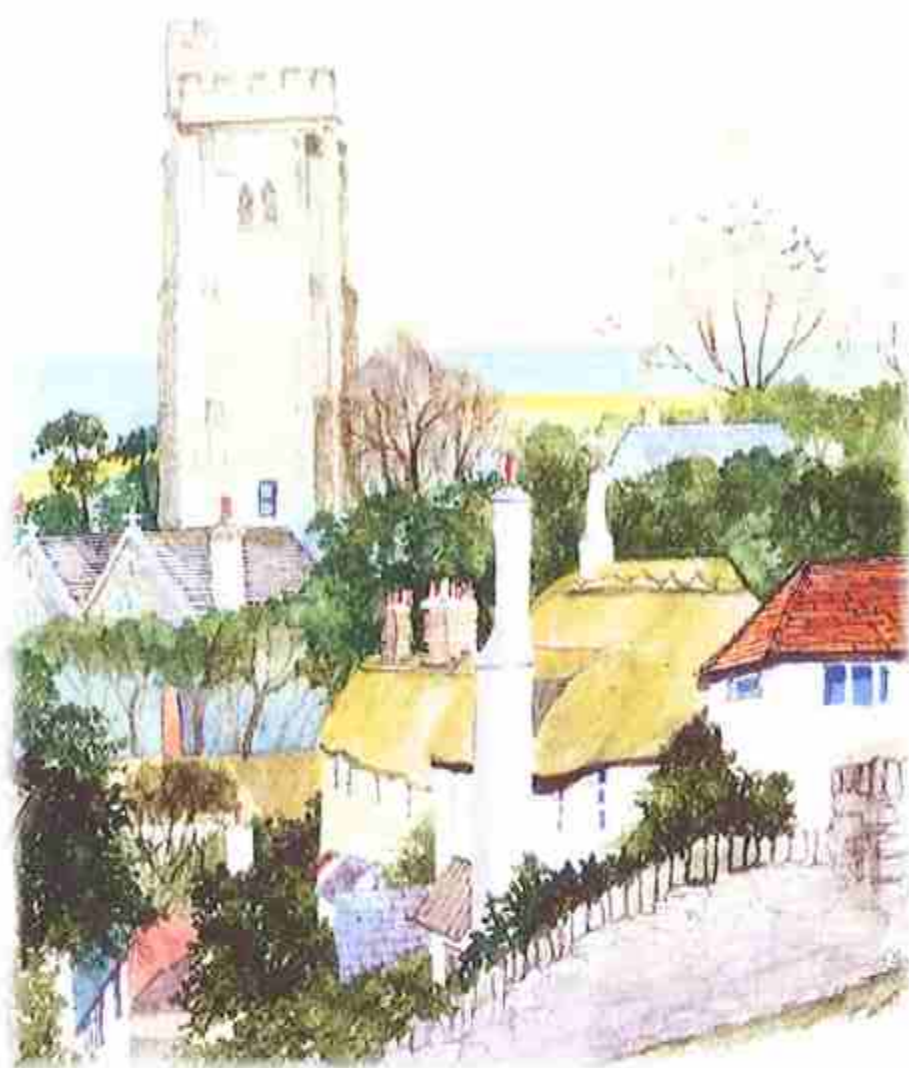


# VILLAGE VOICE



December 2007 - January 2008





NUMBER 148  
DECEMBER 2007 - JANUARY 2008

*On the grapevine....*

The earthen pyramid that appeared recently in the space usually reserved for the Bantham Bash marquee was not, it transpired, part of the advance guard of the Tutenkhamun exhibition, nor a new design of affordable housing. It was simply the diggings from the latest building works in the nether regions of the Mead. These new developments have already been styled "The Moorings" as they will be nearer to (if not actually under) the water than any other dwellings hereabouts, and are rumoured to feature - in place of garden sheds - water-tight compartments for storing the snorkelling equipment. A local ornithologist has recently completed a commission to design a water-garden bird-feeder for them, specially for the wading birds and Canada geese, and has confided to Village Voice that orders are already "flooding in".

As an incentive to complete the Parish Plan before climate change renders it obsolete, one of its authors has (we understand) been promised the upcoming position of Mead Harbourmaster. This role will involve measuring the tidal extremes by swinging the lead - from selected upper storey windows in "The Moorings". In light of these developments a parish councillor has been invited to explore all aspects of a "twinning" arrangement with a *villaggio* on the edge of Venice. He has made two visits there already, and will soon be going down for the third time....

*...and a Sherry Merry Christmas to all our readers!*

Cover : *Thurlestone* - a Len Hubbard watercolour

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# Parish Council Meetings

## Meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> October & 5<sup>th</sup> November

### News & Views by Citizen



**Councillor Andrew Rhymes** chaired the October meeting, at which there were six Parish Councillors, **PC Steve Mullen**, and nine members of the public present. For the third meeting in succession we were denied the pleasure of our District Councillor's company. Had she forgotten us, we wondered? But no... happily, she came to the November meeting, explaining that other pressures had prevented her coming earlier. She also pointed out that we should not expect her to come to *all* our Parish Council meetings, as this was not an obligatory part of her duties.

In November **Councillor Kit Marshall** resumed his chairman's job. This time five Parish Councillors were present but only five members of the public. *(Five out of some 800 souls in our parish? Come on.....you can do better than that!)*

#### POLICE

Things have been quiet, with only the theft of a bicycle from the Thurlestone Hotel garage and damage to the Village Inn sign to report.

#### OPEN FORUM

A delegation from the Mead again requested the Parish Council's support in opposing the planning re-submissions currently before the South Hams District Council. **Jill Munn** kindly invited any Parish Councillor or member of the public to come and view, from her garden, the huge scale of building works for what would be the large houses proposed to be built in front of her bungalow.

#### PARISH HALL

In October the Parish Hall chairman, **Ron Parkin**, thanked the Parish Council for providing and running a raffle which raised £157 at the Parish Hall's fund-raising autumn fair. By the time the November meeting came, the new public information display panel was up and running, in the Hall's entry porch, although in the course of being fine-tuned. This was a **POTS** (Parish of Thurlestone Society) endeavour, made possible by their application for a grant under the Awards for All scheme. It would be the **Teamakers**

(computer club) responsibility to keep it fed with up-to-date information. Congratulations and thanks were extended to **POTS** for their work in providing this gift of equipment, and a new hi-tech facility, to the Parish Hall. Closed circuit tv cameras continue to play a vital role in recording any malfeasance in or around the Hall, and enables us to identify and demand reparation from the perpetrators!

#### HIGHWAYS

Overgrown hedges were again causing problems, particularly with dangerous obstructions at eye level - see "Hedgecutting" footnote. Various road surfaces needed attention, in particular the huge pot-holes in Court Barton Lane (otherwise known as Post Office Lane) which were a severe hazard to pedestrians. **Councillor Geoffrey Stidston** wanted to know who was now responsible for maintenance. No one knew the answer but the question will be pursued. Hardly had the cement set on the recently re-affixed kerb stones down Warren Hill when they were knocked out again. Did anyone witness this act of vandalism? If so, the Parish Council would be pleased to have information.

#### SCHOOL

**Councillor Andrew Rhymes** said there had been a fall in the numbers taking school dinners, thought to be because of the price increase. 123 children are currently at the school. In response to a question, he said he would find out what proportion of children were from this parish. Our school is in the top 4% *nationally* for progress and attainment. Basketball, football and hockey are under consideration as additions to the sports side. The Parish Hall is being used, with plans to use it even more. The children are looking forward to what they describe as "Some old people coming to the school to sing carols", and the children are planning to retaliate. The school's boiler is fast getting past its sell-by date, with spares increasingly hard to obtain. If we have the cold winter that's been forecast and the boiler goes on strike, it might mean the school's temporary closure. Fingers crossed for global warming!



### TREES

Trees bordering Mallards (or Marshalls) Lane are to be reduced in size but not removed. The oak tree provided by Peter and Nigel Hurrell will be planted near the cannon in Thurlestone.

### ISLAND VIEW GREEN

All work is now completed. A small notice may be erected to indicate that it is a play area.

### PARISH PLAN

Despite an appeal through Village Voice, Councillor David Hugo said no response had been received from any residents willing to help with the project....but he will have another go.

### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Shonaugh Rankin reported on the planned initiative by the District Council and Police to target graffiti artists and dog fouling (see News Round-Up). The District Council has almost completed its budget - in which members of the public were asked to participate. Goveton Wind Farm has raised its ugly head again and the project which was turned down by the planners has gone to appeal. In response to a complaint from Councillor Stidston that parish street cleaning seemed inefficient with the van operators often seen seated in their parked vehicle, the District Councillor said that moves were afoot to sort the anomaly of "litter" and "detritus" being moved from the road by the District Council and the County Council

respectively. He further questioned the cost of street cleaning, which the District Councillor said she would report back on. (See the article on street cleaning in Village Voice this time last year).

### PLANNING

The Council voted against the re-submissions of plots 3 and 5 Leonards Close on the Mead. The application for an extension to Broadlands, Ilbert Road, was to house a swimming pool. The Council voted against the application.

### FINANCES

The District Council Remuneration Panel are to meet 28<sup>th</sup> November to make recommendations on Parish Council basic travel and subsistence allowances, and the chairman pointed out that Parish Councillors gave their time voluntarily. Government are intending to give less cash to councils and at the same time a saving of 3% is to be made in running costs, a recipe for even higher council taxes, so the District Council want to hear from any member of the public if they have *sensible* ideas on cost cutting.



### NEXT MEETING

This will be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007, 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall Yeo Room. *Let's see if we can do better than the five members of the public who turned up in November!*

*Citizen*

## HEDGE CUTTING

The Parish Council has received various complaints about overgrown hedges and banks which are causing problems in our lanes. We have taken the matter up with Devon Highways who have been swift to deal with some of the problem areas but it has been suggested that the council remind parishioners of their own statutory responsibilities.

In a nutshell, landowners and householders are responsible for looking after and maintaining hedges, banks, fences, walls, etc., which are adjacent to public roads and footpaths. This includes trimming back when appropriate. In the event that they do not do the necessary work then Devon Highways will step in - and send the bill to the property owners.....an

expensive option! In particular were mentioned .....branches that can scratch and damage vehicles, briars which grow out of banks and can injure pedestrians, and nettles in the summer which are at the height of small children. In the event of injury and damage the landowner can be held liable.

I should mention that the trimming of hedges is definitely frowned upon during the nesting season and until the fledglings have flown the nest. In fact the recommended period for hedge maintenance is January to March, which also allows for wildlife to have consumed autumn fruits and berries. I have available a small stock of leaflets on this issued by Devon County.

**Kit Marshall**



# PARISH HALL NEWS

By Ron Parkin



A superb evening of music was provided by the Alvington Singers in early October. The choir, conducted by **Alastair Durden** with accompanist **Kathy Kenny**, were in their usual fine voice as they performed works by Grieg, Elgar and Gilbert & Sullivan. Splendid duets were provided by **Kathy Kenny** and **Judith Reynolds** on violin and **Alistair Durden** and **Kathy** played a piano duet which the audience so much enjoyed that they performed it twice! Solo songs were provided by **Edward Morgan** and **David Stone**. It was a beautifully balanced programme and much appreciated by a full house.

It was more the *Paris* Hall than the Parish Hall on the 24<sup>th</sup> November as the atmosphere of a French Bistro provided the setting for another two very talented professional musicians to give us a "Piaffinité" evening. **Basil Bunelik** on accordion and French singer **Djamila** gave a stunning performance of their repertoire of those hauntingly evocative songs made famous by the great Edith Piaf. A wowed audience had brought their own "bistro-style" suppers, the wine flowed freely, and a great time was had by all. Master of Ceremonies **Chris White** gave an eloquent introduction and vote of thanks - and a return visit next year will be eagerly awaited.

We are now much looking forward to the **Robin Brett** evening on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, entitled "Christmas is not just carols" - Christmas music through the ages - when he will both talk about his subject and illustrate it with selections on our Clavinova keyboard. Then on 31<sup>st</sup> December there will be a parish party, starting at 9pm, to see in the New Year with fun, games, dancing, and in particular enjoying the fireworks on the big screen as the clock strikes midnight and we join the London crowds via tv. Everyone is invited, so don't be on your own - come and join in. Oh, and wear a silly hat!

There have been several new arrivals - a new larger dish-washer and commercial sink to cope with the demands of a well-rented Hall, and most recently the new interactive touch-screen public information display panel, the latter at no cost to the Hall, for which we are most grateful to the Parish of Thurstlestone Society (see separate report). We also have to thank a member of the Horticultural Show committee for pruning the *griselinia* hedge, which was a gift from the Show and planted just a week or so before the Hall first opened in December 2005. How incredibly swiftly these two years have passed!

Ron Parkin

## GRAND NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY



Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December from 9.00 pm

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# Thurlestone Parish Hall's Public Information Display Now Fully Operational !



Most people will be aware of the project carried out by POTS (The Parish Of Thurlestone Society) to digitize, enhance, and preserve Peter Hurrell's wonderful collection of historic photographs of the Parish. The success of this project was borne out by the huge turnout for Peter's last slide show, using the stunning audio-visual system installed in the new Parish Hall.

What most people will not realise is that this project then developed into a second and larger project covering Oral History (recorded), Video Archives, and the means to make all of them available to the Parish. The last part of this project (making it all available to people) took an exciting jump forward following a conversation with Geoff Tompson, a village resident who runs a company in Totnes called DT Media Ltd. Geoff was interested in helping this project for the parish, and his company had the expertise necessary to put together an interactive computer system to display the images we had collected. A grant from Awards for All was duly applied for, and the POTS Public Information Display project was born.

Like all projects this one changed and developed as it progressed. It ran into, wrestled with, but steadily overcame problems; and eventually, at the beginning of November, the complete system was installed in the Parish Hall and became fully operational a week later. The bits you can't see are two very powerful computers. One runs the system, and the other is for storing the archive materials. It is also for use by the Aune Conservation Association for storing their data, and running the sophisticated software that they have for working on it.

The bit you can see is a touch screen - just like the one in the Norton Brook Health Centre - mounted in the wall in the covered external porch of the Parish Hall, next to the Notice Board. This

screen - and all the information stored in the system - is accessible to the general public 24 hours a day, so that parishioners and visitors can view short videos, and historic slide shows, or just browse to find out more about the Parish. The system is also a mine of useful information for visitors to the Parish. All businesses which advertise in Village Voice are included in the system, as well as links to various websites about such things as weather forecasts, and what's going on in the area, including the Devon Diary of local events throughout the county. There will also be a link to the Parish Hall's own website as soon as it is completed (early next year) - but that's another story, for another edition !

Meantime, don't just take my word for it. When you are next passing the Parish Hall, go and test out the screen for yourself. It is very easy to use - you simply follow the links on the screen to reach the information you need. You will find all kinds of useful information about local and regional events that will help you keep your visitors fully occupied - together with up-to-date weather forecasts as well!



Thanks are due not only to Awards for All for their grant funding, but also to those who have worked on this project - particularly Geoff Tompson, Mik Wells, Malcolm Le Grice, - and Peter Hurrell and Mike Barnes who kindly volunteered to help me with the installation.

**Chris White**  
Chairman, POTS

*[...to say nothing of the enormous personal input of Chris White himself, who has driven, coaxed and cajoled this project forward over more than a year, and spent countless hours loading into the system the vast amounts of data, images, and information of all kinds which are now available - literally - at your fingertips! A huge "Thank You, Chris" from everyone in the Parish. Ed.]*



# 25 Years Ago



*Extracted from the Village Voice issue of December 1982*

## Money Flows Like Water!

The part-time Chairman of the South West Water Authority has been reported in receipt of a salary for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 1982 of some £19,166, and eight others were stated to be in the salary bracket of £20,000 to £25,000 a year, with a ninth achieving between £25,000 and £30,000.

We still get the same kind of water through very much the same kind of distribution system in this part of the County - but the charge for it has escalated like those reported salaries, to which even a 6% rise would add £1200 a year to anyone in the £20,000 bracket. Surely the time has come for a reduction in charges now the bogey 'inflation' is under control. Interest rates are well down too.

The same goes for sewerage charges - and can you really believe that the proposed £3,000,000 for a new office block is anything but the starting price?

## Belt Up!

From 31<sup>st</sup> January you risk a penalty of up to £50 if you do not wear your car seat belt. Though it is expected that a few days grace will be provided - you shouldn't count on it!

A leaflet 'Seat Belts, the Law, and You' gives hints and guidance on all aspects of seat belt law and also contains an application form for those on low incomes or who are disabled, for free medical examination. (The British Medical Association have recommended a



charge of £19). Copies of the leaflet can be obtained from Dept. of Transport (Distribution) Building, 3 Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0NZ - which is a Freepost address.

## A Shopkeepers Headache?

From 1<sup>st</sup> January big changes will come into force which could prove particularly troublesome to the small shopkeeper with limited staff. This means that the un-coded date marking of most pre-packed foods will be compulsory under the Food Labelling Regulations 1980.

It will undoubtedly be a marked improvement on the present voluntary system of coded markings, for the new regulation means that food will have to be marked with an indication of minimum durability. In plain language this will be the date up to which a food product can reasonably be expected to retain its freshness, but it is thought it will be several months before enforcement begins.

## Getting Something Done!

Recently Dr Neville Oswald asked the Parish Council if a hand-rail for the steps in the footpath (opposite the P.O.)\* could have their support. The idea had the unanimous support of councillors, the necessary contacts were made at County Council level - and by the time you read this the hand-rail should be in position!

This is just one instance where you can invoke the help of the Parish Council to get something done! Following complaints, the roadway at West Buckland was cleared by the County Council, and its condition is now to be monitored by them.

[\* This was the previous Post Office, on the site where the Homefield Cottages now stand. Ed.]



I came across these lines recently. They are far more stimulating than I could ever be about the meaning of Christmas:

## THE WICKED FAIRY AT THE MANGER

### My gift for the child:

**No wife, kids, home.**

**No money sense. Unemployable.**

**Friends, yes. But the wrong sort:**

**The workshy, women, wimps,**

### Petty infringers of the law, persons

**With notifiable diseases,**

**Poll tax collectors, tarts:**

**The bottom rung.**

## His end?

I think we'll make it

**Public, prolonged, painful.**

*Right, said the baby, that was roughly what we had in mind.*

U.A. Fanshaw

I hope you all have a profoundly happy and thoughtful Christmas.

Andrew

You would be very welcome to join us at any of our  
*Special Advent, Christmas & New Year Services*

**ADVENT SUNDAY DECEMBER 2ND 6.00pm** Benefice Advent Carol Service

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 23RD**      **11.10am** Crib Service

**4.00pm** Candlelit Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE



**11.30pm** First Communion of Christmas

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**11.10am** Family Service followed by Holy Communion

## NEW YEAR'S EVE

**6.00pm New Year's Eve Service**

**SUNDAY JANUARY 6TH**

**11.10am Searchlight's Epiphany Play & Service**

Please see overleaf for other services in December and January





# All Saints' Diary

Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Peter Williams 531811

Everyone is welcome at all services,  
which are at Thurlestone, unless indicated otherwise

## Church Services

### Sundays

Please see overleaf for special Christmas & New Year Services

Every Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> BCP, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> CW)

December 2

11.10am Morning Worship for All Ages

6.00pm Benefice Advent Carol Service

December 9, January 13 11.10am Matins (BCP)

December 16, January 20 11.10am Family Communion (CW)

December 30, January 27 11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW)

January 13

6.00pm Benefice Evensong at South Milton

January 27

4.30pm Benefice Candlemas Chringle Service - W. Alvington

### Thursdays

December 6, January 3 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at White Horses, Bantham

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship

See Church Notice Boards for variations & more information

Everyone is welcome to the Church Meeting Room for:-



#### Coffee-Time

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

10.30 - 11.30 a.m.

Donations in aid of monthly charity

#### Lunch Club for those on their own

EVERY FRIDAY 12.30 p.m. for 12.45 p.m.

£5 for a glass of sherry & hot meal

Pre-book with Liz Webb (560090)

#### Films for All

TUESDAY DECEMBER 4TH

TUESDAY JANUARY 8TH

2.45 p.m. for 3.00 p.m.

*The Chorus*

*Happy feet*

Donations to Hearing Dogs & MR expenses ~ More information: Joan Golding 560078

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in aid of Church & Churchyard  
maintenance

### Carol Singing

TUESDAY DECEMBER 18TH

BUCKLAND

MEET 5 P.M. BY THE OLD CHAPEL

Everyone would be welcome to  
join the *Searchlight* children  
in aid of *Children in Distress*

Come & join us at Coffee-Time on

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19TH

11.00 A.M.

CHURCH MEETING ROOM

for carols, coffee and mincepies

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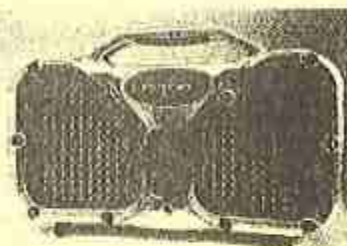
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# Village News Round-Up

## AUDREY GROSE

Audrey Grose's funeral took place at All Saints, Thurlestone on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Audrey was the wife of **Martyn** and mother to **Lucy**, **Jessica**, **Jolyon** and **Charles**, to whom we extend our deep sympathy. Some of the long-standing residents of the parish will remember her father, the late **Dr Reginald Anderton**, who looked after the health of his patients from the family home 'The Swallows'. A talented artist as well as an enthusiastic member of Thurlestone Golf Club, Audrey will be greatly missed by her many friends here. [See also Lady Captain's section]

## JOAN GALLOWAY

We have heard that **Joan Galloway** died recently in Cumbria, where she went to live a few years ago to be nearer her family. During her time here she was, with her late husband, untiring in her contribution to church life. Justly famed for her skill at marmalade-making, she made many hundreds of pots which she sold for church funds. Residents will also remember 'James', her beloved small vintage car, and the intrepid sponsored journeys she undertook from time-to-time to raise funds for charity. We lost a good friend to the parish when she moved away, but she retained her interest in all Thurlestone's activities, and insisted on continuing to receive her copy of *Village Voice* by post. Condolences are sent to her family. A memorial service will be held at Thurlestone Parish Church at 2.00 pm on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## LONG SERVICE AWARD

Thurlestone's **Derrick Yeoman**, manager at Prawle Point National Coastwatch station, retired at their recent AGM. In August Derrick was presented with his 10-year long service award but sadly ill-health has now forced his retirement.

Derrick recognised the value of National Coastwatch to the safety of the community at a time when the Coastguard Service was withdrawing from a number of its stations around the coast, and was 'in on the ground' when they left Prawle Point. As a result he was much involved in the repair, restoration and expansion of the original building, which now houses the

latest technology. As well as being station manager, Derrick was involved in the recruitment and training of all the volunteer staff and, along with **Jean**, his wife, in fund-raising activities. Although officially retired he still takes a great interest in the future well-being of Prawle Point.

## ST LUKE'S COFFEE MORNING

The local St Luke's Hospice fund-raising committee held another successful event at the Church Meeting Room on 10th November, raising over £520 with a further £409 being spent on cards and stationery. **Lindy Price** has written to express grateful thanks to the kind people who gave support - those who helped, those who came and bought so generously, and those who donated goods to sell - without whom such a splendid result would not have been possible.

## NSPCC QUIZ NIGHT

The Quiz Night held in the Parish Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> October proved a highly competitive affair, and everyone enjoyed the brilliant quiz set and organised by Mike and Brenda Jones, with the **Marbella** team running out narrow winners. The event raised the splendid total of £486.75, for which the NSPCC extends its warmest thanks and appreciation to all concerned.

## DOGS & GRAFFITI

Dog owners who do not clear up after their animals and graffiti 'artists' are to be targeted determinedly in a joint initiative by the South Hams District Council and Police. Fixed penalty fines can be issued for both offences and the public is asked to help identify the culprits by ringing Crimestoppers, in confidence, on 0800-555111. In this area we suffer mostly from irresponsible dog-owners, some of whom ignore what their dog has just done and walk on by, and those who go to the trouble of bagging it..... but who then throw the bag aside. If there is not a nearby dog-poop bin, the SHDC advises that it should be taken home and **double wrapped** before placing it in your own rubbish bin, as we should spare a thought for the Council employees who take away our garbage. Offending dog-owners be warned - the District Council and Police are determined to take action!

### FLU JABS

27 patients of the Redfern Health Centre at Salcombe who live in and near Thurstone were delighted when they were able to have their influenza immunisations administered at Thurstone Parish Hall in early October. Thanks are expressed for the willing co-operation of the Redfern on behalf of all those patients who took advantage of this facility..... and to the public spirited resident who took the trouble to fix it! Those of us registered at Kingsbridge's Norton Brook hope the doctors there may have a change of heart and be willing to do the same as the Redfern in 2008.

### TEA DANCE

Bantham resident, **Caroline Montague** invites us all to *"Dust off your dance shoes and quickstep to your diary now, because on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January next, 2 pm to 4.30 pm, I will be holding a Tea Dance in the Parish Hall for all those parishioners and their friends who want a fun-filled afternoon in the January gloom..."*

Caroline has planned this event in memory of her mother, **Gayna Honor**, who was a singer with international dance bands performing throughout Europe, and the net proceeds will be donated to her late mother's favourite animal charities.

She goes on to say *"Additional entertainment will be provided during the break when my husband, John, and my three sons, Jonathan Swinard and Thomas and Henry Tozer will perform a selection of my mother's music. The afternoon will also include special artiste Louise Kenton (former soloist with Welsh National Opera and a star of 'Friday Night is Music Night') along with other local singers Elizabeth Worrall and Emma Peacock. Dance music will be provided by tea-dance supremo John Westlake. Please come along and support this special event. See you there".* (See separate advert)

### CHRISTMAS POSTING DATES

Just a reminder that if you want your inland cards and parcels to get to their destination in time, the last dates for posting are: Standard Parcels Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December, Second Class mail Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December and First Class mail Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Have a word with Sarah at the PO for other types of mail.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you want to dispose of all your old 2007 Christmas cards before our green bins are collected in the New Year, branches of W H Smith, Tesco, and Marks & Spencer stores are receiving them during January 2008. For further information log on to [www.woodland-trust.org.uk/recycling](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk/recycling)

### IN LIBRIS SNOOZUM

Rosemary Mackay has been moved to write to us in praise of the Kingsbridge Library service: *"...Here you will get help in many ways, for example when you're trying to find out the book you read umpteen years ago, or reserving the latest pop one reviewed on the Richard & Judy Show. Living alone I can get a book to stretch my mind over breakfast, a biography for lunch-time, a detective book for reading in bed, even a light romance to send me to sleep in the middle of the night..."*

### THE LATEST SCAM

If you find a card pushed through your letter-box saying "We have a parcel for you, please ring such-and-such a number to arrange delivery", or similar, please **beware!** It could be a confidence trick. There may be no parcel to collect, but you will be charged £15.00 or more for the call!

### TEAMMAKERS POT GETTING EMPTY?

After five years of introducing local residents to the mysteries of computers, and running classes for beginners and those wishing to improve their existing computer skills, it is beginning to look as though **Teamakers** have exhausted the local market. During this time some 200 beginners and improvers have attended classes covering a wide variety of applications, and are now apparently getting on quite happily under their own steam. While the Internet Café is still open on Wednesday afternoons (2 - 4 pm) and Saturday mornings (10 - noon), and individual one-to-one tuition is available at these times from any of our six experienced tutors, the numbers seeking help are dropping away significantly, and very few novices are now coming forward.



*Is there anyone out there still holding back from taking the plunge? If so, please come along for a cup of tea on Wednesday or Saturday, and see how simple it is to get started, or get help.*





# NEWS FROM THE WI



## October

In October **Oonagh Woods** spoke about her work as a travelling manicurist. Having spent a number of years as a primary school teacher, some of them in very deprived areas, she decided to change the course of her life and train to be a manicurist, a decision she has never regretted. **Lyn Clements** was the lucky member who got a free manicure as Oonagh demonstrated her skills and talked about how to keep our nails looking good.

The Parish Hall sent a letter of appreciation for our cake stall at their Autumn Fair in September and all those members who contributed were warmly thanked.

The 17<sup>th</sup> October ramble on the coast path at Noss Mayo, led by **Lisa White**, had been enjoyed by eleven members with a further six joining them for lunch at the Old Ship. Later in October five members attended the county's Autumn Council meeting at Plymouth Guildhall, on which President **Karen Livett** reported. **Barbara Watkinson** had been to Denman College and brought pieces of the attractive fabric jewellery she had made on her course.

## November

**Richard Walker** opened the November meeting by telling us how the Devon Air Ambulance system worked. The paramedics and all the equipment are funded by the service and the two helicopters used in Devon are hired. 12,000 missions have been flown in Devon since the service was set up in 1992. It is independent of any government funding (by preference), with the £2.2 million required to run each year being funded by voluntary contributions and vigorous fund-raising. We were able to present a cheque for £500 to Richard as the result of the profit from several events.

**Margaret Illingworth** was sent good wishes

from members as she recovers from a broken leg sustained whilst on holiday in the United States.

As November is the month of our annual meeting we had with us **Merrial Connell**, our local WI Adviser. Our treasurer, **Lisa White**, gave the year's financial report, **Joan Booth** (Secretary) outlined the activities we had in 2007, and **Karen Livett** made the outgoing President's address in which she particularly thanked the committee members for their support and encouragement. Then the exciting bit came - the election of a new President! **Joan Booth** was chosen - a post which she said "I am delighted and proud to accept". Warm tribute was paid to Karen who had given us good guidance over an enjoyable year. The following will make up the new committee: **Shirley Barnes**, **Pat Clarke**, **Chris Field**, **Julie Hanham**, **Jen Heatley**, **Heather Hickey**, **Margaret Illingworth**, **Mary Johnson**, **Pam Knight**, **Judith Le Grice** (Secretary), and **Lisa White** (Treasurer). The retiring committee members - **Dorothy Abel**, **Vida Alexander**, **Wendy Gornall** and **Vivienne Plews** - were also thanked.

## Future Events

# The Christmas lunch will be held on the 6th December

# On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December there will be an Area Christmas coffee morning at Charleton, followed at 2.30 pm by a group carol service at South Milton.

# A resolutions special meeting would be held at Charleton on the 11<sup>th</sup> January.

# Volunteers were requested by **Shirley Barnes** for a second team to enter the first round of the county quiz on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

# Our first monthly meeting of 2008 will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January when **Caroline Born** will get us going for the New Year with her demonstration of creative dance and movement therapy. We welcome visitors.



# sudoku

www.sudoku.com

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(As featured in *The Times*, Monday to Saturday)

		8		9		1		
9	7					2	8	
	6	4	1			3		9
			8		5	9		
5								1
		9	3		4			
8		2			7	5	6	
6	9	7					1	
				6		7		

Easy

No. 27

			7		2			
1				4				7
6	5						9	4
4	7		8		1		6	2
5	8		2		9		1	3
8	6						7	5
9				6				8
			9		8			

Easy

No. 28

	1		4		9			2
		4		1	2			9
	7	2			8		1	
	2			9		1	7	
				8	1			
	6	1		5			4	
2			9				5	1
6			1	2		3		
1			8		3			

Medium

No. 27

1				3	4			9
7	4							
				8		2		
	9		7	2		1	5	
	1	7		9	3		2	
		3		5				
							9	6
6			9	7				5

Medium

No. 28

## SOUTH MILTON NEW YEAR DANCE



*The organisers of this event wish to announce that for 2008 this dance has been postponed until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February, and will now be held as a Valentine's Dance. Full details will appear in the February issue of Village Voice.*

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# South Hams Society



The Society's activities seem to be rather Salcombe-based at the moment. It is not that we are indifferent to the interests of other areas, but there is only so much we can do with limited resources. There is immense pressure for large scale and inappropriate development in many places but particularly on the waterside of Salcombe and Kingsbridge. Planning applications have been submitted by developers to demolish family homes and replace them with a number of apartments. The apartments are considerably larger than the original footprint, tend to fill the whole width of the plot, thereby blocking views, and do nothing to help local housing needs.

The Society recently held an open evening in Salcombe to hear people's views. They were (not surprisingly) overwhelmingly worried about developments that are seen as greedy and harmful to the community. This was closely followed by anger at the lack of truly affordable housing and the increase in telecommunication masts. There were mixed feelings about a second supermarket in Kingsbridge but a general view that we could all do more to support local farming, fishing and jobs. Most people wanted to see more vigilance

to protect trees and hedgerows. 40 new members joined the Society, mostly wanting to DO something - so - with the help of old and new members a campaign is underway to support SHDC's decision to refuse planning permission for the demolition of two family houses, *Overcombe* and *Rutherford's*, and redevelopment of the sites with 3 and 2 houses respectively. Both have gone to appeal and letters supporting the refusal are being written to the Planning Inspectorate at Bristol.

Letters and e-mails have been distributed showing photos of the 2 existing houses with outlines of the proposed new development superimposed over them, plus sample letters of objection. It is hoped that if this campaign is successful it will set a precedent for the refusal or reduction of other excessive developments in the South Hams.

For further information contact :

**George Brownlee** ( 01548 843384 ) at  
< gbrownlee@toucansurf.com > or  
**Vivien Napper** ( 01548 842405 ) at  
< viv@rathlyn.eclipse.co.uk > or  
our website at  
< www.southhamssociety.org >



## STANBOROUGH CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT PROGRAMME

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December - 7.30 pm**  
**Malborough Village Hall**

### Make We Merry

Christmas Concert with Seasonal Refreshments  
Doors open 6.45 pm - refreshments from 7 pm  
Tickets in advance only - £9.00, under 16 £6.00

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December - 7.30 pm**  
**St Luke's Church, Buckfastleigh**  
(note venue change)

### A SERVICE IN CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

No tickets required - retiring collection in aid of the  
Primrose Foundation at Derriford Hospital

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm - 5.30pm**  
**St Edmund's Church, Kingsbridge**

### CAROLS FOR ALL

No tickets required but there will be a retiring  
collection in aid of the Triangle Centre,  
South Hams Hospital

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2008**  
**Thurlestone Parish Church**

### SPRING CONCERT

7.30 pm

Tickets from: Kingsbridge TIC, Halifax plc, Kingsbridge  
May Crimp (01548-842361) or Chris Gunning (01752-895102)





# BOOKSHELF



## The Testament of Gideon Mack

by James Robertson  
(Penguin Books Ltd £7.99)

This novel, a beautifully written account by the eponymous hero, is a thoroughly literary work by James Robertson. It is, however, extremely strange and blends the supernatural with religion and mental illness. The reader is left to decide which of these elements is the most likely explanation or perhaps it could be a combination of all three? The central character is a son of the Scottish manse who himself becomes a minister without believing in God. After his death (apparently by his own hand) his manuscript, the testament of the title, is discovered by a journalist and handed to a publisher friend.

The novel starts with Gideon marrying a girl with whom he is not really in love and changing course at university in order to follow in his father's footsteps. After several years of a rather sterile marriage his wife is killed in a car crash and his behaviour becomes increasingly erratic. A standing stone appears where none had previously existed and eventually Gideon is swept into a deep gorge, vanishing for three days only to return with the news that he was rescued by the Devil. Needless to say the elders of the kirk find his behaviour totally untenable and he sinks further into confusion and instability.

This book certainly gives rise to interesting discussions and is worth reading because of this and also because of Robertson's polished prose.

Mary Hugo

[This book was serialised on Radio 4's *Book at Bedtime* programme earlier this year. Ed.]

## The Tenderness of Wolves

by Stef Penney  
(Quercus £7.99)

This novel (her first) by Stef Penney is assured, well-researched, and totally engrossing. Stef Penney, who had never visited Canada, studied her material in a local library.

The story, set in a township called Dove River in 1867, opens with the brutal murder of a local hunter and the disappearance of an 18-year old boy. Tracks leaving the cabin head north towards the forest and the tundra beyond.

As a result of the violence people are drawn to Dove River from all walks of life, and one-by-one they set off into the unforgiving landscape. One is the boy's mother but a number of the others are seeking - what?

This is a thrilling novel incorporating suspense, adventure, revelation, and even humour into a gripping historical tale which has won the Costa prize for a first novel and has also been long-listed for this year's Orange prize.

Mary Hugo

[Readers with internet access will find the Readers Reviews on the Amazon website provide an extremely wide range of views about current literary offerings. There are, for instance, at present no fewer than 85 individual reviews of this Stef Penney first novel that can be read on-line here. It is a very useful place to find out other readers' opinions on books that you have either read yourself, or may be thinking of buying - not least because of the range of discounted prices available on both new and second-hand books. Ed.]

## STOP PRESS

The team representing the **Village Inn, Thurlestone** at the inaugural South Hams Radio Trust Inter-Parish Quiz, held at the Seven Stars Hotel in Totnes on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, and hosted by Graham Gilbert, **WON** the TROPHY!

The Thurlestone team consisted of **Lisa and Chris White, Graham and Val Palmer, Madeleine Radford, and Graham Chadwick**. Twelve teams from all over the South Hams took part. Congratulations to the brains of Thurlestone!



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# HORSWELL DIARY



I've just salsa-ed back to my desk after an hour's TV-watching in front of *Strictly Come Dancing*. Well, it felt like a salsa to me, until the dogs started barking in bewilderment, and my husband asked "What's the matter? Have you caught a flea?" So how do they get their hips to shimmy like that? (The dancers, I mean, not Darty or the dogs). I can imagine hospital waiting lists for hip-replacements, across the country, increasing with every new episode of this addictive programme, as we mere mortals try to "shake our booty" along with the professionals. You don't watch it? Oh, you should. It's amazing how all that high energy, plus a handful of sequins and a wisp of ostrich feather can distract you from the reality of post-leaf-raking fatigue and the onset of another long dark evening.

In truth, the leaves this year have been every bit as dazzling in their display as the costumes of the dancers. Our ancient tulip-tree has been particularly stunning, a conflagration of yellow, bronze and orange, stacked like a bonfire against the sky, its scattered leaves twirling and swirling through the air like wayward sparks. In the woods, oak, chestnut, lime and ash stand in deepening pools of fallen leaves, their dark silhouettes rising from a floor of glowing embers. Golden leaves, snagged in the evergreen of fir and yew, reflect the light like baubles on a Christmas tree, while in the orchard the pink and red ovals of the cherry trees hang from their branches like goldfish caught on a line.

On our walks to the beach, the leaves of sycamore, crisp and crumpled, clatter to the ground then lift again in flight on the slipstream of a passing car. Rose hips, scarlet as a soldier's tunic, decorate the fading khaki of the hedgerows and a blackbird serenades us as we pass. The dogs quicken their pace as the road descends and we glimpse the rock and the open sweep of sea. Then all control is forgotten as we run helter-skelter onto the sand and compete to find a suitable stick to hurl into the water. Jack is still our only swimmer, but being a fair-minded

Labrador he drops the stick as soon as he returns to the shallows, so that Bertie and Millie can take their turn to retrieve it.

I had always thought that to live overlooking the ocean would be my ideal. Recently, kind friends lent me their luxurious apartment above the beach at Swanage so that I could work without interruption on my novel. I had no idea what to expect but, on arrival, the view from their sitting-room took my breath away. It was vast. And so *blue!!* I could see for miles around the bay, and straight across the water to the needles on the Isle of Wight.

Over the next few days, as I sat at my laptop, working hard, the large plate-glass windows seemed like a wide-angle camera lens, revealing the silent world beyond my comfortable cocoon. Fishing-boats, sailing-boats, and ferries provided a constantly changing scene and the variable weather meant I was able to enjoy a myriad of different patterns of sea and sky. It was wonderful, calm and relaxing; perfect background 'music' to my thoughts and writing. But by the end of my stay I felt strangely deprived of colour, of sights and sounds and smells. Returning home to the rolling hills, the autumn leaves, the flurry of rooks as they took to the sky before settling back to feed again on the maize stubble, the pair of buzzards wheeling on a thermal high above us, the first violet nestling in a curve of bramble, it all seemed so intensely beautiful I wanted the whole world to share my joy.

That euphoria was somewhat short-lived however, when I found a mountain of quinces in our kitchen, awaiting conversion into jelly. Apparently, having fallen from the tree, they were in the way of the mower. I had spent the weeks prior to my departure making copious amounts of apple purée, apple chutney and several jars of quince jelly, so the thought of having to start all over again was not too cheerful. All the chopping of fruit, the weighing and measuring, the patience required to wait for it to drain



through the jelly bag, the standing, stirring, waiting while the syrup reaches that elusive 'setting point'. I had thought it was all over for another year. But alas, no. But then, two days later, the pleasure of seeing those jars of rose-pink nectar gleaming like bottled sunsets on the pantry shelf made all the effort of their creation seem worthwhile.

Thinking of quinces, we went to the theatre last night to see Quince and Bottom and Snout, along with Oberon and Titania and all the other fairies in a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We had booked seats a long time ago, and in the busy-ness of everyday life we remembered only at the last moment that we had tickets. So we set off in a bit of a panic and disarray.

"What is it we're going to see?" my husband asked, as we hurtled off to Plymouth.

"A ballet" I said.

"What's it called?" he asked.

"*A Midsummer Night's Dream*"

"Oh, Shakespeare" he replied. "That will be nice. I enjoy a good play".

I don't know why I had the idea it was a ballet, but for some reason I felt I was right.

"No, it's not the play of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*" I corrected him. "It's a ballet. It's supposed to be very special. It's in Indian costume. It should be lovely."

We reached our seats with no time for either a pre-performance drink or a chance to study our programme. I was wrong. It was not a ballet. It was indeed Shakespeare's play - but acted by a cast from India and Sri Lanka, speaking in their own regional languages. So if one was not familiar with the play, the lack of spoken English would have provided yet another layer of deception and intrigue to an already confusing plot.

At first, still half-thinking that it might become a ballet, I thought my usual good hearing had abandoned me. I strained to make sense of their accents for some time before I realised they were speaking not English but Hindi, or possibly Gujarati, Sinhala or Malayalam. After that it was easy to relax and marvel at their enthusiasm, their stagecraft, their agility, their humour and to enjoy the originality of their

costumes and stage sets, and their interpretation of what, until then, we had thought of as a quintessentially English dream. The performance was extremely colourful, bawdy and robust, and despite being Indian in design, was probably very near to Shakespeare's original concept. It certainly enlivened a damp November evening. On the way home I asked Michael if it had bothered him that they were speaking Hindi. "Hindi?" he asked, looking amazed. "I thought it was just my hearing aid playing up! I enjoyed it," he added, "but I didn't think much of the dancing."

Tomorrow is Remembrance Sunday and we will, like so many others, be in church in the morning. We will be remembering not only those who have died in wars past and present, but also those still alive who, having survived military action may, for the remainder of their lives, bear the terrible scars both mental and physical of the battles they have fought and the horrors they have seen. It is all too easy to count our losses by the number of body bags returned home, but it seems that scant regard and pitiful fanfare is given to our brave and selfless armed forces who return alive. Where are the victory parades, the cheering crowds that show our indebtedness, our pride and our gratitude? Is it only their immediate family and friends who think to welcome them home?

And where is the man responsible for sending our troops off to fight these unwinnable wars? Is he there to shake their hand, look them in the eye and say "Thank you. Well done!"? No, he's busy endorsing the sale of luxury apartments in China, grinning like a purveyor of snake-oil as he pockets yet another cheque. Hopefully, as he and Cherie sit around their Christmas tree, they will at least spare a thought for the families of all our men serving in Afghanistan and Iraq and say a heartfelt prayer that they may soon be happily reunited. But even if they don't, I know there are many of us here who will.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a new year full of hope and happiness.

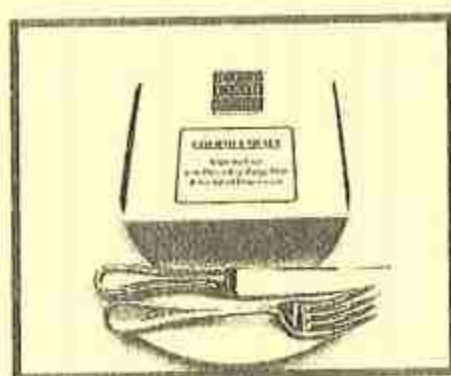
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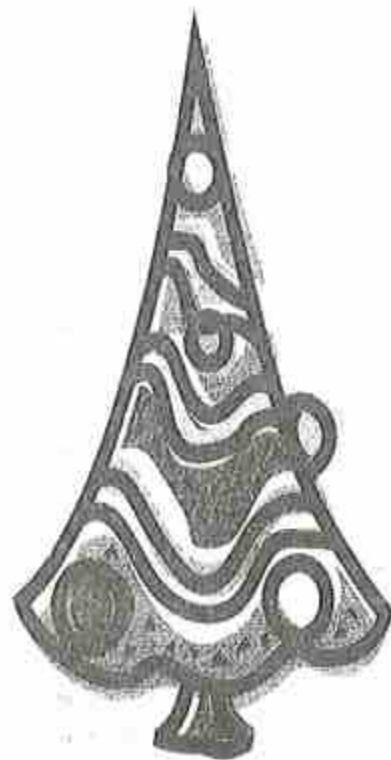
# Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB (or email: [cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk)).

## CHRISTMASAGRAMS

Christmas Number Ones from the British Charts over the years. Some may have a Christmas link and some may not...

1. TAR HELPS BIT CHASM HEAT
2. BOLSHY RAMCID
3. NINE MEADOW TITLES
4. SOLLTTY BOW TIE
5. BIO SHAPED HARMONY
6. WINE TAXI F C
7. VINE MORON
8. MOST SHARED WITH TINY SOCKS?
9. THE INKY PILL
10. FULL MONTY ERIK



## Christmas Carols or Songs..... Initially

Example: W C = White Christmas

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. SATWS <i>Santa Claus is coming to town</i> | 7. SCICTT <i>Santa Claus is coming to town</i> |
| 2. JTTW                                       | 8. OCAYFO <i>One all for faithful</i>          |
| 3. WACIB                                      | 9. GRYMG <i>God rest you merry gentlemen</i>   |
| 4. AIAM <i>Angels in a manger</i>             | 10. OLTOB <i>O little town of Bethlehem</i>    |
| 5. RTRNR <i>Phudolf the last of his kind</i>  | 11. WSGSUTC                                    |
| 6. JBR <i>Single Bell Rock</i>                | 12. OIRDG <i>One in a million</i>              |

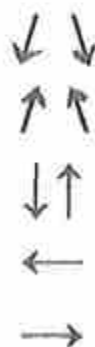
Unfortunately there were no winners for the last Grey Matter.  
The compilers of Grey Matter wish everyone who enjoys the page a  
Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Kids' Matter

A £5 book token to the first all correct entry drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB (or email: [cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk)), please include your name, age and contact details.

**Wordsearch – 12 words to do with Christmas. How many can you find?**



a	g	t	z	n	x	r	s	e	f	b	m
e	j	l	o	r	a	c	t	s	r	e	j
p	e	q	h	j	d	n	j	n	v	t	c
g	k	r	a	t	s	w	v	e	f	h	g
n	c	h	t	k	q	t	r	c	j	l	m
i	w	b	f	d	l	d	o	n	k	e	y
d	r	a	c	l	w	p	b	i	g	h	r
d	x	e	x	h	o	j	q	k	b	e	r
u	c	r	g	o	l	p	z	n	y	m	h
p	l	f	p	n	s	v	u	a	t	k	b
d	s	a	n	t	a	b	x	p	g	b	f
k	d	r	j	c	f	m	h	f	q	l	p

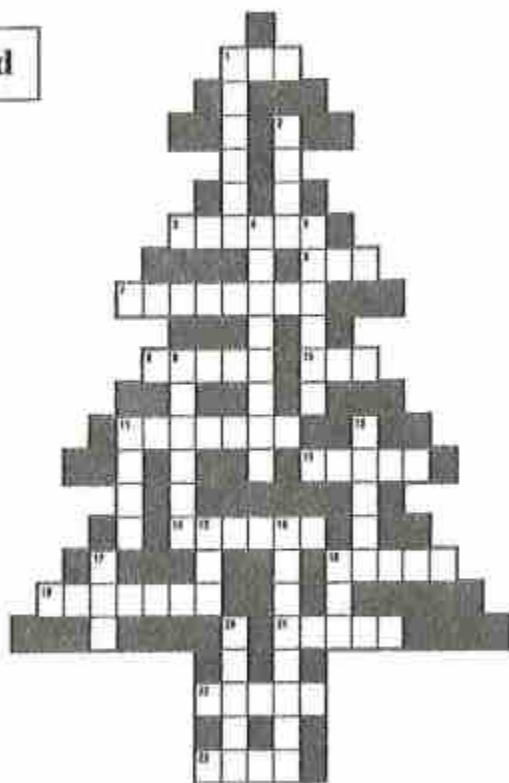
## Christmas crossword

### Across

- 1 Participate in a winter sport (3)
- 3 Christmas tree decoration (6)
- 6 'No room at the ---' (3)
- 7 Family gathering around the piano (8)
- 8 See 17 down (5)
- 10 --- turtle doves, given by my true love on the second day of Christmas (3)
- 11 Essential part of Christmas dinner, served with brandy butter or cream (7)
- 13 See 12 down (5)
- 14 'Three ----- 23 across', brought by my true love on the third day of Christmas (6)
- 18 Traditionally sits atop the tree (5)
- 19 The best way to serve turkey (7)
- 21 Hymn sung at Christmas time (5)
- 22 One of these sang 'Hark' in the 21 across (5)
- 23 See 14 across (4)

### Down

- 1 The Festive -----, Christmas time (6)
- 2 Served at tea time on Christmas day, covered with marzipan and icing (4)
- 4 What 12 down will fill with presents, if you've been good! (8)
- 5 Bright decorations for the tree (6)
- 9 One of the deer pulling 12 down's sleigh (6)
- 11 20 down ----, a Christmas treat (4)
- 12 and 13 across - brings children (and hopefully adults!) presents (5)
- 15 The colour of 9 down's nose (3)
- 16 Pulled during Christmas dinner (8)
- 17 ---, 8 across, and be merry! (3)
- 18 Popular choice for the Christmas tree (3)
- 20 See 11 down

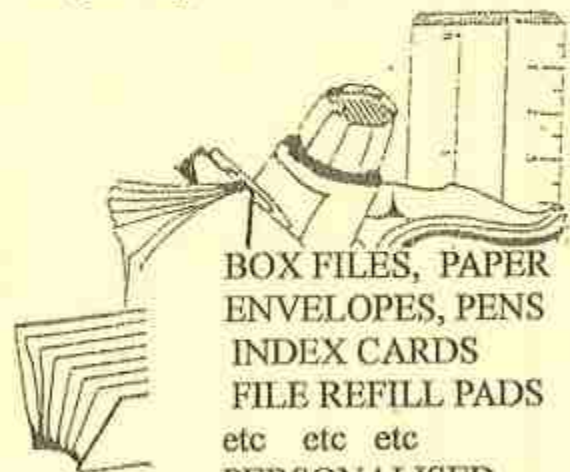


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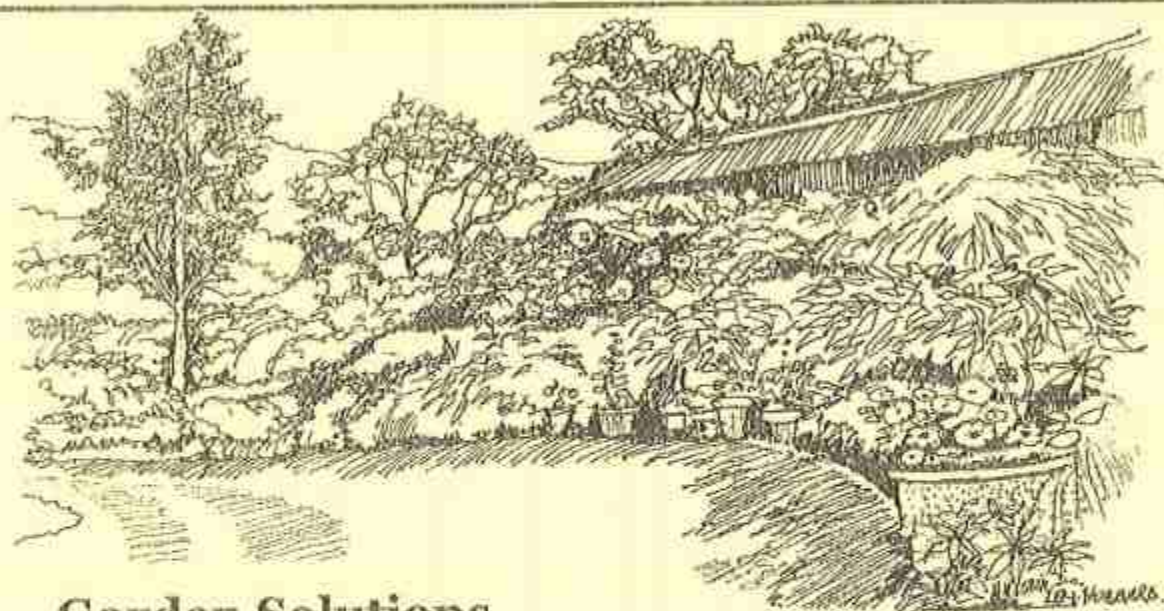


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# Harry Huggins stalks the Godwits of Puddle Stidston

Puddle Stidston - what has remained of Lake Stidston - might well have dried right out. In 1984 the area was bare earth. Lapwings, the black and white plovers with long crests and floppy wings, nested there. They hatched eggs, they could defend those, but as soon as the chicks appeared they were gobbled up by predators.

But it didn't go completely. Digging out ditches must have thrown up spoil which stopped the last of the water from draining away and briefly at spring tides more has flowed in. During the summer of 2007 it served us well. There was shallow water, maybe a couple of inches deep, and a large expanse of bare mud. There were lots of ducks, Mallards mostly, and Teals later, and a flock of about thirty small sandpipers, Dunlins, some showing diagnostic black bellies. Who knows what rarities might have been with them? We watched from home through the telescope but it has been too far for fine details. There have been Green Sandpipers and a few Snipes; you can't mistake their long bills. There have been up to a dozen Black-tailed Godwits. Godwits are large waders, not as big as Curlews, but quite as large as the Teals which have been swimming about.

We see two sorts of Godwit, Bar-tailed (Barwits in birders' slang) and Black-tailed (Blackwits). Except when they are flying the plumages of both seem very similar - grey-brown above and pale below; though the breeding males differ - Bar-tailed is brick red all over its head and body, Black-tailed was just red head, neck and upper breast. In flight, Black-tailed shows black flight feathers with a broad white stripe along each wing and white tail with a wide black tip, a pattern which is hidden below other feathers when it is standing.

Parts of a bird's skeleton are remarkably like ours. Its wing is like our arm; what would be our hand is fused together and the longest flight feathers grown out of it. You can't extend the comparison too far. If we had feathers we still couldn't fly because we lack the big breast bone to attach the flight muscles to. Even Dolly Parton is flat-

chested compared with a bird. At Christmas my grandfather - a fat old man in a paper hat - sat with the turkey before him. What he carved used to look like an old-fashioned sailing yacht upside down; the breastbone stuck up like a keel, with about as much flesh on it. They hadn't bred them for breast meat in those days. A bird's leg bones are very like ours. There is a knee, usually hidden by feathers, an ankle, the bit on a bird which looks like a knee the wrong way round, and toes - the bird's foot.

The sure way of telling a standing Black-tailed Godwit from a Bar-tailed is by the length of its legs. Black-tailed shows a lot of leg between its belly and its ankle. On Bar-tailed this distance is quite short. We saw the first Black-tails in the valley near the end of June. As I write, at the end of September, a few are still with us. Sadly, the autumn flocks of Canada Geese have started to frequent Thurlstone. The smaller birds go. The geese do them no harm, they are vegetarians. But it must be like if we were surrounded by a herd of elephants. The Godwits have been standing in the shallow water, prodding down with their long straight bills, like sewing machines. Tim Hocken, the Loddiswell film man, had a clip of film of a godwit - I don't recall which. This showed its bill was flexible at the tip - the last little bit opened like pair of tweezers so the bird could pick up and swallow whatever it felt in the mud.

Many years ago, Black-tailed Godwits bred on the Ouse washes and fens in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. But they were a delicacy to eat. Drainage and egg collectors finally did for them. Lately, a few have returned to breed. We did wonder if the birds we have seen were failed breeders, washed out by the summer's floods. The books show they nest across central Europe and into Asia; to winter they go to Africa, south of the Sahara, north India, and all around the East Indies.

In the 1960s we saw them nesting in Holland. We went on a bulb-fields tour - flew from Southend airport. Organised by Clarksons (went bust soon after) and flown in an ancient Dakota by Channel Airways (also went bust soon after). Cost for five



days (one going, one coming back, three in a hotel) was £22 each. Or it might have been £23. They allowed us an hour and a half at Keukenhof, the showplace for Holland's flowers. They took us to the Rijksmuseum. The young guide man said "This is the place with our greatest pictures. I want you back in 25 minutes." We galloped around to try to see Rembrandt's *Night Watch*. I suppose we found it, we certainly didn't see anything else. But they allowed us hours and hours in the establishments which sold tat to tourists.

The hotel was right at the top of that bit of Holland west of the IJssel Meer. I wonder how little Clarksons paid it. We had much coach travel up and down quite a large part of Holland. What the other punters thought I do not know, but we were pleased - we saw ducks on the canals and godwits nesting in the fields. When we flew home the pilot wove about all over the Channel, obviously lost, until one of the flight attendants (I think they still called them air hostesses then) looked out of the window and saw a navigation buoy. She scampered up to the pilot, the aircraft straightened out, and we were home in minutes.

Bar-tailed Godwit is much plainer, a whitish rump, but otherwise grey-brown and paler below, except for the red breeding males. It breeds far to the north, on the tundra right around the shores of the Arctic Ocean. Non-breeders and wintering

breeders are to be found on coasts almost anywhere in the world except the Americas.

Here at Thurstlestone we hope for easterly winds in late April and early May. Then if we are lucky we see flocks of Bar-tails thirty or forty strong coming in off the sea on their way north. We always have to look carefully because at the same time there may be flocks of Whimbrels. They are much the same size and are similarly coloured (but no red males). Godwits have straight bills, Whimbrels' curl down - that is what we have to look for.

As befits a bird which breeds in the far north, Bar-tailed Godwit spends the winter far to the south. Like the Arctic Tern which breeds around the Arctic Circle and flies to Antarctica for the winter - the longest migration of any bird - many Bar-tails must enjoy something like perpetual summer. When in the early 1980s we went to New Zealand, we saw huge flocks of Bar-tails - they go there in tens of thousands. June's relations and their friends commented on them, although by and large they were not into wildlife.

In Maori folklore the birds were deified. Their legend has it that in central Polynesia the Maori forefathers saw the great flocks of birds flying south in autumn and north in spring. They reasoned therefore that there must be land to the south, so they set off in their great canoes. This must have been about a thousand years ago. They

## The Godwit Sculpture

Bronze on concrete pedestal  
Executed by Frank Szirmay, Sculptor  
Inscription - "The Godwit"

This sculpture was presented to the Hawke's Bay Airport Authority and the people of Hawke's Bay by the Board and Management of New Zealand National Airways to mark the centennial of Napier City and the twentieth year of representation in the district by New Zealand National Airways.

The Godwit is one of New Zealand's most widely travelled migratory birds. It migrates to and from the wildlife reserve which is adjacent to this airport. In stylised form it is the symbol of New Zealand's national airline, NAC.

(With acknowledgements to Google)



found New Zealand, the Land of the Long White Cloud they called it, and occupied it. History does not record how many Godwits fell into the sea nor how many canoes-ful of Polynesians perished on the way. Whether any of them ever made their way back to Polynesia I do not know. I have never heard that any did. All we know is legend and supposition. The Maoris were in many ways a highly-sophisticated people but until the white men came their technology was still Stone Age and they didn't write anything down.

There have been studies to find out where the Bar-tails go on their flights. It was supposed that there were places where they landed to feed up before continuing. But there were relatively few records. Lately a few birds have been fitted with radio transmitters and these have shown that between breeding grounds in Alaska and Siberia and New Zealand, they make no stop but fly the whole distance - at least 7000 miles - in one hop.

We flew from Singapore to Auckland with Singapore Airlines. The captain, a burly Chinese gentleman, came round the aircraft and talked to every passenger. He told us they took off from Singapore with one hundred and twenty tons of fuel on board.

A bird must have fuel for a long flight. It can't take on aviation spirit; it puts on what it can, which is fat. The godwits do binge eating before they go, until over half their body weight is fat. The flight takes about a week and they arrive emaciated. There are worries that reclamation by man of some of the sites where they feed before leaving and on arrival back may mean that such migrations will no longer be possible. I don't think the places in New Zealand will be affected; there are vast areas of tidal flats which the birds use and, unless things have changed since we were there, the NZ wildlife authorities are very strong. One farmer with whom we stayed complained that he wanted to take into his farm an area of mud flats and mangrove swamp. A young man came, said that a few pairs of a very rare wading bird nested there and just forbade it. But there are areas on the Chinese and Korean coasts, equally important to the Bar-tails, which are threatened.

Birds' wings and legs may resemble our arms and legs but you cannot compare the physiology any further. I weigh thirteen stones. By frantic eating over a period of a couple of months, maybe less,

I might increase my body-weight to twenty stones. Body, not arms and legs, so that I looked like a Sumo wrestler. Then I might start to run, continuously, day and night, with no stopping. If I started from Calais, went over the Alps, up one side of the Matterhorn, down the other, after about seven days I would have arrived somewhere in Greece and be down to my original thirteen stones, or a bit below. Ludicrous, isn't it?

But that is what the godwits do, flying south from Siberia and Alaska in the northern autumn and back in the spring. I think they are an extreme case, and not all birds behave like that. But most migrants must put on some weight before a long passage. They reckon that Sedge Warbler, whose chirpy scratchy little song you will hear in South Milton ley, does it. It nearly doubles its body weight before flying non-stop to south of the Sahara desert. It puts on its weight by eating aphids, which is nature's way of converting plant material into fat.

Just as mysterious to ones with our physiology is the ability of some birds to fly at a great height. In September we had in the Thurstlestone valley a couple of Bar-headed Geese, pale grey things with white heads which have two dark crosswise bars. They were with Canada Geese. All sorts of odd things consort with Canada Geese - it is always worth looking at the flocks. These two Bar-heads must have come out of someone's collection - maybe from Slimbridge. In the wild they breed somewhere in the middle of Asia. They winter in India. To migrate back and forth they fly over the Himalayas, often as high as the top of Mount Everest, thirty thousand feet or so.

There is a record of Whooper Swans on migration from Iceland to Britain flying at around thirty thousand feet. If you took one of us to that altitude we would probably die at once, from lack of oxygen. But these swans were flying quite happily, no trouble at all, which all goes to show that birds are made differently from the way we are made!

### Harry Huggins





# KATE'S



# KITCHEN

FESTIVE

GINGER

PUDDING

Christmas beckons and we look forward to the aroma of spices drifting from kitchens and to enjoying richer treats at this special time. Here is an alternative to the traditional fruit pud. Do you remember the *Two Fat Ladies* cooking on TV? This recipe is from the book of the same name and it is attributed to Jennifer Paterson (the dark haired one with glasses who rode the motor bike). She called it *Jean Toynbee's ginger cake* and I am using Jennifer's recipe adaptation for the pudding with some additions of my own. I shall be serving this after the turkey on Christmas Day - and I don't anticipate any complaints!

## Ingredients

225g / 8oz self raising flour  
½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon  
2 eggs  
1 dessertspoon ground ginger  
silicone paper to line cake tin

115g / 4oz soft brown sugar  
150ml / ¼ pt milk  
4 tablespoons black treacle  
114g / 4oz butter  
1 jar stem ginger in syrup  
flamed brandy (optional)



## Preparation

- ★ Thoroughly mix all dry ingredients together in a mixing bowl
- ★ In a saucepan heat the milk, butter and treacle until melted and combined
- ★ Beat the eggs into the dry ingredients until mixed and smooth
- ★ Beat in the treacle mix - you can use a food processor if you like
- ★ Stir in 4-5 pieces of chopped stem ginger manually
- ★ Pour the mixture into a greased and lined 20cm / 8in. round deep cake tin
- ★ Bake in a pre-heated oven for about 45 minutes or until the top springs back when pressed gently
- ★ Allow to rest in the tin for about 10 minutes then remove from the tin and lining paper
- ★ Slice the rest of the stem ginger and gently warm the syrup
- ★ Cut the pudding into slices and top with stem ginger and warm syrup. Ginger addicts will love lots of it!
- ★ Serve with clotted cream (or a healthier option)
- ★ When cold the pudding will become a cake



I'm certain Jennifer Paterson would have been in favour of a little flamed brandy to complete the serving - using her own word "Yummoo".

*A very happy and peaceful Christmas!*



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# THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB



## CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

I must apologise for missing the previous issue of Village Voice, which leaves me a lot to report! I ended last time in mid-July with the away Mixed Match at Saunton. The following weekend we had the excitement of The Club Championship. Although the turnout on the Saturday was disappointing (only 34), we had some wonderful play with a hole-in-one from **Mark Cunningham** on the 3rd and a fabulous gross 62 from **Dan Knight** which set a new course record. However, with deteriorating weather on the Sunday, the final scores reflected the conditions. Dan was unable to repeat his Saturday score, finishing instead with an 83 but ending up Net Champion. **Jack Wallace**, with a solid 68 and 76 and total score of 144, was Gross Champion, **Kevin Mingo's** gross 71 coming too late to rescue his chances. **Peter Eva** won the Kennedy Cup, just edging out **Ian Jones** on countback. The Club then beat Dartmouth 4-2, but lost 3½ - 2½ to Churston away the following week. Gentleman's Invitation Day in July was won by **Malcolm Franke** and **T Collier** with an excellent 46 points. The final competition of the month, the July Medal (also played in atrocious weather) went to **Kevin Mingo** whose gross 73 just beat **Ted Taylor**.

August, with better weather, started off with a heavy drubbing at Bigbury. Only **Fran Harrison** & **Jeremy Taylor** saved our blushes, so the Avon Lantern stayed in the Bigbury clubhouse. The Allcomers' Cup was won by **Angus Dalzell** from Huntercombe with a magnificent 48 points. The August Medal was carried off by **Nick Hart** with a net 65, one better than **Jono Franke**. On the following day, **P Milburn-Fryer** won the RNLI Silver Spoon with 39 pts on countback from **Roger Prowse**. It was with great pride that I was then invited to host and play in the Devon Golf Captains v Cornwall Golf Captains at Thurlestone - a most enjoyable day and a pleasure and privilege to play alongside my

contemporaries. The following Sunday, the Club gained revenge for the loss at Churston by winning the home tie 3½ to 2½. Victory was secured by past Captains **Eric Wilson** and **Bob Buxton**, when Bob sank an enormous putt on the 18th green to halve the final match. The weather didn't disappoint for Bank Holiday week. First came the August midweek Stableford, with clear winner **Kevin Mingo's** fine 40 points achieved late in the day. The weekend then started with a mixed match against Stover at home, when a strong visiting team was held 4-4. Sunday saw glorious weather for the Captains' Charity BBQ with 72 players competing. There was a tie for first place, with the winning teams donating their prize money to the Captains' Charity Appeal - Children's Hospice South West. A silent auction raised £966, thanks to the generosity of eight local companies who donated prizes, while a further £345 worth of Villa Holiday Draw Tickets were sold. My thanks to everybody for entering into the spirit of the day and a special thank you to all those people who helped so tirelessly on the day. Once again, the BBQ was a great success and enjoyed by all. Bank Holiday Monday saw 32 pairs competing for the Cancer Relief Goblets - the sixth event of the week. The winners were **Mark Chapman** and **Jane Edmonds** with 41 points, just ahead of **Alan and Lyndsey Mann** with a better back nine score.

September started with a bang on the Saturday with the Club winning 5½ - ½ against Yelverton at home. My major event of the year - The Captain's Prize - followed on the Sunday and this year I offered a different format to try to overcome the poor attendances for weekend golf. I invited the ladies to play for a separate competition and prizes, given their great support throughout my year. However, the day became Vice-Captain's day when both **Roger Hind** and **Lindsey Fletcher** won their respective first prizes! Other winners were **Kevin Mingo**, **Dave Vosper**, **Dan Knight** and **David Eva** with another win for **Lindsey Fletcher** for nearest the pin on the par three holes. **Nick Crispin** won Division 1 and **John Aylwin** Division 2 with **Ted Taylor** just pipping **Laura Tregelles**



on countback for Best Junior. Together with the Pro's challenge a total of £365 was raised towards the Captains' Charity. My thanks go out to all the people behind the scenes who helped to make the day a success.

With the weather remaining good, the September Stableford saw **Dan Knight** just edging out his father **Mark** to win Division 1 and overall. Early starter **Terry Cook**, who had been the leader most of the day, came 2nd overall but winner of Division 2. The third Seniors' Open was held at Thurlestone on a beautiful September day; 156 golfers played the course which was in excellent condition. Four home golfers, **John L. Davies**, **Bryan Lewis**, **Tony Leonard** and **Lincoln Shaw** had success. However, the top honours went to **A Radford** from Hele Park GC while **Bryan Lewis** won a crystal tankard for nearest the pin. The following day, the Canada Cup Open was won by visitors **Paul and Neil Crispin** from Weston-Super-Mare with 76 points, one better than our own **Dave Eva** and **Kevin Mingo**, who edged out regular prize winners **Gunn** and **Frudge** from Yelverton on countback. September ended with **Andy Jellard** winning the Turton-Hart Salver with a fine score of 42 points, just ahead of **Wilf Cunningham** on 41 points. Unfortunately, **Dan Knight** could not make it a hat trick of wins.

October began successfully with Thurlestone winning the re-arranged match against Bigbury 6½ - 3½; thus retaking custody of the Avon Lantern. I wish **Roger Hind** all success with his club matches for next year. The October Four Ball Better Ball was also played on a perfect day. **Darrell Day** won with 44 points on countback from **Dave Walsh** and **Eric Worrall**. The October Medal went to **Wilf Cunningham** with a net 66 on countback from **David Eva** and **Alan Harkness**. A win away to Tavistock of 3-2 brought an end to our club matches for 2007 and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the members who supported me throughout the year, especially the players who were regulars in every game. The final results of the 18 club matches played were: won 9, drawn 3, lost 6. October ended with the traditional Devonians v The Rest (started by **Keith Favis** in his captaincy year). Devonians triumphed 11½ - 3½. As Chairman of the Greens Committee, I would like to compliment **Vic Dyer** and his greens staff team for the superb condition of the course this

year. In all the matches I have played throughout the year, I have only heard praise for the condition of the course, highlighting what an excellent job the Greens Team are doing.

After some consideration, the Ladies' Captain **Pam Ledger** and I have decided to extend THE CAPTAINS' CHARITY DRAW 2007 period up to the New Year's Eve party - we need all your support for this worthy cause! **Linda Kendall** has generously donated the prize of A WEEK'S VILLA HOLIDAY IN SOUTHERN SPAIN. The villa is situated at the Desert Springs Resort Almanzora in Southern Spain; it sleeps up to eight people and affords the opportunity to try one of Spain's best Golf Complexes. Please check it out yourselves at [www.estrellaville.com](http://www.estrellaville.com) and [www.almanzora.com](http://www.almanzora.com). The Draw tickets are available in the bar at £1 each and are eligible for a bar raffle on the day of issue and drawn when 25 tickets have been sold. A typical prize is a bottle of spirits, with the winners' names posted in the bar. All tickets sold are eligible for the main draw for the villa holiday, which will now take place at the New Year's Eve Party on 31st December 2007. All monies, other than prize money, will go to The Children's Hospice South West. Again I would urge you all to support the club at every opportunity, whether by entering competitions, or through our excellent social events, supported so well by superb catering from **Duncan and Sarah Prowse**.

**Nigel Holland**

### LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

At the beginning of September, we held our very successful Invitation Day, with 43 members entertaining their friends from other clubs. The day consisted of a competition, buffet lunch and prize giving. **Dawn St. Pier** and her partner won the competition with 46 points, on count back from **Jenny McKeague** and her partner, **Di Bird** was the only winner in the 2's sweepstake, pocketing 76 golf balls! Later in September the annual Past & Present Lady Captains' competition and lunch was held when 15 people attended - including "Poppet" **Lyle** (1966 and 1973). The day is organised by the immediate Past Captain, in this case **Tish Mawhood**, so

next year the event will be my responsibility. Nine captains played in the stableford competition, and rather embarrassingly I won the Hills Trophy with 31 pts. **Angela Ford**, the runner up, won the MacKenzie Coaster with 29 pts. The current captain always attends the lunch in order to give a report on the year's activities to her predecessors - quite a daunting task!

The following day we entertained a group of ladies from Bristol and Clifton Golf Club in an inaugural friendly match. This is a new initiative and one that will continue on an alternate yearly basis. A great day was had by all participants, with the condition of the course much admired by the visiting team. A big thank you to all the hard work put in by **Vic Dyer** and his team of ground staff. The Ladies Golf Union Brooch played in conjunction with the September medal was won by **Pam Adams** (11) with a net 70, on count back from **Moirra Goble** (23). The Tregelles Trophy is played in conjunction with the September stableford and is awarded to the player with the best score in Bronze division 2. The winner this year was **Olwen Stone** (30) with 40 pts from **Alison Daniel** (30) with 39 pts. The Underhill Scratch Trophy, which is played for in medal competitions in May, July and September, taking the aggregate of the two best scores, was won by **Jenny Roberts** with a score of 154 from **Lindsey Fletcher** with 167.

The last big competition of the year, the Closed Meeting, took place at the beginning of October. This day is always very busy with so many trophies and prizes to be won. The Marshall Salver for the best gross score in the Silver division was won by **Sue Laughler** (9) with a gross score of 81, from **Wendy Laud** (7) carding an 84. **Joyce Drummond** (12) besides coming third with a gross 84 was absolutely delighted to win the Mackenzie Rose Bowl for the best gross score in the Veterans Section. **Karin Morgan** (22) won the Montgomery Rose Bowl with a gross 93. **Mary Tregelles** (16) won the Pearl Rowland Trophy for the best net score in the Veterans Section with a score of 71. In the middle of October 56 ladies played in the main competition for the Patey and Steer Bowl. The winner was **Barbara Smith** (19) with a score of + five, with young **Beth Peters** (21) runner up with a score of + four. 70 ladies played in the October stableford competition. In conjunction with it was the Foundation Brooch into which 48

ladies entered. **Mary Tregelles** (16), triumphed with a score of 38 reducing her handicap to 14.1. **Tish Mawhood** (12) was runner up with a score of 37 and a reduction in her handicap. The final competition of October was a match between the Captain's team and the secretary and treasurer's team which ended all square.

Due to the change and amalgamation of the Men's and Ladies' Golf Captaincy year dates, I remain as Lady Captain until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008, when I hand over the captaincy to **Lindsey Fletcher**, my Vice- Captain, with best wishes for a happy and successful year. These arrangements mean that I remain in post to cover all the Christmas festivities again this year. As last year was so successful with two events for the Christmas meals, we are doing the same again with a Lunch on 10<sup>th</sup> December and a Dinner on 14<sup>th</sup> December. **Duncan Prowse** our chef has prepared an excellent menu so a great treat lies ahead. This seems a good point to wish you all a Happy Xmas and a Prosperous New Year.

However, I have to end my report on a very sad note. **Audrey Grose**, one of our long standing lady members - having joined the club in 1946 - died during the night of 25<sup>th</sup> October. Audrey, besides being a very good golfer, had the most wonderful sense of humour and it is that humour by which she will be remembered by the ladies. Many members have commented that they will carry the image of Audrey winning the funniest section of the Easter Bonnet Competition in the Spring with her amazing concoction of a chicken on her head! Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

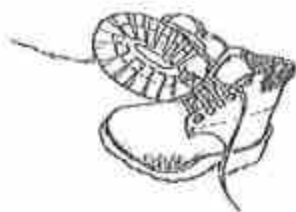
**Pamela Ledger**

## JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

Monday coaching sessions with assistant pro **Pete Mitchell** have helped to achieve handicap reductions for **Beth Peters**, **Laura Tregelles**, **Ted Taylor**, **Tom Leach**, **Jamie Johnson**, and **Robert Came**. Some Juniors entered Open meetings at other clubs. **Lottie Holland** and **Beth Yeoman** did well at the Warren Junior Open, while **Beth Peters** played in the Girls Autumn meeting at Staddon Heights.

**Liz Line**





# TRAMP



**1** A glorious day of 'Indian summer' greeted us for our short walk on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Fourteen of us plus two dogs set off from Kingston for a four-mile circuit down to the coast and back. After a short stretch down the lane from the village, we cut up across fields to pick up the track leading down to the sea. Lovely views opened up before us as we neared the water and reaching Wonwell Beach we paused to enjoy the peace and beauty of our surroundings whilst the dogs frolicked in the water. Sadly the leader had failed to arrange for the tide to be low enough for us to walk round the rocks, so we retreated to the coastal path to continue on our way.

A fairly stiff climb up through the woods brought a few grumbles, but we all succeeded in reaching the top, where we paused for a breather. From here it was an easy and fairly level walk back to Kingston where we rounded the morning off with lunch in the garden of the Dolphin Inn. The proprietor had kindly agreed to lay on sandwiches for us (not on their normal menu) and while they were rather over-substantial - and did not meet with universal approval - they were presumably what the chef expected to be required by a gang of hungry walkers!

**Christine Hammer**

**2** Wednesday the 24th October presented itself as an overcast, windy and not very promising day. Eight hardy trampers and one dog congregated at Tony and Sheila's car park. With 'good mornings!' all round, conversation quickly focussed on the actual distance of our imminent walk. Some light hearted banter quickly established that last year's declared distance of 7.5 miles was a little short of the mark, and perhaps 10 miles would be more accurate. After more genteel assassination of the walk leaders' estimate of 8 miles, however, it was generally agreed that it didn't matter as we were going to do it anyway.

On arriving at the Trendlebere Down car park, we were greeted by improved weather and a magnificent view of the Cleave stretching away to the northwest, with Hunters Tor rising steeply in the distance on the eastern slopes. It was agreed that if the walk could be scheduled a few weeks later in the future, the autumnal colours would provide added value. With our hound leading, our small but enthusiastic group set off down slope

through Hisley Wood towards the fast flowing River Bovey. The bridle path terminated at Hisley Bridge, an ancient and beautiful single stone arch across the river. On crossing the river, a second bridle path lead us gently northwards up the eastern slopes of the valley through the pleasant environs of a now sun-lit woodlands. After a mile or so, the character and paths became more testing with outcrops of large weathered granite boulders. It was suspected that some had been organized into enclosures and /or shelters in ancient times.

A further push led to the Sharpitor Nutcrackers, a massive outcrop of granite, which provided panoramic views to the west. The hardy group was invited to test the performance of the famous 'rocking stone', but by now our picnic lunch seemed to be a more attractive proposition. The terrain now changed from woodlands to a gently rising but exposed ridge path leading to our picnic site. Hunters Tor with its Iron Age hill fort provided a welcome shelter from the now rising wind. With the rucksacks opened for a much-deserved lunch, we were treated to full panorama views of the lush lowlands of Lustleigh Cleave and Manaton, along with the aggressive granite highland outcrops of Haytor, Hound Tor, Rippon Tor and Hayne Down.

We were now on the return leg of our journey, which started with a good downhill stretch to the River Bovey winding its way southwards through the Cleave. Our path led through Pecks Farm to the river at Foxworthy, a most delightful location complete with thatched cottages and picturesque stone bridge. A long and upwards traverse of the eastern flanks of the Cleave returned us to the relative shelter of the woodlands, terminating with a welcome downhill stretch to the river crossing at Woodash. The old tree which faithfully provided a hazardous crossing over the years has yielded to a new construction of steel and wood. It looks a little overdone, but will take away concerns. It is reported that Otters live in this area, but none were seen. A delightful final leg southwards along the riverbank returned us to our waiting cars and the comfort of casual shoes and the thoughts of tea and cake to follow. Oh, for future reference, the actual distance walked by measurement is 7.74 miles plus 0.7 miles (someone suggested 5 miles) getting the wrong paths comes to a grand total of 8.44 miles. No payouts I'm afraid, but thanks to all for turning out.

**Richard & Heather Swan**

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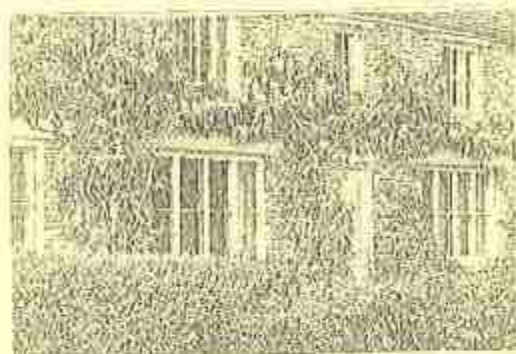
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# Weather Wag



Brrr! There seems to be a drop in temperature at last. We're just not used to this cold weather are we? There have been almost more frosts this autumn than there were all of last winter. My *Buxy Lizzies* lasted almost until Christmas last year, they have had it now (this year's plants I mean) and the begonias are looking a bit sad. At least we have been spared the usual high winds from the east or the west, and the Autumn colours are wonderful this year. The leaves are fairly cascading off the trees now. The frost triggers the plant to release their leaves to preserve energy for the winter. The chlorophyll has ceased production so that the other colours are visible. When there is a high wind from the west the leaves are usually wrenched from their stems, and from the east they are dehydrated as it were by the dry and cold wind, the colours disappear and they blow off in clouds of shrivelled colourless leaves. Such a shame after a summer's wealth of green.

I went upstairs just now (15th Nov. 5.00 pm temp. outside about 5°C) and my solar panels were still harvesting the heat from the sun that shone during the day. I never cease to be amazed at how long after dark, even on very dull days in winter, the panels are drawing heat in from the atmosphere. If I won the lottery I would be very inclined to build a 'green' house like the one in Totnes. It is very impressive isn't it?

However I must just write about some aspects of the 'green' provision of power. The weather figures largely in the science of green power, but not solely. The expression that we are familiar with is 'renewable energy'. This comes from natural sources that replenish themselves over short periods of time. These resources are founded in the sun, the wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (biomass), and the Earth's heat (geothermal energy). Renewable energy emits little or no carbon dioxide and its environmental impacts are generally less significant than those of conventional power generation.

No mention of nuclear power. This is not a renewable energy source. It is fuelled by uranium, which comes from an ore that is mined. In the production of nuclear power, very little carbon dioxide is emitted, but highly toxic radioactive

waste is produced. As of now, no country has found a safe way to dispose of this waste. Some have decided to pursue an atomic path; others to phase out the use of nuclear power.

My reference book goes on to point out some facts about costs which I hadn't fully appreciated. But on reflection, yes it is something to which to give serious consideration.

*"For consumers, electricity that comes from renewable energy-so called green energy-is often more expensive than energy produced from fossil fuels or by nuclear energy. This is because the price of conventional energy does not include its full costs to society - for example, the costs of dealing with its negative effects. Burning fossil fuels produces pollution that can lead to asthma and other medical problems. It also pollutes lakes and streams through acid rain and mercury and contributes to the problems connected with atmospheric warming. These associated medical and environmental costs are not included when calculating the price of electricity; it is assumed that the consumer, individually or through the state, will pay for them. To be competitive in a market that, both directly and indirectly, subsidizes dirty energy, renewable energy will continue to require government financial support in the short term."*

*The costs of renewable energy, however, are likely to drop as its technology advances and market demand increases. In the USA, the cost of wind energy declined 88% between the 1980s and the 2000s. At the same time, as governments continue to force conventional suppliers to cut the amount of pollution they produce, as existing power stations age out of service, and as the effort and expense involved in extracting fossil fuels from deeper and more remote reservoirs increases, the costs of conventional energy are expected to rise. In short, the price difference between fossil and renewable energy sources is likely to continue to narrow over time."*

What do you think, is this a 'newish' slant on the issue? So where does the weather fit in? We know the basic facts I'm sure. I have already alluded to solar power at Beach Cottage, this is just for heating water. There is of course the photovoltaic panel, a more advanced technology,



that converts solar power into electricity. Installed either as part of a roof or as panels on top of the roof, these will provide power for the consumer within the house, and any excess to requirements can be routed into the national system and the customer reimbursed for the amount supplied. Kingsbridge Community College does just this in the Nucleus Laboratory developed when the college was awarded Special Science Status. There is much soul-searching in the local area, particularly the Goveton parish, as proposals for Wind Turbines are debated. We have, for hundreds of years, harnessed the wind as well as water for powering machinery. The windmill and watermill powered the machines to a large extent in the early days of our industrial revolution. Today's windmills are a far cry from the original ones, standing 130ft high, with a blade sweep of 98ft they will produce 250kw of electricity. Each one requires about 1 acre plus wind speeds averaging approximately 15mph at a height of 160ft. So there you have it. I guess there are variations on a theme depending on who you are talking to. Another article appeared in the Gazette (16<sup>th</sup> November) on the above. It is a knotty problem if you are to have it in your backyard, as it were.

Perhaps the most used of these renewable resources is water power from dams worldwide generating hydro-electric power. Egypt, for example, generates most of its electricity from the Aswan Dam on the river Nile. HEP is now a major source of power on every continent except Antarctica, supplying about one quarter of the world's electricity. Brazil has the largest HEP station, and with smaller dams generates 90% of the country's power. There is a downside to this system of course; the reservoirs take huge areas of land and can displace humans, plants, and animals from their habitats. The water temperature below the dam is often colder than would normally flow down the river, so fish sometimes die. The normal flow pattern of the river changes and can affect the river-bank flora and fauna. So, all is not as advantageous as one would expect from a seemingly innocuous renewable source of power. The other water source, used by too few of us, is the power of the sea. Norway has a system of wave-driven turbines, France has the Rance River Barrage, using tidal flow to create electricity, and Scotland has the first commercial wave power station off the west coast on the Island of Islay which opened in 2000. Does the Severn Barrage get your vote?

There is another source of power that we have yet to harvest to any industrial level - heat from the earth itself. The centre of the earth has a temperature of more than 6,000°C (10,000°F). As a result, in temperate regions (that's us!) even the upper 3m (10ft) of the earth's surface stay at a nearly constant 10-16°C (50-60°F) year round. Again in KCC the new Sixth Form centre makes use of a heat pump driven down 60metres and providing considerable amounts of hot water to supplement the heating system. In summer the reverse can be effected leading to cooling the building without the use of expensive and polluting air conditioning.

We must not forget biomass power generation. This is posing a dilemma for farmers in various areas - food or fuel (including motor fuel). I cannot go into this subject now. It is very emotive and complex. I'm not sure how far down the line I would go to see the tropical forests disappear along with the bio-diversity that entails; a subject for another time. Even so, the weather still plays a vital role as it dictates what grows on such a large scale in the wide open spaces of our world.

Happy Christmas, and keep warm and safe.

**Jan Turner**

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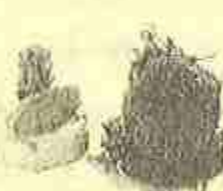
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# At the Bridge Table



My previous articles have concerned thinking about your defence against No Trump contracts. This one moves on to THINKING DEFENCE IN SUITS. The basic guidelines are the same, but in suit contracts there are important differences to be considered before the end of trick one:

- Should our side be aiming for a ruff? Did we lead shortage or should we switch to shortage?
- Should we be trying to stop dummy ruffing? Has dummy got a short suit? (Example 1)
- Should we "FORCE" declarer to trump? If we have long trumps, then make declarer ruff (Example 2)
- Returning partner's suit - even if the suit has been ruffed it is often safest to continue.
- Switching - look at dummy. Lead through 'beatable strength'. Lead up to weakness.

**Example 1.** You are sitting East and the auction proceeds as follows. South (1S) North (2D) South (2S) North (3S) South (4S). You and your partner PASS at each opportunity to bid. Partner leads the Jack of Hearts and dummy (North) tables his hand to reveal the following collection. → →

First thoughts on seeing dummy (a) spades - follow small (b) diamonds - small (c) clubs - follow with the 6 (d) hearts - do we win the first trick and do we continue? Yes, we win the first trick, but before we go on we must consider the question of ruffing. Our partner hasn't led a short suit and we have no shortage - so NO. But should we be trying to stop ruffs in dummy? The danger signs are there - declarer may well be hoping to ruff a club in dummy. So the answer is YES and clearly it is more important to remove dummy's trumps, rather than continue with partner's suit. Once you decide to attack trumps, it should be 'top of the list'. So you win the Ace of hearts and switch to a trump. This makes partner happy as he can win 2 trump tricks and play a 3rd round. Declarer has to lose at least one club and thus is defeated.

North	
S	10 5 2
H	K Q 6
D	A 9 8 7 4
C	J 7

West	East
S A Q 3	S 7 4
H J 10 8 7 2	H A 9 5
D 5 3	D Q J 10 6
C Q 5 4	C 10 9 6 2

South	
S	K J 9 8 6
H	4 3
D	K 2
C	A K 8 3

**Example 2.** You are again sitting East. The auction goes South (1S), North (2C), South (2S), North (4S). Partner leads the Queen of Hearts and North tables this dummy. →

First thoughts on seeing dummy (a) spades - no choice (b) diamonds - low (c) clubs - Jack to show the solid suit (d) hearts - we have solid hearts, but it could be important to unblock the suit so win with the Ace. Can your side ruff? NOT likely - partner would have led a short suit if he wanted a ruff. Do we need to stop declarer ruffing? NO - dummy is flat. But it looks as if partner may well have 4 trumps so we must try to "FORCE" declarer to ruff to shorten his trumps and promote one of partner's. So you win Ace of hearts, play the King and follow with a third. Declarer ruffs but he is down to 4 trumps. He starts drawing trumps but then gets the bad news. He knocks out the Ace of diamonds, but your partner continues your good work and leads a 4th round of hearts. Declarer has to ruff, but West is now assured of a trump trick.

North	
S	A K 5
H	9 8 7 6
D	9 4 2
C	A Q 6

West	East
S 10 6 3 2	S 4
H Q J 10 4	H A K 5
D A 3	D 8 7 6 5
C 7 5 3	C J 10 9 8 2

South	
S	Q J 9 8 6
H	3 2
D	K Q J 10
C	K 4

*Victor*





## NATIONAL TRUST South Hams Centre



### *Programme for December 2007 & January 2008*

Wednesday  
5<sup>th</sup> December

Our Christmas celebrations begin with a traditional concert in **EXETER CATHEDRAL**, with time for shopping and an early supper before the concert

Saturday  
15<sup>th</sup> December

**CHRISTMAS AT OVERBECKS** - festive song with wintry tales. Enjoy the beautiful voices of Exeter singing quartet *Nota Bene*

Tuesday  
8<sup>th</sup> January

Dennis Cooke's stunning pictures from his travels **THE ELGAR SEQUENCE** and **NEW ENGLAND IN THE FALL** at West Alvington village hall

Thursday  
24<sup>th</sup> January

**COFFEE MORNING** - a chance to meet members and friends for a cup of coffee at the lovely Thurlestone Hotel

Tuesday  
29<sup>th</sup> January

**THE STORY OF EXETER** - another fascinating illustrated talk by local historian Mike Perriam at West Alvington village hall

For more information about any of these events or about joining the National Trust South Hams Centre please contact **MIDGE ELLIOTT** on 01548-562017 (9am to 5pm only)

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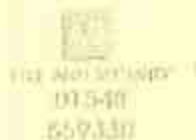
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# Daisy's Memories



(Part Three)

*Continuing Daisy Cole's memoirs of "Life in Buckland 1898-1909" in which she recalls aspects of the parish from her childhood. In this third instalment we are introduced to some more of the people who lived here 100 years ago.*

## Granfer Jeffery & Aunt Caroline

They were well up in years and had lived in the same cottage down in the Court for years. Granfer, with battered hat, fustian trousers and cotton smock, trudged daily to work on the Sherriff Farm. Because of his seniority he became boss or foreman of several jobs or duties, among them the art of sheep-shearing. Because of this, he also became the village barber. Granfer had several clients, although he had no special training in hair styling. The only tools necessary were the well-sharpened shears and comb and, of course, Aunt Caroline's ample apron for protection as the tufts of hair fell under the chip-chop of the shears.

Sunday morning was the appointed time for operations and a good yarn with the male population. Granfer could work much better if all his nasal passages were clear, and so the usual pinch of snuff was sniffed up into his sinus cavities, resulting in very loud sneezes of the 'huh-huh-huh' kind that fairly rocked the valley and startled all the animal life in the orchards and echoed across to Wedcombe. No costly barber's chair was necessary. A plain kitchen chair was set just outside the kitchen door and that served the purpose quite well. No scented pomade was used to 'give body' after cutting.

As the church bells swung and boomed out across the valley and the faithful attended church or chapel and the savoury aroma of that little bit of "mate" (meat) cooking - purchased the night before from Butcher Windsor's travelling shop - wafted through cottage doors and windows, Granfer proceeded to cut and

fashion the most unique hair styles - mostly of the hit-and-miss and ridgy patterns. Cuts at twopence a cut would have made Pierre Lejeune of Bond Street gasp to behold such styles that he had never dreamed of or seen.

Aunt Caroline spent much of her time knitting woollen jerseys for Granfer. The rapid movements and the click-clack of her needles were fascinating. Sitting in the doorway that was wreathed in honeysuckle, wearing lace cap and tight bodice with many buttons, white apron and elastic-sided boots, she made a splendid model for any 19<sup>th</sup> century artist, as did Granfer in his fustians and smock. To repeat the words written by the Reverend Coope in his book *Thurlestone Parish* "We shall never see their like again". (I once had this book, but it has been lost. Where I don't know. I wish I had another).

## Roger and Lisbeth Jackman, son Albert and daughter Olive

Roger worked at the Rectory and served there faithfully as gardener for years. Lisbeth, like Roger, was a good gardener and, like him, was fond of flowers. A "not on speaking terms" came about if one of his neighbours exhibited larger pansies or had sweeter-smelling roses - or if their geraniums on the window sills bore better blooms - often the case.

## "Kruger Dick"

The village tramp was named after that troublesome Boer War general. Dick Sherriff was the eldest son and would have been heir to the Sherriff Farm, owned and operated by Harry and Mary



Sherriff after old Mrs Sherriff passed away. Dick became an outcast from the family. A liking for strong drink was said to be his downfall. Seemingly illiterate, with no co-ordination, he wandered ragged and dirty beyond description. He often sought shelter in the old pound, shared nocturnally with the regular rodent inhabitants, bundles of musty sheaves and straw and was, without a doubt, a dangerous fire hazard! It was said that he smoked in his old clay pipe bits of the native vine we called "Loving Tangle".

In his long unkempt hair vermin played "catch me if you can" and ran riot twelve months of the year. Dick's only possession was a leaky boat moored at Undercliff. Annually in summer he rowed to mid-stream, cast anchor with oars resting and, in full view, washed himself and picked off the many lice that perished in the waters of the River Avon and were later taken either to Aveton Gifford or washed out to sea by the first tide. (What caused such degradation? Was it self-imposed or was it the power that fixes conditions which we call Destiny?)

#### Bill and Bessie Wakeham, Georgie Foote and Grandfather "Tailor" Foote

Bill had several occupations. He knew well the art of gin-setting and rabbit-catching (sometimes cats). He owned and operated with a pair of ferrets and was a habitual poacher. Of all this he was his own boss, but was sometimes employed in road maintenance, cracking and raking into place the stones on the roads. Bill was short and stoutish, seldom ever spoke and always with downcast eyes. His attire might have been designed and sewn by Tailor Foote but it was quite obvious that measurements had not been taken by any fully experienced hand and the style was without a name. Leggings were usual items of dress in those days for the working man, leather being preferred. Bill's leggings were not made to fit but

came above the bend of his knee and let out squeaking sounds and rattled as he walked through the village, his fox terrier close at heel and a ferret in a sack.

Bessie was kept in a continual state of frustration because of the boyish pranks and the disobedience of Georgie, the apple of her eye. On one occasion, thoroughly overcome and about prostrate with grief over Georgie's recent behaviour, she found relief in pouring out her heart to father. My father listened and declared such gammots must come to an end. He gave Bessie his best advice saying "*Why doanee give 'im a dump under the yer awl?*" to which she asked that father would do it, as she could not. Of course Georgie never received the prescribed treatment and carried on in the usual unrepentant way.

#### Ben & Clara Jeffery and son Bill

Ben was a farm hand and an experienced hedge clipper or, in the Devon dialect "a 'edge ditcher". Clara seldom left home, in fact I never knew her to pass through the village. A persistent leg ulcer made walking difficult and necessitated the use of a crutch or stick.

Bill was the proud possessor of the first gramophone to be heard in the village. Its cylindrical records screeched out across the valley songs popular during the Boer War and after. The strains of "*Goodbye Dolly Gray*", "*Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue!*", "*Rule Britannia*" and "*It's only a beautiful picture in a beautiful golden frame*" etc., were heard every evening until the novelty wore off.

*That little box with the big horn really had volume!*



[The final instalment of Daisy Cole's memories of the parish between 1898 and 1909 will appear in the February 2008 issue of Village Voice.]



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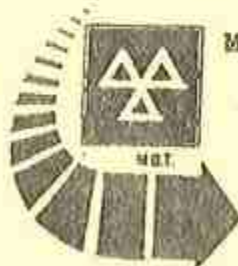
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# The Avon Estuary Siltation Research Project

*Outline of results and recommendations  
for the Avon Estuary Forum, November 2007*

## INTRODUCTION

It is a fact that all estuaries fill up over geological time but within the memory and experience of many local people from around the Avon estuary there is strong evidence suggesting the tidal part of the river has been silting up much more rapidly in recent decades. However, the accuracy of some of the distant memories cannot be verified and incontrovertible causal links cannot be established between past events and the current state of the estuary.

The only possible sources of in-filling sediment are the soils and detritus carried by water in run-off from within the river valley or material washed or blown in from the sea by tide, wind and wave action. The relative importance of these sources of sediment and the complex interactions between land, river and sea will differ depending upon the many variable factors existing in specific parts of the tidal area under consideration, i.e., the upper, middle or lower (seaward) areas of the estuary.

It was the purpose of the Aune Conservation Association's (ACA) Siltation Research Project to establish some scientific facts and try to identify ways to slow down or prevent any loss of navigation on this precious waterway.

## METHODS

The project consisted of several work packages that were undertaken by various academic and commercial organisations in the period 2005-2007. The work included:-

- 1) A 3-dimensional mapping survey of the estuary and a comparison with historical records
- 2) A geo-chemical analysis of core samples taken from the estuary bed and from the fields and streams which feed into it
- 3) A scientific description and analysis of the physical conditions, boundaries, flow and sediment transport characteristics of the river waters, particularly at the mouth of the Estuary
- 4) An examination of land use along the slopes of the Avon.

## RESULTS

### *1. Influx of sediment from the land*

1.1 There is an accumulation of muddy sediment in the central to upper shallow parts of the estuary where salt marshes are able to become established above Mean High Water Neap tides, further accelerating the rate of silt accretion.

1.2. Analysis of salt marsh core samples has shown that sedimentation rates in the upper estuary have increased since around 1970.

1.3. A large proportion (up to 66 %) of suspended sediment transported into the upper Avon estuary (by the main freshwater channel) is derived from surface soil erosion in the lower catchment zone as a result of the intensification of agricultural practices in the last few decades of the 20th century. Chronological, magnetic data and anecdotal evidence suggest conversion of pasture land to arable land is the primary cause. In more pastorally dominated areas of the catchment, natural channel bank erosion is more important than surface soil erosion.

### *2. Reduced flushing by the river*

2.1 The influence of the Avon reservoir (and associated dam), commissioned in 1956, in a computer model of water levels and currents was small generally, with the reservoir acting to reduce estuary water levels and ebb-directed currents in the upper estuary. The differences in sediment transport due to the reservoir were generally very small, with some exceptions that occurred late in the year. The effect of the reservoir was to reduce ebb-directed transport and thus enhance any tendency for siltation, although the effect was slight.

### *3. Increased sediment delivery from the sea*

3.1 The Devonshire Avon is a mixed wave-and tide-dominated estuary. The ratio between the tidal amplitude and the mean channel depth is relatively small, and in such estuaries more sediment is brought into the estuary during the flood tide than is taken out by the ebb tide. As a result, there will be a net influx of marine sediments.



3.2 In the lower estuary there appeared to be an inflow of sand into the estuary on the flood tide with a compensatory, outward pulse of turbid waters from the upper estuary on the late ebb. A cross-estuary model of the Aunemouth Sands section showed the mean sediment transport tended to be out of the estuary in the deepest part of the section and up-estuary on the flanking intertidal shoulders.

3.3 Suspended particulate matter concentrations in the estuary generally were small during any one tidal cycle. However, seasonal changes in sediment levels of more than 0.3 m occurred, as did movements of the sandbank boundaries and main channel.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. Influx of sediment from the land

1.1 Targeted soil conservation measures are required within the river valley to reduce agricultural run-off. Specifically, it is important to reduce erosion rates and, more importantly, to reduce the proportion of eroded material that reaches waterways by the introduction of buffers or barriers (banks, hedges, wetlands, riparian vegetation, grasslands etc.) to its movement.

### 2. Reduced flushing by the river

2.1 Plant and tree debris within the river system should be sensitively managed. Whilst excessive debris may trap, accumulate and, eventually, encourage the consolidation of sediment, transient 'debris dams' are an important and complex part of the

natural river system with respect to habitat.

2.2 Further abstraction of water from the river should be kept to a minimum.

2.3 Run-off of nitrates and phosphates from agricultural land and input via sewage treatment works should be minimised to discourage excessive plant growth in the estuary and feeder streams. Such growth inevitably leads to sediment retention and reduced flushing.

### 3. Increased sediment delivery from the sea

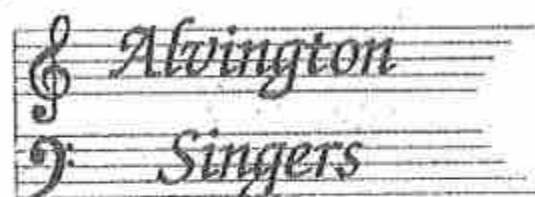
#### 3.1 No action.

Dredging and dumping of sand from the lower estuary are unattractive from practical, aesthetic, financial and ecological viewpoints and would be unlikely to be effective without frequent repetition. Re-building the groynes on Cockleridge would have uncertain consequences beyond slowing any longshore drift of sand on that beach and, possibly, preventing an eventual breach of the ridge by the sea.

Local reports of changes in water depth within the lower estuary are likely to be due to sand movements and the resulting deep water channel migrations together with a gradual accumulation of sand that does not wash out of the estuary on the ebb tide.



Stuart Watts,  
ACA Chairman  
6<sup>th</sup> November 2007



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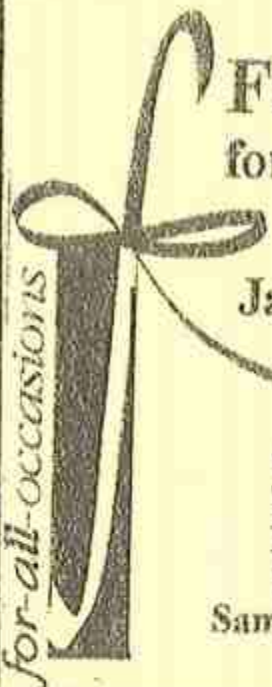
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<b>BOWLS CLUB</b>	Contact: Eileen Dymond
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<b>ACNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION</b>	Chairman: Stuart Wans
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<b>BANTHAM SURE LIFE SAVING CLUB</b>	Clubhouse
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<b>NEWSPAPER DELIVERY</b>	Dave & Sandra Edwards	01548 - 853132
<b>VILLAGE SHOP</b>	Thurstone Village Shop	M. T. Th. F. 8.00 am - 5.30 pm Wednesday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm Saturday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm Sunday, 8.30 am - 1.00 pm
(Bank Holidays open from 8.00 am - 4.00 pm)		561917
<b>THURLESTONE POST OFFICE</b>	(Nil. The 1.00 pm closing times may sometimes be extended during school holidays and at weekends)	
Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.00 am - 5.30 pm. Wed, Sat 9.00 am - 1.00 pm		561917
Postal collections: 4.15 pm Monday - Friday, 10.30 am Saturday, 11.00 am Sunday		
<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b>	Co-ordinator: Charles Mitchellmore	560602
<b>POLICE</b>	Matthew Blackmore (Community Support Officer) 842107 Or mobile 08456 - 557890	
Emergency 999	Non-emergency calls 08705-777-444	
Miscellaneous 01392 - 452935	Confidential information 0800-555-111	
<b>RUBBISH COLLECTION</b>	Monday (But Tuesdays in Bank Holiday Monday weeks)	Brown Whistles - alternate Mondays from 3 <sup>rd</sup> December
Coloured (White, Blue) Sack collection (recyclables) and Grey Whistles - alternate Mondays from 10 <sup>th</sup> December		
<b>RECYCLING CENTRE</b> (Ten Quarry Site, Totnes Road - Telephone 521699)		
Opening Hours (from 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct) Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm Saturday & Sunday 10. am - 4.30 pm		
<b>PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION LINE</b>		
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 362800 or by e-mail to devonbus@devon.gov.uk		
<b>GARAGE</b> (High Engineering)	Maurice Blight	560220
<b>KINGSBRIDGE LIBRARY</b> (Mobile Library calls alternate Wednesdays from 12 <sup>th</sup> December)		852315
11.35 - 11.45am Buckland Old Chapel	11.30 - 12.15pm Thurstone Primary School	
12.30 - 12.30pm Thurstone Church	12.35 - 12.45pm Thurstone Sands	
<b>MOBILE FISH &amp; CHIP VAN</b> Alternate Wednesdays from 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2007, from 5.00 to 6.30 pm, outside school		



## DIARY DATES

Internet Café & Individual Tuition, Parish Hall Yeo Room,  
Every Wednesday 2 pm to 4 pm, and Saturday, 10 am to Noon

### DECEMBER

Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Robin Brett, 'Christmas is not just Carols', Parish Hall, 7.00 pm
Mon	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP Christmas Walk
Thurs	6 <sup>th</sup>	WI Christmas Lunch
Fri	7 <sup>th</sup>	Pearson's Pantomime, Parish Hall,
Fri	7 <sup>th</sup>	WI Group Carol Service, South Milton church, 2.30 pm
Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Magnum Quartet, Carols in the Village Inn, 7.30 pm
Mon	31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve Party, Parish Hall, 9.00 pm

### JANUARY

Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Thurs	10 <sup>th</sup>	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (creative dance)
Fri	11 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP (short walk), Mountbatten / Cattedown
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup>	Tea Dance, Parish Hall, 2 - 4.30 pm
Fri	18 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, East Allington (long walk)
Fri	25 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP (short walk), Dittisham
Sat	26 <sup>th</sup>	NSPCC Bridge Evening, Parish Hall, 7.00 pm
Thurs	31 <sup>st</sup>	TRAMP, Kingston / Ringmore (long walk)

### FEBRUARY

Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Stanborough Chorus, All Saints church, Thurlestone, 7.30 pm
Mon	4 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Thurs	14 <sup>th</sup>	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Life of a store detective)
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	South Milton Valentine's Dance, Village 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

## VILLAGE VOICE

Your "Cut out and Keep"

## PARISH DIRECTORY & DIARY DATES

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



There is also a subscription service, which mails copies  
to readers at an annual cost of £10.00. Please apply to:

Judith Reynolds, Pilgrim Cottage, Post Office Lane,  
Thurlestone, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 3ND  
Telephone : 01548-560912



The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the parish rate.  
It was founded on behalf of Thurlestone Parish Council and is delighted to remain under  
the Council's sponsorship. This does not mean that the views and opinions expressed in  
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 Thurlestone, Village Voice is delivered by a team of volunteer helpers  
organised by Ian Fraser

In Banham and Buckland it is delivered by Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE : 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2008**

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))

# The



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# Inn

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Monday - Thursday 6pm-7pm

Happy Hour on Beer & Wine

Tuesday - Quiz Night

Friday - Live entertainment

Sunday - Roast Lunch

Open daily  
Monday - Friday

11.30am - 3.00pm

6.00pm - 11.00pm

Saturday

11.30am - 11pm

Sundays

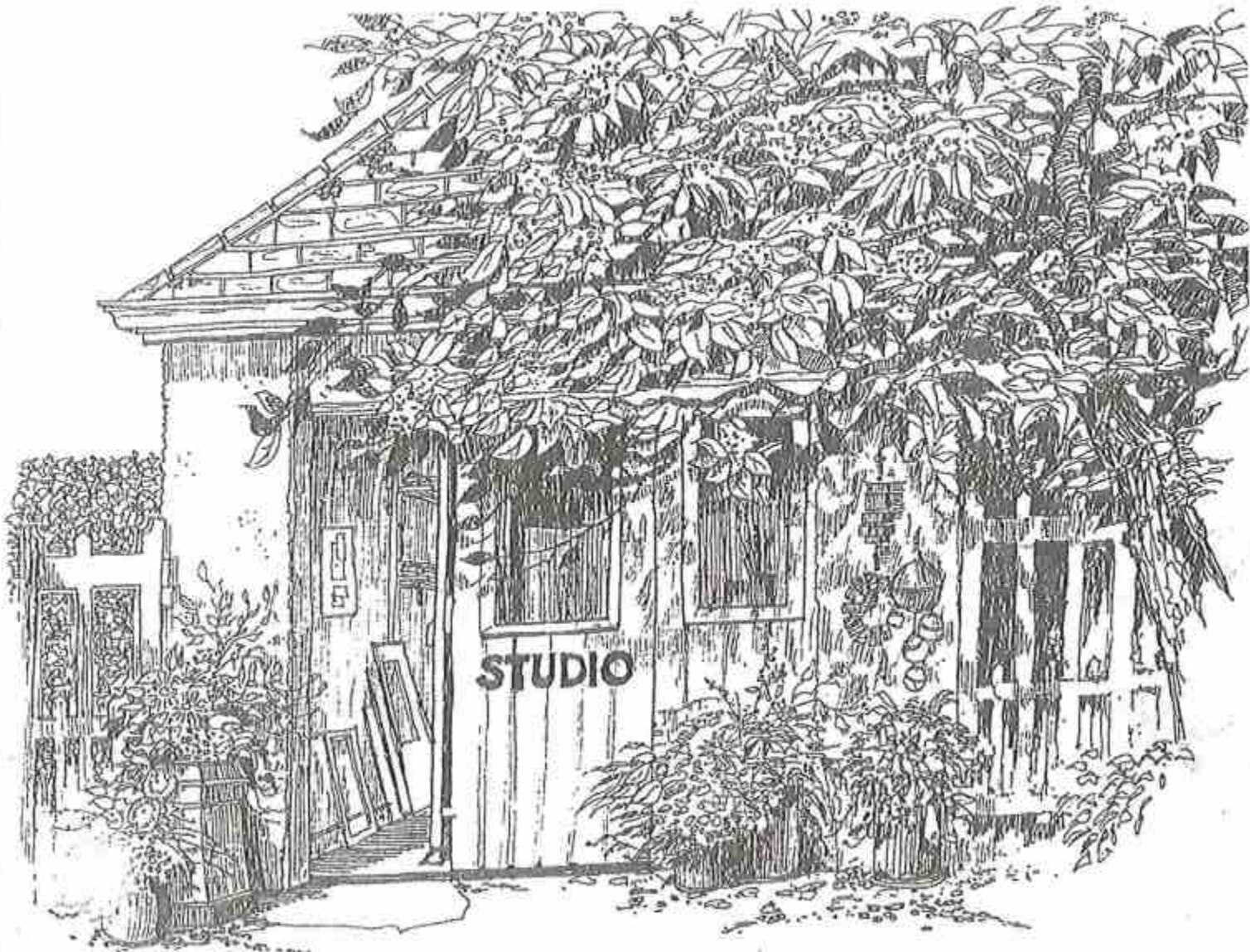
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