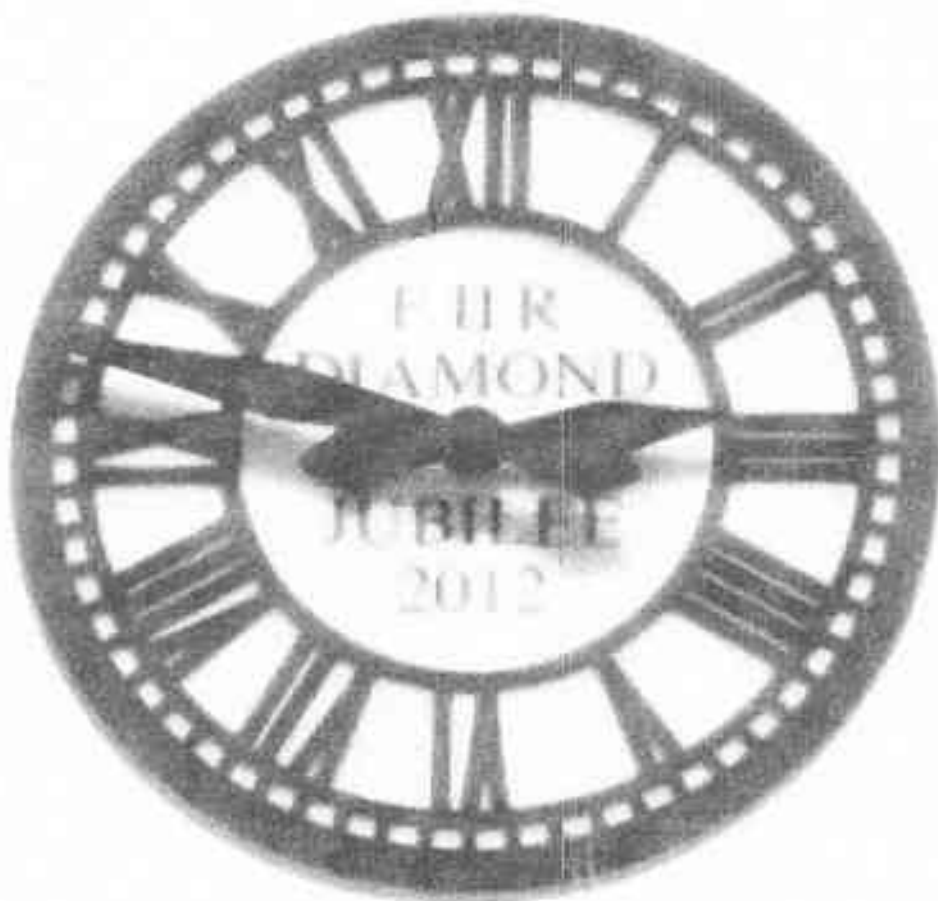


VILLAGE VOICE



June - July 2012

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone



NUMBER 175
JUNE - JULY 2012

Time Immemorial

Even if the church clock should stand forever at ten to three (with "honey still for tea" on the vicarage lawn), Thurlestone's post-Jubilee horological future is now ecologically secure. The Parish Hall committee's decision to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by the provision of a large clock under the gable end at the front of the Hall was a fine and practical one. Moreover, as the Jubilee Clock will be powered by the Hall's own solar panels, its running costs will be zero.

Several village bodies have contributed to the purchase - indeed, the occasion of this Jubilee has galvanised the entire parish into a modest frenzy of activity to ensure that the event is celebrated in appropriate style, with children and adults (even the odd republican) all set to enjoy the fun and games. Full details will be found within this issue.

Later, we can look forward to a couch-potato view-fest of Olympic proportions. So what, if the torch chose to bypass the best-kept village in Devon? We shall have our own beacon fire on Monday 4th June. No armada to fright our monarch this time - the Spanish fleet are training for the London Games. So raise your glasses, Thurlestone, here's a toast unto Her Majesty!

Founder Dudley Drabble

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Post Office Lane
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Published Bi-monthly

Front Cover : The Jubilee Clock

Village Voice - The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone



THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE PARISH CELEBRATION PLANS

The Jubilee Committee

Under the auspices of the Parish Council, an ad hoc Diamond Jubilee committee was set up to organise and raise funds for events to be held in the parish **at no cost to residents** over the Jubilee weekend and Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June.

Members were Councillors Jill Munn, Tony Goddard and Peter Hurrell, plus parish residents Pat Clarke, Pat Macdonald, Diane Martin, Sally Murray and Julia Thompson.

Fund-Raising

The first fund-raiser, a **Cheese & Wine lunch** on the 5th May, was a great financial success, due to the generosity of the 90+ people who came and enjoyed the food and wine, the chat, the delightful piano-playing of John Sterry, and then dug deep into pocket and purse with the result that the room raffle was wildly profitable!

The second fund-raiser planned is a **Diamond Jubilee Draw**. The £1 tickets (ten to a book) are available for this from both shops in the parish and from the people on the committee mentioned above. The organisers say "We must justify the wonderful prizes we have been given, and hope as many people as possible will buy a ticket or two - or even a book". The draw will take place in the Thurlestone Hotel ballroom following the children's tea.

The Parish Council has generously set aside funds for us all to enjoy the celebration free of cost, including the purchase of silver commemorative £5 coins for all the parish children, and the ad hoc committee intend that any surplus after the events will be repaid to the Parish Council to help replenish their coffers which have had quite a number of 'hits' over the past year!

Acknowledgements

The Diamond Jubilee committee wish to express thanks to the following for their generosity and help: Parish Council, Parish Hall, Thurlestone Hotel, Evans Estates, Golf Club, Sloop Inn, PO Stores, Bantham Shop, Surf Life-Saving Club, Farmer Eric Palmer, Tesco Stores and 'Village Voice', and the many individual parishioners without whose help these special community events could not have been arranged.

The Jubilee Clock

The newly installed Jubilee Clock on the face of the Parish Hall, complete with its commemorative inscription, is illustrated on our front cover and its official dedication is planned to take place right at the start of our parish celebrations - at 7.30 pm on Saturday 3rd June immediately prior to Peter Hurrell's parish archive pictures show.

Jubilee Events Programme

Enclosed with this issue is a programme of the celebratory events which have been drawn up by the Diamond Jubilee Committee. In the August issue of *Village Voice* there will be reports on the activities.

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings held on 2nd & 23rd April & 14th May 2012

News & Views by Citizen

1. Meeting held on 2nd April

Seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk and eight members of the public attended.

Open Forum

Residents Michael Passmore and Chris White thanked the Parish Council for supporting their respective planning interests - the first concerning 11 Edwards Close; the second the Golf Club's green-keepers' hut.

Parish Hall

Councillor Peter Hurrell reported that the three Officers had retired and been replaced by Neill Irwin (Chairman), Lisa White (Treasurer), Catherine Delafield (Secretary).

Highways

Car parking near the war memorial still a problem and speeding vehicles using Post Office Lane (near the side entrance to the school) causing concern.

School

Consideration is being given to joining with other local schools to form a 'Federation', and parents' views are to be canvassed.

Mobile Phone Mast

If erected on Rodney Stidston's land, this would cover Bantham, Buckland and Hope Cove as well as Thurlestone. Parish Council agreed to pay for this at a sum of £350.

Yarmer

The estate has written to contractors pointing out damage caused by their vehicles. Damaged cobbles near the war memorial will be replaced. Theft of oil from the estate was also reported.

Kerbstones

Although kerbstones are now available for the grass verge at the entrance to the top of the village, the project cannot proceed for lack of funding at present.

District Councillor

Ian Bramble said the cost of services which in future were to be carried out by the Parish Council, e.g. grass cutting, could not at present be given. He advised the Parish

Council to draw up one of the new Neighbourhood Plans to try and guard against unwanted future developments in the parish.

2. Annual General Meeting held on 23rd April

Seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, Rebecca Black of SHDC, and eleven members of the public were present.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Andrew Rhymes reported on the year's proceedings, welcoming three new Parish Councillors, and highlighting, amongst other things in a busy year (a) the opening of the refurbished school by the Bishop of Plymouth (b) work on the Parish Plan and trying to get better broadband reception (c) the Thurlestone Sands situation and (d) acquisition of a redundant BT phone box. A small committee had been set up to organise events free of cost so the whole parish could enjoy the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, including the presentation of silver commemorative coins for all the children of the parish. He thanked Parish Clerk Philip Millard for the valuable work he carried out for the Parish Council.

Neighbourhood Plan

Rebecca Black of SHDC spoke eloquently about the complexity of the Neighbourhood Plan schemes but was probably understood by only a few of those present!

3. Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May

Seven Parish Councillors, Parish Clerk, District Councillor Ian Bramble and PCSO Dave Gibson plus nine members of the public were present.

Elections

Councillor Andrew Rhymes was reappointed chairman and also agreed to continue as the School representative. Councillor Charles Mitchelmore remained as Tree Warden and Police Liaison representative, and Councillor Dale Came continues as the Parish Plan

representative. Councillor Peter Hurrell was retiring from the Parish Hall committee and his place would be taken by Councillor Jill Munn. Peter was very warmly thanked for all he had achieved whilst on the Parish Hall committee, during which time the new Hall was built.. Although no longer a Parish Councillor, Kit Marshall agreed to continue to represent the Friends of Thurlestone Church.

Open Forum

Jubilee Clock: Rowland Cole, a former Parish Hall chairman, congratulated Chris White, the recently-retired chairman, on the installation of a handsome clock outside the hall to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Buckland phone box: A resident wished to purchase the phone box in the village and retain it *in situ*, and sought the Parish Council's approval. Although supportive of his plans for its future use, they regretted they could not offer him any financial help.

Thurlestone Phone Box: Kit Marshall said that ideas for its future use would be put forward in the June edition of Village Voice and he would not be calling for any more financial help.

Sloopside, Bantham: Details of the proposed development were presented to the Council for use when considering the planning application.

Parking: The ongoing problems by the war memorial green were considered to have worsened due to the removal of the red *No Parking* sign. A less obtrusive green one would replace it.

School: To decide after the 29th May whether they should join a Federation. Canvassing of 127 families resulted in only 17 replies, and of those 9 were against Federation. The missing *No Dogs* notice on the school playing field would be replaced.

Parish Plan

Mobile Phone Mast: Rodney Stidston is progressing matters with the suppliers and will keep Councillor Peter Hurrell advised.

Broadband: Parishioner Chris White told us that the likelihood is that provision of faster broadband would only come if we do it

ourselves, and to do that, we need to finance the application for a government grant at a cost of around £30,000. This was a service that was desperately needed in the area, not only for individual parishioners working from home but also for future business, scholastic and medical needs, and lack of this facility could influence the sale of property in the locality. A number of grants have been applied for, including a possible £9,500 from the *Awards for All* scheme - the Parish of Thurlestone Society has agreed to be the applicant for this and other grants. The Thurlestone Hotel has pledged £500, but only if the Parish Council donate £500 as well. Whilst sympathetic to the need, the Parish Council could not immediately make a promise as their budget was limited, but hope to give an answer next month.

Police

PCSO Dave Gibson gave a brief report on the very low local crime figures, even though burglaries had doubled in number in the South Hams over the past year.

District Councillor's Report

Councillor Ian Bramble told us there was very little appetite at Follaton House for the "Localism" Bill, and in particular for the Neighbourhood Plan project. As yet there was no parish-by-parish breakdown of costs for the devolved services a parish may wish to take on. Thurlestone Parish Council will arrange a separate meeting to discuss the implications and to decide upon any action required, and Councillor Bramble promised that he would help in any way he could.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Celebration plans were proceeding rapidly, Councillor Jill Munn reported, and the final programme would be available in the June issue of 'Village Voice' which would be published in advance of its usual date. Fund-raising had been boosted by the Cheese & Wine lunch on the 5th May and raffle ticket books were now on sale. If there was any money surplus at the end of the parish festivities it would be given to the Parish Council.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 11th June, 7.30 pm in the Yeo Room.

PARISH HALL NEWS



Chairman: Neill Irwin

There was a great response to the Cheese and Wine fund-raiser on 5th May, and by the time you read this column the Diamond Jubilee celebrations will be upon us. The Parish Hall will be hosting its 'indoor street party' complete with big screen TV for those of you who can't join the Queen on her barge, but that doesn't mean it will all be over after 3rd June. The Parish Hall's Jubilee Clock will be a permanent memorial of the Queen's anniversary, following its dedication on Saturday 2nd June at 7.30 pm. Thanks are due to all who have contributed to it, including the Thurlestone Hotel, the WI, the Parish Council, and *Village Voice*.

The more regular events are also in the diary, including the BBQ, which has been slightly rearranged to accommodate another one-off occasion (the Olympics), music concerts, and the Autumn Fair.

More than 90 people attended Tim Abel's concert on 17th March which was a great success, so many thanks to all who organised it and to the performers Tim Abel (piano), Huw Wiggin (saxophone), and Rhys Matthews (percussion) for a memorable musical evening.

Following all the June events we are looking forward to another evening of delightful music - and song - with Henry Tozer & Guy Hayward which takes place on Saturday 7th July. We hope you'll take this opportunity to support local talent in the traditional Thurlestone way.

The BBQ, Bowls & Boules will take place on Tuesday 24th July starting at 5.30 pm with appropriate contingencies for the summer weather. Come along and try your hand at all versions of bowling, plus

table-tennis, although it will be a little too late to put in an Olympic qualifying performance (for 2012 anyway).

The Autumn Fair on 29th September is a great opportunity for all the groups who use the Hall to offer their special support in the fundraising effort. Ideas for stalls are both creative and traditional and it is, as ever, a great way to meet people - and to check up on the time using the Jubilee Clock powered by our own photo-voltaic panels. And there's another eco-friendly recycling event on 30th June, when we hold (for the first time) a Car Boot/Table Top Sale with a £5 fee for each pitch and tea/coffee on sale.

Other dates for the diary include the *Last Night of the Proms* on the big screen on Saturday 8th September, and a wonderful new venture with the Plymouth Gilbert and Sullivan Fellowship on Saturday 20th October featuring a semi-staged version of *HMS Pinafore*.

On a final administrative note, the AGM went off without a hitch and Neill Irwin is now your Chairman along with Lisa White as Treasurer and myself as Secretary. Grateful thanks were given to Patrick Stanley and Shirley Barnes who were 'retiring' as officers and were presented with lovely camellias for their gardens, but Chris White did not get very far with his commemorative tankard - as he now steps in to replace Peter Hurrell as Chair of the Maintenance Committee.

So let's hope for great events over the summer and plenty of sun for our solar-powered Jubilee clock.

Catherine Delafield

Your Devon County Councillor

By Sir Simon Day

I am delighted to be able to contribute to *Village Voice*. In my capacity of a County Councillor I have looked after Thurlestone for many years. I am a former Leader of the County Council and that role is now taken by John Hart who is doing a very good job. I am now chairman of the Audit Committee of the County Council which has to ensure that the business of the County Council is carried out correctly.

I am also a member of the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority which comprises 19 members who are a mix of County Councillors, Magistrates and independent members. We have to lay down the policy that the Police Force should follow and are responsible for the Police budget and have the important job of appointing the senior officers i.e Assistant Chief Constables and above. In November we are to be replaced by an elective commissioner which will be a political appointment and the parties are now choosing their candidate for the current election. We have always had an excellent Police force in the two counties and it is renowned for its integrity and efficiency. The South Hams is one of the very safest places in the country thanks to their efforts.

On an entirely different matter, wind turbines are very topical. I do not support them, not only do they spoil the countryside and destroy birds and bats but the noise they make can be very unpleasant to those living nearby. They are inefficient and at the moment produce 0.6% of the power needs of the country. It is the large government grants that persuade companies to invest in them. In my view, the money could be far better invested elsewhere.

I always try to attend your annual Parish Council meeting, where I am happy to answer any questions you would like to raise with me. To contact me at other times, you can send an e-mail to simon.day@devon.gov.uk or write to Keaton House, Ivybridge, PL21 0LB or phone 01752 - 691212.



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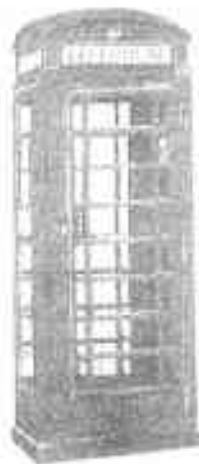
Village News Round-Up

Red Phone Box

The old red phone box opposite the church was recently taken over by Thurlestone Parish Council from BT and will now be looked after by a group of enthusiasts who hope it will in the future become an iconic feature of Thurlestone village.

Kit Marshall has been at the forefront of maintaining this old red phone box and tells us it is *"Already being spruced up, and will shortly house a selection of books for all ages, available 24/7, as an exchange library - i.e. bring a book, take a book."*

It is also planned to become the central part of different celebrations and special events beginning, of course, by being dressed up for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee". He goes on to say that it can also be hired for private events, and reminds us that the record number of people to cram into a phone box is 16. The Grand Opening Ceremony will take place on Thursday 31 May at 6.00 pm when everyone is invited to join in, *".....but you are encouraged to wear a crown and bring your own celebratory drink!"*



Best Kept Village 2012

If you are reading this in daylight hours it could be that, at this very moment, officials from the local Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) are prowling round Thurlestone village, clipboards in hand, looking to see if we deserve an award this year. We are not given prior notice when they descend to do their appraisals. Helpful hints....if you have used any of the notice-boards, or telegraph poles, to advertise events, make sure the posters are removed when out of date and, if you can, pick up any litter you may spot.

Unfortunately the *Best Kept Village 2010* notice was stolen from beneath our very noses when it was at the entrance to the

village. A replica has now been obtained and put in a better, and probably safer, place - the wall of the Post Office Stores. Let us hope that it may soon be joined by another one for 2012!

Frith's the Tops

Thurlestone resident Frith Chadwick, who was recently appointed a director of the Charles Head estate agency and is also in charge of their Salcombe business, has successfully passed the National Federation of Property Professionals technical award in the sale of residential property. Of the four exams involved, she achieved an astonishing 100% marks in one, 90% in two and 80% in the fourth. Hearty congratulations from *Village Voice*. [Frith, incidentally (with a little help from her friends), is the principal contributor to our *Grey Matter* page. Ed]

Quizzers aid RNLI

Salcombe and Hope Cove Life Boat Guild were presented with a cheque for £1375 as a result of Mike and Brenda Jones's Tuesday quiz-nights at the Village Inn. The Guild's secretary, Ann Thompson, said "We are very, very, grateful to Mike and Brenda, the quizzers and the Village Inn, and appreciate their generosity in donating this magnificent sum to our funds".

NSPCC

A record sum was raised at the Jumble Sale held at the end of April and the NSPCC local committee wish to express their grateful thanks to everyone who made this possible - the donors of goods and cash, the sales personnel and all those involved in raising much-needed funds for children who are in desperate need.

Mike's Marathon

Well done, Mike Yeoman (Jean's son) for taking part in the recent London Marathon, completing the course in 4 hrs 6 minutes and raising well over £1000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Mike wishes to thank all his generous sponsors in Thurlestone.

Landscaping

As a result of cash raised from last year's Royal Wedding parish picnic, the circular raised 'garden' with the sign displaying the village name at the entrance to Thurlestone was made possible. It is also planned to affix a small plaque to the stonework at a later date in order to commemorate the wedding. Thanks must be made to Eric Palmer for providing the stone used and also to the Parish of Thurlestone Society chairman, Chris White, for master-minding the whole exercise.

Table Tennis

Despite the departure of Rodney and Louise Horn, two of our stalwarts, the numbers in this group still average seven or eight at the Wednesday 5 pm sessions. In consequence, members have agreed to extend their time-slot in the Yeo Room from 60 to 90 minutes, and now commence at 4.30 pm. Any new members would be welcome. Why not revive your one-time interest in this sociable and healthy form of exercise - and great fun?

Bhutan

Those Village Voice readers attending the KEDFAS lecture on Bhutan will be interested to know that our next (Aug-Sep) issue will contain a travel article on Bhutan written specially for Village Voice by Sue Dwyer following her visit there on a guided tour which was led by Declan Dwyer. Only pressures of space in this Jubilee issue led us to hold over this travelogue until next time. Watch this space!

Mobile Library S.O.S.

We are very fortunate in having regular visits from the mobile library which is very keen to promote the service, reminding us that they can only thrive if there are enough borrowers. We are asked to encourage our community to join the library and if a borrower is frail, disabled or otherwise housebound, to take advantage of their Home Delivery Service (in partnership with the WRVS). You can reserve books and collect them from the van. Membership is free and large print books and DVDs are also available. Our mobile library van comes to the Parish Hall car park, on Wednesdays every other week, from 3.40pm for one hour (see our Directory page for the dates).

Teamakers

Following busy Autumn and Spring terms helping U3A members in computer skills and family history research our three resident tutors are taking a well-earned summer sabbatical from Wednesday afternoons in the Yeo Room. A resumption of tutorials next autumn will depend on the levels of interest and demand at that time.

Celebration Blues

To dispel any rumours that the Parish Hall committee are either Chelsea or Manchester City fans celebrating their team's success, Village Voice can announce that the two teak benches outside the Hall, which now appear in a rather fetchingly-muted shade of blue, are those presented by the WI sixty years ago to mark the Coronation, which have now been given a timely make-over by Peter Hurrell to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

Tour of Britain

On Saturday 15th September Stage Seven of the eight stages of the Tour of Britain cycle race this year will cross Devon, starting at Barnstaple. The 106 mile route takes the riders over Dartmoor to Buckfastleigh, and then through Kingsbridge, Torcross, and Stoke Fleming to finish in Dartmouth. It should prove exciting watching - but make sure your own travel plans in the area don't clash with the race route and timings.

South Devon Link Road

The long-awaited Kingskerswell by-pass has finally been granted approval, and enabling work will commence this autumn on a new dual carriageway linking Newton Abbot and Torquay. The project will be completed by December 2015. For the next three years, however, travellers in that area will have to learn to be even more patient. Be warned!

Tree Warden in mourning

Charles Mitchelmore sadly reports that a fir tree he and the late Derrick Yeoman planted on the village war memorial green some 46 years ago has unexpectedly come crashing down, leaving an empty space. We hear that under consideration is the re-planting of another fir tree in this space - possibly the one that is going to be in memory of the late Len Hubbard. Nice thought!

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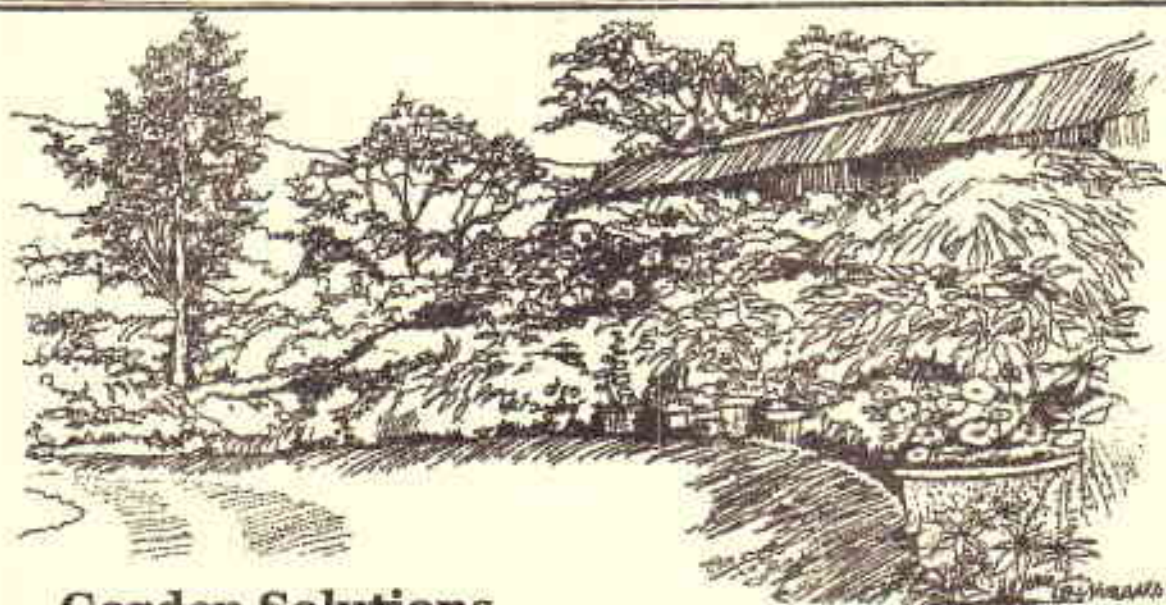
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LAY READER: Peter Gornall

Peter Gornall writes:

SALUTE THE LONG-SERVING F.D.



Sometimes it happens that detail too familiar to be noticed can carry highly meaningful messages. We all carry it around in a pocket or purse. The trouble is the Latin, which most of us don't "do" any more. In various positions on different coins, behind her head, or over it, or in front of her face, the Queen's titles D.G. REG. F.D. have been proclaimed for 60 years. On some of the larger older coins we had the slight expansion FID. DEF.

It may be a touch ironic that Her Majesty's massive ancestor Henry VIII received this title "Defender of the Faith" from the Pope for inveighing in print against the Protestant reformers; and then himself threw off the ecclesiastical yoke of Rome which the protesters objected to. The title has passed on: the monarch is still proclaimed as defender of the faith which underpins so much of our public life (notwithstanding a minor objection from Bideford).

In centuries past, the real position of the monarch on his or her faith might be known to a very few in the Royal Family, some aides, a bishop or two and a handful of the aristocracy. Only since the royal Christmas broadcasts started have we all known; inspiringly in World War II and the subsequent years of rationing and austerity from George VI; and now for 60 years the Queen has reminded us time and again of the central tenets of the Christian faith: God with us in incarnation; God's compassion (Latin again - "suffering with us"); and a quality of life even death cannot do away with.

There is so much more to it than just reminding her subjects. Apart from the ordained clergy, and a handful of inspired lay people, who else in public life could you point to who has so clearly acknowledged that her life and daily round, her intellect and energy are all dedicated to her job because she is so sure of her calling originating in the spiritual world, from her faith? And her job - well, it encompasses still the welfare of so many of the peoples of the globe. Whatever our political feelings about monarchy as a system, the history books of the future will be hard pressed to find a finer Christian soul under the burden of the British Crown.

God bless her!

Peter



We hope you will join us to celebrate
the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at a special

Jubilee Service

SUNDAY JUNE 3RD 11.10 A.M.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, THURLESTONE

Everyone is very welcome



Also a display of Wedding and Jubilee Flowers & Fairtrade Stall



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 3RD

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

11.10am Diamond Jubilee Service (see overleaf)

6.00pm Benefice Flower Festival Evensong at Churchstow

JUNE 17TH, JULY 1ST & 22ND

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Fairtrade Stall July 1st)

JUNE 10TH, JULY 15TH

11.10am Morning Worship

JUNE 19TH

6.00pm Benefice Praise Service at West Alvington

JUNE 24TH, JULY 29TH

11.10am Matins (BCP)

JULY 8

11.00am Benefice Sea Sunday Service at Leasfoot Beach
by Golf Club (if wet in Church) Bring own chair!

Weekdays

THURSDAY JUNE 7TH, JULY 5TH **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) at Bantham

EVERY WED, THURS, FRI & SAT **8.30am** Morning Prayer (said) (HC on June 11)

EVERY WEDNESDAY except July 4th **10.00am** Holy Communion (said) (Alternates BCP & CW)

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship

See Church Notice Boards for variations & more information

Activities in the Church Meeting Room

Telephone: 561246

Contact:

EVERY MONDAY & WEDNESDAY **10.30 a.m.** Coffee-Time **562169/562013**

EVERY THURSDAY (term-term) **9.00 a.m.** Under 3s **560375/562417**

EVERY FRIDAY **12.30 p.m.** Lunch Club (advance booking) **560090/562169**

THURSDAYS JULY 26TH - SEPT. 6TH **3-5 p.m.** Cream Teas **562016/562013**

We need YOU to come & help choose the winning photos for a
2013 Thurlestone Area Calendar
in the Church Meeting Room during:

JUBILEE CREAM TEAS:

From Saturday June 2nd to Tuesday June 5th
3.00 - 5.00 p.m.



JUBILEE COFFEE-TIME:

Monday June 4th & Wednesday June 6th
10.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Everyone is welcome ~ In aid of Church Funds

There will also be a display of Wedding & Jubilee Flowers in Church



Please use **CHURCH CAR PARK** when attending church or meeting room

Thurlestone Church



Fête

2pm

Saturday 21 July

Toyas Orchard

(next to the Old Rectory)

Grand Raffle Tickets £1 from PCC, Meeting Room,
Thurlestone Shop & Hotel or at the Fête. **Prizes include:-**

Three nights for 2: **THURLESTONE** or **MULLION COVE HOTEL**

Dinner for 2: **LANTERN LODGE HOTEL**, Hope Cove

Dinner for 2: **VILLAGE INN**, Thurlestone

Fuel voucher at **BLIGHT ENGINEERING**, Thurlestone

Ticket for 4: **PENNYWELL FARM**

Ticket for 3: **WOODLAND LEISURE PARK**

Round of Golf for 4 at **THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB**

Flower arrangement: **STUDIO FLOWERS** ~ £25 M & S Voucher

Stalls & Sideshows

Cream Teas ~ Tombola

2013 Local Calendar

ENTRANCE: £1 (Children under 14 free)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Parking available in Church Car Park

Proceeds in aid of Church Funds

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB



CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

The last two months have been very busy but the weather has not been good for golf. The Palaret team, which is Captained by **Darrell Day**, were busy practicing for their first match against Northam Artisans at Honiton on 6 May. Congratulations to the team as they beat the Northam Artisans 5-0. The first pair **Harry Milburn-Fryer** and **Chris Johnson** won 4 & 3, **Oliver** and **Stuart Walsh** won 3 & 2, **Ted Taylor** and **Josh Walsh** won 4 & 3. **Pete Eva** and junior Captain **Rob Came** won 1 up, while **Stewart Barnes** and junior **Jamie Johnson** won 4 & 3. We will now play East Devon or Crediton on 3rd June. The matches are foursome matches with 10 in the team and are always played on a neutral course with the winner taking the Palaret Memorial trophy on Finals Day in August, and the runner up winning the Horsley Cup. The Losing Semi-finalists play for the Brown Bowl and the Lake Cup.

Congratulations must also go to junior **Laura Tregelles** who has been chosen to be Devon junior girls captain this year. I wish her every success and enjoyment.

The Seniors matches led by Seniors Captain **Andrew Longhurst**, and **Roger Seymour**, the match organiser, have had some success, but the first home match against Teignmouth was a loss 2-4. Home against Dartmouth a draw 3-3, the home against Wrangaton was a win 4-2, and the home against Churston was a win 4-2. Well done to the Seniors. The first round of the Devon Veteran Men's Golf Association Emerton Cup knockout is a senior men's competition. Round one was played against Woodbury Park one home and one away match and resulted in a home win 5-0 for Thurlestone. We now look forward to the second round and wish them good luck.

The Parker Trophy is a Devon County inter-club competition with a team of six, playing three scratch foursomes matches on a neutral course, and our scratch team will

play against Staddon Heights at Wrangaton. The first match was cancelled because the course was closed due to waterlogging but will be re-arranged soon, so more news later.

In the Men's friendly matches we had to cancel the away match at St. Mellion due to lack of support. The home match against Bigbury was lost by one match but everyone enjoyed the day and the meal afterwards. The Avon Lamp trophy returns across the water to Bigbury.

We have had two bank holiday mixed greensome competitions. The first one on Easter Monday was cancelled due to rain and gale-force winds. The second mixed greensome on May Bank holiday was the John Bachelor Trophy and was won by **Philip and Wendy Laud** with 41 points. The Foundation trophy which is also a mixed competition with two men and one lady was unfortunately also cancelled due to lack of support, but we hope to hold it later in the year.

In March we held the Monthly medal in conjunction with the Virgin Atlantic PGA qualifier. The top scoring man for the Virgin Atlantic qualifier was **Darrell Day** and he will play with our Professional **Steve White** later in the year to see if they can qualify for the Virgin Atlantic Final competition. We wish them good luck. The winner of the monthly medal in Division one with a nett 67 was an ex-junior captain **Ted Taylor** off a handicap of nine. Second place was **Stewart Barnes** with a nett 71. In Division two the winner was **John Emery** with a nett 70, from **Roger Seymour** on countback.

The April Three clubs and a putter was won by **Nick Crispin** with 37 points from **Philip Laud** with 36 points. The April Stableford was won by another ex-junior Captain **Josh Walsh** off a handicap of one. He scored 40 points, from **Mark Drew** with 39 points.

The April monthly medal and scratch championship qualifier was won by **Chris Jones** with a nett 69 from **Dan Knight** with a nett 71. In division two, **Richard Bird** returned a nett 73, from **Tom Burnett** with 76.

Pam St Leger the lady captain and myself held our first Friday fun golf evening in April. This event is played over nine holes, with supper afterwards. Please come along and join us. It is every other week on Friday evenings starting at 4.30pm. The other fun golf evenings are starting in May. Every Thursday at 4.30pm is a mixed greensome competition over 9 holes with dinner to follow. Please sign up in the entrance hall.

The new greenkeeping building continues to make good progress, and looks very smart with its cedar-wood cladding. We hope to be using it soon.

Norman Barrett

LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

Just after finishing my last newsletter I took off for a week's skiing in France. The snow was not fantastic – teeth-chatteringly hard in the morning, mush by lunchtime – but wow we had wall-to-wall blue sky and sun. That three letter word is causing me much grief in my year of Captaincy. I wake up with the alarm each Wednesday morning with a deep fear – dare I draw the curtains and look out at the weather? Will it be raining yet again? I really could be forgiven for developing paranoia! Sun has been noticeable by its absence on competition days this year.

Not so our coffee morning, however! Happily, since we had 54 ladies from all over Devon booked in to play, it was sunny with only light (for Thurstone anyway) breezes. It was very successful, raising over £800 for the ladies' travel fund, over £550 in green fees and our caterers sold out of cake and did a good trade with lunches. A big thank you to all the committee, past committee and Lady Captains who turned up to help. **Liz Coates** deserves a special mention for keeping us all in order and ensuring all went to plan.

Competition-wise, we have only managed a few of those on the planned date. Our March medal was cancelled but our Bisque/Bogey/Par competition was a great success - once ladies realised they could take their shots where they chose! The winners were **Angela Ford & Gill Durden** with +12 followed closely by **Ann Best & Liz Line** with +11. Wendy Russell managed the only 2 on the 13th.

Our March Stableford was played during my holiday in, needless to say, fabulous weather – although no lady managed to score a two! The winner of Division one was **Wendy Laud** with 38 points, with **Jenny Roberts** coming second with 36 points. Division two was won by **Nicole Carter** with 35 points from **Janet Richardson** with 34 points. Division three saw **Mary Wilkes** winning with 31 points from **Joan Booth** with 27 points.

Our last competition in March was a foursome, with qualifiers for the Coronation Foursomes and Killard Levy being held. The winners of the Coronation Foursomes were **Nicolette Coward & Jenny McKeague** with 37 points from **Barbara Smith & Janet Richardson** with 34 points. Nicolette & Jenny will go forward to represent the club in the next round at Bristol & Clifton in August. In the Killard Levy **Linda Cant & Jan Brooking** won on count back from **Shona Wilson & Liz Sharman**, both teams with 31 points. Linda & Jan go forward to play in Sidmouth in September.

Our April Medal managed to go ahead with **Wendy Russell** beating **Jenny Roberts** on countback for the division one honours with a nett 71 earning her a handicap reduction. Countbacks were clearly the order of the day because in division two **Janice Croke** beat **Anne Seymour** also on countback – this time with a nett 73. In division three **Mary Johnson** came in with a nett 72 to win with **Sheila George** second with a nett 80.

I was privileged to play our April Texas scramble with our assistant professional **Pete Mitchell**. He joined my Vice Captain, Linda Cant & myself to challenge the other ladies. It was a warm sunny day and we had a fabulous time – managing to come in with a score of 70.6. We had already decided it would not be fair to be in the main competition – not that we would have won because we had some superb scores from other teams. Despite losing a few teams who played the wrong format – we had worthy winners in **Jan Brooking, Roberta Price** and **Mary Wilkes** with a score of 69.8, followed by **Wendy Laud, Liz Coates & Emily Clarke** with 71.9 and **Shona Wilson, Kay Morley** and **Maureen Groves** with 73.3. Pete was great fun to play with and a good day was had by all.

Sadly the bad weather returned with a vengeance and our next Stableford was cancelled as was our County Crocus qualifier. Luckily both can be rescheduled

and will be played in May/June. The bad weather also held up our opening team matches with Stover and East Devon courses both being closed because of flooding. We are so lucky with our course at Thurlestone!

We did manage to play our May Medal – but despite the seemingly innocuous weather the wind was quite severe and it ended up being a “reduction only” competition as few ladies managed to play to their handicaps. The winner of division one was **Laura Tregelles** with a nett 77 with **Jenny Roberts** second with 78. In division two the winner was **Nicolette Coward** with a nett 77 from **Liz Coates** with a nett 78. In division three **Sheila George** won with nett 83 from **Maureen Groves** with a nett 85.

Although most of the newsletter is devoted to our competition golf, I must report on two of the best games I have had recently. The other Friday evening (memorable because it was warm, sunny with no wind) we started our new summer “Friday Funsomes”. The early season kick-off meant we had few takers, but we had 11 holes of fabulous golf,

followed by a Cajun chicken supper most Michelin Chefs would have been proud of. Watch out for future dates and please come and join us – no partner needed – we draw for playing teams.

My second game was a fabulous round of American Foursomes with three ladies last week. The weather was not great but we had such a fun time, a mix of competitive golf with laughter when shots were missed, good humoured “gamesmanship” – followed by a glass of wine when we came in. So, to those of you out there thinking of playing, the message is – come along and join us! Whether ultra competitive golf or fun golf – we cater for all and I promise a warm welcome.

Finally, don't forget the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. At the club we have golf, tennis and croquet with a mini “street party” serving cakes and sandwiches leading up to the evening events and beacon lighting celebrations in the village – so come and join us. Happy golfing.

Pam St Leger

Congratulations to **Laura Tregelles** on coming second in the Devon County silver medal finals at Holsworthy. Her score was 71 nett with handicap reduction to 6, and she just lost out to the winner with a nett 70. Laura is Devon junior girls Captain this year and we wish her good luck and an enjoyable year.

The first junior West Devon league match was on 29th April away against Yelverton but was postponed due to rain and gales. However the first round of the Tamar cup against China Fleet at Tavistock in May resulted in a loss of 2-1 matches. **Beth Yeoman** and **Jamie Johnson** won 3-2, but **Laura Tregelles** and **Rob Came** lost 4-3, and **Callum Tollins** and **Toby Pepperrell** lost 3-1.

The first round of the Basil Steer cup knockout competition for Devon Golf Juniors was against Dartmouth at Bigbury on Saturday 22nd April. This was three singles matches and our team captain **Rob Came** won his match 1 up, but the vice captain **Tom Leach** lost his match and **Jamie Johnson** lost his match, so we were knocked out in the first round.

The junior organiser and junior day at

Tavistock had good weather and six Devon clubs sent two junior organisers and juniors to play a better ball stableford. Thurlestone was represented by **Phil Holland** and his eleven year old son **George** who plays off a 17 handicap. They scored 37 points, and the other pairing of **Simon Orr** and his son

Tom scored 41 points. However it was not enough to win the day with the Tavistock pairings coming in with 48 and 39 points.

JUNIOR SECTION NEWSLETTER

The Monday evening junior sessions run by **Steve Pepperrell**, **Phil Holland** and **Stuart Tollins** began in April and numbers have been around 19 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 boys championship is on 6th June at Saunton golf club and **George Holland** and **Tom Orr** are entered. The Devon girls championship is on 7th June at Stover and **Laura Tregelles** and **Beth Yeoman** 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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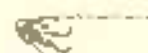
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A VISIT TO MYANMAR (formerly Burma)

*"On the road to Mandalay, Where the flyin'-fishes play"
(Rudyard Kipling)*

The 'road' to Mandalay is, of course, the mighty River Irrawaddy which traverses Burma from North to South and is used for ferrying both people and goods as the roads are fairly non-existent and, when they do exist, are mainly unpaved tracks. We were fortunate enough to be on a most comfortable river boat, called a Pandaw, (reminiscent of Poirot on the Nile), with only 24 cabins - an excellent crew and far too much delicious food.

We were there towards the end of the dry season, but in the monsoon season the river can rise 50 feet and widen out to up to six miles, so the course and channel are constantly changing. When we were there it was very low and the only way to test the depth was by dipping a bamboo pole - which all the larger vessels do as silt in the water makes it impossible for modern depth-finders to work! Getting stuck on a sandbank is a fairly common event and we saw boats high and dry on the sandbanks which had apparently been there for several months, waiting for the monsoon rains to refloat.

We flew into Yangon (formerly Rangoon) which is a bustling busy city with many old 'colonial' houses which are generally speaking fairly dilapidated. These were built during the British Raj rule which ended abruptly in 1942. We visited the most spectacular Shwedagon Pagoda in the heart of the city - its golden spires and Buddha statues glistening in the sun. The majority of the population (90%) is Buddhist and it is rare to be out of sight of a pagoda or temple no matter where you travel! Virtually all men spend some time as monks at some point in their lives - some for as little as one week. Small boys as young as five or even less are often sent for a spell as monk novices.

Incidentally Yangon is no longer the capital. Since 2005 the new purpose-built capital is Naypyidaw.

From Yangon we drove to Pyay (formerly Prome) to board the RV Pandaw II and on the way we stopped at a beautifully maintained Htauk Kyant Military Cemetery. There they have over 27,000 graves of British and Commonwealth Servicemen killed in the WW11 Burma Campaign, including over 800 graves of Unknown Soldiers. It was very moving. In Pyay we visited another magnificent Shwesandaw Pagoda with amazing views over the city.

Every day we were given an 'activity' plan for shore visits. The boat would only travel during daylight hours (thankfully) and we would moor at night - tied up somewhere along the bank to a stake knocked into the sand banks or even tied to a tree! As we meandered up the river we would visit many small villages and one or two larger towns. Everywhere we went we only met lovely friendly smiley people. Traditional dress is the norm: both men and women wear Longyis - the Burmese sarong. Women and children smear their cheeks with Thanaka (sunblock made from ground tree bark).

Monks in their faded crimson robes would be out with their alms bowls after food and there was no shortage of offerings. Some of the villages were unconnected by roads and with only two or three passenger boats such as ours, there were very few tourists and we were as much an attraction to the villagers as they were to us. We had been told quite firmly not to give anything to the locals, so they never pestered us for anything. All they ever wanted was to have their photos taken and then be shown the results.

Some mornings or afternoons we didn't stop so had a most relaxing time going up the river watching the world go by. The top deck was roofed to give plenty of shade, chaise-longues with a well stocked and well patronised bar. We loved just watching the river craft which varied from small dug-outs often pulling fish nets to large cargo barges

carrying anything from teak tree trunks, oil, crops, and general cargo, mainly from China, to passengers crammed in with the occasional animal.

Often we saw the "flyin'-fishes" mentioned in Kipling's poem, referring to coloured wooden boats with high curved sterns shaped like a fish's tail which before the days of engines would have been the norm. Most of the boats had a type of outboard engine but with long propeller shafts which stuck out from the stern several feet. The propellers had no protection around them and looked diabolically dangerous as they were swung around as the boats zig-zagged to avoid the shoals.

Perhaps our favourites were the rafts, as big as half a football field, made up of teak tree trunks lashed together, floating down the river on the current, normally with two or three families living on them in make-do shelters. Another type would be a sort of spider with long bamboo arms stretching out from a central hull, underneath would be tethered more tree trunks. From the number of trees we saw going down the river to the saw-mills we felt there must be massive de-forestation happening although our guide assured us this was not the case.

Politics was not a topic we discussed with our guide and we realised that we only went where tourists are allowed to go. Everything in Burma does seem normal undoubtedly but the people have lived through 50 years of military repression. Although hundreds of political prisoners have recently been released there are hundreds still languishing in the cells. Aung San Suu Kyi (known in Burma as 'The Lady') was freed from house arrest in 2010. Since our visit the promised elections have been held with Aung San Suu Kyi's party winning most of the seats they contested. They are still very much a minority in the 664 seat parliament but at least their voices will be heard. Hopefully, this will herald a new phase of openness, but slowly, slowly.

Our guide gave us a glowing picture of road and bridge building, schooling, etc., but it is apparent that years of 'closed doors to the world' have kept them far behind in so many

aspects. The internet is virtually non-existent and international calls rarely connect with the country! There are no ATMs and it is almost impossible to use a credit card. The only currency you can exchange is the US dollar and \$ bills have to be pristine and uncreased. Apparently, there are 'eyes and ears' everywhere, and occasionally we became aware of this. It is dangerous to be outspoken as one could end up behind bars.

Life along the river banks was slow and gentle. Because the river level was very low the villagers are able to grow crops such as beans, chillies, garlic, corn and peanuts on the very fertile soil of the exposed banks. On the higher levels they grow rice, cotton, and tomatoes, etc. Bullocks are used for ploughing and also for pulling carts to transport people and goods. There were no paved roads in the villages, and very few vehicles; just a few motorbikes, bicycles, ramshackle buses, and the common taxi - this being a pedalled trishaw.

One of the most amazing places to visit is Pagan (south of Mandalay) with its 4,000 pagodas and temples. Some have been restored in sparkling gold leaf while others lie in ruins. Until only 10 years ago people lived and farmed in and around these pagodas but the government 'relocated' them to the outskirts. We climbed to the fourth terrace of one of these pagodas to watch the sun setting over the glistening spires. A truly lovely sight.

Burma has huge potential in terms of natural resources and tourism. Our guide told us that tourism is up 30% from last year and this was evident as there is now a shortage of hotels!

So we came away with fascinating and delightful memories to sort out our nearly 2,000 photos and lose a few of the extra pounds we put on.

A wonderful trip. Politics and the way of life are beginning to change rapidly, so we are pleased we visited Myanmar when we did.

Kit & Gillian Marshall
April 2012

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TRAMP



1

Friday 23rd March was a fine, if slightly hazy morning, and 15 walkers (with two dogs) turned out to take advantage of the unseasonably warm March weather. After a long and rather stately convoy along the tidal road from Aveton Gifford, we arrived in Kingston at about 10.00 am and parked outside the church before setting off south-westerly, following the quiet road as far as the Scobbiscombe Farm buildings. We turned right across the fields and were soon within sight of the sea.

This walk uses the relatively new National Trust footpath which contours across south-eastwards from Scobbiscombe to Hoist Point, with fine open views to the South West. We reached Hoist Point in hazy sunshine, where Al Parker grouped us for a photo. Then came the steep descent from Hoist Point to Westcombe Beach. Most followed the official SWCP zig-zag path, which is quite exposed in places with near vertical drops to the sea, but spectacular cliff views, so a few walkers braved the even steeper but slow direct descent beside the barbed-wire fence, using it as a somewhat prickly balustrade. While this nail-biting operation was underway, the dogs enjoyed a vigorous sprint along the sand at Westcombe.

The second half of the walk was relatively level, and the National Trust has recently rebuilt the path and footbridge in the lower end of Wiscombe. Most of the return leg followed a gentle climb along the wooded bridle-path up Wiscombe Lane, beside a succession of man-made ponds. This was slightly muddy, but not seriously so, and we arrived back in Kingston Village at about 12.15 pm in time for an early lunch at The Dolphin.

David Radford

2

The previous week (29 March) three Tramps rehearsed this walk from Sparkwell in almost heat wave conditions but the next week, on Wednesday 4 April, fourteen of us set off from the Treby Arms on a distinctly chilly morning with the threat of rain in the air - and little did we know what the month of April held in store for us!

We headed south from the village, through the woods, towards Hemerdon Siding and under the mainline railway towards Venton. Onwards in an easterly direction over pleasant undulating countryside and quiet lanes we arrived at Mark's Bridge on the river Yealm, where we turned north in the direction of Slade. The track took us through very scenic woods and fields for about a mile to Slade Viaduct where we studied the amazing architecture and construction of both the original and replacement bridges erected in the days before engineers had modern machinery to facilitate their work. Soon we arrived at stately Slade House, passing through the grounds and turning west near the Lodge.

We were now heading along country lanes back towards the Sparkwell Golf Club to complete the 5 mile circular walk when we came across a strange wide road under construction (no workers present) apparently leading nowhere. Speculation was rife, but there was no definite conclusion amongst those present. Had we been a mile to the northwest of Sparkwell, instead of a mile to the east, we might have known the answer, for the old Hemerdon Mine is being re-opened, and work is in hand to build a link road to the site. Readers may be aware that an Australian company, Wolf Minerals, intend to develop the mine to access the tungsten deposits. Hemerdon's tungsten (Swedish for "heavy stone") is the fourth largest site in the world, according to the British Geological Survey, and Wolf's MD says they will be able to meet 3.5 percent of global demand when production starts in 2014.

After passing the golf course we quickly returned to our cars at the Treby Arms, where 11 stayed to enjoy a pub lunch with our leader Christine. John was not able to be with us on this occasion as he was in Derriford having surgery on his troublesome leg - we did enjoy sharing a glass of wine with him the previous week at the pub though, and we all wish him a speedy recovery!

Roger Wilson

(on behalf on Christine Wilson)

3

After two weeks of atrocious weather we were not too hopeful of our coast walk from Prawle National Trust car park to Gara Rock on Thursday 19th April.

However, the sun came out on the day, the wind dropped, and we had a lovely spring morning for a walk along a coastal path.

We started with a visit to the National Coastwatch Lookout station and visitor centre at Prawle Point. It is well worth a visit, and a great place to go when grandchildren come in the summer. It is manned 365 days a year by just over 60 trained volunteers. In fact, we spent so long there that in the end we didn't manage the whole walk. I'm not quite sure how it happened, but we returned on a new path unknown to me, above the coastal route, and ended up at the Pig's Nose in Prawle for a snack lunch. This is a pub with an alternative style and quite a long history. At the end of this walk I couldn't help reflecting what a beautiful part of the country we are fortunate to live in here.

David Chubb

4

On Tuesday 15th May nine walkers and one very well-behaved dog assembled at the National Trust car park at East Soar for our walk

on Bolt Head. There was a cold north westerly wind blowing across from the moors, and we looked as if we were going off to the ski slopes rather than a Spring walk!

After crossing two fields we entered Torr Woods to be greeted by a wonderful display of deep blue and white as far as the eye could see - bluebells and wild garlic. After admiring a spectacular vista of Salcombe Harbour, we started our descent through the woods to South Sands and onwards up to Overbecks and enjoyed a half hour break in the National Trust coffee shop. Thankfully Overbecks was completely sheltered from the wind, the sun was out and we were able to have our coffee outside.

We had a very pleasant break and then climbed up to Bolt Head, again admiring the wonderful views of the harbour and across to Prawle Point, before turning inland towards Soar Farm. Here we stopped a while to look around the very nice catering facility now open to the public, and promised a member of the staff we would 'try them out' on our next walk in their area. 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



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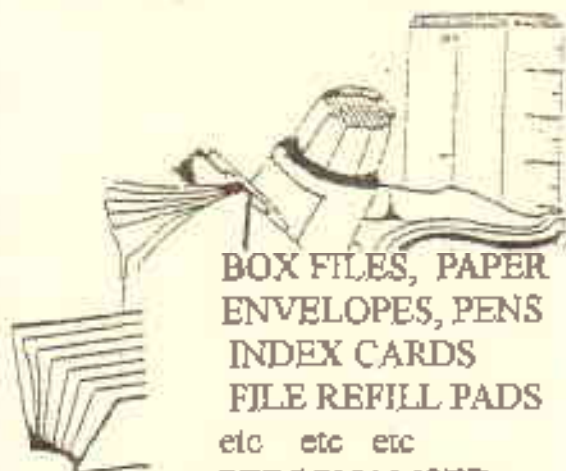
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Spain Revisited

(in a very different genre)

It was many years since I had been to the Province of Alicante. The coast, and indeed the range of hills and mountains which rise above it, is a land of bareness, of snow-white limestone, terrace upon terrace, where almond trees grow in abundance, and where the famous and popular nut-studded Turrón, (a kind of nougat) is made, and sold all over Spain. Orange and lemon trees weighed down with fruit also grow there, though how, in this stony soil, I cannot imagine, and of course there is the ubiquitous olive tree. Eleventh century broken forts dot these hills, their tan stone battlements standing starkly against the skyline.

The bitter wind howled up the valley daily, and I managed only a few hours of sunbathing, but hey, I was there to learn and to work, and boy, we did! I had joined a poetry retreat up in these mountains and, after a week of intensive writing, returned to Devon, my head swimming with all that I had been taught. So here, in a totally different genre, are two little contributions by way of some comic relief from *The Traveller*.

Feline Embarrassment

Singularly slatternly, slutty and slim,
She walks with a strut, amazingly trim,
Her tail like a banner, held high above bum,
Her hips all a swagger at tomcats who hum.
She passes by strangers and walks with allure,
Her coat all a ripple, and ecstatic purr.
She stops by a lamp post to pose in its light,
Then ruins the whole thing, it's a terrible sight
As she sits on the ground with her leg in the air,
And proceeds then to lick, where no one would dare.



Educational Supremacy

(or, poets who are in love with themselves!)

Diogenes and Sophocles are names which cause my blood to freeze,
For education I have naught, a sad illusion never taught.
"She'll never get it" they would say, "Let's leave it to another day."
And so I never learnt a thing, except to laugh and dance and sing
And read the poets great, of old - of Keats and Shelley, Wordsworth bold,
And Shakespeare too, the greatest fellow, flowing freely, always mellow.
Although a language far away, it seems to fit in with today
In time-warp stories still so true and often poking fun at you.
Today the foot is in the boot, and poets now don't give a hoot.
It's one for all and all for one obscurity - no longer fun.
You have to guess at what they write, or is that really being too trite?
Oxbridge glamour rules the roost, "What! Never even heard of Proust?"
Why write this 'intellectual' crap? I'd sooner hear a dripping tap.
This meet yourself, in coming back - I'd rather read the local hack!



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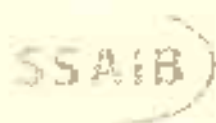


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April

Solicitor Shirley Tull reminded us most helpfully of the huge importance not only of making a will but of also ensuring that it is unambiguous and kept up-to-date with any changes. She also talked briefly about living wills and powers of attorney and left with us some useful printed booklets of explanation.

A new member, Linda Cheek, was welcomed. The fashion show by 'Threads' made a small and unexpected profit of £57, after a most enjoyable evening. The seven members willing to help the South Hams Hospital as 'befrienders' and 'mealtime companions' will shortly go for a chat with Sally Quayle the matron before starting duties.

May

Sue Smith, manager of the Macmillan Centre at Derriford Hospital attended to collect a cheque for £1400 for the work of the Kingsbridge Oncology Outreach project. In handing over the cheque, president Pat Clarke said "We all had a good time raising this money and are delighted it will help other people, particularly at a time when they are facing the stress of coping with cancer". £98 had been collected towards the Jubilee clock at the Parish Hall which will be rounded up to £150.

As the month of our annual meeting had changed from November to May reports were given by the treasurer, Wendy Neukirchen, and secretary, Karen Livett, for the half year ending 31 March 2012. Pat Clarke was re-elected president and the following will form the committee: Vivienne Day, Sheila Howell, Judith Le Grice, Karen Livett, Val Lovatt, Sally Martin, Wendy Neukirchen, Liz Robinson,

Julia Thompson and Lisa White. Thanks were expressed to those committee members who are retiring, and Margaret Cullum on behalf of the members proposed a warm vote of thanks to the president and the committee for all they had contributed over the past year to keep our WI flourishing.

Sally Martin conducted the discussion on the resolution to be debated at the national annual general meeting at the Albert Hall on 30th May. This concerns the pressing need for more midwives to be employed in Britain. Although members voted unanimously for this resolution, the delegate, Karen Livett, was given discretion to change our vote in the light of any new evidence being put forward at the meeting.

Wendy Neukirchen gave an entertaining account of attending the county spring meeting at Torquay in April, at which she learned, amongst many things, that no fewer than twelve new WIs had been formed in Devon over the past twelve months. Pride of place was given to the handsome silver group cup won by Thurlestone at the recent group meeting for its interpretation of 'Smuggling'. Members Joan Booth, Karen Livett and Judith Le Grice were thanked for their work.

Jan Patrick and Kate Hubbard were the lucky winners of the two Denman College bursaries which were drawn for, with Mary Johnson and Judith Reynolds as reserves. The garden lunch would be at the home of the president on 5 July.

Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be held on 14th June, when Alexis Swain will talk to us on "My Life with Ducks".

BOOKSHELF

Mr Tibbit's Catholic School

by Ysenda Maxstone Graham
(Slightly Foxed £10)

At the Brompton Oratory one day in the 1930s, a priest remarked to Mr Tibbits that there were no good private schools for Catholic boys in that region of London. Mr Tibbits offered to found one, and bought a house - 6 Wetherby Place. The school is still going today, still in the same house. The author's sons attended the school, she delved into its history, and has given us this delightful little book (only 197 pages).

She tracks down former pupils (visiting one or two 'old boys' now in their late eighties), follows up what records she can find, and talks to the present headmaster. Mr Tibbits seems to have been a natural teacher as were other teachers employed later, although they were all rather eccentric and, as the author says, none would probably be chosen to teach in today's schools. Ysenda Maxstone Graham has a knack of finding real characters and humour. Parts of the book made me laugh out loud and I put the book down with a happy sigh when finished.

Carolyn Taylor

Doors Open

by Ian Rankin
(Orion £7.90)

Mike Mackenzie is a self-made man who now has a bit too much spare time to fill. At the ripe old age of 37 he is very rich and very bored. He is looking for a chance to liven up his existence. One of his financial advisers suggests that art works make good investments and so Mike starts attending the Edinburgh saleroom of a prestigious auction house.

The walls of his apartment gradually fill up with, mostly Scottish, paintings from the 19th and 20th centuries.

With two of his friends from the art world, he sets out to prove that it is possible to steal valuable paintings without the crime being discovered. These amateurs are gradually drawn deep into the murky waters of the criminal underworld and they eventually realise they are getting out of their depth. The dialogue is witty, the characters are very real - Inspector Rebus makes a brief appearance - and the clever plot is fast-moving and convincing.

Pat Macdonald

Name to a Face

by Robert Goddard
(Corgi Books £6.99)

The sinking of *HMS Association* off the Scilly Isles in 1707, a murder in Penzance 30 years afterwards, and the drowning of a journalist in 1999 when she was diving on the wreck of the *Association* while researching a story, are all linked around the tale of an antique ring.

This is a fusion of history and crime and the New York Times reviewed it as combining the ".....expert suspense manipulation skills of a Daphne du Maurier romance with those of a John Le Carre thriller". Largely based in Cornwall, the plot is full of clever twists. However, this 19th novel in 21 years does not quite match up to the quality of some of his earlier work. Try his *Take No Farewell*, or *Painting The Darkness* before this if you're new to Goddard.

Pat Macdonald

Andrew Hurstall

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Can you name the city/tube station from its meaning?

A. European Cities:

1. Merchant Harbour
2. Place by an un-fordable river
3. Wisdom (2 cities, one will do!)
4. Smoky Bay
5. Black Pool

B. Cities in the Americas

6. Good Winds
7. I saw a mountain
8. Peace
9. Place of many fish
10. Traders

C. Tube Stations

11. Horse pond
12. Beer Gate
13. Forge
14. Skin Farm
15. Lace collar

D. Which is the true derivation of these words?

16. Clue

- a) A ball of yarn
- b) A skeleton key
- c) A love letter

19. Grocer

- a) One who buys in gross
- b) One who grows his own
- c) One who is grossly fat

22. Pundit

- a) Hindi for "wise man"
- b) Irish for "counsellor"
- c) Eskimo god of riddles

17. Kiosk

- a) Aztec word for umbrella
- b) Turkish word for palace
- c) Burmese word for hut

20. Beetle

- a) Little biter
- b) Little bean
- c) Little bee

23. Quiz

- a) Latin for "who is?"
- b) Hindi for "unclaimed property"
- c) Chinese for "escape"

18. Bigot

- a) Old English for "by God"
- b) Old French for "thorn"
- c) Old German for "stone wall"

21. Boudoir

- a) French for sulking
- b) French for gun room
- c) French for Peeping Tom

24. Fiasco

- a) Venetian flask
- b) Italian for 'muddled'
- c) Old English for "feast"

Solution to previous Grey Matter:

1. A TALE OF TWO CITIES, 2. AND THERE WERE NONE, 3. THE EAGLE HAS LANDED, 4. ANNE OF GREEN GABLES, 5. HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE, 6. THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JEREMY CLARKSON, 7. ANGELS AND DEMONS, 8. THE CATCHER IN THE RYE, 9. KANE AND ABEL, 10. THE HORSE WHISPERER, 11. VALLEY OF THE DOLLS, 12. TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, 13. THE GRAPES OF WRATH, 14. THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR, 15. EYE OF THE NEEDLE, 16. HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE, 17. THE LOVELY BONES, 18. THE COMMONSENSE BOOK OF BABY AND CHILDCARE, 19. THE THORN BIRDS, 20. WILD SWANS, 21. JONATHAN LIVINGSTONE SEAGULL, 22. CHARLOTTE'S WEB, 23. THE GODFATHER, 24. NINETEEN EIGHTY FOUR, 25. DREAMCATCHER

*Congratulations and the bottle of wine to:
Annie Greenwood of Malborough*



CORONATION CHICKEN

To mark the Queen's diamond jubilee I've dug out the original recipe published in 'The Constance Spry Cookery Book'. This is attributed to Rosemary Hume of Winkfield Place and The Cordon Bleu School. Some of you may be hosting your own celebratory parties or attending larger affairs and hopefully many will come together just to enjoy themselves. Constance Spry reflects that: 'One would not venture to serve a large number of guests of varying and unknown tastes, a curry dish in the generally accepted sense of this term'. She goes on to say: 'I doubt whether many of the 300 odd guests at the coronation luncheon detected this ingredient in a chicken dish which was distinguished mainly by a delicate and nut flavour in the sauce'

Coronation Chicken (served cold for 6-8)

The original recipe called for: 2 young roasting chickens poached with carrot, bouquet garni, salt and 3-4 peppercorns. The poaching water with a little white wine added should barely cover the chickens. Poaching time was 40 minutes or until tender and the chickens allowed to cool in the liquid. Nowadays it may be easier to use chicken breasts (one per person) also poached in the same type of liquid and perhaps using a good chicken stock cube as well.

Cream of Curry Sauce

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon of oil
- 2 oz finely chopped onion
- 1 dessertspoon mild curry powder
- teaspoon tomato puree
- 1 wineglass red wine
- $\frac{3}{4}$ wineglass water
- bay leaf
- salt, sugar and a touch of pepper
- good squeeze lemon juice
- 1-2 tablespoons apricot puree
- $\frac{3}{4}$ pt mayonnaise
- 1-2 tablespoons lightly whipped cream (or crème fraîche)
- extra cream or crème fraîche

Preparation:

- Heat the oil, add onion and cook gently for 3-4 minutes.
- Add mild curry powder and cook again for 1-2 minutes.
- Add puree, wine, water and bay leaf.
- Bring to the boil, add salt, sugar to taste, pepper and lemon juice
- Simmer with pan uncovered for 5-10 minutes. Strain and cool.
- Add, by degrees, to the mayonnaise with apricot puree to taste.
- Adjust seasoning, adding a little more lemon juice if necessary.
- Finish with whipped cream (crème fraîche)
- Mix cut up cold chicken and cold sauce together. Arrange on a dish. Coat by carefully spooning extra sauce over.

For the coronation the chicken was arranged at one end of an oblong dish, with a rice salad arranged at the other.

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National Trust South Hams Centre

Programme for June & July 2012

- Friday
15th June A walk from Harberton. Meet at the Church House Inn (GR778586) in the centre of the village for a country lane and footpath walk of about 4 miles. Return in time for pub lunch.
- Friday
22nd June Grand Summer Fair, Market Hall, Kingsbridge, 10am to 2pm. Our main fund-raising event of the year. Lots of interesting stalls, including cakes, books, plants, gifts and a great raffle. Light refreshments available. This year the Summer Fair proceeds will be donated to Overbeck's (NT) Salcombe
- Tuesday
25th June Coach trip to Honiton and Burrow Farm Gardens, Axminster. A lively, interesting town with a good museum and antique shops. After lunch, on to Burrow Farm, a "plantsman's delight".
- Friday
13th July Coach trip to Exeter and Stuart Line cruise to Exmouth. Exeter's historic quayside hosts plenty of cafes and antique shops to explore before our afternoon cruise on the lovely old canal and River Exe to Exmouth.

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

Devon Wildlife Trust Events

WILDLIFE OF THURLESTONE

Thursday 21st June
10.30 am - 12.30 pm

*Explore the area overlooking Burgh
Island for birds, flowers & butterflies*

BYO Picnic Lunch optional
Park at far end of Thurlestone
Golf Club car park on grass area

Contacts

Eileen Blockly John Hodgson
01364-72320 01364-642007

FARMING FOR BIRDS & CONSERVATION

Tuesday 17th July
6.00 - 8.00 pm

*Tour of Soar Mill Seeds Farm
Southdown Farm, near Marlborough*
(GR. SX 700 385)

Stout footwear, hilly terrain
BYO picnic

Booking required
0845-330-8908

Family Fun Day
Andrew's Wood, Loddiswell
Tuesday 14 August
11 am to 3 pm

A wild day out for all the family amongst the woods and meadows of this beautiful corner of the South Hams. Children can enjoy a nature trail quiz, wildlife spotting competition and craft activities.

Thurlestone & South Milton

ANNUAL HORTICULTURAL SHOW

**Saturday
4 August 2011**

2.30 pm

**Thurlestone
Parish Hall**



*Another dazzling array
of beautiful produce,
flowers, plants, & vegetables
from the gardens of South Milton and Thurlestone
together with cookery and craft entries.*

Presentation of awards at 4.15 pm

*Schedules in local shops
Closing date for entries 31st July before 6.00 pm*

Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show Entry Classes

Schedule & Entry Forms from Thurlestone Post Office or

John Lonsdale, 8 Meadcombe Rd : David Coward, 5 Valleyside W Buckland : Tom Gilkes, Luggers S Milton

Section A Vegetables & Fruit Open Class No.

- 1 4 Oval Potatoes, white
- 2 4 Oval Potatoes, coloured
- 3 4 Round Potatoes, white
- 4 4 Round Potatoes, coloured
- 5 8 Shallots, excluding hybrid
- 6 8 Shallots, hybrid
- 7 8 Runner Beans
- 8 8 French Beans
- 9 3 Onions, from seed
- 10 3 Onions, from sets
- 11 8 Pods of Peas
- 12 3 Carrots, stump
- 13 3 Carrots, long or intermediate
- 14 3 Beetroots, globe
- 15 A pair of Lettuces
- 16 3 Courgettes
- 17 6 Tomatoes
- 18 6 Novelty Tomatoes
- 19 A truss of cherry cultivar Tomatoes
- 20 6 Fronds of Parsley
- 21 A pair of Vegetable Marrows
- 22 A pair of Cucumbers
- 23 3 Leeks
- 24 Plate of soft Fruit
- 25 Collection of Herbs
- 26 2 of any other vegetable
- 27 The longest Runner Bean
- 28 The heaviest Onion
- 29 Collection of Potatoes
- 30 4 Salad Potatoes
- 31 Top Tray
- 32 "The Kitchen Basket"

Section B Cut Flowers & Pot Plants Open

- 33 1 Full Standard Fuschia
- 34 1 Fuchsia (flowering), other than full std.
- 35 3 decorative or ball Dahlias
- 36 3 Pompom Dahlias
- 37 3 Cactus Dahlias
- 38 3 Gladioli
- 39 9 Stems of Sweet Peas
- 40 6 Pansies
- 41 6 Hybrid Tea Roses
- 42 1 Rose Bloom
- 43 1 Stem Floribunda Rose
- 44 3 Stems of Hydrangea
- 45 1 Flowering Pot Plant, excluding fuchsia & pelargonium
- 46 1 Pot of Flowering Bulbs >10" diameter
- 47 1 Foliage Pot Plant >10" diameter
- 48 6 Stems of Annuals
- 49 A Vase of 5-10 flowering stems <2 kinds
- 50 6 Stems of flowering shrubs, of 3 kinds
- 51 1 Pot-grown Pelargonium, in flower
- 52 6 Fuchsia heads, quality & variety to count

Section C Children Open Class No. (Original work only - No Kits)

Under 5 Years Old

- 53 An Animal made from Veg and/or Fruit
- 54 A Picture of the Queen, any medium, A4
Open - 5 to 7 Years Old
- 55 A Diamond Wedding Card
- 56 An Animal made from Veg and/or Fruit
Open - 8 to 10 Years Old
- 57 A picture of the Royal Thames Barge
- 58 A scrapbook of the 2012 Olympics
- 59 3 Royal Cup Cakes
Open - 11 to 15 Years Old
- 60 An Olympic Games Collage, any medium, A3
- 61 A promotional poster of your village, any medium, A4
- 62 Any handicraft item

Section D Cookery Open

- 63 1lb/454gm approx. jar Marmalade
- 64 1lb/454gm approx. jar Raspberry Jam
- 65 1lb/454gm approx. jar any other jam
- 66 ½lb/227gm approx. of Jelly, any variety
- 67 ½lb/227gm approx. Lemon Curd
- 68 1lb/454gm approx. Chutney
- 69 A loaf of bread, white or brown, machine made
- 70 A loaf of bread, white or brown, hand made
- 71 4 Welsh Cakes
- 72 A Pasty, size not to exceed 8"(23.3cm)
- 73 A Carrot Cake. Set recipe in schedule
- 74 A Portion of Treacle Tart

Section E Handicrafts Open

- 75 Any handicraft item made from wood
- 76 A hand-knitted or crocheted item
- 77 A patchwork item
- 78 An embroidered item
- 79 A sewn item
- 80 Any other handicraft not in the schedule
- 81 A drawing in pen, pencil or pastels
- 82 A painting in oils or acrylics
- 83 A painting in water colours
- 84 Any painting or drawing of a flower
- 85 A colour photograph of flora or fauna
- 86 A black & white photograph
- 87 3 beach or seascape colour photographs

Section F Flower Arrangements Open

- 88 An arrangement in Pastel Shades
- 89 An arrangement in a Tea or Coffee Pot
- 90 A table centre flower arrangement
- 91 A Foliage arrangement

Closing date for Entries is 31st July before 6 pm

sudoku

www.sudoku.com

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

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

Tough

No. 71

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

Tough

No. 72

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

Tougher

No. 71

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

Tougher

No. 72

THE NUMBERS ARE GROWING!

Our April/May challenge was taken up with relish by Thurlestone's numerologists with no fewer than nine - yes, nine - all correct solutions being submitted. We just about have enough room to congratulate all our super solvers - **Sue Dwyer, Neill Irwin, Sheila Killingsworth, Pat Leare, Pauline Lonsdale, Paul Millward, Gill Proops, Lisa White, and Polly Wyld** - and to announce that the lucky winner in our ballot this time was **Paul Millward**, who wins the coveted bottle of wine. Well done, Paul! Entries for this issue's tough challenge (above) to 25 Mead Lane, as usual, by 5th July please.

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HORSWELL DIARY

Weather seems to be a bit of a hot topic at the moment. Even Prince Charles has been getting in on the act. I thought he did rather well. I loved the small cartoon in *The Times* that his stint as a weatherman provoked: "Prince Charles reads weather report. Michael Fish to be King." It was good to see the Prince have a giggle when he realised that the script he was reading was rigged to include conditions over Balmoral and other Royal Residences. He seems to be enjoying life more these days, as if he is happy being who he is, which with his mother celebrating the longest reign of a British monarch since Queen Victoria, must take a superhuman effort for an ambitious man.

To always be 'in waiting' is an arduous task that inhibits the relaxed enjoyment of living in the 'now'. Certainly we have found it so, having known since we exchanged contracts of sale on Horswell last July that a fallow year lay ahead before completion in July 2012. In that year our lives seem to have followed the same patterns as the weather. Life has been variable, unreliable, frustrating, gloomy and extreme. We have endured unexpected squalls, storms and even a tornado, we've lurked with low energy under seemingly endless grey clouds and been lashed with hail when we've least expected it. But then, when the sun comes out, all is forgotten and forgiven, and once again hope springs eternal for calmer weather ahead.

My head swims with all that I must achieve in order to leave this wonderful home of the last twenty one years, and get us happily installed in our future homes. Sometimes I think I shall simply drown in a sea of cardboard boxes and bubble wrap, bandaged in brown tape, with FRAGILE printed in large red letters across my brow. I try to read the expression on my husband's face when he creeps into my 'packing room' with yet another life-sustaining cup of tea. Is it a look of concern? Or, as he sees me holding my

head tightly in my hands, is it one of artistic appraisal? If Munch's 'The Scream' can net 120 million dollars at Sotheby's, perhaps he intends selling me as a piece of 'living art'?

I have moments of organised clarity interspersed with others of overwhelming confusion. At one end of the Dining Room I have furnishings for France, at the other I have items for the house we have bought in Topsham, and I wander to and fro between them, stepping over the muddle of 'undecided' in the middle of the room. As more and more items are gathered together the boundaries are beginning to blur, as indeed they are in other ways too.

Our neighbours in Topsham are the spitting image of the couple who have sold us the house in France, and the man who runs the pub next door is French and greets us with "Bonjour! Comment ca va?" leaving me unsure whether to address him in English or French. Meanwhile, friends in France, excited by our new purchase, phone up unexpectedly, usually during mealtimes, to wish us "Bon courage!" and expect me to chatter away without a moment's notice. I'm now speaking French with an English accent, and, even worse, English with a French accent. Perhaps I could get signed up for a part in 'Allo, allo'.

A friend had suggested that the house we had just bought in Topsham might be under water as the River Exe had burst its banks, so we thought we had better go and take a look. Thankfully they were wrong, but somewhere between here and there I think we must have fallen down a rabbit hole and swigged from a bottle labelled "Drink Me", for SURELY the house was not that small when we bought it? There's absolutely no room at all to swing a cat; a small vole perhaps but not a decent sized moggie with a tail. No way. With the agent dogging our every move it was like a Gentleman's Excuse

Me as we danced around one another jostling for space.

Whatever were we thinking of? I can't see us ever unpacking all our boxes because, frankly, when all the boxes have been delivered there will be no space remaining into which to decant them. Luckily there's a summer house in the garden with a plug for a fridge and a very fine view of the river, so I suppose we'll end up living there and leaving the house full of boxes.

When I was a teenager we had a fabulous aristocratic old lady as our neighbour. I thought she was a terrific role model, and absolutely adored her. My mother, alas, thought she was a very bad influence on an impressionable young girl and used to pretend to be out whenever she called. The blue-blooded Beryl swore like a trooper, ate like a bird, gambled like there was no tomorrow, and had more style in the twinkle of her eye than all of today's so-called 'fashionistas' put together. When the hot tips (and the bluest of blue jokes) that she picked up at the local racing stables failed to deliver, she would swap her blue jeans and wellies for a little black dress by Balenciaga and together we would head off to London in a haze of expensive perfume with some small trinket hidden in her crocodile handbag, to 'a little dealer' she knew, 'just off Bond Street'.

Once the deal had been concluded, ("Oh, do take a look around this divine little shop, darling, whilst I have 'a little chat' with my 'friend' in his office.") we would celebrate with tea and champagne at the Dorchester and take a taxi home. Not having a telephone of her own, the next stop would always be the telephone box, to place the latest bet...and so the cycle would repeat itself. No-one was ever allowed to enter her home because (a) one was never invited (b) every room was filled with priceless antiques stacked from floor to ceiling and (c) there simply was no space for visitors.

The problem, apparently, was that when her family left their magnificent family home which was so enormous and so grand it would have made Blenheim Palace look like... well, rather like our house in Topsham, she had to put her share of the furnishings somewhere, and there was so much of everything that there was no room for anyone else. Which is probably why she spent most of her time in the phone box, at the racing stables, or with us.

And now I'm beginning to see exactly how that could happen. There are certain dissimilarities though. I remember when Beryl discovered her chickens had strayed into her house, and how eschewing all help, she chased in after them. Not many minutes later she appeared at our house struggling to carry a very large gilded rectangular frame. The canvas had a massive hole in it where apparently she had trampled over it in her Wellington boots. As we peered round at the painted side we were greeted by the unmistakable classical scene of Venice painted by Tintoretto. Beryl peered through the torn canvas. "Do you think it was very valuable?" she asked.

Character's like Beryl are becoming increasingly hard to find. That level of self-assurance and mild eccentricity that says "I live life my way" is what takes the ordinariness out of every day. In this Jubilee year for the Queen, I hope that the people of Britain will be generous and accept that her selfless service to our country deserves our gratitude and respect; for without her strength of character, fortitude and wisdom and the high moral standards that she represents, life in the UK would be a lot less colourful and a lot more grey.

Who in their right mind would want to live in a Republic? Well, give me time and I'll let you know!

À bientôt!

Prunella Dart

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SCHOOL REPORT

By "Roving Reporter" Rhymes

"Hello and welcome to All Saints Primary School where I am about to start my tour of the school to see what the teachers and children are getting up to. Let's go inside.

Where shall I start? At the beginning would be sensible I guess so let's go and find **Mrs Carpenter** and her brood of 13 **reception** children.

"Good Morning Mrs Carpenter!"

No reply. Where is she? Maybe she's not back from her early morning cycle/run/swim. Let's look outside in the reception play area.

"Hello everybody what are you up to?"

"We're checking on the potatoes we planted recently. Each morning the children check their plant. They have learnt that plants need food & drink just like we do to be able to grow and be healthy."

"It's good to see your little 5 year olds are such keen gardeners. What else have you been up to?"

"We had a very exciting visit recently from Mr Richard Barry, the father of one of my pupils, who is a science teacher at Kevics Totnes. He "wowed" the children by arriving in his lab coat and goggles and promptly set about making dragons breath and elephants toothpaste. Thirteen sets of wide eyes hung on his every move. Every dad is special but it doesn't get much better than having your dad come to school and perform magic like this in front of your friends. We are very fortunate in having parents that share their skills and talents with us."

Let's go next door and see what **Class 3** are up to with teacher **Mr Bosence**.

"Is that a baby I can hear crying?"

"Indeed it is. Today the children are very excited as their teacher Mrs Ramsden, who I am covering whilst she is on maternity leave, has brought her beautiful baby daughter, Myla, to introduce to everybody. It's quite amazing how much attention such a small person can attract!"

"Mr Bosence, are your pupils getting excited about the Olympics now we are so close to the start of London 2012?"

"Indeed they are, especially after the school were paid a visit recently by Michaela Breeze MBE, a former Olympic and Commonwealth weightlifter for Great Britain. The children were fascinated to hear her experience of the Olympic games at Athens and Beijing and were delighted to see her commonwealth gold medal.

Needless to say, we now have plenty of future gold medal contenders in the making following her inspiring visit!"

I am now outside **Class 2** and all seems very quiet in **Mrs Holland's** class. Children are normally only quiet when they have done something wrong or are listening to/watching something they find interesting? Which will it be?

"Why are these 7 and 8 year olds so quiet Mrs Holland?"

"We are skypeing with a parent in Greenland! The mum of one of my pupils is currently working at an Arctic station and so we are comparing

and contrasting the weather, plants and animals in their environments. The children are thoroughly enjoying this real time learning by being able to talk to our parent through a screen!

Later in our science session we will be checking on our compost that we made last term which we hope, with the aid of the compost machine, will be ready to use for some planting.

From Greenland to green fingers!"

I am now moving through to the new part of the school where I will take you to see what **class 1a** children of **Mrs Dawe & Mrs Lawrence-King** are doing.

"Together, Mrs LK and I have been focusing on reading, working in reading challenge groups each day. The work in these groups has been based around the ancient Greeks and the modern Olympics. Through this the children have solved a Greek murder mystery, planned out Olympic games, learnt about temples and pediments and made cards of Greek gods for *Top Trumps*."

"It's very different from the 'Janet & John' reading I had to do at school, Mrs Dawe! What other exciting tasks has your class been doing?"

"As part of our design technology work the children invented their dream cookie. They wrote the ingredients needed, the method required to make the cookie, designed the packaging and finally got to cook and sample their creations. You would be amazed at how many sweets these children crammed into their biscuits!"

Last but not least, let's find out what the "olds" are up to! The oldest children in

the school are taught in **Class 1** by **Mr Medway and Mrs Linn**. What will they be getting up to?

"Hello, Mrs Linn. What are your class learning today?"

"We have just had a spur of the moment visit from Peter Gornall who kindly set up his telescope in the playground in order for the year 5 & 6 children to see the moon as it was such a clear sky. His visit came at such an opportune time as we have just started looking at the sun, moon and earth in our science lessons. I don't think anyone could see the man on the moon but I think they got a clear enough image of it to know it's not made of cheese!"

With the Olympics now so close we have been looking at the staging of the games - designing an Olympic park, advertising, green issues, security measures, and the legacy the games might leave. The spreadsheets they have produced for the cost of their games would make Boris Johnson's hair curl!"

Finally, I am going to knock on **The Head's** door to see if he can spare us a moment. Alas, **Mr Medway** is out at a meeting being held with regard to the proposal of All Saints becoming a federated school, which I updated for you in my last report. No final decision has yet been made - the school is still currently in formal consultation.

I hope you have enjoyed your tour with me through the school and maybe have even learnt something along the way!"

Roving Reporter Rhymes
for Village Voice.

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Weather Wag

By Jan Turner

After a lovely March, average to dull April, May has surpassed all expectation! Our drought restrictions have been lifted, some places have been flooded, the rivers are in spate, and the reservoirs are healthily full.

However, this weekend 12/13 May (Ten Tors Challenge for thousands of youngsters) the sun is shining, the winds light, and the temperatures are coolish, good for walking. As it turned out, the event was a great success with, as far as I know, no dreadful accidents. KCC's 55-mile team excelled themselves in showing their compassion for others, in helping a team that had got bogged down, literally, and had to be lifted off in an army rescue helicopter. KCC arrived back at base later than everyone else but were awarded their medals for their achievement in helping the team out of trouble.

As there seems to be a lack of the 'sun' as a commodity at the moment (17 May) I thought that I would do a little research about the sun and its attributes. So much is being done by way of research in this modern technological age, that whatever I write, or Paul Simons writes, will no doubt be soon superseded or disproved in the days ahead. Still, to a certain extent, facts about the sun and its influence on our planet and our lives do not/will not change radically within our lifetime.

Mention of the sun in real terms began as long ago as the Stone Age when our ancestors began slowly to cease hunting and gathering as the only way of survival, and settle to a system of farming. This then was the time when serious observations, even if not recorded, were obvious when growing crops and rearing animals. Signs have been found in rock paintings in Scotland dating from between 12,000 and 6,000 BC which show possible suns and rain. It was not really until writing evolved that earliest records of weather began. This would have been about 12th Century and written on clay tablets. The Babylonians worked out a system for classifying and interpreting climate-related events. One of their prophecies has these weather predictions : *'When a halo surrounds*

the sun, rain will fall. When a cloud grows dark in the sky, the wind will blow.'

The following extract comes from a book *How Weather Works - Understanding the Elements* by René Chaboud.

'We know that our sun is just one of a hundred billion stars in our galaxy, and an unremarkable one at that. Our planet intercepts two-billionths of all available solar radiation – a trifling amount as far as the sun is concerned, but the source of all our heat and light. Were it not for that tiny bit of radiant energy, not only weather, but life as we know it would cease and the earth's surface temperature would rise no higher than -250°C. The sun is a fiery ball of gas covered in flames 150 million kilometres from the earth. Temperatures at the core of this churning cauldron can soar as high as an inconceivable 15 million degrees C, while surface temperatures range between 4000 and 6000°C. With a core pressure a hundred billion times greater than that of the earth's atmosphere, the sun is an unimaginable thermonuclear powerhouse generating energy at a rate equal to burning 500 million tonnes of oil a second.'

René says that all we can do is watch and take measurements as this awesome spectacle unfolds before us. 'The sun continuously bathes the outer reaches of our atmosphere in radiant energy with an average value of 1370 watts/meter², which is called the solar constant. It is this liberally distributed energy that drives the atmosphere and the global weather. Although experts have estimated that the sun has enough fuel in reserve to sustain itself for another few billion years, how it delivers energy is just as important as the energy itself. The workings of our atmosphere are so heavily dependent on the sun's behaviour that even minute fluctuations in solar activity could have an incalculable impact on our climate - and our lives.'

SO WATCH THIS SPACE, AND WATCH OUR ENVIRONMENT AND OUR IMPACT UPON IT.

Quite co-incidentally, and while I was at KCC a week or two ago, I chanced across a display of photographs along the main entrance corridor which intrigued me no end. The photography department are always looking at innovative projects with which to interest the students and get them to explore photographic possibilities. With this in mind the **SOLARGRAM** project was begun. I have been given permission by the students

and staff to include an explanation of this work. Sadly, the photographs cannot be reproduced here, but I hope that you will enjoy reading about it and maybe try it out for yourself. Beware - it is a long term project, but quite exciting and the results are stunning. I will try to get KCC to put their solargram project photos on the college website at www.kingsbridgecollege.org.uk as we can't show them here. **Jan Turner**

KINGSBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SOLARGRAPHY PROJECT

The majority of pinhole photography works around the idea of time and seeing what can be created with the use of sunlight. Solargraphy is an original photographic method of capturing the path of the sun as it travels throughout the day. This amazing way to expose a picture is done over a six month period and catches the sun's arch as it rises and sinks during the months of the year. With this you will have some foreground imagery in your solargram. Solargrams are basically pinhole photos taken with no lens and a long exposure so that invisible sunlight movements are made visible.

To create a solargram you need to make a pinhole first. To do this you have to get an empty can, preferably a beer sized one as they are more efficient and able to fit a good sized piece of paper inside. Try to avoid steel as it leaves a dangerous edge. Take a pin and pierce one small hole about half way up the can. Following that using scissors cut around the top of the can and take your can and a box of photographic paper into a dark room and place one piece of photographic paper, curled around inside the can so the emulsion (shiny) side is facing inwards and the other side against the can. Ensure the paper is not covering up the hole. Using gaffer tape cover up the top of the can making sure no light can enter the can and get on the photographic paper, also covering any sharp bits. Check for any gap so no water, snow, etc., can get to the inside of the can. Before leaving the dark room cut a small bit of gaffer tape and seal up the hole so no light can get in till it is set up.

Positioning your 'camera' is key. Put the can in a high place, preferably where it's not going to be moved. Use whatever is needed to secure the can so it doesn't fall or blow away, as long as it's not

going to damage the 'camera' or paper. You could use more gaffer tape or string. The best places would be a window ledge, lamp post or drain pipe. The can must be facing the sun light so it can capture the movements throughout the day and if possible also have a nice view. Choose a good date to start and finish. I believe we started August-July time and took them down in January giving them a good six months to develop. When you think it's securely in the perfect position peel back your piece of gaffer tape that is covering the hole and leave your 'camera' for the six months. Check it now and then but avoid touching or moving it.

After the six month period stick a piece of tape cover over the hole again and remove your 'camera' from its position. Take it back to the dark room with a black empty photographic paper bag and remove the gaffer tape from the top, taking the paper out carefully trying not to get anything on it and placing in your bag making sure no light can get to the paper. At this point you are done with your can.

Take your bag over to the scanner and, trying your best not to get any light on the paper, place it into the scanner. If you find this hard place a black sheet or something similar over the scanner and do this part of the development under the sheet to be extra safe. After scanning save your image and open it up into Photoshop and go to Image > Adjustments > Invert. After this you can adjust your picture as much as needed using brightness and contrast. Now you are left with an amazing six month exposure capturing views from your own house that you didn't even know you could see.

Shannon Vaughan



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In Thurlestone, Village Voice is delivered by a team of volunteer helpers organised by **Graham & Val Palmer**. In Bantham and Buckland it is delivered by **Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott**.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (August-September) ISSUE = 5th JULY 2012

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

June		2 nd to Tuesday 5 th See programme of Diamond Jubilee events
Saturday	11 th	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Monday	12 th	TRAMP, Dittisham/Greenway/Broadsands (long)
Tuesday	14 th	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (My Life with Ducks)
Thursday	16 th	Stanborough Chorus, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm (see advert)
Saturday	19 th	TRAMP Huish/Hope Cove
Tuesday	21 st	Wildlife of Thurlestone, 10.30am-12.30pm (see advert)
Thursday	27 th	TRAMP Brent Hill/Owley Gate (long)
Wednesday	27 th	KEDFAS, Bhutan, Kings Arms, 7.30 pm
Wednesday	28 th	KEDFAS, Bhutan, Kings Arms, 10.30am
Thursday	30 th	Car Boot Sale , Parish Hall, 9.30 - noon (see advert)
July		
Monday	2 nd	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Friday	6 th	TRAMP, Kingsbridge & Salcombe (bus & foot)
Saturday	7 th	Henry Tozer Concert, Parish Hall, 7.30 pm (see advert)
Wednesday	11 th	TRAMP, Buckfastleigh & Totnes (train & foot - long)
Thursday	12 th	WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (The Pampered Chef)
Wednesday	18 th	TRAMP, Harberton green lanes
Tuesday	24 th	BBQ, Boules & Bowls, Parish Hall, 5.30 pm (see advert)
Friday	27 th	TRAMP, Ivybridge & Upper Erme Valley (long)
August		
Wednesday	1 st	TRAMP tba
Saturday	4 th	Horticultural Show, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (see advert)
Tuesday	7 th	TRAMP, Burrator & Devonport Leat (long)
Monday	13 th	TRAMP, Bantham with cakes
Tuesday	14 th	Family Fun Day at Andrew's Wood, Loddiswell, 11am-3pm
Monday	20 th	TRAMP, Two Bridges & Wistmans Wood (long)

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PARISH

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Parish Clerk	Philip Millard	561151
Diocese Councillor	Ian Bramble	855712
County Councillor	Sir Simon Day	01752 - 691212
Members	Dale Carre	562089
	Tony Goddard	562282
	Nigel Hurrell	560691
	Peter Hurrell	560496
	Charles Mitchellmore	560602
	Jill Munn	560732
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CHURCHWARDENS	Office	561246
	Graham Worrall (562016)	Liz Webb (560090)
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SEARCHLIGHT (Tuesdays fortnightly)	FILMS FOR ALL (Tuesdays Monthly)	Contact: Liz Webb 560090

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH	Contact	Kit Marshall	560214
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BANTHAM SAILING CLUB	Contact	Marilyn Caley	560593
BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB	Clubhouse		560447
BOWLS CLUB	Contact	Eileen Dayment	560051
BRIDGE CLUBS 7 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays	Contact	Lisa White	560505
THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB	Secretary / Manager	Russell Thomas	560405
TENNIS SECTION	Chairman	Harry Lewis	01873 - 632110
KEEP FIT	Contact	Karen Livett	560131
TAI CHI	Contact	Vida Alexander	561182
HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)	Contact	John Lonsdale	560742
PROBUS	Contact	Tom Trender	560893
TRAMP (Thurstone Ramblers)	Contact	Jill Munn	560732

DIRECTORY

W. I.	2.30 pm Parish Hall	Contact	Pat Clarke	561982
Second Thursday monthly (except August)				
TEAMMAKERS (Computer Club)	Closed until the autumn			
Contacts :	Michael Barnes 562112	Robin Macdonald 560436	Chris White 560505	
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South Milton (Badshay Close)	14.45 - 15.30 pm			
Thurstone (Parish Hall Car Park)	15.40 - 16.40 pm			
MOBILE FISH & CHIP VAN	Alternate Thursdays from 14 th June, from 5 to 6.30 pm outside school.			
KARATE	Parish Hall, Tuesday, 5.45 - 6.45 pm	Ashley & Jason Hawkes		01548-550093

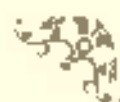
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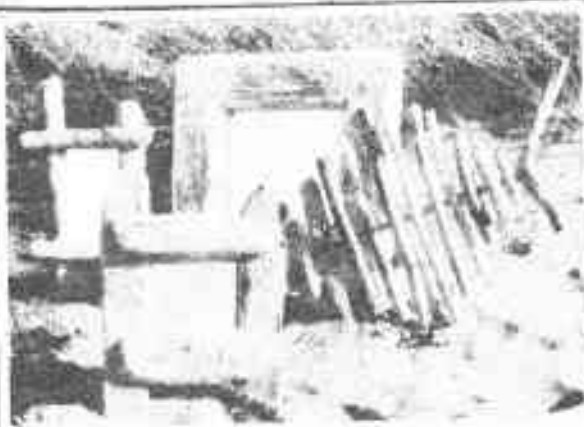
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The Village Inn

Est. 1896



Situated at the heart of Thurlestone village, just minutes from the south-west coast path, The Village Inn has been family owned for over a century.



We pride ourselves on using the very best of local produce to create a superb selection of freshly prepared meals. We offer a selection of well-kept West Country ales, including our own "Village Inn Bitter"; and an extensive wine list.



We are always open for Lunch and Dinner, and throughout the summer months we open all day, with food served all day at weekends!

Why not come out and see us?

- *Real Cask Ales*
- *Just minutes from the coastal path.*
- *Happy Hour*
- *Dog Friendly*
- *Children Welcome*
- *Local Produce*
- *Traditional Sunday Lunches*
- *Quiz Nights*

For reservations, or more information:
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Email: villageinn@thurlestone.co.uk