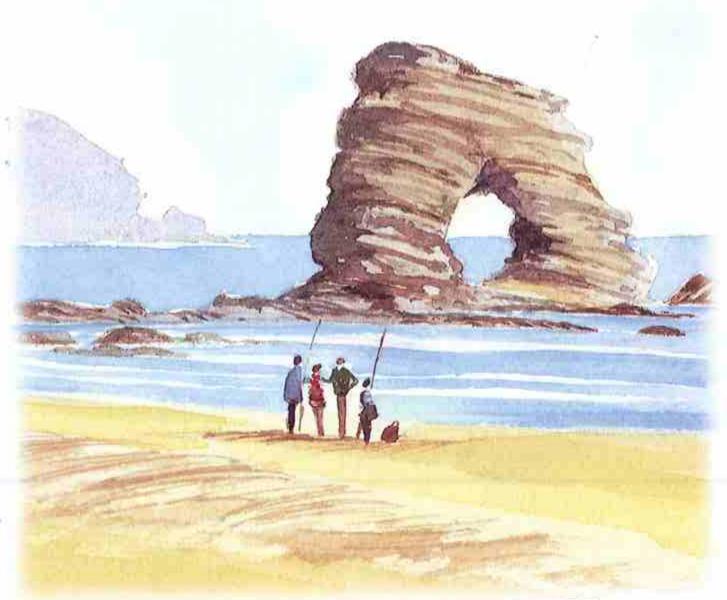
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DECEMBER 2001-JANUARY 2002





NUMBER 112 DECEMBER 2001 - JANUARY 2002

A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
TO ALL
OUR READERS

Front Cover: Watercolour by Len Hubbard Computer Graphics by Derek Roberts Founder

**Dudley Drabble** 

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LEN HUBBARD

Published Bi-monthly

## WELCOME TO YELLOWSTONE

The following document was found inside a Christmas card which had apparently slipped out of its envelope and fallen behind the newspaper return bins in front of Clampers ...which is what residents call Thurlestone's Post Office and Village Shop.

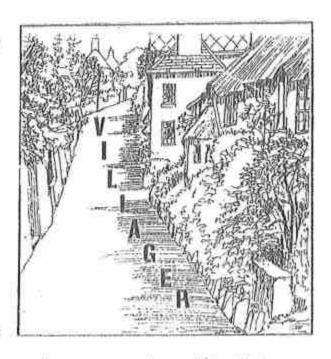
> The Wombles Thurlestone Kingsbridge Devon TQ7 OAP

#### Dear All,

Can it really be a year since my last Christmas round-robin? I know lots of you didn't think that we would last six months in full village retirement, let alone a year, but here we are, still safely in "The Wombles". Is it really a year ago that we shucked off the name of Grockles and became not Holiday Home Owners but Real Residents? You know I always thought that the name Grockles was rather sweet and in a way we shall be sorry to lose it.

Anyway, Henry and I can scarcely believe that we are here for ever. Henry tried to book us a burial plot the other day, but there's some kerfuffle going on about the graveyard at the moment, and it seems it's only for locals whose families have lived here for centuries. "Read all about it!", as those newspaper sellers in Wimbledon High Street used to shout....remember?

You all thought we would be bored out of our minds away from the cut-and-thrust of Wimbledon's high society, didn't you? Go on, admit it, but I have to say quite the opposite has happened. M'dears, to use the local lingo, there is more cut-and-thrust in Thurlestone parish than ever took place in south London and all points north. Course,



you have more muggings and riots (and we read that people do dreadful things in the streets after the pubs shut) than we do in our backwater. But for simple back-stabbing and slander we win the Premiership hands down!

Despite all that we are managing to cope very well - well, I am - but Henry keeps getting hold of the wrong end of the stick, though I must say he looks very 'country squire' in his flat hat and what they call a Barber's jacket (don't ask me why - the only barber's shop is miles away). He keeps getting banned from local "do's". Well, you know how he never listens - I sometimes think he is completely deaf!

Take the case of our new double-yellow lines. Yes, we've got them too, wobbling all the way down the village (really makes you wonder what they put in the cider). It was over the "double yellers", as we locals call them, that Henry got banned from the V.I. Course, I shouldn't call it that - it's only Grockles call it the V.I. (or so they tell me). As a Real Resident it's either "the Village Inn", "the Inn" or "the pub" but never, ever, the V.I.

Apart from the really sick-making yellow, they stuck them, wobbles, kinks and all, half way out into the road, so much so that Henry reckons he can park inside them. It was the D-Ys that got Henry banned from the V.I. (Oops, Village Inn). I and a lot of my W.I. friends think that's a pretty harsh penalty just for saying that he thought the lines were rather pretty and singing "I'm Dreaming of a Yellow Christmas" very loudly before they threw him out.

Henry, you will have realised from that, is much changed from his City days, and looks quite striking in his flat hat, except when he goes all common and wears it the wrong way round. He is at the moment trying hard to get taken back into the V .... Village Inn, and is organising a protest parade of elderly ladies on scooters using the yellow lines like tramlines so that no cars can get down to the golf club and even the local farmer will have to wait. You think you have traffic jams ... ...they're a mere nothing compared to what happens when our local farmer, with tractor and muck-spreader, meets a heavy delivery driver laden with central heating oil. Oh yes, we're not completely primitive down here. Some of us have real central heating in our cottages, y'know.

But back to Henry and his plans for his reinstatement to the bar of the V...the Inn. Apparently, another local farmer was most impressed by Henry's other scheme - which is a 'park-in' of all local drivers on all the yellow lines. Unfortunately, Henry chose to divulge his plans to the farmer who has been one of the leading advocates of the yellow lines, and now Henry is banned from all that farmer's fields. So no mushrooms for us from now on!

Mind you, the local planners haven't just stopped with the yellow peril. Now they are putting up blue and white signs everywhere saying "Single track road with passing places". Siliy really, as all our roads are single track and if they didn't have passing places we would be jammed solid all the time!

Mind you, when we first came down here twenty years ago at least - we found out about single track roads the hard way. Henry absolutely ruined our company car getting past some stupid Grockle, coming the other way, who was frightened of scratching his company car on the hedge. Even today, it is absolute chaos down here in the school holidays with all the parents coming to their second homes always bringing their positively huge company cars - Henry calls them Grocklecarriers - and they're so scared of scratching them that they drive right out in the middle of the lanes. Henry says you can always tell a Real Resident's car - they have their wing mirrors either folded in or missing entirely!

Talking of signs in the lanes, we hear there are plans to put up a new village sign at the entrance to Thurlestone. Heaven knows why, there's nothing wrong with the present one. Henry reckons the new one will say "WELCOME TO YELLOWSTONE". Remarks like that might just get Henry back in the Village Inn by Christmas....here's hoping, as he's so lost without it.

Course, that's nothing like all the things that we Real Residents have to argue about here. The Parish Council meetings are the place to see 'nature red in tooth and claw' as I seem to remember from our poetry mistress at Wimbledon High School for Girls. Gosh, what arguments go on in the Parish Hall. When you come down please don't call it the village hall. It belongs to all the parish and some people get quite upset if you don't use the correct name.

Top billing on the Parish Council agendas at the moment are all about things happening down by the Church. There's the plan to build a church hall in the graveyard for cream teas and things. Henry keeps singing some old Army song of his - something about digging up his father's grave for a waste disposal plant. I do wish he'd stop. He'll get ex-communicated if he keeps it up, I know he will. Then there's another plan to build a car-park at the back of the church. How they're going to stop Grockles parking there goodness knows. Henry says they ought to have a voice-recognition lock, so that you have to hum a hymn tune before the gate will open. If you remember Henry's humming, you just know that's another place he'll never get into!

And down behind the church, too, is going to be the village football pitch. Well, if those plans go ahead (they've been arguing about it for years) it will be more than that - just like Wembley really, with a running track around it, basketball practice nets, skateboard ramps, mini-rugby training area, cricket pitch, cricket nets, tennis courts (couldn't leave out dear old Wimbledon) and so on. You name a sport, we'll give it space.

#### You see, we need the grant money.

Course, the big event each year for the football pitch will be the Cup Final against South Milton. That was the real match, so older locals tell us - Thurlestone FC and South Milton FC just couldn't stand one another and even today there are sorts of allegations about rough play and of the qualifications of the players. That's why we're told that Thurlestonians - not just the ancient football players - still regard South Milton as "the auld enemy". Mind you, they seem nice enough people to me, but then Henry says... well I won't tell you what he said, but when I tell you that he is banned from South Milton, you can draw your own conclusions

Gosh, I have been going on a bit, haven't I, but it's really, really exciting living down here. I almost forgot to tell you about the children. They're all doing terribly well, of course. You remember William, our eldest, the former Internet millionaire? Well, he's doing even better now. After the Internet let him down, he started with one of those gardening companies. You've probably seen him on tv with that big girl without a big bra. Yes, he was the one mixing the compost for

her, but he expects to take over the show very shortly.

Then there's Emily. She finished with that pop group drummer - you know, the one who got arrested for those finny cigarettes - and now she's joined the Army. Apparently she's quite brilliant at furnishing a foxyhole - her last one had a double bed and hot and cold running water and a wood-burning stove - and they expect her to be a General before very long. She told Henry that the Army is one long battle-course, but everyone helps her over all obstacles and she will have her green beret very soon. I keep telling her that a red one would be much smarter, but she won't listen. She takes after Henry.

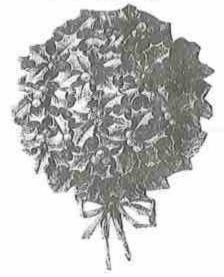
And finally our youngest, Charles. He's given up being a sportsman - apparently they kept asking him to go to play in quite frightening places overseas. He's between jobs at the moment, but is doing extremely well at it. We have high hopes of him,

I'd like to finish by inviting you all down, but I'm afraid we are going to be away at Easter and Christmas and all the summer holidays, so don't just turn up will you? We'll be out (Henry told me to say that).

Anyway, a Very Merry Christmas from

#### Arabella & Henry

(The Real Residents of Thurlestone, where it's all happening)



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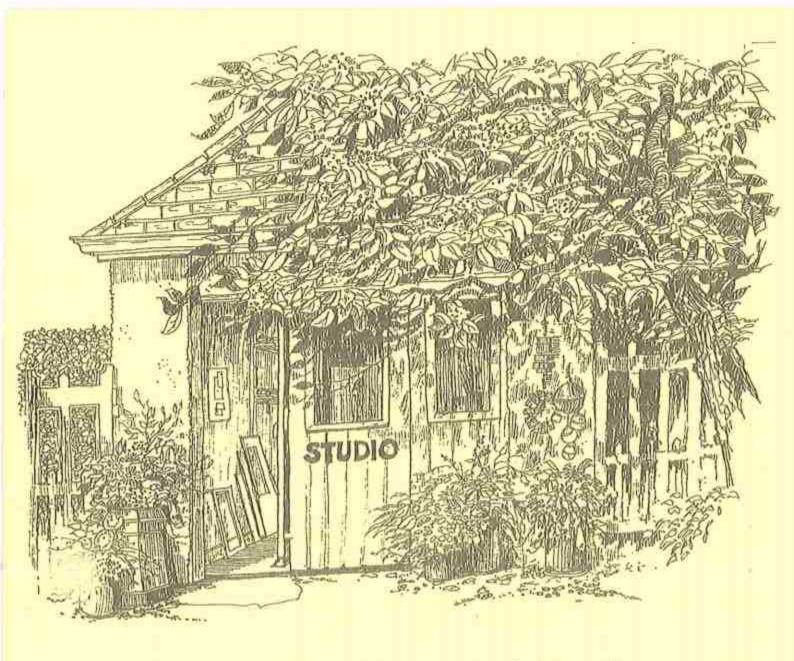


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## Village News Round-Up

#### Pamela Brewster

The parish has been stunned by the very sad news of Pam's untimely death in France. For Village Voice it means the loss of a stalwart friend and a valued team member. Not only did she work hard on helping to run off and collate each issue of the magazine, but she also contributed many of the regular TRAMP articles, and recently provided several pieces in her own delightful and inimitable style about her beloved French 'hovel'.

Her lively and energising presence will be greatly missed by us all. We will never forget her or what she gave to Village Voice.

#### Friends in Need

Pat Crawford, referring to her recent visit to Derriford Hospital ("who were marvellous"), would like to thank those of you who said prayers, sent cards, and did the shopping for her. In particular, she was delighted with the kind friend who bought the Maple & Pecan Crispy cereal ("which John could never find"). It all meant so much to both of them and "made us realise how lucky we are to live in a caring village"!

#### Fish 'n Chips

The "Double D" fish & chips van proprietor, Douglas Gordon, says he has been pleased by the increase in custom following the appeal in Village Voice to "use it or lose it". He is glad to confirm that he WILL continue to come every two weeks to Thurlestone in 2002.

However, due to the fitting-out of his new van, he will not be on the road between the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2001 and 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2002. His first visit to Thurlestone in 2002 will be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

#### David knows his Onions!

Chairman of the annual Thurlestone & South Milton horticultural show, **David Coward**, has been awarded a judging certificate by the National Society of Allotments & Leisure Gardens. His name will now appear on their approved Judges List for Shows.

Based on the Royal Horticultural Society's rules, the exam consists of a written section which, if passed, leads on to a two-hour practical judging test in the form of a mock show of 22 classes set up by an RHS panel. David has spent a number of years in training, accompanying qualified judges to shows around the West Country. Now he, in turn, will be able to encourage and train others interested in qualifying.

Congratulations, David!

#### The Bells

Following an appeal for new recruits to the bell-ringing team in the last issue of Village Voice, **Derrick Yeoman** is pleased to report that no fewer than six parishioners turned up to try their hand with a view to starting their training, and a very successful introductory session ensued. Further training sessions are planned for these, and any other, closet campanologists.

The existing team entered the Woodleigh Deanery annual bell-ringing championship recently and distinguished themselves by coming first in the so-called 'Junior Section'. The victorious team was made up of John Cole, David Coward, John Dayment, Mike Ellis, Paul Housego and Derrick Yeoman.

A total of eight teams entered this section, so very well done our men!

#### Bantham Archaeological 'Finds'

Some seventy people crowded into the Thurlestone Parish Hall on Monday 22nd October for Stephen Reed's talk and were able to handle some of the many items on show. John Watling, chairman of the South Hams Society, who organised the event, said "We are so lucky - the ground where the finds were made (during the excavations for the new Surf Life Saving Club premises) is very sandy. The combination of sand and sea grinds artefacts away normally, unlike finds in, say, peaty ground where they can be well preserved".

A lot of trading went on in the Avon estuary, apparently, and beach barbecues may not be such a recent invention as, deep down in the excavations, oyster shells, the remains of big wine jars, and animal bones were discovered with signs of bonfires alongside! [See Jane Marley's article elsewhere in this issue]

#### Trail Maps

As reported earlier this year, POTS, the Parish of Thurlestone Society, has embarked on the production of two small (triple-fold A3) illustrated 'trail maps' of the parish, in celebration of the Golden Jubilee - one for Thurlestone, and one for Buckland and Bantham. They will have a map of the main streets, with points of interest and buildings shown, each with a short explanatory note, and a suggested walking route. Although separate, the walks can also be linked together.

It is intended that these will be of benefit to holiday-makers visiting our parish, to those residents who may be fairly new to the area, and invaluable to visiting friends and family.

The front cover of the Thurlestone map will be the same picture as the front cover of this issue of Village Voice. An equally attractive picture of the view from the Ham will be used for the front of the Bantham / Buckland map. Len Hubbard has supplied the art work, and the new maps are expected to be ready for Easter 2002. They will be on sale at a price of £1.00 for the two.

#### Class of '59

On 9th November the South Hams Gazette printed a photograph of a class at Thurlestone Primary School, taken in 1959, when Mrs Brown was the Headmistress. If you were a pupil at the school then, the Cookworthy Museum would like to hear from you. Their 2002 exhibition will be called "Your School Days" and they are seeking out photographs to copy and artefacts, trophies and uniforms to borrow. Their phone number is 853235.

#### The Queen's Jubilee

The Lord Lieutenant's office has written to every Parish Council in Devon asking them to join in the cost of a present of an orchard of Devon apples, to be planted on one of the royal estates, for Her Majesty's Jubilee. Each Council is being asked to donate £10 to the cause, and of course Thurlestone PC has been delighted to oblige! Devon children will illustrate the seventy-five varieties of apple to be included, and the pictures will then be bound in book-form and presented along with the orchard.

#### Hostess with the Mostest

At Thurlestone Golf Club's juniors' annual presentation event, club stewardess Joan Booth was not forgotten. Joan received a special shield from the youngsters, having been made their popular choice as the winner of "Personality of the Year". What a good decision!

#### New Lady Golf Captain

Congratulations go to Val Brown on her appointment as the Thurlestone Ladies' Golf Captain, together with best wishes for a successful year in office. The Garden Shop Kingsbridge Landscape Dept

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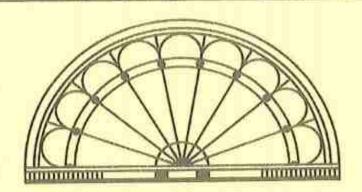
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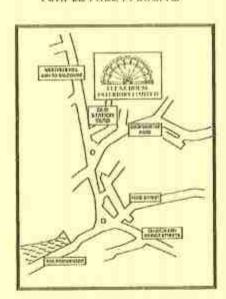
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## POSTBAG



#### Dear Editor

Having been at the public meeting in the church on October 4th, I found it interesting but could not agree with everything I heard. I thought the meeting should have been in the Parish Hall as a church is a place for prayers and peace and not for arguments. It needed only a phone call to see if the hall could have been used.

I realise there must be a lot more paper work to be done, it seems to be the way of life nowadays, but if a secretary is needed they will and often do work from home even with a computer. Tables and chairs I feal could be stored at the parish hall with agreement from the hall committee.

The quote for building the Church Hall seems to be an awful lot of money when the church itself is in need of money. The new Parish Hall when built could cater for a lot of its needs - like meetings, charity cream teas, ploughman lunches etc. We usually know the dates of functions and meetings in advance, so the hall could be booked in advance.

Maybe there are some people on the Parochial Church Council who have not been living here for many years and/or who do not have family burial plots within the church yard. We have to be careful not to split our people and villages due to ideas and views about the new Church Hall being built in our church yard.

The subject of youth and children also came up. Surely the new Parish Hall should be able to cater for those needs, under supervision?

At the time of writing this, we have a bell ringing competition ahead. The refreshments are going to be served in the parish hall and the presentations made afterwards at the church. So the church and the Parish Hall can work together!

Eileen Dayment Bantham

#### Dear Editor

I was delighted to see that the October edition evoked a response to my letter printed in the August issue, which I wrote because a letter written by seven children (25% of the youngsters in the parish) had brought no such response. There are some advantages, after all, to being a septuagenarian!

I have written to Councillor Marshall, Chairman Cole and Rosemary MacKay, explaining the course of events which gave rise to the children's letter. I stand by what I said in my letter, except that at the time I wrote it I did not know that the Church had a project to provide opportunities for the children to develop their skills as teenagers.

It does not matter where this facility is provided, and for this reason I personally support the Rector's initiative and agree that there is no reason for the Parish Hall to duplicate these facilities.

> John F. Crawford Thurlestone

#### Dear Editor

#### Celebrating the Jubilee in 2002

I recently attended an Open Day at Ermington, held primarily to promote the importance of village shops in the community. The village was buzzing with people, all enjoying live music, sampling local foods, talking to the various stall-holders and visiting some of the craftspeople who have workshops in the small industrial estate - a woodworker, a potter and the Bigbury Mint among them. The church had a wonderful display of masks and art made by the local school children. You could even learn how to make a decorative greetings card!

This could be a theme which the parish of

Thurlestone could easily adapt and the geography of the village is ideal. There are so many talented people living here, both young and old. It would be a great community event. And what better way to celebrate the Oueen's Jubilee?

#### Wendy Benetto Buckland

[This is the only suggestion so far received following the appeal in the last issue of Village Voice for ideas from parishioners as to how we might celebrate HM The Queen's 50th year on the throne. Please let us know what do you think of this idea. Ed.1

#### Dear Editor

As we leave Thurlestone finally at the end of November we should like to thank all those good friends who have made our life here, over the past fourteen years, so very enjoyable.

We extend our very best wishes to you all, and especially to everyone in TRAMP, for the future. Friends will always be assured of a welcome at our new home at :

> Wye House Gardens Marlborough, Wilts.
>  Telephone 01672 - 519909

We should also like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas.

Audrey & Stewart Reynolds

#### Dear Editor

In response to the appeal made by Villager in the October issue of Village Voice for suitable alternative names to "Jubilee Cottages" for the new Seaview houses, may I suggest the following:

The Blaize (anagram of Elizabeth)
Lillibet Cottages (the Queen's "nursery" name)
Bessel Road (Queen "Bess" + Fifty)

Dorothy Abel Thurlestone

#### Dear Editor

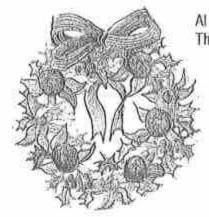
#### History made easy

How often in a crossword or quiz do you have trouble in remembering the Kings & Queens of England in the right order?

At Kingsbridge Grammar School we had no such problem, because we all learnt Mr Born's mnemonic! So, for the benefit of all, and especially our younger historians, who would like an aide memoire, here it is:

Willie, Willie, Henry, Ste. Henry, Dick, John, Henry 3, Edwards 3 and Richard 2, Henries 4, 5, 6, then who? Edwards 4, 5, Dick the Bad, Henries 7, 8, Ned the Lad, Mary, Bessie, James the Vain, Charlie, Charlie, James again, William & Mary, Anna Gloria, Four Georges, William, then Victoria Edward the Seventh was a gay old sport, George the Fifth a nobler sort, Edward 8 did abdicate And left George 6 to rule the state. And in Elizabeth our Oueen A second Good Queen Bess is seen, And then when she has had her day King Charles the Third may step this way.

I don't recall that we had a similar rhyme to remember the Kings of Scotland, but perhaps one of our local professional Scotsmen (if not too exhausted after Burns Night) might like to turn his mind - and his pen - to this issue.



Al Parker Thurlestone



### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

#### News & Views by Citizen

#### PARISH HALL

£588 was raised at this year's Autumn Fair. This was in addition to the £600 + raised by the Keep Fit Group at their evening of light entertainment on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. So over the past two months over £1000 has been raised towards the cost of the new Parish Hall. A revised plan will be discussed at the next meeting to decide whether to go ahead with the plan for a Badminton court. This will mean raising the height to 6.1 metres, well in excess of that likely to gain Planning approval as I understand the area is scheduled as "residential"

#### YELLOW LINES

As we are all aware, the lines have now been painted even if the person doing the job appeared to have visited the Village Inn beforehand! The lines seem to have been most effective if the main aim is to increase the speed of traffic through Thurlestone village. Before anyone starts making suggestions as to the best way of reducing speed back to a safer level, please note that humps, bumps, chicanes and speed cameras have all been thought of ... but if you have any sensible suggestions why not attend the next Parish Council meeting on December 10th, at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall. The important question that arises is where do the cars go now that the space has been restricted to

some ten cars fewer than normally park during peak holiday periods? I think it will be a case of 'wait and see'.

#### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

It was thought that this year a number of youngsters should be invited to plant a cross. This suggestion was taken up by the NIPPERS - budding life-savers from the Bantham Life-Saving Club. They nominated Tom and Kate Hurrell and Dale Cunningham. I understand it was voted a great success and may help to ensure, as the years go by, that the main purpose of the day will not be forgotten.

#### SEAVIEW HOUSING

This now appears to have gained momentum as new plans have been drawn up for one, two, three and four-bedroom bungalows (a total of ten) and it was whispered that work could well start late spring or early summer 2002.

#### RECREATION FIELD

Details have now been received from the vendors of the terms and conditions attached to the transfer of the land and the matter is now in the hands of the solicitors representing both parties. It is hoped further progress can be reported at the next meeting.

#### **ROAD GLOSUMES FOR SURFACE MEPAIRS**

From 29th November, contractors will be carrying out repairs to the road surface between Whitleigh and Elston, and the road will be closed for up to ten days. The contractors then move on to repair the road between Whitleigh and Piers Cottage, which will also be closed to traffic for several days. Finally, they will be repairing the surface between Whitleigh and Thurlestone, though this stretch of road will not be totally closed, but subject to traffic lights or similar traffic control. For further information, phone 07774 - 685479.

## POST OFFICE & VILLAGE STORE

(Adrian & Alison Masters : Phone 561917)



Over the festive period the shop, and the Post Office in particular, will change its usual hours of operation. The times for the days listed below are minimum ones for the shop, and we may increase our opening hours to meet demand. The Post Office hours will be as listed.

DATE	SHOP	POST OFFICE
22 December - Saturday	8.00 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
23 December - Sunday	8.30 - 1.00	CLOSED
24 December - Monday (Christmas Eve)	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 12.30
25 December - Tuesday (Christmas Day)	CLOSED	CLOSED
26 December - Wednesday (Boxing Day	8.00 - 1.00	CLOSED
27 December - Thursday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
28 December - Friday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
29 December - Saturday	8.00 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
30 December - Sunday	8.30 - 1.00	CLOSED
31 December - Monday (New Year's Eve)	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 4.00
1 January - Tuesday (New Year's Day)	8.00 - 5.30	CLOSED
2 January - Wednesday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 1.00

Normal Opening Times will resume from Thursday 3rd January 2002

The Christmas edition of the Radio and TV Times will be available shortly.
You can reserve your copy at the counter or by telephone.
Vegetables, drinks, mince-pies, bread, etc., should be ordered well in advance, and will be available for collection or delivery during Christmas week.
Sarah and Christine, Eric and Margaret, together with Alison and I thank you all for your support over the last year.
We wish you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

#### SHOP OPENING HOURS - WINTER 2001/2002

Monday	8.00 am - 5.30 pm
Tuesday	8.00 am - 5.30 pm
Wednesday	8.00 am - 2.00 pm
Thursday	8.00 am - 5.30 pm
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Sunday	8.30 am - 1.00 pm

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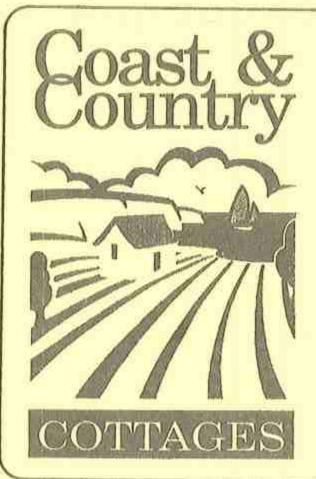
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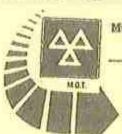
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#### ANDREW GIRLING WRITES: CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

'It will be difficult to celebrate Christmas properly with all this going on in Afghanistan', someone said to me the other day. I readily concurred. With press and television continually bringing into our homes the real world of violence, injustice and fear, how can we possibly have our cosy Christmas celebrations. But then I thought. It was into a world of violence and fear that Jesus was born. This is just what real Christmas celebrations should be about.

It all happened in a small country, oppressed by a fiercesome Roman occupying power, which had exploited its citizens and denied them many of their basic human rights. There was considerable resentment and an increasing groundswell of freedom fighters seeking to expel them by force.

Against that background, Christmas is the story of an unmarried girl, having a baby and facing scandal and isolation from family and friends. We see a frightened couple, unwelcome in a strange town. A young girl giving birth in appalling conditions. A newborn baby and his parents becoming refugees to escape Herod's obsessional infanticide. It's a story of pain, suffering and fear.

If Jesus were to be born today, it might well be among the Afghanistan refugees, because the overriding purpose of his birth was to demonstrate God's profound concern for all human suffering and anguish and by sharing in it, to bring hope and healing, even in the worst possible situations. It was designed to free the human race from the destructiveness of evil and to make possible for them, God's new way of reconciliation, peace and justice.

I believe that Jesus' birth and the life he lived are still the only hope for a world torn apart by the ravages of human sinfulness. He showed that justice is more powerful than exploitation, that truth is more liberating than deceit, that love is stronger than hate and that forgiveness is the only way to reconciliation. So to celebrate Christmas with real meaning we should make a special point of remembering all who are suffering, for whatever reason. That will help us to cut through the commercialism and sentimentality of what so often passes for the celebration of Jesus' birth and truly rejoice in the depth and wonder of His love for all mankind.

Andrew

#### Parish Open Meeting

We were pleased to see so many people at the Parish Open Meeting about the proposed Church Room and we should like to thank you for taking the time to come and let us know your feelings. We have noted all the concerns that were raised so that the PCC can take them into consideration during its discussions and before any final decision is made.



## All Saints Diary

#### Church Services

S		63	d	a	na	65
<b>7</b>	99	**	ΨĦ	67	23	130

DECEMBER 2"

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Book of Common Prayer)

11.10 a.m. Morning Worship for All Ages

DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Common Worship)

11.10 a.m. Matins (Book of Common Prayer)

DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Book of Common Prayer)

11.10 a.m. Parish Eucharist (Common Worship) (Change from usual pattern)

DECEMBER 23<sup>40</sup> 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Common Worship)

11.10 a.m. Crib Service with Family Communion

5.00 p.m. Candlellt Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE 11.30 p.m. The First Eucharist of Christmas

CHRISTMAS DAY 11.10 a.m. Family Service followed by short said Holy Communion

DECEMBER 30TH 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (BCP)

11.10 a.m. Parish Eucharist (Common Worship)

NEW YEAR'S EVE 6.00 p.m. New Year's Eve Service

JANUARY 6™ 2002 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30 a.m. Epiphany Play

JANUARY 13" 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Common Worship)

11.10 a.m. Matins (Book of Common Prayer)

JANUARY 20" 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Book of Common Prayer)

11.10 a.m. Family Communion (Common Worship)

6.00 p.m. Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

JANUARY 27<sup>th</sup> 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Book of Common Prayer)

11.10 a.m. Parish Eucharist (Common Worship)

Weekdags

EVERY THURSDAY 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (Common Worship)

& DEC 27™ & JAN 24™ 8.00 a.m. Prayer Group

#### Carol Singing

We cannot sing at every house, so, if you would like us to come to you, please let Liz know (560090).

Monday December 17th 5 p.m.- 7 p.m. Buckland and Bantham

Particularly for the children & young people and their parents. Meet on the road outside Buckland Farm at 5 p.m. (on the left after turning left at the chapel in Buckland at the top of the steep hill).

Monday December 17th 630 p.m. for 7 p.m. The Mead

Meet 8, Mead Drive to join the House Group carol singing round The Mead.

Thursday December 20th 6 p.m Thurlestone-top to bottom!

Meet Parish Hall car park at 6 p.m. If anyone could provide us with refreshments at about 9 p.m., we should be pleased to accept! We need plenty of singers, so come along.

Somemade Soup & a Ploughman's

ughman's Coffee-Time

MONDAYS DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> & JANUARY 7TH

ALL OTHER MONDAYS 10.30 ~ 11.30 A.M.

NOON ~ 1.30 P.M.

THURLESTONE PARISH HALL

#### Pamela Sherley Brewster

(The many people attending Pam Brewster's funeral service were moved by the wonderful tribute to her from Liz Webb, who here provides a shortened version. For a copy of the original phone 560090)

Pam was born in Lewisham on 26th May 1933, the only daughter of Ernest, a wireless engineer, and Elsie. After spending the war in Berkshire, Pam went to Blackheath High School, where she worked hard but infuriated the staff with her flippancy! She stayed with friends in London to sit her A Levels when her parents moved to Thurlestone to run a guest house at Sunnyridge, joining them for school holidays.

Pam studied French at Bristol University and also at the Sorbonne, took a six month secretarial course, and was then employed as a secretary with the BBC and later with Westlands. She returned to Bristol University in 1957 to study for a Certificate in Education and then taught French at Malvern Girls' College for three years and at Torquay Girls' Grammar School for 30 years, including an exchange year in the USA in 1965. She spent weekends in Thurlestone and took digs in the town during the week, where her meals seem to have been created mainly from her landlady's discarded bread crusts, apple peelings, etc.

She always took a full part in the life of the school, organising exchange visits and trips to France and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme activities, singing in choirs and operatic productions and helping backstage at school plays. She endeared herself to colleagues by masterminding social activities and made herself responsible for clearing up the staff room afterwards and regularly washed up the coffee mugs left by other members of staff. Pam loved France and all things French, and many of her friends spent interesting holidays in her "hovel" in France, rats and all!

On retirement Pam returned to live full-time in Thurlestone where her boundless energy was channelled into the life of the village. As a governor of All Saints' School for 10 years, she served as Chairman for over 6 years, accompanied groups on residential courses and was in school for several days a week helping out where needed.

Pam could not abide poor grammar, spelling, or punctuation. The misuse of apostrophes appalled her! It was with fear and trepidation that you passed on any printed word to her. No-one dared use "!!" then!

As a member of the W1 since her retirement she had

served as Secretary and Treasurer and she was currently President. She had also been Secretary of the Sea Coast Group of WIs. She delivered Mealson-Wheels on a regular basis and was on the Production Team of Village Voice.

An ever-present member of TRAMP, Pam was no stranger to mud and rain and could always be counted on to finish up others' left-overs at lunch! She often missed Wednesday Bible Studies because she was "rambling"!

Pam had had an enduring love of singing and music since her school days and had sung in numerous choirs including the Britannia Choral Society, Choir '86, and the Devon Choir. At the time of her death she was a member of the Dodbrooke Consort, the Alvington Singers (of which she was Treasurer), and of course the Church choir.

Her work for the Church was unending. She was PCC Secretary, a co-founder of Coffee-Time, one of the Cream Tea Team, a chorister, printed and helped to collate *The Rock*, baked bread, had the responsibility for cleaning the choir stalls in church ...Pam would offer help wherever it was needed.

Pam's motto throughout her life was "waste not, want not". She was famous for her scraper, getting every last drop of cream, jam, chutney, salad cream, etc., from the disposable plastic pots so that she could wash them and use them again! She even reused cling-film. We shall always feel guilty for throwing something away that could perhaps have been used somewhere. Many were the recipients of sea spinach collected from the cliffs and life will not be the same without our regular supply of soup left over from Overbecks, where Pam was a volunteer. Another enduring memory of Pam is of her scurrying down the village street on some errand or other.

She had an unusual and memorable influence over all who knew her. She was unstinting of her time and tireless in her care of others, and she will be remembered for her many unconscious and unending kindnesses. She was far more generous to others than she was to herself.

At the end of your amazing life Christian life, Pam, have a good rest. We shall miss you more than we can say.

## december

### is the month of Christmas

Extracts from "Keep Faith with the Soil", Hubert Snowdon's latest book on his life as a farmer in Thurlestone prior to the Second World War:

"December is the month of Christmas, the greatest Christian festival celebrating the birth of Christ - traditionally for twelve days. No matter who nor where, as these days approach the excitement grows, and faster become the preparations regardless of the extra work to normal, so the enjoyment shall not be impeded.

The first Wednesday of December is the special Kingsbridge market Christmas Fatstock Show, one of several round the district held on their own dates. It is a popular and keen competition for top honours of live and dead stock on exhibition in prime condition; world class, with your own local breeds. Dressed poultry was also of great interest this time of year. At the sale afterwards, butchers enhanced their prestige by buying stock to kill and display in their shop with the cards awarded to winners.

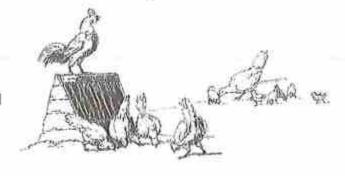
There was a problem with mild weather leading up to Christmas before refrigerators. Poultry to kill, pluck and dress for Christmas dinners gave us only a few days to present them before they turned green. One mad rush, with us up half the night. Dairy produce, especially cream and butter, was also a problem. In cold weather goods would keep for a fortnight.

The stocking up of supplies for the holiday and shopping was difficult on the farm, in that the biggest stocking was to have all the animal requirements in place. For ourselves, it was mostly home-produced vegetables, apples, preserves, pork, poultry (not turkey) eggs, dairy produce, firewood, holly, a Christmas tree, cider and ham.

Presents given were mostly from the same produce we enjoyed, few were bought. Essentials purchased were groceries, coal, imported fruit and a few luxuries. We ate richly and wholesomely, but seldom took alcohol - except cider with meals, if required. Over-indulgence spoils any party. Intoxication is not enjoyment but a poor substitute for it.

From experience I found that one week either side of the start of December produced a very cold snap, often with snow showers. Then it turns milder again until Christmas or after. January will certainly produce some real winter. Dreaming of a white Christmas? Would you with a milk round to do, horses to tend, a herd of cows to milk, feed, bed and muck out twice a day, a shed full of fattening bullocks, calves and pigs and poultry all to look after? Also hired hands who want as much time off as possible?

Our holiday party started after midday until 4 pm, and continued from 8 pm until midnight. Probably far less for the womenfolk indoors. Boxing Day was easier and other parties followed until the 6<sup>th</sup> January. Those 1930s parties were the most exciting and enjoyable as any I remember, with our families and teen-aged friends......"





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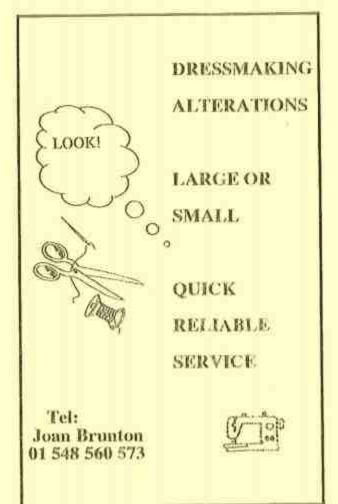
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## NEWS FROM THE WI



#### October Meeting

There was great shock and sadness when the death of Pam Brewster, our President, was announced. Vice-President Val Brown took the meeting and the fifty members present sang 'Jerusalem' in remembrance of a much-loved friend who will be missed by so many people. Pam Wigfall from Stoke Gabriel spoke about "Spicing up your dishes" and showed useful and unusual ways of using spices, familiar and unfamiliar, to enhance the taste of many foods.

#### **November Meeting**

Again, a very good turn-out of members, which is not usual for annual meetings! Jean Dorey and Merriel Connell, WI county advisers, conducted the ballot for President. Dorothy Candy was the popular choice and duly elected to office. Tribute was paid to the outgoing Secretary, Jo Parkin, and Treasurer Rosemary Durant and other committee members who were standing down. Jean Yeoman, Jan Trender, Judith Reynolds, Joan Lane, Judith LeGrice, Pam Knight, Rosemary Durant, and Pat Crawford will form the new committee. Val Brown was also thanked for standing in as President during this sad time.

#### General News

Dorothy Candy was our delegate to the large county meeting at Exeter University and made a good report of the day. Hilda Clarke, via Anne Grose, sent her thanks for the flowers given whilst she has been in hospital. Old pre-decimal coinage and the European money which will be out-of-date with the coming of the Euro is still needed for Little Bridge House, the children's hospice in North Devon.

#### Christmas Lunch

If you have not got your name down for the Christmas Lunch on Friday 7th December, but want to go, get in touch with Dorothy Candy as soon as possible, as the event is not open to members who have not booked and paid in advance! 2002 programmes will be available.

#### **Area Christmas Coffee Morning**

On Thursday 6th December, the Home Economics Area will be holding an interesting mince-pie coffee morning. It will also be an opportunity to enjoy seeing a number of Christmas crafts being demonstrated - the making of decorative Christmas door-wreaths, bell pulls and tassels, small gifts, the use of Christmas fabries, and eard making. Our own Joan Booth and Pat Clarke will be doing some of the demonstrating, so don't miss it! It's at Charleton village hall, from 10.30 am to noon.

#### Sea Coast Group Carol Service

One week later, on Friday 14th December,
Thurlestone will be hostess at the Sea Coast Carol
Service in the afternoon at All Saints, when
we will be joined by members from Salcombe,
West Alvington, and South Milton WIs.
Tea and mince-pies will be served to all guests
in the Parish Hall following the service.

#### Resolutions

Wednesday January 16th, at Charleton village hall, is the day we will be discussing locally the short list of WI resolutions, coming from all corners of England and Wales, which concern us as members of a national organisation. The three or four eventually chosen nationally will be debated at the huge general meeting at Brighton in June. Should they then become mandates the National Federation will act upon them on our behalf, lobbying Government departments and other statutory bodies, continuing to campaign on all matters affecting women and their families that is at the heart of the WI organisation. Do come along and add your views!

#### First Meeting of 2002

Dorothy and the Committee look forward to seeing you at the meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January, when the title of Alison Atkinson's talk will be "Bear to be Fitted".

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## CAN WE REALLY JUSTIFY SPENDING SOME £250,000 ON PARISH AMENITIES?

#### CITIZEN

takes a look at plans for both the proposed 'Church Hall' and the new Parish Hall, and then asks:

As many readers will be already aware, the Parish Hall Committee, after consultation with all interested groups, have made numerous changes to the original plans for the new Parish Hall so as to fit in as near as possible with the identified needs of the parish. A planning application has now been sent to the South Hams District Council.

The proposed hall (plans available in the present hall lobby) will consist of a main hall large enough for large meetings and sports events such as bowls; a stage; a smaller room with a separate entrance for meetings of up to approximately thirty people, such as Parish Council meetings or committee meetings, or for use as a Youth Club (should one form); a kitchen, loos and so on. It is a permutation that should meet most requirements from a small private party or meeting to a Grand Christmas Gala performance (well, one can dream!).

WHY SHOULD THIS BE DUPLICATED?

Or that is how it seemed to those attending the excellent presentation in the church on the 4th October, held to hear details of a proposed Church Hall.

Many present had learnt, back in July at a Parish Council Meeting, about the proposed new Church Hall - brief details, position, and intended use. Most of the uses mentioned, both then and at the church meeting were the same - lunches, coffee mornings, PCC meetings, other church meetings, and cream teas in the summer. All of these could be well

catered for in the new Parish Hall. The only facility which the parish Hall couldn't satisfy would be that of an office for the Rector - particularly as and when he takes on the responsibility for other neighbouring parishes.

Perhaps it was a lack of foresight by Exeter Diocese, but I well remember a few years back that a group from Exeter attended one of our Parish Council meetings to justify the sale of the Rectory, a very sore point at the time. The Rectory at that time did not come up to the "Blue Book" standards, we were told, and it would be uneconomical to bring it up to the modern requirements.

But the new one, to be built on adjoining land, would not only provide comfortable and modern accommodation for a new Rector and his family, it would also have a separate entrance to an office for those wishing to see the Rector privately. This office, we presumed, would be large enough to meet any demands in the foreseeable future. I am unaware of how this was incorporated into the new Parsonage in the end, but no doubt others who have been into the office can confirm its size. Surely the six-figure cost quoted to duplicate an already planned Parish Hall cannot be justified, even for the sake of convenience. This was the impression left at the end of the presentation.

However, it wasn't only this that brought close on 70 parishioners to the meeting. One concern was the apparent loss of burial plots. In this respect the Rector was able to assure those present that an area had been identified which would allow previously-used plots to be re-used provided sufficient time had elapsed. In this case the 100 year gap was considered acceptable and would provide space for 100 more burials.

An equally important matter was the positioning of the proposed development right next to the most recent, and still current, burial plots. A grave-side is a place for quiet meditation and prayer for the families and friends of those recently departed. The thought of only a fence or hedge separating those visiting the last resting place of their loved ones from the noise of children playing during the cream-tea season and other noises associated with the proposed use, was too much for some of those present and they found the answers far from satisfactory.

No one would say where the money to fund the development was coming from, nor how the running costs were to be met. If parishioners were in part expected to contribute then they would have to decide between Parish Hall and Church Hall, not an ideal situation in a parish as small as ours, as it would in a sense be asking people to take sides. The splitting of people's generosity could result in a dilution of gifts to both projects and perhaps result in neither scheme being viable.

It is hoped that the concerns expressed by many of those present at the meeting, and subsequently by those unable to attend, will result in closer liaison between the two committees, with a greater use being made of the new Parish Hall's facilities - and of course the considerable saving in money, some of which may well become available for more deserving causes.

WE ARE ONE PARISH. LET US KEEP IT THAT WAY AND THINK AGAIN BEFORE THE PARISH BECOMES DIVIDED.

Citizen

## music and drama

A very Christmas

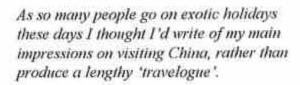
On Saturday night, 3rd November, the Thurlestone Parish Hall was filled to capacity with an appreciative audience for the concert and supper provided by the **Keep Fit Group**, in aid of the new Parish Hall fund. Masterminded by **Brenda Marshall** (compere) and **Liz Worrall**, with help from the members of the Group, an inviting scene of soft lights, beautiful plants and background piano music (**Kit Marshall**) greeted the lucky ticket holders as they arrived.

Charles Westlake, John Montague and the Stanborough Chorus, accompanied by Rosemary Cole, opened the bill. Judith Reynolds (violin), Ben Howie (clarinet), Anna Sullivan (recorder), and Caroline Shergold (soprano), all performed solos. Alistair Durden and Robin Brett played piano duets - Alistair also accompanied most of the artistes. To round off, John and Jo Sterry, joined by Ben Howie, formed a jazz trio. Val Brown and Jeanne Barton slotted several very humorous comic sketches in between the musical items, while Rowland Cole (Hall Chairman) and John Crawford ran the bar.

A wonderful sparkling evening was had by all, and the performers, and audience, were warmly thanked by Brenda. £656 resulted, which has delighted the organisers, helpers and artistes - and of course the Hall committee. Reckon it was brilliant what they did! The one (and only) disappointment was that the Keep Fit ladies were all far too busy to give us a demo. Next time perhaps?

## SNAPSHOTS OF CHINA

By Rosemary Mackay



My first day consisted of a one-hour journey to Heathrow, three hours embarkation, ten hours flight, two hours through airport and coach to hotel, half an hour booking in, oneand-a-half hours on the coach to the summer palace, into dragon boat, across lake and a one-and-a-half mile return stroll with a oneand-a half hour coach journey back for dinner. That makes about 24 hours and very little sleep on the aircraft. Not being used to sleeping pills I chewed mine and paralyzed my tongue - but not my mind!

Tiananmen Square had beautiful banks of flowers being built up to celebrate 40 years of China's present foundation, and many eagles flying overhead, high in the sky - attached to pieces of string. I hoped to bring one back to confuse Harry Huggins as they looked so real. A long queue of people waited three hours to get into Mau's mausoleum for a three minute viewing.

There were single children everywhere, led by proud parents. The method of controlling the population is: full and generous allowances for education, health and pensions, income tax relief and so on for the first child; nothing for a second child; and everything is taken away for having a third. I expect it works, except for the very wealthy, of whom there are now quite a few! Dogs are an exception and I wasn't aware I ate any, but I ate snake, thinking it was noodles as they cut them in strips.

The Great Wall? My cousin-in-law and I looked at each other and said "Yes, all the

way". There was a round of applause in the coach afterwards for the two green ladies who went all the way to the top. My main fear was of missing a step coming down, as they were all of different heights and levels.

The Yangtze Dam. A truly enormous undertaking to produce electricity for a huge area. Environmentalists would have ten thousand fits and you should just see the pollution caused by coal-burning everywhere. It takes one back to the dark satanic mills of vesteryear in places like Sheffield and Glasgow. The level of the river is to be raised up to 145 metres, which should also help with its continual flooding. For instance, cities the size of Plymouth would be moved as far as, say, Tavistock. I believe well over one million people are to be moved in this way. Some are looking forward to having bathrooms and modern amenities.

Our guide for the Terracotta Warriers was a local university lecturer who was taking a year off to perfect his English. His father had been a doctor who had been "sent to the country" which, if you have read 'Wild Swans', you will understand is where the intelligentsia were sent. Our guide had suffered starvation as a child but he won through to reach his university status. He felt Mau's achievements were a 50/50 success.

Shopping I didn't enjoy. Sometimes it was like walking through a picket line. Seeing my fellow travellers buying up this and that I felt many jumble sales would later benefit from a lot of useless souvenirs! It was frustrating not to be able to understand one word or to be able to read anything. I only recognised one character as it was called Red Dragon in the game of mah-jong I played as a child. But it was a very action-packed holiday.

## TIMBER-JACK

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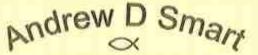
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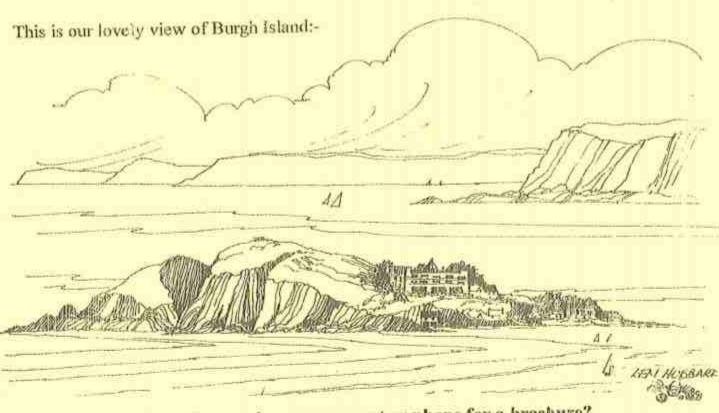
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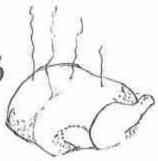
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## CHRISTMAS CREETINGS FROM DOWN UNDER



Christmas greetings to all our friends in Thurlestone, Bantham, and Buckland from David and Diana Smeeton 'down under'.

We remember so many that we hope you do not mind this 'round robin' Christmas card letter. Time passes. Already a year since we came to WA. Much has happened. Creating a new garden (Diana said she would not do it again, but she has!), renewing relations with our daughter and son in law, and persuading them that we are capable of coping with Australia. Our grand children have decided our home is a fun place to visit. Joanna, now six, enjoys riding lessons nearby, while Matthew loves the old-days steam trains that run through the local countryside like the South Devon Railway. On our canal lake off the River Murray there is our canoe, and a jetty with a motor boat moored alongside.

Back in July we discovered just how large this island continent really is! We went on holiday to the Whit-Sunday Islands off Queensland. It is a popular place for sailing, and snorkelling near the Barrier Reef. A quick flight on a plane? Not likely! It took twelve hours and two stops en route to get there. But six days sailing on a square rigged ketch made it worthwhile.

Since we last wrote to Village Voice we have experienced proper weather, i.e., reasonable temperatures, some rain and and the odd gale, but nothing like the West of England gets. Surprise, suprise, the grass turned green, and real clouds appeared in the sky. We spent the 'winter' in light jerseys. The Australians wrapped themselves up as if it was about to snow. What is alarming is the major variation in temperatures as the summer approaches. They go right down at night and then surge up high in the day. We were told it was not a typical winter. Certainly we did not get as

much rain as we expected. As a result the reservoirs are very low, and there are water restrictions. That means you can only turn on the automatic watering system twice a week on designated days. How that saves water, when people can run water for as long as they like, if they wish, and still use the hose on non-reticulation days, we do not know.

As we write we are entering the third season. There are only three. Autumn, Spring and 'Horrendous'. From now on it is 'get to the golf course by 7.30 am, or die of sunstroke from mid-day onwards'. It is still officially spring, but the mid-day temps have soared into the 80's, and the fields have turned golden, and are full of bales of cut hay. Many wheat farmers inland have had a bad winter with too little rain. Some are selling up. One farming family is moving in next door to start a new life near the sea.

Nipper, the Elizabethan sea-dog, is still full of life. He walks our local area as if he has owned the place for all of his eleven years, and once a week goes wild running the waves, as he did at Leas Foot, and joining us in the Indian Ocean when we go swimming. Back in Thurlestone Nipper never minded going out in the rain, but here when it does rain he goes and hides in the corner.

Visitors have started coming through. Friends from Hampshire and Surrey, and recently two more from Trusham in Devon. We await more of you eager to go boating on the river. For those of you who might be contemplating a visit be advised we shall be away from W.A. from the end of January until mid March visiting New Zealand. In any case that is the hottest time, and why we are going away to cooler climes.

What do we miss from Devon? This is a

question the Australians ask. Well they do not know how to make a pasty, or clotted cream, and when you do find a pub with 'proper' beer it's too cold. We also miss hedges, especially the Devon bank variety, lanes and footpaths. Hardly any of those here since it is only two hundred years since the modern Australia was founded and they have not had enough time to reel around the landscape. We miss too mossy banks - here it is mostly sand - and water gurgling down moorland streams through Dartmoor woodlands. There are hardly any hills in W.A. and too many mile after mile straight roads. We also miss BBC Radio 4, and our Sunday newspapers.

Hopefully we are in touch with what is going on in the UK and Devon. We can call up Radio Devon and Spotlight on the Internet, and we are delighted that so many of you have continued to write to us. We may even persuade more of you to go on e-mail. For those who do not have our e-mail contact address it is:

d.smeeton@westnet.com.au

Have a marvellous Christmas. Here's wishing all in Devon, whether on the farm, by the sea, hoping for visitors, and enduring the current economic pressures, that the coming year will be less stressful. As you snuggle around the winter Christmas hearth with the gale blowing the spray right over Thurlestone Rock you can congratulate yourselves that you do not have to endure hot turkey in 90 to 100 degrees on a baking beach!

All the best.

David and Diana Smeeton

#### KINGSBRIDGE'S GOOKWORTHY MUSEUM CAN HELP YOU IDENTIFY YOUR 'FINDS'!

Jane Marley, Cookworthy Curator, says that every year members of the public come across archaeological 'finds', very few of which are recorded by museums or archaeologists. This alas means that a great deal of potentially important information is lost.

She goes on to say "We have created a local museum database of information, with assistance from Gary Saunders, a student of archaeology at Exeter University, other archaeologists and volunteers. This service will provide residents in the South Hams with the possibility of identifying their finds at four 'surgeries' per year. The next surgery will be held at Cookworthy Museum on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2002, between 4.00 pm and 7.00 pm.

Gary will identify and record people's finds and provide them with a description of type, age and use of the find. In some cases recording may consist of the use of drawing and photography, with the permission of the finder. As a museum we are unable to provide a valuation, but we can provide a copy of the information recorded and basic advice about the conservation and storage of finds.

The aim of the scheme is to make as much of the information available as possible whilst protecting site and personal details. Information will be kept on the museum database and regularly forwarded to the Portable Antiquities Scheme at the British Museum where the information is on the Internet at <a href="https://www.finds.org.uk">www.finds.org.uk</a>

Summaries of the information will also be sent to the Devon Site & Monuments Record. Finders have already come forward and Gary and volunteers already have thousands of provenanced finds from Kingsbridge and the South Hams to record."

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## FISHY BUSINESS

Gill Goddard of Bantham recently had a letter from her 79 year old cousin, David Martin, which she thinks our readers might be interested, and amused, to know about, particularly those whose connections with the parish go back over many years. Here is an extract.

"What you said about fishing at Bantham brought back many happy memories for me. I never caught bass out at sea, but I caught a lot of them in the estuary.

It was only worth fishing for them in the autumn, just about now in fact, when they come inshore to spawn [October]. I would anchor my boat, the old 'Moorhen', at low tide, just a little up from Ham Cottage, on the sandbank side away from the cliff of the Ham, and would wait for the tide to start running in, when I would let two hand-lines out, baited with sand eels. I stuck two garden canes into the rowlock holes of the boat and sat back to await developments . which took the form of the canes starting to vibrate when a bass was hooked.

That could be very successful and profitable for a lad, because I used to sell the fish around the village - until my mother found what I was doing. "Fancy you, in your position, selling fish to the tenants", she stormed. But I didn't want to lose the income, so I appointed an 'agent', that dear but drunken Henry Sherriff. He would take my fish and he would flog it in Thurlestone from house-to-house, then we would meet to split the proceeds - and mother had no idea what we were doing.

We developed a nice line in rabbits as well. I had ferrets and we would go to work on the burrows on the Ham with nets, and later I had a gun. Henry was a dear old chap when

he was sober but one day I met him on the quay when he was drunk; he was fighting-mad and threatened to throw me in the river. I was a bit cautious of him after that.

We had another profitable line in pollack. Henry was immensely strong and he would row us out to sea in the 'Moorhen', then row slowly up and down near the Longstone, while I trailed a couple of hand-lines over the stern. This could only be done on a very calm day but we used to get a lot of pollack in the boat. When we had finished, I would put Henry ashore at Thurlestone with the fish, which he would flog door-to-door."

[Gill comments "It must be stressed that fishing from a boat is no longer allowed - although he did say it was anchored on the sand bank. Far too many people fish from there now so hand-lines are not a good idea. I still have the wooden name-plate of the Moorhen". She goes on to give a few details of cousin David and his mother.]

"He was actually born in the Sloop Inn, and his mother, Mrs Martin (my aunt), who lived in Pilchard Cellars, was a great horsewoman and used to keep her horses behind the Sloop in the old barns. She was the middle daughter of three of Commander Evans, who was my grandfather and, like myself, a long-time resident of Bantham.

Sadly she sold her house after World War Two and moved away. David now lives in Wales but is still a director of Evans Estates, and, as you can see from his letter, has a great fondness for Bantham."

## PUZZLE

PAGE

#### by Keith Farrelly

#### NINE - LETTER WORD - SEARCH

The answers to the clues can be made up by combining three sets of three letters from the grid. When complete, three sets of three letters should remain. Combine these letters to find another 9 - letter word.

- 1. Inflammation of a joint
- 2. Double dealing
- 3. Old American music hall
- 4. Royalty went yachting
- 5. Anti-inflammatory agent
- 6. Vital to make concrete
- 7. Flesh-eating animal
- 8. Washington never told one?
- 9. The nurse will give you this
- 10, UFO?
- 11. You'll need your umbrella
- 12. Historic monument in Athens
- 13. They're into the pop scene
- 14. Must be good at shorthand
- Light & friable when baked
   Outstanding Scottish scenery
- 17. Diving seabird
- 18. All right on the night?
- 19. Pottery county?
- 20. You won't get away from this!
- 21. ???

DUP	HIP	TRE	TIS	OPO	SEH	ATE
AKE	BUR	NST	COR	CAR	HIG	COR
FAL	EAR	SHO	ART	SEC	ATM	LIC
ARY	LES	NAG	REH	ERG	RAI	BRI
NDS	NIV	ADV	REG	MOR	HRI	ACR
TAN	TIS	HLA	URE	RTC	SPA	OOD
ERS	ONE	LUE	LIS	SUP	TEE	QUE
ORM	CES	RET	ENT	TER	ITY	SAL
ENT	AGG	ANT	NIA	WOR	CES	ORE

#### TEN TEASERS

- What is the largest port in the world?
- 6. How many Enigma variations did Elgar compose?
- What is the Old Man of Hoy?
- Who wrote "Jane Eyre"?
- Apiphobia is the fear of ......?
- Who wrote Gulliver's Travels?
- 4. What is the longest river in the world?
- What in the media is abbreviated to PCC?
- Of which American state was Bill Clinton the governor?
- 10. Which film depicted the 1924 Olympic Games?

#### CHRISTMAS QUIZ



#### Sent in by Geoff Wilkinson

Each clue will use a number followed by initial letters only and you have to decipher what they stand for: e.g. 24 = H in a D Answer: 24 hours in a day. Or 8 = L on a S Answer: 8 legs on a spider - and so on. The answers will be given in the next issue of Village Voice.

Question Number	Clue	Question Number	Clue
1	1 = AN  of  H	36,	12 = T of I
2	1.761 = P  to a L	37,	12 = D of C
3.	2 = C in BR (P to M).	38.	12 = S of the Z
4.	2.54 = C in an I	39.	13 = BD
5.	3 = M in a L	40.	13 = LM
6.	3 = BM	41.	14 = P  in a S
7.	3 = H  in a TPBB	42.	14 = L in a S
8.	3 = C in an F	43.	16 = P in a CS
9.	3 = M in a B	44.	16 = O in a P
10.	4 = I in a H	45.	16 = B in a B
11.	4 = S in a P of PC	46.	17 = of M is SPD
12.	5 = R on the OF	47.	18 = H on a GC
13.	5 = GR	48,	20 = Q in a R
14.	6 = W on T the TE	49.	21 = GS
15.	6 = B in a O	- 50.	21 = S on a D
16.	7 = D in a W	51.	22 = Y in a C
17.	7 = B in the N	52.	22 = B on a ST
18.	7 = W of the AW	53.	22 = L of a CP in Y
19.	7 = B for $SB$	54.	24 = L in the GA
20.	7 = DS	55.	24 = B B in a P
21.	7 = P in a NT	56.	25 = SWA
22.	8 = EKNH	57.	25 = C in a Q
23.	8 = SR  of  SF	58.	27 = B in the NT
24.	8 = C in a B	59.	28 = D in F in a LY
25.	8 = C in a G of P	60.	26 = L in the A
26.	8 = T on an O	61.	26 = I in a Y
27.	9 = G in a F	62.	39 = B in the OT
28.	9 = a SG on the BS	63,	39 = S by JB
29.	9=LofaC	64.	40 = RWA
30.	10 = P in TPB	65.	50 = L in RN
31.	10 = P for Z in a G of S	66.	46 = HC
32.	10 = T on a S	67.	49 = N of B in the NL
33.	10 = GBH on the W	68.	50 = P to G out of J in M
34.	12 = OP in a S	69.	50 = FS in the US
35.	12 = I in a F	70.	50 = W to LYL by PS

#### BOOKSHELF

#### Miss Garnett's Angel

by Sally Vickers (Harper Collins paperback £6.99)

This novel has come to prominence through the success of Sally Vickers' second book, Instances of No.3, which I read, but did not review as it was far too complex for me. Of the two, I much prefer Miss Garnett's Angel.

It is a very profound and moving book which I could not put down. In the blurb, Penelope Fitzgerald describes it as "subtle, unexpected and haunting", while John Julius Norwich calls it "deeply moving, thought-provoking and fascinating".

It is the tale of a London teacher who, after her retirement and the death of a close friend, decides on the spur of the moment to go to Venice for six months. She falls in love with Venice and the book describes the intriguing adventures which befall her whilst exploring the wonderful buildings and art treasures of the city, in particular the painting of the Angel Raphael.

Interwoven with her story is the tale of Tobias, son of Tobit of the Apocrypha who, with Azarius, makes a long journey on behalf of his father to collect a long-standing debt. Unexpectedly he returns with a wife, and this episode itself is an amazing story. Azarius eventually turns out to have been the Angel Raphael. It is a most alluring novel and must be read probably twice really to understand it. Please read it!



VILLAGE VOICE

#### Marrying the Mistress

by Joanna Trollope (Black Swan paperback £6.99)

Guy Stockdale, a sixty-two year old judge, has had a secret mistress for the past seven years. She is Merrion, a young barrister half his age. They enjoy a clandestine but blissfully uncomplicated relationship in their stolen moments, but when he eventually decides that he wants to marry the girl, the awful truth has to come out.

The story revolves round the effects of the disclosure of his indiscretions; not only on his wife, his two sons and grandchildren, but also on his future mother-in-law, as well as on Guy himself and his mistress.

Never moving far from home, the author has not lost her great skill for detailed observation of human behaviour. She weaves the many strands of her latest story to spin a cohesive and very readable tale. This is yet another "vintage" Joanna Trollope!

PM

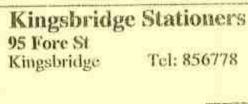
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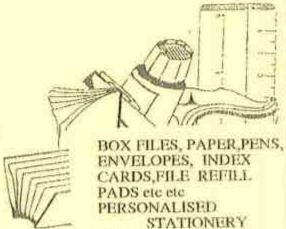
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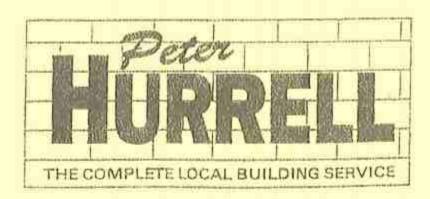
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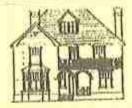
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#### IN YOUR CARDEN

It used to be that Christmas Eve was the date on which to bring evergreens indoors for the ritual of Christmas decoration.

It was thought to be unlucky if done before that date but we do not seem to be quite so superstitious nowadays. The idea of decorating one's house is said to be a hangover from pagan times, when evergreens symbolised nature's ongoing fruitfulness, with mistletoe in particular representing male fertility. This led to the custom of a man being able to demand a kiss from any girl he fancied so long as he held a sprig over her head!

Queen Victoria's husband, The Prince Consort, is credited with having introduced the Christmas tree to Britain but, before that, kissing boughs were all the rage - hanging circles of evergreens decorated with ribbons and small presents. They are an easily-made, and pretty, decoration even today.

Holly seems to have berried quite well this year, and if you have your eye on any, in your (or your friends') garden, and you want to beat the birds to it, it will last quite well (split the ends) for several weeks in a deep bucket of water which stands in a cool place under cover, where feathered friends can't get at it.

Most hollies tend to be rather big for a small or even an average sized garden and so, as well as the large Silver Queen and Golden King which I grow for their lovely variegated foliage, I also grow two very attractive miniature hollies, both hardy American hybrids, planted in 1996. "Blue Angel" is a standard with leaves that take on a blue-ish tinge in winter. At the moment it is an attractive 'lollipop' about 3 ft. high and I am hoping it will reach 6ft. The second, named "Alaska", is bigger, with a dainty conical shape, dark glossy leaves and brilliant red berries. Both of these have scaled down

heaves and berries and are compact and neat of habit. ("Alaska" is supposed to have white-edged leaves, but I am content that mine has no signs of this yet! It is about 5ft. now). There are a number of the smaller varieties on the market.

With the first frosts my dahlias and busylizzies collapsed but the geraniums were not affected. Despite the high winds there are still plenty of leaves to come down. Try to keep on top of them and rake the lawn clear of them from time to time. If you are short of compost, put them in bin bags (dampen them if they are dry), tie up the tops and then push a garden fork through the side of the bags to provide some air and drainage holes. Hide them in a corner of the garden and then in about 18 months you will have some lovely sweet-smelling leaf-mould.

Brush over, to scatter, those mysterious little heaps of soil, worm-casts, that appear on the grass at this time of year, but if possible keep off your lawn when the weather is frosty or you could end up with nasty brown patches where you have walked.

Now is the time to treasure those nice obliging bits and pieces in your garden that come into bloom in the depths of winter - the winter iris, the yellow winter-flowering jasmine, heathers, hellebores, laurustinus, witch hazel, sweet viburnums. If you haven't got them I do urge you to find a corner for some of them. It's amazing what pleasure they bring. But for me, it is always "roll on spring and the bulbs". My favourites - snowdrops - are already nosing through in a sheltered spot.

May 2002 bring you much happiness and pleasure in your garden!

Ladybird





CHRISTMAS CHESTNUTS

Many of the chestnuts we find in the shops in this country are harvested in France in the autumn, so perhaps it is no surprise that they have become a part of the traditional Christmas menu. They come in all shapes and forms these days, fresh for roasting in the fire, or for cooking - if you can be bothered to peel them. In tins, they come whole or as a puree, with or without sweetening. Whole chestnuts are served with sprouts, or the puree helps to make a stuffing for the turkey. Pile up the sweetened variety with sponge cake and cream and - hey prestol - you have "marrons Mont Blanc". Probably the simplest recipe adds apples, celery, onions, and stock to a tin of puree to make a delicious soup.

Below is a more complicated recipe which is worth every minute of the making and would be an excellent end to a meal over Christmas or to use up that last tin of chestnut puree over the New Year.

#### CHESTNUT CHARLOTTE

A large packet of sponge fingers A 500g, tin of sweetened chestnut puree

3 ounces of unsalted butter

5 tablespoonfuls of rum

24 lumps of sugar

2 heaped tablespoonfuls of sugar

3 tablespoonfuls of water

1/2 pint of double cream

Use a one-and-a-half pint deep cake tin with a loose base. Cut one end off each biscuit to make it the same height as the tin. Dissolve the sugar lumps in one tablespoon of the water and boil until golden. Dip the long side of each biscuit into this caramel and stick them ( cut side uppermost and sugar side out ) all the way round the inside of the tin. Arrange the cut-off ends all over the base of the tin, sugar side out, using some of the remaining caramel to hold them in place.

Soften the butter, beat in the puree with three tablespoonfuls of rum and pour this into the tin. It should half-fill it. Next, boil the remaining rum and water with the two tablespoonfuls of sugar to make a syrup and pour a little over the ends of the biscuits. Mix the rest with any remaining caramel, over heat if necessary, and add it to the whipped cream. Fill the tin with this mixture, leaving some for decoration, cover it, and put it in the fridge overnight. Then turn it out and spread the remaining cream over the top.

#### CHRISTMAS TIP

Lots of people like to burn decorative candles at Christmas. If you want them to burn more slowly, and evenly, and without having 'tears' of wax running down the sides, put them in the freezer for three hours before lighting.

Have a very happy Christmas. But don't burn those candles at both ends!



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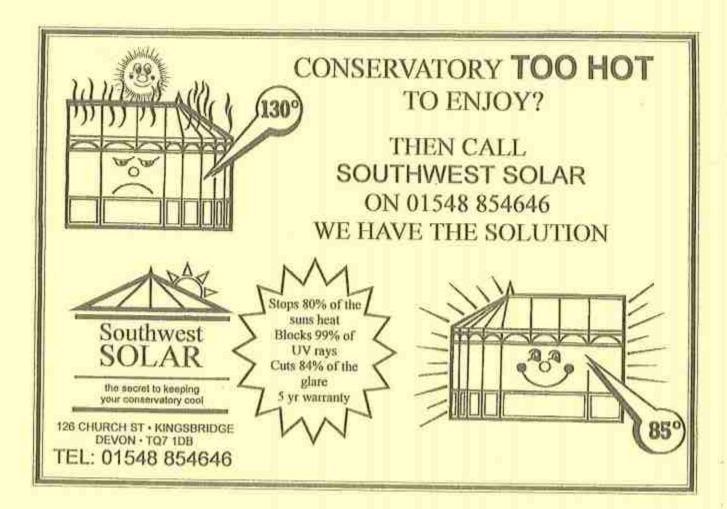
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#### HORSWELL DIARY

It is hard for us to comprehend the scale and effect of the destruction of New York, and the speed with which the after-shocks rippled out across the world to shake the familiar infrastructure of our lives and threaten our sense of security.

At a stroke the terrorists have upped the stakes to unimaginable heights, going for broke in their bid to win this deadliest of games. We, their opponents, gasp in horror at their daring while our leaders evaluate the hand they've been dealt, shuffling and re-shuffling events to ensure a commensurate response. Even our most experienced and hardened players must tremble as they play their cards and gamble with our lives.

In the wake of September 11th it was tempting to stay at home, in close contact with friends and loved ones, seeking reassurance that life, as we know it, had not been changed forever. But life, miraculously, goes on, outwardly much the same as before although, I suspect, more thoughtfully and with more awareness and appreciation of the fragile world around us. And so, despite a natural instinct to stay away, we again settled into our familiar groove on the motorway and headed to London, to keep appointments planned before that dreadful day when the whole world stood still.

Before lunch in the Butchers Hall, we attended a Harvest Festival service in the church of St Bartholomew the Great in the heart of Smithfield. It was at this ceremony that the Princess Royal was installed as the new Master of the Worshipful Company of Farmers. During her year in office she will

provide a high profile for our struggling agricultural industry, speaking out forcefully on the many issues that concern us.

At a later Harvest Thanksgiving service in St.Martin's in the Fields, our boisterous rendition of "We plough the fields and scatter" seemed strangely like a lament for a lost of way of life, and totally incongruous as we stepped out into the swirling traffic of Trafalgar Square. Black taxi-cabs and double-decker buses seemed about as far removed from ploughed fields as Mrs Beckett and her colleagues at DEFRA are from understanding the plight of those working in the countryside.

In golden sunshine we walked along the South Embankment, past the London Eye, the Festival Hall and the wobbly Millennium Footbridge to the Tate Modern at Bankside for their Surrealist Exhibition. The much-vaunted architecture of the great Turbine Hall (empty) and the claustrophobic exhibition galleries (packed) failed to inspire us, but the views overlooking the river are superb.

From these we walked to the Globe
Theatre and on to Southwark Cathedral,
where we sat peacefully with sunlight
streaming through the tall windows.
Prayers are said from the pulpit on the
hour, every hour, a heartwarming
reminder that this is not a tourist
attraction but a place of worship. By
now a little footsore, we taxied back
to the Royal Academy for lunch and
an exhibition of "Rembrandt's Ladies".
Thankfully their anatomy was less
alarming than that of the ladies depicted
at the Tate!

We saw two plays which underlined man's hypocrisy, the lengths to which he will go in his search for power and fame. One, 'Feelgood' at the Garrick, pokes fun at the government's spin-doctoring whilst exposing its sinister manipulation of undesirable facts. The other, 'Mahler's Conversion' shows how Mahler denies his Jewish ancestry and converts to Catholicism in order to be accepted to conduct the Vienna State Orchestra. Unlike the politicians in 'Feelgood' who showed not the slightest remorse for their actions. Anthony Sher as Mahler conveys the inner turmoil of a man of conscience haunted by the denial of his true faith.

The State Rooms at Buckingham Palace, where we were invited to a cocktail party, provide an impressive cohesion of art and architecture. At night, softened by a candlelight glow, colours and gilding that might appear garish by day are subdued into an awesome opulence.

Looking radiant in teal-blue silk, the Princes Royal welcomes us to her home. Appearing relaxed and friendly she speaks to each of us in turn, remembering our names and interests with professional ease. I savour the moment, the burr of conversation, the liveried footmen, the tapestries and paintings that hang on silk-covered walls, the ceilings exquisitely moulded and encrusted with gold leaf, the charm of our hostess.

I shudder to think that in a different life I could be living in the dust bowl that is Afghanistan, without rights, without respect, without food. Living a life so harsh, to devoid of expression and joy that one's spirit would be crushed almost to extinction.

Dogs and ducks and peafowl are there to greet us as we return to Horswell.

Mmm! How sweet that salt-laden air tastes as we ease our aching limbs out of the car and stretch away the tensions of a tedious journey. The house, bathed in autumn sunshine, seems strangely quiet. Then we realise the decorators have finished and the scaffolding has gone. Suddenly it's good to be home.

The fireworks this year made us feel uneasy. Not just because Bertie, our gun-shy Briard, trembles and shivers, yelping with fright until we let him share our bed and hug him tight (no greater love hath any dog-owner), but because every explosion sounds like a bomb, every bang like a gunshot that reminds us our country is at war. Whilst we gaze up at the heavens to admire the beautiful 'starbursts' falling out of the sky, there are people in Afghanistan looking up at B2 bombers and the projectiles that rain down upon them intent on death.

Soon it will be Christmas, although the mild weather makes snow-capped chimneys and tinkling sleigh-bells harder than usual to imagine. Recent events will surely add an extra poignancy to what, for many, is already a bitter-sweet time of year.

Hopefully, amongst our introspection and concern for the future, we will find time simply to relax and be merry, to enjoy our families and friends, to celebrate the many blessings

of life and to offer a prayer for peace and goodwill to all men.

Happy Christmas!

Prunella Dart

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#### WEATHER WAG

#### by Jan Turner

Today is Wednesday 7th November, and I am girding my loins (well, the central heating) for the icy blast that is due tomorrow. Seriously though, what a fabulous Autumn we have had so far. The trees are looking lovely, with no severe westerlies or easterlies to disrupt the colouring and gradual fall of leaves. It has been a rare treat. So often the leaf fall has been marred by a blackening blast of wind that spoils it all. To compensate for all of this, the night skies have also been superb. We are lucky to live in an area which does not have too much light pollution, so that we are able to see the stars and planets very clearly.

A couple of months ago Mars was absolutely fantastic. Even through a moderately good set of binoculars the RED PLANET was really red and the black streaks of valleys and dots for craters were clearly visible. Just last Saturday we were able to see Jupiter cross behind the full moon.

One of the most impressive optical displays that occurs in our atmosphere is the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights. We were privileged on the night of 21st October to witness a display for quite a while. In his book Weather Facts, Dick File says, "When the sun is in an active phase, which usually lasts for a couple of years, aurorae become more common, though they can occur at any stage of the solar cycle. The period 1989 to 1990 brought an increased frequency, and we can expect more displays around 2001." The book was first written in 1990, so the predictions are fairly accurate. We do not usually expect to be able to see the displays so far south, but Scotland has regular sightings.

The aurora borealis occurs over the northern polar regions and the aurora <u>australis</u> occurs over the Antarctic. We in Britain are well placed to see the northern hemisphere version, though in towns and cities there is usually too much background light. In Shetland it is possible for someone watching out all through the night to see the northern lights on about 100 nights in the year, and but for cloud cover the total would be much higher. In the latitude of Edinburgh the chances are reduced to about 20 occasions per year and in southern England to one or perhaps two. They appear as variously coloured arcs, rays or curtain-like ribbons or streamers at altitudes of over 1000 kilometres.

The reason that they appear at the polar areas is linked to excessive activity on the surface of the sun, and the magnetic properties of the poles. The earth's magnetic field channels the flow of electrically charged particles from the sun toward these latitudes. The process is similar to that on a television screen. The electrons are accelerated and interact with air molecules in the upper atmosphere and "excite" them into producing a glow of coloured light. The displays can be white, bluish, green or a quite magnificent red. Sometimes a great arc appears with rays radiating upwards from the horizon. On other occasions there is a rhythmic pulsing as the light brightens then dims over a period of a second or two. Occasionally the light appears to cascade or dance across the sky. Reports of accompanying whispering noises also occur. As far as we know, the aurora has no direct effect on the weather, although there have been theories to link the two. The aurora can render mariners' compasses useless.

The aurora we were able to observe this year was an intense red fading in and out of the intensity and sort of drifting to and fro across the sky to the north of us. The stars looked pink. The redness is usually the result of dust or smoke particles in the atmosphere which scatter short-wave colours out of the beam while allowing the red and orange through.

I found it quite exciting and determined to find out about it to tell you.

I have written in the past about some of the light phenomena in the atmosphere. There is one that I have not experienced. It is called "The Glory". This so-called glory is, perhaps, the most eerie of the optical phenomena. It appears as coloured rings around your head whilst you look at your shadow on cloud or fog below you. To see it you would have to be on a sunlit mountain. Most astonishing is the fact that two people standing side by side cannot see each other's glory. A glory's colours (always red to violet moving in from the outermost ring), are caused by reflection and refraction of sunlight through the droplets of water in the clouds.

I shall wait until tomorrow (8th November) to see what this arctic blast has thrown at us and to comment on the month of October and September. 9th November. Cold, today, isn't it? Yesterday was a cold and miserable day really, not much sun and typical of November. Today, though I guess slightly colder, has been a stunning day. Lots of sunshine - 6 hours in fact - but the air very crisp and cold, excellent weather for distance photography because of the clarity of the air. However, back to the weather statistics for September and October.

September's temperature was about average at 15.5C, sunshine 113 hours (not so good).

and rainfall 41 mm (quite low but not the lowest). The winds were very much in the warm south, and south west, so there was a fair amount of high cloud cover which affected the sunshine, but not enough for rain. All in all a quiet month, but a bit dull. October was very warm with average temperature of 14.9C, sunshine 89 hours, and rainfall 105 mm. The last week of the month spoiled the record for rainfall, as without the downpour of that week, the month could have been the driest as well. In fact, in my records October 1995 was slightly warmer, at 15.2C, and drier at 59 mm, but this is not your absolute weather station.

It goes to show that many areas can have a climate of their own (micro-climate) which can vary from the norm. I'll stick to this micro-climate thank you, when I see snow and ice and gales affecting the east and north of the land. (You know, I have a sneaky delight in a good snowfall. Perhaps we'll have one this year. Got the generator, must get the fuel in store!)

The birds have suddenly decided that it is time to frequent the stores of berries in the garden and the seed feeders hanging in the trees, so I think that the seasons are progressing towards winter now. Only six weeks and two days to the shortest day, then everything gets better!

Keep warm and have a Happy Christmas.

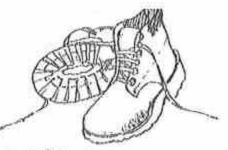
#### COMPUTERCIRCLE

There must be many readers in the parish who are either existing computer owners, or thinking about getting a computer, or just curious to learn a little about them. Some will already have found that their hobbies and special interests can benefit considerably through computer applications (e.g. photography, family history research, financial investments, writing and correspondence). Anyone interested in forming or joining an informal circle of

#### TEAMAKERS

(Thurlestone Enthusiasts At Mouse And Keyboard Exercises for Recreational Satisfaction) is invited to contact the Village Voice Editor's assistant at 25 Mead Lane (phone: 560436 or e-mail RobinMacdonald@compuserve.com). Such a circle neight provide a basis in due course for a regular feature in Village Voice, and also perhaps help to de-mystify computers for any unimitiated-teeterers-on-the-threshold. Tea, anyone?





Eleven of us, including former residents Janet and Ian Fraser (plus dog Lucy) who happened to be back in Thurlestone on holiday, started our first September walk by following the path around Slapton Ley to Deer Bridge. We carried on to Watergate and then a gentle climb up a very pleasant path to Pittaford, stopping two or three times to admire the panoramic views and also rest the old bones!

After passing through a farm yard we made our way into fields with hedgerows full of huge blackberries - more stops to feed off the fruit - and a short distance along a very pretty lane to Newton Farm. The footpath to Clovelly had at this time only just re-opened. Unfortunately, owing to Foot & Mouth disease, it was closed when I did the 'recce'. The original path was closed again due to the erection of new overhead cables so, with none of the usual reassuring yellow markers, we were heading into the unknown!

To add to our problems, the diverted route was taking us via a field with many strange-looking animals with long necks, all staring at us as though we had just arrived from outer space. After a quick sub-committee meeting, it was decided we were amongst a herd of South American llamas, which were very friendly and no problem. Shortly after this we located the original path, where we stopped for a picnic lunch whilst sitting on an old stone bridge in a very delightful valley.

After lunch we followed the track to Coombe Farm, Burlestone, Lower Fuge, and then through more fields to Strete. Unfortunately, the coastal path follows the main road at this point for about 200 yards, but it was not long before we joined the track down to the beach and back to our starting point. A very good day was had by all. No rain, and about ten miles covered!

BN

On the 10th October some fourteen of us, plus two visitors and two dogs, met at Grenofen, half way between Horrabridge and Tavistock, to begin what is

always a popular walk We go along the wooded valley of the River Walkham, over Berrator to Buckland Monachorum, then across fields, through woods and finally back to the River Walkham and Grenofen.

Before the walk started, the sixteen of us stood in silent memory of Pam Brewster. It was sad to think that she would never walk with us again....except perhaps in spirit as this was one of her particularly favourite walks.

We had not progressed far along the banks of the swollen river when one of our members - who wishes to remain anonymous - decided to mark the occasion by following the dogs into the river for a swim. Although the water was deep enough for the dogs, it was too shallow for a mere human, so our member only managed a ducking. Had this happened at the end of the walk it would have been bad enough, but at the beginning....! However, being TRAMP, we were fully prepared and surplus items of clothing were soon taking the place of the wet ones. The heavy squelch of very wet boots could be heard for the rest of the walk.

From then on things were less eventful.

Lunch was taken at a convenient sheltered spot as rain appeared in the offing but it didn't amount to much and we were soon off again towards Buckland Monachorum, where the eyes of the group fell upon the local pub but - most unlike our leader - he turned a blind eye to our dry throats, so we continued on to the end and over the fields and moorland, back to the river and our cars.

It was an extremely enjoyable walk, led by our friends from Newton Ferrers, and a walk which our two holiday visitors said they would remember for a long time to come.

DY

An early start on 24th October saw seven (dogless) walkers depart for the Dartmouth-Kingswear passenger ferry for the October half-term walk.

An arrangement to meet another couple at the ferry didn't materialise. After a brief river crossing, and still no sign of the missing duo, we decided to press on.

At this point we agreed to reverse the planned route and so we set off instead for the National Trust gardens at Coleton Fishacre by the coast path in order to cover the more strenuous section before lunch! On reaching the site of the WW2 buildings, we encountered three Dartmoor ponies which, according to the NT notice nearby, were busy preserving the archaeological remains. This seemed to consist of eating grass and producing prolific quantities of rose fertiliser. At Outer Froward Point we spotted a lifeboat making heavy weather and giving the crew a good soaking. Just as we were congratulating ourselves on being on dry land, the heavens opened and we also got a soaking!

Half way up the garden path at Coleton Fishacre the mystery of the missing duo was solved. Having missed us at the ferry, they had proceeded with the original clock-wise route while we had gone anti-clockwise, and thus taken the NT tea-room by a pincer movement. Both groups very much enjoyed the day - and even the weather cleared up for the return journey. And we can thoroughly recommend the tea-room's Pork & Apple pasties.

TW

4

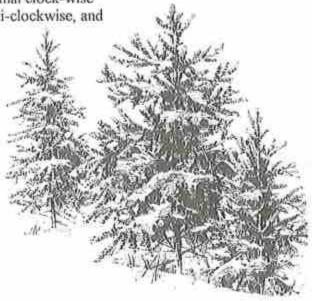
A slightly depleted number started out on 14th November for our latest walk, with seven members of the group plus one visitor, a year old baby and a dog.

We started by taking the Cremyll Ferry across to Mount Edgcumbe and then followed the northern path round the park to Empacombe, Maker Church to Kingsand, where we had lunch. It was a perfect autumn day with the sun shining most of the time. The only bit of excitement was lifting the little one in his buggy over the numerous stiles along the way.

Following lunch we kept to the coastal path back to the ferry. But due to serious cliff slippage a long and steep detour had to be made which resulted in our missing the 3.00 pm ferry. As the next one didn't depart until 4.00 pm we walked back to the Orangery for a cup of tea.

It was a walk that was enjoyed by all of us, including the one-year-old - who slept most of the time after lunch!







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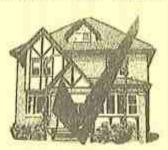
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#### HARRY HUGGINS HAS HIS WINGS CLIPPED

On account of Foot & Mouth much of 2001 was out for birders - from February onwards. We could watch from roads, Kingsbridge Quay, the road beside Bowcombe Creek, and Slapton Line, but what you see there is limited - especially during summer when water birds like divers are elsewhere. We were relieved when restrictions were lifted in September, and those of us who count birds on estuaries and other wet places could resume.

We reckoned that for the autumn migration the weather was too fine. Well, here in south Devon. After the long dry spell we had until nearly the end of September, it was interesting to hear folks who live further east wail about the lack of a summer.

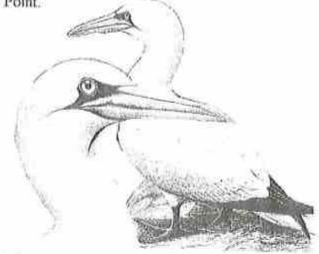
Each September we go to Soar Warren - you drive as for the Soar Mill Cove hotel, but go left instead of right to the hotel and find the car park just beyond where they fly the little planes. We call it "going to the airfield" but the original one, a wartime thing, no longer exists.

We look for Wheatears and other migrants, who stop for a bit of nosh before flying on south. Usually the Wheatears line up on the stone walls and sometimes Yellow Wagtails crowd the fields. Not this year. There was one Wheatear by the car park. Otherwise little. The weather was fine and migrants must have gone on without stopping. What we want is a nice clear northerly wind at dusk - most of the birds go at night - then, before dawn, a thick murky warm front, with a southerly wind, rain and poor visibility. That grounds them and we birders, if we have gone out, can have the day of a lifetime.

We have had consolations, however. Gannets for one. If you look out over the bay you see

Gannets. Quite often, but usually only one or two. A telescope helps. Morning is the best time, when the light comes from the east and they shine whiter than white. So do gulls sometimes, if the light is bright. They fly differently. Gannets mix flapping with straight glides, and sometimes they plunge into the sea. Gulls don't do that, but nor do Gannets if there are no fish. The Gannets' dark wingtips are diagnostic. The outer flight feathers are black, although you can't always see those.

One day at the beginning of September, there were 50 or 60 of them, close in off Hope Cove - you could see them against the dark background of Bolt Tail. There must have been a shoal of fish - probably mackerel. It must have come towards Thurlestone because the Gannets got closer (we watched all this from home through a telescope) and eventually they disappeared behind Warren Point.



A few days later they were at it again, off Bolt Tail, over the race of broken waves which extends to the west. This time there were at least 100, probably double that. People found little fishes washed up on the beach. I wonder if the pilchard shoals, long departed, are going to come again? There must have been mackerel chasing the small fish, and the Gannets were diving after those. It looked like rain going into the sea.

A diving Gannet angles its wings back and goes into the sea like an arrow shape. It makes a big splash. There was a row of these splashes, extending out from near the Tail. Other birders said they saw something similar off Torcross.

You wonder how many Gannets there must have been - and also how many mackerel. We saw other big numbers - of Rooks. Rooks go out to the fields to feed. Come evening they fly back to their roosting places. Along with a lot of Jackdaws. I don't know if the Jackdaws roost with the Rooks, but probably they do. In the middle of July, again from home (I like birding out of the window), about nine o'clock in the evening, we saw a stream of Rooks coming from the direction of South Milton. We counted 900. They must have been feeding in a field near the ley, or at South Huish. They flew over Thurlestone, en route for a roost - probably at Buckland. On the next evening they came earlier - it was cloudy and got dark sooner. After that numbers dwindled until there was none.

In August we went to Hatch Bridge. It crosses the Avon, downstream of Loddiswell. There was a Grey Wagtail. In the past we have argued with people about those. Their backs are grey; their rumps and underneath are bright yellow so folks say to us "Yellow Wagtails". Oh no, Grey Wagtails. Then they look at us like we are crazy and refuse to have anything to do with us!

There was a Kingfisher which was so alarmed by a young lady and her dog paddling in the river that it flew off down the road. Rivers are what they like to fly over, not roads. There was a Green Sandpiper, white rump, very dark wings both above and below. And there was a Dipper. Rather like a Wren, but blackbird sized, with a white shirt front and the rest of it very dark brown. This one pottered about on the little shingle banks and in the water just downstream of the bridge - they make their living under water, picking up little things attached to and under stones. They just walk into the water and walk on under. Fishermen don't like them, say they eat small fish which might grow into bigger ones for them to catch. If you watched those Blue Planet things on television you wondered how any fish could survive. But they do.

Way back at the end of April there was a Black Duck at Slapton Ley. An American species. A gentleman who had been around for some time, we saw him first in January and people had been talking about him for weeks before that. His body was very dark brown, his head pale brown and his beak yellow. Some people who study these things say it is the same species as our familiar Mallard, they inter-breed, and in April this one had a Mallard wife. We saw our first on Tresco. We had gone to the Isles of Scilly in October with one of the birding holiday companies. You go there in the autumn to try to twitch foreign birds, American mostly.

It seemed faintly stupid of the holiday company to send with us two couples - very high-powered American birders - when we went to chase about looking for American vagrants. Why didn't they send them to East Anglia (where we lived then)? There would be lots of northern birds coming in for the winter. But these were the early days of birding holidays and I don't suppose the company did anything in East Anglia. I've always felt that this bird was a genuine vagrant which had flown the Atlantic; if he did that, Tresco would be about the first bit of land he would find. He was consorting with a female Mallard and if they bred one wondered what the offspring would be like. One wonders also whether this recent bird at Slapton was a pure Black Duck, maybe recently arrived, or whether it was a mongrel. The book says the body plumage is dark sooty brown, but this one didn't look very sooty to me.

Near the end of September, Slapton Ley held

another duck which was not so likely to be a hybrid but which was horribly difficult to identify. We saw it because someone had made a note in the book that it was there the book of sightings. By the bridge which separates the lower ley from the upper part there is a cabin. Keen birders sleep in it overnight so as to have a nice early start in the morning, and the ringers who catch birds in their nets (you mustn't do that until you've had years of training and practice and are designated as qualified by the British Trust for Ornithology) do their measuring there before releasing the birds. It used to be a rather tatty timber affair. The book was underneath. Likewise underneath these was often a cat with kittens. The gentleman who looked after the cabin, who lived at Torcross, used to feed her. Doubtless she has passed on now. He certainly has. So has the old cabin, to be replaced by a proper brick and glass affair. No underneath for the book but there is a cubby-hole round the back where it lives.

This duck was a Garganey. Summer Teal I think the old fowlers used to call it. Most ducks stay all year, or come from the north to winter with us. Garganey is different. It summers in Europe and, according to the book, right across the northern part of Siberia. Just a very few in Britain.

In autumn it goes off, like the little birds do, to winter south of the Sahara. The drake is no problem - his head is brown, with a great white stripe over each eye which runs part way down the back of his neck - you can see it, if not for miles then quite a long way. His breast and stern are pale brown, and on his back he has long drooping feathers which are silvery grey with dark streaks. You don't mistake him. But this Slapton bird was female. Just brown, on her head a darkish brown cap, a brown stripe through each eye, with a pale stripe above and another below. Her bill is longish and dark grey. Difficult enough if she is near. This one was not.

The note in the book said she was on the ley, opposite the toos in the middle of the car

park. We trotted past the place where they keep the fishermen's boats and found a bit of beach. Luckily we took the telescope. Mine. (I slipped up there, reckoning usually to use someone else's). We found her easily enough, swimming where the man had written. There were no other ducks nearby for size comparison - Garganey is quite small. I suppose it was a female Garganey we saw. Being honest, I would neither have found it for myself nor identified it if I had. But I reckon we were sure enough about what we had seen.

We have not seen many migrant moths and butterflies. We had all that fine weather for summer and into autumn, but the wind blew mostly from the north and it didn't bring any over from the Continent. There have been some Painted Lady butterflies (most likely the offspring of early migrants - they are said not to survive the winter here) and very few Silver Y moths. I haven't seen a Clouded Yellow butterfly. June has, from the car. I was driving and concentrating on what I was doing. Unlike my late father. He did drive, for a few years, in the 1920s. But as he drove along he was wont to look at a pigeon or whatever flying over, and steer into a ditch. The car was an Austin Chummy. Quite light.

He would sit until a couple of agricultural gentlemen came walking along. They would lift the car back on to the road, and then he would give them sixpence and go on his way. He confessed once that when he was taking a fellow-lepidopterist on an expedition this friend said to him, in the course of an entomological argument they were having, "I don't doubt that you are right, Huggins, but do you have to drive on the pavement all the way up this hill to prove it?" This was Boughton hill, between Faversham and Canterbury, and now bypassed, I believe, by the A2. I don't suppose it had a very clearly defined pavement in those far off days.

After that, he delegated car driving to my mother.

Harry Huggins



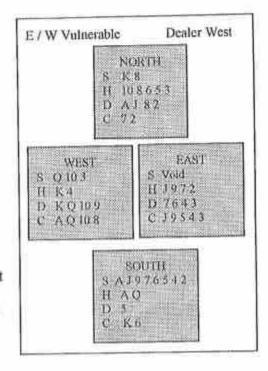
#### CHRISTMAS BRIDGE



#### 1. A Christmas gift spurned .....?

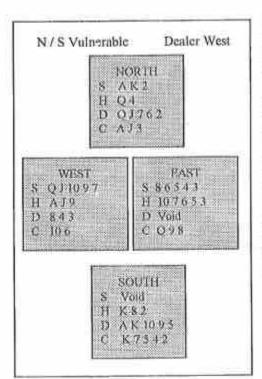
The Press already has readers claiming the record for receiving the first Christmas card of 2001. Here is an example of South refusing his early present from Santa. After West had opened a strong No Trump (15 to 17 points) North and South bid up to Four Spades. The opening lead of the King of Diamonds was taken by the Ace, and followed by a Heart finesse which lost to West's King. West exited safely in Hearts, and things went astray for South when East discarded on dummy's Spade King.

Yet again, South could have succeeded with more thought before playing to the first trick. Certainly no harm would be caused by ducking the lead of the King of Diamonds. Since West's opening bid marked him with virtually all the high cards he was likely to be embarrassed by having to lead again to the second trick. Indeed, if West is allowed to win the King of Diamonds he is left with no safe exit. If he continues Diamonds, South can finesse the Jack for two tricks in that suit, and the lead of any other suit gives South a free finesse and the certainty of making his contract. A very cautionary Yuletide tale.



#### 2. ....but having to fork out just the same!

Like all specialist subjects, Bridge has its own language and many terms to describe not only bidding methods - such as Stayman, Blackwood, control cue bids (the subject of my next article), etc. - but also particular coups in the play of the cards. One of the latter is known as "Morton's Fork". It is named after John Morton, who was Henry VII's Chancellor of the Exchequer as well as Archbishop of Canterbury - a combination of roles which might appeal to Gordon Brown!



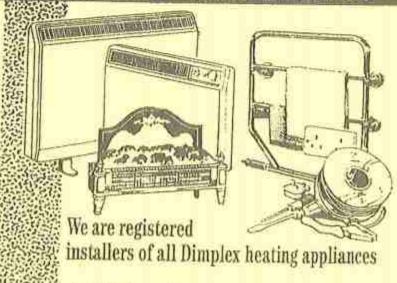
Morton's philosophy was simply that those who lived ostentatiously could well afford to be taxed, while those who lived frugally were saving money and also had the resources to pay taxes. This two-pronged fork is here shown in action.

Despite pre-emptive interference bidding in Spades by West, which was supported by his partner, South arrived in the fine contract of a small slam in Six Diamonds. The opening lead of the Queen of Spades was rufled, trumps were drawn, and then a small Heart was led towards dummy's Queen. West found himself well and truly "forked". If he ducked his Ace of Hearts then declarer would win with the Queen and discard his remaining Hearts on the Ace and King of Spades. If West won with his Ace, declarer would eventually dispose of dummy's losing Club on the King of Hearts.

Bridge can be a cruel game - particularly for anyone who has the misfortune to find himself (or herself) impaled on the rather unchristianlike prongs of a "Morton's Fork"!

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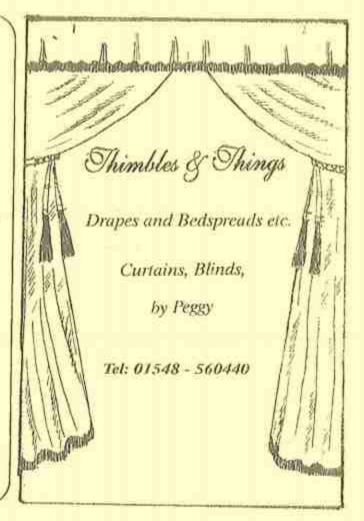
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#### CAUTE COURT LINHAY



On seeing Len Hubbard's drawing of the little barn on the cover of the last issue of Village Voice, memories came flooding back of times I spent in it at work and play. In an effort to bring its lovely static image to life I should like to tell you its story for the thirty-one years we were at Langmans Farm - and some earlier history.

Purpose-built as an open linhay with hay loft over, it was used to run in young cattle for feed and shelter, especially in winter. This type of linhay was common on farms and significant by their round stone pillars. If the pillars were left square the cattle could, too easily, rub stones out from the corners.

Across the yard is a (larger) threshing barn. Both were built of stone and cob with thatched roofs, as old photos showed. It was known as Caute Court, with the adjoining Caute House, now Rose Cottage where my sister Rosemary Smith lives, once the farmhouse to a smallholding. The farm's origin was possibly medieval, as suggested by a part newel stone stairway revealed in the house.

The little barn was re-floored with sawn timber. The original tree-trunk joists were sawn off with the stumps visible through the east wall cob but the wall now has a cement rendering to protect the cob. The floor slopes down considerably from the road end where there are double entrance doors.

My earliest memories of the barn were of childhood play as a small boy. We children were allowed in this barn - useful on wet Saturdays. When it was empty we could run and slide down the floor. When it was full of hay, what child didn't like romping on it? We soon compressed it and made space. Several village boys liked to be on the farm but not many girls joined in! Some were 'regulars' such as Reggie Dyer, Harry

Hannaford, Alfie Bevel, George and Jackie Pope.

A popular game was when the barn become a ship, chasing pirates. The bottom end wall of cob reached to roof level, that was the bridge. Usually the oldest boy was the captain, and stood on it giving commands - "Man the guns", "Draw cutlasses and repel boarders". It happened that the thatched roof was replaced by galvanised iron, and odd pieces of timber were left behind. These became big guns. There was a ventilation gap left between the roof and the west side boarding. We stuck our 'guns' through the gap and on the order "Fire" we banged them up on the galvanise, creating a very realistic racket.

But now to the real work that went on in the little barn. There was no ventilation apart from the gap mentioned in the last paragraph, for there were no windows or doors then, except for the double entrance doors at the road end. Hay and straw was horsewaggoned down from stacks in the fields and was pitchforked loose off the waggon by one man and stacked back in the barn by another. The barn would hold one good load comfortably, leaving a passage one side where hay could be fed down the rack holes to cattle below. If we boys were around we were asked to tread down the bulky material, which then allowed another half load to be packed in.

The linhay came into full use through winter, when young cattle came in for feed and shelter. In summer we usually reared a bunch of calves in that yard.

A change came about to these old linhays around 1800. A new farm crop had been introduced from Germany - mangold worzels. They were large globular roots of the beet family, full of juice and sugar. All livestock relished them and heavy crops could be

grown. But they were susceptible to hard frost and had to be covered outdoors or housed. Parts of barns were converted into 'root' houses. As mangolds were brought from the fields in horse tip carts, tip holes were provided at the highest possible level. A tip hole was made under the double doors in our linhay and the top end section was boarded off as a root house with a door to carry mangolds to the cattle mangers under the hay rack. The tip hole still exists, covered with an old sheet of galvanised iron and overgrown with bushes. (Len may discover it and make a drawing!).

I've tipped many horse loads backed against that tip. Hay waggons had also to be backed against the double doors and hay pitchforked over the back rail - to our inconvenience and that of an increasing number of motorists who couldn't pass! Many cattle were fed and calves reared in that yard - including my Young Farmers Club first-prize bullocks, photographs of which are in my book.

Because of the high water content in mangolds the system developed whereby cattle could be housed or yarded in winter without other water if fed mangolds two or three times a day. After WW2, cheaper piped water took the place of the labour-intensive mangold system of some 150 years. There were three other root tips in Langmans old barns and more survive elsewhere. Why not try an "I Spy"?

This ends my story and of trying to put life and some history into Caute Court's little barn. Thanks are due to those who did some restoration on this little gem - a reminder of the part played by agriculture in our parish and of the importance of agriculture in our country today, a fact which seems to be all too often overlooked.

#### Hubert Snowdon

[Note: Hubert has sent two 35 mm photographic slides of the barn, which show more detail than our cover picture in October. If anyone would care to see them, please contact the Editor as soon as possible - offer closes mid-December, as they have to be returned!]

Al very Christmas

#### PUZZLE CORNER - ANSWERS

#### WORDSEARCH

1. ARTHRITIS	2. DUPLICITY	3. BURLESQUE	4. BRITANNIC
5. CORTISONE	<ol><li>AGGREGATE</li></ol>	7. CARNIVORE	8. FALSEHOOD
9. TREATMENT	10. SPACESHIP	11.RAINSTORM	12. ACROPOLIS
13. TEENAGERS	14. SECRETARY	15.SHORTCAKE	16. HIGHLANDS
17. CORMORANT	18. REHEARSAL	19.WORCESTER	20. SUPERGLUE
21. ADVENTURE	POLICE CONTRACTOR CONT		

#### TEN TEASERS

<ol> <li>Rotterdam</li> </ol>	<ol><li>Bees</li></ol>	<ol><li>Arkansas</li></ol>	7.	Charlotte Bronte	9.	Press Complaints Commission
2. A large rock	4. Nile	6. Fourteen	8,	Jonathan Swift	10	). Chariots of Fire

# DIARY DATES

## DECEMBER

Sat 1"

Fri 7"

Mon 10"

Wed 12"

Fri 14"

Sun 16"

WI December Meeting & Christmas Lunch, 12.30 for 1.00 pm VSPCC Christmas Bazzaar, Parish Hall, 10.30 am WI Christmas Carol Service, Church, 2.30 pm Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm FRAMP - Comworthy (Hunters Arms) Carols in the Village Inn, 7.00 pm Carols in the Sloop Inn, 8.00 pm

### JANUARY

TRAMP Thur 10<sup>th</sup> Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Wed 9th

WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm, (speaker Alison Atkinson) Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm

### FEBRUARY

Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 730 pm TRAMP Mon 11° Wed 13° Thur 14°

WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm, (speaker Maureen Chapman)

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

Advertising Rates for Village Voice - 12 months (six issues)

Whole Page - £70.00 Half Page - £50.00 Quarter Page - £30.00

# VILLAGE VOICE

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# PARISH DIRECTORY

# DIARY DATES

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

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

Vicki Dent and a team of volunteer helpers. In Bantham and Buckland it is delivered in Thurlestone, Village Voice is delivered by Bill and June van der Welle and by Mrs Jean Hurrell.

# DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 5th JANUARY 2002

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

# PARISH

PARISH COUNCIL Chairman Vice - Chairman Parish Clerk District Councillor County Councillor County Mombern (Tree Warden)	W. 1. Second Thursday monthly (ex. August) 2.30 pm Parish Half. RECTOR	TRAMP (Thuriespope Rambicus)	HORTICULTURAL SHOW (unual)	KEEP SIT Tuesdays, 10-11-30 Parish Hall	THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB TENNIS SECTION	FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH	COFFEE TIME (Purch Hall) Montage, 10:30 - 11:38	CHURCHWARDENS	BRIDGE CLUBS 7 p.m. Pandt Hall Wednesdays Fridays	BOWLS CLUB (Indeer) Tuesdoys and Trunsdays, Paristr Hall, 7:30 pm	BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB
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Peter Humpil Versinica White John Lonschile John Conschile Carolyn Steen Mobile Stenon Day David Grose Charles Miningfaore Geoffice Stiddon Derrick Vennum Sti Minchal	Contact Dornthy Candy  Canon Andrew Girling	Ron Parkin Richard Swan	John Lorsdale	Branda Murch	Scenatary / Managar, John Scott Connect Lindsey Fletcher	Xii Marsanii	Lie Webb	Graham Worrall Lat Webb	Mary Fulford-Smith Dorothy Stone	Elices Dayment	*
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The Parish Council meetings take place on Mondays. See dates on Davy page overlast.

NOBILE FISH & CHIP VAN

Calls alturnate Wednesdays from 2" January 2002, from 5,00 pm to 6,30 pm, purside All Smith Primary achool.

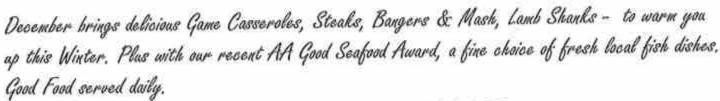
11.35 - 11.45ten Buckland Old Chapel 11.50 - 12.15pm Thurbestone Parish Hall 12.20 - 12.35pm Thurbestone Church 12.40 - 12.50pm Thurbestone Sands

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WHAT'S ON THIS DECEMBER ...

Sunday 9th Steak Night - 2 for the price of 1 - with Jazz from the DIXIE DEMONS

Thurs 13th Music & Song with Guitarist HOWARD JONES



Tuesday 18th The Christmas Fun Quiz 7.30pm

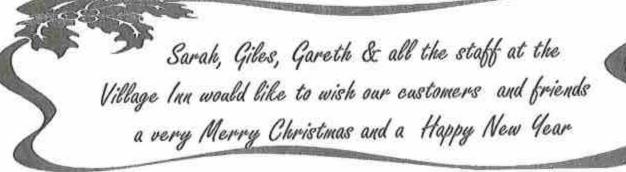
Thurs 20th The Village Inn Fancy Dress Masked Ball Buffet available at £5.00 per person

Friday 21st Christmas Carols with Kingsbridge Silver Band

Sat 22nd Christmas Draw Christmas Eve Join us for Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

> CHRISTMAS DAY - OPEN 11.30am - 1.00pm BOXING DAY - OPEN 12 - 3pm & 7 - 11.30pm

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