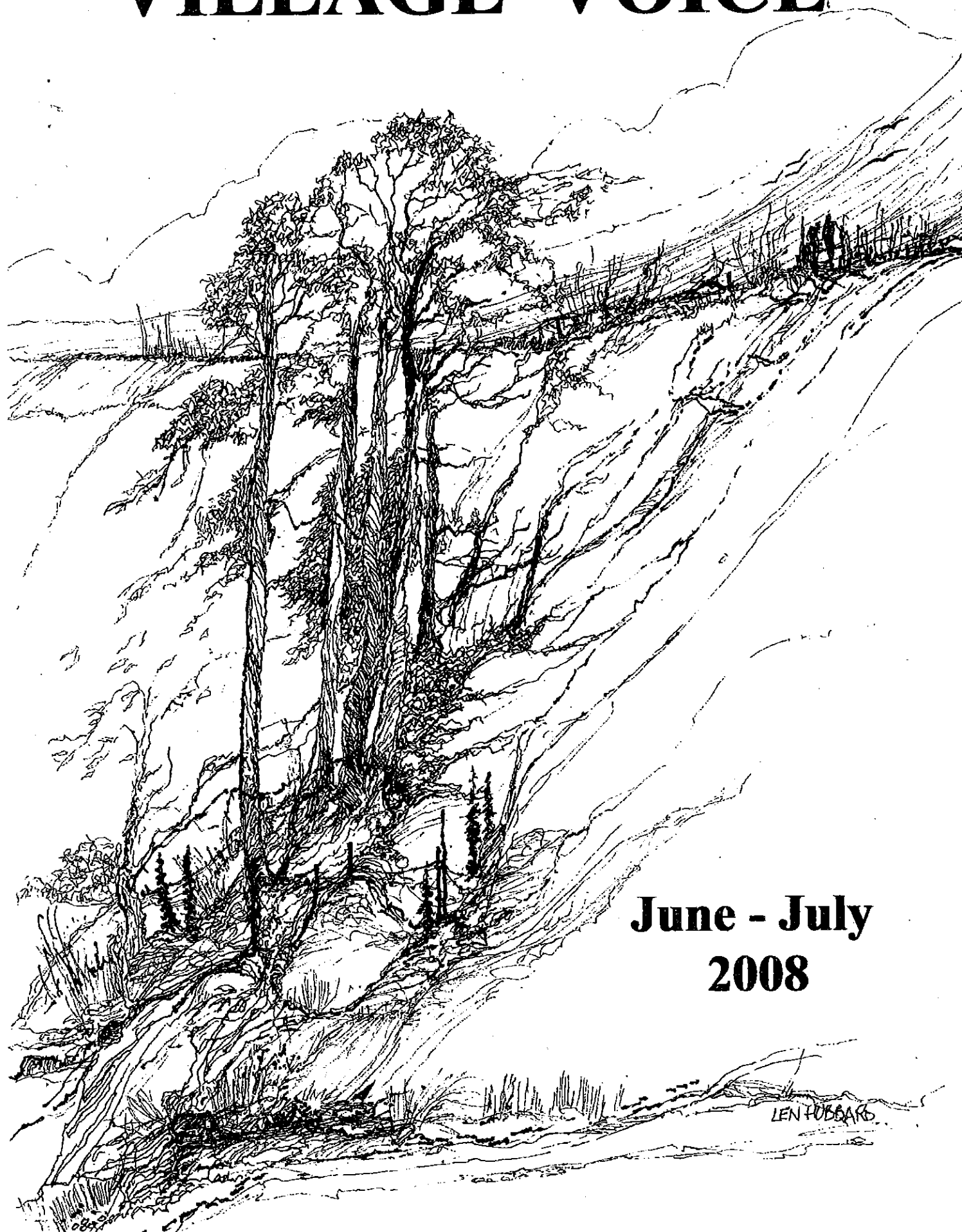


# VILLAGE VOICE



**June - July  
2008**





**NUMBER 151**  
**JUNE - JULY 2008**

Kit Marshall, who has been the Chairman of the Parish Council for the past six years, swapped roles with his Vice-Chairman Andrew Rhymes at the May Parish Council meeting, and was warmly thanked both by his fellow councillors and from the floor for his guiding role during his time at the helm.

In particular, he was instrumental in investigating and then persuading the Parish Council to raise a Public Works Borrowing loan to enable the Hall fund-raisers to close the financial gap. Without Kit's 'biting the bullet' in this way, coupled with his enthusiasm and appetite for hard work, we would not have had the wherewithal in time to go ahead with the building of the splendid Parish Hall we all so much enjoy today. So Village Voice, on behalf of its readers, reiterates the thanks expressed to him at the meeting.

We must indeed thank all of our Parish Councillors and to quote from a recent edition of 'Country Life' *"....On planning matters they are the people who understand the built character of the village, but also want to help people live there; who recognise the need for a children's play area, improvements to the village hall or a project to help teenagers; who alert the county council to problems such as inappropriate signage or dangerously blocked road drains. They're the ones who care about the village as much as you do and are empowered to do something about it on your behalf. This is because they live there too."*

Let us value our Parish Councillors, volunteers all!

Founder Dudley Drabble

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Cover Picture : Bantham trees await Spring

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

## What Unitary Authorities for Devon?

*District Councillor Shonaugh Rankin's report to Thurlestone Parish Council*

At the request of the Secretary of State, the Boundary Committee were asked to look at alternative local government structures in Devon. This request arose from Exeter's failed unitary bid. The committee have been asked only to consider unitary option. This is not a full and considered review of local government and does not consider all governing options. Under consideration are district boundaries as well as the boundaries of Plymouth and Torbay. Parish and country boundaries are not included in this review.

Parties were asked to submit 'concepts' of unitary authority boundaries backed by evidence-based arguments. These options had to consider the delivery of affordability, cross section support from partners and stake-holders, strong leadership, empowering local communities, and ensure value for money. The council had just over a month to consider a number of options, including being divided between Plymouth and Torbay, having a Devon-wide unitary and various combinations of districts.

South Hams District Council has successful partnership and joint working arrangements with both West Devon and Teignbridge Councils already, and it was felt the best solution was to fully combine these three rural authorities into a South Devon and Dartmoor unitary. This combination was chosen to benefit the rural nature of the areas and the people in them.

Much concern was expressed from the districts when suggestions from the existing unitary authorities included splitting up chunks of the South Hams and West Devon, which would result in a loss of rural identity and less focus on the rural issues of these areas. Urban issues would take resources away from the rural areas and result in a loss of services. The aim of this proposal is to put rural issues at the heart of the unitary. This combination would result in a unitary of 260,000 people, thus gaining the economies of scale necessary for success.

(The concept document can be accessed through the website [www.southams.gov.uk](http://www.southams.gov.uk)).

It was felt that having a Devon-wide unitary would prove too unwieldy and customers would feel very distant from the decision-making process. There is also little history of partnership working with the authorities in the North, and the success of the unitary relies on good relations. The logistics of running a Devon unitary would also prove costly and difficult.

SHDC and West Devon have been developing their 'Putting our Rural Communities First' concept and this partnership working has been positively received by the Boundary Committee. Teignbridge submitted a number of concepts and this included a unitary with SHDC and West Devon.

The concepts had to be in by 11<sup>th</sup> April. From then to 14<sup>th</sup> July the Boundary Committee will consider the concepts and carry out some more information-gathering. After this time, draft proposals will be published and consultation will begin on the 7<sup>th</sup> July until the 26<sup>th</sup> September. Some time before the end of December, the recommendation of the Boundary Committee will be given to the Secretary of State.

What about Parishes? Parish boundaries are not under consideration for change. However, there is reference made in the Secretary of State's guidelines referring to empowering local communities, including neighbourhoods and parish governance arrangements.

Although not specific, it would appear that this hints at parish and town councils taking on more of the roles presently done by the district and county councils. There is a mention of partnership working between parish and town councils though nothing specific is mentioned on the requirements of the roles. There is no suggestion as to what form this will take, or who will be responsible for ensuring work is done. It seems to hint at placing more expectations on to parishes.

Only time will tell if this actually happens and how it will be funded.

# Parish Council Meetings

Meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April & 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008

*News and views by Citizen*

## ATTENDANCE

Although only seven members of the public were present at the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> April, no fewer than seventeen residents turned out, for the annual meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, and ten came along for the 12<sup>th</sup> May meeting. Councillors numbered four, six and six respectively, with the added impact of both our District Councillor and our County Councillor there in May.

## OFFICERS

The Chairman **Kit Marshall** and Deputy Chairman **Andrew Rhymes** effectively exchanged roles at the annual meeting. Kit had decided to stand down after six years, but expressed his willingness to serve as deputy to Andrew, who was elected to be the new Chairman. All the other Councillors were willing to continue for a further year in their various roles (*see Directory for details*). The outgoing chairman was warmly thanked for the six hard-working years he had served in the job, and particularly for taking us skilfully through occasional stormy patches with admirable diplomacy and courage.

## POLICE

Reports by PC **Steve Mullen** and CPLO **Matt Blackmore** revealed that there had been only three reports of minor crime in the parish since February.

## OPEN FORUM

- \* Damage by youths to cliffs above Leasfoot beach - Parish Council to advise the school.
- \* Litter on the Lockslea footpath to the beach - matter to be addressed..
- \* Kerbstone damage down Swallows hill again raised - to be addressed.
- \* Thatches (refusal of planning permission) No information regarding any appeal by the developer.
- \* Totally inappropriate and foul language

used by builders on Mead building site - Gerald Wood Homes to be contacted.

## PARISH HALL

Councillor **Peter Hurrell** reported on matters in hand.

- \* Storage cupboards had been put in place in the loft.
- \* An estimate had been accepted for new fencing at the end of the car park.
- \* The new burner had now been fitted to the central heating boiler.
- \* With regard to painting the hall's exterior, enquiries will be made to Social Services about the possibility of people serving Community Service Orders providing the labour.
- \* A second public notice board is to be sited next to the existing one in the hall porch.
- \* The vexed question of car parking will need to be reviewed in the light of school development plans.

## HIGHWAYS

- \* Parking along cobbled road beside the green - quotations for work still being received.
- \* SW Water to repair culvert in lower Warren Road.
- \* Various potholes and road damage have been pointed out to the SHDC, but they say they have no money to do this at present.
- \* Thurlestone village road suffering from subsidence in front of Pump.
- \* The now badly overgrown state of the raised footpath in Thurlestone village will be pursued personally with DCC by **Sir Simon Day!**
- \* Badgers are digging along the coastal path and the Golf Club is being consulted.

## SCHOOL

Councillor **Andrew Rhymes** said the maximum number of pupils is 123, but

anticipated that over the next two years there will be 119. The proposed new building work at the school has gone to the planners. Cost of meals has increased by 10p and there has been a fall off in numbers. Warning 'wig-wags' to motorists approaching the school are in operation.

### **TREES**

Councillor **Charles Mitchelmore** said that approval has been granted for removal of the sycamore at Little Egrets, but it must have a replacement tree. Mutilation of a tree without permission at the Grove in Buckland to be followed up.

### **PARISH PLAN**

Two public spirited residents have now stepped forward to help Councillor **David Hugo** formulate procedure for compiling a Parish Plan. A preliminary questionnaire was circulated for completion at the meeting in May, the results of which may help in getting a draft questionnaire prepared for circulation to the parish in August / September.

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

District Councillor **Shonaugh Rankin** told us at the May meeting that financial support from government had left a budget gap for SHDC of some £750,000. Council Tax bills had been issued showing a 4.49% increase. On affordable housing, once a new policy is adopted every new home built will have to pay into a fund towards affordable housing, which will result in an increase to house prices all round. *(Report on unitary authorities elsewhere in this issue)*

### **DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Also in May, Devon County Councillor **Sir Simon Day** gave us a brief up-date on his activities, from which an interesting point emerged. He has at his disposal a fund reserved especially for Parish Councils, from which he said a contribution could be made available towards the costs of our preparation of the Parish Plan.

### **AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY**

**Robin Toogood** of the South Devon AONB came to the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April and spoke eloquently on his role, covering the whole of the south of the county, including 60 miles of coastline between Plymouth and Torbay. Successes have included the protection of the coastline and undeveloped countryside, liaising with other organisations such as the National Trust and the Woodland Trust, work on improvements to sewage and water treatment, and the designation of the Coastal Path and clean beaches.

Forward issues include how we deal in the future with massive pressures for new housing, traffic and light pollution, climate change, coastal erosion, changes in agriculture, particularly food production, and maintenance of ditches, woodland and waterways. He suggested ways in which we could all play a part in these plans (many of which were in the 'Cherish the Avon' leaflet contained in the April Village Voice).

The AONB, which is now 50 years old, is funded 75% by the government and 25% from local authorities. Although with no statutory authority to thwart developers, they appreciate planners having regard to the AONB status of the area. They get involved in any large-scale planning applications - currently the wind turbines proposed for Goveton. *He concluded by saying that it was a challenge for all of us today to hand on to our grand-children an environment which is at least as good as the one we inherited!*

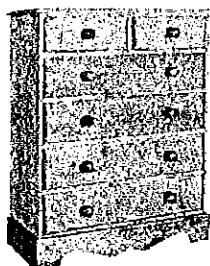
### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008**. If you have any matters you wish to talk to your Council about, speak to your nearest Councillor, drop him a line, or go along and put your question in person at the start of the meeting in the Open Forum session.

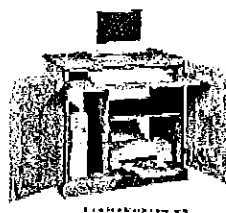
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# Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2008

by Kit Marshall, Chairman of Thurlestone Parish Council

After the election last year we welcomed two new Parish Councillors, Dale Came and David Hugo. Dale has taken on the role of supporting parish youth and David is embarking on the frustrating path of putting together a Parish Plan.

There were ten full Council meetings, a series of intermediate meetings, mainly planning, and the Annual Parish Meeting. Over the last few months public attendance was down, except of course when there were planning issues - when neighbours turn out in force. Planning issues are inevitably contentious with near neighbours vigorously defending their positions. Councillors have the difficult task of having to stand back from emotive issues and try to take a balanced overall view. But in fact having made this decision we find that it does not appear to carry much weight with District Council planning officers.

I am pleased to report that management of the Green Area in Island View has finally been transferred to our responsibility. It is to be turned into a safe play area. The road has been fenced off and we hope that when the weather improves it will be well used.

The Parish Plan has not progressed as hoped owing to a lack of support and volunteers from parishioners to form the basic think-tank. It is essential that parishioners rather than councillors form the driving force of a parish plan because it is their outside views that are needed. However, some progress is being made and I hope that shortly we will have a pro-forma questionnaire ready for general comment.

The school is to be congratulated on a first rate OFSTED report, putting them in the top 4% echelon in the country. The Headmaster gave the Council an update on plans for up-grading the school buildings, many of which are sub-standard. These are ambitious plans and I believe deserve the full support of the community. Whilst on the subject of the school we can shortly expect flashing wig-wags to be installed to slow down the traffic outside the school. Parking for parents dropping off and picking up school children remains a thorn with no foreseeable solution. We must rely on the goodwill of all concerned. On the subject of parking we are about to change the lay-out of the cobbled road alongside the Village Green which we hope will tidy up the

parking problems there.

We have seen a big increase in police presence in the Parish over the last 12 months and fortunately they report few incidents. I would like to remind parishioners that there is a police surgery in the Parish Hall on the first Monday of the month from 5.00-7.00pm. Their support is much appreciated

The Parish Hall has yet again been a boon to parishioners. It is well used and kept in top class condition. Our thanks to the Chairman and his committee for providing the Parish with this amazing facility. Village Voice is another of the hubs of Parish life. Huge efforts by many people go into its production with such outstanding results. The Council relies on them heavily and I must offer our gratitude.

I have written earlier in Village Voice about the Best Kept Village in Devon Competition. I am now told our entry arrived too late, so that we will not be in the competition this year. This gives us plenty of time to prepare for next year. I would like to form a small team of volunteers to generally keep an eye on things and do any small jobs that need fixing around the Parish. Anyone interested please contact Cathy or myself.

Councillors put in a lot of time and work on a purely voluntary basis. They receive plenty of criticism for their efforts but this year we actually received a letter of thanks! Unique in the annals methinks! I must thank them for their support. In my appreciations I must not forget our District Councillor, Shonaugh Rankin, who beavers away and is ever ready to give of her valuable time. Cathy, our clerk, is the backbone of the Parish Council. She has a unique knowledge of the rights and wrongs of public government and is ever ready to give us the benefit of her experience apart from doing all the nitty-gritty work on behalf of the Council and parishioners. She has been invaluable to the Parish, the Council and to me personally. Thank you so much Cathy.

It is not my intention to put myself forward as Chairman for next year so I would like to thank you all for putting up with me for the last few years. It has been a great privilege and I have much enjoyed the Chairman's role. I hope I can be of some benefit to the community as a Councillor in the future. Thank you.

# PARISH HALL NEWS

By Ron Parkin



*One of the joys of life in Thurlestone is that the people living here are such a talented and lively lot.* The evidence is all around us. Our young people attend a school in the top 4% in the country, and our senior citizens are astonishingly computer literate, thanks to Teamakers, e-mail, Skype communications, etc., and are in regular touch with families and friends scattered over the country and around the world.

The work produced by the two parish art classes and the sewing group is worthy of any exhibition. That opportunity will now arise on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August, when there will be an Arts & Crafts Show at the Parish Hall showing every type of handicraft. If you like to paint or draw, take photographs, do needlework, or any kind of craft work from wood-turning to basketry, then do please enter this non-competitive show and help make it an event to remember. There will be an entry form in the August issue of Village Voice, and they will also be available at Thurlestone shop.

A website has been set up for village halls in the county by a working party of the Community Council of Devon, on which the Parish Hall deputy chairman, Chris White, was a major player. Look it up at

< [www.devonvillagehalls.co.uk](http://www.devonvillagehalls.co.uk) >

When you dial in "Thurlestone" you can read all

about our Parish Hall and its facilities, what is going on there, future events, and so on. And you can see what other parishes have got to offer. Teamakers (the parish computer club/training group) continues to bubble with bright ideas. You can read further on in this issue about their latest initiative, the brainchild of founder Teamaker Robin Macdonald, for a new weekly e-mail newsletter.

Get your diary out now and reserve the second and fourth Saturdays in September!

## **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

A feast of good music and entertainment is guaranteed at a concert by the well-known and talented musical family **Kenny**, when there will be guest appearances by **Cindy** and **Robert Gloyn** (of 'Take Note' fame), plus **Alistair Durden** and **Robin Brett**.

## **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

One of the principal crowd-pullers in the calendar provides all the fun of the annual Autumn Fair - stalls and activities many and varied in aid of Parish Hall funds - run by the different groups and organisations who make regular use of the Hall. This is always a most popular event, when everyone in the parish comes along to meet their friends and make new acquaintances, and have a good time as well.

## ***DAYS OUT FOR VISITORS IN JUNE***

**If you are anticipating visitors, the following might be useful ways of entertaining them:**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June** - Coastal Flowers & Butterflies - at Bolt Head, 10.30am. Take picnic lunch and wear stout shoes. Park at old RAF airfield at end of Malborough/Soar Mill road. Enquire 01364-642007. (Warning - no loos!)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June** - Salcombe Music Festival - something for all tastes. Enquire 01548-843927

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June** - Salcombe & Kingsbridge Estuary - 2pm from Kingsbridge TIC - guided walk by marine ecologist Nigel Mortimer - about 2.5 miles with slippery rocks!

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** - Farming for the Birds - 2pm guided walk by farmers Vanessa and Colin Mills round the National Trust owned Southdown Farm, signed from Malborough..

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July** - Andrew's Wood, Loddiswell, Plant Survey - Meet 10 am in car park - no prior knowledge required. Take picnic lunch and wear stout shoes. Enquire 01364-72320.



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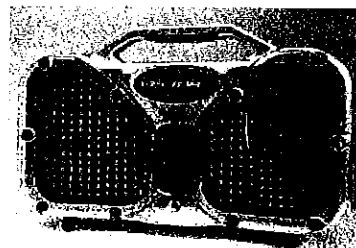
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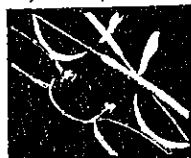
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# Village News Round-Up

## PARISH PLANTERS

As reported in the last issue, POTS, the Parish of Thurlestone Society, is keen to continue the late Derrick Yeoman's tradition of furnishing the Pump with a hanging basket. **Julian Lee** and his wife **Cheryl** will be doing the hard bit, though, planting it up. Not only that, he has kindly agreed to plant the trough (obscured at the time of writing) in the wall opposite Toye's Orchard on Thurlestone main road and the trough on the corner of the Bantham road. Thanks to you both from grateful parishioners.

## SINGERS ON SONG

Alvington Singers, under their musical director **Alistair Durden**, had two choral successes at the Torbay & SW England music festival. They are to be congratulated on being awarded the Lilian Goss Cup for a four-part mixed voice choir, and the Endsleigh Trophy in the Spirituals class.

## HOSPICE GOLF MARATHON

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Thurlestone Golf Club three Thurlestone golfers, **Peter Laughler** (Pro), **Keith Crawford**, and **Malcolm Franke**, will attempt a 101 Hole Golf marathon (5 rounds +11 holes) in one day to raise funds for St Luke's Hospice. Your support is invited - to sponsor a golfer per hole, or by a "lump sum", or a simple donation for the Hospice. Excellent cause - and a bold effort (and let's hope the Captain's charity is not required on this occasion!). If you should happen to be playing on the course that day, please wave them through post-haste - with a few well-chosen words (of encouragement).

## HOFMAN QUARTET CONCERT

A welcome return by the hugely talented **Mary Hofmann** string quartet has been arranged for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall. Details of the programme will be made known later, but a diary note now is a must! Our thanks to the **Radfords** for again providing us this with this opportunity to enjoy a live performance of exceptional musicianship.

## POST OFFICE REPRIEVE

It is with relief that we learn (Western Morning News, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2008) that Thurlestone's Post

Office is not on the official list of those Post Offices to be "axed". Readers, keep up your support of our own valued PO/Store. Use it, or lose it, as they say.

## RAISING PLANTS - AND FUNDS!

Committee members and friends had worked hard from early Spring to propagate a wide selection of plants for the Horticultural Show's Plant Sale at the Hall on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. Sales were brisk, and a total of £520 towards the cost of the August Show was a fine result.

## CRAFTY PERSONS REQUIRED

Do you paint, draw, take photographs, knit, crochet, embroider, sew, or arrange flowers? Maybe you make pots, carve, sculpt or do other forms of art or craft. If you do, your work is needed in support of the Parish Hall's coming Arts & Crafts Show which will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August. So, please start thinking now about what you can enter as the Parish Hall trustees want to make this a super show, a feast for the eyes and a sociable demonstration of how many gifted people there are hereabouts. **No judging will be involved - it is straightforward enjoyment!** In the next Village Voice there will be a form - look out for it. It will also be an opportunity for exhibitors to sell their work if they wish.

## OCTOGENARIAN WHIZ-KID

A certain gentleman from the Mead bestrode the headlines in the Western Morning News, the Gazette, and on Radio Devon recently, mainly due to his grace and style on the European ski-slopes. We offer him congratulations on being the only member of his skiing party to receive such an accolade. He also happens to be a stalwart, active, and long-standing member of the Village Voice team so we are doubly proud of him. We will heed his wise advice to "*have a go and try it - enjoy life to the full*" - but not necessarily on the ski-slopes! While on his skiing holiday, he also met up with another gentleman member of our magazine team, who ski-ed over from the other end of a nearby valley to enjoy a meal with him - at the best table of the best joint in town, we hear.

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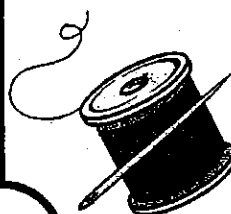
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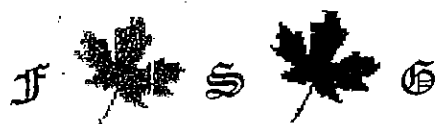
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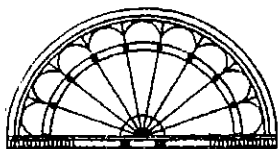
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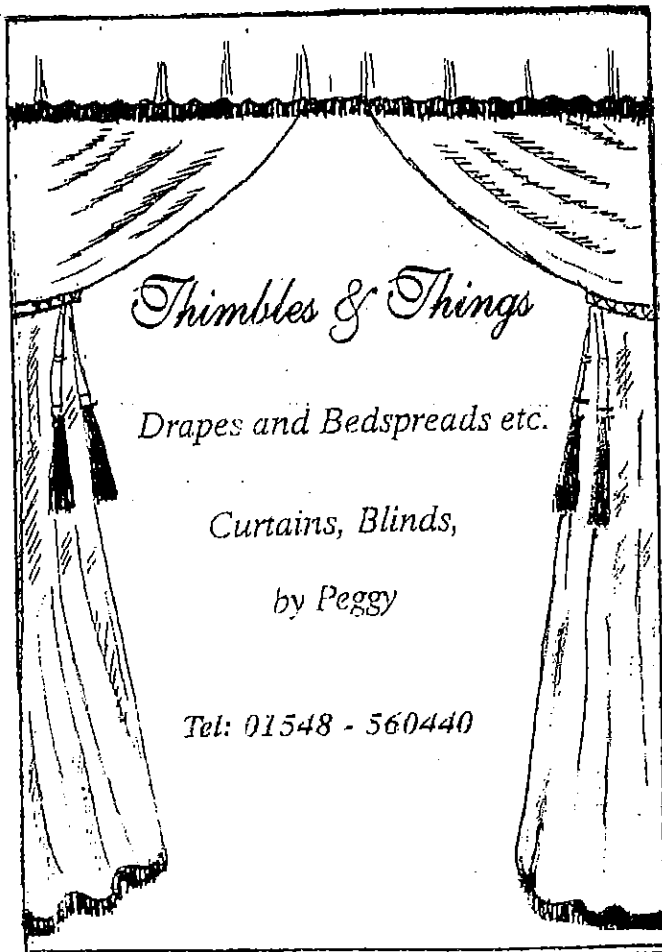
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*Andrew Girling writes:*



## **FORGIVENESS**

I share with you two stories. As far as I can ascertain they are both true. They have their own message.

Two men who had been prisoners of war together during the Second World War met again after nearly twenty years. During their conversation one asked the other, 'Have you forgiven the Germans yet?' Good God no', came the reply 'I shall never forgive those b\*\*\*\*\*s after the way they treated us!' 'Then', said the first, 'they still have you in prison'.

During the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln was once taken to task for the generous attitude he adopted towards the Confederate States. After all he had said in a speech that the Southerners were human beings, too, were they not. An elderly lady in the audience was incensed by Lincoln's tolerance, and asked the President how he could possibly speak kindly of his enemies when he should be doing everything in his power to destroy them. 'What, madam?' Lincoln replied. 'Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?'

Jesus said 'Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you'.

*Andrew*

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# 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

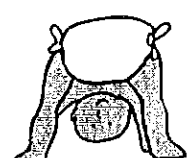

<b>EVERY SUNDAY</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Holy Communion (1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> BCP, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> CW)
<b>JUNE 1ST, JULY 6TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Morning Worship for All Ages
<b>JUNE 8TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Matins (BCP)
<b>JUNE 15TH, JULY 20TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Family Communion (CW)
<b>JUNE 22ND &amp; 29TH, JULY 27TH</b>	<b>11.00am</b> Parish Eucharist (CW)
<b>JUNE 22ND</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> Benefice Taizé Service at Thurlestone
<b>JULY 13TH</b>	<b>11.00am</b> Benefice Sea Sunday Service at West Alvington followed by a "Bring & Share" Lunch

### Weekdays

**THURSDAY JUNE 5TH & JULY 3RD 10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) at Bantham

BCP = Book of Common Prayer    CW = Common Worship

**See Church Notice Boards for variations & more information**



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**More information:** Scilla Grose 560375, Janet Fraser 562417

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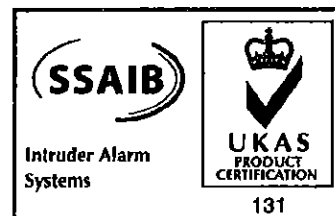


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# THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB



## CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May Thurlestone had its first match of the season against Bigbury. The three earlier matches against other clubs had to be postponed unfortunately because of appalling weather on the day.

This annual match is particularly enjoyable as it is one where the Professionals from each club also take part. Captains **Alan McSweeney** and myself and our respective Professionals play against each other. This match was unusual in that for the very first time Bigbury fielded a Lady Professional, **Tracey Loveys**. A thoroughly enjoyable day it was as well, the weather was perfect for a change this year, and we won our match 4 and 3. At one time it looked as though Thurlestone might be keeping the trophy, the Avon Lantern, but as the scores came in our good start ended as a 4½ to 5½ defeat, and the Lantern was taken home by Bigbury. We have been promised another enjoyable day in the return match at Bigbury later in the season and we very much look forward to that.

The Captain and Professional Challenge managed to raise some more funds for my charity, the Devon Air Ambulance, when we played **Dave Bennett** and **Ron Gingell** who despite being nervous contenders to start with turned out to be a formidable pairing. We have also played earlier against **Eric Worrall** and **David Coward**, where again we managed a win.

Our new Putting Green alongside the First Tee was opened on 5<sup>th</sup> May by one of our older playing members **Edith Haughton** cutting the ribbon. This was the same day as the John Batchelor Trophy competition, a shotgun start, with 76 members taking part and won by **Mary Wilkes** and **Tony Atkinson** with the Trophy actually being presented by **Joan Batchelor** who had joined us for the occasion.

In April the SHDC and their Chairman **John Carter** had their Golf Charity day at the club for

the Devon Air Ambulance and a very enjoyable day was had by all. Staying with Charities, the Kingsbridge Estuary Rotary club also held their biannual Golf day at Thurlestone raising some £5500 each for the Devon Air Ambulance and MacMillan Nurses, a fantastic achievement.

Good luck and happy golfing.

**Roger Hind**

## LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

As always at this time of year, activities at the Golf Club begin to increase swiftly. For one thing, there is a return to more serious forms of competition after the team events of the winter months. Players now have to turn their thoughts to playing in Medals and Stablefords, that is to say in stroke play events rather than in match play. There is a huge difference between the two types of golf, but with plenty of trophy and inter-club match play competitions such as the Still Cup, The President's Trophy, the Sheelah Creasey Bowl and the League, it is time to get serious about our golf. We have already had two good wins in the Sheelah Creasey and the Still Cup against Dartmouth and Yelverton.

Winners in recent club events have included our new star, **Wendy Laud**, a one-time junior international, who has reduced her handicap to an awe-inspiring five and **Jenny Roberts**, who won the May Medal with a net 71, reducing her handicap back to three. At the other end of the spectrum, young **Laura Tregelles**, at the beginning of her golf career, took the Stableford Winners competition with a huge 43 points. Grandmother **Mary Tregelles** came third on count-back from **Mary Johnson** in the same competition. In one of the first inter-club contests, the Thurlestone pair of **Liz Line** and **Sally Rossiter** had good wins against Dartmouth and Churston and are now in the third round of the Daily Mail Foursomes. In the final of the Murray-Smith Trophy, **Wendy Laud** beat **Angela Ford** at the 20<sup>th</sup> after a good match. Wendy joined up with **Pattie McPhie** to beat

**Midge Henderson and Mary Tregelles** in the Winter Foursomes final.

Members also enjoyed hearing from **Kay Dunbar** about setting up and developing the internationally famous Ways with Words Festival, held at Dartington each July. This took place at the annual Ladies' Luncheon organised by the Lady Captain and attended by over 55 ladies. But to return to golf, **Sue Laugher** took the much coveted Betty Ord Trophy with a net 71, reducing her handicap to eight. This trophy is very unusual as it takes the form of three of the Gold Medals Betty Ord won at three of the County Championships she won over a long and illustrious career, which included being captain of Thurlestone Club no fewer than seven times, County Captain twice and finishing up as County President.

As well as being enthusiastic golfers, Thurlestone Ladies are also very good fund-raisers. In March a very successful Food & Plant Fair raised funds for the Ladies Section to meet the ever-increasing cost of cards, gifts, and team expenses. The highlight of the Fair was the Chutney Challenge, run by one of our younger players, **Leslie Davey**. The Challenge was judged by visiting WI expert **Pat Macdonald**, who awarded the prize to **Pat Townsend** for her chutney "*Dick's Delight*" (the recipe was named after **Alice Foster's** husband!). The Fair was attended by the Captains and committee members of Bigbury and Dartmouth Clubs, which provided an opportunity for useful dialogue.

**Alice Foster** often does the flowers for big occasions, the most recent being the Iris Hardy Fun Day, which took place on the day this report was written. This day is devoted to the memory of Iris Hardy, who died of cancer 14 years ago. Ever since, her husband has presented prizes for the event. This was as usual much enjoyed by members, with 18 teams of four taking part in very testing conditions. The day is also an opportunity for members to raise money for the Oncology Unit at Derriford Hospital, where Iris was treated, and this year the sum was over £600.

At the prize-giving members heard a talk from Ivybridge GP and dermatologist, **Dr Ruth Harker**, about the prevention and recognition of skin cancer. Living in the South Hams, with its plentiful sunshine and proximity to the sea, increases the risk of contracting this form of cancer. Golfers on average take three hours to play a round and so are especially at risk. Many

ladies took advantage of Dr Harker's offer of a mini-consultation. **Sasha Brimacombe** from the Derriford oncology ward then spoke of the ways in which money raised by the Iris Hardy days had been used to provide extra amenities for patients. Sasha then presented the prizes to the winners. First were **Shirley Worrall, Pam Adams, Penny Hind** and **Pattie McPhie**, with 81 points on count-back from **Jenny Roberts, Kitina Bunn, Ann Best** and **Gill Durden**.

There is still much to look forward to in this summer's golf programme, so here's to shorts and PLENTY OF SUN CREAM!

**Lindsey Fletcher**

## JUNIORS SECTION NEWSLETTER

The juniors have continued to play in monthly competitions and reduce their handicaps this year. **Beth Peters** won the LGU bronze medal for the best medal scores in 2007, and also won the County silver medal, and reduced her handicap to 20. **Laura Tregelles** won the County prize for the best stableford scores in 2007 and has reduced her handicap to 22. Both Beth and Laura now play in the ladies competitions on the alternate day at the weekends. **Claire Harrison** has obtained her CONGU adult handicap of 30 and will now play on the alternate day with them.

The boys also play in the competitions and the April junior competition was won by **Jamie Johnson**, with the blue tee competition won by **Sam Favis**, now down to a 51 handicap after just one competition.

In May, Kingsbridge Community College held its 4th annual junior golf Open Tournament at Thurlestone. It was run by Physics teacher and keen golfer **Jackson Day**, and 13 students took part. One was from Dartmouth, another from Bigbury, and the rest from Thurlestone, with ages ranged from Yr 7 to Yr 11 students. The scores were excellent with **Andy Lennon**, Yr 11, from Dartmouth winning with 42 points, from **Beth Yeoman**, Yr 7, from Thurlestone with 40 points. 3rd was **Beth Peters**, Yr 11, 4th **Tom Leach**, Yr 9, and 5th **Ted Taylor**, Yr 10, all of them Thurlestone juniors.

**Liz Line**

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# SCHOOL REPORT

*Compiled by Betty Rhymes*

## TOP MARKS!

It is fair to say success breeds success as far as All Saints' is concerned. They have recently gained two new merits. Firstly, the **Sports Mark Award** for its major involvement in encouraging sporting activities. Pupils are able to take part in many different sports within PE lessons and via school clubs and inter-school competitions, which include swimming, netball, gym, football, and rugby. The school has also gained the **Healthy Schools Award** which recognises the need for children to be happy and healthy emotionally as well as physically.

## RUGBY

Ten pupils from Years 5 and 6 (aged 9, 10 and 11) have proved they are a force to be reckoned with. Their team of seven (with a minimum of three girls playing) won the Kingsbridge area primary school tag rugby tournament held at Salcombe Rugby Club. They also won all five of their games at the Ivybridge schools rugby festival before rain stopped play - not before securing their place in the final. Watch this space to find out how the Thurlestone Tigers (and Tigresses) got on!

## THE PIRATES OF BIGBURY BAY

Rehearsals are well under way for the school show - the children are learning their lines and getting into character,. Year 6 children have also been finding out about the smugglers and wreckers who operated in the South Hams in years gone by. **There will be two performances of the show, both on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June, at 2.30pm and 7.00pm. It will last about an hour, admission is FREE, and tickets will be available from 7<sup>th</sup> June from Thurlestone shop and the school office.** All are welcome - come and see the little luvvy darlings take to the stage!

## BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

The first stage of the 4/5 year building improvements to the school is on schedule to start this summer, subject to planning approval. Phase 1 will largely be the groundwork required before Phases 2 and 3 can commence and will consist mainly of replacing the boiler and associated pipeworks, electrics, etc. The school has to fund 10% of the building project therefore the school, parents and governors are trying to raise funds in many different ways. Our main fund-raising event for this year will be the

# RODEO ROCK

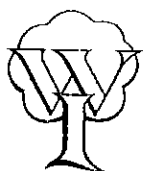
**Malborough Village Hall**

**FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JULY 7pm to 12am.**

It will follow the theme of a Wild West Night. Entertainment will be provided by the very popular local band Filthy Gorgeous and we will also have a Bucking Bronco to test your staying-power .....YEE HA! There will be a silent auction with some fantastic items up for bids. Tickets are available at £20.00 (including food) from Thurlestone shop. So, if you fancy a fun night out to help the school with its fund-raising, grab your stetson and head on down for the **RODEO ROCK!**

## COMING UP

There will be lots going on during the summer term - SATs, activities week, sports day and school fair, open day, not forgetting lessons of course. Plenty to report in the next issue!



# NEWS FROM THE WI



## April

Just a small selection of the trinkets and treasures amassed by **Margaret Wilkins** and her late husband during a working life in the jewellery world formed the basis of a fascinating talk, enhanced by close-up photographs of many of the items shown on the big screen at the Parish Hall. A collection of posy and mourning, or memorial, rings along with many other small silver antique items figured along with the interesting background stories of many. We have to thank **Margaret Illingworth** for kindly inviting her friend, our speaker, over from Somerset to stay with her during which time she came and gave us this lovely talk.

Five visitors were welcomed and President **Joan Booth** reported on the enjoyable day ten members had at the Festival of Performing Arts at Exeter, in which we did a sketch, a dance routine and sang. At the Sea Coast Group meeting we won the cup, which was on display, and the competitors responsible for this victory were warmly thanked. £50.00 had been donated to the Associated Countrywomen of the World, through the Pennies for Friendship scheme, largely as a result of the collection earlier this year, topped up from funds. **Carolyn Taylor** appealed for volunteers to help with the WRVS Books-on-Wheels scheme - about two hours a month.

## May

This is the month when all WI members debate the National resolutions which will be coming up at the June AGM in Liverpool. Six Thurlestone members will be travelling up to the north-west to attend. Thurlestone has given support to both resolutions - one concerning the imprisonment of the mentally ill (presented by **Lisa White**) the second on so-called bottom trawling which destroys the sea bed and decimates marine life (presented

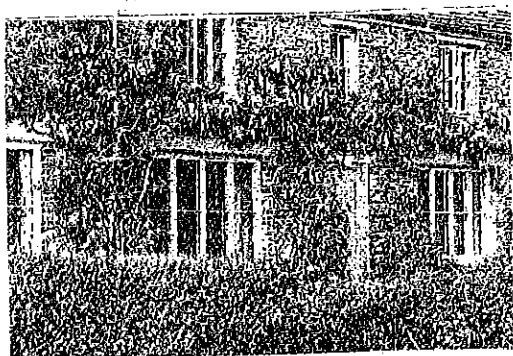
by **Judith Le Grice**). A report on the Spring Council Meeting at Exeter University was given by **Joan Booth**, when **Pam Rhodes** ('Songs of Praise') was one of the speakers and Devon WI completed its fund-raising for the Peninsula Medical School by making its donation up to £26,000. A very touching letter of appreciation was read from **Wendy Neukirchen** to thank members for their support and particularly for their singing at Klaus's memorial service.

Longleat, the wonderful house and the animals, proved an attractive venue for an excursion early in the month, and a day at Exeter Races on the 14<sup>th</sup> May was much enjoyed, when a party of members and husbands had a special talk from Martin Pipe and Chester Barnes, and the chance of a flutter on the gee-gees. On 8<sup>th</sup> June **Pat Clarke** and **Wendy Neukirchen** are taking part in a sponsored trek at Snapes Point in aid of the Triangle Centre of South Hams Hospital. A tea party for local new members will be held at Strete village hall on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. The draw for two £200 bursaries to Denman College took place, winners being **Rachel Wayth** and **Jo Parkin**. The Home Economics Area programmes 2008/9 were now to hand.

## Future Events

- \* **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** - Garden Lunch at Glen Lyon, courtesy **Rosemary Mackay**
- \* **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July** - River cruise from Kingsbridge + picnic
- \* **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July** - competing at Yealampton Show
- \* **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September** - competing at Kingsbridge Show
- \* **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September** - Area lunch at Sherford and a talk on Creative Textiles

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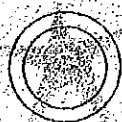
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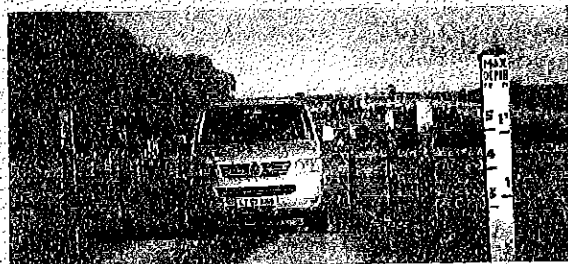
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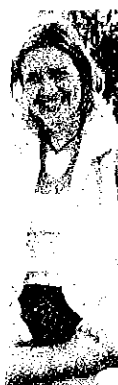
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# POSTBAG

*Dear Editor*

## Developing the Parish Plan

A small working party under the direction of David Hugo has started work on developing the consultation process that is essential if the Plan is to reflect the feelings of residents.

In the next few weeks they will be devising a questionnaire that will be sent to every parish household. The challenge is that there are lots of issues facing the Parish and it would be easy for the questionnaire to become very lengthy - which would inevitably depress responses.

As a first step, a short tick box form was circulated to people attending the Parish Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May. This grouped the issues under two headings: those that help to build a sustainable community and those that help maintain an attractive environment. This was very much a straw poll to help the working party prioritise the issues that will be covered in the main questionnaire.

It will probably surprise nobody that the one issue that everyone ticked was "Design / size / location of new buildings". Close behind came "Public Transport" and "Speeding". There was also much concern about Health Services and facilities for both the young and the old.

We would like to encourage all parishioners who have any views on what key issues the Parish Plan should cover to contact either **David Hugo** (562267) or via <[hagwich@aol.com](mailto:hagwich@aol.com)> or **Alan Taylor Bigg** (560590) or via e-mail to : <[taylor.bigg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:taylor.bigg@yahoo.co.uk)>

**David Hugo & Alan Taylor Bigg**

*Dear Editor*

## NSPCC Jumble Sale

I would like to thank the Committee, all the helpers, and everyone who gave us their jumble to sell for the NSPCC Sale on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May at the Parish Hall. We made £395, out of which will come the Hall fee, and the rest of the money will go to the children in the South West who need our help. Many thanks also to the people who cleared up the Hall - much appreciated by a disabled and useless Chairman (at present).

**Pat Crawford**

*Dear Editor*

## Reducing One's Carbon Footprint

All the recent talk about global warming, money shortages, and rising fuel costs reminds me of my war-time work with the Ministry of Food. In particular there was a recipe which demonstrated all of the above. It read as follows:

*"Take a large pan with a well-fitting lid and put in all the ingredients for your desired soup. Then into this also place two bowls - one a suet pastry roll with cheese and leek, the other containing a sponge pudding with jam or syrup. Tie some potatoes under the lid and cook for between one and one and a half hours, when your three course meal will be ready!"*

**Rosemary Mackay**

*Dear Editor*

## South Hams Mobile Library

Hello everyone! I wonder if you could help please? It was announced yesterday that **Gill Boyce**, the Librarian on South Hams Mobile Library vehicle, has reached the final of the Local Government Employee of the Year. There are a number of categories and Gill's nomination is in the category "Care and Commitment".

Anyone who uses the Mobile Library knows how well Gill fits into this category and how much she deserves to win, firstly for her own sake (she does her job brilliantly!) but also as a representative of the library service and of the County of Devon. This is a national award and Gill is competing against people from across the country. She needs your votes! Vote online at <[www.localgovernmentchannel.com/awards](http://www.localgovernmentchannel.com/awards)> but this doesn't suit everyone, as we well know. So we've got voting slips that can be filled in *on the mobile library* and at your local library. We are also hoping to get them into some local shops and Post Offices.

Voting closes on **20<sup>th</sup> June**, so if you could put a brief piece in your next Newsletter or Magazine inviting people to vote, we would be very grateful. Many thanks!

**Wendy Bloomer  
Kingsbridge Library**

# YOUTH IN THE PARISH

*Compiled by Dale Came*

## Ten Tors Success for Lewis

Many congratulations go to **Lewis Durant** who successfully completed the Ten Tors event on the weekend of 10/11 May. Lewis, who is in Year 9, was one of only three from that year representing Kingsbridge Community College. He and his five team-mates completed the 35-mile trek across the ten tors in 26 hours, breaking the previous record set by the school....well done to you all.

## Dominic's ambition is the big stage

**Dominic Quinn** has had a keen interest in the performing arts since around the age of eight, and has played numerous parts in amateur dramatics, including the role of the Artful Dodger in 'Oliver' at the age of ten. He is also involved in school dance festivals and drama productions.

This year Dom, who is a pupil at Kingsbridge Community College, will be fifteen, and it is his ambition to be accepted in one of the top performing arts colleges in the country. He already attends Saturday school at the Italia Conti associate school in Plymouth - the main colleges are in London and Guildford. At Italia Conti there is a very high standard of teaching by well-qualified and experienced teachers with professional backgrounds in singing, acting and dance. Dom has obtained some first rate examination results, as have many others who attend Italia Conti.

Currently Dom studies ballet, tap, modern and jazz dancing, acting, musical production and street jazz. In March he was accepted to join the Italia Conti Agency, which means that he could start auditioning for films and tv! Dance and drama he considers suitable for both boys and girls and a great way of meeting new friends, keeping fit, learning new skills and disciplines while at the same time having lots of fun.

If there are any other young people who would be interested in finding out more, he would be very happy to help.

## All Saints Rock Club

All Saints Rock Club meet every Thursday (term time only) 6pm to 7pm at the Parish Hall. All are welcome to come along from ages 11 up to 17. We have recently been making Easter cards and creating some lovely jewellery. The boys have much enjoyed playing on the new Snooker Table kindly donated by **Judith Reynolds**. This is very greatly appreciated and we would like to thank her for thinking of us.

Now that the evenings are getting lighter and the weather warmer, it won't be long before the BBQ comes out and we can get down to the beach to enjoy playing games in the fresh air!

## Rugby

**Toby Yeoman, Robert Came, and Peter Damerell** all figured well for Salcombe Under 13s in their final game of the season with a hard-fought win at Plymouth Arguam. Toby also rounded off his successful season by progressing to the final stages of the original Devon regions tournament. This selection confirms his place in the squad from which the final county players are selected.

## Music Success

During April and early May, the 15-year old twins from Bantham, Thomas and Henry Tozer, took part in the Torbay & South West England music festival and won no fewer than three prizes. Thomas won the Harris-Kattner Salver for piano composition while Henry collected the Tina Leigh Randle Shield in the piano solo class. Together they won the Lloyd Memorial Trophy for piano duet. Having played piano for about eight years they enjoy a wide variety of music from the Beatles to Grieg and regularly write their own pieces. Pupils at KCC, they are both currently working for GCSE. Congratulations on your Torbay success - good luck in the exams!

## Parish Youth News

If you have any items, please forward them to Dale Came at

< dale@camelotfloridarentals.co.uk >



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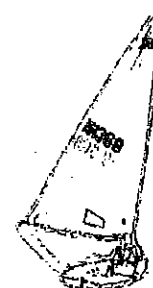
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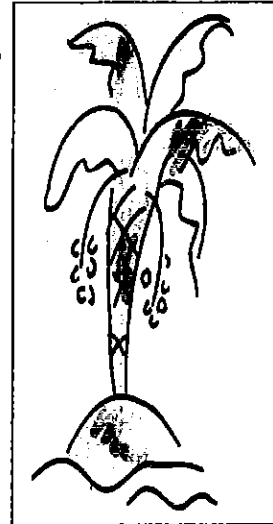


# Grey Matter

**A BOTTLE OF WINE** to the first all correct entry drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008. If no all correct entries are received then to the one that has the most correct answers. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB (or email: [cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk)).

## A little bit of escapism... Find The Islands

1. Small yellow songbirds.
2. High ranking accountant.
3. Recently discovered country
4. Did one of Lazarus' sisters pick her grapes here?
5. Perhaps they lie to the far North East?
6. You may do this to your wine at Yuletide.
7. Would you buy your sofa here?
8. These islands seem rather foolish!
9. Copper graduate?
10. Sounds like leg joints of Tolkein's goblins.
11. Farmyard manure
12. A get together of old classmates.
13. It sounds like a lady from the W.I.
14. A DRAB SOB
15. Richard, Rolf or Anita.
16. Glue holds an article.
17. Go to the Caribbean to bag orang-utans.
18. Total a drunken sailor.
19. Some unpleasant iguanas found here.
20. Has carried nothing.
21. Dame Te Kanawa takes a stick to first person singular.
22. Evenly found in theory.
23. Given the boot by Italy.
24. A poor actor surrounded by bleating lambs.
25. Sounds like Batman's sidekick.



## Solutions to the Spring Gardening Quiz Puzzle Page

1. Leylandii hedges 2. Prince Charles 3. Bastille Day 4. No-mow grass 5. Homes for voles and mice using old boots 6. Frances Hodgson Burnett 7. Autumn 8. Spring 9. Robert Burns 10. Sunflower 11. Being There 12. Green Card 13. Pineapple 14. Gertrude Jekyll 15. Kew 16. Albrecht Dürer 17. Eleanor of Castile 18. San Francisco 19. Heligan 20. The vine

*Congratulations and a bottle of wine to Wendy Harvey C/o Joan Gillan of Furzey Close, Thurlestone for winning the Spring Gardening Quiz.*



## Summer Berry Cheesecake

Midsummer gives us a vast variety of locally grown soft fruits. You are lucky if you grow your own but otherwise we have farm produce plus shops and markets displaying these jewelled berries. Early in the season raspberries, strawberries and red currants are delicious served plainly with a little sugar and cream, and they do not need a recipe. This magical combination also makes a mouth-watering cheesecake which serves 8-10. For easy serving you will need a 23cm (9in) loose bottomed tin. A shallow serving dish may be used instead - good luck cutting out the first piece!

### Ingredients

#### Biscuit base

125g (4oz) crushed sweet digestive biscuits  
60g (2oz) melted butter      30g (1oz) Demerara sugar.

#### Filling

1 sachet powdered gelatine    3 tablespoons cold water  
500g (1lb) mixture raspberries, redcurrants, and strawberries  
(Plus an EXTRA 250g (8oz) for the topping)  
250g (8oz) soft cream cheese at room temperature  
¼ pt soured cream (or crème fraîche or Greek yogurt)  
2 eggs separated.      125g (4oz) caster sugar.

### Preparation

- Mix together crushed biscuits, melted butter and demerara sugar. Press evenly over the tin base
- Soak gelatine in the water in a small heat proof bowl for 5 - 10 minutes
- Puree 500g of the fruit.
- Put soft cheese in a large bowl and beat until smooth
- Add soured cream and egg yolks and beat well together
- Stand gelatine in a saucepan of hot water and gently heat until it dissolves.
- Stir into cheese mixture and leave in refrigerator to thicken if necessary
- Whisk egg whites in another large bowl until stiff and add caster sugar 1oz at a time to make a soft meringue
- Stir cheese mixture into meringue
- Fold fruit puree into cheese/meringue mixture swirling it to give a marbled effect.
- Pour carefully on the biscuit base and chill until set

### Serving

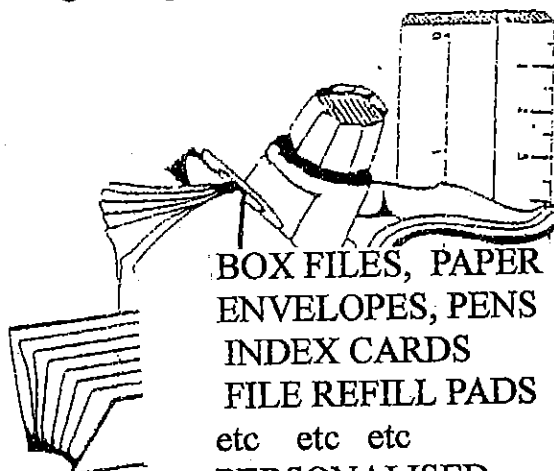
Remove the tin surround by standing base on a jam jar and carefully pulling the surround downwards. Place base with cheesecake on top on the work-top. Slice the extra strawberries and mix with the redcurrants and raspberries on top of the cake just before serving. You may want some extra cream to hand round. Mouth watering!

*Have a lovely summer!*

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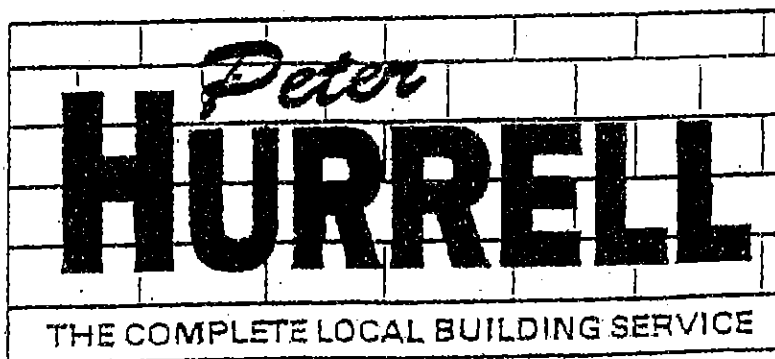
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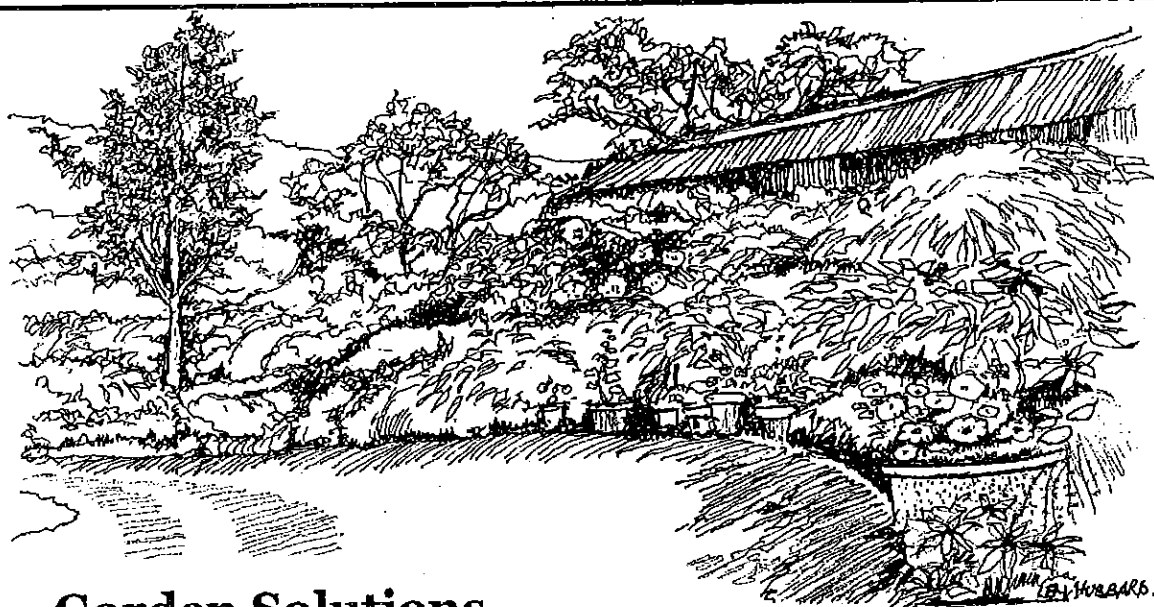


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# TRAMPS ENJOY LIZARD



By David and Madeleine Radford

Twenty-six people and 2 dogs signed up to TRAMP's first ever group holiday, a mere 21 years after TRAMP was founded by Stuart and Audrey Reynolds. We took up an offer from Thurlestone Hotel to make a block booking on advantageous terms at their recently-acquired Mullion Cove Hotel in Cornwall. We stayed 4 nights for the price of 3 from 16th to 20th March. The hotel is undergoing refurbishment so not all room facilities were quite up to the standards of its sister establishment, but the setting is spectacular, the staff friendly and attentive and the restaurant meals splendid. The hotel is perched on a high cliff half way down the western side of the Lizard Peninsula with views across Mounts Bay to St Michael's Mount, Penzance and Newlyn.

We had an island of fair weather in an otherwise boisterous and cold March, such that the group was able to walk and/or golf each day in a brisk easterly wind but without rain. On arrival on Sunday afternoon (Day 1), Lisa White led a warm-up walk of about 3 miles using a circuit of footpaths, lanes and bridleways around Mullion Cove, Mullion Village and Polurrian Cove, where we stopped to watch the breakers crashing on to the beach, as a remnant of the previous days' westerly gales. Dinner that night and the three following were truly excellent, with the group occupying three large tables in a bay of the dining room. By the third night, we deteriorated into a charabanc party, singing at the dining table and were asked kindly to retire to the lounge.

After an indulgent full breakfast on Day 2, David Radford led the walkers off at 09.45 on foot to walk to the bus-stop in Mullion Village. We filled the small bus for the 6-mile trip down to the Lizard Village - renowned as England's most southerly settlement, where most buildings seemed to

be tourist-orientated gift shops, ice-cream depots, cafés and pasty-shops. A half-mile walk brought us to the very tip of England, with yet more cafés and gift-shops in wooden shacks clustered like barnacles on the last few yards of land, each claiming to be the most southerly of its kind! We disciplined ourselves not to buy anything, however, and set off along the well-trodden Coast Path back northwards along the western side of the Peninsula. It was cold but sunny and the seascapes were among the best along the 600-plus miles of the SW Coast Path.

Just over an hour later we arrived at Kynance Cove, with its eco-café (photovoltaic roof-tiles and state-of-the-art biological toilets), and paused for coffee and scones outside, sheltered from the cold wind but in full sunshine. In our eagerness to get going again, we took our only wrong turning of the trip and ended up inland, admiring tadpoles in the rain-pools, but a mile away from the Coast Path. A 10-minute yomp across a sedge bog - not universally enjoyed by the party - brought us back on track, and from then onwards we kept to our intended route until, after 6 miles of quite strenuous switch-backs around the coves of the Lizard Peninsula, the Mullion Cove Hotel came into view on its cliff-top perch. The last mile and a half were steep, as the Path plunged into the Cove and up the other side.

Day 3 entailed a fleet of cars ferrying a record 21-strong party of walkers across to the wooded seclusion of the Helford Estuary. Lisa White had researched this 5-mile circular walk from Helford, out along the Helford estuary to the waterside hamlet of St Anthony-in-Meneage, then back along the even more secluded Gillan Creek, with its swans and egrets. Despite a brisk and cold easterly breeze out over the sea, the walk was both sheltered and sunny, with fine views of

both estuaries and out across Falmouth Bay. Morale flagged momentarily when the attractive-looking thatched pub at Manaccan turned out to be closed for decoration. Thurlestonian grit carried us over this bitter disappointment, and the cosy pub at Helford was less than an hour's walk away, still in good time for lunch.

The fourth and final day's walk took 15 stalwarts and 2 dogs back to the SW Coast Path, this time for a strenuous 6-mile stretch from Kuggar on the eastern side of the Peninsula back to Lizard Point. Incredibly, for such an otherwise wet and windy month, we had yet another fine day, with a lighter NE-breeze behind us most of the way. Several walkers actually got sun-burned by the time they had finished.

The first leg involved another bus-trip, and we encountered a driver from the Jack Dee school of customer care, who first of all declined to take us where we wanted to go, complained about having to take 15 return fares, rebuked the two dogs for blocking the gangway in contravention of health & safety regulations, and then drove at 60mph along winding roads barely wider than the bus itself. We (and the dogs, Amber and Bess, who were sliding from side to side) bore this stoically and disembarked without casualty.

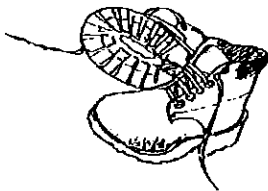
This ordeal turned out to be worthwhile, as this is one of the finest stretches of the Coast Path, with the route following a high-level terrace overlooking the sea much of the way. We paused for an early lunch at Cadgwith Cove in a sheltered sun-trap of a café, none brave (or hungry) enough to go for the local delicacy of deep-fried doughnuts with whipped cream. We set off again past the spectacular Devil's Frying Pan, a small cove enclosed by a grassy land-bridge. Further along, we passed the Lizard life-boat station, a feat of engineering with a steep steel ramp extending several hundred feet from the cliff-top into the water, to take the crew to the boathouse.

The group was aiming to catch another bus back from the Lizard village to the hotel at 2.40pm, and all but the fastest walkers peeled off at various points to cut the corner back to the village. Five of the group completed the full circuit of the Lizard, to link up with the section we walked 2 days previously. In the event the bus was late, and all had time for the excellent local ice-cream. On our last evening Chris White and Alistair Durden led the party in song, with some fine voices from the Kingsmen and the West Alvington Singers drowned out by the rest of us.

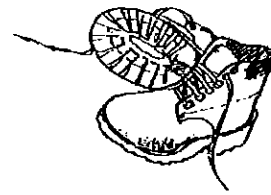
Another notable event on this trip was the launch of 'The TRAMP Golfing Society', the founding members being three golfers and two walker/golfers. Three enjoyable rounds were played at the Mullion, the Killiow (Truro) and Falmouth Golf Clubs. The Mullion is a cliff top course, not dissimilar to Thurlestone, although more demanding in terms of its geography and undulating greens.

The Killiow is a parkland course, a little damp in places, but with tree lined fairways and some water in the form of two streams and one small lake. The Falmouth is another cliff top course, very well maintained and with fast, slick greens, which we all found difficult to read. The Clubhouse was friendly and sociable, and we have been invited to return. Over the three playing days the weather was quite kind, no rain, some sunshine, and with a chilly breeze at times. Not too much money changed hands, but we hope to have further opportunities on future excursions with TRAMP.

No walkers or golfers were lost. One elderly person did bring the dog but forget the dog-lead (no names or prizes), and also had to delegate remembering her stick and hanky to her willing and admiring aides. Two of the party fell ill and had to leave after one night, but are now fully recovered. Several of the party fitted in visits to Cornish gardens, with Trebah particularly admired. Overall, an encouraging beginning for TRAMP holidays.



# TRAMP



**1** On 6<sup>th</sup> March we had a reasonably good day for our short walk, with occasional glimpses of blue amongst the clouds. Leaving the National Trust car park at Little Dartmouth, we set off to cover the lovely stretch of coast round to Dartmouth Castle.

This is a very picturesque and comparatively easy walk, with plenty of variety - lovely sea views, much bird-life, a bridge over a rocky chasm with the sea pounding below, and a final stretch through woods. Also a good few 'ups-and-downs' to get the pulses racing. We were treated to the sight of a very delicate rainbow over the mouth of the Dart as a little light rain fell.

Arriving at the Castle Tea Rooms, we were inevitably tempted inside for light refreshment and a pleasant spell of relaxation. This gave us the energy for the climb up Gallants Bower, from where we picked up the inland track leading back to the car park. A lovely walk of four miles.

**Christine Hammer**

**2** Thirteen walkers and two dogs assembled for the short walk round Ayrmer Cove and Ringmore. Despite a gloomy forecast, the day was sunny and warm. (Leaders Jill Munn & Maureen Baker).

We parked at the National Trust car park and made our way down to the coast at Toby's Point. There were wonderful views of the coastline and lots of wild flowers were blooming along the path, including thrift and kidney vetch.

We found that we were going to arrive at the pub too early for lunch, but when it was proposed that we extend the walk we encountered some resistance from some of our members so had to be content to meander inland on the planned path. The route took us through very pretty woodland where bluebells were just coming into flower. We made our way back through Ringmore to the Journey's End pub where we enjoyed a light lunch in the garden.

**Maureen Baker**

**3** On Wednesday 16 April, thirteen members headed north from Malborough across fields towards Sutton in fine, sunny spring weather, but the cold east wind had arrived one day earlier than forecast. The high ground on the ridge path southeast of Horswell House afforded

splendid views to the coast and inland to Dartmoor. Thence the route turned south via South Huish and Galmpton to Bolberry and the coastal path, where lunch was taken in the shelter of gorse bushes near the west cliff enjoying more sea views. After an impromptu rendering of "Teddy Bears' Picnic", to the amusement of the other picnickers, we continued for a short distance along the coast before heading inland to Southdown Farm, Portlemouth Barton, and back to Malborough. It was agreed that this had been an enjoyable walk, with varied terrain and numerous fine views - and new to TRAMPS.

**Roger Wilson**

**4** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May saw the dawning of another lovely spring day (although we did experience one or two heavy unexpected showers), and eight intrepid walkers (no dogs, although they were invited!) assembled at Coleton Fishacre, in an area of truly outstanding natural beauty, and set off in the direction of Kingswear on a circular walk. We arrived back later at Coleton Fishacre for a more leisurely stroll (and a much needed one) through the beautiful gardens to the tea rooms of the National Trust establishment. There was then an opportunity to visit the house, designed in 1925 for Rupert and Lady Dorothy D'Oyly Carte.

About half an hour after setting off along the flat, we descended into a valley which must be one of the prettiest in South Devon. A steep climb up the other side brought us to a cliff path where we stopped to admire the magnificent vistas across the bay to Dartmouth and the castle. We followed the coast path, adorned with many varieties of wild and colourful flowers and plants, eventually arriving at the Coastal Watch Station. Here we were made most welcome with a chance to learn about their day-to-day operations.

The final stage of the journey was along the strenuous coastal path, where a picnic was enjoyed on a grass bank overlooking Torbay. Sadly the seals were not in evidence this year, due to the high tide (no rocks to bask and frolic on). Sighs of relief were heard when we came upon the gate leading into the gardens and the last trek back up to the house. The eight of us had afternoon tea together before a delightful drive along the coastal road from Dartmouth to Kingsbridge, having crossed on the Dart Ferry from Kingswear.

**Jenny Sherrington**

# ON-LINE

## An E-mail Newsletter

**On-Line** is a weekly e-mail newsletter launched by Teamakers to connect with former computer class pupils. The first issue went out on Wednesday 28 May, so if you are a former pupil, and have an internet connection, you should have received it already.

If you have not received it, we clearly do not have your current e-mail address. If you would like to receive it, please send an e-mail to:

< teamakers@mail.ads14less.com >

**On-Line** aims to encourage and improve your relationship with your computer by providing guidance and information on relevant aspects of computing, and providing a means for you to ask a question or seek help to resolve a problem. It will also try to widen your computer horizons by giving details of web-sites that may be new to you, and explaining what they have to offer.

In addition to computer information, our **On-Line** Newsletter will also contain a parish "Stop Press News" box with an item of current news. Readers are invited to send us items for this feature.

Accordingly, as this will be of relevance to a wider audience than just our alumni, we also invite any resident with an e-mail address to "sign up" to receive **On-Line** on a weekly basis.

Any recipient wishing to discontinue receiving **On-Line** should simply advise us, and their e-mail address will be removed from our circulation list.

## Coffee Mornings

Teamakers held coffee mornings on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

to mark the end of their Spring Term and to tell former pupils about the launch of **On-Line** and the opening hours for the Internet Café throughout the summer.

Some forty alumni gathered together for coffee and biscuits and an update on Teamakers forthcoming plans and activities. The concept of an **On-Line** newsletter was given a very favourable welcome, and all those attending made sure they were to be on the mailing list.

## Topical Forum

For those unable to attend either of these occasions, the news is that the Internet Café will be open only from 2pm to 3pm on Wednesday afternoons with effect from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, and will be followed by a "Topical Forum" hour from 3pm to 4pm. A particular topic will be the subject of a 30 minute briefing followed by a discussion and Q and A session, and the opportunity for some "hands-on" practice at one of the six laptop computers available.

The subject of each Topical Forum will be announced in the previous week's **On-Line** newsletter, commencing 17<sup>th</sup> September. Before that date, this spot will reveal the subject matter of the next week's newsletter. If there is a special topic which you would like to have covered at one of these sessions, please let us know. We want them to be as relevant as possible to your needs.

## **STOP PRESS**

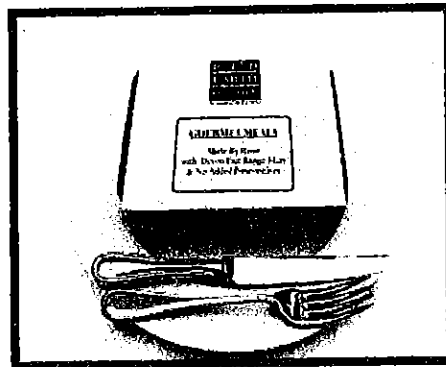
We kept this box open to demonstrate how a last minute item of news could be covered in the **On-Line** newsletter. So here we can now announce the inclusion as a loose insert in this issue of a letter from All Saints School about their ambitious new building programme.



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# HARBERTON'S LINK WITH TIERRA DEL FUEGO

*By Sue and Declan Dwyer*

Few who know the quiet South Hams village of Harberton would ever imagine that it is closely linked with one of the most southerly settlements in the world, in Tierra Del Fuego (The Land of Fire), less than eighty miles north of the dreaded Cape Horn.

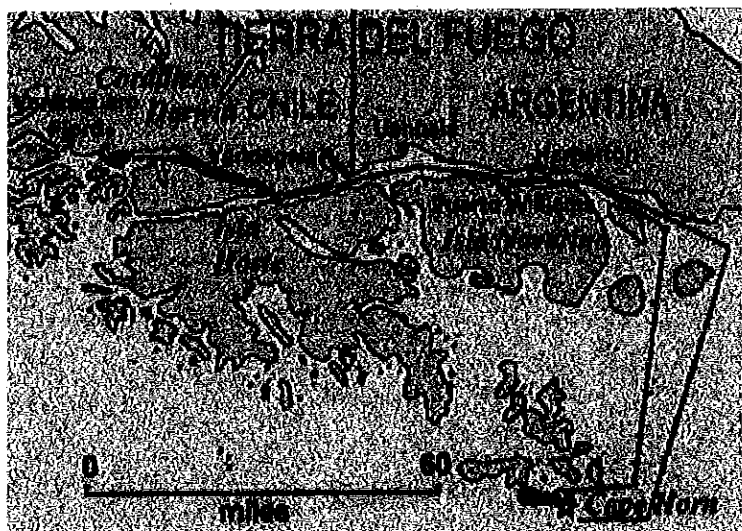
Before our first trip to Argentina in 2000 we met someone who lent us a book written by her distant relative about Tierra del Fuego. It was called *Uttermost Part of the Earth* by Lucas Bridges and published in 1947. The copy was a first edition, and told of his upbringing in the southernmost part of Argentina. Not perhaps everyone's cup of tea, but he was a good writer and the book was a good read. The name "Land of Fire" came about when Admiral George Anson first explored the region in 1740, and saw smoke from fires spiralling up from the land. Captain Robert Fitzroy came in 1826 with the Beagle and made several trips over the next few years to chart the area. Four tribes of Indians lived here. In the area of the Beagle Channel they were mostly the Yamana and Ona tribes.

The Yamana tribe, despite the atrocious weather conditions, were on the whole naked - keeping warm by standing in front of fires. They made fire in their wigwams and took it in their canoes. When they camped on fishing trips the embers would be carried ashore and wood found so that a new fire was virtually instantaneous. They lived beside the shore and rarely ventured inland living mainly on fish and limpets. The men fished from bark canoes but the women anchored their boats on to the kelp beds. After doing this they had to swim ashore in the icy waters! If there was danger in the village then green branches were thrown on to the fire in the wigwam, turning the smoke black, and thus communicating with those in the canoes and hastening their return to shore.

The Ona tribe lived inland and rarely ventured near the sea. They hunted with bows and arrows and wore animal skins to keep warm, usually from the Guanaco which is a small type of llama.

The Aush lived in the east of the island, and the Alacaloof, a tribe using large canoes, lived in the western fiords.

Several attempts were made by missionaries to convert the natives to Christianity but all ended in disaster. The missionaries either died of starvation or were killed by the natives. Undeterred, the Patagonian Mission Society in London sent the Rev George Despard with his wife and children in 1854. Thomas Bridges, a 13 year old boy, who had been adopted by the family, was also with them. It was decided to base them on Keppel Island, a northern island of the Falklands group about seventy miles by sea from Port Stanley. They visited Tierra Del



**Harberton, Tierra del Fuego**

Fuego, made friends with the natives, and a small group of Yamana were brought to Keppel Island. Thomas Bridges quickly began learning their complex language and acted as the interpreter. The natives lived there for four years and then a Missionary party with some of the 'captured' natives returned to Tierra Del Fuego. Far from the friendly welcome they expected, all the white men except one were killed. The survivor was made a prisoner of the Yamana, stripped naked, and had his beard, moustache and eyebrows plucked out as was the native custom.

This all was too much for the Rev Despard and his family who promptly returned to England leaving Thomas Bridges, then aged 18, to look after the settlement on Keppel Island. With him

remained a Yamana couple and Thomas started to decipher the Yamana language.

After a year a Mr Stirling arrived at Keppel Island to take charge and in 1863 Thomas accompanied him on his first visit to Tierra del Fuego. The natives were very wary of reprisals for their killing of the previous visitors but were won over when Thomas was able to converse with them in their own language. This enabled dialogue and in 1868 a small mission was built in Ushuaia. Thomas was recalled to England to study for Ordination and he left at the age of 25 having been in the Falklands and Ushuaia for twelve years, half his life. While in England he met Mary Varder, a carpenter's daughter from Harberton, and married her in the village on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1869. Two days later they sailed for Keppel Island. Thomas visited Tierra Del Fuego leaving his pregnant wife in Port Stanley, but returned in time for the birth of their first child, Mary, in December 1870. In August 1871 the whole family moved to live in Ushuaia and over the next eleven years five more children were born, three boys and two younger girls.

During his long years of mission work Thomas wrote his etymological masterpiece *A Yamana - English Dictionary*. He had the misfortune to give the finished version to a Dr Frederick Cook to bring home to England for publication. This Dr Cook later achieved world wide notoriety when he claimed to have reached the North Pole. Although discredited, some charitable people gave him the benefit of the doubt against the run of evidence. There is nothing to be said, however, in mitigation of his deceit in claiming the authorship of poor Thomas's dictionary.

In 1886 Thomas negotiated with the Argentine Government to lease some land at a place he called Harberton. This land is 38 miles east of Ushuaia along the Beagle Channel and has a safe harbour. 50,000 acres were leased and this included some islands in the channel, the largest being Gable island a short distance from the shore. Thomas felt more should be done for the natives. White farmers were moving in, natives could be killed at will and in 1882 the first of two epidemics of measles decimated the Yamana tribe when 80% died as they had no immunity to this Western disease. In 1924 another outbreak killed many of the Ona tribe. Of the 9000 natives who inhabited the land in 1854 only 150 were left by 1947. This is a terrible story of genocide

by cruelty and disease which caused the virtual extinction of four native tribes.

Thomas went back to England the same year (1886) to get supplies and to resign from the Mission. The return voyage was longer than anticipated, taking 108 days in a brigantine he had chartered. He agreed to pay by the day so there was no hurry on behalf of the ship's Master to make good speed. His wife was so concerned, as 6, 7 and 8 months went by, that she and the elder children left Ushuaia by ship and went along the coast to Harberton where the kind captain constructed a one-room hut for her to live in while she waited for her husband. When Thomas returned he brought two South Hams carpenters from Harberton to erect a large wooden framed house that had been constructed in Mary's father's workshop in the village. He also brought with him a young South Devon bull, a couple of Devonshire pigs, four Romney Marsh rams, and two Collie dogs. The house was duly erected, and in April 1887 the whole family moved in.

The ranch prospered and the remaining Yamana came to work and be educated. The family stayed on and still live on the ranch which is known today as Estancia Harberton. Lucas, the second son, and the book's author, left in 1917 to fight in the First World War but returned to Buenos Aires after the Second World War. William the third son remained and married a local white girl, his childhood sweetheart, and they had three children. She died in childbirth with the last. In 1907 the family also bought another Estancia, Viamonte, near Rio Grande to the north east of Harberton (and a two day horse ride away), as the next generation was growing up and more land was needed.

Reading this book enhanced our first visit to Ushuaia but though we were there for four days we did not have time to visit Harberton. This time we were more determined. The day dawned wet and windy so rather than going by sea we went by taxi, a 65 km journey along the first part of the Pan-American highway before turning right to Harberton. The road was tarmac until 15 km from the ranch. The family had built this dirt road, as they were previously completely isolated except by the sea, and the government had upgraded the rest of the road after hostilities with Chile in 1978. The original house from Devon is still there and Thomas Drummond

Goodall, who was born in 1933, now owns the Estancia. He is the grandson of William, who was Thomas Bridges' youngest son.

We said we were from near Harberton in Devon and he came out to meet us. In fact he was born in Scotland and moved to the Estancia at the age of one. His mother was William's eldest child. In 1996, after an extremely hard winter, he stopped sheep farming. Out of 6,500 sheep only 1,800 survived. They were mostly grassed on the off-shore islands, particularly Gable Island. Today beef cattle are still kept, but local rustling is a problem. He estimated campers took 150 calves for BBQs each year!

Half his income is now from tourism. Boats come along the Beagle Channel from Ushuaia bringing visitors, who are given a typical Argentinean lunch, visit the local Magellanic and Gentoo penguin colonies and then depart. More interestingly, his wife Natalie is a well known Marine Biologist and there is a small 'bone' museum with skeletons of many sea mammals and birds. The fur-seals, related to sea lions, have movable knee joints which enable them to 'walk', whereas the true seal does not and has to lumber itself along the shore. Today groups of students from all over the world come to live and study local marine biology at the ranch.

Beavers were introduced into Tierra Del Fuego for their fur. What a mistake! Their obsessive

dam building has resulted in thousands of flooded acres, derailed trains, and undermined roadways. They are capable of altering the landscape quicker than any other animal and have no predators in the area. But no one has told them, and they look out from their 'million dollar lodges' at the carnage they have caused. Wild animals have been introduced, by design or otherwise, to many countries around the world, and their introduction has almost always resulted in unexpected destruction and damage. Beavers, however, take some beating. War is about to be declared by the locals!

Thomas told us that a year earlier he had developed chest pain and decided he had better get his family to take him to Ushuaia, where in the small town of 50,000 he had an instant Coronary Angioplasty and was now back to full health. What a difference from the time when his grandfather was a child when, if medical help was needed, it entailed a hazardous boat journey to Ushuaia by small sailing boat.

We found visiting the Estancia a very worthwhile experience and recommend the book. We also managed to get a copy that was printed in 1987 from the internet (publisher Century Hutchinson, ISBN 0 7126 1493 1), but understand it is being republished this year in the USA.

*Declan and Sue Dwyer*

## AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- \* **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2.30 - 5.00pm:** Cream Tea at Villa Crusoe.  
Arrive on foot, by boat or car (the latter by arrangement).  
NB This will be a *Members Only* event
- \* **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm:** Lecture at Thurlestone Parish Hall  
"Lost at Sea - where does all the plastic go?"  
by Dr Richard Thompson, University of Plymouth
- \* **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm:** Lecture at Thurlestone Parish Hall  
"An introduction to the West Country Rivers Trust"  
by Dr Laurence Couldrick, WRT

# Weather Wag

By Jan Turner

As I sat down to begin this article, the sky in the east darkened and became threatening and heavy laden. Within seconds the rain began, heavy and thundery, and I had to put the lights on to see my reference book. The chapter I had selected began with an extract from a poem written in about 2000BC:- *'The Epic of Gilgamesh'*

*"The evening came, the rider of the storm sent down the rain. I looked out at the weather and it was terrible.... With the first light of dawn a black cloud came from the horizon; it thundered within where Adad, lord of the storm, was riding. .... Then the Gods of the Abyss rose up; Nergal pulled out the dams of the nether waters, Ninurta the warlord threw down the dykes, and....the God of the storm turned daylight into darkness."*

That's how it felt this morning, and it is a feature of the weather just now, coming in from the east in showers. The air is very humid, but it feels chilly, and the rain drops are large, all of which is typical of thunder storms. All due to low pressure over northern France and high pressure to the north of us drawing weather in from the east. The continent is warmer than we are, so the air crossing the North Sea happily loads up on water vapour in order to gather up into heavy showers and dump them on us. Good for the gardens though - how everything grows when these conditions prevail.

I suppose (going back to the Epic poem) man has always had a strong relationship with water - particularly when choosing somewhere to live. Homes by water, whether by a stream, river, lake or the sea have always been popular. Tim Flannery in his book *"The Weather Makers"* says 'Nestled deep in the human psyche lies a primordial fear of the awful power of water' (for example Gilgamesh and the story of Noah). We know that our own species cradle of life most likely began around a lake in the Rift Valley of Africa. There they were able to catch fish, shell-fish, birds and mammals - the latter most likely as they came to the water to drink.

Despite the dangers that we learned very early on about the water, we still like to be near it. How many of us will flock to the shore or cliffs to see a really rough sea or a huge swell? It seems to draw us like a magnet. My first move in the mornings is to look out at the state of the sea. I am very lucky, but the sea can always see me and sometimes reminds me of its awesome power, like the days

when the sea breaks green water up the steps to the beach in front of Beach Cottage. Tim goes on to say that 'today, two out of every three people on Earth live within eighty kilometres of the coast, and yet in our subconscious we understand that the waters can rise over the land, making all of our hard-won real estate count for nought'.

It is interesting the way words change as opinions change. At first we all used the words 'Global Warming'. Now it seems that the phrase is 'Climate Change'. Perhaps it is not such an emotive set of words, but the effect is really not very different. I think that the latter is the better way to describe the condition of the world today. Throughout history the level of the sea has changed several times. The evidence is found in fossils, rock formations, and the shape of the landscape nearest today's shores. The amount of water that is locked up in the ice caps across the world in the various geological epochs is mind blowing. 15,000yrs ago the oceans stood at least 100 meters (300feet approx) lower than they do today. By 8000yrs ago the level had risen rapidly to what it is today. Since then the situation has been stabilised and we have been happy to live in places very near to the sea.

Holland has built dykes to keep the sea out after their experience in 1953. Although not related to climate change, the 2004 Tsunami in Indonesia showed us the power of rising water driven by a force, which could easily be just a high Spring tide coinciding with a storm surge (1953 was just that). What about the Thames Barrier, and the Dutch Dykes? The powers that be are already engaged in planning projects to increase the protection, a super-dyke and strengthened barrier. Today, in Bangladesh more than 10 million people live within one metre of sea level, and we have seen what Cyclone Nagris has done to Burma along the Irrawaddy Delta.

Returning to home, April provided some interesting comparisons with earlier years.

Rainfall = 50.6mm (last year was only 23mm).

Sunshine = 88.4hrs (last year was 184.6hrs).

Temperature = 10.3 °C (last year was 13.4 °C).

May was a dry month early on, with temperatures up on last year, and I am hopeful of a really good summer - and that my glimpse of the 'Green Flash' earlier in the year will have been a good omen!

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# *At the Bridge Table*



My last article considered one of the more sophisticated avenues (end-plays) - which are helpful to declarers. Now, for the less experienced player, I have been asked to set out some of the basic concepts in No Trump play.

## **1. Top Tricks**

Start by counting top tricks - tricks that can be made right away - such as an ace, or a king with an ace, or an AKQ, etc. You then know how many extra tricks you need to establish to make your contract.

## **2. Methods of Establishment**

Now look for ways of making those extra tricks:

- (a) High cards KQ3 + J54 is worth no '*top tricks*' but is an easy 2 tricks once the ace has gone.
- (b) Long suits AK654 + 8732 is worth 2 '*top tricks*' but likely to yield 4 or 5 tricks when played out.
- (c) Other techniques (finessing, etc.) AQJ + 765 = only 1 '*top trick*' but if the King is right it might be worth 3 tricks.

## **3. Stops**

Frequently defenders will start with their long suit. How many times can we lose the lead before the defenders' suit is established? If we do not have enough we will need to "*Hold Up*". This is a technique to use when you do not have enough stops to avoid the opponents establishing their suit before you have enough tricks to make your contract. The idea is to break their communications (i.e., leave just one of the defenders with cards in the led suit) and hope that the player with the long suit does not have an entry to enable him to cash his winners. But only hold up for as long as is required to break communications between the defendants. Here, there is a useful "*Rule of Seven*". Simply add up all of the cards of the suit led in your hand plus dummy and take away from seven -

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## **CREAM TEAS**

FURZEY CLOSE, THURLESTONE

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm

## **ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW**

Thurlestone Parish Hall

**SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST**

**2.00 pm - 5.00 pm**

**&**

**SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**10.00 am - 5.00 pm**

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## **PARISH HALL ANNUAL AUTUMN FAIR**

Thurlestone Parish Hall  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
2.30 pm to 5.00 pm

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## **Annual Horticultural Show**

Thurlestone Parish Hall

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

**Open 2.30 pm**

**Prizegiving 4.00 pm**

# HORSWELL DIARY

A ferocious throat bug recently rendered me speechless for several days. Thus, briefly, Horswell became a tranquil, husband-friendly, nag-free zone. Unable to communicate, take phone-calls or direct gardening operations I retreated to my bed with my laptop to work on my book, leaving my husband free to escape to Otter Nurseries and to plant and prune trees wherever he decided, without my usual eagle-eyed supervision. So I now have a hole in our bank account, three new magnolia trees in the wood, an ugly stump where previously there had been a perfectly good rhododendron, and a rather smug husband, who, clearly anticipating another visit to Otter, keeps enquiring solicitously about my health. *"Are you SURE you don't need another day in bed, darling?"*

It seems only days ago that the vast skeletal frames of our ancient trees were etched clearly against the sky, with only the slightest haze of green misting the clarity of their silhouettes. Then, from out of nowhere, a tidal force of primordial energy seemed to surge through the countryside causing buds to shoot and leaves to thrust out from bare branches with such speed and vigour, its almighty power was awesome to behold. Watching from my bedroom evrie I felt as if

shower of hailstones slanted across my view, each droplet refracting sunlight into all the colours of the rainbow, as though some mighty hand had shaken a handful of precious diamonds from a passing cloud. Never before have I felt such a close witness to the miracle of nature, or been more aware of its unstoppable power. Elsewhere in the world that indomitable force overflowed into cyclones, tidal waves and erupting volcanoes but here at Horswell it has simply carried us, as if on the crest of a glorious wave, from the first gentle growth of spring into the lush vegetation of early summer.

As I sit and write, a blackbird is singing his aria from a neighbouring tree, a thrush, when not eyeing me quizzically, is pecking in the grass for food and a tiny wren is busily flying to-and-fro from her nest in the crevice of an old stone wall. In the orchard, the apple-trees are laden with blossom as thick as clotted cream, bees are humming amongst the bright blue borage flowers and wild garlic scents the air. The small white flowers on the pear-trees cluster together like stars, while the blooms on the cherry trees dangle attractively below their branches; perfect little ballerinas in their tutus, dancing on the breeze. Beside the terrace, a slow-worm lies basking in the

of its own, a hot-bed of activity of which we are largely unaware.

and even military intervention would surely follow.

It would appear that there was activity going on beneath the feet of Mrs. Fritzl in Austria,

Like Josef Fritzl, with his seriously ill child, the time has come for the Burnese Junta to make the devil's choice. To let down



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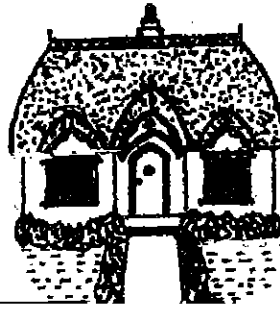
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# BOOKSHELF

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## **The Rough Guide to Crime Fiction**

by Barry Forshaw (Editor)  
(Rough Guides Ltd £7.99)

If you like a good crime novel now and again, may I recommend this little gem of a book which may introduce you to an author you have never before considered? It covers the 'best' in crime fiction over the last century, organised by subject (classic, private eyes, professionals, amateurs, organised crime, espionage, foreign bloodshed, cops, to name a few), and has an introduction by Ian Rankin.

As Forshaw says in his preface, he hopes it will "help the reader to pick his way through some often dire writing to find the real gems in the field".

**Carolyn Taylor**

## **Can Any Mother Help Me?**

by Jenna Bailey  
(Faber & Faber £7.99)

*"Can any mother help me?  
I live a very lonely life as I have no near  
neighbours. I cannot afford to buy a  
wireless.....can any reader suggest an  
occupation that will intrigue me and  
exclude 'thinking' and cost nothing!"*

This was part of a letter written by a young woman in 1935 to a women's magazine 'Nursery World'. Sympathetic replies came from all over the country from women in similar situations. This was at a time when women in public service and professional jobs had to leave work once they married, and many of the women who replied were intelligent, university-educated women, frustrated with domestic routine. The CCC (Co-operative Correspondence Club) was the outcome - the formation of a private publication circulated to each member who would write her own comments and thoughts

(political, family, sex, humour) then pass it on to the next member.

Jenna Bailey has tracked down. with the help

of the writers' families, many of the letters, although obviously a lot have been lost, especially during the war. It makes really fascinating reading, following these women through their lives, at a time when husbands worked and wives stayed at home. All the women have strong views, some very funny, some grumble about husbands, but all are busy, busy, busy.

**Carolyn Taylor**

## **The Mitfords - Letters between Six Sisters**

by Charlotte Mosley (Editor)  
(Harper Perennial £10.99)

Some may disapprove heartily of the Mitfords, others are intrigued. If, like me, you belong to the latter group, you will love this book. It covers the letters the sisters wrote to each other between 1925 and 2002, so in one respect it is a social history of sorts. Mainly, though, it is a gorgeous gossip read. The letters are witty and animated. There were arguments, jealousies, and much sadness in their lives, but their ability to laugh at themselves and always to see the funny side of life was their mainstay.

The sisters were a law unto themselves, self-assured and very necessary to one another. They had nicknames for almost everyone (the Queen Mother was 'Cake'!) for which an index has been thoughtfully provided.

Only Deborah, who has had an incredibly fascinating life, (including a 'crush' on John F Kennedy.....and who adores Elvis!) is still alive. One can only wonder what they would have written to each other about the latest scandal involving Max Mosley, Diana's son.

**Carolyn Taylor**

# THE NATIONAL TRUST

## South Hams Centre Programme for June and July 2008

**FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE - A walk from Brixton.** Meet at the junction of Elliot's Hill and Steer Point Road, Brixton (GR553519) for a 4.5 mile country lane and footpath walk (there are ten stiles!). Return by lunchtime.

**THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE - Coach trip to Exeter and Stuart Line cruise to Exmouth.** Time to browse in the antique shops and have lunch at Exeter's historic Quayside. The afternoon cruise is on the shipping canal and the River Exe to Exmouth.

**FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE - Grand Summer Fair in the Market Hall, Kingsbridge, 10am/2pm.**  
Something for everyone.....cakes, books, recordings, plants, gifts, etc., tombola, raffle, teas and coffees.

**SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE - Car Boot Sale, Kingsbridge Quay, 9am to noon.** No traders - a popular fun morning, so come early!

**TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JULY - Coach trip to Lower Severalls and Barrington Court (NT).** Two lovely properties in Somerset. Morning at Barrington Court, light refreshments available or bring a picnic lunch. Afternoon in the charming garden at Lower Severalls nearby, tea included.

**TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY - Coach trip to Wells and Milton Lodge Gardens.** Wells is England's smallest city - time to look round and have lunch before going on to Milton Lodge Gardens which overlook Wells. Tea is included.

Get more from your National Trust membership by becoming a member of the National Trust South Hams Centre. There is much to be gained, with an interesting varied programme (as above) of friendly social activities throughout the year. **Membership is open to N T members for an annual subscription of just £2.00 .** For more information please contact **Midge Elliott** on 01548-562017 (9am to 5pm only please)



## Summer Concerts

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June :**

**Holy Trinity Church,  
Salcombe**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June:**

**St Michael and All Angels Church,  
Stokenham**

**A performance of  
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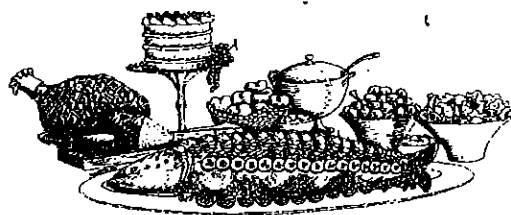


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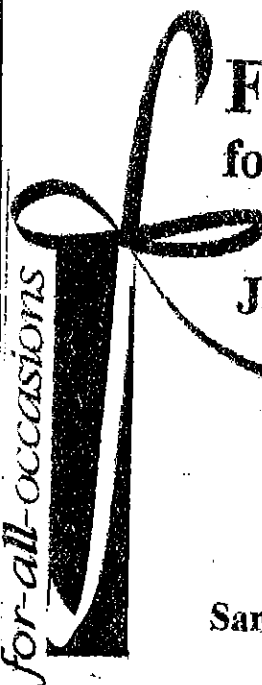
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# Daisy's Memories

## (Part Four)

*(Concluding our extracts from Daisy Cole's memoirs of "Life in Buckland 1898-1909". In this she also describes some of the buildings in the parish as well as childhood pleasures.)*

### The Triplex

Mr and Mrs Mittchell lived here. Mr Mittchell died in the year 1903, a victim of TB. Mrs Mittchell sewed for the gentry, made voluminous petticoats, underclothes and taffeta gowns for Mrs Jenkins at Clanacombe House. She cooked meat on a Dutch spit, made excellent currant buns, and rented her rooms to summer visitors. She always dressed in black, with black apron. Her bodice represented a pin-cushion, a convenient place for pins when sewing. They attended church on Sunday evenings in summer. Mr Mittchell's boots squeaked very loudly when walking up the aisle and he coughed very loudly through the service.

### The Ruins

This open space we named the Ruins. Here once stood the old Sherriff Farm, destroyed by fire many years ago. A square cement sink was all that remained. Courtenay (*Daisy's brother*) fell head-first into it when putting on a circus act. It was very simple, in fact, nothing to it to ride a horse bareback standing up but, alas, as soon as the command "gid-up" was given to our poor old pony, Poll, Courtenay found there was something to it. A good bump on the head and loss of ego for the time being!

### Tidley Cot

This was unoccupied for years and was repaired around the year 1906. The dimensions of the tiny cottage were very small. A one room up and one room down abode, with a stone floor. Why such a tiny dwelling was built we shall never know but in all probability was in some way connected with the farm. There was no stairway and only a rough ladder up the side of the wall was the means of access to the upper chamber. Ern and Ethel Prettyjohn rented this "wee hoose" for several years. Ern followed no particular trade and was a regular customer at the Sloop, where the beverage of his choice

ran all too freely for his betterment.

### The Cider Pound

This was located in the Court, a rat-infested insanitary barn. In the fall of the year, when apples were ready for picking, plans were made for cider-making. Villagers were always alerted to this fact when Granfer Jeffery was observed going through the village en route to the Pound wheeling a barrow full of fresh cow manure. Believe it or not, this was a commodity to be applied somewhere among the antiquated machinery. Over the idle period of twelve months, cracks appeared in the lower part of the press. Granfer carefully filled all the cracks with the contents of the barrow and let it set and dry for several days then the next layer of the press that squeezed the apple mock was set. Its weight held firmly to the primitive crack-filler, wheat straw was then laid to hold the mock in place, and all was in readiness for the annual juice extracting. All animal life took fright and scampered in all directions when the machinery was put in action, and a grinding, deafening noise gave evidence that cider-making had commenced. Apples were shovelled into a vat overhead - bruised ones, rotten ones, wormy ones, and good ones were thrown together. Power was supplied by the horse. The poor animal was kept at almost trotting pace, urged on by loud shouts and the cracking of a whip. Fastened to a heavy yoke, it lathered and frothed in the stuffy hot circle. A case for the SPCA but no such organisation was heard of in Buckland.

Granfer Jeffery was boss on the job and warned in no uncertain words, all those that would imbibe too heavily, of the laxative quality of the newly-extracted juice and of the most embarrassing results that were bound to follow. A cow's horn, scaley from age, used year after year and never touched with water, was

the goblet used for sampling the sweet nectar which poured into half-hogshead barrels, before being put into casks to ferment.

### School

Happy memories of schooldays and fond thoughts of our teachers - Mrs Toms and Mrs Connolly, will always stay with me. I have always been very grateful to Parson Coope for his never-tiring interest in the children of his congregation, and especially

spat on the ground. Free-for-all dog fights were a common occurrence when more than one gathered there with their masters. A deep discussion once took place as to whether the world was round or flat. Granfer Jeffery said "If it's round, us would all vall off", and then took another pinch of snuff to clear his head and prove that he was hearing right. Anyone that would think it round must be mazed, and Granfer Hannaford said "That's a hum"

for his teachings from the Holy Bible and its scripture truths, which is the anchor which keeps the soul.

I could write much of my childhood but it would be of very little interest to others except those of my own family, but I will mention a few occasions that gave us much delight and fun. Chapel concerts and magic lanterns, Sunday School trips on the old Kingsbridge packet that took us to Salcombe. The Fair on the Ham where we spent our pennies on rings and bangles purchased from Mrs Cutler's collection, bought "Penny Teasers all the fun", and squirted water from the tube on our friends and shared with them our "ha'peth" of fairing. There was the annual visit to Bantham of the barge from Aveton Gifford, bringing the chapel folks who sang lustily "Yes, we shall gather at the river" on the way down river and "God be with you till we meet again" as they proceeded with the tide homeward. Kingsbridge Fair, school Christmas trees, trips to the strawberry gardens, and tea on the sands. The yearly arrival of the paddle steamer "Princess Royal" from Plymouth, on a Sunday, anchored at the Quay at Undercliff, where the holidaying passengers disembarked. One great event was a visit to Aunt Bessie at Chagford and later at Marlborough. All these events

Interesting tales were told at the Cross, eerie tales of witchcraft and ill-omens. A black cat of large, very large, proportions was said to walk on the wall of the Grove at the bottom of the hill at midnight when the moon was full, and to fall off in a fit, foaming at the mouth by the gate at Mill Corner. Disaster stalked the unfortunate one who happened by and witnessed the gruesome scene. He would have to cross his heart, take off his hat and spit in the dust or mud three times before the cat recovered in order to escape the evil omen. Shivers ran down their backs as they told of the headless ghost that stalked the road at Clanacombe Head on moonlight nights or when the moon was full and if the wind was blowing "up easterds and up westards" at the time.

At the Cross, predictions were made and weather forecasts were told. Weather was determined by inspecting the spleen of a recently-slaughtered pig - if it was long a long winter was forecast, and if short vice-versa. Styes in the eye were cured by striking three times with the tail of a tom cat, and children were cured of whooping cough by walking under an arch made from a bramble bush. Here folks met great frustration and got pixie-laid, and here pixies played high jinks at

# DIARY DATES

Internet Café & Computer Tuition, Parish Hall Yeo Room,  
Every Wednesday 2 pm to 4 pm

JUNE		
Mon	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed	4 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP Hallsands / Boesands (long)
Thu	12 <sup>th</sup>	W1, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Scrapbooking)
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, East Dartmoor (short)
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	Aune Conservation cream tea, Villa Crusoe (see <i>News Roundup</i> )
Sat	28 <sup>th</sup>	All Saints School perform <i>The Pirates of Bigbury Bay</i> , Parish Hall, 2.30 pm and 7.00 pm - see <i>School Report</i> inside
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>	Hospice Golf Marathon, Thurlestone Golf Club (daylight hours!)
JULY		
Thu	3 <sup>rd</sup>	W1 Garden Lunch, Glen Lyon (contact Pat Clarke)
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	W1 River Maid trip & picnic supper (contact Pat Clarke)
Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed	9 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP - local evening walk tba (short)
Thu	10 <sup>th</sup>	W1, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Theatre Royal)
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup>	Church Fete, Toyes Orchard, 2.00 pm
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Malborough / Lower Soar (long)
Sat	19 <sup>th</sup>	Cream Teas, Furzey Close, 3.00 to 5.00 pm
Fri	25 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Bantham (cake walk)
AUGUST		
Fri	1 <sup>st</sup>	TRAMP, Horrabridge (long)
Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Horticultural Show, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm
Tue	5 <sup>th</sup>	Aune Conservation 'Lost at Sea' talk, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Kingston (short)
Mon	11 <sup>th</sup>	HOFMAN Concert, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Tue	12 <sup>th</sup>	Aune Conservation 'W. Country Rivers Trust' talk, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Abbots Way, Buckfastleigh (long)
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	TRAMP, Gara Rock, E. Portlemouth (short)
Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Arts & Crafts Show, Parish Hall, 2pm to 5pm
Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	Arts & Crafts Show, Parish Hall, 10am to 5pm

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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 Bantham and Buckland it is delivered by Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (AUG-SEPT) ISSUE = 5<sup>th</sup> JULY 2008

Please drop any contributions marked "Village Voice"  
through the letterbox at 25 Mead Lane before that date  
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# PARISH

PARISH COUNCIL Meetings take place on Mondays. See dates on Diary page overleaf

Chairman Andrew Rhymer 560564  
Vice - Chairman Kit Marshall 560214  
Parish Clerk Cathy Taverder (Daytime) 01392 - 385161 (Evening) 852139

District Councillor Shonaugh Rankin 561185  
County Councillor Sir Simon Day 01752 - 691212  
Members Dale Caine 562089  
David Hugo 562267  
Peter Hurrell 560496  
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PARISH HALL Chairman Ron Parkin 561215  
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RECTOR Rev. Andrew Gilling 562219  
CHURCH MEETING ROOM Office 561246  
CHURCHWARDENS Peter Williams (531811) Liz Webb (560909)  
COFFEE TIME (Monday & Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30 am) LUNCH CLUB (Fridays) UNDER 5s (Thursdays)  
SEARCHLIGHT (Tuesdays fortnightly) FILMS FOR ALL (Tuesdays Monthly) ROCK CLUB (Thursdays)  
Contact Liz Webb 560909

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH Contact Kit Marshall 560214

BOWLS CLUB Contact Eileen Dayment 560051

AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION Chairman Stuart Warrs 810373

BANTHAM SAILING CLUB Contact Marilyn Cator 560593

BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB Clubhouse 560447

BRIDGE CLUBS 7 pm Wednesdays and Fridays Contact Dorothy Stone 560708

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB Secretary/Manager Terry Gibbons 560405

TENNIS SECTION Chairman Marc Lapere 0208 671 4156

KEEP FIT Contact Karen Livett 560131

TAI CHI Contact Vida Alexander 561182

HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual) Contact John Lonsdale 560742

PROBUS Contact Tom Trender 560893

SOUTH HAMS SPINNERS, WEAVERS, & DYERS Contact Pat Crawford 560688

# DIRECTORY

TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers) Contact Madeleine Radford 560867  
W. L. 2.30 pm Parish Hall Contact Karen Livett 560131  
Second Thursday monthly (except August)

TEAMMAKERS INDIVIDUAL COMPUTER TUITION AND INTERNET CAFE  
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Saturday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm  
Sunday, 8.30 am - 1.00 pm

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE (NB. 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  
Postal collections: 4.00pm Monday - Friday, Noon on Saturday, NO collection on Sunday 561917

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Co-ordinator Charles Mitchelmore 560602

POLICE Matthew Blackmore (Community Support Officer) 842107 Or mobile 08456 - 567890  
Emergency 999 Non-emergency calls 08705-777-444  
Mimcom users 01392 - 452935 Confidential information 0800-555-111

RUBBISH COLLECTION Brown Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 2nd June  
Monday (But Tuesday in Bank Holiday Monday weeks) and Grey Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 9th June  
Coloured (White, Blue) Sack collections (recyclables)

RECYCLING CENTRE (Torr Quarry Site, Torres Road - Telephone 521609)  
Opening Hours (from 1st Oct) Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 4.30 pm Saturday & Sunday 10. am - 4.30 pm

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

GARAGE (Blight Engineering) Maurice Blight 560220

KINGSBRIDGE LIBRARY (Mobile Library calls alternate Wednesdays from 11th June) 11.15 - 11.30am Barnham 552315  
11.35 - 11.45am Buckland Old Chapel 11.50 - 12.15pm Thurlestone Primary School  
12.20 - 12.30pm Thurlestone Church 12.35 - 12.45pm Thurlestone Sands

MOBILE FISH & CHIP VAN Alternate Wednesdays from 11th June 2008, from 5.00 to 6.30 pm, outside school.

# The



Situated in  
the heart of the  
village, just minutes

from the South West Coast path

and the stunning scenery of Bigbury

Bay. A 16<sup>th</sup> Century Inn owned by the

Grose family, since 1896. We pride ourselves

On offering good service, well kept real ales, an extensive  
wine list and a superb selection of freshly prepared meals.

# Inn

You are invited to join  
Vicky Wardle and Chef Rene Muller

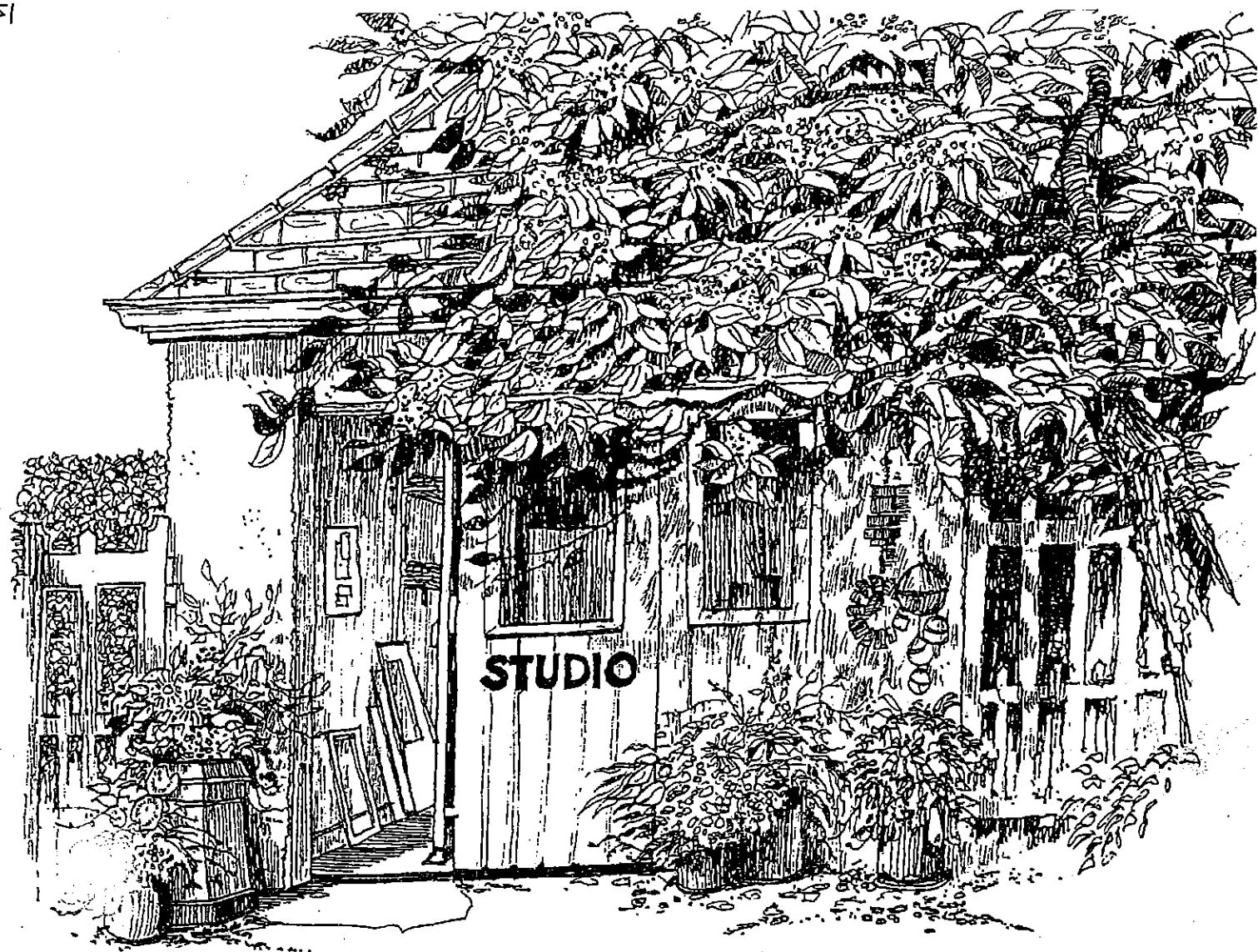
Non-smoking  
environment  
Cappuccino and  
Pastries available  
from 11.30am  
Children welcome  
Dog friendly

Weekly Events  
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  
12pm - 10.30pm

Please call to find out our special offers over the  
winter months.

Thurlestone 01548 563 525  
[www.thurlestone.co.uk](http://www.thurlestone.co.uk)



**Len and Kate Hubbard**

invite you to come and browse at

# **BURWOOD GALLERY**

Thurlestone, Kingsbridge

**WATERCOLOURS by LEN HUBBARD**

Telephone: Kingsbridge 560731