

# VILLAGE VOICE



**December 2003 - January 2004**





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DECEMBER 2003 - JANUARY 2004

**A  
MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
GOOD CHEER  
AND A REALLY  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO  
ALL  
OUR READERS**

Front Cover : Sunset at Thurlestone Rock

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## TOO LATE TO MEND?

It's too late now to stem the anger which swept the parish after a digging machine desecrated some of the graves of local families buried in Thurlestone Church graveyard.

*But it's not too late to ask some questions...*

It's too late now to start asking why the building of a church hall in the graveyard was hardly opposed at a meeting open to residents held in the Church and chaired by the newly-arrived parish priest. The idea of the Church building its own hall was not as hotly contested as it would have been if the meeting had been held more correctly in the parish hall. But we are told there wasn't a day spare for such a meeting in the parish hall bookings. Even so Andrew Girling admits that it was a mistake to hold that meeting in the Church.

It's too late now to examine closely why such a Church hall was needed urgently when fund-raising for the rebuilding of the parish hall was just starting. It damaged parish hall fund-raising. People asked: Why do you need two halls?

It's too late now to ask why the Church turned down the idea of combining with the parish to share use of the new parish hall. It would have saved the Church thousands of pounds which could have been well spent



elsewhere in this troubled world. In the Kingsbridge Gazette it was reported that the Church's response to this was to say that it required a meeting place near the Church so that elderly members of the congregation would be able to attend the after-church coffee (which is at present served in the back of the church).

It's too late now to follow the Rector's instruction: "Don't believe all you read in the Gazette". Most parishioners find that newspaper (and Village Voice) their most accurate source of local news, particularly about the building of halls in Thurlestone.

It's too late now to ask why Villager is writing about this matter which has divided the parish. There are, perish the thought, those residents who feel that Villager should confine his or her comments about village life to glowing reports of the fete and other charity events. But it's too late now to gag Villager.

It's too late now to find out why the planning permission was altered to allow the Church to get an early start with their digger before the car park behind the Church was built as originally specified. And to ask who altered it.

It's too late now to ask exactly why the Church needs such a meeting hall at all. The need for it must be more than just as a caff for after-Church coffee.

It's too late now to ask who originally had the idea of the hall in the graveyard. And who pushed it through.

It's too late now to ask why the villagers have heard nothing from their Bishop at Exeter, despite the fact that both he and the planning authority received copies of a petition signed by 200 parishioners against the siting of the hall at a very early stage. More recently, surely he should have written personally to those who were particularly distressed by what the digger has done in Thurstlestone? Perhaps the Bishop should appear here in person.

But it is not too late now to accept the public apology of the Rev. Andrew Girling, who told parishioners at the last Council meeting: "The way the digging machine was used is quite unacceptable, and you have my unreserved apologies for it. I assure you it won't happen again, and there are no excuses for what did happen."

**IN FACT, IT IS DEFINITELY TOO LATE NOW TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE CHURCH MEETING ROOM. IT IS LEGAL AND IT WILL GO AHEAD.**

**BUT IT IS NOT TOO LATE** to hope, in the words of the Chairman of the Parish Council, that "the Church Hall will be completed quickly and successfully and that this difficult time for the parish will soon be over".

**PERHAPS IT IS NOT TOO LATE**, even for those most trespassed against and all the rest of us villagers, to forgive and forget the short unhappy history of the Church Hall and to band together in friendship as we have in the past.

**ONE THING IS CERTAIN.**

**It is definitely NOT too late for us to get on with building for ourselves a splendid "All-Parish" community meeting place - our own New Parish Hall.**

*Villager*







# Thurlestone Post Office & Stores

## Christmas & New Year Opening Hours

*Adrian & Alison Masters (Phone 01548 - 561917)*

Over the Festive period the shop, and the Post Office in particular, will change its usual times of operation. The times and days listed below are guaranteed. While the shop opening hours may be increased to meet demand, the Post Office hours will remain as shown.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SHOP</u>	<u>POST OFFICE</u>
<b>2003</b>		
22 Dec Monday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
23 Dec Tuesday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
24 Dec Wednesday Christmas Eve	8.00 - 3.00	9.00 - 12.30
25 Dec Thursday Christmas Day	CLOSED	CLOSED
26 Dec Friday Boxing Day	8.00 - 1.00	CLOSED
27 Dec Saturday	8.00 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
28 Dec Sunday	8.30 - 1.00	CLOSED
29 Dec Monday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
30 Dec Tuesday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
31 Dec Wednesday New Year's Eve	8.00 - 3.00	9.00 - 1.00
<b>2004</b>		
1 Jan Thursday New Year's Day	8.00 - 1.00	CLOSED
2 Jan Friday	8.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
3 Jan Saturday	8.00 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
4 Jan Sunday	8.30 - 1.00	CLOSED

**Normal Opening Hours resume on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2004**

The Christmas editions of TV listings will be available shortly,  
and you can reserve your copy at the counter or by telephone.

Vegetables, drinks, mince pies, bread, etc., should be ordered well in advance to  
ensure availability for collection during Christmas week.

From us all at Thurlestone Post Office and Stores, may we say Thank You  
for your kind support over the past year and wish you all

A Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Sarah and Staff



# Village News Round-Up

## Maurice Blight

Nice to see **Maurice** making a fighting reappearance in the village. Despite serious illnesses, operations, hospitalisation, and ongoing treatment, Maurice was recently observed parking his crutches while testing his ability to ease himself into the driving seat of a car. Let's hope it will not be much longer before Maurice is restored to full health and fitness - or at least able to pass his MOT! Meantime **Keith Foale** is doing a great job in Maurice's absence to keep the residents of Thurlestone tanked up and rolling, in a manner of speaking.

## Stiddicombe Trees

A further stage in the regeneration programme for Stiddicombe Wood has taken place with the recent planting of six Scots pines, to repair some of the damage done by the storms of 1989/90. **Gillian Goddard**, a director of Evans Estates, cut a ribbon to mark the opening of a new pathway along the shore of the creek.

## Farewell Fish!

**John Connington** has relinquished the job of bringing fresh fish to many parishioners' doors, a task he has undertaken for some 25 years. His weekly visits will be much missed.

## Antarctic Birds

On Saturday 22 November **Arthur Livett** gave an illustrated talk at the Parish Hall about the bird-life of Antarctica and the Falkland Islands. A glass of wine and nibbles helped to warm up those who might have started to shiver at the very thought of these latitudes and, with an excellent

collection of slides and a very expert commentary, Arthur kept the attention of his audience riveted throughout the evening. The event was successful in raising the sum of £200 for the new Parish Hall Building Fund. Well done, Arthur and Karen.

## Bridge Club

Officers for the coming year are:

### WEDNESDAY CLUB

Chairman	<b>David Cooke</b>
Secretary	<b>Kitty Cooke</b>
Treasurer	<b>Brian Rowe</b>

### FRIDAY CLUB

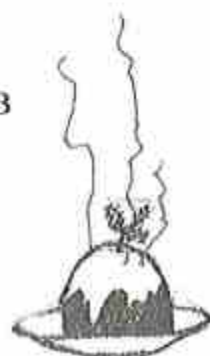
Chairman	<b>David Hugo</b>
Secretary	<b>Sheila Tootill</b>
Treasurer	<b>Peter Baker</b>

There are still vacancies for new members, who should contact any of the above to register their interest.

## Bowls Club

On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7.30 to 9.30 pm, the members of the Bowls club get together for friendly bowling in the Parish Hall. Occasional friendly matches are held on a home and away basis with neighbouring villages (S.Milton, W.Alvington, Galmpton, Marlborough).

**Eileen Dayment** and **Jean Yeoman** ensure that everything runs in an orderly fashion, and the club would extend a warm welcome to any new or prospective members who might like to try their hand at this very sociable activity. Why not go along and see for yourself?





## Discount Discontinued

From April 2004, second home owners in the South Hams will lose most of the present 50% discount on their Council Tax bill.

The South Hams District Council is believed to be the first council in England to use its new powers under the Local Government Act 2003 to ensure that full and part-time residents pay at similar levels. 90% of the Council Tax will be paid by the second homeowners - the maximum permitted under the Act. Of this, 80% will go to Devon County Council with the remainder divided between the South Hams District Council and the Police.

District Council Leader, **Richard Yonge**, said *"I'm delighted to say most second home owners seem more than happy to make a full contribution to the local infrastructure. They will be helping us address the problems caused by extortionate house prices and very low local wages."* Some £2 million will be raised by this means and the County Council is in discussion with all of Devon's district councils as to what rural issues the money can best support.

## Green Rubbish Warning

The South Hams District Council must double recycling by 2005. If it doesn't reduce the amount it sends to landfill tips it could face harsh financial penalties. Green rubbish in particular is being targeted as, when this is put into landfill sites, the 'greenhouse' gas (methane) produced as it rots down contributes to global warming.

As the Council has found that one-third of all rubbish it collects could be composted, it is looking at the possibility of ceasing to collect garden waste rubbish bags from March 2004. It may also introduce a "pay - per - bag" collection service. Facilities for recycling green rubbish already exist at Torr Quarry, though some people do not use the service.

## Coffee Morning



**Joan Mackenzie** and **Jeanne Barton** wish to thank all those who contributed to, or attended, their Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. The sum of £217 was raised for the Parish Hall Funds.

## Golf Club

Secretary/Manager **John Scott** will be leaving Thurlestone Golf Club at the end of December after nearly five years with the club. Recruiting for a successor is already underway, and the committee are hoping that the new Secretary will be in place early in the New Year. We wish **John** and **Pat** all the best for the future.

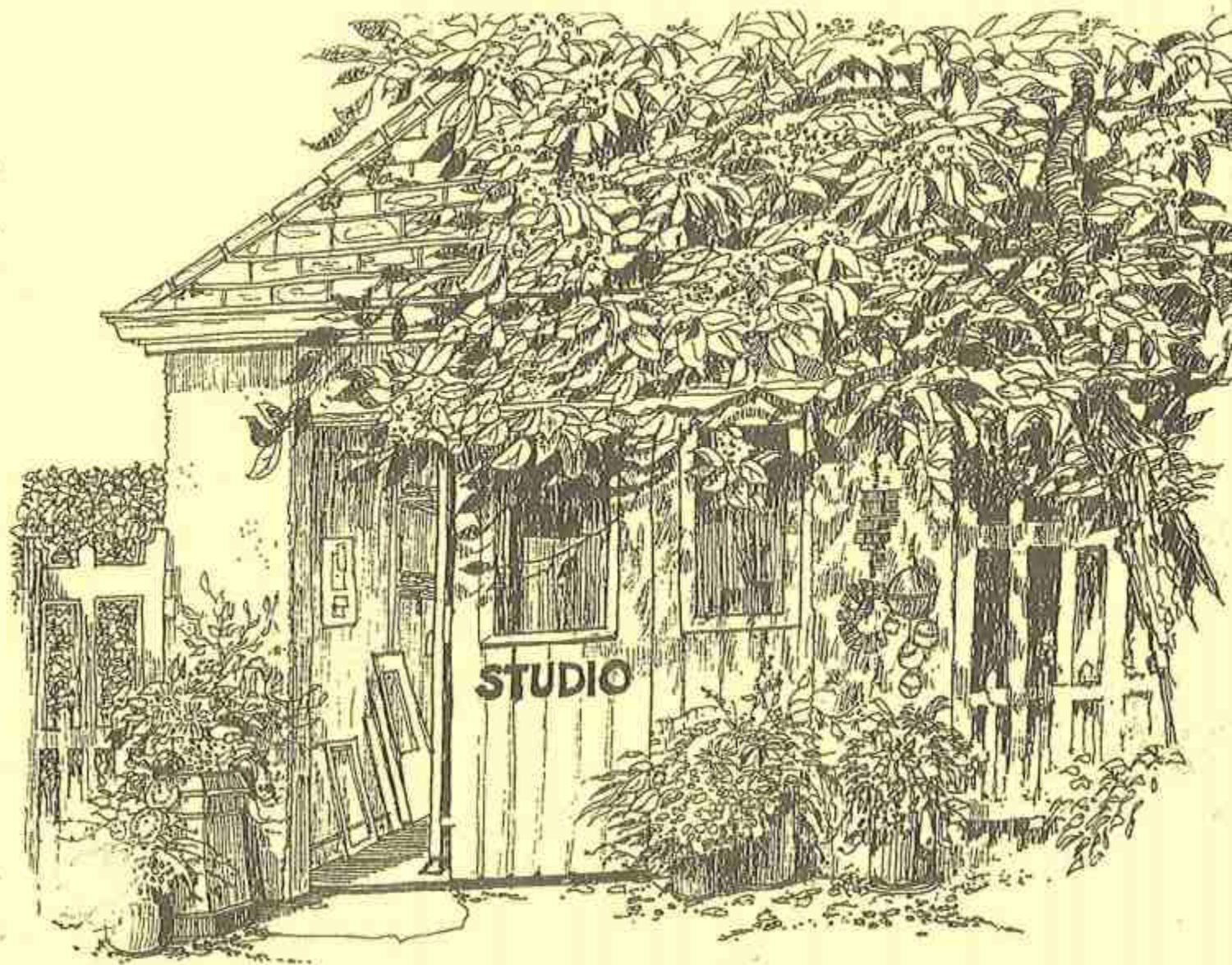
Best wishes also go to new Lady Captain **Gill Durdon** and Vice-Captain **Jenny Underhill** as they start their year of office.

In the afterglow of the Rugby Union World Cup, many of the England squad - and their coach - will no doubt be looking forward to a spot of R & R. What better way to unwind than to enjoy a quiet round of golf on the local golf course. And where could you find a nicer course within a short drive of Salcombe? Isn't there something familiar about that tall chap waiting to tee off? No, perhaps it's just wishful thinking. But then it might just be worthwhile watching this space. Who knows what a new Secretary might achieve?

## Hotel Footpath

Access from the Mead to the village via the Hotel footpath has been closed due to the building work currently in progress. It has been agreed, however, for temporary access to be arranged at weekends (Friday evening to 8.00 am Monday) and over the Christmas break (Friday evening 19<sup>th</sup> December until 8.00 am Monday 5 January), courtesy of the Thurlestone Hotel and the contractors, and site agent **Larry Ireland**.





Len and Kate Hubbard  
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# PARISH HALL NEWS

By Rowland Cole



## National Lottery Funding

Starting off with a resumé of progress towards our new Parish Hall, we expect to have competitive tenders from contractors by the year end and it is with very many thanks to our Consultant Designer **Malcolm Northmore** and Consulting Engineer **Paul Carpenter** for producing so many specifications, drawings, and associated but essential paperwork that this milestone is now in sight.

With these tenders in we will have an accurate cost for both demolishing the existing hall and building the new one and, most importantly, the necessary information to complete our application for funds to the Community Fund of the National Lottery.

This application, which involves much form filling, is being masterminded by **Martyn Grose** and **David Houghton** and they deserve much gratitude for the time and effort they are devoting to the task.

The hoped-for award from the Community Fund is another threshold insofar as it will indicate, when added to our existing funds, the total of our available funding and therefore the shortfall when compared with the tenders received from contractors. We hope we will receive the Community Fund's response by Easter but there is no guarantee that this will be the case.

## Other Funding Sources

Equally, an award from the Community Fund is essential information when applying to other bodies for funds, and in this connection the follow-on fund-raising stage will focus on:

- Other Charitable Trusts where we have already been active by contacting some 22 so far. Currently 7 have replied negatively for various reasons whilst we have another 12 to re-contact or to return application forms to once we have more detailed construction cost information.
- Local Authorities such as South Hams District Council and Devon County Council. We have already had meetings with the SHDC and received a letter of support which will accompany our Community Fund application.

Whilst all this is going on, the current Hall continues to function under the caring eye of **Ray Tavender**, and hopefully the coming winter will be kind to its fabric.

Please support the events being organised by our User Groups, as the amounts being generated are a great help in building up the total funds available for this project.

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2003



# PARISH HALL FUNDS

By Bill Clarke



## TOTAL FUNDS UPDATE

The Funds now stand at

# £84,709

The following contributions have been received this year to date:

Bantham Bash 2002 (Bantham Sailing Club)	£13,500.00	
Thursday Art Group exhibition	237.60	
Kingsmen Concert	398.00	
Lunch & Sweepstake (W.I.)	320.00	
Piano Recital (P.C.C.)	744.00	
Summer Fete at Swallows (Parish Hall Committee)	2,372.35	
Coffee Morning (18 October)	217.50	
Big Raffle (Parish Hall Committee)	944.50	
Sponsored Walk (David Houghton)	1,726.00	
Coffee Mornings August (P.C.C.)	40.19	
Film Shows (P.O.T.S.)	300.00	
Catering at Coast Path Weekend (W.I.)	83.00	
20 <sup>th</sup> Century Quiz (Mary Hugo/Friday Bridge Club)	397.00	
Smarties Tubes (Parish Hall Committee)	3,047.20	
Sale of goods	7.00	
Bridge Club Evening & Weekly contributions	505.30	
Village Voice	500.00	
Keep Fit Club (Arthur Livett's Bird Talk)	204.00	£25,543.64

Individual donations this year to date: £18,342.00

Total this year to date £43,885.64

Grand Total to date £84,709.66



## FORTHCOMING FUND-RAISING EVENTS

**6 DECEMBER**

**QUIZ  
NIGHT**

**17 JANUARY**

**BEATLE  
DRIVE**

**14 FEBRUARY**

**BARN  
DANCE**

# Parish Council Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> November 2003

*News and Views by Citizen*



To look at the proposed agenda one could easily assume that this was to be another run-of-the-mill meeting that would finish around 8.30 pm, having covered the usual range of subjects. In fact this was not to be the case. Immediately one entered the Parish Hall it was obvious that something was afoot - of which Citizen, for once, was not aware. The Hall was unusually full, with many present who are rarely seen at Parish Council meetings. What was it all about? All seemed normal at first with the chairman running quickly through the minutes of September's meeting.

## Recycling Waste

He referred to the short talk on this subject, given by **Ms Bramhall**, which prompted questions later on over how to encourage second home owners to enter into the spirit of the campaign, particularly when their homes were let to other people.

## Parish Hall

Councillor **Peter Hurrell** expressed his bemusement over the fact that the Parish Hall, having some £85,000 available towards a new Hall, and the PCC having £90,000 towards their proposed Meeting Room, could not have combined their efforts in such a small parish. The parish could have had the main hall as their preserve and the Parochial Church Council a side room for their sole use.

## Church Car-Park & Meeting Room

The Reverend **Andrew Girling** was present to answer any questions put to him, and he apologised for the absence of Churchwarden **Graham Worrall**, who was on holiday. The chairman then invited those present to raise, through him, any questions relevant to the development.

Councillor **Hurrell** queried the article in the Gazette, which stated that it would take half-an-hour to walk from the church to the Parish Hall. For a slow walker ten minutes was plenty of time (thus destroying the argument that the distance was too far for elderly church members). He further queried the Gazette article that the PCC had submitted their planning application before the Parish Hall's. The first reference to rebuilding the Parish Hall was made in 1952 and Citizen remembers a further discussion which took place some thirteen years ago with the South Hams Council when they claimed that the Hall was in such good condition compared with others that it would be a waste of money to have plans for a new Hall drawn up.

*[The District Council have since reversed this advice, saying it would be a waste of money to try and patch up the Hall. Ed.]*

A very valid point was raised regarding the distance of the proposed Meeting Room from the more recent graves. The plans had shown a minimum of eight feet, whereas recent measurements showed the distance varied between seven feet and seven-and-a-half feet. **The Rector** agreed that errors had been made in the original measurements and that as they started at the boundary of the adjoining property, the building would be closer to the graves than had been wished.

**David Coward** then stood up to express with great feeling how it felt to discover that a digger had been parked over his father's grave, and that earth had been piled on adjoining graves.

**The Rector** agreed that there was no excuse for this and expressed his deepest sympathy and promised that no such desecration would be allowed to happen in the future. This then

prompted a question as to who was responsible for overseeing the work to ensure no such incident could happen. The answer was the Rector and Churchwardens and we were assured that the strictest watch would be kept in future. The chairman then wound up the discussion by saying he hoped the disruption would be over as soon as possible and that the great hurt felt by many would lessen as time passed.

### **Beach Cleaning**

It was felt that letters of congratulation should be sent to Evans Estates and the Golf Club on the efforts they had made to ensure that our beaches were as clean as wind and tide permit.

### **Bantham First Time Sewerage**

The saga continued with the Environment

Agency and the Water Board passing the buck but we heard that on one occasion recently the blue dye flushed through various systems turned the stream so blue that it was not possible to carry out further tests - which suggests that there are a number of transgressors who will, hopefully in the not too distant future, have a bit of sorting out to do.

### **Parish Clerk**

**Gill Calvert** bade us farewell as Parish Clerk, and received a bouquet of flowers from a very appreciative Parish Council. Unfortunately, Gill's replacement, after due consideration, withdrew her application at the last moment. The Parish Council are therefore looking for someone to take on this very interesting work. An advertisement for the vacancy appears below.

# **W A N T E D**

## **THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Urgently needs a part-time Clerk as soon as possible  
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## CHURCH CAR PARK AND MEETING ROOM UPDATE

First may we say that should anyone who may have concerns in any way in connection with the work in hand, it is hoped they will make contact with either the Rector or the Churchwardens.

Those who were present at the Parish Council meeting on the 10th November would have heard the Rector, the Reverend Andrew Girling, give an unreserved apology for any distress caused in any way to those who had been affected by the works.

The contract commenced on the 20th October following which progress has been made on the car park area. The hardcore sub-base having been laid, the area is now used for temporary storage of site huts, plant and machinery and spoil that will eventually be used for landscaping. In accordance with the planning conditions, this enabled work to commence on the meeting room and associated services.

The meeting room site including the service trench was excavated under the supervision of an independent archaeologist, but nothing of interest was found. The block foundations have been built together with the retaining walls which have now been back filled and the required fence repositioned.

Depending on weather conditions, the building will quickly take shape and both the meeting room and car park should be completed by May 2004.

*All Saints' Church, Thurlstone PCC*

## WE SHOULD ALL BE DEAD!

According to today's regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were kids in the 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s 70s, or even early 80s, probably shouldn't have survived.

Our baby cots were covered in lead-based paint. We had no childproof lids or locks on medicine bottles, doors, or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes we had no helmets. Not to mention the risks we took hitch-hiking. As children we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.

We drank water from the garden hose, or a tap, and not from a bottle. Horrors!

We ate cream cakes, bread and butter and drank fizzy drinks with sugar in - but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no-one actually died from this.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then rode off down the hill, only to find that we had forgotten the brakes. After running into trouble a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the street lights came on. No-one was

able to reach us all day. No mobile phones. Unthinkable!

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo 64, X-Boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, no video tape movies, surround sound, personal cell phones, personal computers, or Internet chat rooms. We had friends - we went outside and found them. We fell out of trees, got cuts, broke bones, lost teeth, and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. They were accidents - no one was to blame but us.

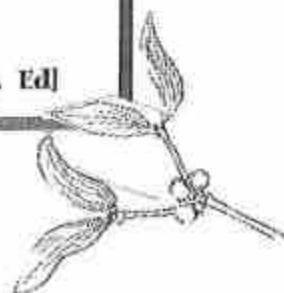
We rode bikes or walked to a friend's home and knocked on the door, or rang the bell or just walked in and talked to them.

The idea of parents bailing us out if we got into trouble in school or broke a law was unheard of - they actually sided with the school or the law.

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers, inventors, ever. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility - and we learned how to handle them.

And you are one of that generation. Congratulations!

[Thanks to Andrew Girling for this. Ed]





# All Saints



**Rector:** Revd. Andrew Girling 562219  
**Churchwardens:** Graham Worrall 562016 & Liz Webb 560090

*Andrew Girling writes:*

## FREE GIFT?

We have just returned from a week's break in the Algarve. It was a free holiday. Yes, flight and accommodation all paid for. It's a lovely area with extensive sandy beaches, exhilarating coastal walks and a haven for golfers. There are courses everywhere. We felt very much at home as we were regularly asked if we played golf and, when we admitted that we didn't, were met with looks of utter bewilderment, as though we did not understand the meaning of life!

As you will realise, however, there were strings attached to our free gift. Our holiday was a sales promotion for time shares. As we say, nothing is free. But I am pleased to say that we emerged with wallet in tact and with no apartment to our name. We just enjoyed a free holiday.

This month, gifts will inevitably tax both our minds and our wallets. Christmas is all about giving and receiving and finding the present that really suits each recipient is way beyond my capabilities. How often, though, do we feel pressurised into giving more than we want to or can afford. 'Last year she gave that very expensive present, I shall have to match that this year'. 'He's a real pain, but if I don't buy him something he won't co-operate with me in the future'. Worst of all, 'I feel guilty that I spend so little time with her, I'll buy her a big present to show that I love her'. All those gifts are made with an ulterior motive.

Those of us of a certain age will remember the hippies and their slogan of 'free love'. Can love be free? Even love invites a response. That is especially true of the free gift that lies at the heart of our Christmas celebrations:

### **God's gift of himself in the Christ-child.**

To be sure there is no hidden agenda. It's a totally honest expression of divine love. It is free in the sense that we can neither deserve nor earn it. But like all other gifts, it has to be opened and received. I sincerely believe too that it does give the clue to the purpose of life. It is that very act of receiving that makes Christmas meaningful and our celebrations truly joyful.

I hope your Christmas present is the one that is just right for you and that you will enjoy opening it. I pray that it will be God's gift of his love in Jesus Christ.

*Andrew*



# All Saints Diary

Churchwardens: Graham Worrall 562016 & Liz Webb 560090

## Church Services

You would be welcome at any services

### Sunday, Christmas & New Year Services

DECEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (BCP) 11.10 a.m. Morning Worship for All ages
DECEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (CW) 11.10 a.m. Matins (BCP)
DECEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) 11.10 a.m. Family Communion (CW) & Crib Service - <i>Children will be particularly welcome to help place the figures in the crib</i>
DECEMBER 23 <sup>RD</sup>	5.00 p.m. Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
CHRISTMAS EVE	11.30 p.m. First Communion of Christmas
CHRISTMAS DAY	11.10 a.m. Family Service followed by shortened Holy Communion
DECEMBER 28 <sup>TH</sup>	10.30 a.m. Benefice Eucharist at Churchstow - <i>No services at Thurlestone</i>
DECEMBER 31 <sup>ST</sup>	6.00 p.m. Benefice New Year's Eve Service at Thurlestone
JANUARY 4 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (BCP) 10.30 a.m. Epiphany Play and Service with Searchlight & Sunday Club <i>A joint service with South Milton</i>
JANUARY 11 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (CW) 11.10 a.m. Matins (BCP)
JANUARY 18 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (BCP) 11.10 a.m. Family Communion (CW) 6.00 p.m. Benefice Evensong (BCP) at West Alvington
JANUARY 25 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (CW) 11.10 a.m. Parish Eucharist (CW)

BCP = Book of Common Prayer      CW = Common Worship

### Regular Weekday Services

THURSDAY DEC 4 <sup>TH</sup> & JAN 1 <sup>ST</sup>	10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) at White Horses, Bantham
OTHER THURSDAYS	8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (said) (CW)
THURSDAY JAN 29 <sup>TH</sup>	8.00 a.m. Informal Prayer

Please note that the church has a loop system & a wheelchair is available

### Homemade Soup & Ploughman's Lunch

MONDAY DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> & JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>

NOON - 1.30 P.M.

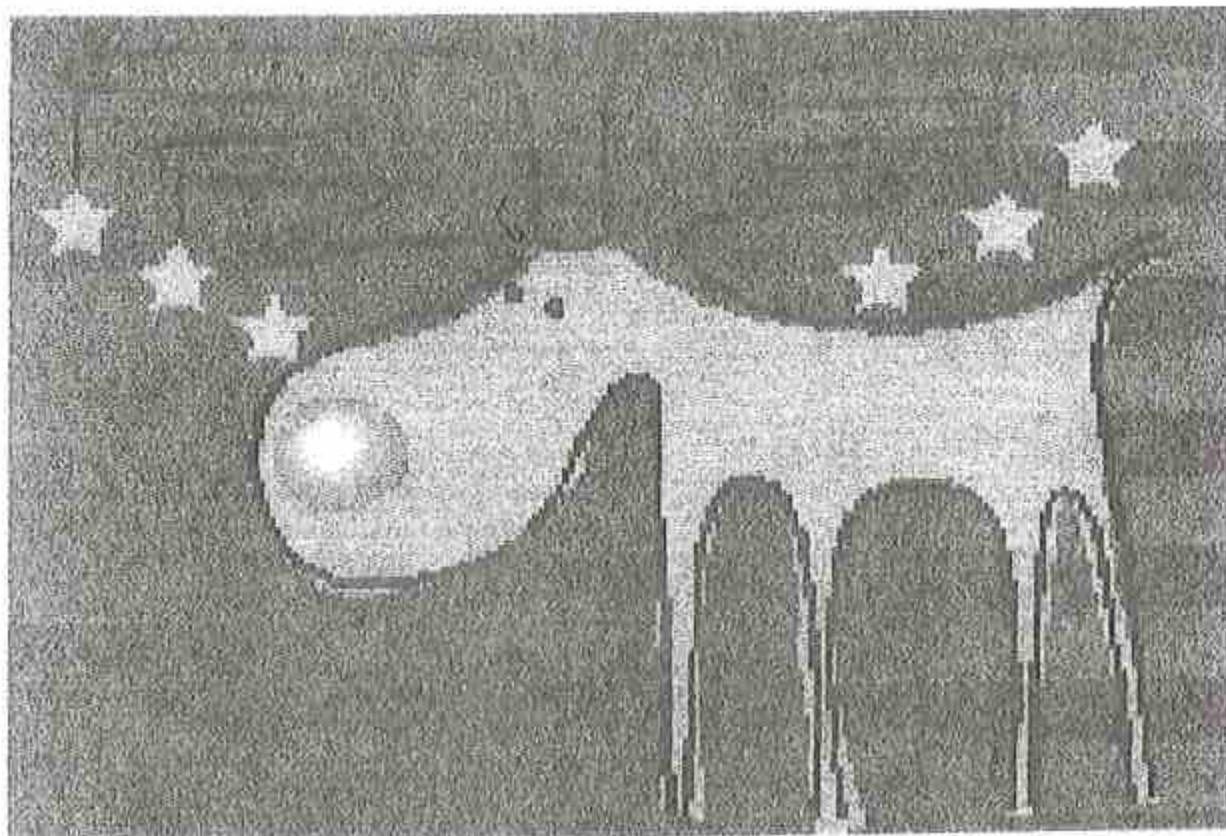
in the Parish Hall

### Coffee-Time

ALL OTHER MONDAYS

10.30-11.30 A.M.

Donations: *Children in Distress* (Dec) & *Refurbishment of Churchstow Church Hall* (Jan)  
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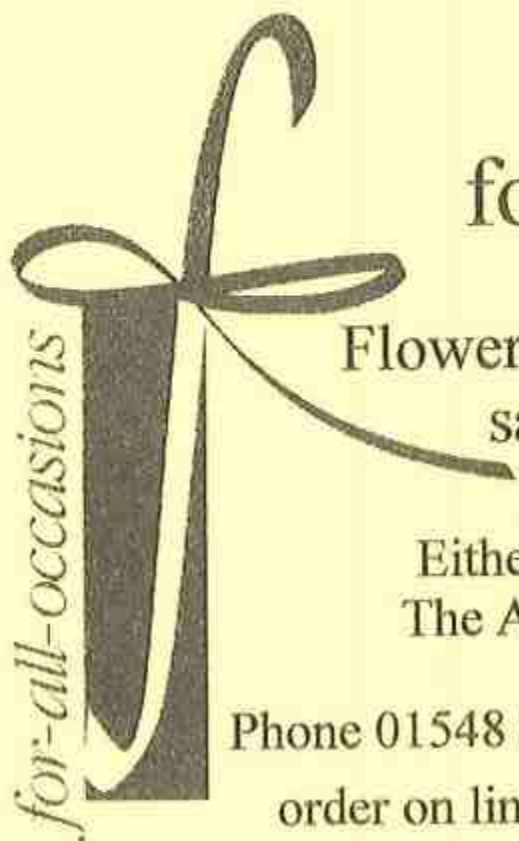
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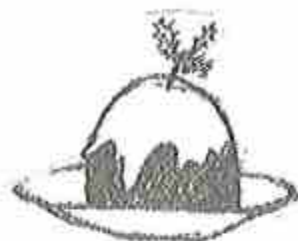
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# PUZZLE PAGE

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. This fish can sting
2. Group of musicians
3. Animal used for heavy loads
4. End of the day
5. "Brief" classic film
6. Totally incompetent
7. Beginning
8. Lawbreakers
9. Thankfulness
10. Bring to an end
11. Canada's chief port
12. He hates foreigners
13. A place to live
14. Pressure gauge
15. World's busiest port
16. Ballet spin
17. "..... Night's Dream"
18. Very amusing!
19. Optical stress
20. Almond-flavoured nut
21. ???

HES	TER	OUE	ALS	CAR	PIR	INC
INC	ACH	JEL	DAM	TIT	MER	TER
NIG	ORC	IDE	MIN	VER	STR	GRA
APA	RES	OUN	HIL	MIN	LYF	TER
COU	THO	SUM	EPT	TAC	TTE	TRA
CRI	ROT	VAN	ARI	OBE	HTF	MID
XEN	ISH	WCO	ATE	EYE	NCE	BLE
ENC	SLO	OPH	RSE	PIS	TER	AIN
ION	OME	OUS	UDE	HIO	BAR	ALL

## TEN TEASERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What bird is smaller than the wren?</li> <li>2. From which country did the turkey originate?</li> <li>3. Whose official residence is at Lambeth Palace?</li> <li>4. Who first sailed non-stop round the world?</li> <li>5. What is the name of the largest sand desert in the world?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. What is the nickname of the Everton football club?</li> <li>7. What does an oologist collect ?</li> <li>8. Which British battleship was the first to be sunk in WW2?</li> <li>9. Which Open Golf Champion designed Thurlstone and Bigbury golf courses?</li> <li>10. What is the name for a young hare?</li> </ol> |
|---|--|





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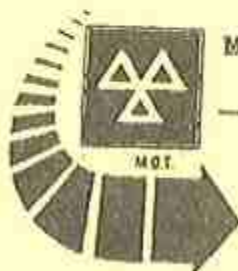
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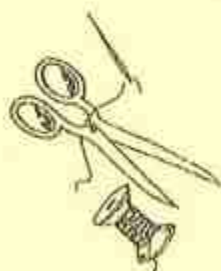
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# POSTBAG



## Dear Editor

We just wanted to thank Villager for a really good chuckle over "Hell in the South Hams" in the October Village Voice. If it were not so serious the subject would be a laugh.

Mind you, as we write there is only one solitary car in the Golf Club field car park so, as with all bad things, they tend to come to an end for a time.

With such a lovely village there really is no solution, but only palliative measures. Maybe car parking for visitors should be either very difficult or very expensive - or both. Certainly any additional parking areas would only make matters very much worse.

Here's to next summer! Thanks for a great magazine.

**David & Yvonne Richards**  
12B Mead Lane

## Dear Editor

As Villager must know, hell is in the eye of the beholder. This is often misquoted and frequently misplaced but has a tangible reality of nightmare proportions, such that I can barely discuss it without the need for counselling.

I'll try to explain.

Siberian summer with quiet roads and desolate beaches, barren forecourts bestrewn with tumble weeds, pubs no longer staffed by young attractive barmaids and barmen but replaced with dusty landlords.

No queue at the village shop since there is no fresh produce or morning goods and the Post Office has closed. Nowhere to buy a quick

drink and sandwiches for the day-tripping former executives in their air-conditioned, fuel injected, high performance cars.

Worst of all, the thought that shatters my sleep, the nadir of my expectations, the real hell - I would have to get a *proper* job. Pass me my medication please!

**Adrian Masters**  
Thurlestone PO Stores

## Dear Editor

Hell is small mandibles. Can you hear it from there - the chomping noise of tiny jaws as they lock into my body? Do they not know it is winter? Is there no truce, even when the clocks are put back?

Something is eating me. Something plus all its friends. There are more insects in West Buckland than on the entire continent of Africa.

They're not fleas (one vet's bill, one pest control bill - unanimous agreement that no fleas are living here). They're not flies (everything in sight sprayed, new carpet saturated with insecticide). They're not bed bugs (ditto, ditto, plus bed bugs never packed a punch like this).

All the insects clearly know my address. They fight each other voraciously for access to my every inch. Insect repellents? I spend my disposable income on them. The little varmints just lick it off and bite me twice as hard for having the temerity to give them the extra work.

The sun has been so strong this year that I'm allergic to its barest gleam. I look, in fact, like I looked when living in India. White, from hiding behind closed blinds, and pink from little bites given me by the insects that were also hiding.

My car packed up early on. Sick and tired of having to back up and pull in, it went on strike and sat sulking in lay-bys, refusing to start again and only consenting to go out at night when the roads were empty and the air was cool. Taken to the garage, it only pretended to have been mended.

Two months and four garage bills later, it took a look at the now quiet lanes and decided to make a new start of our lives.

Burned, boiled, eaten and worn out, I watch the leaves fall and rejoice that summer will soon be a memory. Hell in the South Hams? It's heaven really. Hell would be not being here.

Tina Chapman  
Summer Cottage  
West Buckland

## Dear Editor

The NSPCC bridge evening on the 11<sup>th</sup> October raised £460. A big thank you to all our supporters of this event and throughout the year.

We regret that we've had to cancel our Christmas bazaar this year; for various reasons our committee is considerably reduced. Should anyone feel they would like to join us in our fund-raising, we would welcome them - we do have fun! - please ring me on 560518. All the monies we raise in Thurlestone are used in helping children in the South West.

Best wishes to everyone for Christmas and the New Year.

Monica Dickins  
1 Stoke Damerel

---

## Our Front Cover Picture

This magnificent colour photograph of Sunset at Thurlestone Rock - on midsummer's day - was taken by Peter Stafford from a vantage point near Thurlestone sands, and



was kindly offered to Village Voice to use in any way that would benefit the community. For our Christmas issue front cover (when we like to add a special dimension of colour to our normal monochrome presentation), the picture will provide a nostalgic reminder of what has been a glorious summer and autumn, as some of our contributors have noted. To this end, it has been presented in "portrait" rather than "landscape" style, and been

"cropped" of its landscape edges. However, the black and white version shown here reveals the full extent of this glorious picture in landscape style, from which readers may be able to judge how the original will appear in its full colour.

As a Special Offer, Village Voice (with grateful thanks and acknowledgements to Peter Stafford's generosity) will be making available full-colour photographic prints of this picture to interested readers. Orders for these prints should be sent to the Editor, Village Voice, at 25 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 3PB, or phoned to 01548 - 560436. All proceeds from sales of the prints will go towards the New Parish Hall Fund. Mounts and frames may be ordered separately from Len Hubbard at Burwood Gallery, Thurlestone.



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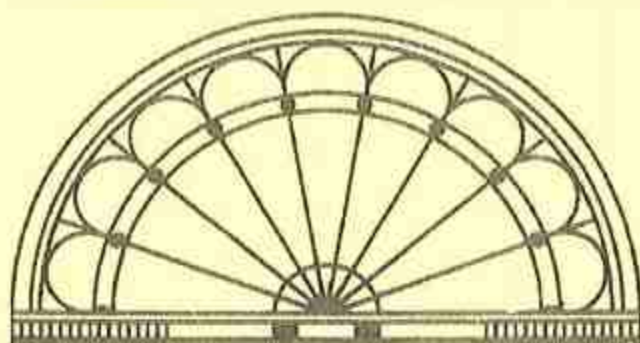


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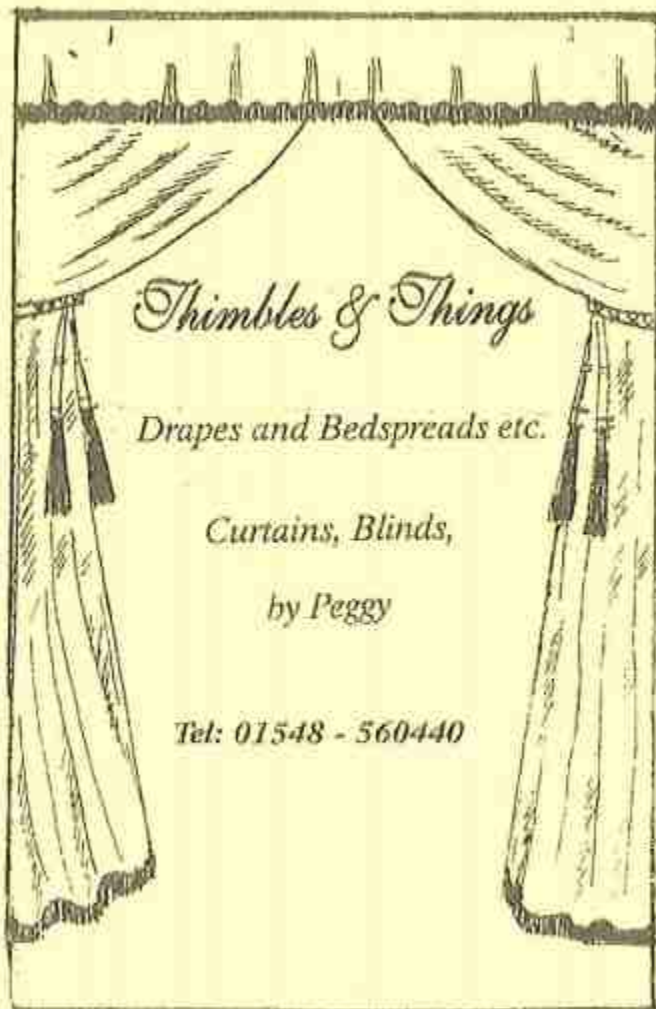
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# HARRY HUGGINS TURNS OUT TO BE A BUTTERFLY NUT



A not infrequent telephone conversation:

"There's a humming bird in my garden".

"It's a moth".

"Oh, no, it hovers, its wings are a blur, and it pushes its beak into flowers".

"Yes, it's a moth".

"What sort of moth?"

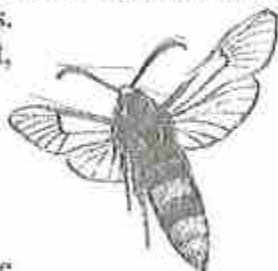
"A Humming Bird Hawk moth".

2003's long hot summer caused havoc with June's runner beans. There was consolation: a very distinguished gardener wrote in the Telegraph that it had caused havoc with her's. More consolation: it was a wonderful late summer for butterflies and moths - at least sixteen species in our garden that we could identify, and I remembered to write in the book. In mid-August, June announced there was a hornet on her lily flowers by the front door. We looked closer: not a hornet but a Hornet Clearwing moth.

If you are an insect you are likely to get eaten, and there are things you can do to reduce the likelihood of that. You can taste nasty, like the caterpillars of Cabbage White butterflies, or you can resemble something known to be unpleasant for anything that interferes with it.

Not much interferes with hornets, which have a formidable sting. Hornet Clearwing moth goes in for protective mimicry. It looks like a hornet, about the same size, about one inch long with yellow and black hoops on its body and transparent wings. But, unlike the hornet, which is a wasp, it doesn't have a wasp waist. Its caterpillars burrow in the timber of willow trees. This one was sucking at the petals of the lilies.

Shy when we first found it - but I reckon the juicy petals made it tipsy - it stayed put when I poked a camera within inches of it. Not a thing to do with a real hornet! This



Clearwing is a resident. But our most exciting visitors were the migrants, which do not survive the winter here. I wonder if that will change with global warming?

At the risk of 'teaching my grandmother to suck eggs', a note about the life-history of butterflies and moths. Each starts with an egg. The egg hatches; the little caterpillar emerges and gets on with its task in life - eating. Often it starts with the remains of its egg. Sometimes it eats its siblings, unless they eat it first. It is a pair of jaws, a gut and a skin enclosing squish. It grows and when its skin gets too tight it sheds it, having grown another inside. Usually each species eats something different, most often a plant, though some delight in the old tweed jacket in the cupboard (not so often these days as caterpillars don't care for man-made fibres). Some, like the Hornet Clearwing moth, bore in wood.

When it has eaten what it thinks is enough, the caterpillar turns into a pupa. That normally has a hard outer shell, though some can wriggle about a bit. The caterpillar's squish turns into goo, which becomes head, thorax, body, legs and wings of the final insect. The pupa splits and the adult insect crawls out, its wings small and floppy as yet. It pumps them up with fluid, they harden, and it flies off to fulfil its function in life - find one of the opposite sex, mate, and produce the next generation.

Most butterflies and moths suck nectar to keep up their strength. Some insects cannot eat - mayflies, for example, have nothing to eat with. Having spent a year or so as a larva (which means caterpillar only posher - and mayflies are under water anyway) in many species the adult hatches in the evening and is dead by next morning, during which time it hopes to have mated and, if female, to have laid eggs.



Adult butterflies and moths don't have jaws. They have a proboscis - a tube they can push into flowers, which is why in our gardens they come to the things whose flowers have lots of nectar: buddleia, fuchsias, ice plants (all right, sedums if you are a real gardener) and *Verbena bonariensis*. That's the thing which grows five feet high with small purple flowers at the tips of wiry stems and persists in seeding itself at the edge of the borders, when it can flop over the grass and get in the way when I try to mow. Beautiful it is not, but it stays in flower for months and the insects love it. We had two Humming Bird Hawk moths on it on the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

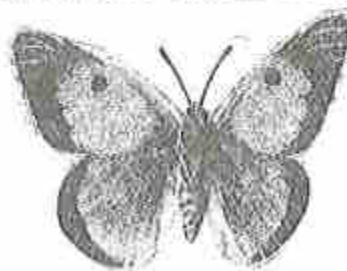
They carry this proboscis - tongue for simplicity though it isn't really a tongue - coiled under their heads. The Humming Bird Hawk moth flies about with it stuck out in front, another reason why people think they have seen a humming bird.

Seventy-odd years ago, when we lived in Thanet, my father reared Clouded Yellow butterflies - another migrant. He caught them on fields of lucerne which was grown by farmers as animal-feed. Alfalfa they call it now, and you never see it grown. If you collected butterflies and moths, you hoped all the time to find one a bit different - varieties they called them. We birders hope for rare birds, not common ones which are different. The nearly-white Greenshank which turned up at Kingsbridge in 2001 caused all sorts of problems.

A Clouded Yellow is, well, yellow, a sort of custard colour with a black border around the upper side of each wing. Sometimes a white one appeared, always female, and uncommon but regular enough to have a name, helice. He reckoned that if he bred from eggs laid by an ordinary one he might get a helice and, if he bred from her he might get more white ones.

So a plant of lucerne was dug up from the field of some unsuspecting farmer and planted in a large flower pot covered with a piece of muslin held up by the whippy cane they used to thrash me with. My mother was one of the spare-the-rod-and-spoil-the-child

school of parenting. There was a moratorium on whoppings until the butterfly rearing was over. To feed the laying butterflies he would moisten a lump of sugar with water; with a pin, he uncoiled the butterfly's tongue from beneath her head, placed it on the sugar and let her suck away at the sweetness. Eggs were laid which became caterpillars, they ate the lucerne, and in due time butterflies emerged. These were almost always yellow ones. I recall only one white one and he was so excited by her that when he took off the muslin he fumbled - and the cat ate her!



Like the Humming Bird Hawk moths, and several other butterflies and moths, these Clouded Yellows are migrants which cannot survive the winter in Britain. They breed continuously in southern Europe, some fly north and cross the Channel to breed in this country. Some years there are a few Clouded Yellows, sometimes none, and, just occasionally, there are swarms.

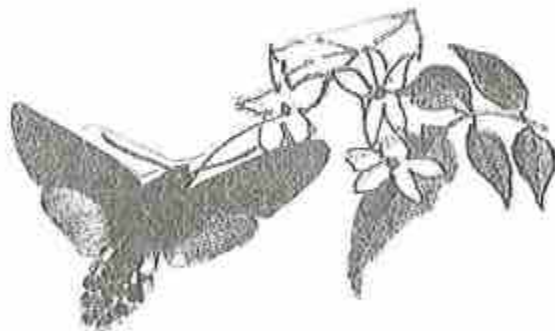
The old entomologists thought these insects came north because they were always trying to extend their range. I am not so sure. Birds migrate north in spring to find extended hours of daylight and less competition, then go back south when autumn comes and food gets scarce. I think insects try to do the same. Someone wrote that in autumn at a pass in the Pyrenees he saw a stream of butterflies going south. Some years ago on a September day we were in the car-park at Start Point when we saw a large number of Red Admiral butterflies, another migrant, heading out towards the point. Were they trying to go back to France? Probably none made it, but you cannot tell.

You can put a ring on a bird's leg and maybe someone will recover it, small chance if a little bird but more likely if something bigger like a duck which someone might shoot. You can't put a ring on a butterfly's leg but



they do mark them, I believe, with a blob of paint, although I have never heard that anyone has found a butterfly which might have crossed the Channel. Of course, it isn't the individual insects which came in spring that go back in autumn, but their descendants, bidden by instinct.

Humming Bird Hawk, a moth just over an inch long, and a couple of inches across its outstretched wings. Its body is dull brown,



with three little white tufts on each side of its abdomen. Hovering, its wings are a blur, but you can see the fore-wings are brown and the hind-wings pale chestnut. The caterpillars eat a wild flower called bedstraw, known more familiarly as cleavers.

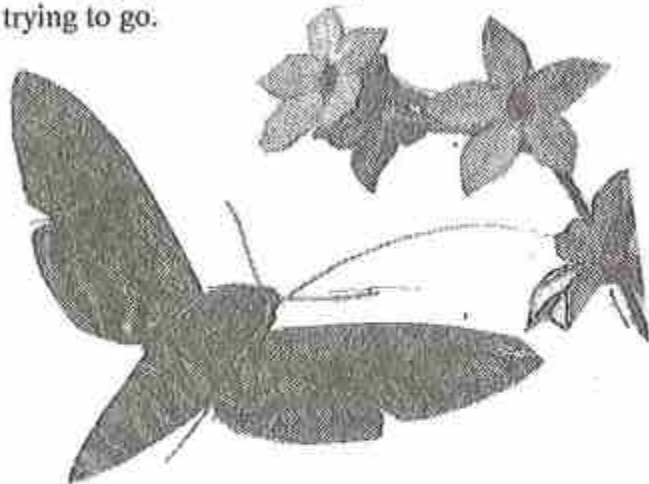
Red Admirals have their heartland in southern Europe and north Africa. They come over in spring, though some are supposed to be able to overwinter. A big butterfly, it looks black on top with a red band across the fore wings and with red edging to the hind wings. The caterpillars eat nettles, which is why, if keen on butterflies; you should always have a nice little patch of them in your garden. Don't look down your nose at nettles - you can make the young tops into beer and boil the rest for a vegetable which tastes like spinach...or so the book says. I haven't tried.

Painted Lady is one of our real favourites. For many years we had a sailing boat called Painted Lady, but not named for the butterfly. June looked at the plans and thought it looked like a runner bean - there is a fancy one of this name. Chequered orange on top, with black and white chequers at the wing tips. Again, a butterfly which comes north from the Mediterranean and places near, and cannot survive our winters, though I did see

one in the garden at the beginning of January once, but there had been a southerly gale. This year we had so many in the garden that we just lost count.

It isn't only butterflies which migrate. In 2003 we had swarms of Silver Y moths, day flying, furry little brown things with a mark like a silver Y on top of each fore wing, hence the name. The book says the caterpillars eat clover, peas, cabbages, and can be a serious pest. I don't think we get enough in Britain to be pestilent, and none lives through our winter.

We have an open back porch - loggia the builders called it - as good as a greenhouse and you don't have that constant worry that the windows are shut when they ought to be open and vice versa. In it, towards the end of August, June found a large grey moth, over two and a half inches long: a *Convolvulus Hawk*, much bigger than the Goldcrest bird which we had on a windowsill at the same time. There must have been lots, because other people found them also. Ours sat for days in the porch; it seemed a pretty dull existence, but after dark on the fourth day we heard a prodigious noise and found it fluttering up and down the glass. It was trying to go.



June caught it in a basin. Usually a cup is big enough to capture insects, but not this one. She took it into the garden, it did one rapid circuit and disappeared into the night over the roof of the house. We were sorry to see it leave - it was a bit like losing a pet.

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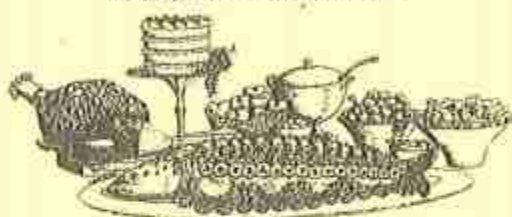


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# TRAMP



**1** Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September was a warm, bright and clear autumn day - which proved, yet again, that there was no need to depart these shores at this time of year. These superb walking conditions greeted eleven walkers, including two visiting ex-regulators from Canada, Paul and Cheryl White, and two dogs.

Within the hour we arrived at Hound Tor car park and set off on a circular route past the ruined medieval village via Becky Falls to Manaton and back over Bowerman's Nose. The new owners of Becky Falls caused a bit of consternation while we located the slightly re-routed public footpath. This had obviously been done to avoid 'non-ticket holders' like us from walking beside the brook and Falls without payment! On Manaton village green we temporarily re-arranged the benches for our picnic, replacing them before continuing to the top of Bowerman's Nose, where we surveyed a 360 degree panorama of tors and distant sea before returning to the car park.

The 'Hound of the Basket Meals' in the car park saw to our need for ice creams or cup of tea this time to round off another enjoyable day.

T.W.

**2** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October dawned as a bright and sunny day and all augured well. However, the eleven (and one 'well-behaved' dog) who arrived at Kingsbridge Rugby Club to start the walk were disconcerted to find that we'd "lost" a fellow walker, so two had to remain behind in case she turned up - which she eventually did, thank goodness!

From the Rugby Club we meandered over to Bowcombe Creek, crossed the kingfisher footbridge (none around unfortunately, but the missing three caught us up here) then faced a stiff climb up to run along the ridge above Bowcombe Creek, eventually dropping down to reach West Charleton village.

Crossing the busy main road, we then faced another climb up to the newly-erected

Millennium Beacon and then slowly descended to reach Frogmore Creek. From there we following the path along the creek to arrive at Frogmore village and 'The Globe' inn.

After an excellent lunch - which we enjoyed sitting outside in glorious sunshine - we set off to return to Kingsbridge by a more direct route, firstly along one of Devon's many and glorious 'white' lanes, then latterly alongside Bowcombe Creek, spotting the wonderful variety of birdlife feeding on the mudflats.

All in all, a thoroughly splendid day enjoyed by all - but then aren't all Tramp walks?

R.H.

**3** Walkers worry about the weather, particularly when Craig is unsure of when the window in a prolonged spell of heavy rain will occur and how long it will last. The morning of Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October was overcast, threatening, and damp, so the leader decided to cut the walk to a morning loop based on the haven of the Pig's Nose at Prawle rather than risk the exposure of Start Point.

The risk with last minute changes of course is that the recce is no longer valid and sure enough, in spite of starting clockwise on the loop, the leader soon went astray to the coast path at Maelcombe House. For a coastal path that is so popular, the section between Prawle and Lannacombe is surprisingly narrow and steep. The walk then turned inland towards Lannacombe Green and, because we were now going anti-clockwise, climbed the 300 ft up to the rather unsightly developments at Higher Borough and level to Prawle. Happily, the rain had so far held off.

The Pig's Nose was busy and bustling but we were able to all sit round one table for a leisurely and in most cases a more generous and liquid lunch than time normally allows on our walks. When we emerged, however, it was stair rod time, as Craig had forecast.

R.P.

# CHRISTMAS BOOKSHELF

## **The Lady and the Unicorn**

by Tracy Chevalier

(Harper Collins £15.00)

Those of you who liked *'Girl with a Pearl Earring'* will be aware of the talents of this author. This is another excellent book of hers, fascinating, evocative, and beautifully written. Every word counts.

It is the tale of a Parisian artist who, in the year 1490, is commissioned to design a set of tapestries for a local nobleman, and deals with the difficulties of producing such a large undertaking. There are wonderful pen pictures of the people he meets during the designing and manufacture of the tapestries - which eventually turn out to be of the Lady and the Unicorn - and, in the meantime, there are a few intriguing seductions to add spice to the story.

G.W.

## **Jackdaws**

by Ken Follett

(Pan Books £6.99)



This book fairly fizzles along - action and excitement from the first to the last pages. Coming as it did after a series of fairly disappointing 'reads', it provided a much-needed change.

The story is set in wartime France, in the two week period - late May and early June - leading up to the D-Day landings. It concerns an all-woman team of Special Operations Executive (SOE) who have been trained in England to operate in France. Nick-named the 'Jackdaws', they parachute into the Rheims area to liaise with the local Resistance prior to the invasion. Their objective is to destroy a telephone exchange vital to German communications and it is believed that a small group of women

(disguised as cleaners in this case) would be less likely to come under suspicion than men.

A brilliant and ruthless German intelligence colonel has just been appointed to crush the Resistance, and he targets the Jackdaws' leader (known as the Leopardess, and something of a legend, having survived under cover in France longer than anyone). The colonel believes that she is the eventual key to his rooting out and destroying a large section of Resistance fighters, but she always manages - just - to keep one step ahead.

The plot is brilliant and full of suspense. If your reading matter could do with a change of pace for Christmas - try this!

P.M.

## **The Golden Jubilee in the South Hams**

Compiled by Rev John Fairweather Tall  
(Kingsbridge History Society £4.95)

Kingsbridge History Society, under the leadership of Rev. John Fairweather Tall, have produced an excellent 62 page illustrated book in which they have painstakingly recorded the local celebrations of HM the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

They have written up in detail what happened in Kingsbridge and 22 of its surrounding villages in the South Hams, including Thurlestone, compiling their book from reports and colour photographs supplied by the local residents.

It was an ambitious project but has proved well worth the effort. This excellent volume should have a place on every local resident's bookshelf, and is readily available from Thurlestone PO / Stores. Just the thing for your own Christmas present!

P.M.



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Pre-heat oven to 220 degrees C and line a Swiss roll tin with non-stick baking parchment (use a little oil to keep it in place)

### Ingredients

- 500g (1lb) spinach, washed, dried and finely chopped
- 5 eggs (separated)
- 250g (8 ozs) smoked salmon
- 200g (one tub) cream cheese
- Slices of tomato and lemon to garnish
- Seasoning

### Method

- Beat egg yolks until thick and creamy, fold in the spinach and seasoning.
- Whisk egg whites until just firm and fold gently into the spinach mixture.
- Pour into the prepared tin - it should spread itself out with a little gentle teasing into corners only.
- Bake for between 10 and 20 minutes. It is cooked when just firm to the touch.
- When cooked, place baking parchment on top and a cooling tray on top of that, and turn over. Leave for a few minutes then gently peel away the lining parchment from the roulade and trim all the edges. Allow to cool.
- Spread cream cheese on top of pieces of smoked salmon and place these on top of cooled roulade. Roll the roulade up from the long side, using the underneath parchment to help you.
- Cover and chill for 30 minutes to one hour or even overnight.
- Cut into slices to serve and garnish with tomato and lemon slices.

**Have a very happy and peaceful Christmas!**

### Deferring Post-Christmas Turkey Stock

If you have no time to make stock from the turkey carcass, freeze it in a polythene bag until it is hard. Then wrap the bag in an old cloth and hammer it flat with a rolling pin. Immediately re-bag and return the pieces to the freezer until you are ready to make the stock.



# IN YOUR GARDEN

Did you know that around seven million 'real' Christmas trees are sold annually in Britain?

A Christmas tree's life is hard but here are a few ways you can help make it easier. Steer clear of any tree that is starting to lose its needles or has brittle branches; give the roots of bare-rooted or root-balled trees a good soak and plant as soon as possible; stand a cut tree in a bucket of water before cutting a half-inch slice off the bottom then placing it in a water-retaining stand with water topped up daily; keep container grown trees moist; keep trees away from heaters or the fire; use a needle-retaining spray.

After Christmas a container-grown plant has a very good chance of surviving if transplanted into the garden. Or it can be re-potted into a larger container and kept well watered.

Is your garden all tidied up for the winter? Are you sitting back, as all the gardening magazines suggest, flicking through those seductive seed catalogues and resolving what you would like to try in the way of new plants for 2004?

As you peruse the pretty pictures are you not sometimes slightly rattled by the frequency with which some old favourites have their names changed? And how about the proliferation of new brands of bedding plants? After years of relatively little being added to the usual list we all grew up with - petunias, snapdragons, lobelias, marigolds, geraniums etc. - there are now loads of unrecognisable new ones with unpronounceable names.

All very delightful but what a lot of new things to learn about!

I came across the following piece of verse by John Downing - reprinted by kind permission of the Hardy Plant Society - which I think sums things up.

## A GARDENER'S LAMENT

Winter garden bleak and bare, with scarce a sign of weeds,

I sits and looks at catalogues, and orders up me seeds.

All those coloured photographs, each with a Latin label,

Which, though I be a country chap, to understand I'm able.

Although I must admit sometimes I now and then forgets,

Confusing names generic with specific epithets.

Forgetting that the endings in the whole herbarium

Depend upon the gender, such as bus and ba or bum.

Pronouncing can be tricky and upsetting for me vibes,

When experts take exception to Chrymamsesums and Ribes,

Cotton-Easter, Dootzia, Manggolia and Heeb,

Not quite Mr Titchmarsh when talking on the Beeb.

Vibirmingham, You-ominous and Appy-medium.

And don't forget my favourite shrub, the blue Hydranium.

Just when I think I've got it taped, them egg-heads start new games,

With names like Argyranthemum and other daisy names.

Next will be this PC lark, and really start some cursin's

Insisting that for Cyclamen we all say Cyclapersons!

Ah well, even if the names sometime escape you the flowers themselves will always remain a never ending delight in your garden. Here's wishing all of you a very Happy Christmas. Now roll on those New Year bulbs!

**Ladybird**



# WEATHER WAG



After my two-issue sabbatical (!) I am determined to get this article in on time, and to include in it some of the material that should have appeared earlier in the year. Here goes:

## Wednesday 23rd July

Today the weather is unbelievably miserable - wet, windy, cool for the time of the year, and dark much earlier than normal. If this sentence sounds familiar, then just look up the last edition! Despite my efforts in the garden the bindweed is now blooming well over the top of the hedge (read that sentence as you wish). To top it all, as I wrote the title this afternoon, the power went off - for three and a half-hours. So now it is late and I will have to burn the midnight oil to finish the article, as there is a planned power cut tomorrow— ALL DAY.

I spent the afternoon baking bread, or trying to, and working out the statistics for the first half of the year. It makes quite interesting browsing.

## Statistics for Beach Cottage Weather Station 2003

	Monthly Rainfall		Temperature		Sunshine	
	9-Year Average	2003	8-Year Average	2003	7-Year Average	2003
January	98.37 mm	92.20 mm	7.60° C	7.20° C	49.90 hrs	92.79 hrs
February	78.59 mm	78.14 mm	8.14° C	7.50° C	90.12 hrs	43.65 hrs
March	63.08 mm	43.50 mm	7.87° C	9.60° C	110.03 hrs	112.20 hrs
April	71.54 mm	49.50 mm	10.36° C	11.60° C	192.00 hrs	212.60 hrs
May	61.96 mm	71.40 mm	11.90° C	12.20° C	208.00 hrs	203.80 hrs
June	43.30 mm	75.10 mm	19.60° C	16.45° C	188.35 hrs	212.90 hrs
Totals	531 mm	409 mm	14.90° C	10.88° C	838 hrs	878 hrs

What do you think about all these figures? Sometimes I think there is very little point to them, but then I feel that if we are to ever try to make sense of the weather we must have some sort of base on which to place our theories. Craig Rich often tells us about the 'Old wives tales' connected with the weather, and I've related a few in this series. Some have a semblance of truth, others are too fanciful to ever have any foundation of fact in them at all. But it is good to trot them out now and again.

Now the Church Fête and lots of Pasties call, so I must re-direct my activities. What a night last night! 15 mm rain and 45 mph from the south west. Hope for a lull on Saturday when we endeavour to have a jolly time. We do all rely so much on the atmospheric conditions, don't we? I hope August will be more accommodating for all our visitors.

## Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Fate decreed that July 26<sup>th</sup> was going to be a test of resolve and endeavour. It rained constantly from late the evening before until the following evening and we all got very wet! That was our Church Fête Day, and it has hardly rained since. However, in some parts of the country the weather has proved to be much more active and 'interesting'. Tornadoes near Gloucester and off the north east coast, with storms over much of the far north, whilst we have had sunshine and sunshine.

The sea is very warm, as it is most years at this time, but this year it is at 18° C which is warmer than usual. Considering this fact it has been free of the usual crop of jelly-fish and quiet murky waters that tend to smell a little of.....well, you know what rotting seaweed smells like. The level of sunshine has been well up, with day after day registering above 12hrs. I have not recorded such levels before. Even night-time temperatures have been relatively high, considering the clear skies in August. And what about Mars? It was fabulous to be able see the planet so clearly on so many nights.

The equinox arrived on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and winds were predominantly in the west. So, according to the evidence of my Grandfather, that's where they will be (more often than not) for the next six months. Test it for yourself and see!

Looking at the records for August 1997 and this year we find :

Period	Total Rainfall	Av. Temperature	Total Sunshine
August 97	144 mm	17° C	271 hrs
August 03	28 mm	19.5° C	214 hrs

In 1997 there were 7 days when rainfall exceeded 10 mm (heavy thunder showers or longer periods of rain). This year there was a considerable amount of high cloud and strongish easterly winds; so not as much concentrated sunshine, and little rain (only 4 rainy days and none over 10 mm this year). September looks as if it might be a very dry month, but there are several days left and a change is imminent. However, only 7.9 mm so far. Last year (2002), September was the driest since I started record-keeping in 1994 at 12.1 mm, and it looks as though it will keep its record. (1994 = 124 mm was the highest September rainfall I have ever recorded).

Make sure you have checked the sheds for shrinkage, the roof for cracked slates or tiles (due to heat of course) and decide whether it is worth having Solar panels put in for free hot water (eventually!), clear the garden of summer bedding, trim hedges, etc., all before the Autumn rains and gales set in!

#### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Well, did you get all that done before this week? If not, then the gales will have beaten you, and the frost will have got your tender plants if you were not prepared for it. We've actually had more frost this year already than we have had since the winter of 2001. Having mentioned shrinkage, etc., due to heat, our old 'Oil Tank' (of the barrel kind) has split along the top (fortunately not so badly that the oil has escaped), and in the nick of time it has been emptied and a new one installed. *The company said that they have never had so many tanks split or develop leaks as they have had this year.*

To bring you right up to date with the three key weather indicators :

Period	Rainfall	Temperature	Sunshine
Jan - Oct 2003	608 mm	13° C	1535 hrs
7 Year Averages	742 mm	12.8° C	1455 hrs

So there we are! The reservoirs are well down, the Ley is desperate for a top up and we will put up with the dull wet days for the time being, the trouble is, it seems never to know when to stop. It really is hard to remember what the years are like unless the figures are there to help. I find it fascinating just to know! I must stop now or you will never read Weather Wag again. Hope your garden is in good fettle and all cleared up for the winter. And do have a Happy Christmas - with lots of good weather in the New Year.

**Jan Turner**





**Lisa Wootton**

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**5.45pm & 8.30pm**

**MATRIX:REVOLUTIONS(15)**

**FRI DEC12th/SAT 13th/MON 15th**

**TUES 16th/WED 17th/THUR 18th**

**8.00pm**

**FINDING NEMO (U)**

**FRI DEC19th/SAT20th/MON 22nd**

**TUES 23rd/SAT 27th/MON 29th**

**5.30pm**

**MATINEES**

**SAT 20th/MON 22nd/TUES23rd**

**SAT 27th/MON 29th/TUES 30th**

**WED 31st/THUR 1st 3.00pm**

**MYSTIC RIVER (15)**

**FRI DEC19th/SAT20th/MON 22nd**

**TUES 23rd 8.00pm**

**IN AMERICA(15)**

**SAT DEC 27th/MON29th 8.30pm**

**TUE30th/THUR JAN 1st**

**5.45pm & 8.30pm**

**WED 31st 5.45pm only**

**ELF (PG)**

**FRI JAN 2nd/SAT 3rd/MON 5th**

**TUES 6th/ WED 7th/ THUR 8th**

**5.30pm & 8.00pm**

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# NEWS FROM THE WI



## October

- Members stood for a minute in silent remembrance of **Jax Auster**, who had recently died.
- **Joan Roberts**, the guest speaker, had everyone racking their brains to try and name the many beautiful flowers she showed on her slides - not only blooms from her own garden but also from well-known ones, including Coletton Fishacre, where she is a guide.
- Later in the month several members went to the county federation's Autumn Council meeting at Torquay, where they had an interesting day. Four of them volunteered to spend a large part of the day selling county raffle tickets to fellow members who had come from all corners of Devon for this special day in the Devon WI year. **Carolyn Taylor** was the delegate and wrote a good report of the event which was read at the November meeting.

## November

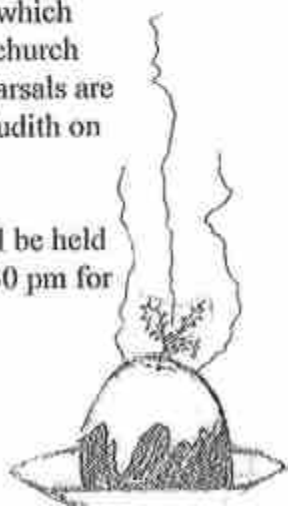
- At the beginning of November the 'WI members only' showing at the Reel Cinema in Kingsbridge of the film *Calendar Girls* had been much enjoyed, although the Yorkshire ladies from the Rylstone WI (who had made the calendar) were much better-looking than the actresses in the film!
- It was annual meeting time on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, and a review of the year's activities recalled the highlights of the past twelve months at Thurlestone WI and brought back many happy memories. Members bade a fond farewell to **Dorothy Candy**, who was bowing out as President, and tribute was paid to her enthusiastic and dedicated leadership which has been so much appreciated.

Dorothy will remain on the committee and the three members who are retiring from the committee (**Rosemary Durant**, **Pat Macdonald** and **Judith Reynolds**) were warmly thanked by Dorothy for their loyal support.

- **Judith Le Grice** was the popular choice as the new President.
- Also elected were the new Secretary, **Karen Livett**, and the new Treasurer, **Pat Clarke**.
- The committee also includes **Dorothy Abel**, **Pat Crawford**, **Julie Hanham**, **Pam Knight**, **Carolyn Taylor**, **Jan Trender** and **Jean Yeoman**.
- Gifts were presented to **Shirley Chapman** who had the most hits with the bloom-of-the-month competitions throughout the year, and **Pat Macdonald** for making the monthly birthday posies. After business, **Jean Orford** of S. Milton demonstrated Xmas cracker making.

## Coming Events

- On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December there will be a Mince Pie 'n Coffee Morning at West Charleton. **Joan Booth** and **Pat Clarke** will demonstrate Fabric Decorations, and there will be other demonstrations of Christmas Flowers and Card-Making.
- **Judith Le Grice** is devising the programme for the annual Sea Coast Group Christmas carol service, which this year will be at Thurlestone church on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Rehearsals are being planned - please contact Judith on 562165.
- The annual Christmas lunch will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December (12.30 pm for 1.00 pm).





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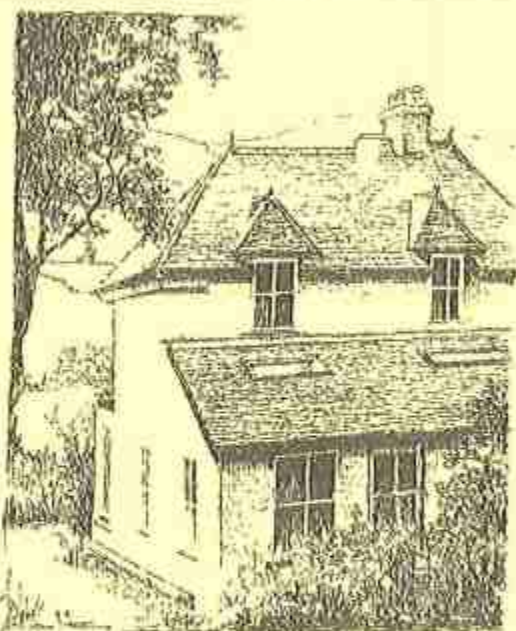


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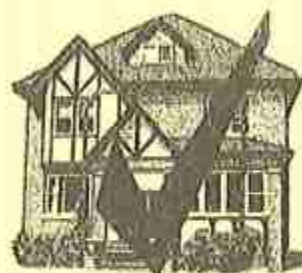
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# HORSWELL DIARY



Can Christmas really be just around the corner when the countryside is still ablaze with autumn colour?

While children everywhere have been busy compiling their Yuletide wish-lists and parents prepare to dig deep into their pockets for the latest computer game we have been distracted by the warmth and sunshine of November days, blissfully unaware of the encroaching festivities. The unseasonal weather has encouraged us to work out of doors where we trim and prune, plant bulbs and rake leaves, inspired by the spectacular autumn colours. Surely this year they have been more beautiful, more intense than ever before?

Our garden over the past few weeks has been transformed into a scene from fairyland, a silent firework display of deciduous gold and bronze freeze-framed against a dark background of holly and fir. Leaves overlooked in their uniform summer green have reclaimed their independence, delighting us with their infinite variety. As I write, their colours radiate a joyous beauty - luminous with autumn sunshine. The vine-leaves that festoon the kitchen courtyard are falling fast, leaving a trail of handprints across the cobbles: lemon yellow and citrus green, burgundy, claret, ruby and grape. Sweet-chestnut leaves twist and shimmer like goldfish dangling from a line, then, with a clatter, fall to the ground. A breeze sends them rolling and rattling across the gravel, skipping and scurrying, tumbling head over heels into dips and hollows to die like dampened embers.

Tall firs are garlanded with vibrant creepers, dark pines bedecked with necklaces of gold and gleaming jewels. Grey stone walls freckled and blotched with ochre lichen bask in the unexpected warmth. The sunshine highlights their blemishes and glistens on their old quartz veins. Slate roofs are strewn with the yellowed fishbones of wisteria and woodland paths are paved with gold. Red-berried creepers trail through the winter green of bay and laurel, and orange flames engulf the branches of maple and cherry. Leaves cascade from tulip trees and beech, as if a mighty hand has emptied a

packet of Kellogg's Corn flakes over their branches. They collect in golden pools that spread daily across the dew-moist lawn awaiting our attention. Christmas decorations will have a hard act to follow after beauty such as this.

The peacocks gather on sun-warmed steps to preen their newly emerging tails. They bend iridescent teal blue necks to peck and nibble at offending mites lodged between their feathers. Their new companions, a small flock of guinea fowl, are slowly exploring their new surroundings. At first their bald heads and grey plumage remind one of small turkeys but closer inspection reveals a tufted tiara beginning to grow on their heads and pretty white spots on their feathers. However, if they continue to decimate our plants at the current rate they may soon outstay their welcome and run the risk of being converted into Christmas lunch or perhaps an elegant hat for Ascot.

The squirrels are fat and furry as they hang upside down stealing nuts from the bird feeder. Only the woodpecker is brave enough to challenge them, taking his turn to sway back and forth before giving way to blue tits and greenfinch. Above me a squall of rooks startles into the air like a burst of gunshot peppered against a blue sky. Their dry "caw-caw" breaks the silence as their dark silhouettes wheel and soar overhead. Bertie, the Briard, comes and rests his huge head on my lap and Flossie the sheepdog tugs at my arm with her paw. Time to go indoors and prepare some lunch for my hard working husband (currently bent double beneath the clerodendrons planting his second sack of daffodils and muttering incantations against the originator of the planting scheme).

The lunchtime News is full of missing children, murder and mayhem, bringing me back to the real world with a bump. I find it extraordinary that at the same time that I am enraptured by the beauty of sun shining through an autumn leaf there is someone else using those exact same minutes to contemplate perpetrating an atrocity so vile it beggars belief. I suppose we are all capable of being damaged to a greater or

lesser extent by our life's experiences, but I do believe that for anyone except the clinically insane, decency is a choice and even a murderer knows right from wrong - even if he chooses to ignore it.

I suppose it could be argued that freedom of thought (including ghastly thoughts) is the basis for a true democracy. Thinking of which I wonder if Michael Howard, the new leader of the Conservative Party, will bring democracy back to our politics? Love him or loathe him he appears to be a worthy opponent for Mr. Blair, and the country on both sides of the political divide should be grateful that debate and thus democracy looks set to replace the headstrong unilateralism of recent years. I am intrigued to hear that Rupert Murdoch the formidable Press Baron is not necessarily prepared to offer the present government his continued support. He is a shrewd businessman. Does he smell the whiff of change in the air?

Tomorrow I am taking a friend to collect her new Labrador puppy. She is under strict orders from my husband to ensure that I do not return with one for myself. Hopefully they will all already be taken, but if there were a little black dog waiting for a new home.....who knows?..... how could I refuse? I remember when I went to collect our last Labrador Abo from the kennels and came home with his litter brother Alfie too.

The air was blue. The dogs were ignored.

Then one day, when I was unable to look after them, I peeped out of the window and watched my husband lifting first one, then the other into the back of his Range Rover. As he picked them up they wriggled and licked his face, snuggling close against him. When he turned to wave goodbye he was smiling, and I knew that from that day onwards they would be accepted as part of the family. I wonder if I dare risk it again? If you see my suitcase and a dog basket at the end of the drive you'll know why!

So Christmas is nearly here, and from the emerging snowdrops and early flowering camellias Spring will not be far behind. How quickly this year has disappeared! Already friends are planning next year's travels to destinations that become ever more exotic: Guatemala, Belize and Honduras to name a few. It is hard to imagine that by the time February arrives I too will be desperate for heat and sunshine and will be reaching for the holiday brochures. For now I am content to hibernate at Horswell, warmed by our log fires and the beauty of our surroundings and looking forward to seeing family and friends at Christmas.

From all of us, including the dogs, ducks, peacocks, guinea fowl (and puppy?) our wishes to all of you for a very Merry Christmas and a New Year full of hope and happiness.

Prunella Dart



## PUZZLE PAGE - ANSWERS

### WORDSEARCH

- |               |               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. JELLYFISH  | 2. ENCOUNTER  | 3. TERMINATE  | 4. ROTTERDAM  |
| 5. ORCHESTRA  | 6. INCAPABLE  | 7. VANCOUVER  | 8. PIROUETTE  |
| 9. CARTHORSE  | 10. INCEPTION | 11. XENOPHOBE | 12. HILARIOUS |
| 13. NIGHTFALL | 14. CRIMINALS | 15. RESIDENCE | 16. EYESTRAIN |
| 17. MIDSUMMER | 18. GRATITUDE | 19. BAROMETER | 20. PISTACHIO |
| 21. SLOWCOACH |               |               |               |

### TEN TEASERS

- |              |                             |                 |                  |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1. Goldcrest | 3. Archbishop of Canterbury | 5. Rub al Khali | 7. Birds Eggs    | 9. JH Taylor |
| 2. USA       | 4. Robert Knox-Johnston     | 6. The Toffees  | 8. HMS Royal Oak | 10. Leveret  |



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# At the Bridge Table



This article continues the topic of attitude and length signals by defenders, which take precedence in that order over the suit preference signals described in previous articles.

Looking first at **attitude**, the simple rule is that when partner leads to a trick, a high spot card from you will encourage; a low spot card will discourage. A good example of a high-low play (an "echo") - and the importance of analysis by a defender once he sees the dummy - arose on the hand shown here. North/South were playing five card majors and a strong No Trump (15 to 17 points). Their bidding with East/West silent was as follows:

North	South
	1 Club
1 Diamond	1 Spade
2 Clubs	2 No Trumps
3 No Trumps	

West started with the 7 of Hearts (the unbid suit) which was ducked in dummy. East now has a lot of information -

- South's 2 NT bid shows about 18 points. It follows that West must have about 12 points and at least two entries.
- South rebid 1 Spade rather than 1 Heart, and therefore does not have four hearts.
- Partners lead cannot be the usual fourth highest (otherwise declarer would have no points in the suit) and almost certainly he has just three small Hearts.

Returning to the play, East can see that if he wins the first trick with the King of Hearts, continuation of the suit will eventually set it up. But to no avail, because he has no entry to enjoy the result. His best play is to **encourage** by playing the 8 of Hearts (i.e., a positive **attitude** signal). Thus when West gains the lead with, say, the Ace of Clubs, he can continue Hearts to remove dummy's Ace. When he gets in again with the Ace of Diamonds the lead of this third Heart allows East to cash his three Heart tricks. Further analysis shows that this is the only play to defeat South, who otherwise would get home with three Club tricks, three Diamonds, two Hearts, and one Spade trick.

Now an example from the recent Press to show how care needs to be taken with the interpretation of attitude signals. South's contract is 4 Spades. West starts with the obvious Ace of Hearts and on seeing partner's 8, he continued with the King to leave South with the boss Heart and a way (the only way) to make his contract. West went wrong because he saw East's play of the 8 of Hearts as high and encouraging. But sight of his own hand, dummy's Heart holding, and the 2 played by South should have told him that his partner's 8 of Hearts was the **lowest card** he could hold. Hence this card was **discouraging** and should have resulted in the play of anything but a Heart to the second trick. Think before you leap!

N/ S Vulnerable		Dealer East	
NORTH			
S	5 3 2		
H	A 10		
D	J 10 9 2		
C	Q 10 7 6		
WEST		EAST	
S	K J 9 4	S	8 7
H	7 4 2	H	K 8 6 5 3
D	A 6 5 3	D	8 7
C	A 5	C	9 8 3 2
SOUTH			
S	A Q 10 6		
H	Q J 9		
D	K Q 4		
C	K J 4		

N/ S Vulnerable		Dealer East	
<div><div>NORTH</div><div>S K 7 3 2</div><div>H 7 4 3</div><div>D K J 3</div><div>C K J 5</div></div>			
<div><div>WEST</div><div>S J 8</div><div>H A K 6 5</div><div>D 10 6 2</div><div>C 10 9 7 3</div></div>	<div><div>EAST</div><div>S 5 4</div><div>H J 10 8</div><div>D A 9 8 7 5</div><div>C 8 6 4</div></div>		
<div><div>SOUTH</div><div>S A Q 10 9 6</div><div>H Q 9 2</div><div>D Q 4</div><div>C A Q 2</div></div>			

Victor





# T E A M A K E R S

Thurlestone Enthusiasts At Mouse And Keyboard Exercises for Recreational Satisfaction

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## **Broadband**

BT have recently increased the requirement for connecting our local Sutton Cross telephone exchange to handle Broadband. From an original requirement of 150 people expressing an interest, the "trigger" has now been increased to 500. While more than 166 have already "signed up", a further 334 names are now needed before BT will start work to put in the connection.

**No obligation or commitment** is involved in registering interest - ownership of a computer is not even a requirement - though you must, of course, have a house-based telephone line. The exercise is just like signing a petition.

Getting the total number of registrations up to 500 is vital if we are to get a Broadband facility. **Chris White** is heading up the campaign for Thurlestone, and his volunteer helpers will be approaching all residents in the coming weeks. **Your agreement to aid this campaign by registering your interest could prove decisive** - and, incidentally, help to safeguard property values in this area. Areas without a Broadband facility will increasingly come to be seen as rural blackspots. You will also be helping local businesses to gain earlier access to Broadband for their commercial activities.

**Please aid the Thurlestone campaign for Broadband by completing and returning the yellow Registration Form enclosed.**

## **New Year Programme**

With an increasing number of people showing interest in further developing their computer skills, as well as a steady stream of beginners looking for an introduction to computing, classes will continue in the New

Year on **Mondays and Wednesdays** at All Saints School - from 4.00 to 6.00 pm.

**Anyone wishing to attend these classes as a beginner, or to gain further experience of computer applications and develop specific computer skills, is invited to come along to All Saints school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December to discuss and register their particular requirements.**

The schedule of classes for the New Year will then be structured according to demand for the subjects identified below :

- Introduction to computer basics
- Word Processing and DTP
- Spreadsheets
- E-Mail and the Internet
- Digital Imaging
- Family History Research

The detailed timetable of the courses and classes to be arranged will be published in the next (1<sup>st</sup> February) issue of Village Voice.

Technical classroom assistant **Richard Haysom** has proved a welcome addition to the coaching team, particularly with his contributions to the subject of Digital Imaging. New mentors would be welcomed.

## **Computers for Hire**

Teamakers still have **four computers** for short-term loan to **beginners** wishing to gain hands-on experience of computers before deciding whether or not to purchase their own equipment. Anyone wishing to try one of these computer units on loan should contact **Robin Macdonald** on 560436. All hire fees are donated towards the provision of an IT facility in the New Parish Hall.



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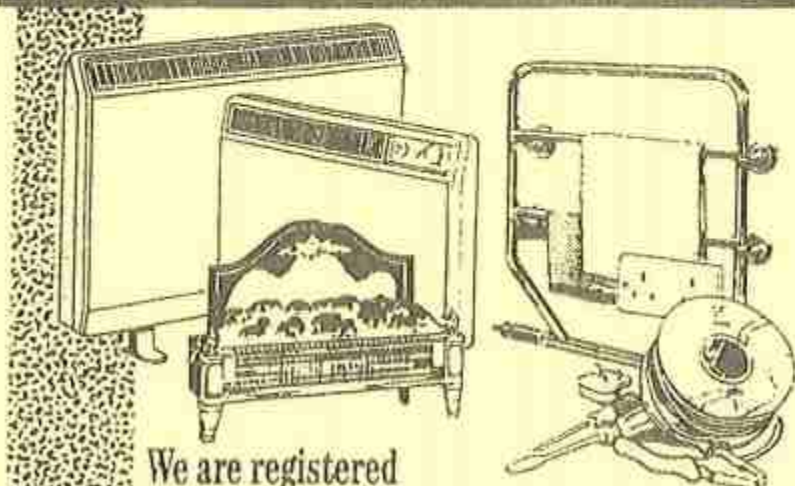


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## DIARY DATES

## VILLAGE VOICE

### DECEMBER

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	School Christmas Fair, Parish Hall, 3.30 - 6.00 pm
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	Farmers' Market, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm, Kingsbridge Quay
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	QUIZ NIGHT, Parish Hall, 7.00 pm
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Christmas Walk
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	WI Christmas Carol Service, Parish Church, 2.30 pm
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	Probus Christmas Lunch (History of London Underground)
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	WI Christmas Lunch, 12.30 for 1.00 pm

### JANUARY

Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Farmers' Market, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm, Kingsbridge Quay
Thur 8 <sup>th</sup>	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Operation Henry)
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	New Year's Dance, S. Milton, 8.00 pm
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Mount Edgecombe
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup>	"Beattie" Drive, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm

### FEBRUARY

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Farmers' Market, 9.00 am - 1.00 pm, Kingsbridge Quay
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Avon Estuary
Thur 12 <sup>th</sup>	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Five Gardens)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	PROBUS, Thurstone Hotel
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	BARN DANCE, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm

### Advertising Rates for Village Voice

12 months (six issues)

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

Your "Cut out and Keep"

## PARISH DIRECTORY & DIARY DATES

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

There is also a subscription service, which mails copies to readers at an annual cost of  
£8.00. Please apply to:

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

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

In Thurstone, Village Voice is delivered by a team of volunteer helpers organised by  
Bill & June van der Welle and Derek & Sally Yeoman. In Bantiam and Buckland  
it is delivered by Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE : 5th JANUARY 2004**

Please drop any contributions marked "Village Voice"  
through the letterbox at 25 Mead Lane before that date  
(or e-mail to [Vvoice@aol.com](mailto:Vvoice@aol.com) or [RbnMacd@aol.com](mailto:RbnMacd@aol.com))

# PARISH

## PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Kel Marshall	560214
Vice - Chairman	Peter Farrell	560486
Parish Clerk	TBA	
Director Co-ordinator	Sherragh Radford	561185
County Councillor	Sir Simon Day	01752 - 691212
Members	Neil Giffing	560489
	Doreen Gorse	560572
	Andrew Rhymer	560484
	Geoffrey Stubbins	560493
	Charles Melchiorre	560602

## Tree Warden

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

## PARISH HALL

Chairman	Rowland Cole	561006
Deputies	Pat Crawford	560688

## PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOCIETY (P.O.T.S.)

Chairman	Len Hubbard	560731
Secretary	Canon Andrew Giffing	562219

## CHURCHWARDENS

Graham Wormald	562015
Liz Webb	560090

## COFFEE TIME (Parish Hall - Monday, 10.30-11.30 am)

Chairman	Liz Webb	560090
Contact	Kel Marshall	560214

## FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH

Contact	John Crawford	560688
Contact	Tough Cair	560595

## ALICE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Contact	Clubhouse	560447
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## BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Contact	Eileen Daymont	560295
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## BOWLS CLUB (Indoor)

Contact	Doreen Stone	560708
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## BRIDGE CLUBS 7pm Parish Hall

Contact	Secretary / Manager TBA	560405
Contact	Lindsay Fletcher	560157

## THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB

Contact	Brenda March	560487
Contact	John Lonsdale	560742
Contact	Toni Tinsford	560885
Contact	Rodney Harris	560889

## KEEP FIT Tuesdays, 10.00 - 11.30 am Parish Hall

Contact	Toni Tinsford	560885
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## HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)

Contact	Toni Tinsford	560885
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## PROBIS

Contact	Toni Tinsford	560885
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## TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)

Contact	Rodney Harris	560889
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# DIRECTORY

## W.L.

Second Thursday monthly (ex-August)	Contact	Judith Le Goffe	562165
2.30 pm Parish Hall			

## SOUTH HAMPS SPINNERS, WEAVERS & DYERS

Contact	Pat Crawford	560688
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## TEAMMAKERS (Computer Club)

Contact	Robin Macdonald	560436
Members (beginners) & Wednesday (improvers)	Chris White	560505
4.00 pm - 6.00 pm. All Saints School, during school terms	Graham Durrant	560507

## HEALTH CENTRES

Kingbridge	835551
Salisbury	842784
R. Bruckner & Son	01803 - 832801

## MILK DELIVERY

M.T. T.F.	8.00 am - 5.30 pm	561917
Wednesday	8.00 am - 3.00 pm	
Saturday	8.00 am - 1.00 pm	
Sunday	8.30 am - 1.00 pm	

## VILLAGE SHOP Thurlestone Village Shop

Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	9.00 am - 5.30 pm	561917
Postal collections: 4.35 pm Monday - Friday, 10.30 am Saturday, 11.00 am Sunday		

## THURLESTONE POST OFFICE

Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	9.00 am - 5.30 pm	561917
Postal collections: 4.35 pm Monday - Friday, 10.30 am Saturday, 11.00 am Sunday		

## POLICE

Emergency	999	08705-777-444
Non-emergency calls	01392 - 452935	0800-555-111

## RUBBISH COLLECTION

Thursday (But Friday in Bank Holiday Monday weeks)	9.00 am - 5.30 pm	08705-777-444
Coloured (Orange, White, Blue) Sack collections (recyclables) alternate Thursdays from 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2003		

## RECYCLING CENTRE (Tort Quarry Site, Tortna Road)

Opening Hours (from 1 <sup>st</sup> October)	Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm	561917
Saturday & Sunday 10.00 am - 4.30 pm		

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION LINE

For ALL bus, rail, or National Express Coach timetable information call TRAVELINE	0870 608 2 608
Open EVERY day (except Christmas Day)	7.00 am to 9.00 pm
DevonBus publications may be obtained by phoning 01392 382800 or by e-mail to devonbus@devon.gov.uk	

## GARAGE (Bright Engineering)

Contact	Maurice Bright	560220
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## KINGSBRIDGE LIBRARY (Mobile Library calls alternate Wednesdays from 3<sup>rd</sup> December)

11.15 - 11.45am	Buckland Old Chapel	11.30 - 12.15pm	Thurlestone Parish Hall
12.30 - 12.50pm	Thurlestone Church	12.35 - 12.45pm	Thurlestone Sands

## MOBILE FISH & CHIP VAN Alternate Wednesdays from 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003, from 5.00 to 6.30 pm, outside school





*Are pleased to announce their  
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*4 The Anchor Centre  
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Photocopy & Fax service

We are happy to accept cheques or credit  
and debit cards for min. of £10

Use the Post Office to buy stamps or obtain  
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Feel free to call in and browse—you'll be  
pleasantly surprised!

See Directory at the back for opening times

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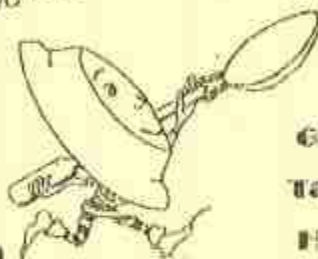
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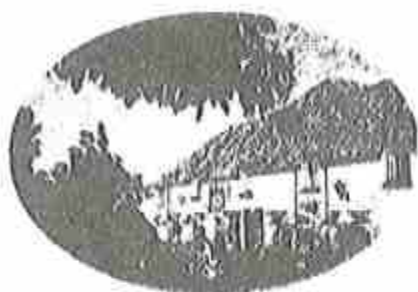
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# The Village Inn

Thurlestone

Tel: 563525

## December Diary

### Saturday 13th December

Live Music with  
"Nick the Fish"  
From 8.30pm

### Sunday 21st December

Evening of Christmas entertainment  
with the Kingsmen Barbershop Chorus

### Tuesday 23rd December

Christmas Carol Concert  
with the Kingsbridge Silver Band



### Christmas Eve

Good old fashioned knees up  
and Christmas Draw

### Saturday 27th December

Live Music with the ever popular  
"Al Black"

### Sunday 28th December

An evening of amazing close-up  
table magic with Dave Merlin



# THE SLOOP INN

## BANTHAM

EGON  
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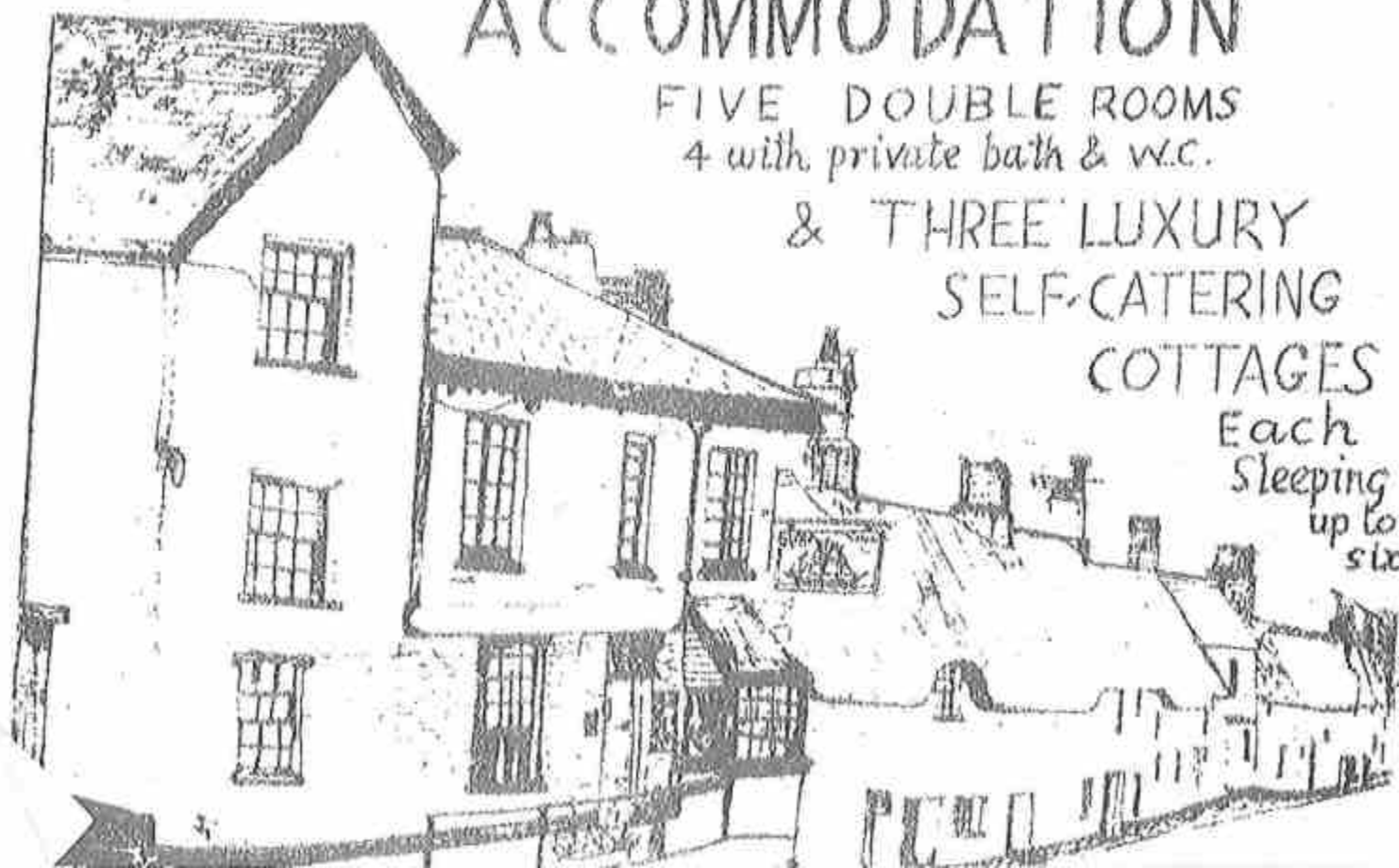
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SELF-CATERING  
COTTAGES

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Sleeping  
up to  
six





# Broadband

- BT have recently increased the requirement for upgrading our local Sutton Cross telephone exchange to handle a Broadband internet connection. From an original requirement of 150 people expressing an interest, the "trigger" has now been increased to 500. While more than 166 have already "signed up", an additional 334 names are now needed before BT will start work to put in the connection.
- **No obligation or commitment of any kind is involved in registering interest - owning a computer is not even a requirement - though you must, of course, have a house-based working telephone line. The exercise is just like signing a petition.**
- Getting the total number of registrations up to 500 is vital if we are to get a Broadband facility. **Chris White** (Telephone 560505) is leading the campaign for Thurlestone, and his volunteer helpers will be approaching all residents in the coming weeks. **Your agreement to aid this campaign by registering your interest could prove decisive** - and, incidentally, help to safeguard property values in this area. Areas without a Broadband facility will increasingly come to be seen as rural blackspots.
- You will also be helping local businesses to gain earlier access to Broadband for their commercial activities, and thereby helping the local economy.

Please aid the Thurlestone campaign for Broadband by completing the Registration Form below and returning it to **Chris White, 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB** or dropping it in to Sarah at the Thurlestone Post Office.



## BROADBAND

Please register my interest in having the Sutton Cross exchange upgraded to provide Broadband internet connection.

I understand that registering does not involve any obligation at all.

Forename & Surname	Address	Post Code (TQ7)	Phone No. starting 560, 1, 2	Signature

