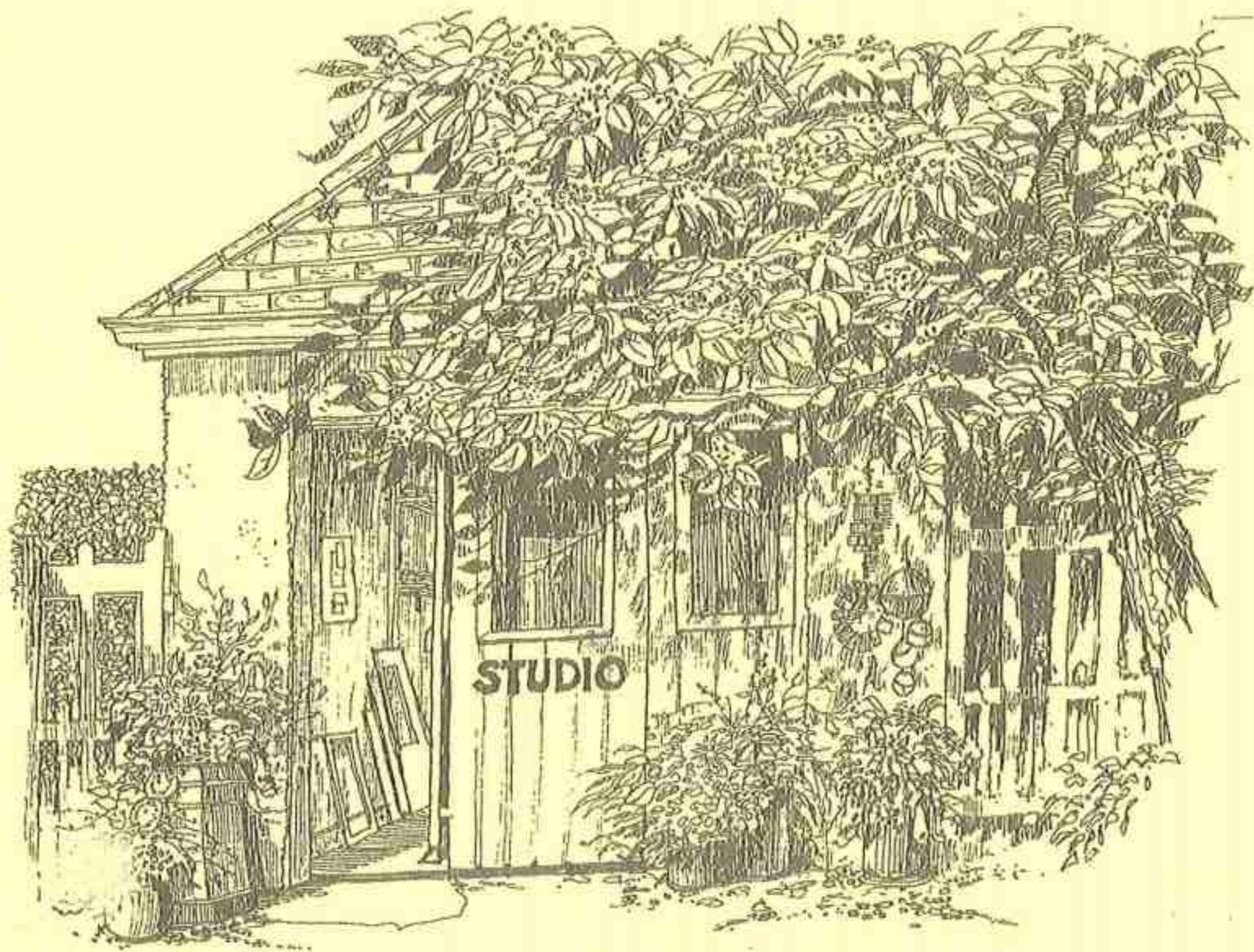
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Pat Machin's

PUZZLE CORNER

CLUELESS CROSSWORD

Each number represents a letter. For example 1 = P; 2 = A; 3 = T. Enter these letters where their numbers are shown in the grid. Then identify the letters for the remaining 23 numbers and enter them in the grid. When completed it should show a normal crossword grid.

All 26 letters of the alphabet are used.

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

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

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

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

CLUELESS ROUNDWORD

This puzzle is in the form of a spiral, starting at the top left hand corner and finishing in the middle. Each number represents a letter e.g. 1 = P ; 2 = A ; 3 = T. The last letter of each word is the starting letter of the next and is shown by a shaded square. Find the other letters and complete the puzzle. Each word may (or may not) have some connection with the festive season.

A
B
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K
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M

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

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

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

JAN MEREDITH

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MARBLE



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PARISH COUNCIL : NEWS IN BRIEF

Parish Council Meeting held on 19th October 1999

Fourteen members of the public attended. Six parish councillors were present. District Councillor Mrs.C.Steen attended. Apologies from Cllr.C.Marshall.

PARISH HALL

A planning application was being prepared for the proposed alterations to the Hall (see plans in October-November Village Voice).

PARKING

The sub-committee's recommendations for Thurlestone parking had been sent to Devon County Council, but so far without response.

DOG FOULING

Signs - Dog Fouling Prohibited - will be placed on the War Memorial site when excavations have been completed. SHDC advice to residents had been received (See Village Voice News in this edition).

RING OF STEEL

There would be increased police surveillance to coincide with the anniversary of last year's burglaries.

FOLLATON HOUSE.

District Councillor Mrs.Steen reported that she was on three of the five committees at Follaton House - policy, housing, environment and health.

The new Housing Company was building an office complex on the Quay at Totnes which would cost £1.7 million. She did not approve of the decision which was made by the previous administration.

Mrs.Steen referred to the proposal to build 11,500 new houses in the area and that decisions would soon have to be made. In her view development should only take place on "brown-field" sites with zero building elsewhere.

PHONE POLE UPSET

During discussion of a planning application for an Orange telecom pole for mobile phone reception at Kerse Cross, the public present were invited to comment. They expressed great disquiet about the site at the entrance to the village. Could it not be sited half-way to Clannacombe? What about the disused Decca Navigation aerials at Bolberry Down? Why not use the roof space of the Downs for a dish? Councillors to discuss this further.

VILLAGE SPEEDSTERS

In open forum, the question of speeding in the parish was raised by Mrs.Hyde, who expressed concern at the speed of traffic past her home, The Cottage. Mrs.Lane joined her in her complaint. The two ladies had been monitoring traffic with a hand-held machine, which gave a reading of 25 mph for the fastest traffic. Scaffolding in the road was believed to have slowed traffic down during their tests.

BROWN WATER

The Parish Council was to put into operation a recording scheme which Mr.Steen MP was to present to SWW when completed (See Village Voice News in this edition).

TOURISM SIGNS

The Thurlestone Hotel had asked Devon County Council if a brown tourism sign could be erected at Elston Cross and the Parish Council had been asked to consult with other businesses in the area about any future similar signs. The Golf Club are to be contacted.

BUCKLAND STREAM

SWW have been liaising with SHDC and the Environment Agency about discharges into Buckland Stream. It was reported that a simple solution to the problem is close to finalisation. Details will be given at a later meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council's next meeting is to be held on Tuesday December 14th, 1999, at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can take part in the Open Forum.

CITIZEN.

NEWS FROM THE WI

NOVEMBER AND THE AGM

Joan Lane began the November meeting by reading a letter of thanks from Pat Macdonald for the flowers from the W.I., sent to her to cheer her during Robin's illness. All our thoughts are with her.

Pat Clarke was elected as President, to lead her committee into the new Millennium, with Margaret Cullum as Treasurer and Carolyn Taylor as Secretary. Three new members join the Committee: Jean Potter, Judith Reynolds and Margaret Vance. Also included on the Committee are: Sheila Ward, Pat Scarfe, Mary Tregelles, Jo Parkin, Pam Brewster and Joan Lane.

Three new members were welcomed at the meeting - Heather Swan, Lillian Bancroft and Jean Yeoman (who brought along her membership card from 1951, when the subscription was five shillings!)

OCTOBER DELIGHT

Members enjoyed Peter Tremayne of Langage Farm Dairy giving us a brief history of his farm, and how they have coped with Government regulations, customer fads and other setbacks, and still stay a thriving business. After his talk members were able to indulge themselves with fresh strawberry ice-cream, fresh fruit yoghurt, clotted cream and other delightful items.

LUNCH OUT

More food - this time at the Sea Trout Inn, Staverton, when members enjoyed their bi-monthly "Lunch Out"...and a good gossip.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

And yet more food is expected when we meet for the Christmas lunch on December 9th at 12.30 for 1pm.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Bristol is destined to be very busy on November 24th when the might of W.I. members from all over the County (swelled by a large contingent from Thurlestone and West Buckland) bears down upon Cribbs Causeway for some serious shopping.

Nearer to home, members were reminded that food parcels can be sent any part of the country through the W.I. Markets Enterprise (local W.I. market in Kingsbridge each Wednesday from 8.30am to noon). Home-made 'goodies' which will be much appreciated by far flung relatives at Christmastide. Food again!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

13th January - speaker at our first meeting of 2000 will be local man John Crawford, accompanied by our village shop owner, Adrian Masters, speaking about Farmers' Markets and our local shop.

13th January - Coffee morning, sales tables, demonstrations and raffle. West Charleton 10.30 to noon.

26th January - More Japanese Folded Patchwork - Day School in Thurlestone Parish Hall 10.30am to 3.30pm.

C.T.

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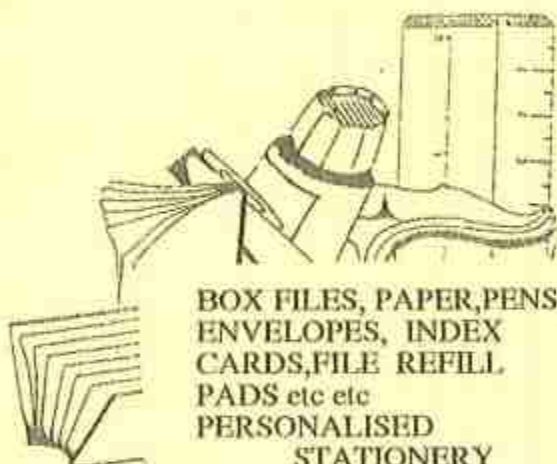
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HORSWELL DIARY

Christmas, usually a time steeped in tradition, is just around the corner, but this year, with the new millennium appearing over the horizon, there's a sense of breaking with the past and stepping, somewhat uncertainly into the new.

In the words of the old Bob Dylan song, "The times they are a-changing". And changing fast. Too fast perhaps for some people's liking; the different ideology too hard to grasp, the break with lifelong traditions uneasily accepted.

Hunting, Hereditary Peers, Lay Magistrates all being axed; British agriculture handed wholesale to our competitors in Europe. The destruction of country life. The Queen being considered too English to remain Head of the Commonwealth. The National Anthem too frumpy for the revellers at the Dome.

Black Rod, too intimidating for new ministers, the muffling of citizens demonstrating about civil rights abuse during the State Visit from China. Publicly disgraced Ministers returning to the Cabinet. Our Laws overturned by a foreign Court. Is this the England that we know and love?

One wonders if the ravens on our chimney are deserters from the Tower, an early warning that the country is indeed in danger. Should we feel threatened by the changes to our great British heritage? Or do we accept that we are entering a new age, a new attitude, an impersonal egalitarian era of technology and political correctness?

Pioneers throughout the centuries, motivated by the narrow restrictions of life at home through poverty, the need to conform to a rigid Establishment or, in some cases, religious persecution, broke away to establish new communities with a new freedom of spirit. Their departure from the stifling attitudes of their day gave them a fresh start, a break from outmoded tradition, a chance to rewrite the rules and endless scope for growth and new ideas.

Gradually, those who remained at home benefited from their courageous leap into the unknown. Trade and news of their discoveries and lifestyles brought richness and regeneration to the people of the old country, stimulating changes and extending horizons. The few bringing hope and opportunity to the many; new attitudes, new freedoms, new ideals.

History repeats itself. Now, with electronic information and e-commerce accessible via the Internet, there are again fantastic discoveries to be made and vast empires to be built. This time the new colonies are in Cyberspace and our brave young pioneers are already amassing great fortunes through staking an early claim to their territories.

In times gone by such wealth was only available to the few intrepid explorers,

Horswell Diary continues

pioneers, merchants, miners, opportunists and privateers, who forsook the safety of the known world to seek new frontiers and extend the boundaries of accepted beliefs, often at great risk to their credibility and personal safety. Now, with the advances in communications, the massive explosion of information technology has given millions of people access to extensive information and trading networks, without leaving the comfort of their homes. For those prepared to use it to their advantage the gains are immeasurable.

New web sites are being registered daily, facilitating the global trade of information and goods unimaginable just decades ago. To those not yet conversant with the Internet the whole concept of websites and electronic trading is as illusory and incredible as were tales of arms dealing with African tribesmen when related in the comfort of overstuffed Victorian sitting rooms. And yet every day, new frontiers are being crossed and new previously unimaginable territories are being claimed creating a wealth of new ideas and opportunities.

So if we drag our feet in the rush towards the new Millennium, worrying what the new age will bring, perhaps, as we decorate our homes with holly and ivy in the centuries old way, we should drink a toast to these New Colonials and hope that the positive benefits of their daring departure from the world as we know it will outweigh the unseemly destruction of our ancient traditions.

After all, in the computer generated world of Virtual Reality there is life beyond death. Viscount Exmouth who lost his seat in the Lords reshuffle is setting up a website for discarded Hereditaries, creating a virtual House of Lords where he and his colleagues can continue to hold debates and take votes, the results to be published as an alternative to the real second chamber! Proving that, should life in the new Millennium not be entirely to our liking we can always create a more satisfactory version in Cyberspace and invite all our favourite people to join us there.

Whilst we turn our thoughts towards Christmas parties and Millennium Champagne our furry and feathered friends seem oblivious to such festivities, the dogs preferring a good squirrel chase and the peafowl eating everything in sight to prepare for a long winter. Only Abo, our ancient and adored Labrador seems to have shown any interest in the momentous occasion. Almost immobilised by arthritis but not wanting to be left behind in an increasingly technological age he has succeeded in getting himself microchipped! It's a long story, best forgotten, involving dustbins, dog wardens and a large fine, but will no doubt feature strongly in his increasingly adventurous memoirs. Having previously returned home in a red Porche and on another occasion, a pale blue Mercedes, one can only imagine that he mistook the warden's uniform for that of a Chauffeur. Sadly the micro chip is not programmable to bring one's slippers or the newspaper, it simply means the dog warden knows exactly where to collect the next fine. So much for progress!

Needless to say we're delighted to have him home, from where he joins me, my husband, Bertie the Briard, Flossie the Collie, 6 peafowl and Ducky in wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and an exciting new Millennium! Our thanks too to all the Village Voice production team who make these articles possible. Congratulations on your 100th edition!!

Prunella Dart

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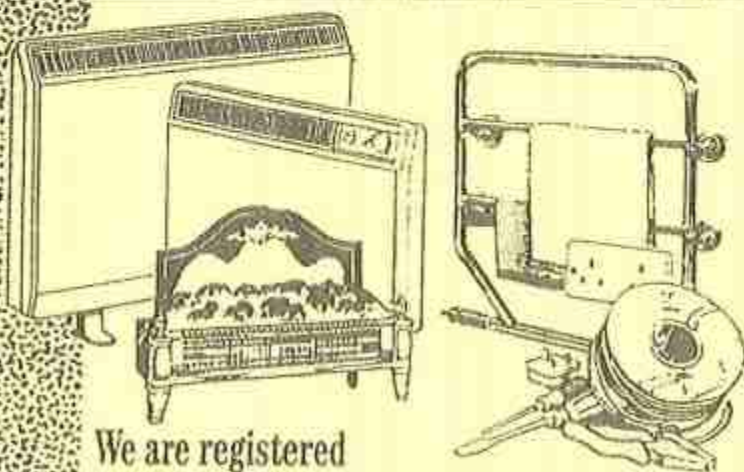
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TRAMP



1

This walk had an unusually distinguished beginning because the five of us from Thurlestone crammed economically into one car, and met our leaders and their dog in the forecourt of an ancient and beautiful house at Hanger. Suitably impressed we set off towards Blockford. It was now the weather that became a remarkable feature of this walk. It had never looked very promising, and scarcely had we accomplished the first stage along tracks, a short stretch of road and then across fields, when the rain began – gently at first just as we plunged into the woods. It got darker and soon we realized that the sound of distant gunfire was, in fact, thunder. It was the first time, I think, that we had tramped through a thunderstorm. We walked soggy but doggedly onwards down the Erme Valley.

The storm abated, but not the rain. Looking for the ideal picnic spot, we rejected an incongruous and wet picnic table and chose some much more picturesque (and wet) rocks close by the noisily rushing river. Conversation was not easy however, and we did not linger long over our rain-flavoured sandwiches. At this point the right track branched off, but we continued on under the viaduct and over the road where we took the path up to Hanger Down. The rain had nearly stopped by now and conversation turned to more erudite topics such as the derivation and meaning of certain words like *hanger*. No conclusion was reached. Thus we arrived at Hanger Down Clump, a surprisingly small group of trees which we almost circumnavigated – just for the sake of it. We descended from the Down, then through Uppaton where we took the track back to Hanger.

It was no longer raining.

2



Twelve of us there were, a real dozen (not just a quantity of bread rolls) and two dogs – one big, blond and boisterous, the other small and brown – who met at the Forces Tavern for our October walk. To begin with it was rather grey and chilly but soon the sun struggled through and outer clothing began to be shed. We set off across the fields. A varied diet of footpath and lane led us, largely downhill, as our leader had promised, to the outskirts of Cornworthy. From there we headed down towards Bow Creek and our picnic. A convenient fallen tree trunk presented itself but some preferred the sunny side of a well-placed hedge to shelter them from an occasional breeze. After a sufficient picnic break, the tree trunk contingent had some difficulty in enticing the hedgerow people from their sun worship to continue the walk.

Inevitably, as the first half was largely downhill, the return route was, after a short walk along by the creek, entirely uphill – or seemed like it. Notwithstanding, it was most agreeable walking. The route, at times a lane but mostly track up to the other side of Cornworthy, just for a change of view, was steep and more wooded here and led to Lower Venice and the lane leading back to the Forces Tavern.

There was nothing particularly remarkable about this walk except that it was very enjoyable and that's what matters.

Pam Brewster

All Saints



Churchwardens: Michael Chipman 562013 & Liz Webb 560090

Thank you to all those who helped with or supported St Crispin's Fair, when nearly £650 was raised for church funds. We were also very grateful to all of you who joined the "Love in a Box" scheme. We should be able to send over 20 boxes of presents for children in Romania.

We look forward to seeing you at our celebrations for Christmas and the Millennium – there is something for everyone, young and old. The traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is on December 19th so come along and sing your favourite carols and hear the familiar readings. Children, families and the young at heart would be especially welcome at the crib services on December 23rd and, of course, the mid-night service on Christmas Eve is always special. There are three special services to celebrate the start of the new Millennium. On New Year's Eve at about 11.30 p.m. there will be a watchnight service to celebrate the actual start of the new Millennium – a few of us will be in church and you would be welcome to join us at any time. All over the country the Millennium Peal will ring out at noon on January 1st and at Thurlestone this will be accompanied by a short service for anyone who would like to come. Finally on Sunday January 2nd at 11.10 a.m. there will be a Service of Celebration for the Millennium Year 2000 AD. We hope that as many of you as possible will join us then to thank God for the birth of his Son, Jesus, 2000 years ago, to remember that that is why we are now celebrating the start of a new Millennium and to pray about our hopes for the future.

Finally details of Carol Singing are given elsewhere, so put the dates in your diary now and come and join us.



News of the new "Rector"

You will have read elsewhere about the exciting news of the new Priest-in-Charge of the United Benefice of Thurlestone with South Milton, so I am not writing further about Canon Andrew Girling but I am including an article from him to the parishes which was published in the Parish Magazine.

He writes: "I am curious and no doubt you are too. Curious about who the new Rector is. What's he going to be like? Will he fit in? Will he change things? Will we get on with him? I am certainly curious about you. Curious about what you are all like. How you work and worship together. What particular issues and difficulties you have to face and not least, what it will be like living in a village after a life spent so far in large towns. Curiosity and a certain apprehension are inevitable and proper for you and me. For my part, I just know that I greatly look forward to meeting you all and being part of your village life and community.

If I can put your minds at ease. I am just an ordinary chap, with plenty of human weaknesses and failings, which will, I am sure, soon become apparent to you but I am a chap who feels that God uses ordinary people to show His love to others. I see my job as Rector being to share with you the ups and downs, the joys and sorrows of life, whatever your faith or lack of it. I look forward to leading worship with you and to encouraging you to fulfil your calling as Christians.

I shall be coming from a very different sort of parish (a large city suburb and before then a University Chaplain) so you can be sure I will not be coming with ready-made ideas of what we should be doing or changing. I shall need, first of all, to do a lot of listening and learning and then discussing with you so that together we can discover God's will and purpose for us in the parish. I am sure that as we work together it will be exciting; I hope that it will be fun and that we will face inevitable challenges with faith and courage. Being a Christian today is often difficult but it should also be joyful because we worship a God whose love is the greatest source of life and joy known to human beings.

You can be certain I am praying for you all, especially in the weeks prior to my arrival. Please pray for me and Sue as we prepare to come and live among you."



All Saints Diary

Thurlestone Church Services

Every Sunday (except December 25 th)	8.00 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION
Thursday December 23 rd , January 20 th	8.30 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION
December 5 th , January 16 th & 30 th	11.10 a.m.	PARISH EUCHARIST
December 12 th & 26 th , January 23 rd	11.10 a.m.	MATINS

Please note that there will be NO Celebration of Holy Communion at 8.00 a.m. on Christmas Day

Christmas Services

December 5 th	Toy Tree Family Service	9.30 a.m.	SOUTH MILTON
December 19 th	Festival of Nine lessons & Carols	11.10 a.m.	THURLESTONE
December 23 rd	Children's Crib Service	3.00 p.m.	SOUTH MILTON
		4.00 p.m.	THURLESTONE
December 24 th	First Communion of Christmas	10.15 p.m.	SOUTH MILTON
		11.45 p.m.	THURLESTONE
December 25 th	Family Service followed by Holy Communion	11.10 a.m.	THURLESTONE
January 9 th	Epiphany Service including Searchlight's "Come to the Party"	11.10 a.m.	THURLESTONE

Millennium Services

December 31 st	A Service to celebrate the start of the 3 rd Millennium	11.30 p.m. (?)	THURLESTONE
January 1 st 2000	Millennium Peal & short service	Noon	THURLESTONE
January 2 nd 2000	A Service of Celebration for the Millennium Year 2000 AD	11.10 a.m.	THURLESTONE



All Saints Fellowship

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16TH AT 2.30 P.M.

"Yule be Welcome" ~ Carols & Mincepies at Thurlestone Court

THURSDAY JANUARY 27TH AT 2.30 P.M.

"It could only happen in China" ~ Matilda Latimer talks in South Milton Village Hall

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NEW TIME: 11.00 A.M. ~ NOON

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If you would like to join us for a cup of coffee or tea and a chat, we should be very pleased to see you. Just come in the side entrance. We should like to thank The Village Inn for kindly allowing us to use their premises - it is wonderful to meet somewhere warm and dry! Please note that there will be no Coffee-Time on December 20th & 27th & January 3rd.

COME & JOIN THE

All Saints Carollers

in aid of our sponsored Romanian child, Moirica Pasca, and "Children in Distress"

Sunday December 19th: Buckland & Bantham

MEET AT 5.00PM IN THE LANE BY BUCKLAND FARM

~~~~~

**Tuesday December 21st:** Court Park, The Mead & Court Lane

MEET AT 6.00PM IN THE PARISH HALL CAR PARK

~~~~~

Thursday December 23rd: Island View, Sea View Terrace,
Main Street, Parkfield & Yarmer

MEET AT 6.00PM BY THE TELEPHONE BOX IN OLD POST OFFICE LANE

~~~~~

Everyone is welcome to join the *All Saints Carollers*, the more the merrier - enthusiasm is more important than your singing voice!! If possible let Liz know that you hope to join us, so that we can cater for refreshments afterwards.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SING AT EVERY HOUSE IN THE PARISH, SO IF YOU PARTICULARLY WANT US EITHER TO COME TO SING AT YOUR HOUSE OR TO STAY AWAY, LET LIZ KNOW (560090).

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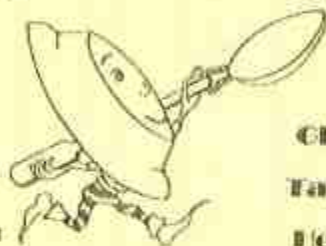
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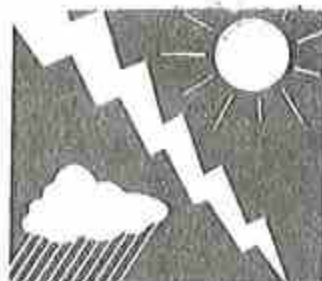
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# WEATHER WAG

by Jan Turner



Here we are in the last throes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the last edition of Village Voice and all of us (contributors) are about to close the book on 1999. I really wish I could lay my hands on a century of weather observations for this area. Sadly there are many, but all fragmented and not for the area around our villages. I'm sure each of you will have a particular memory of a weather situation at a particular time in your life here in the village of Thurlestone, or even South Milton. For the first complete edition of 2000 I would love to be able to record some of these for everyone to read. Please make a New Year's Resolution to write down your account for inclusion in the February/ March edition. Send or fax it to me by mid January, Tel/Fax 560354.

Late Summers:-

I have mentioned these 'Little summers' before; we sometimes refer to them as Indian summers as well.

Well, St Luke 18<sup>th</sup> Oct. and St Martin 11<sup>th</sup> Nov., between them, have made the onset of winter a little less miserable than it may otherwise have been. St Luke's was dry, warm and a little windy from the east, but no rain, and St Martin looks set fair for an anticyclone with quite a bit of sunshine overall. Mind you; in between there were some ferocious gales and heavy rainfall. On 24<sup>th</sup> Oct there was 27.35mm of rain and a sustained westerly gale. We were away, battling against it further up the south coast where it was even more ferocious. Sea fronts in Hastings and Seaford were closed as the sea piled over flinging tons of shingle with it. There were very high tides as well and with pressure so low 891mm the level of the sea rose considerably. So Selsey, Pevensey and Normans Bay were severely hit with quite a bit of damage. It is the story of my life, I always miss a situation by a whisker, or I'm there but don't have a camera etc etc!!! We returned on Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> Oct., travelling along the A35 at Wilmington, near Honiton I reckon we were in a mini tornado. There was so much rain on the windscreen I couldn't see to drive and had to almost stop, then we rounded a bend and found the road strewn with large pieces of tree debris around which everyone had to drive. It all happened in about 20 seconds or so. I found it quite exciting but it didn't do to think about the consequences. We travelled on towards home and certainly there was no evidence of such weather anywhere else. The sun was shining on the sea and Thurlestone Rock was a comforting sight for us. (The Rugby match was pretty good too!!) The next day when we celebrated All Saints, the wind was ferocious and reached 61mph in the afternoon.

According to Craig, the figures for October in Plymouth were:-

|               | Actual     | Average | For my station:- | Actual | Average (5yrs) |
|---------------|------------|---------|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Rainfall =    | 78mm       | 95mm    |                  | 70mm   | 79mm           |
| Sunshine =    | 145hrs     | 108hrs  |                  | 125hrs | 114hrs         |
| Temperature = | Max 14.9.C | 14.7.C  |                  | 17.9.C | 19.7.C         |
|               | Min 9.C    | 9.2.C   |                  | 3.1.C  | 3.36.C         |

Looking at these figures, don't put too much store by mine as they are for such a short time in comparison to the official ones. There should be data for at least 30yrs for any really beneficial conclusions. (If there ever is where the weather is concerned.) However I think that the Plymouth min. temps are interesting, because they are read on the top of a building at the lower end of Royal Parade and reflect a higher temp. than is perhaps expected!! This could be the result of a microclimate produced at night by the concentration of street lights and shop lights making a slightly higher recording. Warm air can get trapped near the ground and produce these conditions. Also my station is much more exposed to the east than anywhere in Plymouth, and therefore temperatures are affected accordingly.

Today, 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. the forecasters got it right! (For a change I hear you say!!) There is an anticyclone centred over the B.I. and at this time of the year it means quiet, cool, perhaps foggy or misty weather with frost on clear nights. Usually referred to as anti-cyclonic gloom, this is the start of winter frosts. There were very few damaging frosts last year, in fact only twice was there an appreciable low level temps. so as to cause burn on plants. Here in the valley next to the Ley I feel that we often get a frost that some areas nearby do not. We are on a slope down towards the water and sheltered from the sea by the dunes. We have quite thick hedges and the house is an obstacle. I'll try to explain. Earlier in the article I referred to a 'Micro-climate'. This means that a particular location, and it may be very small,

does not conform to the general weather pattern or climate of the surrounding area. This may be for a variety of reasons and I'll attempt one or two for you.

The easiest one to appreciate is the Frost Hollow. We have all seen at times hoar frost on the ground in a meadow as we travel to work or even come across some black ice on a low bit of the road. Sometimes there is a shallow layer of mist hanging across the dip as we cross a stream perhaps. All these situations are examples of a micro-climate, albeit on a temporary basis. Here at Beach Cottage the hedges tend to impede the flow of cold air as it travels down the side of the valley, and so the air gets trapped and ponds up causing the temperature to fall so that ice is formed on the grass. There have been many occasions when folks up in the village (SM) have seen frost in the valley below them but been clear of it themselves. So, houses can also be an obstacle to the movement of air and cause frost to be evident on the north side and nothing just around the corner. Have a look next time there is a forecast of frost. You may have to be up early, as frost often goes before daylight, but it is more likely that frost will occur as daylight comes. Dad used to say that frost formed as the sun rose, and it is true. That is when black ice can confound the highways dept.

Let me tell you about a Frost Hollow on a grand scale. Within 12 miles of the suburbs of London is a town whose night climate appears almost exactly similar to that of Braemar in the Aberdeenshire plateau, which is one of the coldest inhabited regions in the British Isles. The average minimum temperature for Rickmansworth from 1906 – 1935 was only 0.5 Celsius warmer than Braemar. As a result, Rickmansworth has a growing season about five weeks shorter than nearby towns. It also scored one of the biggest swings in daily temperature in British weather records- a diurnal range of 28 degrees Celsius in July 1941.

Before the railways were built, Rickmansworth's climate was pretty much like anywhere else in the home - counties. But when the Victorians built a high railway embankment across the valley, cold air flowing down from the surrounding hills was trapped in the valley—the ideal frost hollow, giving the area a microclimate.

I shall be interested to read a GCSE Inquiry that has been completed by a young neighbour of mine. Her hypothesis was to look into the existence of a microclimate in her garden as compared to mine.

I caught a glimpse of a talk show about the weather the other day, Bill Giles was on it along with two other folk. In the audience was a forecaster who used the solar flares and sunspots to aid his forecasts. He reckoned that there would be snow at Christmas but wouldn't say just where. The woman presenter replied, "Of course, in say the Cairngorms", so she was very sceptical. What do you think? Shall we all agree that there will be some, but where? I have a sneaking affection for snow. Just for the look of it of course! You have to admit the right kind of light, powdery snow driven into fantastical shapes by a stiff breeze is sight to be marvelled at. For a day or two!! then it can melt and go away.

Earlier I mentioned folklore that is associated with the weather, here are one or two more to dwell on:-

'Set trees at Allhallowtide and command them to prosper;  
Set them after Candlemas and entreat them to grow.'

'Another spell of glorious sun  
Should with St. Martin's season come.'

And... 'If the wind is in the south-east at Martinmas it will remain there till after Christmas.'

For those of you who have a wedding anniversary in November, here's one for you:-

'If you wed in bleak November,  
Only joy will come, remember!'

Well, the end of the year approacheth, and the end of a century, to say nothing of the Millennium. There will be much by way of weather statistics to read about I guess, I wonder what the next Millennium will bring apart from the next full Eclipse of the sun here in 2090. I think that I am glad I am living now and not in 900 years time. At least there will be so much more for that generation to look back on in terms of data, how interesting it will be for them. Well I think so anyway. Happy Christmas, New Year and Millennium to everyone.



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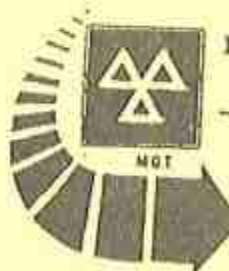
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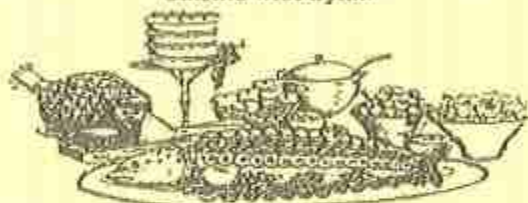
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# Harry and June Huggins Buy British (Birding Of Course!)

We read Bird Watching magazine. It covers about everything which might interest birders - studies of species, reviews of new binoculars and clothing, reports about places to go at home and abroad. There is always a big section about the birds twitchers have seen, or say they have seen.

There are readers' letters. A favourite topic has been that ladies, bird-watching wise, are second class citizens. Maybe some are. No way is this lady in this house second class!

Bird Watching arranges birding holidays. The longer ones are put in by firms which do that sort of thing. About once a month there is a weekend in Britain. The magazine fixes these up for itself, with a little panel of leaders on whom it can call.

At the end of September there was to be one in Norwich. Two days birding, one of them at the RSPB reserve at Minsmere. That was one of our old haunts and we welcomed the chance to see it again.

So we booked. We could easily have done it all for ourselves. But the cost of £200 each was cheap: it would include three days in a good hotel, packed lunches, transport and the leaders. They were important, they would have done all the reconnaissance. You can wander all round a place and not find the best areas for birds.

Leaders were to be Trevor and Veronica Gunton. Nearly 30 years ago they took us on our first foreign bird-watching holiday. Green we were then, with one battered pair of binoculars between us. Nor had the Guntons ever been to the island before (they research everywhere meticulously now). Before he retired Trevor rose to a very senior position with the RSPB. But all along he kept leading birding parties; mostly to Holland in the winter, very good I believe, pity it is quite so far from Devon to Harwich where he starts from. And now, two or three times a year he and Veronica do these weekends for the magazine.

Only after we booked did we realise how far it is to Norwich. Tally-Ho's senior driver when consulted, said oh, easy - M5, M4, M25, M11...seven hours, it's quicker in a car. Their coaches don't have much in the way of acceleration, but when they get going little stops them and no one gets in their way. We were sure we would not do it in seven hours.

So, not fancying a lot of motorway, we decided to go cross country with a night in a Travelodge each way - two days there, two back. Not very sensible for two days birding! But if you are always sensible you don't do anything.

The date was the first weekend in September. It was hot, blazing hot. As we drove we sighed for a car with air-conditioning, like the little Daihatsu buggy we had rented in Israel. Then we could walk about in ninety in the shade, only there wasn't any shade, get back in the car and drive off, and after a half a mile there was delicious coolth wafting around our feet.

We made it to our Travelodge. Tatty it was; since Granada bought them the price has doubled and the paint pot has been thrown away. It was hot. We sweltered. In the morning we found the radiator had been left switched on.

But it served and after a diversion to the National Trust's first nature reserve at Wicken Fen, not far out of our way, on to our hotel in Norwich: Jarvis International, on the north part of the ring road. We were apprehensive. Michael Buerk, the television man, wrote in the Telegraph that a Jarvis somewhere was quite appalling. It must have been, otherwise he would have been sued. Perhaps he was. Our Jarvis was quite new; some of the carpeting was bizarre - it looked as though they had used up left-overs, but the hotel was comfortable and they fed us well. It was noisy: because of the heat we slept with the windows open and the lorries pounded nose to tail around the ring road all day and all night. Where they were all going we could not imagine.

The Guntons start these things with an evening reception. They tell you where you are going and show slides of the more difficult birds. There were about 25 punters. What their level of expertise was I do not know, except that dear little plump Barbara who dearly wanted to see a Kingfisher, which she never had, still didn't see one when it flew back and forth in front of her. Maybe she hadn't expected anything so small, perhaps she thought it was the size of a Kookaburra. There was one gentleman who did not come out the first day - he made some excuse about not feeling very well. But I don't think he came the second day either. It takes all.....!

## On the first day...

Transport was provided. Take back all I have ever said about Tally Ho! This was a 30-seater, not actually wooden seats, though they felt like it, no luggage racks above our heads, and no stowage underneath. We sat with our binoculars, telescopes, haversacks and packed lunches on our knees. Not far to go luckily.

Morning of the first day took us to Strumpshaw Fen, an RSPB reserve of 450 acres on the north side of the River Yare, a bit to the east of Norwich. There are some stretches of open water, trees dotted about, wet shingly patches for ducks and geese; mostly it is grassy sedgy fen, "unimproved" - it has never ever had chemicals put on it, nor been ploughed, nor reseeded. Though they must cut it or graze it, otherwise it would turn into scrub.

Birds - in the skyt there was an Osprey, and to my joy two Marsh Harriers. That is my favourite bird. One was plain brown. The other, an old male in full plumage (you don't often see them like that) shone silver and chestnut and black in the sunshine.

After lunch we went to Great Yarmouth. If you drive into Asda's car park at the back of the town, you can walk along the sea wall on the north side of Breydon Water, which is a vast muddy estuary, like the Exe without the hills and trees around. Trevor had timed our visit for when the tide was flooding. It drove towards us huge numbers of birds - at least 500 Avocets, and thousands of Golden Plovers, many still with their black throats and tummies; they would lose those colours as they moulted into winter plumage. There were Godwits and Redshanks and Terns. Two or three local birders came along - had we seen any Little Egrets? We had, a couple. A big deal for them, and I suppose for many of our party. Not really for June and me, who can see one every day for the trouble of looking out of the window. A Kingfisher buzzed to and fro in front of us. Barbara didn't see it. Back to the hotel for dinner.

## On the second day...

Next morning we shoehorned into the coach for the hour or so ride to Minsmere on the Suffolk coast. This used to be farmland. In the 39-45 War it was flooded to keep invaders out. As if it would. Avocets, long extinct as a British breeding species, came

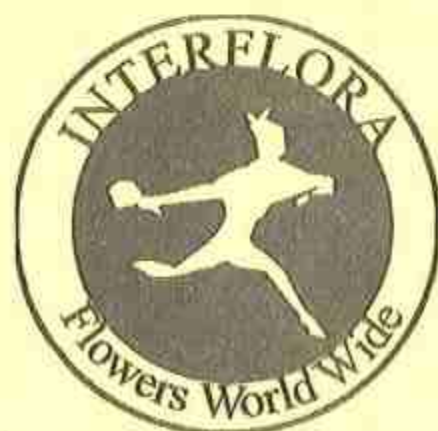


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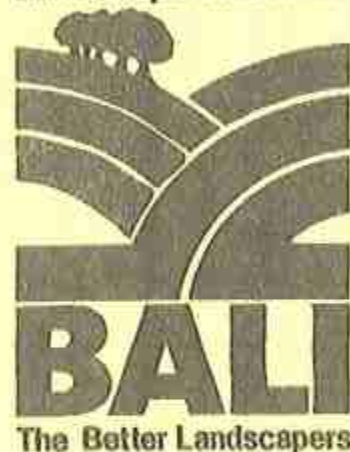
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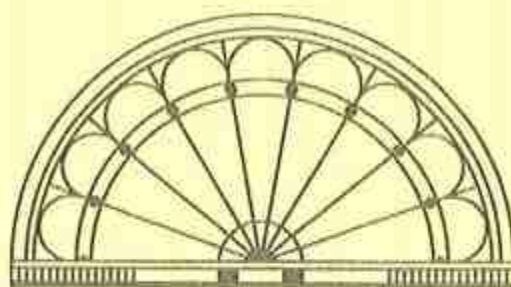
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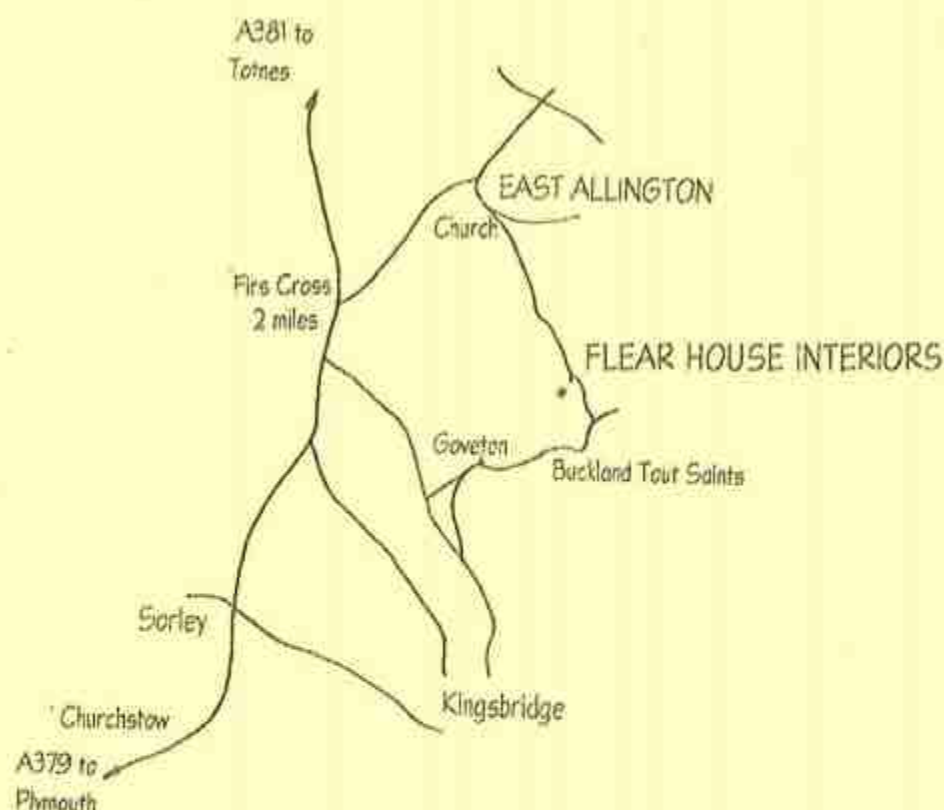
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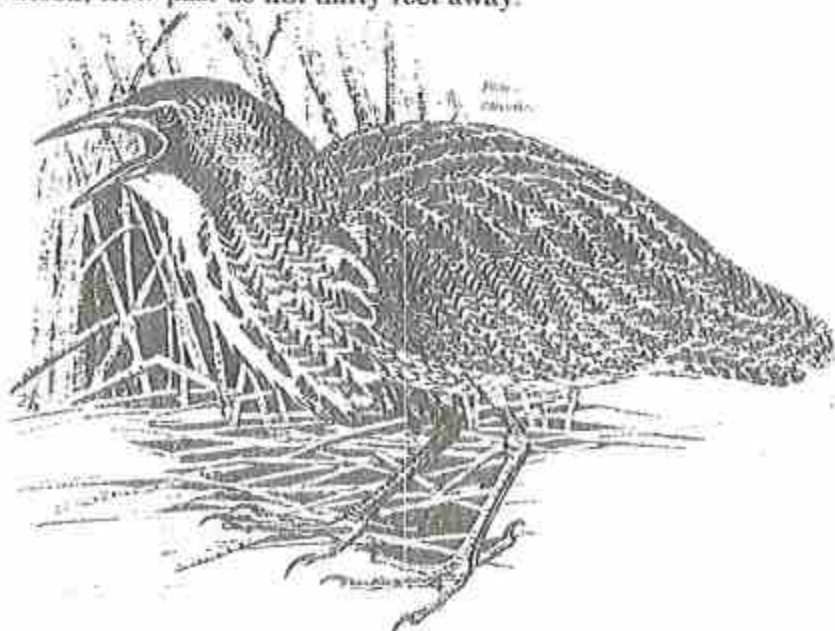
back and nested; after the War the RSPB contrived to rent about 1500 acres for a reserve. Later they were able to buy it and recently they bought a lot more.

By the shore which is sand dunes, they dug out a large area (the 'scrape') and made artificial islands. Avocets, Terns and Gulls now breed on these. It is their show reserve. I prefer Leighton Moss in Lancashire.

When we lived in Essex we went to Minsmere once or twice each winter (never in summer, we were sailing). You sat in one of the hides (big sheds with benches to sit on and slots to look out of) and your eyeballs froze in the wind straight from Russia. That was in the hides facing east. In the ones facing west it was not much better.

On this day it was hot and very different. We began well, too well. We hadn't been walking for more than ten minutes when someone heard Bearded Tits, little pinky-brown birds with very long tails. The males have grey heads and black moustaches. Their call is a sort of descending ping with a pea in it. As we looked for them nipping through the reeds a Bittern, big brown heron, flew past us not thirty feet away.

**'Poor old Bitterns  
just go  
down and down....'**



Bittern is a species which has the RSPB at its wits end. The Marsh Harrier - when we went to Minsmere thirty years ago there were three, a male with two wives. That was the British population. Now there are a hundred pairs, not all at Minsmere, and they say this year they reared 200 young. Red Kites - there were about ten pairs in Wales, now there are over a hundred. Avocets - they were just at Minsmere and Havergate Island a little to the south. Now there are breeding populations all up and down East Anglia. But Bitterns - the poor old Bitterns just go down and down. Lucky we were to see one.

From a hide on the sand dunes, by the shore, we looked over the scrape. An area of shallow water and little islands, from April to July it would have teemed with nesting birds. Now there was nothing. The weather was too fine.

On the east coast in autumn what you want is for the birds to set off from Scotland, Scandinavia and places east in clear weather with a north-easterly wind. Mostly they migrate at night, they can see the stars to navigate, and the wind helps them on their way. Then as they reach the east coast of England you want them to meet a depression from the south-west bringing heavy cloud and rain. This grounds them and you find them in thousands, hundreds of thousands, along the coast. But if the weather is good, they go straight on.

Along the dunes to the south a little river runs into the sea. Nearby there is a scrubby patch with small trees, famed for holding rare migrants. Trevor said we will stand her and pish. Some of the party looked astonished, others horrified. June knew what he meant: she said psh, psh, psh...a noise like you make to call the cat in. The sound is supposed to attract little birds which are hiding in the bushes. Another way is to make kissing noises on the back of your hand. I have used that effectively in the South of France. But pishing never worked for us in Britain and it didn't now.

The coach took us back to the hotel and Trevor announced that as far as he and Veronica were concerned the party was over. Next morning they were making for an RSPB reserve on the north Norfolk coast. Sorely tempted we were to do the same, but Devon was a long way away and we set off south.





**Will** Thurlstone Church survive the Third Millennium?

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Silly questions? No, not really. Look at the ruined church at South Huish - villagers there not all that long ago would have laughed if you had said that at the end of the Second Millennium it would be a ruin.

Of course Thurlstone Church is nowhere near falling down today. But tomorrow? There are an awful lot of tomorrows in a Millennium. And who knows what will be happening then.

**That is why, if you live in this parish, or care about this special piece of Devon, no matter what your religion, you should become a Friend of Thurlstone Church and help to create a fund which will endow the historic church building in perpetuity.**

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13.O 14.G 15.V 16.B 17.S 18.F 19.U 20.Q 21.L 22.J  
23.N 24.X 25.D 26.Z

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14.F 15.L 16.R 17.V 18.C 19.X 20.Z 21.J 22.M 23.S 24.E 25.O 26.H

Bethlehem, mistletoe, egg flip, plum pudding, greetings, santa claus, shepherds, stocking, goose, éclair, rave up, pizza, avocado, orange juice, exaltation, nativity, yule log, gander, rum, mincepies, snow, wise men, noel, liqueur, reindeer, raindrop, pantomime, ecclesiastic, carols, sleigh, hazelnut, turkish delight, tea, almonds.

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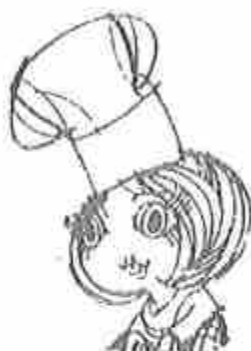
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# KATE'S KITCHEN



Here are my Three Cheers! One for Christmas, one for the Millennium, and a special one for the 100th Edition of Village Voice.

That's a lot to celebrate as 1999 changes to 2000. So our celebration meals need special puddings which all need a spot of alcohol.

Please note that home-made mincemeat is best for the rich Christmas Tiramisu though a bought one will do. Don't be tempted to use too much - with puds a little goes a long way. The Spiced Peaches and the Amaretto Ice-cream can both be prepared in minutes and are much easier on the digestion!

## Christmas Tiramisu

8 ounces of boudoir biscuits

6 ounces of good mincemeat, heated in 3 tablespoons of brandy

Quarter pint of red wine, heated with a tablespoonful of brown sugar

1 250gram tub of marscapone, into which you have mixed two egg yolk followed by their stiffly-whipped whites

Dip the biscuits into the red wine and then break each into three and spread half of them out in a suitable dish. Cover them with half of the mincemeat, followed by half of the marscapone mixture. Repeat these layers once more and chill the tiramisu for several hours in the fridge.

## Spiced Peaches

2 tins of peach halves in juice (not syrup) - this should give 8 halves

2 tablespoons of light brown sugar mixed with 2 teaspoonfuls of cinnamon

2 tablespoons of brandy

Drain the peach halves and put them in an ovenproof dish, cut side up. Fill the cavities with the sugar mixture, mix the brandy into the juice and pour it carefully round the peaches. Cook them in the oven at 160C (325F, Gas 3) for 20 minutes.

## Amaretto Ice-cream

Choose a really good vanilla ice-cream and allow two scoops per person. Top each helping with a tablespoonful of Amaretto and a couple of crushed Amaretti biscuits.

And that's my Three Cheers!

# BOOKSHELF

## **THE LIE OF THE LAND**

by Sam North

For those of you who like a book with local colour, this is the story of Jane Reeves, who single-handedly farmed Latchworthy Farm on the edge of Dartmoor.

Apart from the physical difficulties of running a cattle and sheep farm in such terrain, she is beset with financial problems which she seeks to overcome by selling part of her property to a smooth-talking developer. While that aspect of the tale at times becomes a little laboured, the account of life on the Moor with its ups and downs is vividly written and touchingly described.

There are several episodes set in places that will be known to readers, such as bathing in the Wallabrook, and pulling a cow out of the bog at Cranmere Pool. **GSW.**

## **BETWEEN SILK AND CYANIDE**

by Leo Marks.

I reviewed this brilliant book some time ago, but as it is now out in paperback, I thought I would remind readers that it is a fascinating account of code-breaking during World War Two, and well worth buying. **GSW.**

## **PERSUASION**

by Jane Austen

Why not go back to the classics and read this book, published after Jane Austen died.

It is so well written and gives such a picture of life in the early 1800s, of all the social mores of the time with their snobbery and hierarchy, which today is called 'pecking order'. Her many double negatives take a little while to fathom. **RM.**

## **THE SCARLET LETTER**

by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Described in the blurb as "sin, sex and life in the New England of the Puritans in the 17th century".

Morals applied to women were extreme and the main character had to wear a large scarlet "A" on her breast and was shunned by the community.

In the 20th century we branded Jews and shaved the heads of women collaborators. What changes! **RM.**

## **HOW TO BECOME RIDICULOUSLY WELL-READ IN ONE EVENING**

by E. Parrot.

Now for a bit of fun. Just the book to give at Christmas for all to enjoy. I loved it. **RM**

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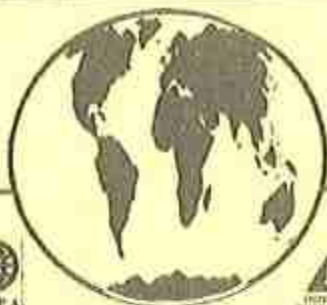
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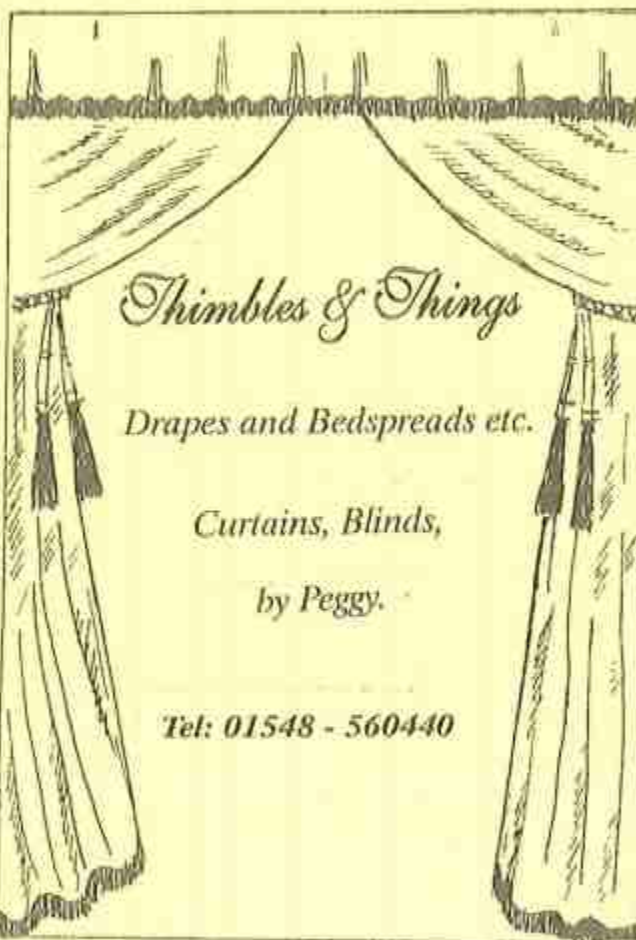
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## DIARY DATES

### DECEMBER

Sat 4th NSPCC Christmas Bazaar. Parish Hall 2pm.  
 Sun 5th Collect Your Video, Parish Hall 10am to 4pm.  
 Wed 8th Tramp Ashprington Walk and Christmas Lunch.  
 Thur 9th WI Christmas Lunch.  
 Tues 14th Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30 pm.  
 Tues 14th Stanborough Chorus Ensemble. Thurstone Court party 4.30pm.  
 Sun 19th Carol Singing in Buckland and Bantiam 5pm  
 Sun 19th Carols in the Pub. Sloop Inn 8pm  
 Tues 21st Carol Singing at Top of Thurstone and the Mead 6pm.  
 Thur 23rd Carol Singing in Lower Thurstone and Yarnier 6pm.  
 Fri 31st Millennium Masked Ball. Thurstone Hotel (by ticket)  
 2000 Dinner-Disco Sloop Inn (Limited numbers)  
 Millennium Gala Party. Village Inn (by ticket)

### JANUARY

Sun 2nd Millennium Celebration Service. All Saints. 11.10pm.  
 Thurs 6th Searchlight Children's Play. Thurstone Court. 4pm.  
 Wed 12th Tramp Local Walk.  
 Tues ?? Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30pm (date to be decided)

### FEBRUARY

Wed 9th Tramp Local Walk.  
 Tues ?? Parish Council Meeting. Parish Hall 7.30pm (date to be decided)  
 Thur 24th All Saints Fellowship meeting. Parish Hall 2.30pm.  
 Fri 25th Induction of new Rector. All Saints Church.

Please notify Village Voice of any forthcoming events, corrections, changes, or additions, by the deadline for the next issue.

## VILLAGE VOICE

Your "Cut out and Keep"

## PARISH DIRECTORY & DIARY DATES

Village Voice is available free to permanent residents of the villages in the parish.

There is also a subscription service, which mails copies to readers at an annual cost of £7.00. Please apply to:

Sheila Parker, 8 Mead Lane, Thurstone (01548-560330)

The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the parish rate. It was founded on behalf of Thurstone Parish Council and is delighted to remain under the Council's sponsorship. This does not mean that the views and opinions expressed in these pages are the views and opinions of any member of the Parish Council, and they should only be ascribed to the authors concerned.

Village Voice is delivered in Thurstone by MIKE TAYLOR and a team of volunteer helpers. It is delivered by MRS JEAN HURRELL in Bantiam and Buckland.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: JANUARY 7th, 2000.**

Please drop any contributions marked "Village Voice" through the letterbox at 25 Mead Lane before that date (or e-mail to RobinMacdonald@compuserve.com)

## PARISH

|                                                                            |                                                            |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB</b>                                       | Clubhouse                                                  | 560447           |
| <b>BOWLS CLUB (indoor)</b><br>Tuesdays and Thursdays, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm | Contact: Eileen Daymont                                    | 560295           |
| <b>BRIDGE CLUBS 7 pm Parish Hall</b><br>Wednesdays<br>Fridays              | Contact: Mary Fullard-Smith<br>Contact: Dorothy Stone      | 842467<br>560708 |
| <b>CHURCHWARDENS</b>                                                       | Michael Chipman<br>Liz Webb                                | 562013<br>560090 |
| <b>COFFEE TIME (Rectory Barn)</b><br>Thursdays, 10.30 - 11.30 October-May  | Contact Liz Webb                                           | 560090           |
| <b>FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH</b>                                       | Contact: Nt Marshall                                       | 560214           |
| <b>THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB</b>                                               | Secretary/Manager, John Scott<br>Contact: Lindsey Fletcher | 560405<br>560157 |
| <b>TENNIS SECTION</b>                                                      | Contact: Brenda March                                      | 560487           |
| <b>KEEP FIT</b> Tuesdays, 10 - 11.30 Parish Hall                           | Contact: John Lonsdale                                     | 560742           |
| <b>HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)</b>                                         | Contact: Philip Carthy                                     | 560857           |
| <b>PROBUS</b>                                                              | Contact: Pam Frewster                                      | 560345           |
| <b>TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)</b>                                        | Contact: Carolyn Taylor                                    | 562033           |
| <b>W.L.</b><br>Second Thursday monthly (see August)<br>2.30 pm Parish Hall |                                                            |                  |
| <b>RECTOR</b>                                                              | to be announced                                            |                  |
| <b>PARISH COUNCIL</b>                                                      |                                                            |                  |
| Chairman                                                                   | Peter Hurrell                                              | 560496           |
| Vice-Chairman                                                              | Veronica White                                             | 560236           |
| Parish Clerk                                                               | John Lonsdale                                              | 560742           |
| Deputy Councillor                                                          | Carolyn Susan                                              |                  |
| County Councillor                                                          | Simon Day                                                  | 01752 - 691212   |
| Members                                                                    | David Grose                                                | 560375           |
|                                                                            | Christina Mitchellmore                                     | 560602           |
|                                                                            | Geoffrey Stidson                                           | 560695           |
|                                                                            | Derrick Yeoman                                             | 560607           |
|                                                                            | Kit Marshall                                               | 560214           |
|                                                                            | (Tree Warden)                                              |                  |

The Parish Council meetings take place on Tuesdays. See dates on Diary page overleaf.

## DIRECTORY

|                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>HEALTH CENTRES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | Kingsbridge<br>Salcombe                                                                                                                                                                            | 843551<br>842284                                                                                        |
| <b>MILK DELIVERY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | R. Bruckner & Son                                                                                                                                                                                  | 01803-832801                                                                                            |
| <b>VILLAGE SHOPS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | Thurlestone Village Shop<br>Bantam Village Shop                                                                                                                                                    | M. T. Th. F. 8.00 am - 5.30 pm<br>W, Sat. 8.00 am - 2.00 pm Sun. 8.30 am - 2.00 pm<br>(See Post Office) |
| <b>PARISH HALL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           | Rowland Cole<br>Joan Lane                                                                                                                                                                          | 561006<br>560158                                                                                        |
| <b>POST OFFICES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                          | Thurlestone P.O.<br>Wed. Sat. 9.00 am - 1.00 pm                                                                                                                                                    | 561917                                                                                                  |
| Open Mon. Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.00 am - 5.30 pm<br>Postal collections 10.30 am and 4.25 pm Monday - Friday<br>10.30 am Saturday, 11 am Sunday                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                         |
| Open daily 9 am - 1 pm and 2 - 5.30 pm (Summer - end Wed pm) OPEN<br>9 am - 12.30 pm (Winter)<br>Postal collections 9.30 am and 4.10 pm Monday-Friday<br>9.30 am Saturday, 11 am Sunday                      | Bantam P.O. (and Shop)                                                                                                                                                                             | 560645                                                                                                  |
| <b>POLICE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                | Emergency 999<br>Force Enquiry Centre 0990-700-400                                                                                                                                                 | Central Switchboard 0990-777-444<br>Confidential information 0900-555-111                               |
| <b>RUBBISH COLLECTION</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | Thursday<br>(But Friday in Bank Holiday - Monday weeks)<br>(Green (recyclable) bins alternate Thursdays starting 22 April 1999<br>New Winter timetable available from TIC, Kingsbridge in October) |                                                                                                         |
| <b>BUSSES (Western National)</b>                                                                                                                                                                             | No. 161 No. 162<br>Wed only Mon - Sat                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                         |
| Bantam 10.30 14.20                                                                                                                                                                                           | Kingsbridge 10.10 13.50 12.15 17.00                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                         |
| Buckland 10.33 14.17                                                                                                                                                                                         | South Milton 10.50 14.00 12.40 17.25                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                         |
| Thurlestone 10.41 14.09 09.45 13.28                                                                                                                                                                          | Thurlestone 10.41 14.09 12.31 17.16                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                         |
| South Milton 10.50 14.00 09.36 13.19                                                                                                                                                                         | Buckland 10.53 14.17                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                         |
| Kingsbridge 11.00 14.40 10.02 13.45                                                                                                                                                                          | Bantam 10.30 14.20                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                         |
| The 9.45 am from Thurlestone to Kingsbridge connects with the 10.05 (92) and 11.05 (93) to Plymouth.<br>Return from Plymouth (Bus Station) at 15.45 arriving Kingsbridge 16.54 for the 17.00 to Thurlestone. |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                         |
| <b>GARAGE (Bligh Engineering)</b>                                                                                                                                                                            | Maurice Bligh                                                                                                                                                                                      | 560220                                                                                                  |
| <b>LIBRARY (Mobile Library calls alternate Wednesdays)</b>                                                                                                                                                   | 11.10 - 11.30 am Bantam<br>11.35 - 11.45 am Buckland Old Chapel<br>12.20 - 12.35 pm Thurlestone Church                                                                                             | Kingsbridge 852315                                                                                      |
| <b>MOBILE FISH &amp; CHIP VAN (alternate Wednesdays from 13 Oct)</b>                                                                                                                                         | 5.00 pm - 6.30 pm outside school                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                         |



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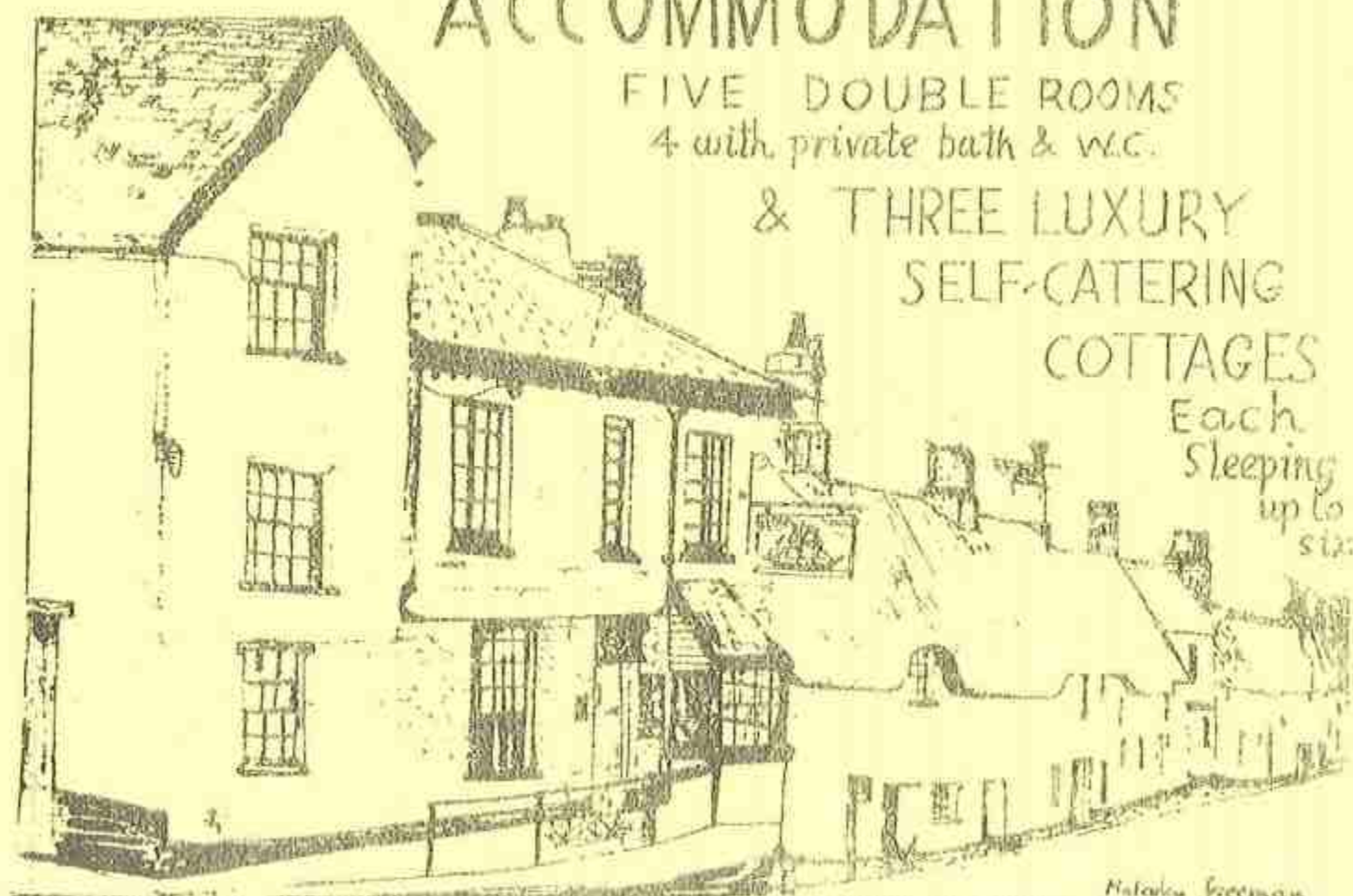
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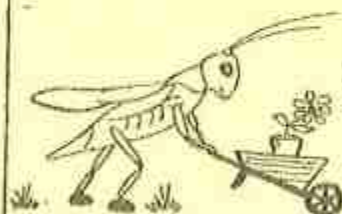
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No 1

JULY - AUGUST 1982

# VILLAGE VOICE

THURLESTONE · BANTHAM · BUCKLAND

THIS publication is intended to be a 'Digest of Village News - A Forum for Village Views'. It is hoped it can become a permanent 'institution' of village life - always informing and interesting, and while it is being produced under the sponsorship of the Thurlestone Parish Council and is being edited, at least pro tem by the Parish Clerk, it is hoped that if YOU have a view of the present and a vision for the future of our villages you will use 'Village Voice' to express them. According to District Council statistics there are 827 people resident in this parish. There must be a number who are willing and able to contribute articles, letters and items that will be of interest or of concern to readers.

This issue will comprise 360 copies, delivered free to every household - with a few spare copies in the local shops for anyone who somehow gets missed.

ADVERTISING SPACE is on offer to all business establishments - it must prove an invaluable means of getting your name into every parish home, which will include holiday homes when the owners or tenants are in residence. An eighth of a page measuring roughly  $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$  will cost just £6.00 for five issues - but hurry, advertising space is strictly limited - and the cost is minimal because this is not a profit making project by any means.

The next issue will be September 1st. to cover September/October - all correspondence should be directed to the Parish Clerk (D.W.Drabble) at 10, Backshay Close, South Milton. Telephone No. Thurlestone 539.

## TO A DOG !

It's not the nicest thing to do,  
To use our gateway as a loo,  
So, please help us if you can,  
To keep our gateway spick and span.

Deadline for all material for the next issue is  
16th August 1982.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ARE WE A CARING COMMUNITY ???

Would YOU be a member of a group whose concern is for someone who may need a lift to a Hospital or Health Centre - or is lonely and would welcome a visitor - or is house-bound and in need of someone to do a little shopping or change a library book - or sit by a sick bed for an hour or two - or if ill with no one to mind the baby - fetch a kiddie from school.

If someone is careless and no one thinks to offer a lift to and from a meeting of a Society or Institute - there is really no limit, is there, to the probable needs of others.

But, there has first of all to be a VILLAGE GROUP formed of good and kind hearted people willing to serve the community. Perhaps just 10 to 20 people prepared to give just a small part of their time who could find it both rewarding and satisfying. The spirit of giving and receiving would surely be of lasting benefit to all concerned.

IS SOMEONE WILLING TO COME FORWARD TO ACT AS A LEADER. ?Such a scheme could be set up in a matter of weeks - it all depends on the response - it all depends on YOU !

\*\*\*\*\*

Do not insist a thing is impossible simply because you yourself cannot accomplish it !



ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING

Mr P.W.J. Hurrell was unanimously re-elected Chairman and Mr D.J. Yeoman, Vice Chairman for the 1982-83 year.

Mr Yeoman was also re-elected as the Councils Representative to the Parish Hall Committee.

At the time of going to press further news of the progress of the proposed District Council Bye-laws for the Avon Estuary which they had sent to the Home Office was still awaited.

The District Council have advised that they have again written at great length detailing the Council's requirements and are now seeking enforcement action concerning the replacement of trees which were the subject of Tree Preservation Orders... to the Developers of 'Leaside and Merchants Field'

The District Council have stated that during the past six months no less than nine refuse collectors have received lacerations to hands and legs due to glass protruding from polythene refuse collection bags. This sort of thing must be avoided and the public are asked not to place dangerous objects in polythene bags and to store such things separately from general refuse.

You are asked to return unwanted medicines to chemists for destruction

THURLESTONE PARISH  
REGISTERS

IN 1538, by order of Henry VIII, every parish was required to maintain a register of baptisms, marriages and burials. This was rather more easily said than done in some remote villages where few people other than the parsons could read and write, and some were reluctant to see their names publicly displayed for fear that they would be subjected to additional taxation. Thurlestone is fortunate in having well maintained records since 1559 which were retained within the parish, latterly in a safe in the church, until last year. Then, in response to an urgent plea from the ecclesiastical authorities, they and other registers were transferred to the Devon Record Office, Exeter, for safe keeping. They may be inspected there for a daily fee of one pound.

WE LEARN from our registers that the commonest names in the early years, 1559-1600, were Cornish, Lidstone, Luckham, Lakoman, Phillips, Pilditch, Shepherd, Squire, Tabb, Whiddon, and Wakeham. All these names have a familiar ring and, if they are not now known in our villages, they are well represented in the South Hams. After 1600 the Moores, Hardys and Hingstons made a considerable impact on the villages. For example, a newcomer John Moore married Thurlestone born Abigail Randall in the Parish Church in 1694 and they had no less than 171 descendants entered in the Parish register, the last in 1939. By following family trees, it is sometimes possible to trace ten to twelve generations extending over more than 300 years. There are Jackmans, Moores and Edgcombes living in the parish now, or until very recently, who can trace their ancestry back at least until the early 1600's. The connections were often through married daughters and the name Jackman does not appear in the registers until 1822, Moore until 1691 and Edgcombe until 1743.

AMONG the names so familiar now in the villages are Steer, which has been steadily represented since 1668, as has Jarvis since 1695. Jeffrey dates back to 1818. The Bevills have lived here since 1843, but from 1656 to 1679 there were Beabills and Bibilla and one wonders whether there was any connection. Similarly the Stidstons were mentioned in 1661 to 1737; there was then a gap until 1897 when they started again. When the removal of a family to say, South Milton or Churchstow was enough to cause a break in the registers, the surprising thing is how many families consistently remarried in the parish.

Continued in Column 1 page 3

THURLESTONE PARISH  
REGISTERS : :  
Continued from Page 2

The registers do much more than supply family trees. By comparing births with marriages and taking 35 as the average life span, estimate of the population may be made. In this way, we find the population rose from about 350 in 1650 to only 400 in 1900, since when it has doubled. The registers reflect trends in lean times. Burial registers indicate disasters such as the 37 deaths in 1729 almost certainly due to smallpox and the 19 French mariners who were shipwrecked in 1816.

THROUGH the kindness of the Rector, I was able to make records of the registers from 1650 to 1950 before they were transferred to Exeter and will be happy to show and discuss them with anybody who wishes to do so.

NEVILLE C. OSWALD  
2, The Old Rectory  
Thurlestone.

KINGSBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB  
Meeting EVERY MONDAY  
at 12.45 p.m. at the  
KINGS ARMS, Kingsbridge

Secretary:  
Mr Julian Tregolles  
Tel: Kingsbridge 2541

Wealth is not his who  
has it, but his who  
enjoys it !

"BE HAPPY"

In June 1979 Bernard and Freda Wells with Mrs Irene Norton founded the "Be Happy" Charity Group.

In the three years they have raised no less than £2,720 and have paid out £2,206 and have £200 to be presented to Muscular Dystrophy at the end of June and have nearly enough to buy a bed for South Hams Hospital at a cost of £345, and have already bought an Ear, Nose and Throat Lamp for that Hospital and a bed for Cocabe Royal Old People's Home. This money has been raised by having Bingo Evenings and Coffee Mornings, but since the Rectory Barn was burnt down last year they have been putting on two Bingo evenings a month. The next ones are June 16th at Churchstow - June 30th Thurlestone Parish Hall, July 14th and August 11th at Churchstow again and July 28th and August 25th at Thurlestone.

Some of the Charities which have benefited:-

Guide Dogs for the Blind  
Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children .  
Dame Hannah Rogers School.

National Society for Cancer Relief.  
Royal Devon & Exeter Kidney Unit Appeal  
British Sailors Society  
Kingsbridge Mentally Handicapped

Stoke Mandaville Hospital  
Antony Nolan Bone Marrow Appeal Fund.  
etc.

THURLESTONE  
PARISH HALL

Our Parish Hall has a long history going back to 1934 when the original Parish Hall Committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Mr A.E. Stidston. The original project never bore fruit because of the Second World War, but after the war the Committee was re-formed and the present building became the Parish Hall in 1947. Since that time many improvements have been carried out and the freehold of the Hall and Car Park obtained. Various Committees have been responsible over the years for keeping the Hall in an acceptable condition, all work being funded by local fund raising activities. Over the years this has become a hand to mouth existence with the people who use the Hall saying it costs too much and our Treasurer advising us that we are not making ends meet. To fill this gap we use such activities as our May Fair to help provide money for such necessities as improving the heating system and re-wiring the Hall. We would love to replace our rather hard and elderly chairs, but the cost prevents us from doing this or from carrying out any other improvements.

The answer to the problem of the Parish Hall, your Parish Hall, is for more people, organisations, clubs and activities to make use of the Hall.

A.E.SADLER  
Chairman.



A NEW CENSUS FIGURES

Provisional results from the 1981 census show that the population present in England and Wales on Census night (5th/6th April 1981) was 49 million an increase of only 0.5% over the decade since the 1971 census. This compares with a 5 percent growth rate in each of the previous two decades.

Generally, the population of large cities and conurbations fell and the population of the urban fringes and the more rural areas grew overall by about 8 per cent. The South West was up 246,000.

Devon as a whole increased just 6 per cent - from 898,000 to 952,000. In the Plymouth area there was a fall from 201,528 to 197,432. Exeter had only a 1 per cent drop. Torquay and Paignton went up from 92,693 to 97,898, but the largest increase of any town in Devon was at Ivybridge where there was a 53 per cent rise from 4,027 to 6,160. It seems that the prediction of population growth in the Devon Structure Plan has proved remarkably accurate so far.

As more and more people choose to live in villages and small towns, so the importance of local councils must grow. Growth in itself is neither good nor bad; its impact on a rural community depends on how alert those already there are to ensure that developments are in keeping with the area and that facilities such as roads and drainage can cope.

With acknowledgement to "Local Council Review"

THURLESTONE & SOUTH MILTON  
HORTICULTURAL SHOW : : :

THIS year the Show will be held in the South Milton Village Hall on SATURDAY 21st AUGUST starting at 2.30 p.m.

There are sections for vegetables, fruit, cut flowers, pot plants, cookery, wines, flower arrangements and handicrafts. A novelty class is being introduced for the first time - THE LONGEST RUNNER BEAN !

If you would like an advance copy of the Schedule, please contact:

Mrs Pat Macdonald, the Show Secretary on  
Thurlestone 436.

THE PEARSON NURSERY SCHOOL

The School was founded by Mrs Joan Pearson at "Wragmoor" Bantam, who ran it very successfully for 8 years. When she decided to retire in December 1980 she kindly offered the school to the parents of children involved with the school for them to run it themselves. A Management Committee was formed in September 1980 and the first job was to employ a Supervisor. We were extremely lucky to find Mrs Liz. Hampson who is wonderful with the children and runs the school beautifully. She has the assistance of two helpers - Mrs Daphne Langman and Mrs Anne Rowe. The school was moved from Bantam to Thurlestone during February to May 1981 and has just completed its first year at the splendid site in the grounds of the Primary School. The Nursery School is a registered charity and is allowed to take up to 15 children between the ages of three to five per morning. So far, the school is proving to be a most successful venture. Any work that needs to be done is organised by the parents and Mr Battell is extremely kind with offers of help when needed. The Trustees of the school are Mr and Mrs Pearson and the Rev. John Delve. We are planning our first Summer Sports during the morning of WEDNESDAY 7th JULY (or 14th if wet) and this is open to all the children presently attending the school, regardless of which morning they usually attend, and also to future children registered with us.

LINDY ANDERTON  
Secretary to the Management Committee.



TURLSTONE YOUTH CLUB

This Club was formed by parents of teenage children in the village some years ago, since then the Committee of management has remained virtually unchanged, though few of those parents still have any children young enough to be members of the Club. The Club caters for youngsters of the Parish over the age of 11. It provides an outlet for controlled youthful exuberance on one evening every week from September to May. Occasionally the Committee attempt to channel this abundant energy into doing something useful for the community.

The Club give an annual party for the retired residents of the villages which is always a high-light of the winter. The Club took four stalls at the recent May Fair in aid of the Parish Hall funds, and also take stalls at the Parish Fete at the Rectory to help the Church funds, and last year they undertook a Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale.

On the sporting side the Club entered a Table Tennis League for the first time, and were able to field a team for matches every week throughout the season, and while they did not come away with any trophies, they acquitted themselves well, and look forward to an improved league position next season.

Our group is concerned with many aspects of the disarmament issue, from the abolition of nuclear weapons to the transference of military expenditure to end world poverty. We believe that too much of the world's resources in terms of the investment of money, raw materials, time, expertise, brainpower, imagination, initiative, etc. is spent on armaments, which leads to an impoverishment of our lives and contributes to the destitution of millions of people in the poorer parts of the world. It has been calculated that it costs 17 billion dollars to feed the world for a year, which is what is spent on arms in two weeks ! ! We have regular open meetings on the third Friday every month at 7.30 p.m. at Tresillian at Kingsbridge. We have visiting speakers, show films and have discussions on a wide range of topics relating to Peace and Disarmament in which local ministers from different denominations take part. June's Meeting will be addressed by Muriel Whitep -church from Exeter, who will be speaking to us about Traidcraft, an organisation concerned with self-help groups in the Third World.

SUE McGINN.

The 1982-83 Youth Club Season will start on TUESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER, when we look forward to welcoming present members and any new over 11's in the parish.

The reason a dog has so many friends is that his tail wags instead of his tongue !

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 F R I E N D S  
 of  
 THURLESTONE SCHOOL  
 are having  
 a FAMILY BAR - B - Q  
 and FOLK EVENING  
 on FRIDAY 16th JULY 1982  
 at All Saints Primary  
 School  
 Thurlestone  
 The SOUTH HAMS  
 FOLK DANCERS  
 will be there.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# F E R R Y S E R V I C E

LONG DISTANCE FOOTPATH  
 (Coastal Path)  
 BANTHAM - COCKLERIDGE  
 (Bigbury)  
 MONDAY to SATURDAY  
 17th May - 25th Sept.  
 10 - 11 a.m.  
 3 - 4 p.m.  
 FARE 50p  
 on SUNDAYS - JULY/August  
 only  
 PARTIES OF OVER 10 ONLY  
 by arrangement.  
 CONTACT: Hugh Cater on  
 Bantham Quay  
 or Telephone Thurlestone  
 593.

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If you wish to announce  
 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

to be held during  
 September & October  
 1982  
 make certain - and hand  
 in details BEFORE 16th  
 August to:

10, Backshay Close,  
 South Milton

THIS SERVICE IS FREE FOR  
 ALL VILLAGE EVENTS  
 =====

# RURAL BUS SERVICES Operated by TALLY HO!

Devon County Council  
 have replied to the  
 Parish Council :

"With regard to the  
 possibility of adult  
 passengers travelling  
 on the school bus, the  
 loadings for the Autumn  
 Term will be examined  
 when these are avail-  
 able, and if there is  
 any spare room avail-  
 able consideration  
 will be given to members  
 of the general public  
 using this facility.

# OPEM AREA - ISLAND VIEW Thurlestone

In an endeavour to  
 fully clarify the  
 situation with regard to  
 this piece of land, the  
 Parish Council have been  
 in correspondence with  
 Mr D.N.Fletcher, who was  
 a partner in "Fletcher  
 Homes". Mr Fletcher says:  
 "Arrangements were made with  
 Kingsbridge R.D.C. in 1973  
 whereby Fletcher Homes paid  
 a commuted maintenance sum  
 to the Council in exchange  
 for the Council agreeing to  
 maintain the area in  
 perpetuity - specifically  
 as an open area (and not a  
 play or amenity area). At  
 the time of local Government  
 re-organisation these  
 liabilities were taken over  
 by the South Hams District  
 Council.

The residents of Island  
 View have it noted in their  
 various conveyances that  
 the area is an open area  
 and not a play area or  
 amenity area, and generally  
 the residents have paid due  
 regard to this over the  
 last 10 years or so. In  
 maintaining the area an  
 open triangle of land it  
 forms an attractive out-  
 look.

# CHILDREN

The Editor is  
 offering an AWARD  
 of £2. to any BOY  
 or GIRL attending  
 All Saints PRIMARY  
 SCHOOL for an ESSAY  
 on:  
 "What I think of  
 Thurlestone Parish"

or

"What I would like  
 the Parish to be by  
 the year 2000 "

The award of £2 will  
 be paid to the boy  
 or girl submitting,  
 in the opinion of  
 the Editor, the best  
 Essay on either  
 subject - in other  
 words two awards of  
 £2 each.

CLOSING DATE is  
 AUGUST 10th 1982

Send or hand it  
 in to:

VILLAGE VOICE  
 10, Backshay Close  
 South Milton  
 Kingsbridge

# \*\*\*\*\* FOR SALE

Black & Decker  
 Electric  
 HEDGECUTTER  
 Model 452 - 16"  
 Little used.  
 About HALF  
 PRICE at £15.  
 Thurlestone  
 533  
 \*\*\*\*\*

The SEPTEMBER  
 issue of  
 VILLAGE VOICE  
 will, among  
 other items  
 commence a  
 series by  
 "An Observer  
 of the Village  
 Scene"

which promises  
 to be both  
 controversial  
 and thought  
 provoking !!

## BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

THE CLUB has been patrolling the beach each Sunday since the beginning of May and will continue to do so until mid-September. Club Members are also frequently available to assist the Council Lifeguard during the week.

TRAINING is an important aspect of Club life, and members are continuously working to improve both fitness and levels of competence in the water and with resuscitation equipment. Examiners from the Surf Life Saving Association of Great Britain visit the beach to examine members in these skills and to ensure that the Club maintains the general standards laid down by the Association for all Affiliated Clubs.

THROUGHOUT the season competitions are held around the country so that each Club may compare its ability and fitness against the others. The National Surf Ski Race is to be held this year at Penybont in Glamorgan along a 27 mile course. The Devon Surf Life Saving Championships will be at Dawlish Warren on the 8th August

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Tel: Clubhouse-Thurlestone 447  
Secretary-Thurlestone 767

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TELL YOUR PARISH COUNCILLOR ABOUT IT !

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Mr P.W.J. Hurrell (Chairman)   | Thurlestone 496. |
| Mr D.J. Yeoman (Vice Chairman) | Thurlestone 607  |
| Mr E.T. Stidston               | Thurlestone 242  |
| Miss R.S. Stocken              | " " 257          |
| Mr D.W.P. Grose                | " " 375          |
| Mr R. Adams                    | " " 247          |
| Mr J. Dayment                  | " " 295          |

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District Councillor Mr Jack Thomas  
(Thurlestone 269)

County Councillor Mr Simon J. Day

and the National Championships will be at Perranporth, Cornwall over the August Bank Holiday week-end. The Bantham Club always tries to be represented at these events but our main concern is, of course the safety of our own beach, and our small membership sometimes prevents our attendance.

UNFORTUNATELY our life-saving equipment is expensive and, despite the generous assistance of both Evans Estates and the South Hams District Council, we have to use a large proportion of our time on fund raising. Our main event during the season is our ANNUAL OPEN DAY on SUNDAY 1st. AUGUST. We will be pleased to meet as many of you as possible at the Club-house and we shall, of course, be most grateful for offers of assistance on that day, or indeed, at any time.

CLUB MEMBERS have been involved already in a number of rescues this season and hopefully will be around to prevent any fatalities for the rest of the season.

FRED SHILLABEER. Head Lifeguard.

FOR VISITORS & NEW RESIDENTS

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ALL SAINTS CHURCH:

Rev. J. Dolve, The Rectory,  
Thurlestone (Tel. 232).

ALL SAINTS C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Headmaster. Mr T.E.E. BATTELL  
(Tel. Thurlestone 494)

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THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB.

Secretary. Mr R. Marston, B.E.M.  
(Tel: Thurlestone 405)

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## Pet Corner

by V. JESSEN, B.V.Sc.,  
H.R.C.V.S.

AFTER being a small animal veterinary surgeon for 10 years I can see I have now acquired two veterinary idiosyncrasies. The first of these is dog training and the second is maintaining the animal's correct weight, the two are possibly linked.

WHEN people bring a new puppy into me the first thing I try to impress upon them is that all dogs, wild or domestic, are pack animals. The pack needs a leader, that should be the human. This dominance order is easily established in puppies by the way one gives commands. Don't be diffident. Say a command as if you mean it; the message will then come across and force of any kind is seldom indicated. Bear in mind most dogs are excellent actors and so do not be deceived by any histrionics or tantrums.

KEEPING your pet at the correct weight and not permitting it to get fat is within everybody's capability. It behoves you to do this because all the problems we get when we are overweight viz a viz: heart, arthritis, diabetes, the dog will get as well. Most dogs are absolute gourmards, eating until they are sick. Hence the owner must control the quantity given. If titbits are ever offered ensure the dog does not expect or demand them as a right. This is where training comes in.

I HOPE these various points are of interest and enable people to have socially acceptable, healthy pets.

AN ADVERTISEMENT IN "VILLAGE VOICE" will be read by over 800 people !

## PETER BROMFIELD

DAIRYMAN

Tel: Thurlestone 888

*Milk, Cream, Butter, Eggs.  
Fruit Juices, Yogurt, Squashes*

Supplier to the

THURLESTONE & SOUTH MILTON DISTRICT

May I say 'Thank you' to all my Customers for their support.

### DID YOU KNOW ?

The South Hams District Council will arrange to collect your old fridge, freezer or cooker - free. Contact the Technical Services Department at Totnes 864499.

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THURLESTONE & WEST BUCKLAND W.I. meet on the 2nd. Thursday every month (but not in August). In the Parish Hall at 2.30 p.m. The NEXT MEETING is on 8th July and the Secretary is Mrs M.V. Raymont, Court Park, Thurlestone.

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The BANTHAM SAILING CLUB have races on the River Avon most week-ends and NEW MEMBERS are always welcome. Contact Secretary Marilyn Cater at 'Yorick' West Buckland (Tel: Thurlestone 593)

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If there are any elderly residents who would even like to discuss the benefit of the MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE they should contact Parish Councillor Miss Rosemary Stocken at 3Mariners' Ilbert Road. (Tel. Thurlestone 257).

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The Thurlestone Parish EMERGENCY OFFICER is Parish Councillor Mr D.J. YEOMAN - he can be contacted at 8, Parkfield, Thurlestone. Tel: 607.

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The next Meeting of the THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL will be held in the Parish Hall on TUESDAY 6th JULY 1982 - and there will be an 'OPEN SESSION' with parishioners. You will be very welcome.

That was 1982,  
that was....

**Now...**

**A Merry  
Christmas**

and a

**Happy 2000**

**To You All!**

