

VILLAGE VOICE



Jack sail-by-the-wind

Velella velella

One of the earliest sightings in January 2015 of this unusual marine visitor was on Yarmer beach thanks to the sharp eyes of Gillian Marshall, whose camera recorded these rare little chaps for our front cover. Once stranded ashore they lose their inky-blue colour, and become transparent. The sightings around Devon and Cornish coasts were well covered by Sam Acourt for the Kingsbridge Gazette, as well as being reported in the Western Morning News.

February - March 2015

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlstone



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FEBRUARY - MARCH 2015

Je suis Charlie

It is with some trepidation that we include in this issue a piece that cheerfully pokes fun at - or, depending on your point of view, studiously insults - many of our European neighbours. The events in Paris last month starkly brought home the dangers inherent in the expression of sentiments that may be acceptable to some elements of our society but not to others.

But how are these differing points of view to be reconciled, or at least accommodated? The glib democratic response is by the ballot - not the bullet. But when the ballot proves ineffective, what then? And when even bullets prove ineffective, as the chaos in the Middle East currently illustrates, what remedies are left?

World wars have come and gone, and we are none the wiser. As the containment of amply funded terrorist activity becomes increasingly difficult, and perhaps ultimately impossible, the prospect of nuclear or chemical warfare, strike and counter-strike, grows uncomfortably closer.

We will go to the ballot box this summer and do our bit to try to solve all our UK problems with a simple mark on a piece of paper. The next UK government will have major challenges to meet, so the parties must set out their manifestos and agendas in the clearest possible terms.

Their messages must be unequivocal - no jokes, no poking fun, no insults, no satire. Our futures have become a very serious matter, and are not to be taken lightly.

Founder Dudley Drabble

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A NOTE FROM YOUR DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR

It seems a while since I last wrote to you in the August 2014 edition, and so I thought I'd start by updating you on some of the issues I mentioned at that time.

- # The scaffold bridge over the coastal slip in Hope Cove, has now been installed, seemingly pleasing both the community and visitors alike. It may be there for some time!
- # The backlog of potholes has been cleared in Devon, with a more normal 500 to 600 potholes a week now being reported. As against, up to 3000 per week last winter. Let's hope the winter is not too severe this time.
- # Friends of Salcombe Library have now been accepted as one of the ten pilot schemes in Devon, to enact the necessary savings and efficiencies. They deserve to have been chosen.

I seem to have settled into my new Chairmanship of the Devon Pensions and Investment Committee and been to various seminars and meetings in Cardiff and the City of London. As I have said previously, further efficiencies and savings will have to be found during 2015/16 amounting to nearly £1 million/week. We are at present consulting on the proposed savings.

Just a few further points of possible interest: (1) The level of care for children in Devon is improving and in particular adoption & fostering. (2) Devon school results were in the top 10 of UK. (3) There are 3000 people now living in Devon with Aids. (4) £4 - 5 Million is spent during any winter on emergency flood repairs and gritting in Devon, and an average of 14000 to 30000 tons of salt spread on Devon's roads.

Rufus Gilbert

National Trust South Hams Centre

Programme for February and March 2015

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday 9 Feb | "The History and Mystery of Overbeck's". Museum guide Malcolm Wesley gives an insight on the inventor and scientist and his house at Salcombe. Thurlestone Parish Hall, 2.30pm. Entrance £3.00 inc. tea. All welcome. |
| Thursday 19 Feb | "Winter lunch at the Cottage Hotel, Hope Cove. An annual favourite. |
| Thursday 5 Mar | Coach trip to Knightshayes Court (NT) and the House of Marbles. Coffee stop at the House of Marbles, Bovey Tracey, then on to Knightshayes, near Tiverton, for the rest of the day. |
| Friday 20 Mar | Coach trip to Cothelstone Manor. Late morning at Darts Farm with its local shops and restaurant. After lunch on to Cothelstone Manor, near Taunton, a 17 th century house not normally open to the public, for a guided tour with tea included. |

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 9 to 5pm).

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings held 1 December 2014 and 5 January 2015

News & Views by 'Citizen'

At the December meeting seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, District Councillor, and 35 members of the public were present whilst in January the full complement of Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, Devon County Councillor and District Councillor and twelve members of the public attended. In December the meeting was pleased to welcome Mr Nicholas Johnston, the new owner of the Bantham Estate, who said "...I hope I can fulfil what you expect of Bantham and the estate.....", adding that "there will be little change.....".

OPEN FORUM

"Treburick", Downs Road This planning application (a 'knock-down and rebuild') was criticised for (1) having a greater footprint than the original property (2) having an elevation higher than the adjacent properties - making it stick out from the surroundings (3) a slate roof will not be in keeping with the village traditions and (4) there are no car parking spaces available.

20 Meadcombe Road The proposal to knock down this property will cause problems with neighbours. Why demolish a perfectly good property? *Attention was drawn to the fact that in the Parish Council minutes of December it was noted that there were no objections to this application. This was incorrect.*

14 Mead Lane The application to divide this house into two separate properties was also criticised as access from Old Rectory Gardens would probably be denied by their association. It would also be against the 1960s sale of land covenant that no more than four dwellings per acre were permitted. It was noted that the details on this application are mainly illegible.

Fears are starting to surface about continuous building work (as on the Yarmer estate) with contractors' vehicles causing great inconvenience in the village which could well stretch far into the

future. The requirement of planning authorities to consult with local residents is clearly not happening in some cases. Is this against the law?

20mph speed limit The question of such a speed limit applying to the whole of Thurlestone was raised and would require the Parish Council to contact Devon County Council to see if this were possible.

Golf Club culvert The club sought the Council's support for work on a new culvert and this was given.

PARISH HALL

Councillor Jill Munn reported that the Hall's finances were healthy. A new key to the Hall would be obtained for the Parish Clerk.

HIGHWAYS

Rubbish. On collection days rubbish was often found to be scattered all over Thurlestone village road as the black plastic bags used were torn open overnight by seagulls or animals. This rubbish should be placed in the bins provided by the SHDC.

Clanacombe Hill. The road in East Buckland is in a mess due to agricultural debris, and Councillor Rufus Gilbert will take this up with DCC Highways.

Grove Corner. The overhanging tree previously reported has now been cleared.

FOOTPATHS & HERITAGE COAST

The Parish Council is writing to the SW Coastal Path organisation to say we are unhappy with the re-routing of the path to Hope Cove. Other parishes have already written. The coastal footpath at Leasfoot is deteriorating.

SCHOOL

Andrew Rhymes has retired as a school governor after 14 years' service. New rules have reduced the number of governors from 18 to 14 and stipulated that meetings must take place between 9am and 3pm, clearly not feasible for Councillor Rhymes.

TREES

Councillor Charles Mitchelmore reported that the application to SHDC to fell sycamores at Aune Cross had failed and he will try to establish why.

PARISH PLAN

Telephone mast: Councillor Dale Came has contacted Arqiva/Harlequin about a proposal for a new Thurlestone mast, but they are still not able to identify a suitable site. Bigbury-on-Sea have a proposal for a 17.5m lattice mast on land at Folly Farm and Councillors Jill Munn and Dale Came attended a Bigbury Parish Council meeting at which Arqiva were also present to try and establish whether this could give coverage at Bantham and some of Buckland.

Broadband: County Councillor Rufus Gilbert will contact BT to see if their survey was completed by the end of 2014, and that the improved service is still on track for completion by the end of this year.

PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

New public notice board - the new board at Buckland was now in position but a further key is required. The board is smaller than the previous one so may not be suitable for the church as well.

Precept 2015/16 - forms now in and a 2% increase was considered appropriate for the coming financial year.

Len Hubbard tree - Councillor Andrew Rhymes was thanked for the replacement holly tree.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Devon's school results showed them to be in the top ten countrywide. Potholes were now being reported at 500/600 a week - down from a peak of 3000 in the last financial year. The repair of the bridge wall at Buckland has now started. Financial cutbacks of £1million a week are still needed. Community Road Warden schemes need discussion. Flooding on the road between Huxton Cross and the B3197 towards Churchstow needs sorting out.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

At the latest 'cluster' meeting the cutbacks identified for DCC should not cause our Parish Council to reduce its precept. The Government's proposal to require Parish Councils to have the spending of their precept audited, was considered unworkable as it could mean a large chunk of the money being spent on the audit! He reported that his Locality Fund still has cash available (£500-£600) up to 31 March 2015.

POLICE

An e-mail told us that since early December only one crime reported - criminal damage to a property in Bantham with the offender being arrested and on bail.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Our application is in hand with the next meeting of the sub-committee being held shortly.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 2 February, at 7.30pm in the Yeo Room.

Village News Round-Up

LEN'S TREE

Sadly, the original conifer planted on Thurlestone green in memory of the late and well-loved artist Len Hubbard, died as did its successor. It was agreed that a holly should replace them and the newly-planted tree though still small was looking very healthy when the Phone Box committee organised their carol singing evening on 15 December. Let's keep our fingers crossed that it will thrive and that Christmas carolling can take place around it in future years.

EVANS ESTATES

In October last the company Evans Estates (1956) Ltd was acquired by Mr Nicholas Johnston of the Great Tew Estate in Oxfordshire. We are advised by Michelmores Hughes that ".....as from 1st January 2015 all financial and other matters in relation to the management of the Bantham Estate will be handled from the Great Tew Estate and not from the offices of Michelmores Hughes.....". Mr Johnston's address is Great Tew Estate Office, New Road, Great Tew, Chipping Norton, Oxon, OX7 4AH - telephone 01608 683636 and email: estateoffice@greattewestate.co.uk

REMBRANDT REVEALED

Now is the chance to see the Buckland Abbey painting recently verified as a genuine Rembrandt in all its newly-restored glory! There is a new exhibition at the Abbey on Saturday 14 February to Friday 6 March (11.30am to 3.30pm) and then on Saturday 7 March to Sunday 1 November (11am to 5pm) which will give details of how it was identified as a true masterpiece.

SNOWDROP TIME

An invitation to saunter along the River Yealm to view the fantastic display of these lovely little harbingers of spring is offered by the Devon Wildlife Trust. The date is Saturday 14 February, 10.30 to noon. Suggested you bring a picnic lunch if you wish to continue bird-watching along the estuary. May be muddy, stout footwear advised. No loos. Dogs can come under control. Donation of £2 suggested. Meet

by estate agents near Yealmpton church. Contact John Hodgson on 01364 642007. *(Kill two birds with one stone...think about visiting Yealmpton in the morning, having lunch, then on to Buckland Abbey to see the Rembrandt!).*

CIRCUS BERZERCUS

The Friends of Thurlestone School have arranged another visit to the village of the comic family show Circus Berzercus. This will be at 3 pm on Sunday 8 February at the Parish Hall so if you missed it last time don't fail to come to this performance - enjoyment guaranteed!

Tickets £5, adult £7, family tickets (4) £20 from Kay - 01548 562005.

BEETLE DRIVE

The WI is organising a Beetle Drive on Saturday 14 March, 7.30pm at the Parish Hall. Bring your own supper and drinks and enjoy all the fun this promises. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are £5 from Lisa White 560505 or Pat Clarke 561982. Open to family and friends.

OLIVER



The Kingsbridge Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS) is presenting Lionel Bart's 1960 West End hit **Oliver** at 7.30 pm at Malborough Village Hall from 24 - 28 March with a Saturday matinee. Tickets from £8 - £12 and £5 - £8 (under 16) will be available from 9th February 2015 at the Kingsbridge Information Centre or at www.kats-kingsbridge.co.uk

You've gotta getta ticket or two!

BEACH CLEAN

Why not join members of the South Hams Society for a beach clean, at **Soar Mill Cove**, on **Saturday 7 February**? You will be made very welcome. Meet in the car park behind the **Soar Mill Hotel at 1pm**. It is a ten-minute walk down to the cove. The hotel very generously offer a beautiful cream tea to all volunteers if it is open. When 20 or so people turned up for this popular event, it

was thought unfair for so many to invade the hotel, so be prepared. LW 13.56 GMT

The following beach clean will be at Gara on 7th March. For more information please contact Flo Stathers on 01548 857567.

SCAMS

Two recent police warnings relate to phone calls claiming to be by Bank or Police officials about your bank account, alleging it has been compromised. **Do not be deceived!** If in doubt, make your own direct contact with your own bank.

The second scam relates to door-knocking visits by men claiming to be arranging surveys for Energy Performance certificates. They may offer bogus identity cards, and claim you have a legal obligation. Again, do not be taken in - but call the police.

FAURE FAVOURITES

On Saturday 14 March Stanborough Chorus are performing an evening of music by Faure at Holy Trinity Church, Salcombe. The programme includes the Requiem, a new arrangement with organ and string quintet, Cantique de Jean Racine, the Pavane and Messe Basse. Jason Smart is the organist with the String Quintet Ensemble. Further details are in the advert elsewhere in this issue. The church venue has been adapted to serve also as a concert hall which it does most attractively.

KNOTWEED DANGER

The Government has announced new measures aimed at controlling the spread of non-native plants including the highly invasive Japanese Knotweed. People who fail to identify, destroy and remove these plants could face a criminal prosecution and be fined up to £2500 - or even be given an anti-social behaviour order (ASBO). Both vendor and purchasers of residential property are now deemed to have a duty of care so the legal advice is to take steps to avoid falling foul of the law by seeking help and dealing with knotweed properly if you identify an invasion on your property or that of a neighbour.

RUBBISH SACKS

Plastic rubbish sacks left overnight outside houses on Thurlestone's main street are being scavenged by animals and by seagulls. This results in rubbish being strewn across

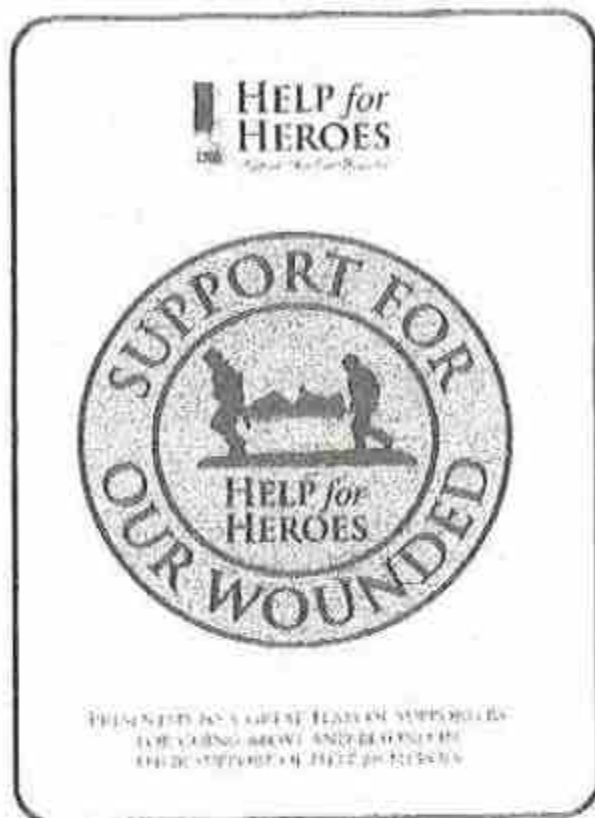
and down the road, which is both unhygienic and unsightly. The Parish Council appeals to residents and holiday-home owners to put their sacks where they should be deposited ...in the bins provided by SHDC!

HELP FOR HEROES

The efforts of the parish in raising more than £2000 for the Help for Heroes fund in 2014 have been recognised by the award of a certificate, which is reproduced below.

The principal fund-raising organisers were Jane & Patrick Stanley and Gillian & Kit Marshall (Brigadier Walker's talk at the Parish Hall); the Thurlestone Telephone Box Committee (Sing-Along); and POTS (War Memorial Exhibition and Centenary Quiz).

However, everyone who contributed to all these events can take pleasure from this recognition of the parish's efforts.

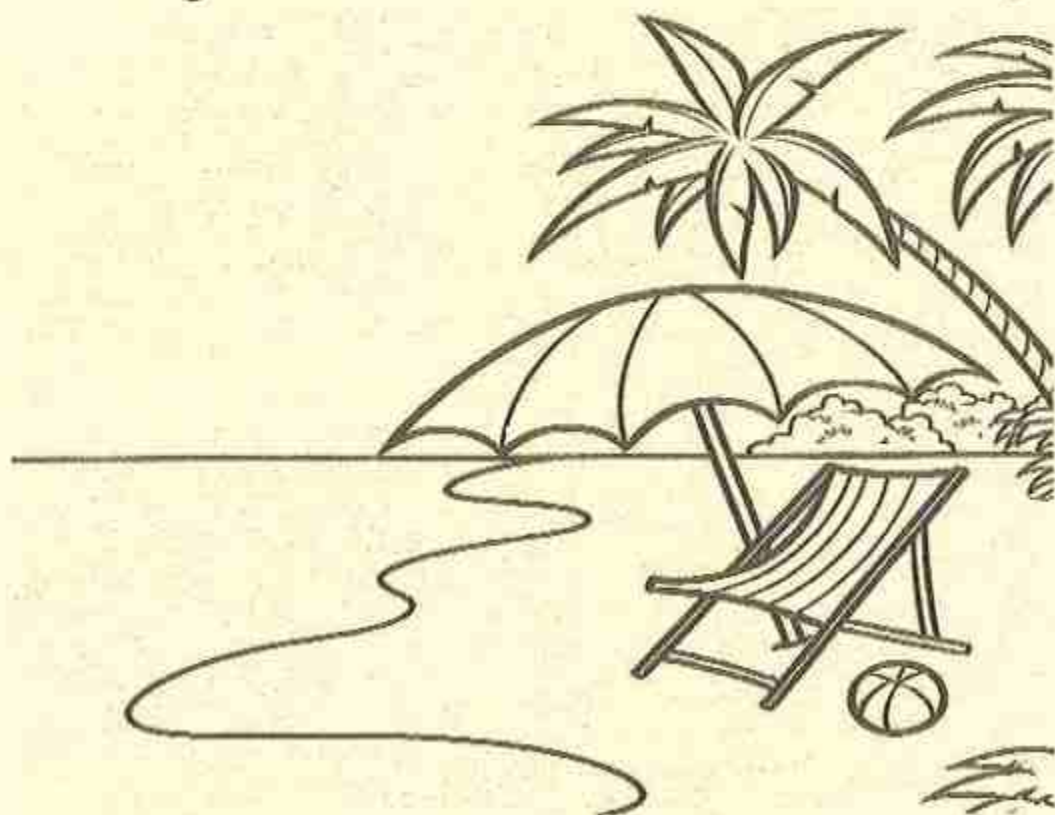


PARISH WEBSITE?

Rumour has it that moves (if not actually yet afoot) are currently being considered for the development and introduction of a website for Thurlestone Parish. Who knows? It may even become a reality before the promised arrival of superfast broadband.

(Oh, come on, BT - can't you take a joke?)

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PARISH HALL NEWS

Chairman: Neill Irwin



January has seen the beginning of a new programme of events for the Hall and some new and exciting prospects. We are pleased to welcome Anna Martin to the Committee. She has agreed to help us to promote the use of the Hall throughout the whole parish. Sue Dwyer has also come on board as the new Bridge Club representative. I am sure that some fresh perspectives on the parish-wide function of the Hall will get 2015 off to a good start.

At our first meeting, the Committee was treated to a very illuminating (!) presentation of an improved projector for the audio-visual system. Comparing the impact of this with our old analogue projector was most instructive and interestingly, the new improved model is less expensive than our ten-year old model. This will need further consideration as part of our new budget since the rewiring will also have to be costed in as well as a potential wireless connection for the laptop computer which is used by people making presentations. On a more prosaic note, this is also the year when the external decoration needs to be done and this is probably not an optional part of our budget for the year. Thank you to Chris White who has organised estimates for these two projects which should have been agreed upon by the time of my next bulletin.

We also started the year by thinking about Hall utilization and occupancy. Diane Martin produced some figures which demonstrated that the Main Hall has only about 30% occupancy against its potential of 90 bookable slots per month. The Yeo Room is much lower. Clearly there are some time periods which are less popular but there are two evening slots (Tuesday and Thursday) which are free for regular activities. The Hall's main function is to provide an amenity for the residents of the parish and money is raised to maintain that amenity so we need to achieve a balance between utilization and profit. It would be great to hear if you have any ideas for increasing usage. Perhaps you would like to present your accounts of amazing trips or of family history or research projects? The Hall is in a great position to provide a venue. If you are thinking of starting a group, speak to us about availability as did Mini Tennis and 'Nia with Nola' in 2014. We have seen that the Hall can be a wonderful party venue in recent months and having a children's event out of the house can be a great boon. The cost of hiring the Hall or Yeo Room is quite modest and there is a special rate for parishioners.

The events programme for the year is nearly finalized and you should now be getting your tickets for Folk2, the Barn Dance on 14 February. After a recent private event in the Hall, I know that everyone will be gearing up to strip the willow with perhaps a Devon Jig and Demented Seagull (it does exist) thrown in for good measure. After our AGM on 21 April, on 25 April we welcome back concert pianist Tim Abel with two wonderful singers, and on 6 June a tribute act called Cleverly Everley will be here. By popular demand, the *Racketts* Rock 'n Roll band will be returning on for another rousing evening on 11 July. There will be a Family Fun event with barbecue on 28 July, the Autumn Fair on 26 September, a mystery event in October (diaries permitting), and a Murder Mystery on 7 November.

The Parish Hall will be ten years old later this year, and we will be holding a special anniversary lunch on Saturday 5 December to celebrate the occasion. Put the date in your diary now - you won't want to miss it!

Thurlestone Phone Box Ring Ring

With voices lubricated with mulled wine supplied by Toad Hall Cottages, over one hundred Parishioners carolled away at the annual (now by popular request) Phone Box Carols on Thurlestone Parish Green by the brand new Len's Christmas Holly Tree. The singing was led by the augmented Razor Sharp Barber's Shop group and live-broadcast to the world by BBC Radio Devon's DJ Shep aided by chief editor Mark through the BBC's latest gizmo satellite

van parked outside the shop. Father Christmas aided by a rather dashing elf doled out Christmas treats to young and old (surely there aren't any oldies in Thurlestone?) Scrumptious mince pies, made by our very own Mincy Joan and sponsored by the Village Inn, were much appreciated. If you listened to the broadcast you would have heard the amazing firework display that was triggered off when the Christmas Lights were turned on, but fortunately the Carol singing was so loud that no one on the Green was aware of it! A great evening and thanks to all who joined in.



The Phone Box has bought a stand-alone amplifier. It works off batteries, can play music from a memory stick, i-pod or whatever and has two wireless microphones.

Ideal for outdoor or indoor events it is available at a minimal charge (free to local charities) for use by the community at large. It proved ideal at the Carol Singing and should enhance any event. The Phone Box Operators wish everyone many Good Rings and Things for 2015 and hope we can add to the fun through the year.

....and now Buckland Phone Box

The Buckland box is now being managed by a committee of 6 residents of West Buckland. The Box has been cleaned, and the lighting improved so that it now emits a nice glow at night. The Box was decorated at Christmas with a wonderful garland made by Anna Sullivan, a Christmas tree donated by Roger Cole, and other decorations from local households.

On Dec 16th, the Box hosted a party for the carol singers who had serenaded the houses of Buckland, and other residents of Buckland. Carey and Adam Ryan-Carter generously provided mulled wine, and Adam and Joely sang and played to us. Over 30 people attended, the youngest attendee was 8 days old, and the 2nd youngest was 4 weeks old, which is a reflection of the changing population of Buckland. You can see photos of the party on the Buckland Box Facebook page, and membership of Facebook is not required to see them.

We have had a £200 grant from the Parish Council for which we are very grateful. We want to have the box painted professionally, which is going to cost rather more than £200, but have had a generous donation from one of our committee members, which will help very much towards payment of the painting. Once the painting is done, we intend to have a notice board for villagers to use and a map of Buckland, showing where properties without a street address are located in our village. We also hope to have various events, involving the children of the village - the first on being around Valentine's day. We would also be happy to let the Box out for a small fee for one day art exhibitions or similar events, so please contact me if you are interested in hiring it.

We cannot possibly match the success of the Thurlestone telephone box, but we can have a good try to make the Box a useful resource for Buckland!

Anna Martin Tel 01548 560796

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Eating Out Locally

"Where can we go for a nice meal?" is a question we often hear asked. Restaurants, cafes, and inns across the South Hams have been known to vary in their appeal and quality from time to time, so it can be useful to have some up-to-date experience when faced with making a choice. To try and provide a little help to this end, Village Voice will be featuring readers' accounts of their visits to local hostelrys, and will welcome such contributions for inclusion in future issues. We begin this series quite close to home with a report by Vivien Jones on the BeachHouse Café at Thurlestone Sands, South Milton.

The BeachHouse Café, Thurlestone Sands

Our coastal walk to the BeachHouse took us across Thurlestone golf links and the reed beds of South Milton Ley. It is an ideally situated refreshment stop for Hope Cove coastal path walkers and other locals. Many South Hams visitors drive via South Milton, or take the country lane from South Hulsh.

The sea view is exceptional and you may place your order at the hatch-window for eating at tables arranged alongside grassy sand dunes behind low retaining walls, but today we go inside where rustic tables and benches seat 24, or a squashed 36. A chalk board invites us to "Book a party to celebrate....or just because you can".

Seated at the end table, we were greeted by scent from hyacinths that sagged under their own weight. The perfume reminds us of home comforts and I prop the flower stems back on the fork and spoon I find stuck in the soil for their support.

Cheerful waiters set the mood where this rustic décor is agreeable for both daytime beach-combers and cosy evening diners. The comfortable ambience accommodates the habit of eating at any hour of the day. It's open for breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner, and everything in between, 364 days a year.

We called in for coffee and a slab of their delicious flapjack - and took in the creative elements of this unique restaurant. Packing-case boards, probably from fish boxes or pallets, form the division from the galley kitchen. Glowing antique carbon filament bulbs, hang from open rafters on blue wire, while infra red heating lamps hang over the food-serving counter. Alongside them is a modern coffee machine. Set aside, in reserve for the inevitable power cut, are gas lamps and paraffin lamps... and a store of candles. The wine rack is a fish box; cutlery is stored in plastic sand buckets.

A melody, from an out of sight source, defines what is meant by background music. It is subtle behind the cheerful cosmopolitan chatter of tourists and locals. They eat from timeless food - lots of it caught from the sea nearby. Kid's beach buckets are perfect vases for fresh parsley. A toddler at the next table shares food from his parents' plates - a sight that contrasts the cheeseboard and wine set at another table where there's a laptop in use. Golden daffodils there keep the natural ambience, regardless of the business that is taking place.

At another table I see mussels served - and there's a sand castle bucket for the shells. I like it here and I promise myself to return one summer evening to enjoy something from their dinner menu. But then I'll be wearing earrings, perfume and a dress ... instead of walking boots.

For more information or to make a booking call 01548-561144. You can also catch the flavour of the place from their website at www.beachhousedevon.com and the advert in South Hams Eating Out Guide 2014/15, a useful free handbook from S. Hams Newspapers.

ODE TO THE CHUNNEL

or

Why the English do not want a Channel Tunnel

This delightful piece of anonymous comic xenophobia was first discovered circulating round the headquarters of the European Parliament in the early 1990s, and was rumoured to be the work of a Conservative Euro-MP. We have to thank Martyn Grose for rescuing this anthology of continental stereotypes from an old copy of the Sunday Telegraph. Ah well, je suis Charlie, after all....

There'll be carloads of Louises
From Parisian stripteases -
Importing foul diseases
Into Kent.

There'll be modern French Wells Fargoes
Sending juggernauts with cargoes
Of frogs legs and escargots
And men's scent.

There'll be Dutchmen too, by Jingo,
Who refuse to speak the lingo,
Coming over for the bingo
And the dogs.
And through this umbilical,
Seeking knickers from St. Michael,
Girls from Rotterdam will cycle
In their clogs.

There'll be Danes on every corner;
Faces pink after a sauna,
Trying hard to sell us porno-
Graphic books.
There'll be men like Julius Caesar
Getting in without a visa,
Careless architects from Pisa.....
Bloody crooks.

There'll be wealthy German campers
With enormous picnic hampers
Full of sauerkraut and Champers
And pork pies.
There'll be Eyeties slick and smarmy
Reared on pizza and salami,
Turning up at Veeraswamy
Without ties.

There'll be Swedes of charmless candour
Coming over to philander
Spreading left-wing propaganda
About wealth.
Belgian girls of vast proportions
Who have failed to take precautions
Driving over for abortions
On the Health.

There'll be Spanish señoritas
Jamming all our parking meters
With their miserable pesetas.
(I don't know!)
And senoras doing the samba
Shouting 'vamos' and 'caramba'
And believing that the amber
Light means 'Go'.

There'll be Austrians with poodles
Wanting membership of Boodles,
Then demanding apple strudels
With their tea.
There'll be lecherous Kuwaitis
Driving lorryloads of Katies
From the Thames to the Euphrates
C.O.D.

There'll be men from Lithuania,
From Romania and Albania,
From Tasmania, Pennsylvania,
I've no doubt.
So, dear immigration panel,
Boys in sports jackets and flannel,
Please protect our English Channel.....
Throw them out!

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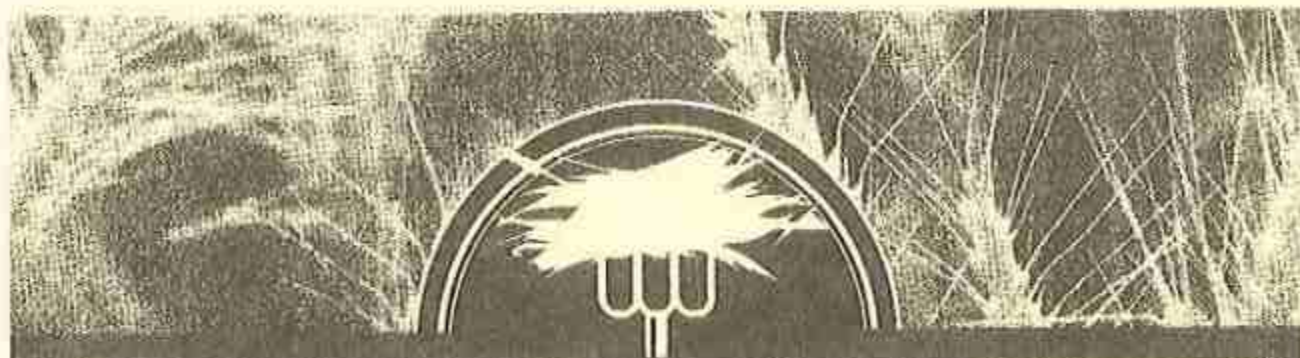
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All Saints' Diary

Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall 562016

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

Church Services

Sundays

EVERY SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (alternating BCP & CW)

FEBRUARY 1ST, 15TH & MARCH 1ST
Also on FEBRUARY/MARCH 1ST
FEBRUARY 15TH

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Fairtrade Stall Feb/March 1st)

6.00pm Benefice Evensong Feb: Churchstow, March: S Milton

6.00pm Benefice Praise Service at Thurlestone

FEBRUARY 8TH

11.10am Morning Worship

FEBRUARY 22ND, MARCH 8TH

11.10am Matins (BCP)

MOTHERING SUNDAY MARCH 15TH

11.10am Mothering Sunday Family Communion (CW)

MARCH 22ND

11.00am Benefice Eucharist (CW) at Thurlestone

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29TH

10.55am Palm Sunday Procession leaves Parish Hall

11.10am Palm Sunday Family Service (Fairtrade Stall)

Weekdays

THURSDAY FEB 5TH, MARCH 5TH

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at Bantham

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18TH

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

6.00pm Benefice Eucharist (CW) at South Milton

EVERY WEDNESDAY

8.30am Morning Prayer (said)

CW = Common Worship (modern language) BCP = Book of Common Prayer (traditional language)



2015 Photographic Competition

Don't forget to enter photos of
the Thurlestone Area
for a 2016 Calendar
by April 15th

Entry forms: Church & Meeting Room,
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in the Church Meeting Room **MAY 23RD - 25TH**

Informal Organ Recital

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WEDNESDAYS

FEBRUARY* & MARCH 18TH

12.15 - 1.00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome

Donations to
Church Funds

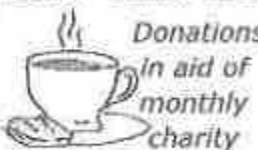
(*Subject to organ repair
- check with Liz Webb)



You would be welcome to join us for **Activities in the Church Meeting Room**

Coffee-Time

WEDNESDAYS
10.30 - 11.30 a.m.



Donations
in aid of
monthly
charity

Films for All

TUESDAYS 2.30 pm

FEB. 3RD What we did on our holiday

MARCH 3RD Downhill

Donations to Church Funds

Interval for tea & biscuits

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*All
Saints*

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: *Vacancy*
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one of the Churchwardens (see overleaf)

LAY READER: Peter Gornall

Peter Gornall Writes:

".... AND THEY MOCKED HIM"

In the remoteness of our villages, the events of recent days in Paris and in Belgium can seem very far away. We cannot imagine gunfire in the streets and the heroics of hiding frightened supermarket shoppers in the cold store. Of course the troubles, and the worries about troubles, are not confined to the continent; and there have been arrests in these islands too. Worse, there are fears in the ordinary neighbourly Islamic communities that they are in the process of all being branded with the same mark as the extremists who are brainwashed to follow the IS path. Jewish communities have reasonable worries that they will be targeted by extreme anti-Semitism. American citizens have been subjected to some of the most biased and ill-informed comment to have come from a free country.

We really cannot stand by entirely, in spite of the huge differences in the make-up of population here compared with that in the troubled towns and cities. Here we have many who came because of the bracing sea air, the golf and country pursuits and so on; but I guess we mainly expected to be happy because here we mix with like-minded people. Not so different an attitude from those Muslims who want to live in some part of, say, Birmingham, or a Jewish family with their eye on Golders Green. And we are all entitled to feel safe.

Then comes the debate about free speech, and whether you have the right to insult the religious or cultural sensitivities of anyone else. The Christian tradition, clear in St. Paul's writings, is to keep away from antagonising or showing up someone with particular sensitivities. The thought is that the suffering Christ bore mockery and insult on the way to his death by torture. And if, as He himself made clear, the human person of God is chiefly to be found among the poor, needy, exploited, downcast and fearful, then the last thing any Christian should be doing is treading on raw nerves.

Of course, free speech must be defended, because that is one of the potent weapons for defending those very poor and needy from the hatred of extremists and racists, and from the greed of the exploiter. But defending free speech is miles from setting out to provoke and mock. Provocation and mockery are derivatives of free speech, not its originators. And for the fearful in Muslim and Jewish communities, Christians need to make clear their maxim that "Perfect love casts out fear". He really does. And we need to show we believe it.

Every Blessing!

Peter



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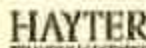
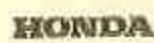
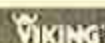
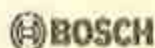
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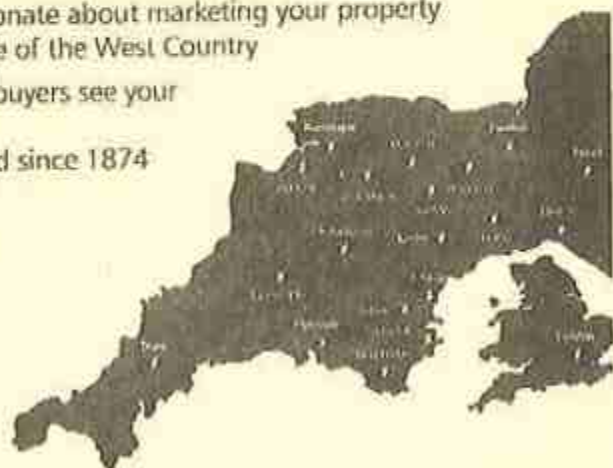
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Tough

No. 103



Tough

No. 104



Tougher

No. 105



Tougher

No. 106

Double Fix on the Chinese Menu Again...

Tough 102 in our previous issue included a misprinted 6 instead of 9 at row 6. This additional challenge was in fact for 1% of our readers, who all submitted all correct solutions to all four puzzles, choosing to detect one of the duplicated 6s. There were two prize entries containing 3 or 4 correct solutions. So special congratulations go to: *Andromeda, Chloë, Danyel, Leif, Lorraine, Pauline, Peter, Robert, Peter, & White; the van Oortvelds & Lewis; and Don & Joy Bailey*. But sadly there was only one before till at our 2014 May, and it goes by *Clayton Olsen*, whose name came out of the hat. Entries for this issue's 1999 Year Challenge in 2% fixed time or trial by 1% March 2015 please.

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POSTBAG

Dear Editor

A one-way system?

In the Dec 2014-Jan 2015 Village Voice there is comment about the traffic problems on the two roads from Whitley Cross to the main Plymouth Road. Yes there are problems here for traffic in and out of Thurlestone, but no, a one way scheme here is not the answer. Consider the following:

1. The accident rate along the road past Whitley Farm is very high, with many of the accidents being of a one vehicle nature indicating that the vehicle in question was travelling too fast (in fact this is also witnessed regularly). If this was to become a one-way road the speed of the traffic would inevitably go up significantly as there would be no expectation of any vehicle coming in the opposite direction. The real danger here is of course to cyclists, walkers and horse riders and to any animal movements being done on the road. I personally walk this road regularly and well know how dangerous it can already be, let alone with a one-way system in effect.
2. There are more homes and residences on the section past Whitley Farm than most people realise, all of whom would be considerably inconvenienced by a one-way scheme.
3. The greatest impact would be on those farming the fields either side of both roads: farms are businesses and some farming activities require a great deal of to and from traffic between field and farm buildings. The section past Whitley Farm is particularly busy and a one way system here would put an impossible strain on this particular farm.
4. What about the emergency services needing longer routes to get to the properties along these roads?
5. And what about the postman, dustcart etc, all of which would have to put in new routes probably increasing costs etc?

No, a one-way scheme is not the way forward and the real answer is to provide better passing places, especially on the bends. A one-way system just for heavy goods vehicles (but leaving other traffic free to travel in both directions) might possibly work, but the feasibility of such a scheme is a matter for the highways authority to rule on: there may be rules against it.

**Rolf Burnie
Langdon, Thurlestone**

Dear Editor

Citizens' Advice Bureau

I would like to thank all the people who came to my 70th birthday party in the Parish Hall on November 29th and very generously gave donations to the South Hams Citizens' Advice Bureau. The amount raised was in excess of £500.00, a wonderful result and I am very grateful indeed.

Citizens' advice provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. In addition to helping people solve problems, the service campaigns to ensure these problems are tackled at the root cause. Some Citizens' Advice representatives attend parliamentary committee sessions, where they help to influence the content of bills. The organization promotes equality and challenges discrimination. Nationally it provides support to local bureaux through integrated governance and training advice and computer services. It manages audit to ensure expected standards and is responsible for national policy.

Citizens' Advice Bureaux deliver advice services from over 3300 community locations in England and Wales, run by 338 individual, independent charities and with a total of 22,000 volunteers. Advice is provided face-to-face, over the phone and through digital channels.

The South Hams Bureau is based in Follaton House in Totnes and has three outreach centres in Dartmouth, Ivybridge and

Kingsbridge. Last year the bureau dealt with some 9000 enquiries, including over 4000 telephone calls, in 14 different areas, the largest of which were benefits, debt, housing, employment, relationships and family, consumer goods and services and financial services and included training in financial capability.

Although the bureau can bid for specific projects e.g. fuel poverty funded by energy companies, we are struggling to meet the demand on our core budget which pays for clients with individual and multi-faceted problems. In addition, the loss of legal aid two years ago and of our legal team, (we had to pay redundancy payments), means that much more work has been taken on by the volunteer advisers. The interim budget is due to end this year and bureaux are now expected to raise their own funds at a time of rapidly rising demand. Working life in rural areas is not easy, with high cost housing and travel, and seasonal and part-time working contracts, as can be seen by the increasing use of food banks.

All this makes me even more grateful for the generosity of the Thurlestone community, so thank-you, everyone.

Wendy Gornall

Dear Editor

Our grand-daughter Mia Simmons of Redhill, Surrey, was asked to write an essay about her favourite place for a school homework project. We thought your readers might like to hear what she thought about Devon.

In Praise of Devon

"Of all the places in the world my best-loved place is Devon, at my grandma's house. Why? I hear you ask. Well, purely because the smell of the sea water and lovely hot chocolate from the Gastrobus and the sound of squawking seagulls just makes me feel at home.

I'll never forget the time that I was surfing on the beach in the summer holidays and the current was pushing me out further and further until it was so strong I couldn't beat it! I tried to swim back to shore but the current was too strong. My surf board was drifting me away as quick as you can say

~~~~~



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*Jack Frost! My grandpa was on the shore
going nuts; so nuts that he asked a dog
trainer with his Newfoundland dog to come
and save me. The dog took me back to
shore and all was well.*

*Devon is such a beautiful place and always
people are smiling. My grandma is amazing
at sewing, cooking, and - most of all -
gardening. My grandpa is such a DIY person
and always has a job to do. Devon is such
a beautiful place and everyone should have
a chance to go there. So that is why I
personally think that Devon is the best place
in the whole wide world"*

The Wells
Peartree Cottage, Buckland

[Thank you, Mr & Mrs Wells, for sending this
to us - it was heart-warming to read! **Ed.**]

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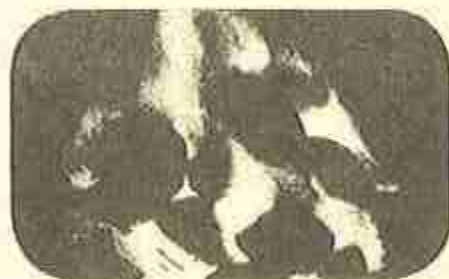
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We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break. We are delighted to welcome seven new children to the setting and we hope they enjoy their first term with us!

This term our main topic will be 'Journeys and Transport'. We will be talking to the children about different modes of transport, journeys and different places around the world and in the UK. This topic will include a visit from a Cabin Manager from British Airways, who will talk to the children about her role and some of the exciting destinations that the airline visits. We will also be inviting our parents and carers to talk to the children about their own experiences of travel and transport.

We will also be looking at the Chinese New Year along with the primary school's reception class as part of the Papillon Foundation Stage Unit. We will be making a Chinese dragon and working together to make some Chinese dancing and music.

Outdoor activities will be explored with a visit to Forest and Beach at Beeson and we hope to continue with termly outdoor-themed educational experiences.

In March, we will be supporting National Book Day with the children being invited to dress up as their favourite book character. The second half of the term sees us looking at 'Spring and Growth'. It looks to be a busy and exciting term!

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Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1st March 2015. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@thecmead.co.uk

FOOD & DRINK

If you have recovered from the over indulgence of the festive season, turn your mind to feasting yet again and solve these cryptic clues to (mostly) common items of food and drink. The prize goes to the entry with the most correct answers. Good Luck!

1. The baker makes this to keep vampires at bay (6,5)
2. The best man offers this to the bride and groom (5)
3. Sounds like the place where mum goes for a drink (4,3)
4. The rule according to Nat the crooner (8)
5. Refuse entry to the 7th letter (6)
6. Choose Mr Faldo (6)
7. Bird having a sneaky look (6,4)
8. Egg-shaped adolescent (8)
9. Joy in Istanbul (7,7)
10. Miss Budd with snakes for hair (10)
11. Lucky evaders (5,7)
12. Spots a mixture of raw vegetables (6,5)
13. Speedy Alien (7)
14. The magnificence of early 20th Century short baggy trousers (13,5)
15. Sounds like Schwarzenegger has a cold nose (6,3,5)
16. Mr Goodman prepares the soil for planting (7)
17. A large vehicle is less healthy (7)
18. Stationary heavy weight (7)
19. Unintentional loss of water (4)
20. Too much traffic causes hold up (3)
21. Currency in the casino (5)
22. No survivors (5)
23. A hunky male for afters (10)
24. Sounds as though we are unable to run away to marry (10)
25. An amphibian in the opening (4,2,3,4)
26. A cat's door in a box? (8)
27. Gseg (4)
28. Select a flower (10)
29. It's left after the ghost has been cremated (7)
30. Not very bright mathematical calculation (3,3)

Solutions to previous Grey Matter:

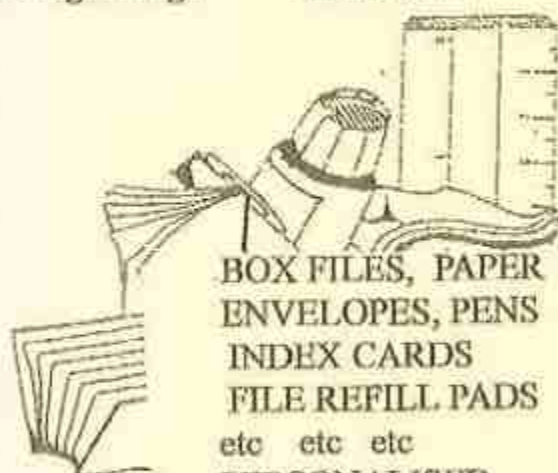
1. Holly, 2. Mince Pie, 3. Magi, 4. Baubles, 5. Bishop, 6. Christmas Rose, 7. Yule Log, 8. First Footer, 9. A Christmas Carol, 10. Stocking Fillers, 11. Tinsel, 12. Epiphany, 13. Punch, 14. Christmas Box, 15. Figgy Pudding, 16. Pantomime, 17. Christingle, 18. Santa's Sleigh, 19. Mulled Wine, 20. Boar's Head, 21. Handel's Messiah, 22. Nativity Play, 23. Star, 24. Stable, 25. Cracker, 26. Christmastide, 27. Bellringing, 28. Advent, 29. Saint Nicholas, 30. Manger

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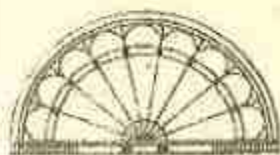


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December

The Christmas season got off to a good start when, in early December, members and friends from Salcombe, South Milton and West Alvington joined Thurlestone members at their parish church for the group's annual carol service. Eleven members of the host WI had formed a choir - Mesdames Clarke, Dudden, Gilling, Hickey, Le Grice, Livett, Macdonald, Martin (Diane), Neukirchen, Reynolds and White - which had practised hard for the occasion under its musical director Judith Le Grice.

On 12 December a sociable and delicious Christmas lunch party was held at Thurlestone Golf Club, after which Val Brown entertained us with her rendering of a Pam Ayres poem. As she said she could not mimic Pam's voice she did it in lilting Welsh tones which made the reading even more enjoyable. This was followed by Chris Field reading a monologue about an elderly Yorkshire-man's first experience of attending a performance of Handel's 'Messiah'. These two solo performances were much enjoyed by the audience. Jo Odams was the lucky winner of a hamper of locally produced edible goodies, which were sourced in support of local suppliers.

President Lisa White thanked everyone who had contributed to December's festivities - the tea providers, choir, committee members, entertainers, and golf club cooks and staff - who had worked hard to make these events possible and enjoyable. She wished everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

January

The speaker in January, Jane Brunt, made an unexpectedly dramatic entrance, clothed in an Arabian black *burkha*, a memento of the days when she had lived in a harem in the Rub-al-Khali 'empty quarter' of Saudi Arabia. No, she was not a sheikh's lady but the wife of a Devon cattle man brought in by Prince Mohammed (cousin to King Khalid) to oversee the arrival of a 1000 head dairy

herd, a first for Saudi. Derek, her husband, was allowed to bring Jane and their two young sons (aged 1 and 4) but Jane and the boys had to live meantime with the Prince's 12 wives and 22 children in their harem until the Brunt's promised home had been completed. Derek had to live with the 40 male workers and was not allowed to set foot in the harem. He and Jane used to arrange meetings in the buildings being completed for the cattle!

There were no other European women and they were a three-plus hours drive across the desert from the capital city Riyadh. The harem was most kind and welcoming to Jane and the boys, and Jane fell in love with the desert, seizing every opportunity to learn about Arab culture and savour every new experience.

Wells had to be dug, buildings constructed and then, where there had only been sand, feed crops for the animals (alfalfa, barley and oats) grew lushly. The Friesian cattle duly arrived from Australia, 250 at a time, accompanied by a vet, to make up the 1000. Today there are 120,000 Friesian cattle in Saudi Arabia!

A short silence was observed to remember Joyce Heath, a member who had recently died.

Future Events

On 16 February there would be a 'SnowdropWalk', under the guidance of West Alvington members, at Bowringsleigh.

On 21 February a Thurlestone team will be taking part in the first round of the county quiz, which is to be held at Morleigh village hall.

On Saturday 14 March there will be a Beetle Drive at the Parish Hall, 7.30pm, a *bring your own supper* event. Tickets are £5 and available from Lisa White or Pat Clarke.

Speakers for meetings in 2015 are all detailed in members' programmes. Visitors are of course welcome for these talks.

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Thurlestone Golf Club



CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

New Year, new Season, new Captain, new clubs, but same old struggle to play this wonderful game anywhere near to your handicap.

The first event of the year is the traditional 'Captain's Drive In'. Thankfully both I and the Lady Captain managed to hit reasonable drives to start the year. The mulled wine and minced pies that preceded it were excellent and the Competition that followed was well supported - thank you to all those who helped to make it so. All the money raised at this event and through the year will go to my charity 'The Chestnut Appeal' and the Lady Captain's charity. My Charity raises money to pay for equipment and nursing staff to treat prostate cancer and is based in Derriford Hospital. I hope you will all give generously to such a good cause.

The Club moves on into the New Year with several changes to the Committee. We must thank all the outgoing Officers for their efforts and congratulate them on the fine state the Club is in as we enter 2015.

It is now up to the new Officers to continue the good work.

I have given some thought as to how to approach these Reports and I decided that it would be impossible for me to reach the high standard set by Lincoln Shaw in the Gazette and I certainly do not want to duplicate his reporting of Club Events. I am therefore going to write about the aspects of this great game that interest or amuse me. So, as the year begins, I want to return in this report to the subject of one's handicap. Your handicap could and can have certain characteristics, some of which you may recognise!

Take 24 for a start. This handicap for a woman is generally associated with an 'ambitious nerviness', long thwarted, to become 18. But in a man it has a suggestion of roundness and warmth. The 24 man is rarely a self deceiver. The 22 man on the other hand may be nigglingly mean and, however short with his woods, a very good putter. The 21 suggests an ex 24 who has

recently won a medal. 20s are generally past their prime but are men of spirit.

The character of 18 is split. There is a weak and colourless 18 with thin red hair perhaps, one whose skin never browns in the sun, a flaccid personality, an acid drop sucker, never likely to get married. But there is also a deep voiced 18, a man who has recently given up rugby, a man of strength, who, though often off course, can, using only a 5 wood and a number 8, slash his way round by sheer muscle.

More thin-blooded even than the 'weak' 18 is the 17, with his unpleasant eyes a pale and watery blue. He finds it difficult to get opponents or is too mousey to ask for them. Old 16s and 15s are sound sensible people who may have been 7 when younger. The longest-handicap man to get the care-worn look of the really hooked or nearly hooked golfer is the 14. He spends time in the professional's shop looking at clubs, testing but never actually buying them.

13s are rare and should be treasured. 12s are all too common. Nearly 20% of the bar receipts come from 12s. It should be a rule that, except for young players on the way down, 12s must never have their handicap altered until they reach the age of 85.

The biggest change comes with 11. At once this suggests a more serious golfer, the highest handicap to possess an inner fire. Cheeks pale and drawn, eyes intense and often too close together, 11 will keep to his handicap only by constant practice so unremitting that it may involve some slight physical deformity.

The handicap of 10 is a strong contrast. It suggests a man more relaxed, approaching the dignity of being 'Good at Games'. Often he belongs to the 'really better than that' brigade, e.g. 10 may be really 8. A 9, on the other hand, is often a more genuine 11, under a special strain of trying to keep to single figures. In contrast 8, 7 and 6 are often really 5, or at any rate, on their way to better play and beginning to enjoy collecting trophies.

Five is the highest handicap to suggest 'expert'. The 5 man, once he has achieved this splendidly low figure, is liable, unless he rapidly improves still further, to become

fixed in the trap of his own virtuosity. Age stops the way to advance, pride stops re-adjustment during the eternal return to double figures.

The 4s and under belong to a special patrician class who could go round in level. They are different, they are not us. Three always sounds, by the mere precision of the number, as if it was really 3. The brilliant figures of 2 & 1 are either a dashing all-rounder occasionally playing cricket for Kent, or a dedicated monk-like character, who lives, in a stone cell, somewhere on the outskirts of the course. Scratch has to adopt the character of the schoolboy hero, not always easy, once the mid-thirties are passed and plus 2 belongs to yet another world, a man who must never be interrupted or spoken to on duty.

Those of you who know your Golf literature will recognise the clever hand of Mr Stephen Potter in the above. I will extract and adapt other passages or themes from my library to assist me as the year winds on.

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

William Hutchison

LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

This is my first report as Lady Captain and I would like to say that it is a real privilege to be Thurstone's Lady Captain for 2015 and I look forward to the year with pleasure. I have tried to provide a good mix of both serious golf and fun golf in the diary and hope that perhaps one of our teams will get to finals day as the Still Cup team did last year. We have entered all the Devon Ladies team events, the Still Cup, captained by Heather Spencer, the President's Trophy captained by Barbara Smith and the Sheelah Creasy Bowl captained by Anne Seymour. Our Devon League team is to be led by Liz Sharman and Trish Cooper is organising the friendly matches. Together with Wendy Laud organising our mixed matches it promises to be a busy season!

The Ladies Committee this year comprises Gill Hicks as Honorary Secretary and Barbara Smith as Competition Secretary, while Midge Henderson continues as Treasurer and Yvonne Pike as Handicap Secretary. Together with our new members, Hayley Pepperrell, Jane Mahood and Janet Richardson they complete a committee who

I know will give me strong support during my year of captaincy. I would like, on behalf of all our ladies, to thank last year's captain Wendy Laud, for all her hard work over past years for the ladies section.

I have been playing golf most of my life having started when I was young at St Andrews and Aberdeen and have been a member of Thurstone for 30 years. I have enjoyed serving on the committee for four years, two of them as Handicap Secretary. I will find it very difficult to follow in Wendy's very efficient shoes. My charity for next year will be in aid of Parkinson's disease, from which my Mother, who was also a member of Thurstone Golf Club, suffered for many years. I look forward to playing golf with as many of you as possible in 2015 so please sign up with me when you can.

To recap November and December in the ladies section; the November Medal was held on a dry but cold and windy day with only 28 entries. The Competition standard scratch was put up to 75 which reflected the difficult conditions. The winner in Division one was Jan Brooking (16) nett 71 and handicap reduction to 15. Second place was Jenny Roberts (2) nett 74. In Division two the winner was Paula Orr (32) nett 71 and a handicap reduction to 28. Second place Elizabeth Davies (32) nett 76.

The Prize Presentation Night took place on 8th November where multiple winners were Laura Tregelles, Jenny Roberts, Wendy Laud, Gill Hicks, Liz Sharman and Trish Gledhill. Particular congratulations must go to Laura for winning the Club Championship for the first time. Also to Wendy Laud for winning three knock out events during the year, the Murray Smith cup and the Tatham cup and the Winter Foursomes with Midge Henderson. Trish Gledhill also won three trophies; the Desmond Vase, Medal winners trophy and the Junior cup, as well as the Hilary Taylor Trophy for the lady who has reduced her handicap the most during 2014. Trish came down from 25 to 20 and is now a Silver Division player. Lindsey Fletcher won the Cora putting cup, Gill Hicks won the Order of Merit clock, Sally Rossiter and Gill Hicks won the Patey and Steer Bowl, and Kay Morley won the Senior Shield. Sue Curry won the Tregelles trophy, Diane Baker won the Summer Bronze trophy, while Joyce Drummond won the Venerable Vets trophy, and Jan Brooking and Linda Cant won the Veterans Salver. Heather Spencer was presented with the E Young Bowl on behalf of the Still cup team. It was great to see the Clubhouse so full and many of us went on to enjoy a wonderful meal. Our thanks must go to Tom, Brent and Gaynor for ensuring

the evening was so successful.

The November Stableford competition suffered from gale force winds and very heavy showers, which reduced the field to 28 brave ladies who went out but not all completed the 18 holes. The Competition standard scratch went up to 75 or 34 stableford points. In Division one the winner was Barbara Smith (17) with 31 points, from Janet Richardson (19) 30 points. In Division two the winner was Liz Sharman (21) 32 points, from Yvonne Pike (24) 31 points.

Also in November the ladies held a Yellow Ball competition in teams of three. The weather was bad so we reduced it to 11 holes and had 12 teams entered. The winners with 68 points on countback were Gill Durdin, Jane Mahood and Liz Savery, from runners up Diane Baker, Jane Mason and Sally Nelson Roberts. In third place were the team of Wendy Laud, Inger Reeve and Lesley Davey with 60 points. Jane Mason was the only one to score a two.

On Wednesday 26th November the Ladies held an American Foursome. The winners were Wendy Laud and Jan Brooking with 41 pts, from runners up Jenny Roberts and Heather Spencer with 39 pts.

On Friday 28th November, forty ladies gathered for the annual AGM at Thurstlestone. Lady captain Wendy Laud reported on her year, with Laura Tregelles winning the club championship in seven over par for the 36 holes. The Still Cup team reaching the finals against Tavistock, a successful three Ladies Opens, a memorable Lady Captains day and the fact that overall the weather had been kind to her with only three competitions having to be cancelled. The ladies had raised over £1000 for her chosen charity - the Chemotherapy outreach project. Thirty one ladies had reduced their handicaps over the year, notably Trish Gledhill reducing by 5 shots and Paula Orr reduced by 7 shots.

In December the ladies held a Turkey Trot, the format was a greensome Stableford and was reduced to 16 holes due to very cold winds. The winners with 32 points were Gill Hicks and Midge Henderson, from runners up Jan Brooking and Lesley Saffin with 30 points on countback. Third were Lindsey Fletcher and Wendy Russell also with 30 points and they scored the only two of the competition.

Also in December the ladies held a Yellow Ball competition. Only 10 ladies went out and only 2 completed 18 holes. The winner was Julia Dorey with 30 points from Liz Savery with 16, and Wendy Laud also with 16 even though she only completed 9 holes.

The last competition of the year was a Fielders choice which took place over 11 holes again due to bad weather. The winner was Julia Dorey with 16 points, from three ladies in second place; Wendy Laud, Sue Curry and Thomasine Woods with 14 points.

The highlight of January is always the Captain's drive in on New Year's Day. This year the weather was dreadful, with drizzle and very strong winds blowing, but we went ahead with the 11 hole greensome competition. The drive in took place and Bill Hutchinson our new Club Captain, hit an excellent drive, and mine just missed the right hand bunker to land on the fairway. The members who guessed the length of the drives were Steve White and Tony Adams. Nicole and Steve Carter won the greensome on countback with a fine 24 points. Runners up were Wendy and Philip Laud, and third Graham and Linda Cant with 22 points. There was no entrance fee with all donations going towards the Captain's charities for this year; Parkinsons UK and the Chestnut Appeal. Many members braved the elements to wish us well for the year and the mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed by all.

Finally I would like to thank Wendy Laud and her committee again for the hard work they have put in over the last year. I am sure I will enjoy my year and I hope that the ladies will support the competitions and the teams. We look forward to a very busy year and I wish all Thurstlestone's ladies a successful and happy 2015.

Kay Morley

JUNIOR SECTION NEWSLETTER

There have been some changes in the junior committee since I last reported for the Village Voice. Simon Orr has taken over from Phil Holland as Junior organiser, and his wife Paula and Nigel Whelan have also joined the committee. Phil Holland, Janet Richardson and myself will be staying on committee but it is great to see new members coming forward to take office. We welcome Tom Orr as new junior captain with Toby Woods his vice captain. Hopefully Toby will be fully fit in January as he broke his leg playing rugby in December. We wish them both good luck for the next season of West Devon League matches. We are in the group A section with Yelverton, Dartmouth and Wrangaton so we will have some tough teams to play. We will also be entering teams in the Devon County

Basil Steer knockout and the Tamar Cup which plays teams from Cornwall as well as Devon.

The new junior mentoring programme started in December. We have created pairings of mentors comprising of one adult and one CONGU/team junior to take on three non-congu juniors from the Academy. They will be taken on the course to complete cards for their handicaps. The aim is to take these players to CONGU status as soon as possible, or hopefully by the end of March 2015.

In December we held a Texas Scramble competition. The juniors met at 10.30am for bacon baps at the clubhouse then went out to play. It was one of the more spectacular days of 2014 on which to play golf and a very enthusiastic group of fifteen junior players went out. There were five teams of three players, all headed by a CONGU team player and accompanied by two non congu players. You could not fail to be impressed by the extremely high standard of both play and etiquette out on the course.

The team headed by Finn Whelan including Ben Leatham and Josh Gilbert played some very classy golf and won with a score of 31.5 shots after a complicated handicap system was administered by a very helpful Steve White the club professional. In second place were the team of Ben Woods, Lucas Mulligan and Alfie Messias and third were Tom Orr, Zara Taffs and Toby White.

Nearest the pin competition was won by Tom Orr on the third hole and Ethan Mulligan on the sixth. There was some very impressive play from Jasper Hignett, George Messias, Jamie Knight and Ollie Griffiths who are more than ready to aim for their CONGU handicaps this year.

We now have a large number of juniors from the Thurlestone Academy run by Steve White, Pete Mitchell and Jack Wallace. Jack will be continuing to organise the junior Monday club evenings which start in April. Academy members will still have lessons on Saturday mornings but will get practice on the course with their mentors on Saturday afternoons. The new passport system will be used in which juniors have to achieve certain goals such as putting, chipping, sand bunker play etc. Again this year twenty new junior members were welcomed to the club, with some already on the verge of attaining a CONGU 28 handicap.

More generally the section's progress was reflected by the club reaching the final of the West Devon League (won 5, lost 1), and having five of our juniors representing the

County. Regular team members Jamie Johnson, Devon under 18's, Tom Orr, under 16's and George Holland, captaining the under 14's, were joined by Ethan Mulligan and Finn Whelan for three county matches. Providing further countywide exposure for Thurlestone, eight of our junior members regularly attended County Golf Partnership Junior coaching sessions at Boringdon, where Steve White has been one of the principal coaches. Steve's quest to have Thurlestone designated as a County Coaching venue could have a profound impact on junior recruitment!

Thanks must go to our assistant manager Sarah George who has supported the junior section, and our Manager Steve Gledhill who has also been a valuable support to the junior section.

The Thurlestone Hotel has been a loyal supporter of the juniors and will continue with their sponsorship in 2015, we are very grateful for their help. We are also grateful for the sponsorship for the Summer cup this year from TJK construction company. We will be looking for more sponsorship for the junior competitions this year.

Jamie Johnson, the junior Captain of 2014 now moves up to the senior section, he has done a terrific job this year, leading the team and helping on Monday evenings. Tom Orr will be a worthy successor. I wish the juniors all the best with their golfing for 2015; and to any other young persons who may be reading this come and join us please, we will be starting Monday junior club evenings in April.

On Wednesday 31st December the last "hole in one" of the year was produced by junior member George Messias who is 12 years old and has only been playing golf since July 2014. Both George and Alfie (his brother) regularly attend the Junior Academy and Monday night sessions. George's impressive feat happened on the 3rd hole from the red tees on a very windy day! George used his driver and his dad (Matt) described it as one of the best drives he'd hit! George watched the movie 'Seve' about Seve Ballesteros the night before so this may have inspired him.

This caps an incredible year for the juniors. Thurlestone Juniors have hit both the first hole in one of 2014 (Olly Walker, 1st Jan 2014) and the last hole in one of 2014 (George Messias, 31st Dec 2014). That was very special!

A Happy New Year to all and good golfing for 2015.

Liz Line

TENNIS SECTION NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year from the Tennis Section of Thurlestone Golf Club – we continue to be enthusiastic about our tennis whatever the weather (almost!) and we have also enjoyed some fantastic social events – most tennis based but others more seasonal and inside! We have also have welcomed several new members which is great for the club.

We play every week on Tuesdays, from 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm – the timings of which also suit members who have to collect children from school – and on Thursday mornings from 10 am until 11:30 am after which we usually meet up for a well deserved coffee break. After Easter, the group coaching sessions will start. Janet Richardson (01548 856007) is the club coach and her sessions are open to everyone. They are really useful and enjoyable as well. The club team plays matches throughout the summer and once the evenings are lighter we also play on a Wednesday evening.

Our Tinsel Tennis mini tournament, held on December 4th 2014 was great fun. Everyone donned some sort of Christmas themed outfit ranging from reindeer antlers to Christmas jumpers, hats and even a full Santa costume! A fantastic effort! We were put into teams – examples of which were crackers and puddings. The author was remiss and forgot to put her name down for this fully booked event and so had to become the third member of the donkey team – the rear end of the pantomime /Christmas donkey no less!

Many thanks to Val for organising this fun event and for providing the prizes – chocolate teddy bears. There were several

winners but Sue and Kit, the overall winners, received the biggest teddies! Congratulations also to Cathy and Julie, the runners up. The tennis room looked really festive with Christmas decorations including lights, holly and baubles. We sat down to a lunch of home made soups, cheesy scones, mince pies, stollen and mulled wine, complete with crackers.

Our next social event was the dinner to mark the opening of the tennis season. Tom, at the Golf Club, produced a delicious menu and 26 members and family sat down to enjoy a 3 course meal, swapping places after each course so everyone had a chance to chat to lots of different people. It was a really sociable and most enjoyable evening.

On Thursday February 12th is our "Love All" Valentine's mini fun tennis tournament followed by a Valentined themed buffet lunch – to include French bread and cheeses, heart biscuits and cakes and some fizzy to toast the winners! After this, we have planned a March Hares mini tournament on March 19th. We're not sure whether anyone will turn up in fancy dress for this – and if so what they'll wear!!

Our junior mini tennis is increasingly popular, with coaching from Elliot Veale on Tuesdays after school in Thurlestone parish hall. If your child would be interested in joining the class then please telephone Elliot on 07825346288.

The tennis courts are also available to non members. If you would like to book the tennis courts please telephone the Golf Club on 01548 560405

You would be most welcome to join us for a game of tennis – just turn up or phone Janet on 01548 856007 or Linda on 01548560298.

Linda Scott

HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE

How do you know when you may be suffering a heart attack? You suddenly feel severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw, you start to feel faint. When this happens you can help yourself considerably by :

1. coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.
2. taking a deep breath before each cough, which should be deep and prolonged – as if trying to produce sputum from deep inside the chest.
3. repeating a breath and a cough about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives or until the heart is felt to be beating normally.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. This pressure also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way a heart attack victim may be able to survive long enough to get to hospital. **Learn this - by heart.**



News and 'What's New'

By Gill Matthews

- We are moving with the times with the introduction of BACS transfers for membership renewal in March. Payment can still be made by cheque. What a good deal this is! Monthly talks, monthly outings, and twenty-nine interest groups from which to choose.

Monthly Meetings (The Methodist Church, Kingsbridge, at 10.00am)

Friday 27 February : Brian Freeland Around the World in 80 Plays

Brian's career in theatre began at the London Palladium in its heyday. A man of many talents, his unstoppable enthusiasm knows no bounds. Over the years he has worked at the RSC, the Bristol Old Vic, National Theatre, Sadlers Wells, as stage manager, lighting designer, and more recently playwright and director. On tour with him overseas we meet people, places and adventures.

Friday 27 March : Win Scutt New Perspectives on the Stonehenge Landscape

Stonehenge has never ceased to fascinate. Today according to Obama it is still "so cool" to visit. While we can't all drop in by helicopter like the President of the United States we can hear from Win Scutt. An expert archaeologist and popular broadcaster, he features regularly on BBC Radio Devon and BBC Five Live.

Visits

Tuesday 3 February : Paignton Zoo The visit starts with a talk about the zoo and plans for the future. We will be lunching at the cafe then be free to enjoy the zoo.

Tuesday 3 March : Wheal Martyn China Clay Museum and Bodmin Gaol We start with a guided museum tour at 11am. After lunch we travel to the 18th century Bodmin Gaol.

Group Events

Church Visits

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 13 Jan | Marlborough and Thurstlestone Church followed by lunch |
| 10 Feb | St Andrews Minster and possibly the Synagogue in Plymouth, followed by lunch at a bistro |
| 10 Mar | St Petroc at South Brent with lunch at Turtley Mill |

Walk and Pub Lunch

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 27 Jan | Meet in South Pool for a walk to Waterhead - lunch in the Millbrook Inn. |
| 24 Feb | Meet at the Ring O' Bells in West Alvington for a snowdrop walk. |
| 24 Mar | Meet at the Hope and Anchor at Hope Cove for a coast path walk. |

Short Mat Bowls

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 17 Jan | Another taster session will be held at West Charleton Village Hall |
|---------------|--|

Membership Secretary : Judy Tyler judyat Tyler@icloud.com 01548 - 842217

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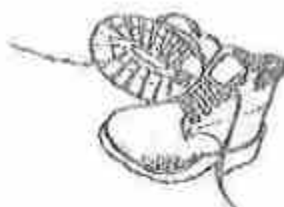
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TRAMP



1 Postponed from 15th October (because of grandparent duties of the walk organisers) this walk for 13 plus one dog began on a cloudy but not damp Tuesday 18th November at the Maltsters' Arms in Tuckenhay. We explored the hinterland above Tuckenhay and Cornworthy, meadows and woodland from Edgecombe Barn to Barberry Water. After waiting for nine unhurried heifers to wander out of our way on the path from Cornworthy Court, we ended with a shore-line walk along Bow Creek back to the Maltsters' for lunch. The bush with startling pink-orange berries near the creek was identified by John and Jane Mahood as a Spindle Tree. All happily non-controversial. But the organisers were in for a barrage of comment for having advertised the walk as "nowhere steep". David Radford calculated later that our uphill climbs had amounted to 1282 feet, or 29% of a Ben Nevis. So in future "nowhere steep" means "nowhere vertical".

Peter and Wendy Gornall

2 The past few times I have led this Strete to Dartmouth walk, we have parked at Strete, then caught a bus to Dartmouth and walked from there back to Strete. This time, Wednesday 26th November, I decided to vary it by walking in the other direction - ending at Dartmouth, whence we caught the bus back.

It is a hugely enjoyable walk - one I never get tired of doing because it is so varied, but with plentiful views of the sea. Owing to recent wet weather, however, the ground was quite soft and muddy, so we decided to cut out two steep and potentially slippery sections of the walk, for which my companions were grateful.

To my disappointment and annoyance, we were forced to make a minor detour around one of the best bits of the walk - that along Blackstone Rocks, where a footbridge across a sea-washed gully was being repaired. On arrival at Dartmouth Castle, we found seats overlooking the car-park and with fabulous views across the estuary, where we enjoyed

a packed lunch. After another three quarters of a mile or so, we passed Bayard's Cove, where there is an old Customs House. Here, some of us took the opportunity to have a welcome coffee and cake at the Bayard's Cove Inn.

We were still in time (just!) to catch the 13.20 bus for an enjoyable ride back to where we had parked near Strete.

Alastair Durden

3 Wednesday 10th December was the date set for the annual Tramps Christmas lunch, preceded by a morning walk, and no fewer than 27 Tramps turned up for the short 3 mile stroll around the south side of Modbury. Cars were parked at the top of town and we then walked back into town via the back lane to Poundwell Meadow, through the car park and across the stream to the fields.

Then it was up, up, and up before a double stile brought us to the top of the hill with far reaching views of the moors and Modbury. Through a farmstead and across several more fields, and then we descended via a tricky stile leading to a muddy lane which took us up to the bridge at Cotlass Farm, where our co-ordinator was waiting with delicious mulled wine and mince pies. After the welcome break we had a short walk back to Modbury via Runaway Lane.

St George's Church had kindly agreed for us to use their Church car park and a collection was made and a donation of £50 given to the Church Roof Fund.

Then it was down to the White Hart where a number of non-walkers joined us for a super pre-Christmas lunch.

Trisha Wilson

TRAMP 2015 LIST OF WALKS

Full details of all Tramp walks planned for 2015 are given on the next page.

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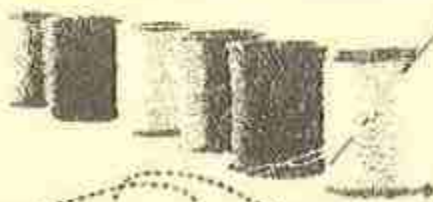
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BOOKSHELF

Billy Lynne's Half-time Walk

by Ben Fountain

(Canongate Books £8.99) Kindle £5.10

I heard Jeremy Paxman on the radio saying how much he enjoyed this book and was curious to know what sort of book pleased him. It tells the story of Bravo Squad, Billy Lynne's unit who were involved in a fierce battle in Iraq. An embedded Fox News crew filmed the fight which is then shown on YouTube.

Billy and seven survivors are now decorated heroes and sent back to the US on a two-week victory tour which culminates in the squad being guests of Dallas Cowboys in their Thanksgiving game, where they will make an appearance at half time with Destiny's Child and Beyonce. We follow them through this tour, as they endure all the American razzamatazz.

Billy is only 19 and doesn't understand why he's a hero. His friend died beside him in the fight and he carried on fighting as he'd been trained to do. They are constantly told how great they are but all know that life in America will go on as before, while they will be immediately sent back to fight in Iraq.

I did enjoy this book - thank you, Jeremy. It is certainly not all gloom, there is plenty of humour. A word of warning, however. If you dislike swearing (and soldiers swear a lot), this book is not for you.

Caroline Taylor

Drawing Conclusions

By Donna Leon

(Arrow Books £8.99)

Born in 1942 in New Jersey, USA, Donna Leon was a University lecturer in English literature in Italy before turning to writing as a career in 1992. She has lived in

Venice for over 25 years, and her some two dozen crime novels are all set in and around that city, where (Police Inspector) Commissario Guido Brunetti and his assistant Vianello and the miraculously efficient secretary Signorina Elettra deal with an intriguing variety of criminals and criminal situations. They have won many crime writers awards, and she is today rated among the very best crime writers.

Her novels are all written in English and translated into many languages, but not Italian (at her own request). Leon has a smooth, elegant and gentle style, in contrast to the seamy and sordid aspects of Venice life and society she describes.

In *Drawing Conclusions* an elderly lady living alone is found dead in her apartment. It seems she may have died of a simple heart attack, but Brunetti is not convinced. In setting out to discover the truth, he is drawn into a decades-old Venetian saga of lies and deceit involving fine art, hospitals, and care homes.

This, the 20th of the series, is the first I have read. It will not be the last.

Robin Macdonald

The Chambers Dictionary

(Chambers £39.99 Hardcover)

The 13th edition, 1920 pages, published 22 July 2014, has more definitions and sells more copies than any other single-volume hardback English dictionary. It also has an enlarged section at the back with a host of useful lists and tables. It is still the essential home reference work, even in these internet days, and as the earlier well-used version gradually comes to grief on the kitchen shelf, a spanking new replacement edition is a special joy - and it's only £25.99 on Amazon Prime!

Robin Macdonald



As we are not quite rid of cold weather we have an excuse to feast for a bit longer on some sweet things. Here are two puddings that are simple but delicious.....a nice fruity one and a very indulgent one which is not for the faint-hearted! You will just have time to enjoy them both before the Lenten fast.

PEAR & CINNAMON CRUMBLE (4)

Ingredients

- 4 medium pears, peeled, cored and roughly chopped
- 1 tablespoons of caster sugar
- 2 tablespoons of water

Put pears, sugar and water into a medium sized saucepan. Cook gently for 5-8 minutes until pears are soft then spoon them into 4 oven-proof ramekins or similar.

- Topping**
- 75g (3oz) butter
 - 75g (3oz) demerara sugar
 - 75g (3oz) ground almonds
 - 75g (3oz) plain flour
 - 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - Flaked almonds to finish

Mix everything except the flaked almonds in a food processor until it looks like breadcrumbs. Cover the pears with this and then top with the flaked almonds. Then place on a baking tray and cook for about 20 minutes in the oven at 190°C (375°F, Gas 5).

These can be frozen uncooked for up to a month - top the cooled filling with the crumble, but not the flaked almonds. Freeze, and when needed, thaw in fridge overnight. Finish with flaked almonds and bake as above. They need no further accompaniment but you can, of course, serve them with whatever takes your fancy - cream, custard or ice-cream.

NAUGHTY CHOCOLATE MOUSSE FOR ONE

Ingredients

- Dark chocolate (70% cocoa content) - 40g (1.5ozs)
- Double cream - 5 tablespoons
- Strong black coffee - 1 tablespoon
- Soft light brown sugar - 2 teaspoons

Slowly melt the broken up chocolate in a micro-wave for about one minute or in a heat proof bowl set over a pan of gently simmering water. Remove from heat, stir in rest of the ingredients and mix well. Pour into a small ramekin then refrigerate until it sets into a mousse-like texture.

You probably won't want much to eat after this until next day!

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Weather Wag

By Jan Turner

I have just watched "Only Connect" on the evening of 12th January to an accompaniment of wind and rain battering the windows of Beach Cottage. I wonder if the sun has disappeared for good or is sulking behind the strength of a weather front moving in an easterly direction. Whatever it is, there is more sand on the drive and in the turning circle than there has been since last winter.

I had a job to make it to the top of the cliff by the steps this morning. Sand like shards of glass hitting my face was very painful and when I turned to face inland, I had to run or be blown over. 50+ mph at least. The Jet Stream has really turned nasty this last week or so, and is much stronger than usual and spread out wider across the country than usual. All to do with the contrast in pressure and temperature around the Azores and the Arctic.

Ah well, it is winter after all, and tomorrow snow is forecast for high land in our region. Then it's back to milder temperatures, less windy and wet. At least the flooding is not yet in the news. Feb 4th is looming, but let's hope that there is no repeat of last year's problems.

With such rain and mild temperatures we can often expect a thunder storm. If it was summer time, that's what would happen, more than likely. However, lightning is a natural source of electricity, but difficult to harness and too erratic to rely on for use by us humans, but in the natural world, wind and water, sun and tides, geothermal sources, can all be harnessed to produce electricity. We also use man's inventiveness to produce power from other natural resources - coal, wood, peat, uranium (atomic power), oil and gas.

Increasingly we are experimenting with other sources (eg. methane collected from sewage processing plants), but nature's lightning flashes contain far more power in one flash than we can even imagine. Harnessing it is the problem, and storing electricity in useful amounts is not really an option at this time.

I have a fascination for lightning. I know it can be dangerous and can cause damage and death, but watching it play out over the sea is a wonderful sight and to be marvelled at as a natural phenomenon. Having done a wee bit more reading about this feature of the weather, some of the facts about it are pretty astounding. Ingrid Holford's work is a mine of information regarding the actual strike. She quotes some fantastic facts which I would like to share with you.

I guess you all know what lightning is and have seen it playing in a thunderstorm and can appreciate its power. It is the discharge of an electrical field which has developed with a cloud; the discharge may occur within the cloud, from one cloud to another, or between cloud and the ground. This next bit is the bit I always marvel at. Since the air is normally non-conductive, discharge can only occur after channels of ionised air have been established.

A **leader stroke** is a channel of ionised air, formed when electrons are accelerated by the intense electrical field. The stroke darts downwards in progressive steps of about 150-300ft from the cloud base until it establishes an open conductive channel to the ground. The first leader-strokes are normally invisible but the final stepped leader which reaches the ground is visible and looks like an illuminated river with its tributaries. The speed of the leader-stroke varies enormously, from as little as 100miles/s to as much as 1000miles/s. That's the first of the amazing acts Ingrid writes about.

The **return stroke** flashes up this channel from ground to cloud, and is the faster bright flash which is usually referred to as lightning. The speed of the return stroke may reach up to 87,000 miles/s which is half the speed of light itself. The flash, therefore, lasts a mere millionth of a second, but the persistence of the image on the retina of the human eye makes it appear to last longer.

There is evidence that the temperature of the air in the channel of the return stroke may reach 54,000°F (30,000°C) which is

more than five times greater than that of the surface of the Sun.

A typical lightning flash consists of three or four leaders each followed by a return stroke. But one flash sequence was photographed which had 26 strokes. The width of the channel is seldom more than 1 inch (25mm). You can now appreciate the complexity of a single flash of lightning. It sometimes appears forked when the leader stroke and the return stroke are visible without obstruction from other clouds. Sheet lightning is forked lightning which is obscured by other cloud, and therefore only seen as reflected illumination.

The other fact that always fascinated me as a child (and still does!) is the distance away of the flash. This can be worked out by estimating the difference between the almost instantaneous receipt of the light signal by the eye and the more delayed receipt by the ear of the slower sound signal of thunder.

Sound travels at approximately 1 mile per 5 seconds. Therefore, if T is the time in seconds between the flash seen and the thunder heard, the distance of the flash is $T \times 5$ miles. I used to think that this was a sort of myth but it is a fact. When the thunder occurs almost simultaneously with the flash it really is something, windows rattle and it can be quite frightening. This occurs when the flash is directly overhead, thankfully it doesn't often happen here.

There are times when a flash occurs from out of a clear blue sky. Do you remember when a group of school boys were on their playing field, taking part in a game of cricket, when just this happened? All were thrown to the ground and shocked by the electrical charge, and I have a feeling that one was killed. Maybe you will remember this event and can fill in the details. Ingrid, interestingly, offers no explanation for this phenomenon. Thankfully, it happens very rarely.

I drove to Torquay today, 13th January, through hail, rain sleet, snow and fierce winds. Right now there is a repeat performance outside and fantastic thunder which has obviously followed a flash of lightning. Having had a couple of strikes on the house in the past, I'm stopping NOW,

turning off the computer, unplugging it and the phone!

Back to my computer next morning. Hmm, that was really only a very short session of T and L, just a squall passing through. Exciting nevertheless! Excitement is one thing, but there are other aspects to lightning that are actually frightening and a threat to life. There are too many facts to write about this time so I will list the headings and maybe you can google them to find out more.

Lightning can cause damage or death in various ways; (1) by vapourisation (2) by melting and fusion (3) by burning (4) by conduction (5) by compression and decompression (6) by direct lightning strike (7) by a potential difference and current.

Just a bit about this last one which is more interesting than the others; the difference and current from one point on the ground to another, caused by a temporary rearrangement of electrical charge over the surface as the lightning strikes.

A human being may experience this current up one leg and down the other and the shock will be greater with the feet far apart. Hence it is safer for a person caught out in an open field in a thunderstorm to crouch down low, with feet together, than to stand upright and walk with long strides.

Cattle are more prone to be killed by this type of lightning strike because their legs are further apart and a strike from one leg to another necessarily passes close to the heart. On July 22nd 1975 several cows were killed by lightning at Congleton, Cheshire. Another storm on 8th August 1975 near Huddersfield, in Yorkshire, so frightened a herd of cows that they stampeded and trampled a woman to death.

But now the evenings are getting lighter and the mornings are not so dark, the bulbs are growing apace and the birds are feeding at their station outside the kitchen window; all is well.

Good weather watching, but keep safe if you find yourself along the cliffs or playing golf when thunder and lightning occurs.

Jan Turner



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|-----------------|------------------|--|
| February | | |
| Monday | 2 nd | Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm |
| Wednesday | 4 th | TRAMP, Malborough, Salcombe & return by bus (short) |
| Sunday | 8 th | Circus Berzerous, Parish Hall, 3.00pm (see Roundup) |
| Monday | 9 th | NT Talk, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Overbeck's) |
| Thursday | 12 th | WI, Parish Hall, 2.30pm (Singing Paddies) |
| Saturday | 14 th | Barn Dance, Parish Hall, 7.30pm (see advert) |
| Friday | 20 th | TRAMP, Frogmore, S.Pool, E.Portlemouth, Salcombe |
| Wednesday | 25 th | KEDFAS, 7.30pm, Methodist Ch, (Raleigh & the Gilberts) |
| Thursday | 26 th | KEDFAS, 10.30am, Methodist Ch, (Raleigh & the Gilberts) |
| March | | |
| Monday | 2 nd | Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm |
| Tuesday | 3 rd | TRAMP, tba, short |
| Thursday | 12 th | WI, Parish Hall, 2.30pm (The Book Bus) |
| Saturday | 14 th | Beetle Drive, Parish Hall, 7.30pm (see advert) |
| Wednesday | 16 th | TRAMP, tba, long |
| Tuesday | 24 th | to 28 th KATS "Oliver!", Malborough Village Hall (see advert) |
| Wednesday | 25 th | KEDFAS, 7.30pm, Methodist Ch, (Stanley Spencer) |
| Thursday | 26 th | KEDFAS, 10.30am, Methodist Ch, (Stanley Spencer) |
| April | | |
| Wednesday | 1 st | TRAMP, Plymouth, Devil's Point (short) |
| Monday | 6 th | Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm |
| Tuesday | 7 th | TRAMP, Shipley Bridge, Avon Dam (long) |
| Thursday | 9 th | WI, Parish Hall, 2.30 pm (Beryl Cook, artist) |
| Saturday | 25 th | Tim Abel Concert, Parish Hall, 7.30pm |
| Wednesday | 29 th | KEDFAS, 10.30am, Methodist Ch, (Egyptian weaving) |
| Thursday | 30 th | KEDFAS, 10.30am, Methodist Ch, (Egyptian weaving) |

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 for 2015 of £15.00 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 Banham and Buckland it is delivered by Peter Hurrell and Linda Chilcott.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (Apr-May) ISSUE = 5th Mar 2015

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 Rhymas 560564
Vice-Chairman Charles Michener 560602
Parish Clerk Philip Millard 560643
District Councillor Ian Branville 560712
County Councillor Rufus Gaskett 560635
Members Dale Caine 561008
Tony Goddard 562282
Nigel Hurrell 560691
Jill Hunt 560732
Bromley Zaffie 560020
Tree Warden Charles Michener 560602

PARISH DETERRILLATORS
1. Thurstone Hotel (Gange)
2. Sloop Inn, Barham (Lobby)
3. Golf Club (entrance foyer)

PARISH HALL

Chairman Neil Owen 561661
Bookings Doreen March 560070
Pay-phone in foyer 560300

PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOCIETY (P.O.T.S.)

Chairman Chris White 560305

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PRIEST IN CHARGE

Graham Wormald

CHURCH MEETING ROOM ACTIVITIES

COFFEE TIME (Every Wednesday 10.30-11.30 am)
FILMS FOR ALL (1st Tuesday Monthly 2.30 pm)
LUNCH CLUB (Fridays 12.45 pm)
SOUP & A ROLL (1st Monday 12 noon-1.00 pm)
UNDER 3s (Thursdays 9.30-11.00 am term-time)

FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH

Contact Gillian Marshall 560214

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headmaster Philip Mackay 560494

AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Chairman Stuart Watts 810373

BARTMAN SAILING CLUB

Contact Murray Carter 560593

BARTMAN SUEP LIFE SAVING CLUB

Contact Catherine 560447

BRIDGE CLUBS

6.30 pm Wednesdays and Fridays
Contact Les White 560305

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB

General Manager Steve Goodhill 560465

TENNIS SECTION

Chairman Jane Smyth 561084

KEEP FIT

Contact Karen Livett 560131

TAL CHIE

Contact Vicki Abernethy 561182

HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)

Contact Caroling Alkerton 562250

PROBUS

Contact Tom Thordar 560893

TRAMP (Thurstone Ramblers)

Contact Mike Stockdale 560783

W. I. 2.30 pm Parish Hall
Second Thursday monthly (except August)
Contact Les White 560505

TEAMMERS (Computer Help) Yebo Room, Wednesdays 2-3 pm (by phone appointment only)
Contact: Michael Barnes 562112 Robin Macdonald 560436 Chris White 560505

TABLE TENNIS Wednesday 4.30 to 6.00 pm Parish Hall Robin Macdonald 560436

BADMINTON Mondays 7.30 to 9.00 pm Parish Hall (Equip provided) Heather 560592 or Paul 560070

HEALTH CENTRES Kingsbridge SS3551 Seacombe 842284

MILK DELIVERY R. Brucher & Son 01873-832801

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY Dave & Sandra Seacombe 01548-853132

VILLAGE SHOP Thurstone Village Shop Sarah Tyers 561917
Opening hours: M, T, Th, F, 8.00 am - 5.30 pm
Wednesday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm
Saturday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm
Sunday, 8.30 am - 1.00 pm

(Buses - delays 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)

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE
Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.00 am - 5.30 pm Wed, Sat 9.00 am - 1.00 pm
Postal collections: 4.00pm Monday - Friday; Noon on Saturday; NO collection on Sunday 561917

THURLESTONE PHONE BOX Contact Kit Marshall 560214

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Co-ordinator Charles Macdonald 560602

POLICE Dave Gibson (Community Support Officer) 08456-566337
Emergency 999 General enquiries & Non-emergency calls 102
Mithram Users 01392-452935 Confidential Information 0850-555-111

RUBBISH COLLECTION Monday (But Tuesday in Bank Holiday Monday weeks) Grey Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 9th February
White & Blue sack collections (recyclables) END Brown Wheelies - alternate Mondays from 2nd February

RECYCLING CENTRE (For Quarry Site, Tithers Road - Telephone 521805)
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.00 am - 4.30 pm Saturday & Sunday 10.00 am - 4.30 pm

PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION LINE 0871 200 2233

For all bus, rail, or national Express Coach timetables information call TRAVELINE
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Devonbus Publications may be obtained by phoning 01392 382800 or by e-mail to devonbus@devon.gov.uk

GASAGE (Bright Engineering) Maurice Blythe / Keith Poole 560220

KINGSBRIDGE LIBRARY (Mobile Library from Kingsbridge now calls only monthly - Wednesday & February and 4 March) 852315

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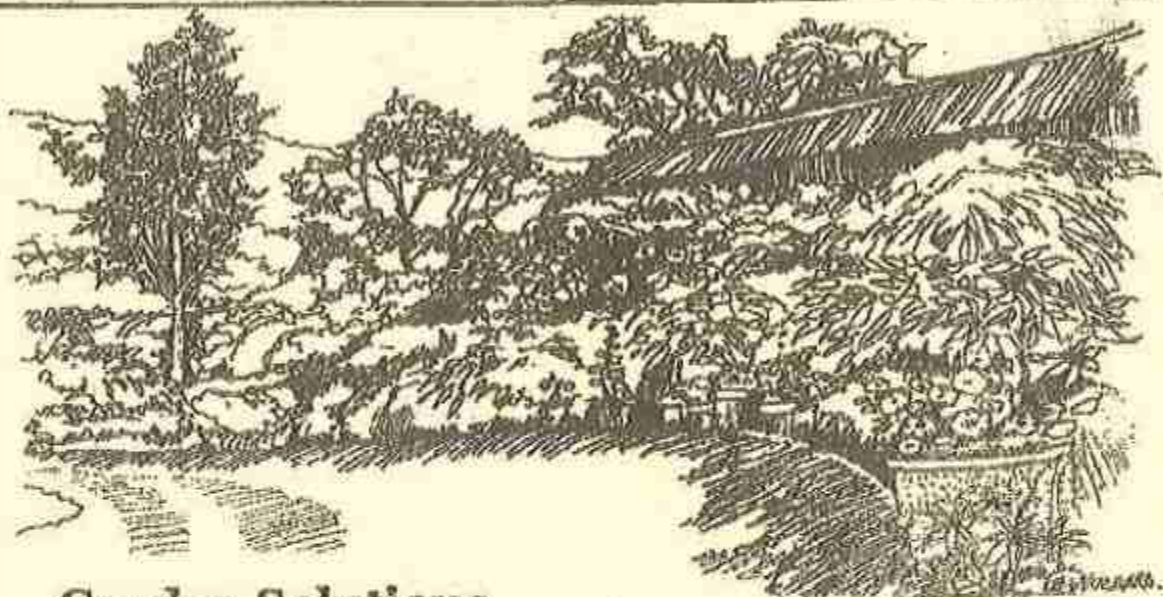
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