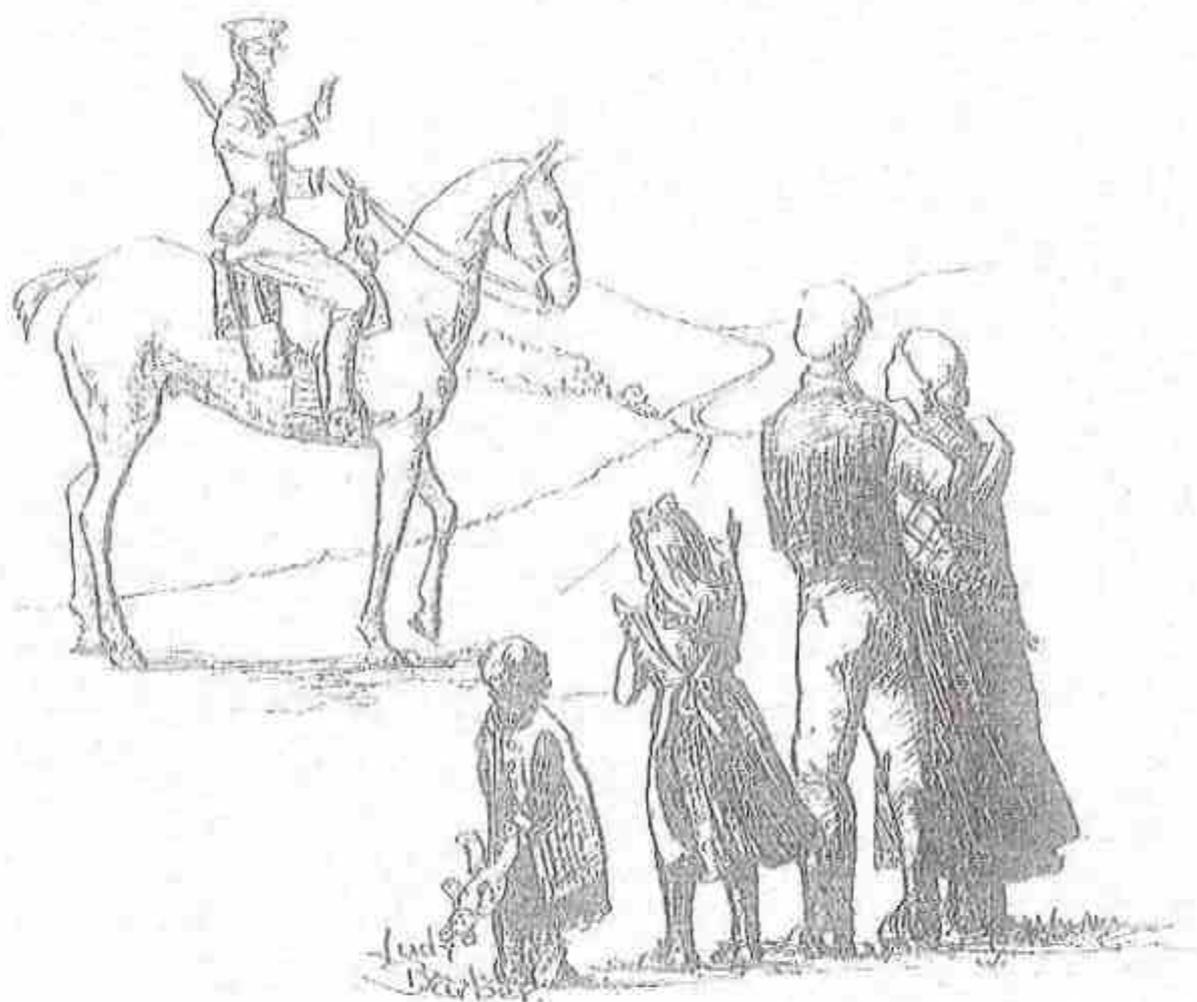


VILLAGE VOICE



August - September 2014

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone

DIARY DATES

August		
Saturday	2 nd	Horticultural Show, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm
Sunday	3 rd	Eucharist of Remembrance, All Saints, 11.10 am
Monday	4 th	Commemoration of WW1 fallen, War Memorial, 8.30pm followed by vigil in the church at 10pm until 1.1pm
Friday	8 th	TRAMP, Dartmoor, W Dart Valley, Wistman's Wood (short)
Tuesday	12 th	TRAMP, Dartmoor, Merrivale (long)
Wednesday	20 th	Barbecue on the Green, from 6.00pm
Thursday	21 st	TRAMP, Westcombe (short)
Saturday	23 rd	'Thurlestone at War' exhibition, Parish Hall, 2pm to 6pm
Saturday	23 rd	6pm Patriotic 'Singalong' at the Phone Box + refreshments
Sunday	24 th	'Thurlestone at War' exhibition, Parish Hall, 9am to 6pm
Monday	25 th	'Thurlestone at War' exhibition, Parish Hall, 9am to 4pm
September		
Monday	1 st	TRAMP Dartmoor, Haytor, Hound Tor and Saddle Tor (long)
Monday	1 st	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Tuesday	9 th	TRAMP East Portlemouth & Gara Rock (short)
Thursday	11 th	WI Parish Hall, 2.30pm (The Joys of Writing)
Saturday	13 th	Last Night of the Proms, Parish Hall, 7pm (BYO Supper)
Thursday	18 th	TRAMP Sheepstor (long)
Saturday	20 th	Parish Hall Autumn Fair, 2.30pm
Friday	26 th	Macmillan Coffee Morning, Parish Hall, 10.30am-12.30pm
Saturday	27 th	Yeomen of the Guard, G&S Fellowship, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
October		
Monday	6 th	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Thursday	9 th	WI Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Follaton House Arboretum)
Saturday	18 th	Sirocco Saxophone Quartet, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Thursday	23 rd	Talk 'The Western Front' Parish Hall, 7.30pm (see ad)

Advertising Rates for Village Voice - 12 months (six issues)
 Whole Page - £75.00 Half Page - £55.00 Quarter Page - £35.00

VILLAGE VOICE

Your Cut Out and Keep

PARISH DIRECTORY

and

DIARY DATES

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

There is also a subscription service, which mails copies to readers at an annual cost of £12.00 for six issues. Please apply to:

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

The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the parish rate. It was founded on behalf of Thurlestone Parish Council

and is delighted to remain under the Council's sponsorship. This does not mean that the views and opinions expressed in these pages are the views and opinions of any member of the Parish Council, and they should only be ascribed to the authors concerned.

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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (Oct-Nov) ISSUE = 5th Sept 2014

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

PARISH

DIRECTORY

PARISH COUNCIL (Meetings take place on Mondays. See dates on diary page overleaf)

Chairman: Andrew Payne
Vice-Chairman: Philip Milford
Parish Clerk: Ian Barnham
Diocese Clerical: Julie Gilbert
County Councillor: Dale Ginn
Members: Tony Goddard, Nigel Hurvell, Jill Mann, Eonwen Zarro, Charles Mitchellmore

The Warden: Neil Smith, Diane Mann

PARISH HALL: Chairman: Cline White, Bookings: 560070, 560100, Telephone in foyer

PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOCIETY (P.O.T.S.): Chairman: Cline White

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PRIEST IN CHARGE: Vicar: Graham Worrall, U2 Weds: 560096, Office: 560090

CHURCH MEETING ROOM ACTIVITIES:
CHEFFER TIME (Every Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30 am)
PLINK FOR ALL (1st Tuesday Monthly 2.30 pm)
LUNCH CLUB (Friday 12.45 pm)
SOUP & A ROLL (1st Monday 12 noon-1.30 pm)
UNDER 3s (Thursdays 9.00-11.00 am term-time)
FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH: Contact: Gillian Marshall 560215

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL: Headteacher: Philip Midway 560496

ALIVE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION: Chairman: Stuart Woods 610373

SAINT HAN SAILING CLUB: Contact: Marilyn Carr 560293

SAINT HAN SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB: Clubhouse 560447

BRIDGE CLUBS 6.30 pm Wednesdays and Fridays Contact: Lisa White 960305

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB: General Manager: Steve Giroux 560425

TENNIS SECTION: Chairman: Steve Smith 561094

KEEP FIT: Contact: Kaye Laver 560131

YAL CHI: Contact: Wida Alexander 561182

HORTICULTURAL SHOW (Annual): Contact: Caroline Alderson 562250

PROBUS: Contact: Tom Tenforde 560893

TRAMP (Trustees Members): Contact: Liz Cooper 562295

W. I. 2.30 pm Parish Hall Contact: Lisa White 560905
 Second Thursday monthly (except August)

TELEAGERS (Computer Help): Yoo Room, Wednesdays 2 - 3 pm (By phone appointment only)
 Contact: Michael Barnes 562112, Robin Macdonald 560496, Chris White 560905

TABLE TENNIS: Wednesday 4.30 to 6.00 pm Parish Hall Robin Macdonald 560496

BADMINTON: Mondays 7.30 to 9.00 pm Parish Hall (Foot Provised) Heather 560592 or Phil 560070

HEALTH CENTRES: Kingsbridge 883551, Sawridge 942284

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NEWSPAPER DELIVERY: Dave & Sandra Edmonds 01548 - 453132

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 Saturday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm
 Sunday, 8.30 am - 1.00 pm
 (Bank Holidays open from 8.00 am - 4.00 pm)
 (NB: The 1.00 pm closing times may sometimes be extended during school holidays and at weekends)

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 Parcel collection: Addison Monday - Friday, Moon on Saturday, NO collection on Sunday

RESOURCES/WOOD WATCH: Co-ordinator: Charles Mitchellmore 560602

POLICE: Dave Gibson (Community Support Officer) 09456 - 566537
 Emergency: 999 General enquiries & non-emergency calls: 112
 Noncom lines: 01392 - 402835 Confidential information: 0800-565-111

RUBBISH COLLECTION: Monday (Sat Tuesday at Bank Holiday Monday weeks) Grey Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 11th August
 Waste & Blue Sack collections (recyclables) 8th & 15th Brown Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 4th August

RECYCLING CENTRE (Tort Quarry Site, Tones Road - Telephone 521609): 561917
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(Mobile Library from Wivertide now calls only monthly - Wednesday 20 August and 17 September)
 South Milton (Bakerby Close) 14.15 - 15.00 pm, Thurstone (Parish Hall Car Park) 15.10 - 16.10 pm



NUMBER 188
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2014

WW1 CENTENARY

August this year sees the centenary of the start of the Great War 1914-1918. It was a conflict on a gigantic scale, with far-reaching consequences, many unresolved to this day.

It certainly disrupted the lives of the people of Thurlestone, and it claimed the lives of some twelve of them. Their names are inscribed on our War Memorial, but what else do we know about them?

Over the August Bank Holiday an exhibition in the Parish Hall of *Thurlestone at War* attempts to answer that question, and to provide a lasting record of their lives and deaths in more detail.

It is not a glorification or celebration of the war, but rather a commemoration of those who were caught up in and consumed by it, and a glimpse into the lives of the local families who were bereaved by it.

Our front cover is a drawing by the late Judy Barber of Little Torrington, which depicts a rural family waving a sad goodbye to a soldier (their son?) on a horse (their horse?), setting off for military service. It captures a scene that was a common experience for many people in 1914-18, and a symbol of the departure of the Old Order.

The New Order, still evolving, presents its own challenges. One of them is to learn the lessons of the "war to end all wars" - and as we don't seem to have made a good fist of it to date perhaps it is a good moment to pause - and to remember.

Founder Dudley Drabble

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Published Bi-monthly

Front Cover : "Off to the War"

Original drawing by Judy Barber

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Quite a lot has happened since my last note in the April/May edition, so I thought I would set down a few points of possible interest.

1. The new footpath deviation at Beacon Point is due to open on 15 July, after many protracted negotiations with the landowners. Although it proved both time-consuming and costly to get the route open for the summer season, it is certainly a great deal better than the long interim deviation that was in place for more time than was expected.
2. It is hoped to have installed a bridge over the slip in Hope Cove, opposite Drake House, by the time this goes to press. This sector has also proved both challenging and costly.
3. Thurlestone Sands track was repaired by the National Trust with a contribution from my DCC Locality Allowance. I think the NT have made a good job of this sector and I hope you agree. Thanks to all involved.
4. The road from the golf club to Lockslea House has also proved very difficult, and still is a problem. Fortunately, we managed to get an alternative route opened with the help of Mr & Mrs McCoy. Hopefully, a longer-term solution will be found for Lockslea House before too long.
5. We are catching up with the backlog of pot holes and now the season of road dressing is under way on roads that have not deteriorated too much. A number of local roads have and are being surface-dressed.
6. Tumbly Hill Day Centre in Kingsbridge has been saved from closure after my, and others, pleas that no other alternative service was available locally. I am grateful to DCC and Councillor Stuart Barker for their considerations.
7. DCC libraries are looking for cost savings and are in the process of consultation until 17 July. The outcome will be known soon after.
8. The DCC leader, Councillor John Hart, offered me the appointment of chairman of the Devon Pensions & Investments committee recently, which I accepted; this has been ratified by the Council. This committee is responsible for £3.1 billion with 80,000 participants.
9. The Government's support grant to local government continues to be reduced and is likely to be withdrawn entirely. This has meant DCC has this year had to find savings of £1 million per week. We will also have to make a further £1 million a week savings next year, so further efficiencies will have to be found.

I would like to thank the many people with whom I have spoken for their support and comment. I hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer.

Rufus Gilbert

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings held on 2nd June and 7th July 2014

News & Views by Citizen

ATTENDANCE

In June six Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, both the County and District Councillors, the Police Community Support Officer and sixteen members of the public filled the Yeo Room.

In July it was not so crowded - eight Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, County and District Councillors, ten members of the public, but no police representative as they were all required in Kingsbridge that evening helping to conduct a murder enquiry!

OPEN FORUM

Phone Mast: There is a rumour that the Parish Council have given approval to the siting of the possible mobile phone mast at the top of Court Park but this was refuted by the Chairman.

Thurlestone sign at entrance to the village: This is said to obstruct the view to the left of traffic coming up from Court Park and turning on to the main road. Suggested that the sign should be lifted so there is a wider visibility gap.

Planning: Mr Pailthorpe asked the Parish Council to let him know when they received a retrospective planning application in respect of Sea Breeze, the property adjoining his on Eddystone Road. The public are not allowed to comment on such applications and he says there have been five breaches of planning permission. On reporting this to SHDC, Mr Pailthorpe said they seemed "tardy and dismissive" and he would appreciate the Parish Council's support.

PARISH HALL

Councillor Jill Munn said things were ticking over well at the Hall and there had recently been a thoroughly enjoyable fund-raising Rock & Roll concert there.

HIGHWAYS

The white lines and the 'Slow' signs had been repainted but the entrance to Lambs Close missed out. Yellow lines were also in need of attention.

Councillor Tony Goddard will contact Evans Estates about the tree across the road on the bend half way down Buckland hill.

The pothole at Clanacombe had been filled but not the ditch.

The walls by Rectory Cottage and Toyes Orchard had both been damaged.

Despite numerous requests there was still repair work outstanding at Buckland and Bantham which County Councillor Gilbert will pursue with urgency if the details are e-mailed to him.

Councillor Charles Mitchelmore warned that as DCC had reduced its number of Traffic Wardens on taking over from SHDC, the available staff would be used in the towns to the detriment of villages.

SCHOOL

Children are allegedly entering adjacent gardens, after school, and causing damage but the school says it is not their problem.

Despite "No Dogs" notices in the school playing field and green area, people are going in with their animals and there is resultant dog mess.

Requests for the Dog Warden to attend have met with nil response but Councillor Bramble will follow this up if details are e-mailed to him.

Replacing the school play equipment will cost around £60,000 but the school has only £10,000 in its coffers for this purpose.

PHONE MASTS

Councillor Dale Came said he had contacted Arqiva and 40 sites will go forward in the first tranche, Bigbury being part of that.

The second tranche will be more expensive and Thurlestone could possibly be included in this, but it is not thought that anything will move forward for another six months.

DOG POO BIN

The one near the golf club has been re-sited further up the road but Parish Council is to request that another bin be placed near the golf club in the original position.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

See a separate article with an update from Devon County Councillor Rufus Gilbert which appears on an earlier page in this issue.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Closure of public lavatories. Councillor Munn has been in touch with SHDC about possible options and five were outlined. Agreed Thurlestone will opt for closure from the beginning of November for four months as a trial. Matter to be given further consideration.

Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Bramble said this was a most important issue and it is vital for the future that we have such a plan in place. Michael Higgs is the SHDC expert on the subject and

he would be willing to come and talk about the implications and Councillor Bramble is also available to answer any queries. Councillor Goddard will head up a sub-committee consisting of parishioners and Parish Councillors to consider the process.

Follaton House. Some 30% of the square footage of the building was now rented to outside bodies.

PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Eco-houses at Parkfield. This site is not within the village Conservation Area.

Bush Shelter rubbish: Julian Lee will be asked to clear the rubbish from the bus shelter when he passes by. Others are doing so on an ad hoc voluntary basis.

Road Map: A map showing the parish roads, kindly presented by Councillor Gilbert, has now been framed and hangs on the Yeo Room wall.

POLICE

PCSO Dave Green said a dangerous dog problem had been dealt with. Illegal netting in the River Avon at Bantham was being investigated, as well as the problem of 'boy racers' using the golf club car park and Thurlestone Sands at night to do vehicle stunts.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 1 September 2014 - there is no August meeting.



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FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER - 10.30am - 12.30pm

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PARISH HALL NEWS



Chairman: Neill Irwin

We had a great evening 'getting back' to the 50s and 60s with the Racketts Rock 'n Roll band on Saturday 5th July; the dance floor was just not big enough and Chas Newby gave an entertaining account of his short stint as a Beatle. Special thanks to Bill & Pat Clarke, Wendy Neukirchen and Pat Macdonald for hosting the boys on their trip to the south west. A note has recently come from Dave Cowell, the Racketts leader, on behalf of all the band, saying "...a great night, and we enjoyed ourselves just as much as the Thurlestone rockers".

Way back on 31st May Matt Harvey was great entertainment too and we were pleased to arrange an evening in conjunction with the Red Cross. There could be more potential in this because of the Hall's facilities, so please let us know if you think another group would like to have a joint activity - however small.

Other dates already in the diary include our Last Night of the Proms on 13th September. This is a Bring-Your-Own supper and drinks event; doors open at 7pm with a 7.30pm start at the Albert Hall. In addition to the usual favourites conducted by Sakari Oramo, there's a singalong to commemorate fifty years of *Mary Poppins*, Tavener's 'Song for Athene' and a Richard Strauss cantata for the 150th anniversary of his birth together with an overture called *Peterloo* by Malcolm Arnold with some new lyrics by Tim Rice. There's something for everyone to enjoy - in a word *Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!*

The musical momentum will be carried on at our semi-staged *The Yeoman of the Guard* with the Plymouth Gilbert and Sullivan Fellowship on 27th September at 7.30. Librettist WS Gilbert claimed that the idea for the opera came to him after he spotted an advertisement for the Tower Furnishing and Finance Company, illustrated with a Beefeater, while he was waiting for the train in Uxbridge. Composer Arthur Sullivan was apparently relieved at the more human, less topsy-turvy storyline. He was able to be more innovative in the music for characters like Jack Point with his sea-shanty style 'song to sing-O'. The last visit of the G&S Society was a great success and we are pleased to welcome them back to the Hall so order your tickets soon.

The Autumn Fair is on 20th September and we are keeping our fingers crossed for reasonable weather which encourages attendance even though the event itself is indoors. We are very grateful to the Hall users for donating their time each year to raise money for Hall upkeep and development.

Undoubtedly the musical highlight of this year will be the concert by the Sirocco Saxophone Quartet on Saturday 18th October at 7.30 pm. This "hugely talented foursome" (Observer) of Michaela Stapleton, Huw Wiggin, Greta Schaller, and Rachel Moorhead was formed at the Royal College of Music in 2006, since when they have all achieved individual international success, but continue to perform together as a "dynamic ensemble...with a rich and diverse chamber music repertoire". We well remember Huw's two previous "golden note" performances at Thurlestone, and the Quartet, coming fresh from tours in Italy and Holland this year, are certain to provide a memorable evening for all lovers of musical excellence.

Finally, we would like someone to volunteer to create and maintain a website for the Parish Hall, so that information about hiring, activities, and forthcoming events can be readily accessible at any time, and not only through the bi-monthly issues of Village Voice. All the material will be supplied to you - it is just a matter of being the webmaster. If you would like to be that person, call me on 561661, or e-mail me at < neill.irwin@btinternet.com >



NORTON BROOK MEDICAL CENTRE NEW APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE



Norton Brook Medical Centre will be introducing a new telephone consultation appointment system this summer from the 7th July.

The new system has been popular with patients across the UK and is in response to patient feedback regarding the difficulty of getting an appointment.

We aim to make it easier for you to access the right care at the right time.

The new system will change the way you make appointments, and increase the opportunity for you to speak to your own registered GP.

We plan to make it more convenient for you to discuss problems with your doctor over the telephone and this may save you from coming to the surgery.

Many of our patients' queries such as medication questions, test results and outcomes of hospital appointments can be dealt with fully in a phone call.

Other times it is important your doctor sees you face to face to make an examination.

Here's how the new system will work:

1. You call the surgery
2. The receptionist will request your name, contact number and a brief outline of your problem.
3. The doctor will call you back promptly (within the next two hours).
If your own GP who knows you best is not in that day, or not in until the afternoon, we can put you down for a phone call or you can talk to another doctor.
4. You discuss your problem over the telephone.
5. Together you decide if your needs can be met with a phone call or you should be seen at the surgery.
6. If a face to face consultation is required the doctor will make you an appointment which will usually be the same day. Alternatively, the doctor may issue you with some medication, arrange tests for you, or write a sick note for your employer for example. The GP may instead refer you to a physiotherapist, or make an appointment for you to see the practice nurse.
7. Nurse and phlebotomy appointments will continue to be made in the same way as they are now, by requesting an appointment from reception.



Here's how you can help:

Please ensure that our records have the correct phone number for you - take the opportunity to check this today.

Giving a brief outline of your problem to the receptionist means the GP can prioritise emergencies, and all our staff follow the same strict confidentiality rules. However, if you feel uncomfortable with this you can say 'it's personal'.

Easy access to phone advice means patients don't have to make unnecessary visits to the doctor. However, in case your doctor does want to see you face to face, if you can call before 11am it will help the practice plan the day.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.



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Village News Round-Up

Double Hundreds

We are going to have TWO centenarians in the parish before the end of August. William Bentley's 100th birthday will be on Saturday 9 August and Ron Brendell's on the following Thursday 14 August. William, formerly of London, lives in Old Rectory Gardens and retired to Thurlestone 24 years ago. Ron, a more recent arrival, lives at Thurlestone House and moved here from Marlborough.

Village Voice sends warm good wishes to these two gentlemen and we hope they enjoy their very special days and, in particular, hearing from Her Majesty!

Cerys strikes Gold!

Following the award of a gold at the Peter Murphy judo competition in June, 13-year old Cerys Callard of Thurlestone gained a place on the Western Area team. She represented the Western Area in the British Teams championship on 5 July in the under-36kg junior girls section, fighting up a whole weight. Later on in July she won another gold in the under-32kg junior girls at the Cornwall Open competition.

Cerys had an accident early in the year which meant she had to stop training for three months, so getting back into form has meant a huge amount of hard work. Well done, Cerys, your efforts have certainly paid off and you and your family must be deservedly proud of all your recent achievements.

Rescue

Young Thurlestonian Lewis Durant was one of the two Bantham lifeguards - using the RNLI inshore rescue boat - who recently went to the aid of three girls who got into difficulties at the river mouth. The girls were brought safely ashore. An RNLI spokesman warned of the dangers of the river, particularly at

its mouth where the very strong currents can catch people unawares and swiftly take swimmers out of their depth. The advice for Bantham beach users is to swim only between the red and yellow flags.

Defibrillators

We are lucky to have two defibrillators in the parish - one at the Thurlestone Hotel and one at the Sloop in Bantham. The Phone Box committee, who raised the money for the equipment and had it installed, say that neither defibrillator, until recently, had been used. But when a gentleman on holiday with a party of people was taken ill at Bantham it took some time for the defibrillator's location to be found. It is therefore important for parishioners to make a mental note of where these **TWO** important items of equipment are positioned:

Thurlestone

In the undercover car-park at the Thurlestone Hotel's back entrance.

Bantham

In the lobby of the side door entrance to the Sloop's B&B area

Access to both of these sites is available at all times.

Beach clean-ups

Two beach-cleaning parties are being organised by the South Hams Society as follows.

1. Saturday 9 August at Soar Mill Cove.

Low tide is 11.53am. Please park in the hotel car-park from 10.30am.

2. Saturday 6 September at Yarmer

Contact Vivien Napper on 01548-842405 or Flo Stathers on 01548-857567.

**Fun for all the Family
at the**

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Stalls,

on the

Tombola,

Sideshow

GREEN

Raffle etc

by Thurlestone church

Wednesday

August 20th
6 p.m.

in aid of Thurlestone Church Tower Appeal

Cream Teas

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3.00 - 5.00 P.M.

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£3 *in aid of church funds*

Everyone is Welcome ~ Parking in Church Car Park



*All
Saints*

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: *Vacancy*
During the vacancy please contact
one of the Churchwardens (see overleaf)

LAY READER: Peter Gornall

Peter Gornall writes:



KEEPING BUSY

It was the remark of that German family we stayed with on our recent tour of old friends on the continent which went rather deeply to the quick (for us and for many in this parish) that "retirement is the most lethal occupation of all - no one survives it". Actually we can sweep that away by reminding ourselves that so many of the retired have found varied and energetic occupations by which they may both give and receive enormous pleasure. And there are those amazing retirees who contribute so much in spite of health and other setbacks. The "lethal" side of retirement is not given even a moment's consideration!

So to the Church tower again - by energy and persistence of the retired our problem has been brought to the notice of grant-giving bodies, who tend to be generous if they know that there is work and generosity already in the project. The National Churches Trust has offered £10,000, a truly heartening sum.

They say that if you want something done, ask a busy person; and so it is not just the retired who contribute. The National Churches Trust needs to raise money if they are to continue to give. So a *Bike+Stride* event is being organised by Gareth and Linda Scott on September 6th (the national date for the National Churches Trust is 13th September). It will do the parish a deal of good to be seen to be on side with those who are generous to us.

All this seems a bit inward looking to our own needs and parish priorities. Fortunately there is also plenty to keep us looking outwards and forwards. As I write final touches are being made to the descriptive literature to attract a Priest-in-charge. And we shall acquire new companions in a newly named Aune Valley Benefice. There are different ways of witnessing to the life and work of Christ in a valley village as quiet as Woodleigh, and in a main-road village with a new housing estate like Loddiswell. We shall have something to learn from each of these while we continue to shoulder a mission to holiday makers as well as our own people in need.

So under Providence it is becoming probable that Village Voice may again have a Church article from someone in active service rather than in that lethal occupation! And the tower? It isn't going to retire for centuries.

Every Blessing

Peter



RIDE+STRIDE



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

**Would you like to enjoy a day's cycling or walking,
while raising some money for Thurlestone church?**

Ride+Stride is a sponsored bike ride or walk in which people from all over the country walk or cycle between churches, exploring and enjoying the countryside. 50% of the money raised helps to preserve some of Britain's 47,000 churches, chapels and meeting houses which are at risk of falling into serious disrepair and 50% can be designated for a specific church.

Gareth Scott is organizing a Ride+Stride event in aid of the Tower Appeal. If you are interested in Riding or Striding, please contact Gareth Scott (560298/gareth.scott@hotmail.co.uk).



All Saints' Diary

CHURCHWARDENS: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall (562016)
During the vacancy, while we have no priest in Thurlestone, every endeavour will be made to maintain the usual pattern of services. Everyone is welcome at all services.

Church Services at Thurlestone Church, unless indicated otherwise

Sundays

Every Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP: 1st & 3rd; CW: 2nd & 4th)
AUGUST 3RD	11.10am A Eucharist of Remembrance (CW)
AUGUST 10TH & 24TH, SEPT. 14TH	11.10am Morning Worship (Fairtrade Stall Aug. 10th)
AUGUST 17TH	11.10am Family Communion (CW) with Baptism
SEPTEMBER 28TH	11.10am Matins (BCP)
SEPTEMBER 7TH	11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Fairtrade Stall)
SEPTEMBER 2ND	6.00pm Benefice Evensong (BCP) at Churchstow
SEPTEMBER 14TH	6.00pm Benefice Praise Service at South Milton
SEPTEMBER 21ST	11.00am Benefice Communion (CW) at Thurlestone
OCTOBER 5TH	11.10am Harvest Thanksgiving + Harvest Lunch

Weekdays

THURS AUG. 7TH, SEPT. 4TH	10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at White Horses, Bantham
EVERY WEDNESDAY	8.30am Morning Prayer (said)

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship

See Church Notice Boards for variations & more information

Commemoration of the Centenary of the Outbreak of World War 1

SUNDAY AUGUST 3RD	11.10 a.m. A Eucharist of Remembrance (CW)	
MONDAY		8.30 p.m. Commemoration of the fallen of the First World War at the War Memorial followed by light refreshments in the church until 9.45 p.m.
AUGUST 4TH		10.00 p.m. Vigil in the Church until the 100th Anniversary of the Declaration of War at 11 p.m.

~~~~~  
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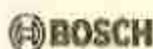
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June

Finding a bound copy of sheet music dating from the 1820s in a Kingsbridge charity shop some years ago set our speaker Christopher Stephens on a voyage of discovery. The music related to, amongst others, a lady theatrical star of the period immediately prior to Queen Victoria's reign. Her name was Lucia Vestris.

In researching this lady he found it was the fashion then to model Staffordshire pottery flat-back figures of famous public people of the day, particularly in the theatre, making and selling the results cheaply as souvenirs. Christopher brought a fascinating collection of these and told us, with entertaining enthusiasm, about Madame Vestris's life.

Born in 1797, she was a contralto who often took male singing roles in light opera stage productions. She was the first woman to manage Covent Garden and other London theatres and was what today could be described as a 'mover and shaker', but problems with men and finances were to haunt her life. She was also reputed to have the most beautiful legs. Christopher has not managed to track down a flat-back of Lucia which shows her legs, but is hopeful that one will turn up one day.

Twelve members travelled to Leeds and enjoyed the national annual general meeting and other delights of the city and surrounding areas, in particular having tea at the famous 'Bettys' at Harrogate.

July

Two visitors were welcomed - Pat, Jo Odams sister from Brazil, and Rita Wright from Liverpool. Good wishes were sent

to Kate Hubbard and Jeanne Barton during their absence due to illness.

The annual garden lunch took place on 3 July on a flawless day, and the committee was thanked for producing an abundance of delicious food. Pat Clarke, who was once again our hostess, was also most warmly thanked. Her garden was a perfect venue for another very happy event.

Wendy Neukirchen and Barbara London went on a county trip to Jimmy Frost's racing stables near Buckfastleigh and despite the rain had a great time.

Sue Girling and Gill Durden are taking part in a sponsored Midnight Walk in aid of St Luke's on 19 July and if you have not already sponsored them, they are still able to take further contributions.

Marilyn Bishop spoke about 'Fakes & Forgeries', which she described as the second oldest profession in the world. Although mainly about pictures by famous artists her talk also covered sculpture, metal work, vintage cars, postage stamps and passports. An uncomfortably large number of forgeries and fakes are said to exist in present-day art collections, and sometimes it is very difficult even for experts to identify the genuine articles.

Raffle prizes were needed for the 11 September meeting at which there will be a special raffle, at 50p a ticket, in aid of the national Denman College appeal.

Our speaker for the 11 September meeting will be Margaret Sherlock, who will talk to us about the 'Joys of Writing - from Diary to Novel'. [Following this talk perhaps we may see a sharp rise in the number of members contributing to the Gazette...or even Village Voice! Ed.]

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

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Tough

No. 97

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Tougher

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Tougher

No. 98

CENTENARY YEAR

2014 will see the centenary of the start of the Great War, and also the 100th Sudoku puzzle, which will appear in our Oct- Nov issue. Last month's challenge produced all-correct answers from Messrs Defield and Irwin, and Mesdames Dwyer, Grant, Lonsdale, Pailthorpe, Petty, and White. The ballot this time went in favour of **Neill Irwin** who, after his wine-tasting in France recently, will really appreciate the rich notes and subtle hints of printers ink that characterise the specimen of our chateau's output he will shortly receive, with our congratulations. Entries for the Centenary Sudoku as usual, to 25 Mead Lane by 5th September.

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POSTBAG

Dear Editor

Thank you for remembering Diana in the last Village Voice. Diana had other connections with the village; her grandparents are buried in the churchyard at the top of the steps above the lych gate.

I am coming back to the village in August and we are holding a memorial service for her on Saturday 16 August at St Petroc's Church, Harford, Ivybridge at 12 noon, and are interring her ashes in the family grave with her late son, Jonathan. This will be followed by a happy gathering in Ivybridge with sustenance and drinks.

If you think you might attend please let Diana's sister, Jennifer Stanley, know at e-mail stanz@stanz.plus.com or phone 01548-810819 so we have an idea of numbers. I will be in the UK until mid or late September so will have plenty of time to visit the 'Land of the Five Beaches' again.

David Smeeton,
Western Australia

Dear Editor

We live in one of the very few places that remain unspoilt in the UK. The beauty of our surroundings is what attracted most of the residents of Thurlestone when deciding where to live. Therefore it beats me as to why some people are so keen to ruin this unique feature by allowing, even asking, for a 60 foot metal mobile phone mast to be erected - an eyesore which will be slap bang in the view of a large number of residents!

We have been quite happy without one up until now and, no, I am not a technological dinosaur. Just the opposite. It has come to light,

somewhat surprisingly, that a large number of the younger residents do not want the mast. Also, several of them run businesses from their homes.

How come, you may well ask? Well, there is a lot of technology out there which enables a resident to gain a good mobile phone signal without a mast. There are some companies which give a good signal in Thurlestone so please would those people who are asking for a mast consider changing their provider?

As I see it we have a duty to preserve this area as it is. Once the disfiguring mast is up, there will be no going back. It will be added to over the years and Thurlestone will lose this unique quality of unspoilt beauty. I have been brought up in Devon and have witnessed so much of it being ruined by inappropriate development. How many of us wish to look out of our windows and see this eyesore? I guess not many. We will be having upgraded Broadband soon so we are not in the dark ages as far as technology is concerned. As Charlie Stait (Breakfast TV) said only this morning, *"Turn your phones off, we don't need them as much as we think we do!"*

Vivien Plews
Court Park, Thurlestone

Dear Editor

It is now possible to get an O2 mobile phone signal in Thurlestone (without a mast) in many places where it was previously unavailable. In the unlikely event that you have no access to a signal, you can download a free app with O2, to provide a signal in your house and garden.

Caroline Montague
Aune Cross, Bantham

POSTBAG (2)

Dear Editor,

To the Thurlestone Parish Hall Committee

As a regular user of your lovely village hall I would like to say a big thank you to all the committee who work so hard to keep the hall running smoothly. As you are aware I run classes in various village halls around the area so I can say from experience that the committee of Thurlestone Parish Hall make the whole business of hiring a venue so easy for users!

I have happily used the hall on a weekly basis for some time now. I love it! It is always clean, tidy and well looked after and as an extra perk I can dance and see the sea - perfect!

I recently held a Charity Event in the hall. It was a Country Western Evening for line dancers and their friends, with a Country Western singer providing the music. All profits went to SOFT-uk. Most people were from the local area and a few dancers from Newton Abbott, Paignton and Plymouth also travelled to join us. Everyone was so impressed with your lovely hall. It is amazing how it can so simply be transformed from a bright open sports type area, to a hall with beautifully covered tables, subdued lighting and also, that extra touch of candles just puts the icing on the cake!

From my own point of view, I had never run an event like this before and I knew that doing it on my own would be quite a challenge, however it seemed that the committee were there for me the whole way through. Booking was kept simple and efficient and I was told of everything that could be made available, the caretaker was extremely helpful, the stage was put up well in advance, and my only worry, about lighting for the singer, was unnecessary as someone arrived to set it all up and to show me how to switch on and off and make any alterations if required! Finally, just before my first dancers arrived someone popped in to check I had everything I needed. What service!!

The event was a big success. So a big thank you from me for all the help you all provided, and a chance for me to tell you that the venue was very much admired. Many people had questioned why I was choosing Thurlestone as it was a little further to travel - but once there, they could see why! It is a credit to you all.

My thanks to you all again.

Susan Bain

Tredwell House, Aveton Gifford



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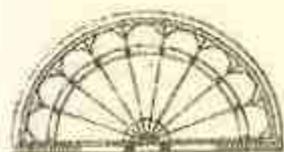


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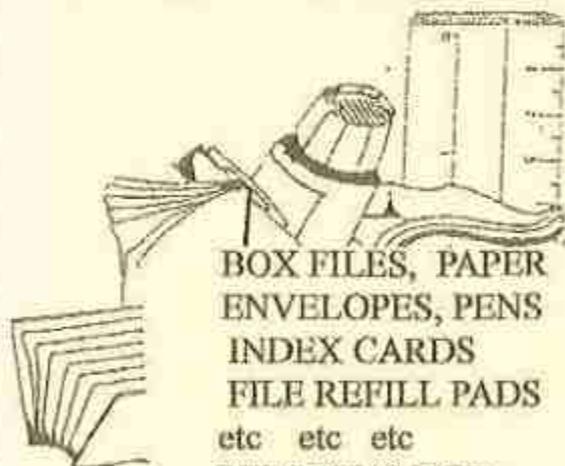
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Thurlestone Golf Club



CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

Well that's Wimbledon over for another year, and quite a championship it was. Not the changing of the guard some predicted, but the youngsters are definitely on the march. So no more friendly joshing between John Inverdale, McEnroe et al at 8pm on BBC 2, no more friendly chats with Sue during rain breaks, no more ear shattering grunts, no more underwear adjustments. It leaves a gap in our lives, but we'll survive.

But what you will be asking has all of this to do with Thurlestone Golf Club? Well, apart from highlighting our thriving tennis section, not a great deal. It does however signal that we are halfway through the year, that the schools are about to break up, a large number of our away members are heading this way and the days are getting noticeably shorter. Mostly, though, it provides an opportunity to take stock of what's happened so far and look forward to the rest of the year.

Having enjoyed the conditions over the past four to six weeks it's difficult to recall what we witnessed in February. The storms happened though and we have the scars to prove it. Stabilising Leasfoot Beach, a facility dear to the heart of all *Village Voice* readers, is still work in progress and the Executive Committee have done considerable work in identifying the necessary remedial work to protect both the beach and the culvert. Options for both the Beach and the 18th Hole will be presented to the membership at an Open Forum at the end of July with decisions taken subject to ratification by SGM. In all likelihood however the action required will have been confirmed by the time this goes to press. As suspected, South Hams District Council have confirmed that they will not be reinstating the collapsed access road to Lockslea, leaving its future status a subject of ongoing discussions between Club and Council.

Activity on the course since my last report has been intense, although results have rather suggested that you win what you win but sometimes it's the taking part that counts. As predicted the Rotary Charity Day on the 15th of May was a great success with more than 140 entrants and in excess of £5,000 raised for Saltsone Caring and the brain injury charity, Headway. Although fairly routine the standard of play at our weekly competitions has continued to impress. This has been particularly so as the Greens Committee have allowed the rough to grow creating much greater fairway definition. While a little controversial to start with few would dispute that the course generally, and holes 14 and 15 in particular, have improved out of all recognition, and that course management has advanced as a playing attribute supplanting pure brawn.

Perhaps a little more course management or some help from the golfing gods might have benefitted our Parker Trophy and Palaret teams who sadly couldn't get those crucial putts to drop in their matches on 25th May and 1st June respectively. The Palaret Plate played on 6th July at Highbullen provided some consolation but attention now really moves to 2015. By contrast our Dartmoor League Team are faring rather better having won three of their last four matches and currently lie mid table. Internally the Men's Challenge Cup has reached the semi-final stage with everything to play for. Whether a book has been taken out on the eventual outcome I couldn't possibly comment but more results will be forthcoming in my next bulletin. Simultaneously the 4BBB Challenge knock-out continues with the final due to be played in October.

Two Open competitions have been played in recent weeks, the first the Men's 4BBB Open on 31st May and more recently the Mixed Open on 28th June. Both were extremely well supported and drew entrants from the length and breadth of the land. That said the winners of the Men's competition hailed from distant Yelverton while the winners of the Mixed had a slightly longer drive home to

Parkstone in Dorset. Club matches have on the whole gone our way with wins against the Royal Naval Golf Society, wins for both our men's and mixed teams against Bigbury and a win for our mixed team versus Saunton. A very closely fought contest by our men's team against Churston on 29th June ended all square.

The tennis season is now in full swing with a hectic schedule lined up for the months of July and August. Regular matches however continue in the meantime against our neighbouring clubs and as always as many players as possible are encouraged to roll-up for social tennis on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday evenings from 5PM.

Off the course and courts we have a Bar-B-Que and Quiz evening, including the launch of the Club Draw, coming up on 1st August and a little further ahead the Captains' Ball on 20th September.

In the meantime, and until my next missive in the Autumn may I wish all *Village Voice* readers and Thurlstone GC members a wonderful summer and remind golfers that Captains Prize Day on 31st August is now approaching fast.

David S F Smyth

LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

The weather for golf has improved considerably in May and June and the ladies teams have been in action with some success. The Still Cup team led by Heather Spencer have won one home match against East Devon and one away match at Bigbury but lost two matches. The Presidents team captained by Barbara Smith have won all three home matches but unfortunately have not been successful when playing away. The Sheelah Creasy team captained by Anne Seymore have won two matches against Libbaton and Dainton Park but lost three. Liz Sharman is in charge of The League team and won two against Bovey Tracey and The Warren. Well done to all ladies who played in the teams.

There were 36 entries for our first May competition, a medal combined with the

Betty Ord Trophy Knock Out Qualifier.

The winner in Division one was Gill Hicks (13) with net 74, from Alison Adams (10) net 78. In Division two the winner was Inger Reeve (29) net 77, from Bernice Sweetman (24) net 80. The best eight ladies go forward into the knock out for the Betty Ord Trophy.

The following week we held the Past Members Memorial day where funds are raised for the Lady Captain's charity which this year is The Chemotherapy Outreach Project. The winners were Paula Orr and Trish Gledhill with 41 points, from Anne Seymour and Trish Cooper with 39. The Cora putting cup was won by Lindsey Fletcher who beat Wendy Russell 4/3. A raffle was held and the total raised over the day was £275.

Our monthly stableford was held on 21st May and there were 50 entries on a dry but very windy day. The winner of division one with 35 points was Gill Hicks (13) from Wendy Laud (5) with 34 points, third was Shona Wilson (14) 34 points. In division two the winner was Liz Barker (36) with 39 points earning a 2 shot handicap reduction. Runner up was Sue Curry (32) with 36 points on count back from Pam St Leger.

Our Club Championship was held on the last Wednesday in May, Laura Tregelles won the Oswald Cup with an excellent score of 7 over par gross for 36 holes reducing her handicap down to 5 in the process and Beth Yeoman won the Ford Salver for the best 36 hole net score. Congratulations to both these youngsters for playing fine golf throughout the day. The 18 hole medal competition played on the same day was won by Barbara Smith (18) net 71, from Wendy Russell (14) net 72. Division two was won by Trish Gledhill with a great score of net 67, followed by Liz Barker (34) with net 72.

The following week was the turn of our June monthly medal. Only 25 played on a difficult day with a stiff breeze. Margaret Tucker (25) net 77 was the overall winner and the runner up in division two was Inger Reeve (27) 79 net. Division one was won by Shona Wilson (14) 78 net with Laura Tregelles (5) 79 net in second place.

On Wednesday 11th June we held our Patey and Steer Trophy four ball better ball competition. On a warm and sunny day the scoring was excellent with Gill Hicks and

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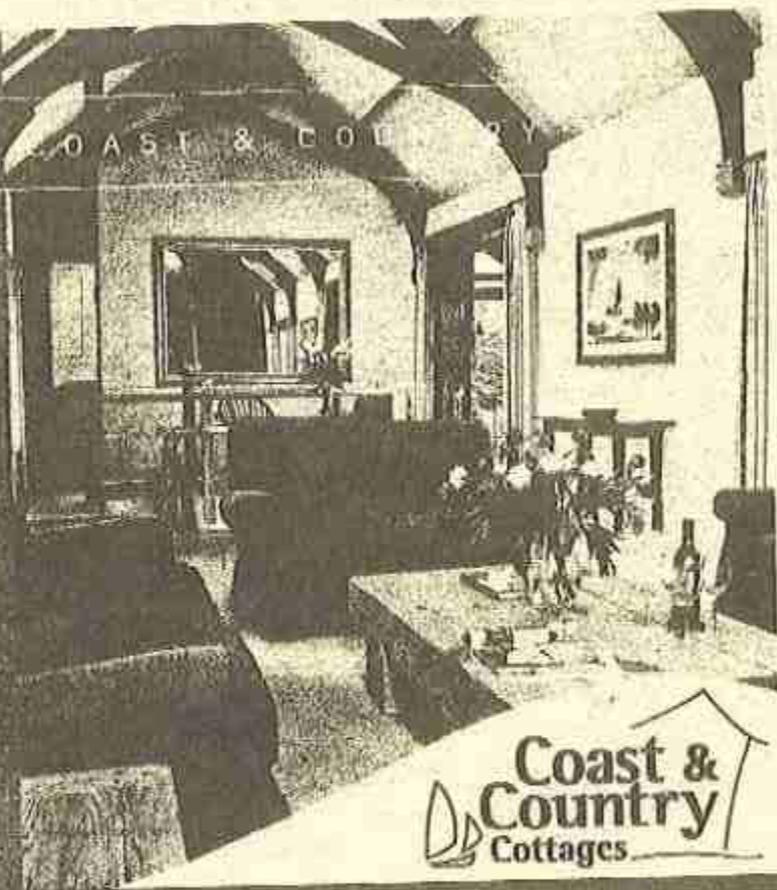
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Sally Rossiter worthy winners with 43 points, from Wendy Laud and Trish Bowman on 41 points. Alison Adams and Lindsey Fletcher took third spot with 39 points.

We had another fine day for the next week's competition, the monthly stableford and the Jennifer Yeo Memorial Trophy awarded to the player with the best stableford score in both divisions. This year it was won by Bernice Sweetman (23) with 39 points. Gill Hicks continued her fine form taking first place in division one with 38 points on count back from Wendy Russell. The division two runner up was Inger Reeve with 36 points.

The weather was not so kind on Lady Captain's day with a strong breeze blowing, making it very chilly. Many ladies were seen pulling on waterproofs over their shorts to keep warm! However all ladies enjoyed the fun format - a Rainbow stableford, playing off blue, red and yellow tees which gave the ladies a totally different aspect to many holes. There was a large field of sixty five ladies playing with all tees being used for a shotgun start. The winner with a wonderful 43 points was Paula Orr from Yvonne Pike 40. Best front nine went to Pat Townsend with 24 points and Pam St Leger won best back nine with 22. Nearest to the pin on the 5th went to Di Baker and on the 6th to Sara Harkness.

Steve White, our professional, challenged the ladies to get nearer the pin than him on the first, played as a short hole off the blue tee, and raised £110 for the Lady Captain's charity, The Chemotherapy Outreach Project. A further £175 was raised from the raffle run once again by Val Brown.

Thurlestone Ladies were represented by three of our younger members, Gill Hicks, Laura Tregelles and Beth Yeoman, in the Devon Ladies County Championship held at Stover Golf Club in May. Unfortunately they all struggled in the very strong winds and although Laura and Beth qualified for the Lloyd Williams Plate Knock Out, they both lost in the first round. Laura was, however, selected to play for Devon at the Inter Counties match week. Laura played two matches for Devon and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Midge Henderson and Wendy Laud won the second round of the Doris Willes-Little county foursomes knockout at Dainton.

They beat the Blgbury team of Cathy Harrington and Maggie Best on the 19th hole.

The final of the Bronze II Trophy, with Lady Captain Wendy Laud as referee, was played on 17th June. Diane Baker beat Paula Orr 3/2 on a warm and sunny day. The final was played in a great spirit and both ladies hit some lovely shots and show much potential for the future. Well done to them both!

Wendy Laud

JUNIOR SECTION NEWSLETTER

The weather has improved considerably in May and June and the juniors have been taking full advantage of the good conditions to win some matches and competitions and get their handicaps down.

Friday 30th May was the SWCGA competition, which is the South West Counties Golf Association comprising six counties; Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire. They held the competition at Taunton Vale club where each county chooses juniors from their golf clubs; six under 16s, and three under 14s. Each player plays a medal round and the seven best scores are added together. Tom Orr (6) and George Holland (10) were chosen from Thurlestone golf club. Tom scored a gross 81 and George a gross 78, both scores being included in the seven best scores. Devon beat Gloucester by 3 points, with Somerset in third place. George won the best net under 14 and had a handicap cut to 9.

In May the juniors beat Yelverton at home by 4 matches to 1, with wins for Jamie Johnson, Tom Orr, Finn Whelan, and Toby and Ben Woods. In June the juniors in the West Devon League had a good win over Yelverton away, by three matches to two. Jamie Johnson, junior captain led from the front with a win by 3/2, then Tom Orr won 6/5, George Holland lost 3/2, and Finn Whelan fought bravely but lost 2 down on the 18th. However, the foursome team of brothers Ben and Toby Woods won their match 3/1.

On Sunday 16th June the juniors had their

West Devon League match against Tavistock away, and they halved the match 2½ each. George Holland won 5/3, Tom Orr lost 3/2, Toby Woods won 9/8, Ethan Mulligan lost 4/3, while Jamie Johnson and Ben Woods halved their match. Young 26 handicapper Finn Whelan won his reserve match.

Thurlestone junior team remains unbeaten this season and this result means that if they can beat Tavistock at home, or win one of their Wrangaton matches then the team will qualify for West Devon Championship day in August. On Saturday 21st June **George Holland** and **Ben Woods** played four rounds of golf here at the Club to help raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. They started their first round Saturday morning at 5am and raised £1500. George played 12 under his handicap for the four rounds and Ben played 5 under his handicap. Well done to both of them.

Also in June the Adult and Junior Foursome qualifier was held at Thurlestone. The

winners qualify for the Devon Adult and Junior foursomes at Bigbury golf club in September. The winners with 44 points were Kevin Mingo and Finn Whelan, from Rob Came and Jamie Johnson with 41 points. The winner of the 9-hole stableford competition was Josh Gilbert with 15 points from Toby White with 13 points.

The juniors have also had some success in the Mens competitions, with George Holland scoring a nett 72 in the May Medal. Jamie Johnson came fourth in the Thurlestone Hotel cup 36 hole competition with a 71 point total. Tom Orr was third in the Graham cup in June with a nett 69 and a handicap reduction to 5. Well done to them.

The Monday evening junior club nights continue with Jack Wallace and Steve White taking the juniors out on the course with the help of adult volunteers. Please ring the pro shop if you would like to come along.

Liz Line



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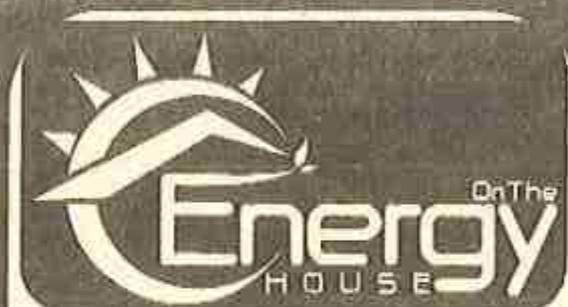
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Update on Events in the Parish

Poppies

Poppy seeds have been sown in various parts of the parish, and will probably establish themselves a little more strongly each year in those sites which suit them best.

Church

Church services and memorial activities are detailed in the Diary and also in the All Saints pages in this issue, as well as in The Rock.

School

No information about how the school will cover WW1 is yet available.

Memorial Exhibition "Thurlestone at War"

Dates: Saturday 23 August - 2.00pm to 6.00pm

Sunday 24 August - 9.00am to 6.00pm

Monday 25 August - 9.00am to 4.00pm

Admission: FREE

Stewards: There has been a good response to the appeal for stewards to be in attendance during the opening hours of the exhibition, and a timetable and rota is being prepared, and all stewards will be advised in advance.

The Devon Poppy Banner will be on display all day Sunday and Monday, but not on Saturday afternoon. The banner and picture was created by Adrienne Howells and her son John as a way of giving the people of Devon a tangible way to commemorate family members who either served or were in reserved occupations during WW1. They ask for a donation per Poppy but there is no set amount.

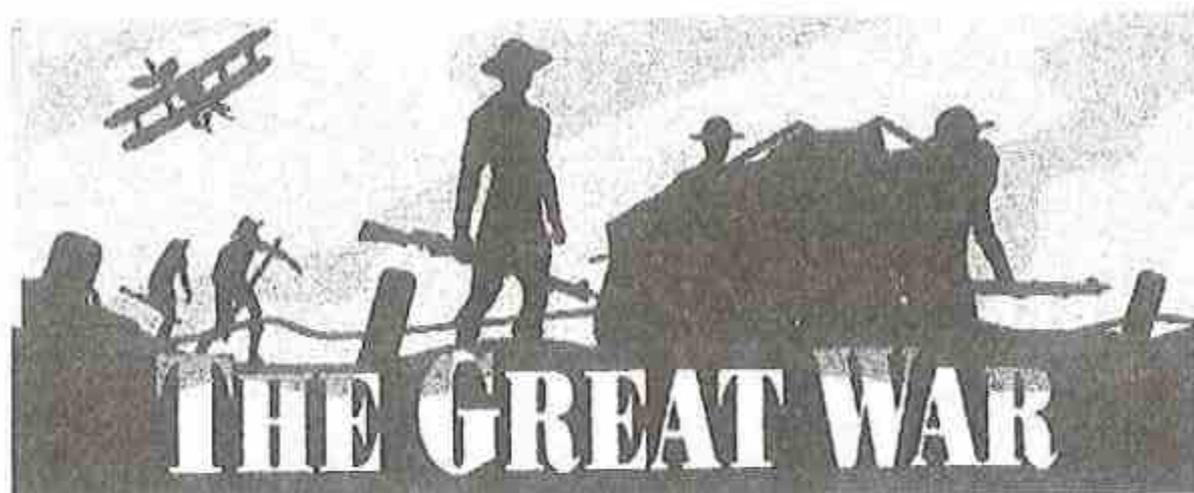
The Quilt - 'Every Stitch A Memory' - created by 50 members of the South West Quilters, chaired by Mrs Christine Badger, is the main prize in the Royal British Legion Raffle. There are a large number of other prizes hand-made and donated by other Craftsmen in Devon, and tickets will be available throughout Sunday and Monday. Unfortunately, arrangements for the Quilt itself to be on display at our exhibition have fallen through.

Phone Box Singalong: Saturday 23 August at 6pm - FREE FOOD (but bring your own drinks). Song sheets provided - see advertisements.

WW1 Quiz: On sale in the Post Office Stores priced £1 - see how much you know or can discover of events between 1914 and 1918. You could win one of six prizes.

October Lecture:

An illustrated talk entitled "The Western Front" will be given in the Parish Hall on Thursday 23 October at 7.30pm by retired Brigadier Johnny Walker OBE DL.



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Saturday 23 August	2pm - 6pm
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TOUR TO THE WESTERN FRONT 2014

By Jane Stanley



Little did any of us guess what an impact the following four days would have on us as our group of 21 [including 2 New Zealanders and 1 American] embarked on a Tour to the Western Front on Friday 30th May. Our guide, retired Brigadier Johnny Walker, formerly a Commanding Officer of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and later an Infantry Brigade Commander, brought with him vast knowledge and understanding, a commitment to honour and remember the fallen, and a wish to make it an unforgettable experience for each and every one of us.

I suspect that we were all relieved that the *Shot at Dawn* site had been removed from the agenda due to its closure but, nevertheless, we were told about it. So our first stop was the **Brandhoek** Commonwealth War Grave Commission [CWGC] Cemetery to pay tribute to the twin son of the Bishop of Liverpool, Captain Noel Chavasse VC and Bar, a doctor in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Only two others have ever been awarded the VC twice. His citations were read and one of the group laid a small cross on behalf of us all on Captain Chavasse's grave.

Remembrance was going to be a key feature of the tour as Johnny presented each of us with two small wooden crosses, each decorated with a poppy – to write on [or not] and to place on whichever grave during the next few days we felt especially drawn to. He also produced poppy wreaths, readings and citations for various Acts of Remembrance each day; a wreath was laid at the **Menin Gate** with one person laying the wreath but having two supporters who laid little crosses at the same time in the Act of Remembrance; on the Cross of Sacrifice at **Tyne Cot** Cemetery in a similar way and finally on the Stone of Remembrance at the **Thiepval Memorial** to the Missing on the Somme.

Then on to **Ypres** where we attended the 8.00 pm ceremony at the **Menin Gate**, held every day since 1927 except during WW2. A huge crowd gathered – many different nationalities, and we had the Last Post, brass bands, choir, hymns, and over 40 poppy wreaths laid including one by three of our party on behalf of us all. There are 54,382 names of soldiers, whose remains have never been found, and thus have no known grave, inscribed on the walls that comprise the Memorial. The atmosphere was charged with sadness, respect and above all, Remembrance.

Up early the next morning for our daily briefing before leaving for **Essex Farm** where we learnt about the need for the registration of the thousands of deaths, the treatment of casualties and the story of the poppy. Here there are the remains of an Advanced Dressing Station, built of concrete, set into a raised slope – bleak, cheerless, dark. I left my first cross in one. We were all given a little cross with a soldier's name, Plot number and Row to find, and to lay on his grave.

The CWGC maintains graves and memorials at some 23,000 sites in 150 countries worldwide. In the cemeteries of Flanders the headstones are made from white Portland stone with an inscription of each soldier. Then on to **Langemarck** German Cemetery - so different from the British cemeteries. The German graves are marked by smaller stones set into the ground, and the French graves are different again.

Tyne Cot Cemetery in Belgium stunned us all by its vastness – row upon row of 11,954 immaculately kept white headstones and graves; flowers everywhere but we never saw a single weed. We walked around in silence before our private wreath

laying and readings ceremony. The **Passchendaele** museum was very well displayed and the black and white film clips were informative – the pictures suggesting a very different scene from the acres and acres of green that surrounded us each day. Then to **HILL 60** [60m above sea level], man-made from the spoils of the railway line to Ypres in Belgium. This key feature changed hands many times during the war, and Johnny outlined the actions of the 2nd Battalion of his Regiment there in April 1915. It was here that miners tunnelled 50ft below the surface and laid several thousand lbs of high explosive under the German positions. These were detonated on 17th April, and in the aftermath the British infantry regained the hill. Five Victoria Crosses were awarded following actions on Hill 60 in April/May 1915. We also visited a concrete bunker and the Memorial to the Queen Victoria Rifles. In WW2 the Germans desecrated this memorial, but Hitler then ordered that no WW1 memorials or cemeteries were to be damaged in any way - and they weren't.

Day 3 saw us at the **Newfoundland Memorial Park** where the Newfoundland Regiment lost 26 officers and 733 NCOs and soldiers in two hours on July 1st 1916. On to the **Ulster Tower** where Martyn demonstrated a remarkable memory for Arms drill he had learnt with the cadets at school, with the WW1 Lee Enfield rifle. Johnny also showed us the bayonet to go with the rifle, a WW1 gas mask and a grenade [unprimed!]. Then to **Delville Wood** and the site of the **South African Memorial**. Hard to imagine the beautiful trees which now stand there have replaced a scene of such utter devastation, but one original tree still remains – a hornbeam.

Our two Kiwi friends laid a cross at the New Zealand Memorial in **Longueval** – a private, proud and poignant moment. Then to the **Thiepval Memorial** to the Missing of the Somme – some 72,194 British and South Africans who have no known graves. Designed by Sir Edward Lutyens, it took 4 years to build from 1928-1932 and is the largest British battle memorial in the world.

The last day we visited **Vimy Ridge**, site of a Canadian victory in the Battle of Arras in April 1917. We went into the tunnels, prepared by the Canadians over many months, and also entered the preserved trenches – so, so close to the enemy lines. We heard about the task of the soldiers in the trenches and about routine trench life. We also went to the magnificent **Canadian War Memorial**, located on the highest point and from which we could see for miles. It took 11 years to build and was unveiled by King Edward VIII in 1936.

For me personally, my thoughts strayed continually to my great uncle. He was killed on November 1st 1918, just 10 days before the Armistice. I have his three handwritten pocket size diaries from the war and also the diaries of his mother, my great grandmother. He was awarded the Military Cross and Bar and so it was a very emotional moment for me when I eventually stood before his grave in the Crucifix Cemetery, Vendegies-sur-Ecaillon, with Patrick, Gillian and Johnny on our final evening. My last poppy I left with him. The Bar to his MC was posthumous and published in the London Gazette in March 1919.

Despite the sobering and thought provoking events of the 4 days, there were many light hearted moments and the evenings together made for much interest and merriment as the group bonded with the caring and sharing. Having been totally immersed in the events of the last century, it was with some reluctance that we rejoined the 21st. We were all saddened by the suffering, humbled by the sacrifice, and we will remain forever grateful. Poppies, November 11th, War Memorials and the birdsong all have more significance now – especially the birdsong – surely a symbol of hope for a continuing future.

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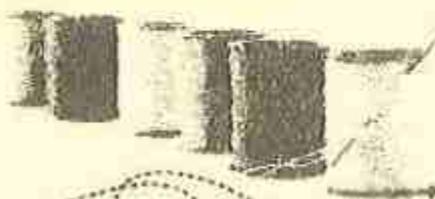
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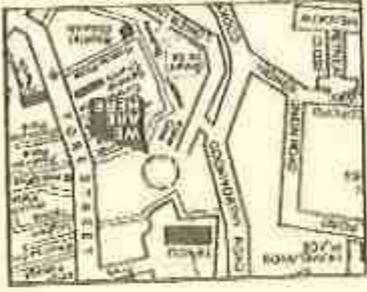
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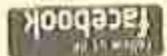
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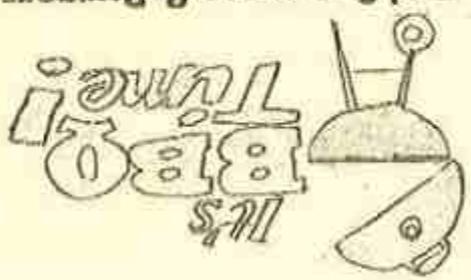
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I CRY IN THE RAIN

I can still hear your voice, see your face, feel your heart
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 My life will never again be the same
 For now it's the guardian of your precious name.
 I cry in the rain and I laugh in the sun
 Have you any idea of what you have done?
 Please, please return safely, I long for your touch
 When this war is all over. I love you so much.

My heart it is aching but the blood's not as red
 As the lifeblood that pours from the wounded and dead.
 We hear of the horrors but where is the gain
 When men go to war and suffer such pain?
 I cry in the rain and I laugh in the sun,
 My soul travels with you, my heart you have won.
 Please, please return safely, I long for your touch
 When this war is all over. I love you so much.

So let us look forward and hope for the day
 When the birds sing again and we can all pray
 For peace everlasting and hatred to flee
 And you can return to your home and to me.
 I cry in the rain and I laugh in the sun;
 I dream of the day we're together as one.
 Please, please return safely, I long for your touch
 When this war is all over. I love you so much.

*by Jane Stanley after an unforgettable tour to the WW1 Battlefields in 2014
 and dedicated to all the wives, the mothers, the girls and the lovers
 who lost those who would never return.*

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Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1st Sep 2014. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthencr@themed.co.uk

Pop Music - name the song and the artist please

1. Bodies fall from the sky at approximately 22.30.....
2. My sibling doesn't weigh much
3. He turns gold into base metals
4. I talk of cabbages and kings
5. J -> Q -> K
6. Farewell, street to Oz
7. Rodent from Hades
8. Capital Lycanthropes
9. Rotate three times
10. Margaret might??

Movies - 5 famous lines from different films which have been reworded, can you name the film and the real line?

1. Confectionery mimics existence. You take pot luck.
Film: Line:
2. Thoroughfares? Where we shall be, we are not wanting thoroughfares
Film: Line:
3. It is imperative you find a larger vessel
Film:..... Line:.....
4. Display some folding
Film: Line:
5. Honestly, sweetie, I couldn't care less
Film: Line:

Solutions to previous Grey Matter:

1 Crispy seaweed (given), 2 Beef Chop Suey, 3 Apple Fritter, 4 Brown Windsor Soup, 5 Meat and Three Veg, 6 Apple Pie, 7 Deep Fried Black Pudding, 8 Burger Beans and Fries, 9 Jam Doughnut, 10 Escargots, 11 Duck a l'Orange, 12 Mousse au Chocolat, 13 Prawn Cocktail, 14 Steak and Chips, 15 Black Forest Gateau, 16 Bruschetta, 17 Spaghetti Carbonara, 18 Neapolitan Ice Cream

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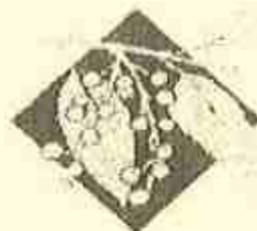
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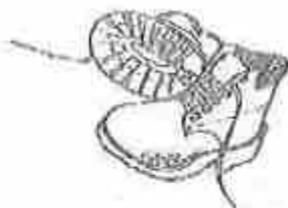
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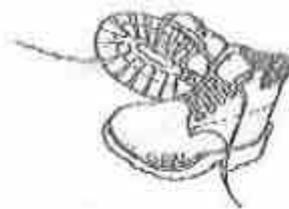
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TRAMP



1 Our previous walk around Brixton on May 22nd was cancelled due to the Met Office forecast of severe thunder storms, and the fact that the heavens opened just as we were due to leave at 9.30. In defiance of another wet forecast for June 4th the sun was shining and nine of us set off for Dittisham. We parked near The Ham, a pleasant meadow by the River Dart: What is more there are public toilets, very useful when starting a long walk!

We walked to Dittisham Quay and took the ferry across the river. Once on shore we set off up the hill with the Greenway Estate on our right; then down through Lower Greenway farm and back onto the foreshore along the Dart. We then crossed the stream that used to power the Galmpton Mill and, following a green lane, we arrived at the boatyards on Galmpton Creek. Many will recall that the boatyards played a vital role in the Second World War. An Information Board at the Lime Kiln provoked a lively debate on the complexity of the science involved in processing the lime for use on the fields. Onwards we tramped through Galmpton Village where one of the trampers visited the village shop because he knew the owner. He returned with three bars of Kit-Kat!

Next we aimed for Warborough Common and, after crossing the busy main road, went under the magnificent Brunel viaduct. Photos were taken as the steam train puffed and whistled as it passed across. Lunch was taken on the seawall at Broadsands (supplemented by the Kit-Kats). Replete, we set off again along the Coast Path to Elberry Cove. The 18th century bath-house has not been restored but has had some work done on it to make it safe. Up through ancient woodland we tramped, across Churston Golf Course towards Churston Station and back through Galmpton. After the village it is a hard slog uphill for a long time, but the reward of glorious views of the river and Dartmoor made it worth the effort.

The last leg was through the Greenway Estate. Everyone was desperate for

refreshment so we visited the Café. It was low tide when the ferry took us back so we could walk along the foreshore, too weary for mudlarking!

NOTE: The Greenway walk can be obtained from the Kingsbridge Information Centre. It is a very interesting and wonderfully varied walk.

Maureen Baker & Rachel Wayth

2 At last! Monday, 9th June, and the first really warm fine day - perhaps summer had finally arrived! The sun was out and there was no wind as 10 of us set off from Bolberry Down NT car park, heading inland down the road to Bolberry. There we took the little lane up the hill on the other side of the valley, admiring the pretty cottages and gardens - one complete with water mill - as we passed.

Turning left up Sweethearts Lane (but no sweethearts in evidence) we carried on up to Higher Barton and headed off along the ridge towards Hope Cove. The fields were full of barley, shimmering in the sunshine, and with the clear views we had over Galmpton, Thurlestone and beyond, it was a really 'good to be alive' day.

On reaching Hope Cove down the little path past St Clements, the little 16th Century fisherman's chapel, we turned left into Inner Hope and started up the coastal path towards Bolt Tail. About 200 yards up the path we came to the bench in memory of Christine Hammer, a longtime member of the Tramp walking group, who died so suddenly 2 years ago. We had a little rest on the bench, remembering Christine, and looking at the view she so enjoyed across to the coast at Thurlestone. Along the path there were patches of brilliant coloured wild flowers, yellow buttercups, pink and white campion, and the final blue patches of late bluebells.

On heading on up the coastal path we stopped at Bolt Tail to enjoy the wonderful views along the coastline to Cornwall and out

to sea to the Eddystone Lighthouse. Walking back to Bolberry Down and lunch at the Port Light the cliffs were full of patches of thrift and the late Spring flowers in the shelter of the rocks. Altogether, it was a day to appreciate how lucky we are to be living in this part of the world.

Peter and Liz Coates

3 No Druids in sight as a dozen sun worshippers gathered on Midsummer's Day Eve at the lower end of Court Park. Slapton Village and its hinterland was the destination on this occasion. After parking the cars at the edge of the village, our merry throng passed (somewhat reluctantly it seemed!) the entrance to the Tower Inn and began to ascend the first of several gruelling climbs. We paused at a recreation area to scan the village scene below. It was clear to see why this spot had been selected as a perfect place for a settlement all those years ago - great soil for pasture and crops, plentiful water supply, building materials in the form of wood and stone, a sheltered situation and hidden from the prying eyes of any passing pirates out at sea!

With Pool Farm on our left we tramped on up the lane. For many years, Pool had been the main house and manor of Slapton. Admiral Sir Richard and Lady Judith Hawkins resided there around 1600. Apparently, the lady of the house was a rather haughty woman and is said to have insisted that a red carpet was laid down between her home and the church in order to make her journey there more comfortable! The house was pulled down after a fire in 1800 and almost immediately replaced by the farm. Above Pool, we headed almost due north, stopping for a breather at the top of the hill by the old village school. It closed as a school in 1968 as pupil numbers dwindled due to mechanisation of farming methods and families moving into towns to find work.

Feeling refreshed after our short break we accelerated, tackling the next mile or so with renewed vigour. At Merrifield Cross we turned almost due east to the fairy tale hamlet of Hansel. We crept between the cottages here to avoid waking the wicked witch. In the absence of Al Parker T.O.P. (Tramps Official Photographer) John Braithwaite recorded on camera our arrival at

this point. Next we crossed the swift-flowing Gara River at North Mill after which the welcome shade of the trees helped as we laboured past Orestone Cottage into the open countryside and west towards a narrower section of the river where we crossed an old stone bridge at Gara Mill.

A pair of grey wagtails entertained us playing chase around the water-splashed rocks on the river bed as we enjoyed a short refreshment stop. Groans from certain members greeted the start of yet another steep climb. The sound of heavy breathing echoed over the fields as we conquered the summit of the road and passed Buckland Court. As the walk levelled off Pollardscombe was quickly reached. A penultimate incline was faced (accompanied by several more complaints!) and pretty soon we were almost skipping due south down a bridle path to the tastefully developed barns of Lower Coltscombe. At last, the ultimate climb approached greeted by rather more feeble moans. Then the mirage of the outer suburbs of Slapton appeared to raise the spirits. We were by now visualising food and drink on offer at the Tower Inn and our stride quickened. We seated ourselves in the charming garden behind the hostelry and enjoyed a welcome feast. Any leftovers were immediately consumed by the unsurprisingly plump and healthy chickens residing in an enclosure in the garden.

As we made our way back to the cars, it appeared that some of the merry throng were even merrier!

Graham and Val Palmer

4 We had the most beautiful Summer Evening for our walk on Tuesday 24th June from Thurlestone to Hope Cove and back when 14 walkers and 1 dog set off from Thurlestone at 4pm over the fields to Whitlocksworthy, past the sewage works and on to Horswell Cottages.

We continued over the fields to South Huish where Peter and Liz Coates most generously refreshed us with Pimms and Elderflower Cordial in their lovely garden.

At this point, one of our walkers had to go home due to a prior engagement and 3 of the men decided to take the short cut to Hope Cove. They couldn't wait any longer than necessary for their pint of beer.

It was 9 ladies + the dog and 1 gentleman who carried on for the full walk to Galmpton, then up onto the Ridgeway Path between Marlborough and Hope Cove. The views over towards Plymouth and beyond were stunning as we progressed along the path to Hope Cove and much needed food at the Hope and Anchor, where we were joined by other Friends of Tramp including Rosemary Mackay, who has led this walk with me for a number of years. The Fish and Chips were absolutely delicious – to be recommended.

The return to Thurlestone via the Coast Path was hampered by the various cliff falls earlier in the year. The route out of Hope Cove on the Coast Path was barred so that we had to make a detour before coming back up on to the Coast Path. Again, because of the cliff fall before Thurlestone Sands, we had to make a detour inland, almost to South Huish, before joining the road down towards Thurlestone Sands.

The sunset from Thurlestone Sands was magnificent and the sea was like a mill pond. We stopped for quite a while in complete admiration of the view before us, before returning to Thurlestone.

We must have covered nearly 8 miles on this walk and I must give a very special thanks to Peter and Liz Coates for their hospitality. The Pimms definitely kept us going!

Lisa White

5 What a glorious day for Tramping in the South Hams the morning of 2nd July promised! Eleven Tramps set off, accompanied by Ben, at the usual time bound for the start of the walk at Mothecombe Car Park (grid ref SX613476).

En route, we stopped at the 'Bull and Bear' gates to learn about the plan of Edward Baring, Banker and director of the Bank of England, to build a splendid 4 mile drive to his home, Membland Hall, in about 1890. However, he was declared bankrupt in 1891 and the driveway was never built. The lodge by the gates indicates the architectural ebullience of the Baring Empire.

After parking at Mothecombe, we set off back up the lane to Battisborough Cross where two more examples of Baring architecture were seen. Continuing in a northerly direction, we walked down narrowing lanes to Henna Mill and 5-ways

Cross. Here we went west along a 'green lane' which was to be part of the 4 mile driveway – now just a fairly wet and muddy track used by horses and motorbikes!

Before we turned south along Lambs Lane, some made a short detour to view a large flock of Alpacas grazing along the beautiful valley belonging to Pool Mill Farm. Lambs Lane is also a green lane and rises steeply up to the coast road for Noss Mayo. Halfway up, a 'water stop' was taken to admire the scenery across to Membland.

Access to the coastal path is via a short lane from the coast road. At the coastal path we all stopped for the compulsory Al Parker photo call backed by splendid views. Now the hard work started but it seemed totally irrelevant as we were awed by the wondrous scenery and views across to Burgh Island and Bolt Tail. We stopped for lunch just before St Anchorites Rock and sat on the soft, dry meadow whilst enjoying good food, good company, warming sunshine and amazing views.

The route back to Mothecombe is simply along the coastal path – except that it is far from simple! Straightforward, maybe, but the inclines either side of Bugle Hole allowed us to take rest stops with the excuse of not wanting to miss the ever changing beauty of the coast! When we finally emerged through 6' high grass near Meadowsfoot Beach, we were surprised to see the 'Tea House' door open. This was built by the Mildmay family as a place on the corner of their beach to picnic and 'take tea'. This historic gem is available for hire from the Mothecombe Estate and the lady renting for that day allowed us in to look at the facility (including an open fire).

Then it was just a simple stroll back up to the car park to complete our 6 mile circuit. A 'really great Tramp experience' was the collective conclusion.

Mike Stickland

6 It was yet another beautiful day for our walk from Ashprington to Totnes and back on Tuesday 8th July when fourteen adults (including two visitors) assembled at the bottom of Court Park.

Normally for this walk, we start and finish at the Durrant Arms in Ashprington and

the walk is about 5.5 miles long. However, last year, the Durrant Arms was closed at lunchtime - in the middle of the holiday season (!) - and so we moved to the Watermans Arms at Bow Bridge, which proved to be a very popular venue. However, this did add another mile to our short walk.

We set off in 4 cars and parked in the car park at the Watermans Arms where we met another Trumper. For the first part of our walk, we set off up the hill into Ashprington and then took the Totnes Road out of Ashprington, turning right at Ashprington Cross to follow the road up to Higher Bowden. Here we made our way to Totnes Down Hill and followed the road into Totnes.

At Sharpham Drive, on the lower end of Moat Hill, we followed the cycle track towards Sharpham. We had some lovely views over

the River Dart, and stopped for a short rest before setting off up through the woodland, emerging on to the driveway to Sharpham House. The road then took us back into Ashprington and down the hill for a well earned lunch at the Watermans Arms.

The position of the Watermans Arms is delightful and we sat out on the terrace overlooking a very pretty stream. However, before our food had arrived, the heavens opened and down came the rain. We had to retreat into the pub to enjoy our lunch, but at least had the satisfaction of knowing that the walk had been dry throughout.

We had covered approximately 6.5 miles, in splendid weather (notwithstanding the rain at lunchtime), and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Lisa White

BOOKSHELF

The Luminaries

by Eleanor Catton
(Granta £9.99 paperback £3.59 Kindle)

You need time to read this book (my excuse was a broken wrist) as it weighs in at over 800 pages. It is, however, a very fine piece of storytelling and I was hooked from the first page.

In 1866 Walter Moody, dishevelled and disoriented after a rough sea journey, arrives at a hotel in Hokitika, New Zealand, ready to start his search for gold. There he meets 12 men, all trying to solve the mystery of a death and a disappearance, and each with his own story to tell. Nothing here is as it seems, and 800 pages turn very swiftly.

There is much more - a gold fortune has disappeared, opium is being smuggled, a murder, a whore, a shipwreck - all set against the bleak landscape and the ever-present rain.

Highly enjoyable, although I did feel the endings got tied up rather quickly....but maybe the author herself was weary after a marathon of 800-odd pages!

Carolyn Taylor

Love From Nancy

The letters of Nancy Mitford
(Sceptre £9.99 paperback)

Nancy was one of the six famous sisters known as 'the Mitford girls', the sole survivor of whom is Deborah, dowager Duchess of Devonshire, former chatelaine of Chatsworth.

This collection of Nancy's letters has been skilfully edited by Charlotte Mosley, (married to sister Diana's son) and sparkle with wit and spontaneous humour. They demonstrate Nancy's remarkable ability as an observer and commentator on life and the times in which she lived, and are mostly written to her family and a wide circle of brilliant friends. These letters, rather than her novels, are thought to be her best work.

Nancy died in 1973, before she could write an autobiography. She wrote in 1951 to Evelyn Waugh *"I thought of writing down the bald facts of my life, not for publication but as a record. But they are so very odd I wonder if people would believe."*

It would have been a sizzler had she survived to write it!

Pat Macdonald



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News and 'What's New?'

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 Website: www.u3asites.org.uk/kingsbridgeestuary

Members, guests and potential members are all very welcome to attend our
 Monthly Meetings (Held at The Methodist Church starting at 10 am)

August	Summer Break There is no meeting or speaker in August.
Fri 26th	'Showcase' Meeting
September	Our new term starts with an open day where members and potential members can find out what goes on in the different groups. There will be presentations from some of our 28 groups, with displays and information from the others.

Forthcoming visits

Tues 2nd September	Lopwell Dam and Maristow Walled Garden We start with a walk at Lopwell Dam. After lunch we visit the historic garden which is on the banks of the river Tavy. This is being restored by youngsters on community service and helpers, led by the Inspiring Jenny Tunley-Price.
Tues 14th October	Brittania Naval College This historic building was designed by Ashton Webb in the 1890s. Our naval officers and cadets from other navies are still trained there. This visit includes a two hour tour and a cream tea. Travel is by Tally Ho bus.

National Trust South Hams Centre

Programme for August and September 2014

- Thursday
14 Aug** A walk from Modbury. Meet in Modbury's Poundwell Meadow car park (GR658515) for a four mile circular walk. Return in time for a pub lunch.
- Tuesday
9 Sept** Coach trip to Widecombe Fair. By popular demand, another day at the famous Dartmoor country fair. Packed with traditional events all set in a stunning backdrop.
- Wednesday
24 Sept** Coach trip to Wheal Martyn, Cornwall's China Clay Experience. A coffee stop at Kernow Mill before driving to Wheal Martyn, near St Austell. This visit is highly recommended - Cornwall's china clay industry really brought to life with the help of Kingsbridge's William Cookworthy! There are many fascinating indoor displays, working outdoor exhibits and historic trails to explore. There is also a shop and café.

For more information about these events, or about joining the National Trust South Hams Centre (just £5 a year), please contact Midge Elliot on 01548 562017 (Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm).

pearson pre-school

Thurlestone School, Thurlestone, Devon TQ7 3NB Telephone - 01548 560816

And so, another year comes to an end at Pearson Pre-school. We have had a busy end of term with the sports day, and a trip to Mill Bay on the Salcombe Ferry. We had to postpone it, following wet weather on the original date, but very much enjoyed taking the children across the estuary on the ferry, for a beach picnic.

Of course, as every year, we are sad to lose our older children as they go on to 'big school'. We would like to say a very fond farewell to the children who are leaving us but wish them all the very best for their transition, and know they will all be brilliant pupils. They will certainly be missed greatly by us.

Such is the circle of life that we are delighted to have 10 new children already set to join us in September, most of whom are 2 years old, so we will not be relaxing! We look forward to welcoming those children in and getting to know them all.

This half term we have also welcomed in 3 new members of staff, who are settling in brilliantly, and making firm friends of the children and staff.

Our parent and toddler group is still on, every Thursday afternoon from 1.15 pm to 3.30 pm, so if you have a young child (including grandchildren) and you'd like to bring them to play with our toys and meet other children, you are very welcome to come along.

Last time I wrote we were just about to have our AGM, as is required of charitable bodies, and I can confirm that the committee is still very strong with five new members joining us, and Elaine Hanmer-Grant agreeing to continue on as our Chairperson. The new committee has been very busy already, supporting Linda and her team with sports day, continuing the planning and fundraising for the refurbishment of the outside space, and already organising the Christmas activity calendar, including the ever popular Puppetcraft show -- details of which will follow.

In order to complete the work on our outdoor space, which includes a 'mud kitchen' we are looking for donations of old wellies, pots and pans, and old cooking utensils. If you have any you don't need please drop them into the pre-school or email contact@pearsonpreschool.co.uk

In September we are throwing a swashbuckling 'Pirates of the Caribbean' Party for the grown ups. We are grateful to William Ireland of the Cottage Hotel in Hope Cove for providing us with food fit for the buccaneers. This swaggering night will take place on Saturday 13th September, so if you are interested please contact shipmate Elaine via e.hanmergrant@hotmail.com. Don't hang about though, *mateys*, as tickets are only £20 each, and we can only sell 65 tickets.

Gillian Hibbard,
Committee Secretary

ALL SAINTS ADVERTISER

Editor: Betty Rhymes

A Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

For the past 6 years I have been sharing news and stories with you of life at All Saints School. It does not seem possible that it has been that long. Neither does it seem possible that both my children have completed their primary school education. With my youngest child Kate now finishing at All Saints a chapter of my family's life has finished. With that I feel it is a natural time for me to finish my articles for *Village Voice*.

Although the deadlines for my reports have hung over me like a black cloud (I am not a natural writer – if I had my time as a pupil again I would try much harder at English!), I have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the school news with you. In the 40 reports I have written as school correspondent I have covered many events and changes at the school.

At the start of my writing the school was in the early stages of planning its rebuild. A huge fundraising effort from the school, with the support of the parents, parish, diocese and local businesses meant that the works were carried out – stage by stage, year by year - culminating in the modern spacious building we use today.

June 2011 saw the Bishop of Plymouth officially open the school's refurbishments. With these building works complete it was time to move to setting foundations of a different kind. Federation was the big F word within education. All Saints very carefully explored, investigated and discussed the pros and cons of becoming a federated school. In September 2012 the school joined with West Alvington and Charleton schools to become The Kingsbridge Area Church School Federation. The three schools are all adjusting and settling to the new set up and are well on the way to cementing a future together.

We have shared in some historic national celebrations. The Royal Wedding and the Queen's Jubilee were events the school celebrated, but it will be the 2012 Olympics that will be one of my highlights. It provided a great platform for learning for the children with so much education revolving around the theme. Sports day 2012 saw All Saints run its own Olympics, featuring its very own spectacular opening ceremony choreographed by Mrs Carpenter - who must have put as much effort in as did Danny Boyle to the official event!

The sports success of the school has also made news in my time of writing. We have seen the school share in great success with rugby by twice getting through to the South West of England stage of competition. In 2010 the school fielded its first cricket team. Within two years it saw the team travel to Leicester to take part in the national kwik-cricket final. In true cricket style it rained, and so the team didn't get to play on the Grace Road pitch and the indoor conditions suffocated their play, but the memory of our small parish school reaching a national final will not be forgotten.

The energetic activities and sleepless nights of residentials, the excitement and emotion of the Christmas nativities, my attempts (not always successful!) at testing your grey matter, the untimely arrival of Ofsted during panto season (oh yes they did....!), these are all memorable times shared with you.

Village Voice has allowed me the opportunity to keep you informed about the goings-on in our parish school and in doing so has meant people's interest in it has grown. People regularly tell me how much they enjoy reading news of what the school and pupils are doing and so I hope that someone will carry on the mantle of this fantastic communication link (see situations vacant below).

Although I won't miss the task of putting pen to paper, I will miss being part of the *Village Voice* team and thank them for allowing me to have a voice for 6 years! I will miss talking with you through this media but look forward to talking with you face to face when I see you on the other side of the school gates!

My very best wishes to all readers.

Betty Rhymes

Sports News

So far this summer our country has not had much to celebrate on the sporting front. We were coming home before we had hardly touched down in Brazil; a Wimbledon double whammy was not to be; cricket has been catastrophic; and it was "on yer bike" for us in the first stage of the Tour de France.

Surely it won't be too many years before we see a past pupil helping in turning the luck of our sporting nation. There are already a handful striving for this ultimate sporting achievement.

With ex pupils competing for our county in rugby, cricket, judo and golf it can only be a matter of time.

Corny Corner

Why was the maths book unhappy?
Because it had too many problems!

Why is $2+2=5$ like your left foot?
Because it's not right!

What do you get if you cross a
maths teacher and a clock?

Arithma - licks!

Pupil – "Sir, would you punish
someone for something they
didn't do?"

Teacher – "Of course not."

Pupil – "Good, because I didn't do
my homework!"

Situations Vacant

A reporter position has become available for Village Voice. The role requires a bi-monthly article to be written on behalf of All Saints Primary School. No remuneration but great job satisfaction and readers' appreciation! For more information please contact Robin Macdonald on rbnmacd@aol.com.

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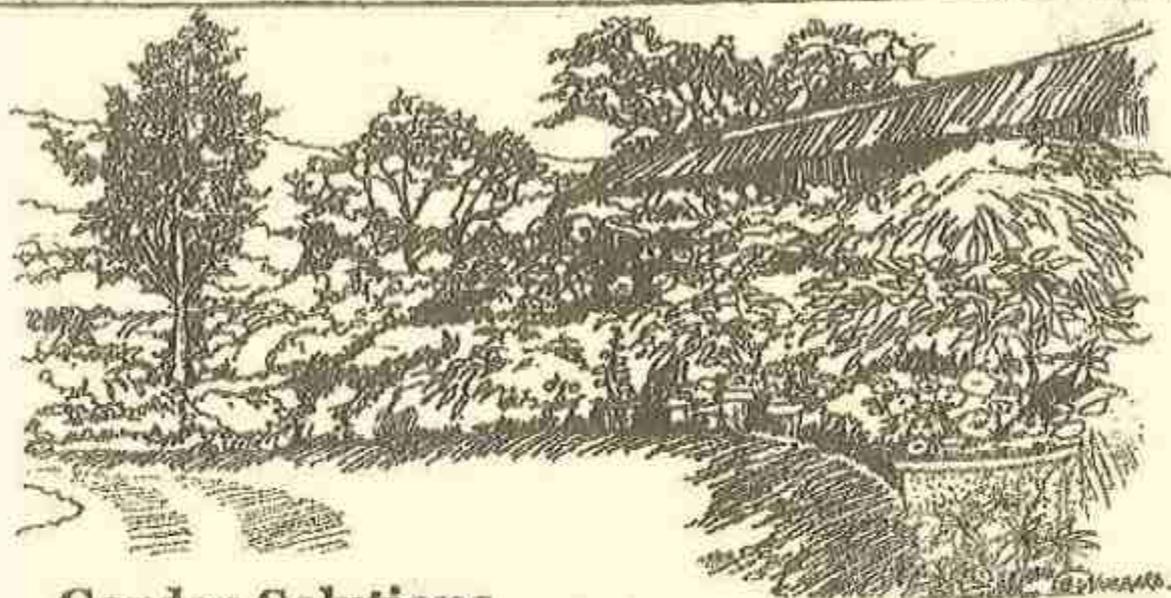
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Weather Wag

By Jan Turner

Once again I have been looking back over my weather diary; well not really, just looking at the day above the entry I am now making. July 6th 2012 was a day to remember for many - and not in any good way. I was with a group visiting the historic Ford Cemetery in Plymouth. As we left the heavens opened and it rained as never before, or so it seemed. We had a poor journey home with surface water in abundance and field gateways becoming waterfalls as we passed by. It was actually quite frightening to see the way water collected and behaved along the roads and across fields in such a short time.

The sky to the north of Plymouth had looked threatening most of the afternoon, but Plymouth remained sunny. In fact the moor was receiving a total downpour of monumental proportions which eventually reached down to the south of the county. As we got home the radio was already reporting flooding in our area, not least the Avon Mill Garden Centre. They were inundated as the River Avon burst it's banks further upstream with the result the nursery was flooded up to a depth of four feet. By the time we had got home they were already beginning to clear up as the "Flash flood" began to recede. The bridge over the river by the Centre was holed by a tree trunk and the road surface uprooted and thrown into the field. A huge amount of debris was left stranded in the river, much of it still there today as the flooding has not been quite so bad since. In fact the Garden Centre suffered another two sessions, but not as bad as the first.

This year, 2014, things could not have been more different with warm sunny days and almost drought conditions threatening for several weeks now. Today we have had some showers to help the gardens and fields with their crops. A good cut of silage must be pleasing to our farmers and the corn is coming in fast now. The school holidays are getting closer and I do hope that it will stay fine for our students and their teachers to be able to rest and relax in the sunshine here and not be tempted abroad.

The sunshine outside today (9th July) is warming and welcoming to all of us after our wet and windy winter. However there are areas of the world where continual sunshine and no rain is not the best of combinations for us mere mortals. There have been countless programmes on our television screens focussing on drought areas and the problems of the peoples living there. However, we had 19 days without rain in June before a day when 12mm fell and 12.5mm the next day to ease the dryness of our land. With just a few showers in recent days the ground is still not as damp as it could be.

Here, 14 days on the trot without rainfall can be classed as drought conditions. Usually it is broken, as this year by a short sharp depression assaulting us from the Atlantic or from France to the south. The former brings rain and wind followed by showers and decreasing winds, temperatures feeling good. From France there is always a chance that the air will be very hot and humid, spawning thunder storms over the east of the country (normally). We humans are not being exactly helpful in preserving the land against advancing dryness - desertification.

Desertification is defined as -

The transformation of productive land into desert by natural or human degradation. The term was coined in the 1950's, though desertification became notorious in the United States in the 1930's, when poor farming practises, combined with drought, caused a tremendous loss of topsoil that turned the Great Plains into a "Dust Bowl" and drove farmers to California.

Today we are much more aware of the problems that we face as a global community when it comes to the loss of productive land. But solving these problems and encouraging those who live with them on a daily basis is another question. The Chinese have huge problems with the Gobi desert which lies inland from Beijing. Huge dust storms regularly invade the capital and coat it with a thick layer of black-sand dust. People are warned to cover their wells

against the sand, city dwellers cover their faces with masks, as millions of tons of the material is deposited east of the desert. It is reckoned that the Gobi desert grew by 52,000 sq kms (20,000sq miles) between 1994 and 1999. This is only China, other areas of the world eg the Sahara are similarly affected. It is estimated that, other than the 7% of the earth's surface that is **desert**, another 30% is "dry land". This is land that is perpetually arid and at risk of becoming uninhabitable.

I don't think we have to worry on this score hereabouts. But there are areas and times when sand from our beaches is blown inland and can in extreme situations advance an already existing dunes system. Remember 1990 Burns Night gale when the golf course 1st green and fairway was covered with a thick layer of sand blown off the dunes along the edge of Leasfoot. This gale was not accompanied by rain so the sand was easily airborne. It is easy to understand how

easily the sand can be moved about in areas where there is no rain. The first fairway at Thurlestone golf Club recovered after a year and nothing on that scale has happened since. But now we have the dunes under attack from the sea, so the pattern of nature at work in her aggressive style has to be "weathered", as it were, for a few years yet.

The weather stats for June make good reading for a change with rainfall being the chief difference. 2013 was 112mm and 2014 only 45mm, which when averaged over 16 years is exactly the average figure.

Temperature was up from the average by 2°C. at 17.2°C. Sunshine hours was also higher than normal. Now, though, we could do with a few nights' steady rain to soak the gardens, but I guess the farmers would prefer the silage and hay to be finished first. The grass fields are beginning to look a bit thirsty, with cattle and sheep trying hard to look happy (mostly they are, bless them).

WEATHER SYNOPSIS

Beach Cottage, South Milton, Kingsbridge TQ7 3JR JUNE 2014

WIND

(General Direction)

13 days: Westerlies
15 days: Easterlies
2 days: Southerly

(Speed)

Top gust = 25mph on 7th and 27th
Lowest daily mean = 3mph on 30th.

RAINFALL

Number of wet days = 11
Highest daily amount = 12.2mm on 26th
Monthly Total = 45mm
Monthly Average = 45mm over 16 years

SUNSHINE

Sunniest day = 16hrs on 13th
Total for the month = 259.1hrs.
No sun on 0 days
Average over 15yrs = 203.2hours

TEMPERATURE

Highest daily = 27.2C on 24th
Lowest daily = 8.2C on 5th
Highest Daily Mean = 21C on 19th
Lowest Daily Mean = 12.2C on 5th
Monthly mean = 17.2C
Monthly mean = 15.1C over 16 years

BAROMETER

Highest = 1032mb on 23rd
Lowest = 1008mb on 7th

Check on your garden plants being readied for the **Horticultural Show** on 2nd August. Weeds still need our attention. In my greenhouse, the tomatoes have been attacked by a delightful little caterpillar, and I have had to be a bit ruthless and tell it to go elsewhere!

Good luck, and I hope that you are able to enjoy this lovely weather with your families.

S.A. YEOMAN ROOFING

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