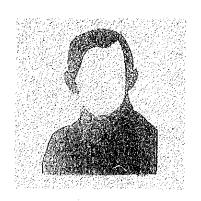
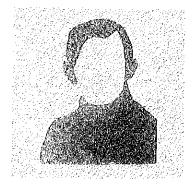
VILLAGE VOICE

June - July 2011

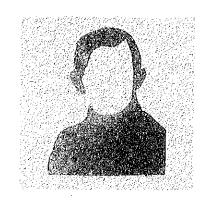
WHO ARE





THE NEW FACES

ON THE
PARISH
COUNCIL2



Read all about your new representatives in this issue

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone

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NUMBER 169 JUNE - JULY 2011

D-DAY

For those who remember WW2 the date of 6th June 1944 will be etched forever in the mind as **D-Day**. It marked a new high point in the logistics of warfare, operation *Overlord* landing some 156,000 troops along 50 miles of Normandy beaches in that first day alone. Nearly seventy years on, with all the technological advances now available to our military, we can only marvel at the skill of those who planned it, and the bravery of those who carried it out. It won freedom for Europe, and we have enjoyed it ever since.

This year, in sunny peaceful Thurlestone, we are having another D-Day, but a day earlier, with Sunday 5th June being celebrated as Downs Day. The splendid gardens of *The Downs* are open for a Cheese and Wine lunch at 12.30 pm, providing an opportunity to relax and enjoy a pleasant afternoon in delightful surroundings, by kind permission of **David** and **Kitty** Cooke and in aid of our Parish Hall.

What better way to spend a quiet few hours than in a classic English garden on a lovely summer's day, in the friendliest of company, and surrounded by the pleasures and treasures of your green-fingered hosts?

It will be a D-Day all right - just D-lightful!

Founder

Dudley Drabble

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Front Cover: New Faces on the Parish Council

Published Bi-monthly

New Faces on the Parish Council

With three vacancies for the Parish Council arising from the retirement of former Councillors David Hugo, Kit Marshall, and Geoffrey Stidston, and only three nominations, there was no requirement for an election. Village Voice invited the three new councillors to provide a brief resume of their backgrounds, and these are given below:

Anthony John Goddard The Dog Watches, Bantham Phone 562282

"I was educated at Radley
College, Berkshire and St
Edmund Hall Oxford where I took a degree in
Law. Originally intending to be a Barrister, at
Oxford I became a member of Grey's Inn but was
then tempted into following my father into the
Colonial Service, and served as a District Officer
in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) for two
years. This was followed by one year as a (very
young) Stipendiary Magistrate under the new
African Government. I have written and
published a book about these experiences.

Returning to England in 1965 I changed horses to become a Solicitor and was admitted in January 1969. I then spent one year in the Thames Valley as an Assistant Solicitor specialising in advocacy, before moving to South Devon in 1970 to become a partner in an old established firm. After eight years I set up my own general practice and have continued to live and practice as a solicitor in the South Hams in one capacity or another ever since, currently as an independent consultant to local practices.

Soon after I moved to South Devon I became involved with the local hunts and as a result have always had a close connection with the farming community. I have lived in Bantham since 1982 when I married Gill, one of the directors of Evans Estates which owns land around Bantham including the Bantham Beach car park. I have no direct interest in or involvement with the Estate, but am an enthusiastic member of the resident community in Bantham."

Nigel Hurrell Little Cedars, West Buckland Phone 560691

Born in West Buckland in 1947, Nigel grew up in the village and attended All Saints primary school in Thurlestone and secondary school in Kingsbridge. During his younger years he enjoyed playing rugby, football, and tug-o-war, and has been an active member of various teams over the years and, more recently, a member of the Sloop Inn darts team.

Nigel married Shirley, a local girl from Loddiswell, and raised two children, now grown and married themselves, and both live within the local community. He has four grandchildren who are enjoying growing up in the parish and keeping their grand-dad busy too!

Not only has Nigel lived in the area all his life but he has worked locally and after leaving school he joined his parents working on the flower farm in West Buckland. Following this he worked for many years at Rodney Stidston's plant hire company driving a variety of plant machinery.

Finally Nigel developed his own gardening business which he still runs. Now semi-retired he has the time to be able, as a Parish Councillor, to give something back to the local community.

Jill Munn 47 Mead Drive, Thurlestone Phone 560732

"I was born in Birmingham and moved to Sutton Coldfield when Brian and I married.
For most of my working life I was in sales, running my own business for twenty years until I retired and moved to Thurlestone. We have been holidaying in the South Hams for the past forty years and have owned a property on the Mead for fifteen years; five years ago we moved here permanently.

I walk with the local TRAMP group and this year have become their co-ordinator. I am also a member of Thurlestone Golf Club, where I attempt to play golf. Having long maintained a close interest in our local community, I am now very much looking forward to serving as a Parish Councillor and to being your voice on the Council."

Parish Council Meetings

News & Views by Citizen

Since the last issue of Village Voice there have been three meetings of the Thurlestone Parish Council which are summarised below.

(1) 4th APRIL 2011

Members of the public present - of whom there were seven - raised concerns about: school bins, unwanted 'No Parking' signs, the revised bus timetable, and wayside litter.

Councillor **Kit Marshall** is keen to form a parish "Litter Picking Team" - volunteers please contact him (560214)

The police were happy to report a crimefree parish, marred only by the mysterious appearance of quantities of ladies' underwear on hedgerows near Huxton Cross (!)

The topic of re-naming Thurlestone Sands is ongoing with a possible meeting being arranged in early June between Thurlestone, South Milton and South Huish Parish Councils and the National Trust.

Royal Wedding souvenir mugs would be purchased by the Parish Council for giving to all children of 16 and under in the parish. (See Footnote).

(2) 18th APRIL 2011

(The Annual Parish Meeting)

16 members of the public came and heard Chairman Jack Rhymes give his annual report which highlighted the Parish Council's year. He thanked his fellow Councillors for their support. He gave a particularly warm 'thank you' to Councillors Geoff Stidston and Kit Marshall who were retiring after, respectively, 30 years and 12 years of service to the community.

The Hope Cove lifeboat is to receive a Parish Council donation of £300 and

Graham Phillips, its chairman, came to accept the cheque and to give a detailed account of the project.

Mrs Shonaugh Rankin is retiring as our District Councillor after 8 years, and she was thanked and wished well for the future. Sir Simon Day, our County Councillor, (quite remarkably for the past 40 years) told us that he is willing to continue in this role. Tough financial decisions lie ahead with DCC revenue being cut by £54m this year. He serves on the Audit Committee and on the Police Authority.

Sergeant Jane Corkhill and PC Steve
Mullen reported that our local police
community support team will remain intact
for the time being but the front office of
Kingsbridge police station will close - the
building will remain as a police base. They
find attending the Church Meeting Room
coffee mornings to be reciprocally beneficial.

(3) 16th MAY

(The Annual Parish Council Meeting).

Nine members of the public attended.
Two of the three new members of the Parish
Council were present - Tony Goddard of
Bantham and Nigel Hurrell of Buckland.
Jack Rhymes was re-elected Chairman but
the role of Vice-Chairman was not filled and
members of the Council will perform this
duty on an ad hoc basis. Further details
of "who does what" will be found in the
Directory section at the back of this issue.

Mr Michael Sparrow, who performs the unenviable task of issuing 'tickets' to parking offenders on the private lane by the side of the church, says so far he has given out eleven tickets. The Parish Council should in due course receive £10 per ticket issued from the clamping firm. An official Parish Council letter of authority is to be given to Mr Sparrow for his use when confronted by enraged, and sometimes abusive, illegally parked motorists!

The highway authority are to be pressed yet again by the Parish Council into repairing some of the roads in Buckland which are seriously deteriorating.

The Thurlestone **Best Kept Village** sign will be re-sited and its support structure improved. The work has the approval, but not financial help, of DCC.

Newly-appointed District Councillor Ian Bramble introduced himself and is keen for residents to contact him with their concerns by e-mail: bramble-finserve@tiscali.co.uk or by phoning him on 01548 - 856664.

"I have lived and worked in South Devon for twenty four years, the last twelve of which have been based in Kingsbridge. During this time my wife and I have run our own financial services business, from which I am now retiring. Previous experience that I believe will help me as your Councillor includes having been a Parish Councillor, School Governor, past Treasurer of the Totnes Constituency Conservative Association, and current Chairman of the Totnes Constituency Association Political Forum."

Councillor Charles Mitchelmore promptly gave him his first Parish Council job for Thurlestone - to ask Tally Ho to increase the size of the bus used on the morning run to Kingsbridge, as by the time it reaches us it is filled with folk from Hope Cove and all the stops in between. Sometimes there is no room at all left for any Thurlestonians wishing to board.

The official opening ceremony of All Saints Primary School new building is to be performed by the Bishop of Plymouth on Tuesday 7th June, all work now having been completed to the great satisfaction and relief of the school and of Pearsons Pre-School, to say nothing of Glebefield and other nearby local residents.

Councillor Peter Hurrell said residents in Buckland have all received South West Water bills irrespective of whether they are connected to the main sewerage system or have their own septic tanks. The complaints of the unconnected residents have been ignored and the bills sent to them again. The Parish Council will now write to SWW asking them to rectify their records.

At the specific request of Mead residents, a meeting to discuss Neighbourhood Watch matters was set up by Councillor Charles Mitchelmore. Unfortunately not one person turned up to the meeting.

There was a thoughtful and touching letter sent to the Parish Council from a very young Bantham lady, after receiving her Royal Wedding Mug:

To the wonderful Thurlestone Parish Council - thank you so much for the wonderful mugs. They are 'bootiful', the best mugs ever.

Rosie Lawrence

102 of these mugs have already been distributed. The Parish Council wishes it to be known that they have a few mugs left in reserve just in case anyone resident in the parish, aged up to and including 16, has been missed out. Please apply to the Parish Clerk (561151).

(4) Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in the Yeo Room at the Parish Hall on Monday 6th June at 7.30 pm. All residents are welcome to attend and raise any issues they may have in the Open Forum at the start of the meeting. Why not come along and meet your new representatives?

Parish Hall

News

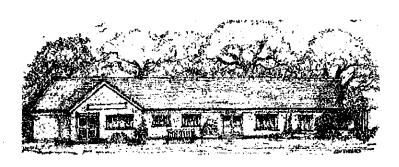
by Chris White

What a splendid month April was! Not only was the weather wonderful, with the best Easter I can ever remember, but we had not one, but two fabulous events in the Hall.

The first was the concert by the Choir of Lincoln College Oxford. As promised, Jonathon Swinard brought us a hugely talented group of young people who sang like angels. Part of their "remuneration" for singing in the choir is a singing lesson each, every week, and did it show! Not just excellent singing, but a varied repertoire. The first half consisted of more serious choral music, and the second half more light-hearted. Some preferred one, and some preferred the other, but everyone enjoyed the whole performance. The Hall was packed to capacity, and the evening was a great success.

In addition to that, I'm sure that all those who hosted members of the choir will agree that they were a pleasure to have around, and attacked all the refreshments that we provided with great gusto and enjoyment, in between exploring our lovely surroundings. I'm sure they had as memorable a weekend as we did. Our thanks again to **Ron Parkin** for masterminding the event.

The surprise of the month for me was the Royal Wedding indoor street party. As a mere fella, I'm not afraid to admit that it was the ladies of the Committee who insisted that we held this event – it wasn't top of my list of priorities! How wrong I was. The Hall looked amazing, thanks to the hard work of the Committee, with bunting, flags, and colour co-ordinated table decorations. The big screen TV was just what was needed, about 70 people brought along food and drink, and we all had a wonderful time, in true Thurlestone community style.



Surrounded as I was by a large contingent of the WI, I am now privy to their innermost thoughts on fashion, hats, colours, and everything else I could possibly need to know. Roll on the Golden Jubilee!

Prior to these two events, we held the Parish Hall Annual General Meeting, which wasn't anything like as spectacular, but ultimately just as successful. The Hall continues to flourish, the meeting was short and very simple, and a reasonable number of parishioners turned out to hear how we're doing. We hope to see even more next year.

Moving on, if you're reading this soon after it has been delivered, the next event is our *Cheese and Wine* lunch in the Cooke's unique walled garden at **The Downs**, on Sunday 5th June, at 12.30 pm. Full details elsewhere in this edition of Village Voice. In the past we have been blessed with excellent weather for this event, so we're keeping our fingers crossed for another memorable day. If you haven't seen the Cooke's garden, you really must, and if you have, then I know you'll want to make a return visit. There's no better way to enjoy it than with a glass of wine, and a plate of food.

Finally, don't forget to put Tuesday 26th July into your diaries for our **BBQ**, **Bowls and Boules** evening. This really is something for all the family to enjoy. No entry fee, the best burgers, hot dogs and beer that local suppliers can produce, and a chance to try your hand at a variety of games suitable for all ages.

In August we take a well earned rest, so there's plenty of time to tell you about our Autumn Programme in the next issue of *Village Voice* and in my next Parish Hall News. Here's hoping for a great Summer.

Village News Round-Up

Cerys wins Bronze!

Cerys Callard of Thurlestone entered the Devon Open Mini Man Judo Tournament in March at the Quayside Leisure Centre, Kingsbridge. This was Cerys' first tournament, made even more daunting by the fact that many of the competitors had travelled from allover the country to be there. Cerys fought long and hard and, as a result of her efforts, she won Bronze. This was a great achievement as she only started judo in November 2010. Well done and many congratulations, Cerys!

Rotary Cream Tea

On Wednesday 13th July at 3.30 pm there will be a Devon Cream Tea at Furzey Close in aid of disabled children. This is being run by the Kingsbridge Rotary and all are welcome.

No Garden Open

The highly destructive winds at the end of April into May caused considerable damage to trees, the knock-on effect of which was destruction of contents of flower beds at Lower Kerse. It is with great reluctance, therefore, that Diana and Stephen Parker-Swift have decided to postpone the "garden open" planned for the 15th June in aid of the Childrens Hospice SW. They hope to be able to re-arrange the fixture for some time later, so keep watching out for advertisements:

NSPCC

The local committee are delighted to report that as a result of their recent jumble sale the wonderful sum of almost £600 was raised for the children's charity. Warm thanks are extended to their many kind supporters, donors of goods and generous buyers who made this possible.

Useful Contacts

Have you walked along Lower Union Road in Kingsbridge recently? If not, you may be

unaware that two useful small local enterprises are operating there -

- (1) The Alpha Laundry which, as well as doing domestic laundry, also have a hire service for household bed-linen and towels, travel cots, high chairs, push-chairs and wheelchairs. Not only that, they also operate a comprehensive cleaning service, from spring cleans to cooker cleaning and pressure washing. Their contact phone number is 01548-856666 (Paul Shepherd) and the address is Alpha Buildings.
- (2) **R.O.P.E.** Scrapstore will recycle "practically anything" and always welcomes all sorts of clean and safe scrap that looks as if it could be creatively recycled. They are open at Unit 3 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 3.30 pm. Phone number 01548-857952

Friends of the Redfern

On the rather misty and dismal evening of 31st March, those who went to the talk and slide show at Holy Trinity Church, Salcombe (A light hearted look at local wild life) given by well-known local wild life photographer, Chris Pearce, were treated to an interesting and often amusing show. There were light refreshments and a raffle as a result of which £210 has been sent to FORC, helping to provide equipment and supply services for the benefit of patients, and thanks are expressed for the generous donations and raffle prizes.

Medieval Kingsbridge

It is 550 years since Kingsbridge was granted its charter and the town is celebrating this important landmark. **Kingsbridge Country Market** will be open as usual on Wednesday 15th June from 8 am until noon in the Town Hall foyer, but on this particular Wednesday it will be a costumed Medieval Market. They promise all kinds of olde-tyme food and fun! Then from 16th to 19th June the official town festivities will take place.

Daughters of Elvin

A concert of Medieval music and dance will be held at St Edmund's Church, Kingsbridge on Friday 17th June at 7.30 pm. Performing pilgrim songs from 13th century Spain, songs of love and enchantment from France and lively dance music from the courts of 14th century Italy, plus original compositions inspired by medieval and traditional dance music will be Katy Marchant, Steve Tyler, Dhevdhas Nair, Jonathon Shorland, Alison Burnett, and Ricardo Barros.

Tickets £7 (at the door) or £6 (in advance from Kingsbridge Information Centre).

Stroke Awareness

Sheila Howell would like to express her thanks to all the kind people who attended her Stroke Awareness afternoon tea on Saturday, 7th May and helped to raise the sum of £85 for this charity.

Table Tennis

Three of the regulars from Thurlestone's Table Tennis club, **Hazel Harbage**, **Vlod Kucyj**, and **Robin Macdonald**, took part in a South Hams Tournament held at Stoke Fleming on Saturday 16th April. Our star player **Vlod** won the Plate competition.

Although there is not currently a South Hams Table Tennis League, discussions are taking place with a view to starting one, and Thurlestone has been invited to consider entering a team.

The club would like to have more members - young or old. Anyone who has not yet been along on a Wednesday (5 to 6 pm) to the Yeo Room, for a practice session, will be made most welcome. It's good exercise, and fun!

Dogs on Leads

The Aune Conservation Association reminds dog owners that, in order to protect groundnesting birds, between 1st March and 31st July dogs should be kept on a short lead (i.e. less than 2m) on open access land. The same applies all year round near farm animals. You do not have to put your dog on a lead on public paths so long as it is under close

control. But, as a general rule, keep your dog on a lead if you cannot rely on its obedience. By law farmers are entitled to destroy a dog that injures or worries their animals.

Commando Challenge

Vida Alexander, from Aune Cross Lodge, Bantham would like to say a big thank you to all the folks that sponsored her on the 17k endurance commando challenge on Saturday 14th May. She ran it with a friend, Liz Raeburn and they raised over £300 for the Royal Marines charitable trust fund. Vida writes "The sun shone, we got wet...a lot, muddy ... even more, but completed the course in two hours and one minute. We were amazed to see that we came second in the ladies pair team, only slightly battered and bruised. We are looking forward to doing it all over again next year".

Well done, Vida! We're sure that quite a few folk who didn't catch your call for sponsors will still be happy to swell the takings for this splendid effort.

THURLESTONE PROBUS CLUB

The Club, for retired professional and businessmen, meets in the Thurlestone Hotel on the second Friday of the month to hear a speaker and have lunch.

In April Ian Patterson, spoke on the 'American Civil War' - the history of the conflict's beginning and the major personalities on each side. The talk was illustrated by maps and slides.

May's speaker was Geoff Doyle, whose subject was 'The Kingsbridge Workhouse Riots of 1837'. He covered the changes to the Poor Law and the effects of centralising South Devon's workhouses into one large complex in Kingsbridge (the main building can still be seen in the town) and the riotous behaviour of the local population. Each talk was followed by a delicious lunch.

The next two months' talks are:

June 10th - Alan Darke on 'Commen and their Methods' July 15th -

Robert Carew on 'The History of Tea'
Any gentleman interested in joining the Thurlestone Probus Club, or coming to a meeting as a visitor, please contact the Secretary, Tom Trender, on 01548-560893.



PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: Revd Phil Osler

The Rectory, Homefield, Thurlestone TQ7 3LF (01548) 560967

LAY READER: Peter Gornall



Peter Gornall writes:

There have been several column inches of news about religious conflict. Some of it comes a long way, and from backgrounds most of us understand little. The election win by a "Christian" President in Nigeria provoked burning of churches and violence. The "Christian" loser in Ivory Coast refused to step down and a once well-off nation is now in tatters after dreadful civil war. In some parts of Pakistan just being a Christian is taken to be blasphemous, with dire consequences. Al Qaeda in Iraq preaches that killing Jews or Christians will get you to heaven.

It doesn't look that violent in Europe, but the temperature is rising over the ban of the burga in France. In this country the vulnerable, it is said, have to be protected from professional carers offering to say a prayer; a delivery man cannot have a palm cross on his van dashboard; a nurse cannot wear a cross on a silver necklace. In response a few are energetically claiming Christianity is "sidelined" or even persecuted.

How trivial can we get about the minutiae of people's ordinary life when there are big things to worry about? Only five months after the fall of Albania's most brutal atheistic totalitarian regime, the new government asked Christians to "come and show us how to live properly....Our country needs spiritual things". And surely one of the most important lessons is to stop being frightened of those who think otherwise, to find that "unconditional positive regard" for those who see their life and purpose differently from us.

True Christianity has always been the butt of ridicule, torment and persecution since Calvary showed us what that was all about. And there are times when Christians have to be a "stumbling block" to some if they are to be true to the One who sends them. The Church's foremost mission is to the least deserving, the least able, the most defenceless and vulnerable, the ones who feel most ashamed or downtrodden. If that treads on the corns of the better-off, the most law-abiding, the healthy, the sharp-witted and those who can well look after themselves – well, the grace of God just works like that. Jesus certainly did, and even after Calvary he simply won't go away.

Every Blessing!

Peter

We need YOU to come & help choose the winning photos for the

2012 Thurlestone Area Calendar

in the Church Meeting Room at:

CREAM TEAS:

Saturday May 28th, Sunday May 29th, Monday May 30th 3 - 5 p.m.

COFFEE-TIME:

Monday May 30th & Wednesday June 1st 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon

All Welcome ~ In aid of Church Funds



All Saints' Diary



Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall 562016 Everyone is welcome at all services, which are at Thurlestone, unless indicated otherwise

Church Services

Sundays

Every Sunday

JUNE 5, 19, JULY 3, 17, 24

JUNE 12

JUNE 19

JUNE 26, JULY 31

JULY 10

8.00am Holy Communion (said) (Alternates BCP & CW)

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Fairtrade Stall June 5, July 3)

11.10am Family Communion for Pentecost

6.00pm Benefice Praise Service at South Milton

11.10am Matins (BCP)

11.00am Benefice Sea Sunday Service in West Alvington Church followed by optional "Bring & Share Lunch"

1/eekdays

THURSDAY JUNE 2, JULY 7

ASCENSION DAY JUNE 2

EVERY WED, THURS, FRI & SAT

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at Bantham

6.00pm Benefice Eucharist (CW) at South Milton

8.30am Morning Prayer (said) (HC on June 11)

EVERY WEDNESDAY except July 27 10.00am Holy Communion (said) (Alternates BCP & CW)

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

CW = Common Worship

See Church Notice Boards for variations & more information

Everyone is welcome to the Church Meeting Room for:-



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ream Teas



EVERY THURSDAY JULY 28TH - SEPT. 1ST 3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

£3 in aid of Church Funds

Thurlestone Church



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(next to the Old Rectory)

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Meal for 2: LANTERN LODGE HOTEL, Hope Cove

& VILLAGE INN, Thurlestone

Main Course Meal for 2: SLOOP INN, Bantham

Free MOT for car at BLIGHT ENGINEERING, Thurlestone

Ticket for Two: PENNYWELL FARM

Family Ticket: WOODLAND LEISURE PARK

Round of Golf for Four at THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB

Flower arrangement: STUDIO FLOWERS ~ M & S Voucher

Stalls & Sideshows
Cream Teas ~ Tombola
2012 Local Calendar

ENTRANCE: £1 (Children under 14 free)

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(As featured in The Times, Monday to Saturday)

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Easy

No. 59

Easy

No. 60

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Medium

No. 59

Medium

No. 60

SUDOKU - Another four part challenge!

There were eight all-correct solutions to our April/May challenge, with congratulations going to *Graham Chadwick, George Delafield, Sue Dwyer, Sheila Killingsworth, Pat Leare, Gillian Marshall, Diana Pain,* and *Polly Wyld.* In a traditional "first out of the hat" ballot the winner emerged as *Gillian Marshall.* The Alternative Selection System (or ASS) failed to identify another contender - or perhaps we didn't understand how it worked. *Gillian* will receive one of the few treasures remaining in the *Chateau Sudoku* cellars. Entries for this issue's challenge (above) to 25 Mead Lane, as usual, by 5th July.



WI NEWS



April Meeting

It was a musical April meeting as our speaker was Mike Bramwich from Totnes, whose great interest is in the country folk songs of Devon, in particular those collected by the Reverend Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). In 1881 the parson came to Lewtrenchard as the incumbent, and squire, and made it his business to travel around the county collecting folk songs to save them from being lost. Sometimes the vernacular words were a shade too robust for Victorian times so the parson provided new ones! Mike accompanied his own singing with guitar and concertina and also sang an old version of "Strawberry Fair" which he reckoned we would not have been taught at school!

Val Brown was in the chair for the meeting in the absence of President Pat Clarke. The Edwardian Evening & Supper held on the 9th April was a resounding success and members who had helped provide the food and entertainment were warmly thanked. particularly the gentlemen actors and singers. As a result of this and other efforts around £600 would be sent to the Oncology Outreach department at Kingsbridge Hospital. The visit to Plymouth Gin Distillery and lunch in March had proved extremely enjoyable, but only four members went on the outing to Riverford Farm on 19th May. Profit from the sale of plants (£50) at this meeting will be sent to Shelterbox.

Joan Booth was the delegate to the county's spring meeting, this year at the Riviera Centre in Torquay on 13th April. She praised the highlights - speaker Simon Hall of BBC Spotlight and author of detective books, the singing of Torbay Police Choir, and star guest Adam Henson of Countryfile. He was showing off his splendid new suit, which followers of Countryfile will know has been made from the wool of his Jacob sheep and

tailored at Savile Row....very nice too! It was also announced that the dates of Devon WI annual meetings may be in due course changed to fall in spring. **Sheila Howell** thanked all members who had attended her tea party in aid of Stroke Awareness.

May Meeting

The May speaker, Annie Quinton ("Fit For Curves"), said how important it was to be measured professionally when buying a new bra. The two resolutions for this year's national AGM at Liverpool were discussed. The first concerned the granting of planning permission for mega-dairy farms and the second deplored the closure of public libraries. Both of them received a "Yes" from Thurlestone. Ten of our members will be making the journey north to take part in this annual event. (Thurlestone members always form a good party and enjoy this 'away two days' jaunt, coming back with tales to tell!).

The Sea Coast Group Meeting at Salcombe on 28th April had the theme "The Mikado", with an illustrated talk on Coleton Fishacre and the D'Oyly Carte family with its Gilbert & Sullivan connections. John Montague of Bantham and his family performed songs from these operettas which were enjoyed very much.

Future Events

The Garden Lunch will this year be at President Pat Clarke's home on Thursday, 7th July (if wet in the Parish Hall), and there is a competition for "The Worst Wedding Hat". (I wonder what inspired this?)

Barbara Moore will bring her unique collection of dolls to the July meeting, telling us of their history and how she became a collector.

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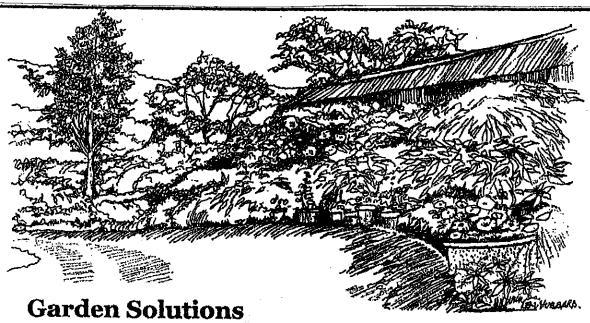




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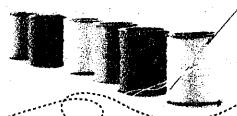
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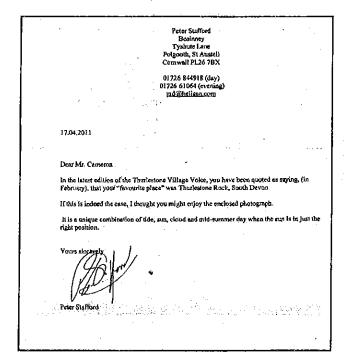
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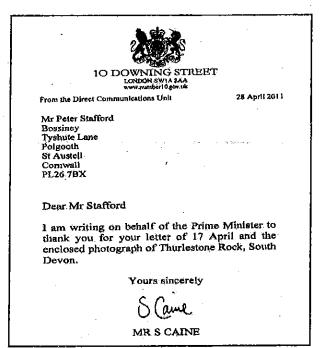
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THURLESTONE ROCK AND THE PM's POSTBAG

Some years ago readers will recall that **Peter Stafford** was kind enough to let Thurlestone parish use a wonderful colour photograph which he had taken of Thurlestone Rock at sunset on a mid-summer day. This image was used as a cover for an issue of *Village Voice* and Peter also generously gave us a supply of colour picture postcards and prints of the same which we sold and raised a considerable amount of money towards the building of the new Parish Hall.

When he read our comment, in the last issue of *Village Voice*, that the Prime Minister was said to have declared his favourite spot to be "Thurlestone Rock, South Devon" Peter was prompted to write to the PM enclosing a copy of the photograph, and has kindly given permission for us to reproduce both his letter and the Downing Street reply.





Regular followers of Downing Street affairs will be aware of the recent revelations regarding the authorship of replies from No.10, and that the identity of the signatories may be purely fictitious, so we regret that we cannot be sure whether Mr S Caine is in fact a real person at all. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that Peter Stafford's splendid photograph may have found its way through the bureaucratic anonymity of Downing Street, and may even have been rewarded with a position of honour on the PM's desktop, to remind him of sunny days at his favourite spot in the country.

And one cannot but admire the diplomatic adroitness demonstrated in the reply by the reference to "Thurlestone Rock, South Devon", thus neatly avoiding the pitfall of adding the misnomer of South Milton Sands to the address, and thereby refusing to be drawn into the controversial debate about the "riddle of the sands", which has been simmering nicely in the local media now for some time and awaits an arbitrational meeting of parish participants.

A Visit to Varanasi (Benares) India

by Traveller

At dusk, we wandered slowly through the madness of the old city, dodging cycle-rickshaws, scooters and cows. Chilli and chai sellers squatted in the roadside filth. We passed brightly-lit sari shops, and the famous one, wherein lives a bull, his home for the past twenty years. The honking of a million horns assaulted our ears and senses, as we reached the end of the street, and descended the steep steps to the Ghats, Varanasi's river frontage. The ammonia smell of urine, mixed with wood smoke and hashish, filled our lungs, making us cough and gag.

On the Mother Ganga, long rowing boats waited for pilgrims and tourists. From a small boy, we bought lotus flower paper lanterns, offerings for the dear departed. Marigold-encircled candles drifted by, and we added ours to them, emotions running high, and watched till they became pin-pricks of light in the distance. We glided past the cremation Ghats, flames from the funeral pyres licking the piles of wood, as a full moon hung over the water. A stomach-lurching moment when a leg and foot were clearly visible through the flames, then suddenly collapsed into the furnace. Turning the boat, the boys rowed on, past the Hindu ceremony of evening prayers, where Priests chant mantras, ring bells, and blow long haunting notes from conch shells. Cymbals clanged, and the smoke of incense wafted towards us.

Next day at dawn, the Ghats were thronged with people. Fake Holy men wearing orange robes, and ashstreaked faces, smoked their daily fix, staring with blank eyes into nothingness. The peace and spirituality of this Holy place reached out and sucked us in, as we watched the hundreds of pilgrims, worshipping and

bathing in the fetid water. Charred wood, sewage, and dead flowers floated past, as we kept our mouths tightly covered from the splashes. Boys threw ropes weighted with scraping stones into the water, trying to recover any rupees, which might have been thrown there for good fortune. A laughing man roared above the water line, devotees joining in, and we laughed with them for well-being, and happiness.

The multi-coloured saris were breathtaking, against the backdrop of houses painted saffron, terracotta, and red, above hundreds of steps, leading to the bathing places. Goats, chickens, and dogs scavenged amongst burnt-out funeral pyres, looking for any left-over offerings of fruit and flowers, sustenance for life after death.

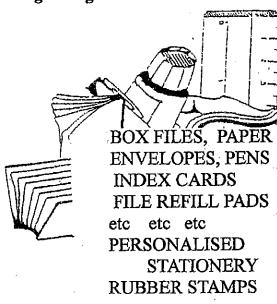
We walked back through the narrow alleyways, past wood sellers, stopping for masala chai, the sweet, milky, spiced tea drunk from small disposable clay cups, the shards of which littered the gutter, and to which we added ours. A cow was being milked in a doorway, and a snake charmer played his flute, the beady-eyed reptile swaying in rhythm. Men passed close by, carrying an orange shrouded body, as a cow gently nudged us to one side. Small temples strewn with marigolds were set in niches above open sewers and scuttling rats.

Varanasi is India in the raw, and induces horror, wonderment, and humility, in equal measure. From the comfort zone of our materialistic world, we shall return one day, to those who have so little, but spiritually so much more, to re-assess our values, and to re-balance our minds.

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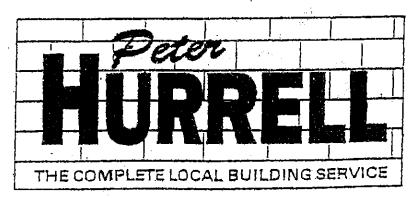
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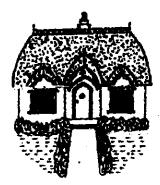
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THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB

CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

The last two months have been very busy and the weather has been good for golf. The Palairet team are now busy practising for their first match on Sunday 12th June, and some of the juniors have been picked for the squad which is captained by **Darrell Day**. I wish them a successful start to their campaign

The Men's Friendly matches started with a loss against Bigbury in May. However the Seniors matches led by Seniors Captain Tom Shell have had a lot of success. The home match against Teignmouth was a win 5-2, and followed by another home win against Dartmouth, also 5-2. The match against Wrangaton was also a win. The seniors now have a stableford competition once a month either on a Tuesday or Thursday which is proving very popular. In the May stableford Eric Worrall was the winner with 44 points and a handicap reduction to 10. Peter Coates was the runner-up with 40 points.

The first round of the Emerton Cup knockout mens competition was played at Saunton and resulted in a narrow defeat but we have the return match at home to look forward to and wish the team good luck. We have had two bank holiday mixed greensome competitions. The first one on Easter Monday was won by Ian and Catherine Neal with 46 points on countback from Gwen Hale and Hugh Bodger. The second mixed greensome on May Bank holiday was the John Bachelor Trophy, and was won by Sara and Alan Harkness.

In March we held the Monthly medal in conjunction with the Virgin Atlantic PGA qualifier. The top scoring man goes to Saunton to play with our Professional Peter Laugher. For the third year running it was a victory for 21 year old University student Harry Millburn-Fryer, who returned a nett 66 off a handicap of four. In second place was ex-captain Rod Moore also with a nett 66, but beaten on countback. We will



be hoping that history continues to repeat itself at Saunton because if they win this event they will be jetting off to play the final as they did 2 years ago, where they were narrowly beaten into second place in a playoff. We wish them both good luck.

This year's April monthly medal and scratch championship qualifier was won by William Baker with a nett 66 from Darrell Day also with 66. In division two, Martin Eyre returned a nett 72, from John Sharman with 73. One of our talented juniors, 17 year old Tom Leach, won the three clubs and a putter competition in March with 36 points and a handicap reduction to 12.

Special congratulations go to junior Laura Tregelles, who has been chosen to be Devon junior girls vice captain this year. I wish her every success and enjoyment. More congratulations are due to our Head Greenkeeper, Vic Dyer, who has just completed his qualification NVQ Sports Turf level 4, the highest award in the whole of the South West. Finally, congratulations also to Dick Marston, club secretary for many years who was recently installed as president of the South West region of the Golf Club managers association.

John Lapthorn

LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

In my last report I mentioned the Fashion Show and Coffee Morning, both events raising around £850.00, the Fashion show funds going to the Captains Charity which is the MacMillan Nurses, and the funds raised at the coffee morning helping our travel and team expenses for the coming season. As you can imagine, with the cost of petrol rising almost weekly, running four ladies teams is a very expensive business.

The season has now started in earnest, and Thurlestone Ladies are on a roll at the present time. The Creasy team beat Torquay at home by 4 matches to 3, the President's team beat Exminster at home by 5 matches to 2, and then went to Exminster and won by 5 matches to 2. The Ladies Devon League team beat Wrangaton at Wrangaton on points, after halving the match. Well done to all those ladies who played at Wrangaton, the wind was very strong and keeping the ball on the greens was not easy. Our Still Cup team have been to Exeter and played their first match, but unfortunately were not successful. We must remember that Exeter are the holders of the Still Cup and have an extremely strong team.

Lesley Saffin and Linda Cant played in the Devon County Ladies Vets knockout at Teignmouth, beating a Sidmouth pairing, and they go on to the last sixteen, as do Kay Morley and Jane Mason, who represented Thurlestone in the Doris Willes Little knockout competition, beating Dartmouth at Wrangaton. Well done to everyone and keep up the good work.

The Stableford Winners Trophy was won by Shona Wilson. Well done to Shona.

Last week we enjoyed the Iris Hardy Fun Day, the format was American Foursomes, which everyone enjoyed. It was a shot gun start at 9.30 am with ladies disappearing all over the course in readiness for the gun to be fired signalling the start of the competition. Iris Hardy was a member for many years and every year her husband donates a sum of money to the ladies so that they can enjoy a fun competition. Any money raised on the day goes to the Oncology Unit at Derriford and this year the ladies raised £300. The eventual winners were Dawn St Pier and Julia Dorey with a fantastic score of 46 points.

Unfortunately, our competition on Wednesday 18th May had to be cancelled due to poor visibility, our first cancellation for a while. Let us hope that does not happen next week as we have 124 ladies playing in our first open of the season. Fingers crossed!

Lesley Saffin

JUNIORS SECTION NEWSLETTER

The exciting news this month is that Laura Tregelles has been invited to be vice-captain of the Devon county junior girls team this year, which means she will be Captain in 2012.

The three girls from Thurlestone were in action against the Devon boys in April. Laura Tregelles and Beth Yeoman won their matches and Lottle Holland halved.

The first junior West Devon league match was at home against Tavistock. Thurlestone junior team had a good win by 4 matches to 1. In the singles matches Laura Tregelles won 3/2, Lottie Holland won 3/1, Robert Came and Tom Leach halved their matches and Josh Walsh and Jamie Johnson won the foursomes match 2/1.

The juniors have had some success in the adults competitions with Laura Tregelles placed 2nd in the April Stableford. Tom Leach won the 3 clubs and a putter Men's competition with 36 points, and Rob Came was 3rd in the Kennedy Cup bogey competition in May. Well done to them all.

The 7th annual Kingsbridge Community College Junior golf competition in May was run by teacher Jackson Day and had a record number of 12 entries - 9 juniors from Thurlestone, and 3 from Dartmouth. It was run on a pleasant day but with strong winds, and the winning score of 41 points was achieved by year 12 student Laura Tregelles followed by Toby Pepperrell with 40 points. 3rd was Stuart Harris of Dartmouth with 39 points on countback from Jamie Johnson of Thurlestone.

The Monday evening coaching and playing junior sessions run by Steve Pepperrell, Phil Holland and Stuart Tollins began in April and numbers have been around 16 each week. Pete Mitchell has been coaching the younger juniors and the older ones have been out on the course playing a competition.

The Devon girls championship is being held on Thursday 2nd June at Exeter and Laura Tregelles and Beth Yeoman are both entered. The Devon boys championship is also on 2nd June at Churston and Ollie and Josh Walsh, and Rob Came are entered. We wish them all good luck and hope to have some good reports for the next newsletter.

Liz Line

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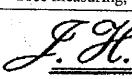




















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8/9/10 July LTA Open Veterans Tournament

Mon 11 July
Holiday Programme starts

Tue 26 July
July & Lepere Junior Cups

Fri 29 July Thurlestone Quaich – Golf and Tennis

Sat 30 July Woodhead Mixed Doubles Cup

Tue 2 Aug Egan and Leonard Junior Cups

Sat 6 Aug Bryan Brown Mixed Doubles Cup

> Tue 2 Aug Annual Tennis Meeting

Mon 15/22/29 Aug Family Tournaments

Wed 14 Sept End of Season Tournament presentation and bar snacks

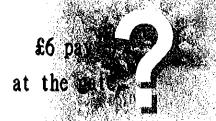
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Friday 17th June Grand Summer Fair, Market Hall, Kingsbridge - 10.00am to 2.00pm. Our main fund-raising event of the year. Variety of stalls, including refreshments, cakes, books, plants, gifts and a best-ever raffle stall. Kind donations of goods for the above may be delivered to the Market Hall on the evening before (Thursday 16th June) between 6.30pm and 8.00 pm. Cakes would be welcome on the day, Friday am.

Saturday 25th June

Coach trip to the Axe Vale Festival. A return visit to probably the best annual gardening and flower show in the South West. Craft, food stands, arena events, plenty of places to sit and relax.

Thursday 7th July Coach to Mount Edgeumbe and boat trip to Plymouth harbour. By coach to Mount Edgeumbe in Cornwall to visit the house, gardens, and have refreshments,. Walk or drive to Cremyll Quay for the Tamar Cruising boat trip to The Barbican, Plymouth.

Friday 22nd July Coach trip to **Boconnoc Steam Fair**. The Boconnoc Estate near Liskeard, one of Cornwall's hidden treasures, a stunning setting for this exciting rally. Not just about steam - there are shows, displays and events.

For more information about these events, or about joining our National Trust South Hams Centre, please contact Midge Elliott on 01548-562017 (9 am to 5 pm only please)

Local Supporter Gets Ready For Her Annual Blooming Great Tea Party

Marie Curie Cancer Care

Local *Marie Curie Cancer Care* supporter, **Bridget Viney**, is getting ready for her annual Blooming Great Tea Party. Last year Bridget Viney, from Devon, held a Blooming Great Tea Party to commemorate her late father's birthday. Malcolm Eager, Bridget's father, sadly passed away in 2005 and was nursed by Marie Curie Cancer Care nurses. At last year's tea party Bridget enlisted the help of the whole family to put on a fantastic tea party for old neighbours and friends. The tea party raised over £200! Bridget said 'we all had a fantastic time and we are looking forward to having another tea party this year'.

Whether it is a garden party, afternoon tea, a simple gathering of friends for a cuppa or just an excuse to show-off your finest china, holding a Blooming Great Tea Party couldn't be simpler. To hold your own Blooming Great Tea Party, please call the fundraising office on 01884703535 or visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/teaparty for your free Blooming Great Tea Party fundraising pack.

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Tyres cleaned & dressed
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interior & exterior glass deaned
interior & exterior glass deaned
Carpets & seats vacuumed



floot area vacuumed Pre-wash with traffic film remover & rinsed Pre-wash with traffic Nim remover & Insed Shine enhancing wash & wax then rinsed Traffic film remover applied to tyres & Insed Door shuts, hinges & surjounds cleaned & condition Super-resin point applied the hand removed Wheel acid applied & rinsed

where acts applies as mised Exterior trium dressed All litter removed Seat & captes vacuumed Footwell mais cleaned Dashboard, centre console & ver Ashtray emptide & cleaned Interior & exterior glass cleaned Interior & exterior glass cleaned le & vents cleaned and polished



Interior fragrante
Alf freshener
Seats & carpets vacuumed
Footwell & boot vacuumed
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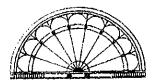
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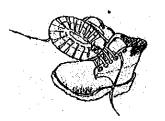
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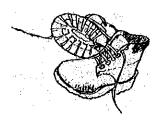
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TRAMP



The weather forecast for Thursday 15th March promised a cloudy morning, but clearing by the early afternoon. Predictably it began as a damp overcast day suggesting that some Tramps might stay at home; however, ten people ventured out.

The walk started from the *Green Dragon* in Stoke Fleming. Setting off towards the west the road soon turned into a track upon which we encountered a farmer on a quad bike carrying three sheep dogs. Enquiring if they ever fell off elicited the reply "only on a slope". The track became increasingly muddy as it dropped down towards Blackpool Sands. At the bottom of the track we joined the lane leading to Blackpool Sands. Where the lane reached the A379 we came upon a row of delightful cottages, one of which was decorated or insulated with reeds (definitive answers would be welcome).

Crossing a stream we joined a lane which led us steeply upwards past several farms. The hedgerows and banks here were displaying a show of snowdrops, white and blue violets, primroses, and an abundance of Alexanders. The lane eventually came out on to the road to Strete, and we followed this past the *Laughing Monk*.

A short stretch of the A379 brought us to the relatively new section of the SW Coast Path which led us on towards Matthew's Point. This section involved both a steep descent and ascent back to the main road, which again we passed to the landward side, and continued down once more to Blackpool Sands. Here we were treated to some welcome sunshine and glorious views. From here we made our way back to the *Green Dragon* where some Tramps partook of refreshment.

Rachel Wayth



The optional pub lunch at Salcombe boosted numbers for this morning stroll on Thursday 31st March to ten

plus one dog. Starting at Batson Green we had an initial steep climb up Batson Hill to the A381, then across the road, over fields to Maryknowle Farm and Higher Collaton. Thence we doubled back to Collaton Woods and on to North Sands via Martin's Way and into Salcombe, where eight of the party enjoyed a convivial meal and drinks at the *Kings Arms*.

Thereafter, the final leg took us around the harbour and alongside Batson Creek back to our cars. It had been an interesting mix of country lanes, urban roads, open farmland, shady woodland, distant and close up views of the ever-scenic Salcombe Harbour - what better way for passing a spring morning?

Trisha & Roger Wilson

Nine walkers plus our regular dog member Bess, a very well behaved black Labrador, set off under a blue sky on Wednesday 20th April. With not a cloud in sight a gentle breeze made it a perfect day for a walk along the Plym Valley trail. The river was very low but Bess enjoyed several swims. The spring flowers were wonderful - bluebells, wild garlic, primroses, wood anemones and an orchid. Unfortunately disease has been found in several trees and to stop the spread of infection they have cleared large areas. In due course there will be new planting of broad leaf trees.

The walk follows the river until we have to leave it and go a short distance along the road before heading over fields and back to the river. We had our picnic in a lovely spot on the side of the river. After lunch we made our way back, this time taking the cycle path. We were hoping the Peregrine Falcons had nested but for the first time in twelve years they had failed. The experts think it is the disturbance from the tree felling. However, the birds are still there, so there is hope it will yet happen. A lovely walk with good company.

Jill Munn

4

Eighteen walkers and three black Labradors set off from the Globe Inn, Frogmore on 28th April. Two other walkers were unable to join us as they had locked the key in the

car and their walking boots were in the car!

We braved the traffic uphill on the A379 for a short distance to climb steadily up an old Holloway. We were escorted by a few beautiful butterflies including a colourful peacock variety. At the top we were rewarded with great views of the Frogmore estuary on a glorious day. There followed a long stretch down across a small brook and over a very high embankment stile.

After crossing some fields we followed a grassy uphill path and over the A379 at East Charleton. Another steady uphill climb across a newly planted field to a Beacon. A number of events have been celebrated there (and next possibly the Olympic Games?) - though the one we were all eagerly awaiting was the Royal Wedding the next day. There were more spectacular views from here before we descended to the Estuary. Luckily the tide was out and we were able to walk some distance along the foreshore. The three Labradors were in their element in the water.

We made our way back to the Globe along the normal Right of Way but not before some last minute excitement of one lost Labrador, which happily turned out to be a false alarm. Fourteen of us had lunch; outside, on the upper level decking at the Globe, before setting off back on our return journey.

Robin Hart

On Wednesday 4th May twenty-one walkers and three well behaved dogs assembled at the National Trust car park at East Soar for our walk on Bolt Head. After crossing two fields we entered Tor Woods to be greeted by a wonderful display of deep blue and white as far as the eye could see - bluebells and wild garlic. Having admired a spectacular vista of Salcombe Harbour, we started our descent through the woods to South Sands and then climbed up to Overbecks, where we enjoyed a half hour break in the National Trust coffee shop.

By then the wind had dropped, the sun broke through the clouds, and it was a very pleasant journey across Bolt Head and through East Soar farm back to our cars. On reaching the last of the fields to cross, we were confronted by a black bull and slight panic began to set in, especially among some of the ladies. We were assured that if we kept our heads down and made no eye contact, we were OK, which turned out to be the case, so we all got past with no mishaps and sighs of relief. It was a lovely morning walk of four miles (only one long hill), not to be missed, and preferably taken in May to catch the Spring flowers.

Jenny Sherrington

We parked at Blackdown Rings for our walk to Andrews Wood on 17th May. This Iron age fort has great views towards Start Point, Haytor, and glimpses of the sea at Bigbury Bay. While waiting for other walkers to arrive, we listened to chiffchaff and willow warblers singing thier hearts out, although staying hidden in the trees, but a male yellowhammer was perched in full view and also very vocal.

We set off up the lane and across a field, the long grass home to a mass of moths, and into "The Stroll", an old oakwood copse. Hawthorn was still in flower and bluebells still very evident. We crossed a rickety stile, found our way to the southern edge of the copse, passed through a gate, and took a gentle climb to the top of the hill for lovely views of Dartmoor.

A short, pretty track westwards brought us to a road, across a field, and over the main road into Andrews Wood. This is a Devon Wildlife Trust nature reserve and rich in wildlife. Masses of yellow rattle (a semi-parasitic plant), southern marsh orchids, and some heath spotted orchids provided a colourful display in the top clearing. As we continued the frog trail, we heard blackcap and green woodpecker in the birch trees, and admired the variety of ferns, lichen and mosses underfoot. This four and a half mile walk is pretty and undemanding, and could be extended by walking around Blackdown Rings - another beautiful area.

Lesley Goonesekera

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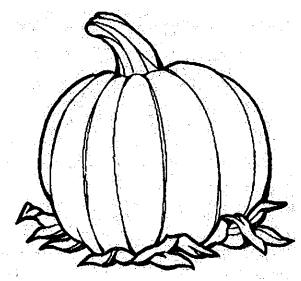
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The waters of the Avon are classified as of <u>moderate quality</u> within the Water Framework Directive (WFD) of the EU because of elevated levels of phosphate. As the classification system uses the lowest class from all of the elements, the overall WFD classification for the water bodies is moderate. This means that the water bodies are <u>below the target</u> of Good Ecological Status.

One of the most important roles of the ACA is to help improve the status of Avon water and, thus, to improve the river as a habitat for aquatic animals and plants. We have already played a major part in getting the Avon accepted into the England Catchment Sensitive Farming Initiative which, amongst other things, advises farmers how to reduce the amounts of phosphate and nitrate fertilisers entering our watercourses. Just type 'catchment sensitive farming' into the search bar on our website at < www.auneconservation.org.uk for more information. Now, we are trying to persuade the general public to reduce the amount of phosphate they put into their own waste water so it doesn't end up entering our river. This initiative is an extension of a Salcombe Harbour Board campaign, part-funded by the South Devon LAG, mainly focussed on the Salcombe/Kingsbridge estuary where similar problems of high nutrient levels in the water are encountered and give rise to poisonous algal blooms from time to time.

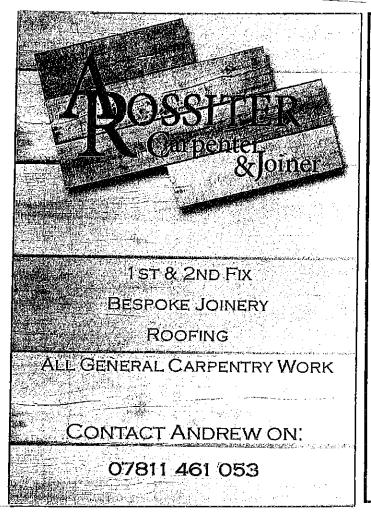
Everybody can help in a small but nonetheless important way with this initiative by the use of recycled 'grey' water for gardening (rather than pouring it down the drain and using expensive fresh tap water for the same purpose) and by the routine use of **phosphate-free** detergents and other cleaning agents at work and at home. There is plenty of choice and some very well-known brands are phosphate free (including Ariel, Bold, Daz, Dreft, Fairy, Persil non-bio, Soap Nuts, Surf, and Morrisons citrus autodishwasher tablets); you need not be inconvenienced in any way! You can also help by sharing this information with your friends.

A detailed list of phosphate-free products can be found on the website of the registered charity Nurture Lakeland at < <u>www.nurturelakeland.org</u> >.

Please think more about what you tip down the drain or into your cesspit. Eventually, it all ends up somewhere in the external environment and it might even come back to haunt your wallet in the form of more expensive water bills if we all end up paying for subsequent phosphate extraction costs! Think SUSTAINABILITY!

The Aune Conservation Committee





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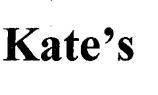
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Kitchen

Lemon & Lime Syllabub with raspberries

This very delicious dessert is so easy to make and looks quite impressive served in sundae glasses or any other glasses or small bowls. Raspberries complement it well but you may use other summer berries of your choice.

Ingredients

- Punnet raspberries with extra caster sugar to taste.
- ♦ 150ml (¼ pt) dessert wine or sweet white wine, or sweet sherry, or cider.
- ♦ 1 ½ large lemons.
- ♦ 1 very ripe lime (it will be juicier).
- ♦ 90g (3oz) caster sugar.
- ♦ 300ml (½ pt) double cream.
- ♦ The left over ½ lemon is used in slices as decoration.

Preparation

- Put the wine into a bowl with the finely grated zest of one lemon.
- ♦ Add the caster sugar and juices of 1½ lemons and the lime.
- Add the cream and whisk all the ingredients together until thick and creamy (I use an electric hand whisk).
- ♦ Place a dessert spoon of raspberries in the bottom of the serving glass. Sprinkle with sugar if necessary.
- ♦ Spoon the syllabub carefully on top.
- ♦ Chill in a refrigerator until ready to serve.
- Decorate the top with a twist of lemon slice.

Absolutely delicious on a warm sunny summer day - and even on a wet one!



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Grey Matter

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Find the proverbs (all the vowels are missing)

- 1. TMNYCKSSPLTHBRTH
- 2. BRDNTHHDSWRTHTWNTHBSH
- 3. SYCMSYG
- 4. LLTHTGLSTRSSNTGLD
- 5. THRSNSMKWTHTFR
- 6. LTSLPNGDGSL
- 7. BSNCMKSTHHRTGRWFNDR
- 8. NVRLKGFTHRSNTHMTH
- 9. STTCHNTMSVSNN
- 10. STLLWTRSRNDP
- 11. WHRTHRSWLLTHRSWY
- 12. MNYHNDSMKLGHTWRK
- 13. HWHLGHSLSTLGHSLNGST
- 14. NYFRNYTTHFRTTH
- 15. PRDGSBFRFLL
- 16. TRRSHMNTFRGVDVN
- 17. NCSSTYSTHMTHRFNVNTN
- 18. PPLWHLVNGLSSHSSSHLDNTTHRWSTNS
- 19. MSSSSGDSML
- 20. RLYTBDRLYTRSMKSMNHLTHYWLTHYNDWS

Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

- 1. Malibu 2. Coffee 3. Ruby 4. Britvic 5. Water 6. Bitter 7. Tia Maria
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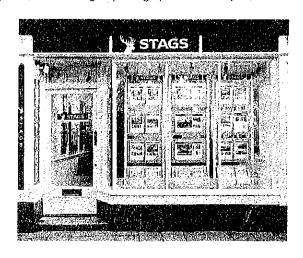


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HORSWELL DIARY

Despite the fact that his 'End of the World' predictions had been proven wrong before, Harold Camping, an 89 year old Evangelist, managed to convince thousands of people across America that May 21st was Judgement Day, the beginning of the apocalypse, when the good people would be swept up in rapture to Paradise while the sinners would be left to suffer here on earth. I suppose I should be a little worried to have woken up this morning to find that I am still here, as are so many of my friends...clearly we must be the sinners not the goodies... but, looking around me I'm not sure that Paradise would have been that much of an improvement.

Sitting here in the sunshine beneath blue skies, looking out across freshly mown lawns, watching water spill from the fountain into the pond beneath and listening to the joyous song and chatter of blackbird, thrush and robin, The Rapture could surely not be more overwhelmingly beautiful? Even our swallows, after a couple of years of absence have returned, rebuilding their old nest in the granary store. Before diving low to avoid the overhanging curtain of wisteria that hides their nest from our sight, they circle around the house like satellites in orbit, preparing their flight path for a rapid re-entry of immaculate precision.

I suppose, in Paradise, snails might not be quite the problem they are here. They could just get on with their business of transporting their homes on their backs, exploring Paradise as if they were on an endless caravanning holiday. Instead, they wait until we mortals are asleep so that they can slither over our plants feasting on their tasty succulence, leaving carnage in their wake. I am reminded how, at the farm, we used to buy our postage stamps in such numbers they came in great perforated sheets. Whilst everyone else used to tear their required stamps carefully from one edge, for some perverse reason I used to take delight in

extracting one stamp from the centre of each sheet, leaving a hole in what had been previously a page of perfect symmetry. It seems obvious to me now that I must have been a snail in a former existence. 'Karma' has clearly dictated that I should suffer retribution. Every morning I discover that another petal of my previously perfect clematis plants that have looked so colourful and exotic in our kitchen courtyard, has had a snail-bite taken out of it. Not a discreet nibble along one edge, but a great big hole, right in the centre... ruining it completely.

Consequently my latest pre-occupation is to mount a nightly snail hunt, sneaking up on them with a torch so as to locate them before they can slither off and hide under a leaf. The trick is to unglue them as gently as possible and launch them high over the wall into the woodland, where, if they haven't suffered too badly from air-sickness, they might do something useful like demolish a weed. The vast number of miscreants has been truly astounding. There have been whole families of them, tribes, dynasties of all shapes and sizes. If, as I shine my spotlight upon them, they're not actually engaged in devouring the clematis flowers, they are busily suctioning their way across the paving stones as fast as their sticky little bodies will allow, hoovering towards my plants with all the single mindedness and determination of a horde of hungry teenagers heading to Pizza Express.

My nightly search becomes a lengthy affair as I try to locate each and every snail, both little and large before sending them off to join their newly founded woodland colony. It takes me ages because I hate the thought that I might jettison the snail parents into the woods along with several of their offspring, but leave one or two members of their family behind. There are enough broken families in this world without me adding to the problem. Who knows what later-life problems might affect an abandoned snail?

The rapidly growing weeds and undergrowth have disguised another earthly problem: Ticks. The other day we saw a large fledgling blackbird acting strangely and seemingly unable to fly. On closer observation we saw that it had a large tick attached to its evelid obscuring its vision. Michael caught the bird and managed to pick off the tick with his finger nails, before releasing the bird and watching it take to the air. Over the next few days we also removed several small ticks that had attached themselves to the dog's faces, like small pink pimples but already irritating enough to trouble the dogs. A good thing we do not live in France where ticks can carry diseases lethal to our English pedigree dogs. French dogs apparently have an in-bred natural immunity.

Frequent visits to Oxfordshire to maintain my mother's house and garden, have brought me into contact with the Red Kites that conservationists are so delighted to have re-introduced. Whereas I love to watch the soaring spirals of the buzzards we have in Devon, the sight of these, so-called beautiful birds fails to cheer me. They seem to me to be the sharks of the air, forever circling, waiting for death. For, if the experts are to be believed, the Red Kites eat only carrion, i.e. only dead meat, never living creatures.

I find that hard to accept, as the amount of natural deaths or road-kill can surely not support their growing numbers? Whether it is because I associate them with the black kites that hover and swirl over the death and detritus of Delhi in India, or simply their huge size, speed and angular forked tails, when they swoop down to earth, I find them menacing and most certainly would not trust the chances of a small lamb or kitten under their surveillance.

Magpies, too, are thought to eat only carrion but as I hurried back through our lanes, delighted to be back amongst the froth of cow parsley, the pink of campions and the occasional bluebell still flowering amongst the ferns, there in the road in front of me was a magpie trying to peck a young rabbit to death. Each time the rabbit got away the magpie went after it holding it down with its claws and pecking it with its beak. I blew my horn and the bird released the rabbit and flew off, the rabbit hopping quickly into the long grass. Alas, the rabbit looked pretty miserable and the magpie re-alighted the moment I drove past so I'm not sure what the chances of survival were, but it certainly re-enforced my feelings about the Red Kites.

Extraordinarily, further down the lane, I confronted another unusual sight. It made me feel so sad. There, in the middle of the road was a very newly dead stoat. Beside it was its mate, equally handsome with a dark black tip to its tail. It was fussing over the dead stoat and then, seeing me approach, tried to pull its mate out of my path to the safety of the hedgerow. I stopped the car and got out. The living stoat had disappeared into the bushes beside the road. I could see the blades of grass moving and felt sure I was being watched. Carefully, I picked up the lovely little dead body, which had obviously had a blow to its head, and placed it in the hedge near its mate. I suppose in Paradise something so small and beautiful could have avoided whatever vehicle had passed that way.

Although, for some, May 21st was meant to be the day of Judgement, the beginning of The End, for me it was another birthday. Ali of Salcombe Sea-n-Shore organised the most sumptuous picnic on the beach at East Portlemouth and later whizzed us out around Bolt Tail and Gara Rock in her big red training boat, spoiling us hopelessly with her generosity, and then in the evening Lisa, our friend and girl-Friday invited us to a super party at her home and baked me the most wonderful Birthday cake to complete a truly perfect day. With friends like these, I think I'll stay a sinner. Paradise can surely wait.

Prunella Dart

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ALL SAINTS ADVERTISER

Editor: Betty Rhymes

All Saints Invite You To Celebrate.

Tuesday 7th June will be a very special day for All Saints Primary School when it holds its opening ceremony to mark the completion of its refurbishment. The Bishop of Plymouth, The Rt Rev John Ford, has been invited to give his blessings and unveil a plaque to commemorate the official opening of the remodelled school. From 3.45 pm the school invites parents and members of the local community to come and join in the celebrations. During the open afternoon children will provide entertainment for their visitors and also provide tours around their fabulous new school. The children, staff and governors would be delighted if you can join them for this special event.

4 miles of fun for local charity fund

The state of the art school that the staff, and children are now benefiting from would not have been possible without the support of the local community and businesses. "We are indebted to our community for the support they gave us in reaching our fundraising target for our refurbishments. The school wanted to gift something back in appreciation" said Bett Rhymes, teaching assistant at All Saints, Thurlestone.

On Sunday 22nd May some eighty staff, parents and children walked from Hope Cove to Bantham to raise money for the Chemotherapy Outreach Project based at South Hams Hospital. "This is an invaluable new service to our community which allows many cancer sufferers to receive their treatment on their doorstep at Kingsbridge" added Bett.

To encourage the children along their way they carried out various sports day challenges. The four to eleven year olds concentrated hard on keeping their eggs balanced on their spoons up the hill out of Hope Cove, ran (and tripped!) three legged across Thurlestone Sands and dug deep to find a final burst of energy to skip to the finish at *The Sloop* where they were able to tuck in to afternoon tea.

This fun family afternoon has so far resulted in over £1500 being raised for the Outreach Project. "I am thrilled with what we have achieved for this worthy cause. Donations can still be made by visiting the online site www.justgiving.com/Betty-Rhymes if anyone would like to contribute. Thank you to all that have supported this event."

Doing The Double

Thurlestone's tag rugby team claimed victory at two recent tournaments. The squad of nine saw off fourteen teams in the Ivybridge contest and were crowned champions over the twelve teams taking part in the Kingsbridge competition The team now progress to the county tag rugby finals to be held at Cullompton on Wednesday 15th June.

Three girls from our parish, lightning

Libby Quinn, mighty Molly McIntosh and tag-tastic Tilly McCarthy proved that the game of rugby is not just for boys. They defended like demons and attacked with aggression and put the ball down over the line to score. Girl Powerl

News In Brief

- # I'm sure you will agree the bunting the children produced to celebrate The Royal Wedding made an eye catching display as you entered the village.
- # Year 5 children are busy rehearsing as a choir, along with Loddiswell school and will perform at Exeter Cathedral on Thursday 9th June.
- # Rehearsals are under way for this year's school play, *Lost In Time*. Performances will be on Saturday 9th July at 2.30 pm & 7.00 pm.

The Governors, staff and children of All Saints' Church of England Primary School, Thurlestone invite

All members of the local community, neighbours and friends to an

OPEN AFTERNOON

on

Tuesday 7th June from 3.45 - 5.00 pm

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South Milton Ley Information Board Appeal

The South Milton Ley Reserve covers about 40 hectares of reedbed, the second largest in Devon. Devon Birdwatching and Preservation Society (DBWPS) owns the Reserve and has spent the last 40 years enhancing its conservation value making it Devon Birds' flagship reserve. Devon Birds is planning to erect an information board at South Milton Ley with the intention of informing the general public about the reserve, a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The board will take the form of a stone-built lectern, matching other lecterns in the near vicinity. It will be positioned adjacent to the footbridge that takes the SW coastal path across the Ley. The fence will be moved and the ground levelled to make room for the lectern. The artwork will show the Ley, some of the birds and animals that might be seen, as well as some explanatory text. The artwork will be encapsulated in Glass Reinforced Plastic which offers excellent outdoor durability and colour fastness, and is to a great extent vandal-proof.

Donations are being sought to help towards the costs of the information board, which will be about £3,500. If you would like to support this appeal please send your donation to the treasurer Paul Stubbs at, 7 Plymouth Hill, Princetown, Yelverton, Devon PL20 6QG. Please make your cheques payable to "DBWPS" and write on the back that it is for the South Milton Ley appeal. Alternatively, you are welcome to pass your cheques to Nick Townsend, Collacott Barn, South Milton, TQ7 3JG who will forward them to Paul Stubbs.

Devon Birds is a registered charity and will benefit if your donations are gift aided. This will require a declaration along the lines 'I confirm that this donation which I pay to the Devon Bird Watching and Preservation Society (registered charity 228966) should be treated as Gift Aid payments', together with your name and address.

If you have any queries please contact Nick Townsend 560243 or 07989717383

HOME

A festival with acoustic music at its heart

Friday – Saturday 24 & 25 June 2011, Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon

Following a sell-out inaugural year in 2010 as a one day event, HOME Festival returns to Dartington this year with a bigger programme over two days and three stages. Acts performing include Suzanne Vega, Tamikrest and Seckou Keita and there will be plenty of activities for children. The exceptional line-up of musicians will bring sounds as diverse as sitar, kora, Swedish Folyckleharpa and West African riti (one-stringed fiddle) to the festival, weaving a multi textured tapestry of music, voice, language and roots. Tickets are priced £11 - £48.50 and children are free.

For full information and to book tickets visit www.dartington.org/home

NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER ANNUAL AREA LUNCH

Contributed by Rachel Wayth

Many villagers will recall Margaret Lavelle who, with her husband John, lived in Court Park. Margaret had a number of interests including folk music (she was very handy on an accordion) and poetry. However, her real baby was the National Women's Register, an organisation set up some fifty years ago for lively-minded women to meet in local groups, in each other's homes, to discuss both serious and light-hearted topics.

Margaret was the leader of the Kingsbridge group for some twenty-five years and was also the area organiser for the South West incorporating Cornwall, Devon and parts of Somerset. Not content with that, she also organised lunches, workshops and a conference in Exeter and also assisted in setting up many local groups, especially in Cornwall.

Shortly after Margaret died in October 2009, it fell to the Kingsbridge NWR to organise the annual area lunch in 2011 and it was decided to hold this at the Thurlestone Hotel. After many meetings and considerable organisation, 82 ladies from throughout the region assembled for lunch on 26th March. As a tribute to Margaret it was announced that henceforward the official attribution would be "The Margaret Lavelle Memorial Lunch" Margaret's husband, John, was invited as a special guest. He started by reading two of Margaret's poems and then said Grace.

After a superb lunch the ladies retired to the Yarmer Suite for a talk by **Peter Stafford**, the Managing Director of *The Lost Gardens of Heligan*, and a man well-known in Thurlestone and South Milton. Peter enthralled everyone with his tales of the unknown side of Heligan. The ladies departed full of praise for the hotel and its setting and looking forward to the next *Margaret Lavelle Memorial Lunch* which will be held in Cornwall.

Here is a poem Margaret Lavelle (nee Pike) wrote on 29th August 1945 when a schoolgirl.

Show It To Me

If in this world of sin you find A place that's pure and clean Where folk are simple, good and kind And sadness rarely seen Then show it to me that I might share That happiness that's Oh, so rare!

If in this world of sin you know
Of rippling brooks and quiet hills
Where shaggy rocks are bending low
And where the distant Cuckoo shrills
Then show it to me that I might roam
And make this earthly paradise my home

Margaret Pike

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Weather Wag

The dry weather continues, even though there has been a 'smur' today. (18th May) Your Runner beans should be planted by now, at least that was the opinion of my maternal Grandfather and he COULD GROW runner beans - by the hundred weight. However, I'm supposed to be writing about the weather, though to be honest there has been very little "weather" for the last two months and a bit to talk about.

Sunny, dry, east wind, little dew, not too warm generally, except in the sun and out of the wind. Some good sunsets but nothing spectacular. The sea has been quiet for the most part, with just an occasional swell from a distant depression in the Atlantic. All because of the BLOCKING HIGH over Europe and stretching out into the mid Atlantic. Now the highs are developing over the mid Atlantic and stretching east keeping the lows away to the north.

Whatever the causes may be, it is certainly too dry for comfort and this continuing dry weather is affecting both man and beast.

Looking at the figures for the months of March and April I note the following comparisons:-

Rainfall

2010 = 92mm 2011 = 32mm

Temperature

2010 = Average 8.7°C 2011 = Average 10.2°C

Sunshine

2010 = 308.7 hrs2011 = 457 hrs

This year then, we have been dryer, hotter and sunnier. The wind has been lighter than usual and westerly for only 14 days across the two months. The highest gust recorded

By Jan Turner

was 37 mph on 31st March and 30th April. So although it may have seemed breezy on occasions, no March Equinox gales or very high spring tides were noted. All rather uninteresting if you want excitement. I'm not sure that we do but day after day of dry weather is beginning to pall now. So, in these last few days there has been a westerly, the sea has copped up, the drifts of seaweed have appeared as has the debris from some of our more wasteful humans at sea. But still no appreciable amount of rain.

The wind direction is worth a mention at this point. Over the first 4 months of this year there has been a predominance of Easterly wind. It was in that direction for 72 days out of a possible 120 days, Westerlies blew on 48 days out of the 120 possible. The highest gust was all of 46 mph from the NW on the 11th January. This is a far cry from the norm when I've recorded 70 and 80 mph gusts in these winter months. Don't forget the Burns night gale of 1990 when a huge amount of damage was done in the area, and that was 25th January, when there were winds of 80+ mph. Remarkably, there was no rain that day so that sand blasting here was the chief cause of damage.

There seems to be extreme weather all over the world at the moment. La Nina seems to be the most obvious suspect, but not entirely, I gather. We return to that other character, Global Warming, as a partner in crime, and then where do our own actions fit in? I'll leave you to decide the answer to that one.

In the USA the Mississippi has risen to flood levels as a result of heavy rain and melting snows from the phenomenal amounts they received this winter. Some of the levees have been breached to allow flood water to spread over the land in a controlled manner. Even so, many have had to leave their homes temporarily. In so doing the authorities hope to save the large urban areas to the south

from experiencing floods as in the past. There is a huge cost in carrying out this exercise, but not as much as say St Louis being flooded.

Some areas of Europe are also having exceptional weather conditions. April was the warmest month and record temperatures have been recorded in several places.

- (a) Europe = Orihuela, Spain on the 9th it was 39.0°C or 100.2°F (now that's **hot!**)
- (b) National records were also recorded in France at 33.9°C (93.0°F)
- (c) Switzerland = 32.0° C (89.6°F)

Paul Simons goes on to explain how soils can affect temperatures. It is quite logical when you think about it, but I'm afraid that I haven't until now. He explains that dry and parched ground behaves like a giant radiator, soaking up solar energy and then heating the air above it. But if the soil is wet it behaves more like an air conditioner, evaporating the water and helping to cool the air above.

Europe is experiencing exceptionally dry conditions. If you look on the internet at the BBC website (www.bbc.in/kVMpeu) you can see colour enhanced maps along with much information about the current situation. It is quite an eye-opener.

In the far east, the Yangtse River in Central China is at an all-time low as a result of crippling drought conditions in the catchment area. Rainfall has been so low for the past 7 months, and water levels are now so far down, that the river has even been closed to shipping.

All in all here in Britain we are not doing so badly - but it's bad enough, and it could get worse yet!

Reflecting on the first paragraph and my reference to the "weather"; this term really means "activity in the atmosphere". When there is high pressure and conditions are quiet there is probably little activity (not always the case of course, hence the

difficulty in making a correct forecast every time.) So not much weather! Conversely, when pressure is low there is much activity in the atmosphere hence the word *Weather* being applied to the situation. You will hear the forecasters referring to the weather associated with a warm or cold front, and it's usually rain, wind, and varying cloud cover. You name it, and it will appear at some time or other and be termed *weather*.

Anyway, after that little grumble I will close with the hope that we will have a pleasant summer this year, and that the wind will be obvious by its absence.

And don't forget! Get on with those crops, cultivations, and all the other categories for the Horticultural Show in August - at South Milton this year!

Jan Turner



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Stanborough Chorus, Malborough, 7.30 pm (see advert) TRAMP, West Alvington bluebells

Cheese & Wine Lunch, The Downs, 12.30 pm (see advert)

TRAMP, Hound Tor/Jay's Grave (long walk) Parish Council meeting, Yeo Room, 7.30pm Wednesday 8th

WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Barbara Moore - doll collection)

TRAMP, Bantham cakes Wednesday 22^{ad} Thursday 16th Thursday 9th

TRAMP, Hope Cove evening walk (short) TRAMP, 3 Reservoirs (long)

Tuesday 28th

Parish Council meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm Monday 4th

TRAMP Lustleigh Cleave (long) Tuesday 5th

WI Garden Lunch 12.30 pm TRAMP Soar/Overbecks Wednesday 13th Thursday 7th

Rotary Cream tea, Furzey Close, 3.30 pm Wednesday 13th

WI Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Julia Fox) TRAMP Wembury (long) Wednesday 20th Thursday 14th

Saturdau 24th

BBQ, Bowls, Boules, etc. Parish Hall, 6 - 10 pm (see advert) Church Fete, Toye's Orchard. 2.00 pm (see advert) Tuesday 26th

TRAMP Kingston/Scobbiscombe (short)

TRAMP Hexworthy (long) Tuesday 2nd

Horticultural Show, S Milton village hall, 2.30 pm (see advert) Saturday 6th Friday 12th

TRAMP Ringmore/Ayrmer Cove

Sunday 14th

Friday 19th

'Songs of Praise', Bantham, 6.00 pm Church BBQ on the Green, 6.00 pm

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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 The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the parish rate. should only be ascribed to the authors concerned.

In Thurlestone, Village Voice is delivered by a team of volunteer helpers

In Bantham and Buckland it is delivered by Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott. organised by Lan Fraser

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (June-July) ISSUE = 5^{th} JULY 2011

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

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MOBILE FISH & CHIP VAN Alternate Wednesdays from 8th June, from 5.00 pm to 6..30 pm, outside school.

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