

VILLAGE VOICE

April - May 2019



A Baaarmy Season !

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone



Oh, the joys of British weather! This time last year, we were experiencing the ferocity of the "Beast from the East"- howling gales, snowdrifts and bitter temperatures. Then, just as we breathed a sigh of relief that it had run its course and we had survived, lo and behold it came back to bite us again! As we speak, we are enduring the effects of the "Pest from the West" bringing driving rain and more fierce winds but this time from a different direction. However, February decided to bestow upon us some balmy Summer-like days with half-term holidaymakers rightly making the most of the unexpected bonus. Beaches and coastal footpaths were buzzing with t-shirt clad families, dog walkers and outdoor enthusiasts generally. Our front cover is an attempt to depict the contrasts that we have encountered already this year. Well, they say variety is the spice of life.....

Who remembers the days of good old parlour games? Times when friends and families gathered together and entertained themselves by playing Draughts, Ludo, Charades, Monopoly or Scrabble to name but a few. We refer to an era before Smartphones and Tablets were even a twinkle in the inventor's eye. Well, you have an opportunity to enjoy that kind of fun once again by coming along to the Parish Hall on Saturday 27th April and taking part in a good old-fashioned Beetle Drive. It won't cost much, no special skills are required, giggles are guaranteed and we are assured that no small creatures will come to any harm during the proceedings! We look forward to seeing you there.

We hope you enjoy this edition of your Parish Magazine. Do let us know what you think and suggest ways in which Village Voice can be enhanced. Has anyone attempted our 'Tried and Tasted' recipes? Are you enjoying being transported back in time with our 'Thurlestone Then' serialisation? Is there something that you feel would be a useful addition to our magazine? We welcome your comments as they prove to us that someone out there is reading what we work hard to produce!

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April - May 2019

37th Year of Publication

Issue No. 216

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A NOTE FROM YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

As I write this everything seems to be dominated by Brexit, and at the time of writing it looks like there will be some sort of extension of time, the length of which will be imposed by Europe rather than chosen by our government. Please forgive me if by the time you read this my crystal ball seems completely useless. We do at least know that our MP is no longer sailing under the colours she flew at the last election. This is not meant to be a political column, but I only mention all this because what happens at Westminster, rightly or wrongly, always has a disproportionate influence on what happens in local elections and we are now in the period running up to these.

When the referendum was held for the neighbourhood plan there was tremendous enthusiasm in the parish and a very high turnout at the poll. I hope that in spite of what is going on at Westminster, you will all also come out and vote again at the local elections for the district and your parish council. Whatever the future holds, it has been a tremendous privilege and pleasure to represent you at South Hams District Council over the last four years and I thank you very sincerely for all the support I have had from so many parishoners.

Judy Pearce

Local Elections for Parish and District Councillors – 2nd May 2019

Thurlestone Parish Hall will be the venue for this year's local elections, which will be held on Thursday 2nd May. These elections only happen once every 4 years and are your opportunity to vote for the people who will support your communities and make a difference to your local area.

Thurlestone Parish Council, with 7 councillors, represents the villages of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone. South Hams District Council has 2 Ward members who cover Salcombe and Thurlestone.

It is really important to ensure that you are registered to vote and that your details on the electoral register are up to date. More information about how to do this is available on the South Hams District Council website www.southhams.gov.uk

Helen Nathanson
Thurlestone Parish Clerk

FRENCH CONVERSATION CLASSES

If you would like to learn a language from scratch, rekindle your spoken French or improve your memory/recall, you might like to come along to my class on Thursdays at 2pm in the Yeo Room at the Thurlestone Parish Hall.

I am a qualified teacher and experienced at teaching French to people of all ages. I am passionate about the French language and culture and would like to share this with you in a friendly atmosphere. My classes comprise small groups of 6 students maximum and all levels are welcome. I am offering a trial lesson for £5 and thereafter, lessons are £8 or £40 for a block of 6. You can contact me on 01548 521595 or email: angelaluckhurst@outlook.com



NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meeting 4th February 2019

OPEN FORUM A resident of Bantham spoke of concerns about traffic speeding within the village. The Bantham Estate intends to place bigger ramps by the ticket office and further along the track, but this doesn't help the village itself. The Council agreed to speak to the County Councillor about this in the first instance to see if DCC can help. It was also noted that West Buckland has problems too.

A resident raised an issue with the eligibility criteria and the number of houses for Community Led Housing. Both the eligibility criteria and the number of houses was an initial attempt to set the criteria based on South Hams District Council's rules and the meeting on 28th January was a starting point to discuss these and hone them.

The ownership of the school playing field and its use after school hours was raised. DCC has rented the site entirely to the Academy and therefore the Parish Council no longer has any rental agreement on the site and no responsibility therein.

DOG POO BIN the bin will be placed at Chapel Cross and the works have been agreed.

DAAT NIGHT LANDING SITE The Western Power works are likely to take place between 7th – 10th May 2019, subject to confirmation of the road closure.

THE RECTORY, HOMEFIELD, THURLESTONE Removal of condition 4 (Window and Door Details) The Parish Council objected to the variation on the grounds of colour and style.

THE DOWNS, THURLESTONE To note the decision to refuse planning permission. The key point was that the development would have been outside the settlement boundary and this reinforces the NP in this respect. It also shows how important landscape and the AONB is to development principles in the area.

THURLESTONE GARAGE To note that the application to list as an Asset of Community Value has been unsuccessful. SHDC was of the opinion that the nature of the business did not directly further social wellbeing, e.g. as a meeting place for local residents. There is no right of appeal. This is disappointing but the employment use of the site is protected by both the NP and emerging Joint Local Plan. Councillors noted that they would prefer the site to be used as commercial units rather than housing, if possible.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The SHDC Peer Review took place before Christmas and the report has been published. The Council will be drawing up an Action Plan to deal with points raised.

District Council election candidates attended a meeting at SHDC recently to hear about what is involved in standing as a candidate. The election dates are: 26th March – Notice of Elections; 3rd April – Receipt of Nominations; 4th April Statement of Persons Nominated; and 2nd May Polling Day.

The consultation on the SHDC budget is live on the website for anyone who would like to comment.

TREES There is a large, dead tree opposite Mallards which needs to be removed and the PC will write to the owner to request that this be arranged.

HIGHWAYS To note the completed Parish Paths Partnership Survey Forms. Mike Stickland was thanked for completing the forms and Paul Martin for carrying out the works. A sweeper was requested for the main roads in Thurlestone.

Meeting 4th March 2019

OPEN FORUM A representative from the Bantham Estate spoke to councillors about the possibility of growing grape vines on the Estate and, following discussions with Sharpham Wines and specialist agronomists, they have designed a vineyard with a view to planting vines next spring and producing grapes on the estate. As a result of this work, the possibility of bringing Sharpham Wines to the Bantham Estate is now being explored and this would create a new venture in the Parish. Any further plans will go through the standard planning application process.

The Avon Walk, as it passes Steep Field no longer has a hedge at that point and the signpost post has been removed. The Council will look into this.

CANFORD HOUSE, WEST BUCKLAND Householder application to externally insulate and over-clad first floor wall of building in natural timber cladding was supported.

BURWOOD, THURLESTONE Householder application for erection of double garage to replace existing studio/store was supported, subject to ensuring that the building is used solely as a garage and not used as habitable accommodation, and requiring replacement nesting for the House Sparrows (which are endangered) and nest boxes for garden birds.

9 OLD RECTORY GARDENS, THURLESTONE Householder application for alteration and extension to dwelling was supported.

LAND TO THE REAR OF COWRIE HOUSE, ILBERT ROAD, THURLESTONE Erection of new dwelling, double garage and associated works was not supported as it does not meet the requirements of TP1 in that it is not of a size, type and tenure that reflects clearly identified local housing needs.

BYEWAYS, WARREN ROAD, THURLESTONE Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling, was not supported as the size of the replacement dwelling was thought to be well in excess of the allowable increase of 25%. The SHDC surveyor will be asked to carry out an independent verification of the floor plans against the original plans, to confirm the actual size of the increase.

COMMUNITY LED HOUSING an update was given about this project. The Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group would be meeting on Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. This meeting would be open to the public and provide an opportunity to ask more questions about all aspects of the proposed project.

ELECTIONS TO THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL will take place on Thursday 2nd May 2019. The Notice of Election will be published on Thursday 21st March and Nominations will be open from Thursday 21st March to Wednesday 3rd April.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held on Monday 1st April at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Flybe has been saved but will run on a reduced service. A question was asked about the road closure in Bantham for 23rd April which will fall close to the first Bank Holiday in May. A question was asked about what help DCC can provide to prevent the speeding in Bantham. He agreed to help source a police check. A representative of All Saint's School came to speak to councillors about the parking issues caused by school traffic. Councillors advised that parents can park in Court Park rather than block the lane and asked the school to take positive action to make this clear to parents.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Sophie Hosking has been made CEO of SHDC. The Council Tax increase for SHDC will be £5 per household which brings the Thurlestone Band D Council Tax rate to £1875.05. Car park charges will not increase this year except where it is an alternative to pay on entry public toilets, which does not affect Thurlestone. Council Tax Reduction Scheme – this is now a 4-banded scheme dependent on income. The South Devon AONB Management Plan has been adopted, and is now a material planning consideration.

It's only a Game !!!!!!!



I'm givin' up bridge, today's me last day
It's amen to stamen, I've played me last play
The insults and muddles are givin' me troubles
I can't sleep at night for thinkin' of doubles
My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten
Who's played, and what's trumps, and what's good to play
So it's goodbye to blackwood, I know I've gone backward
I'm biddin' goodbye to this bridge club today
I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain
I'm getting bad cards again and again
So I'm givin' up bridge, today's a bad day
Herr director was horrid with me for slow play
My partner's no trump made me look a chump
And when she says double I know we're in trouble
My points are not high and I'm wondering why
She kept on bidding right up to the sky
We're in seven spades that's the way that she plays
When suprise, surprise, her high biddin' pays
Winning trick after trick, the defenders feel sick
And I have to admit that my partner's a brick
But I'm givin' up bridge, today's me last day
It's goodbye to gerber I'm just on me way
Be kind to your partner, be mild and be meek
It's only a game, oh see you next week





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EASTER – TELLING THE SAME STORY

Before I write any article for a magazine I tend to check back at my previous articles. It doesn't do to repeat oneself too often! As I was looking back this time, I noticed that I'd written Easter articles for the *Village Voice* for the past two years. A slight panic set in as I wondered what I could say in 2019 that is different from what I said in 2017 and 2018? Then I realised the simple truth that at Easter we tell the same story in the same way, year after year. In many ways this is part of its meaning and significance. The story of the death and resurrection of Jesus remains a fixed point and a fixed message. Lives come and go, ideas come and go, even great civilisations come and go, but the message of the risen Christ remains.

Each year provides a new context for the hearing of the message and 2019 is no exception. Each of us is a year older (and maybe a year wiser) and we bring who we are to the Easter message. It is the very fact that the message is fixed and familiar that gives it the power to change and transform lives. When we hear the familiar words of the resurrection accounts we are given a framework through which to interpret the changeability of our lives. In our culture today we often prize the new above the old. In one sense there is nothing wrong with that as it resonates with the great creativity of the human spirit. But at Easter, and other significant times of the year, we are invited to appreciate the creativity not just of the new, but also of the old and the familiar.

May I then, in time-honoured tradition, wish each of you a happy and hope-filled Easter.

Daniel Hartley

Everyone is particularly welcome to the

Benefice Rogation Sunday Service

SUNDAY MAY 26TH 11.00A.M.

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followed by optional "Bring & Share" Lunch

Tea/coffee/soft drinks provided - Parking available - Wear warm, waterproof clothing

IF REALLY WET, THE SERVICE MAY BE IN SOUTH MILTON CHURCH (Check with Liz or Graham!)



***More information or changes to the advertised services and events
may be found on the church section of www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk***



All Saints' Diary

Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall 562016

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

Sunday Services

EVERY SUNDAY	8.00am	Holy Communion (said) (BCP): April 7th & 21st, May 5th & 19th; CW April 14th & 28th, May 12th & 26th)
APRIL 7TH, MAY 5TH, 19TH	11.10am	Parish Eucharist (CW) (Fairtrade Stall on April 7th & May 5th)
PALM SUNDAY APRIL 14TH	10.55am	Palm Sunday Procession leaves Parish Hall
	11.10am	Palm Sunday Family Service
	6.00pm	Benefice Evensong (BCP) at Woodleigh
EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 21ST	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns
	11.10am	Easter Family Communion <i>Drop-in crèche for young children + adult</i>
APRIL 28TH	11.10am	Matins (BCP)
MAY 12TH	11.10am	Morning Worship 6.00pm Benefice Evensong at Woodleigh
MAY 19TH	5.30pm	Prayer & Praise in the Meeting Room
MAY 26TH	11.00am	Rogation Service at Shute Farm, South Milton (<i>see overleaf</i>)

Weekday Services

THURSDAY APRIL 4TH, MAY 2ND	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at Bantham
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19TH	10.00am	Readings, Meditations & Hymns for Good Friday
ASCENSION DAY THURS MAY 30TH	11.00am	Benefice Eucharist (CW) at Churchstow
EVERY MON, WED, THURS, FRI	8.30am	Morning Prayer (said) (8.15am on Wednesdays)
EVERY WEDNESDAY	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) (said)

Benefice Holy Week Services at St Michael & All Angels, Lodiwell

MON, TUES, WED APRIL 15TH - 17TH	6.30pm	Benefice Eucharist with Address
MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 18TH	6.30pm	Benefice Maundy Thursday Eucharist
GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19TH	1.00pm	Benefice Prayers & Readings at the Cross
	until 2.00pm	Benefice Good Friday Eucharist

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

<p>Films for All Donations to Church funds ~ Leaflets in Church, Meeting Room & Shop</p>		<p>TUESDAY MAY 7TH 2.30pm The Greatest Showman <i>Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron</i></p>
<p>EVERY WEDNESDAY 10.30am</p>		<p><i>Coffee-Time</i> in aid of monthly charity</p>
<p>Please use CHURCH CAR PARK when attending the Church or Meeting Room</p>		

	<p>There will be the usual house-to-house collection throughout the parish during Christian Aid Week. For over 10 years your generosity has resulted in a total of between £1000 and £1400. Can we make it £1500 this year?</p>
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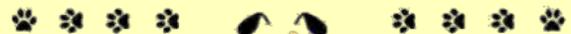
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A Senior Moment ?

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty-eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become. From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

- 1-- To make an appointment to see me.
- 2-- To query a missing payment.
- 3-- To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- 4-- To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- 5-- To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- 6-- To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- 7-- To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorised Contact.)
- 8-- To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 8
- 9-- To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement. May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

THURLESTONE THEN

Continuing the memoirs of Monica Coope

Chapter 2, Part 1

We did find Matins rather trying, for Father would never let us off the Litany, and the string covered stools were hard on our bare knees, making red indented patterns on them. We had to kneel properly, no slouching or squatting on your bunks, but backs straight, hands folded, heads down, eyes closed. If you were old enough to be excused Children's Service, then you could kneel through the Litany and listen to the sermon without fidgeting or looking about you. Father was a stickler for good behaviour in church. A disturbance or a snort or a giggle did not escape him, and if it were repeated and other people annoyed and restless, then you were for it.

Down the aisle he comes, all six-foot-two of him, accusing figure pointing at the malefactor, the sleeves of his white surplice steaming out behind him like the wings of an avenging angel. Then he beckons, and a cowed, if somewhat defiant figure detaches itself and emerges from the row of foolish youths who have been abusing God's House. The waiting churchwarden completes the expulsion of the offender and Father returns to his throne on high and continues with the service. We all prepare to settle down again, but what is this? From the nave, and from the aisle, other figures are getting up, and out of the south door they sweep, beads a-tossing, the parents, the aunts, the uncles, the cousins, in a brave array of outraged indignation that their Alfie has so been signalled out for disgrace in the sight of this congregation.

This is drama, this is wonderful, but Father does not appear to notice, and with uplifted hands commands us to kneel and confess ourselves miserable sinners, which we do.

"Father, did you see all the Watchett's going out of church after you turned Alfie out".

Oh Yes; he had seen it all right, but he doesn't worry. He knows from previous experience that they'll go to chapel for a few weeks, to show their disapproval and then, with a Sunday School treat or the choir supper looming ahead, back they will flock in plenty of time to qualify for an invitation.

The Watchett's are the black sheep of our village, rather dirty, dishonest, and foul-mouthed. Their Mother is a shiftless creature, and Dad spends too much time and money at the pub. At school the children spread bad language and nits in the head, and acquire little to their credit, but for all that they are a handsome, striking lot of brats. The little ones are just as naughty at Children's Service; up to some sort of mischief all the time, and Alfie perhaps took the prize on one occasion when he went black in the face, made the most awful vomiting noises, and rushed out of church with a mighty clatter of hob-nailed boots. When we pious lambs emerged later, there was Alfie, sitting grinning on the bank.

Father went up to him. "Well, Alfie, so you felt sick, did you?"

"Yes Sir, so I did."

"And were you sick?"

"Yes, I were"

Nothing daunted, Father put a hand on his shoulder, saying firmly, "Show me the place." Alfie only hesitated for a split second, then set off with Father, (we all followed of course) to the back of the churchyard, and proudly pointed to a large, but undisturbed, bed of stinging nettles. "Right in there Sir", he pronounced. A flicker passed over Father's face, but he quickly controlled it and said sympathetically, "Well, in that case my boy, I am afraid you must go straight home to your Mother, as you cannot be well enough to play in the Rectory garden."

Playing in our garden after Children's Service was a privilege accorded on fine afternoons, and I think Father enjoyed it as much as any of us. He generally had a basket of fruit, or cakes, or sweets, and threw them down the sloping lawn in handfuls, and we scrambled with a will. Then he swung the smallest ones, and up they would go into the high branches of the Ilex trees, up and up, yelling with delight, while Father leapt high, and with his long arms sent them even higher.

Having eleven children was not enough for his big heart, and he loved his village children devotedly; yes, even the dirty little Watchett's, who afforded him more laughter than tears in the long run. No one could fail to comprehend this when they saw him starting off for church, capped and gowned, (and so very handsome), with a dozen or so children waiting for him outside the garden gate, shepherding him down the road, with three or four of the smallest hanging on to the voluminous sleeves of his Cambridge gown. The little procession would wend its way down the church path, talking and laughing, Father too, until they came to the lych gate, with the great feathery tamarisk leaning over it, and then silence fell as they walked sedately up the gravel path, between the high banks of the graves, and so into church.

Reverence in church was to him a matter of supreme importance, and he either turned you out forthwith, or came down to where you were and spoke to you in unmistakable terms. But it was not so easy to deal with a band of youths who thought it good sport to steal up the church path when evensong was in progress and assemble on the high bank where they could see, and be seen, through the windows. Here they pulled faces, good ones, and set everyone giggling in shocked surprise, but were gone like a flash before a church warden or sideman could get at them. Father plotted and planned, but gave no warning that he would, or could, take any steps to stop this going on, and sure enough, next Sunday evening, there they were again, grimacing and anticing around to their own great delight and our confusion.

Father took no notice, and went on preaching, but suddenly there was a shout outside and a hullabaloo, and lo, the game was up. Father bit his lips and controlled his features, and then silence reigned again.

"I hope that there will be no more interruptions of our worship in future," he said. "Members of the congregation kindly agreed to lie in wait for the lads who have been misbehaving in the churchyard, and I gather they have now been removed."

Many years after when I went back to Thurlestone, I invited myself to Children's Service. The children behaved very badly that day, inattentive, noisy and fidgeting all the time. They laughed and talked among themselves, and I felt rather sad. There was a young woman, vaguely familiar, sitting at the back with her child, and afterwards she came up to greet me.

"You see for yourself, Miss Monica, tisn't like the old times no more. What us wants here is Mr Coope back again."

I gazed at her incredulously, for I recognized her now as the youngest Watchett.

"You must hear the sad story of Maudie Watchett. Maudie wadn't very well; cu'n keep nothin' down. 'Er looked proper bad, so 'er did, and 'nothin' seemed to do 'er no good."

One fine day Maudie and her Mother mounted the carrier's cart and went off to Kingsbridge to see the Doctor.

"Maudie can't keep nothin' down.....and Doctor he says "Let's have a look at ee, Maudie."

Tisn't long before doctor says, "You know well enough what's the matter Maudie; you'm going to have a baby."

"For shame, for shame, doctor. Maudie's a gude gurl. 'Tis a dreadful thing to say such a thing of my "Maudie". So, they come home again in the carrier's cart, and still poor Maudie can't keep nothin' down.

A bit later on like, off they set again for Kingsbridge, but this time not to the doctor, no, not this time. 'Tis for the Registry office they'm heading, and Maudie comes home with a fine great wedding ring, and good enough for anyone. Maudie's new husband stays at home with his own folk, for they hadn't reckoned on getting married, not yet.

All the same they had the laugh on the Doctor, for he had to get out of bed in the middle of a winter's night, and ride all the five miles on horseback out to Thurlestone when Maudie had her baby.

A dear little maid, so it was, (and I always did say that Maudie was a gude girl).

In the West Country at any rate, there was no great social prejudice against a girl becoming pregnant before marriage. Cottages in those days were so hard to come by, so there was no sense in setting up house for just the two of you, and no harm in waiting until a little 'un was on the way. That was how it be, but Father did not, and he was always shocked and distressed afresh when Lucy or Susie or Millie came in an unmistakable condition to put up the banns. He knew that they knew his unvarying rule in such cases and bore with no grudge on that score.

The rule was not to wear white, and the bells were not rung; so the bride chose a nice loose dark blue gown (useful for Sunday' and holidays), Father gave the young couple his sincere blessing and a good time was had by all.

This cottage question was always a burning one, and a great many of those in existence were quite unfit for human, or even animal, habitation. Father minced no words about them with the landlords, threatening them with the alternative of the Sanitary Inspector or an epidemic of typhoid. The Sanitary Inspector could do no more than condemn here and condemn there, but little or nothing was accomplished, and happily a typhoid epidemic did not materialize either. All that happened in fact was that the Coope's grown-ups and children were not bidden to the two great houses where Father had spoken his mind, but the ladies did bow to Mother from their carriages, considering I suppose that she was more sinned against than sinning.

All the water in Thurlestone had to be drawn from a covered well in the village, and carried home in two pails on a wooden yoke. We had our own well at the Rectory, but it took an hour to pump the tank full up in the attics so we had to be very careful of water, especially in summer when the rainwater tank was running low. Our nightly bath in front of the nursery fire was on the instalment plan, youngest first, and so on until the eldest lowered herself into a veritable pea soup of sandy, soapy water, hotted up for her by an addition from the brown enamel can standing near.

At the top of the village a tap ran off the same spring that fed the well and, sitting by it on fine days on his little camp chair, was old Pound, smoking a clay pipe and exchanging yarns with whoever stopped to speak to him. Mrs. Pound kept the sweet shop and supported herself and her husband, who was so crippled up with rheumatics that he could only just crawl down to the tap with the help of a couple of walking sticks, and there he stayed, hour in, hour out.

Katherine came home one day with the astonishing news that Mr. Pound's hands were so bad, he couldn't walk.

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Puzzle Page

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1st May 2019. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk

Sudoku puzzles

Slightly more challenging than last time, these are moderate level

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

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

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

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

Correct answers from Sheila Killingsworth, Elaine Grant, Gillian Marshall, Susan Penwell, Pat Leare and Alison Bone. The winner of the '1st out of the Puzzle Hat' this time earning congratulations and the treasured bottle of wine from the VV Sudoku wine cellar goes to Pauline Lonsdale of Meadcombe Road, Thurlestone.

Old Age as seen by the Greeks and Romans

Part 4

So why should we not fear the onset of old age, as so many of Cicero's contemporaries and predecessors undoubtedly did? Cicero dedicated the book to his life-long friend Atticus, the recipient of many of his letters, and sets the dialogue in the house of the elderly Marcus Cato, imagining that he receives a courtesy call from two young men, Scipio and Laelius, who ask why Cato finds old age such a light burden, compared with other Romans of his age.

The point is made by the two young men, one not always acknowledged today, that the old have travelled a long road that the young must also take and so are worth listening to for their experience. Cato's first point is that the complaints of old men stem from their character, not from the fact that they are old. If a man is self-controlled and not given to bad temper or boorishness, he will find old age bearable enough; if he lacks tact or finer feeling, he will find every stage of life a nuisance.

Extreme wealth will not prevent a man from hating old age, if he lacks intelligence.

The best weapon for defending old age against its alleged ills, says Cato, is virtue. He quotes the example of Quintus Maximus a great general who kept his sense of humour and remained dignified yet affable all his days, reading widely in literature and delighting friends by his conversation into his nineties. As a contrasting example Plato is cited as one who spent his declining years as he had his earlier ones, quietly, with integrity and discrimination, and died in the act of writing in his eighty-first year. The idea of calling such an old age as Maximus' or Plato's unhappy would be a complete abuse of language.

There are four reasons, says Cicero, through Cato why old age is thought to be a time of unhappiness. One is the loss of active pursuits, a second that the body becomes weak, a third we lose virtually all pleasures, and the fourth that death is just round the corner. These he takes in turn and demolishes.

First, the loss of active pursuits. He argues that old men may lack physical strength but there are still tasks that can be accomplished by their minds. Great things are achieved not by strength or physical speed but by judgement and authority. To pretend otherwise is tantamount to saying the helmsman takes no part in the sailing of a ship, as it is others who climb the masts, run up and down the deck and empty the bilge-water. The Romans called their chief council of state the senate, which means 'body of elders', because they knew that it was men of advanced years who possessed the necessary qualities of reason, judgement and thought.

To the obvious criticism that the memory declines as years advance, Cato replies that old men retain their mental powers as long as their interest and application last the course. Again it comes back to character. And not just great poets and philosophers like Homer and Pythagoras match the length of their years with mental activity but even the humble farmer will not be absent from the important tasks of the year, labouring happily in the planting of trees for the next generation.

But there are the lines spoken in a play of Caecilius by an old man:

'But most wretched in old age I consider is this,
Realising at that age that one is a bore to others.'

How wrong he is, says, Cato: if you are interested in helping young people and benefitting them by your instruction, they will take a positive delight in your company, just as you do in theirs when they have good qualities of mind. Look at me, he says: I'm learning Greek in my old age, just as Socrates learned to play the lyre as an old man. Old age, so far from being feeble and idle, is in fact busy and always doing something or trying to make something happen.

What about loss of strength? He tells the story of a famous Olympic wrestler, now old, who was watching athletes training. He looked at his arms and said, with tears in his eyes, 'Well,

these are certainly dead now'. What a buffoon of a man, is Cato's comment. His arms are not as dead as he is. It wasn't his true self that earned him renown, it was his lungs and arms.' An orator requires vocal power as well as intellect and the former may decline in old age but an old voice can be elegant and mellifluous, such as that of Homer's Nestor, whose speech is compared to the honey flowing. There is real pleasure in passing on skills to the younger generation.

You should enjoy the advantage of physical strength while it is yours and not lament its passing. Or should young men feel sorry to have lost their boyhood or mature men their adolescence?

What of the depressing fact that many old men are so weak that they can't perform any function? Well, this is true of ill health in general, which even the young cannot escape. We must stand up to old age and fight against it as we would a disease. Moderate exercise for the body but much more importantly we must nourish the mind, supplying it, like a lamp, with regular drops of oil. The old fools of comedy are not typical old men but examples of an old age that is inactive, lazy and given to falling asleep. Senility, then, belongs to shallow old men, not to old men in general.

The third criticism is that old age lacks pleasures. These are defined as physical rather than mental, and the product of excess, so Cato feels free to attack pleasure as lust, an enemy of the virtuous life, and something we may be glad to be rid of. Where lust holds sway, there is no place for restraint, and virtue cannot establish itself anywhere in the kingdom of pleasure. Old age is to be congratulated on feeling no great longing for pleasures. It may well lack the banquet with its high-piled tables and wine-cups regularly filled but it also lacks drunkenness, indigestion and sleeplessness. Old men can still enjoy a moderate gathering for dinner and in this they show the true meaning of friends reclining together at feasts, called in Latin, *convivium*, 'a communion of living', an improvement on the equivalent Greek name for the same practice, *symposium*, 'a drinking together', which celebrated what mattered least on these occasions. Old age, says Cato, increases one's appetite for conversation and removes that for food and drink.

Aha, but what about the desire for more intimate contact? Surely this dwindles among the elderly and is a source of regret? Perhaps, is Cato's response, but their longing for these pleasures dwindles, too, and no one can be distressed by anything he no longer longs to have. When the poet Sophocles was an old man, he was asked if he still indulged in sex. 'No, thank God', was his reply. 'In fact, I'm only too glad to have escaped from this. I feel like a slave who has escaped a savage and cruel master'.

Nothing, then, is more delightful than a leisured old age given over to study and learning, free from the demands of lust, ambition, strife and enmity it had to reckon with in earlier years. But isn't it true that old men are peevish and bad-tempered, as we saw in some of Euripides' plays earlier? Only if this is determined by their character, says Cato; not every human character grows sour with old age, any more than this happens with every wine. One can be strict without being morose, and as for miserliness that we sometimes see in old people, it is as pointless and absurd as a traveller increasing his luggage the nearer he gets to his journey's end.

But this reminds us of the fourth major problem with becoming old: the proximity of death.

Does death never threaten all ages and take its toll especially of the very young?

We should be content with the time we are given for living. Does an actor have to appear in every scene of a play in order to please his audience? The wise man need not stay on stage right up to the final curtain. We must practise from youth the ability to look death in the eye or we can never attain calmness of spirit but spend every hour fearing its threatening approach. Is it appropriate for wise old men to tremble at something which holds no fear for young soldiers, untutored and simple souls, as they march out to a place from which they think they will never return?

We learn from philosophers that our souls are immortal and escape the body's prison-house when we die. Why do the souls of all the best men especially strive after immortality and glory? It is because their souls are immortal and have an eye on posterity.

Why do all the wisest men die with the greatest tranquillity of mind but all the most foolish with the least? They know their existence will continue in a more pure and rational form. We will meet our loved ones again and have no regret at leaving life, which is a hostelry for breaking our journey, not a permanent residence.

In this final section it is clear that, when Cicero makes Cato rejoice at the thought of seeing his beloved son again after death, he is thinking of the loss of his own daughter and consoling himself with the thought of their imminent reunion.

Even if he is wrong about our immortality, says Cato finally, it is right for us all to meet our end at our proper time. Old age is the final scene in life's drama, from which we should escape when weariness overcomes it.

Whether or not you feel persuaded by Cicero's defence of old age there is no doubting his own courage in the face of death. When, in the following year he had delivered a series of insulting speeches against Antony, thinking that Antony would finally be opposed by Octavian, Caesar's heir, he was not to know that Octavian and Antony would form a pact. Antony insisted Cicero's name be put first on the proscription list after the public humiliation he had suffered. Cicero refused to escape and met Antony's soldiers with great bravery, extending his neck from his carriage to be cut off.

This was not the action of a man clinging on to life but of one who believed in immortality. Cicero's head and hands were displayed on the Speakers' Platform in the Forum, where so many times his rhetoric had held the public in thrall. By order of Antony's wife, Fulvia, Cicero's tongue was pierced by one of her brooches, but the eloquence of Rome's greatest orator has achieved immortality through his writings, and some of us, at least, may be comforted by his thoughts on old age.

John Davie



Dear Mrs. Bird, by A. J. Pearce, pub. Picador

This is a delightful book. Emmeline (Emmie) and her lifelong friend, Bunty, are living and working in London in 1941. Bunty works at the War Office and Emmie as a secretary to a solicitor, helping at the local fire station at night. However, Emmie desperately wants to be a War Correspondent and, when she sees an advertisement for 'Part-time Junior required at Launceston Press Ltd. publishers of The London Evening Chronicle' she jumps at the chance. Unfortunately, by mistake, she finds she is now employed by a formidable, large lady called Henrietta Bird who writes the agony column in Woman's Friend magazine. Mrs. Bird will not reply to or read, any letters containing 'unpleasantness' and Emmie is given a list of topics to steer clear of. These include 'marital relations, pre-marital relations, sexual relations in general and political activities' (the list is much longer!) Emmie must read all letters that come in and only give the ones with no 'unpleasantness' to Mrs. Bird to answer. As this is wartime, many of the letters are a real cry for help and Emmie begins to feel very uncomfortable that they will get no answer. So she begins, secretly, to answer some of them, having to ask some of the more experienced and older ladies at the fire station for help.

I really enjoyed this book. It made me laugh, although there are some sad moments, and I felt the author had perfectly captured the atmosphere of being young, working, cinema-going and meeting friends during the Blitz..

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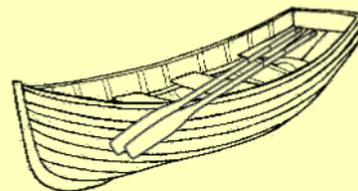
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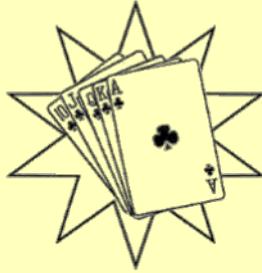
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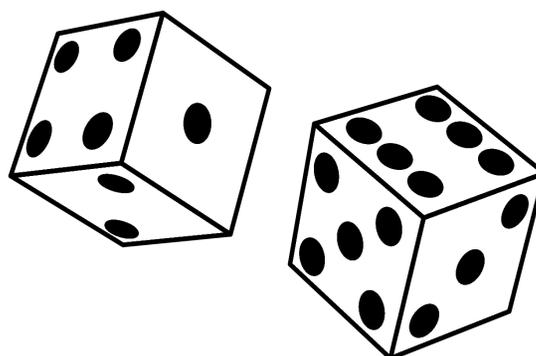
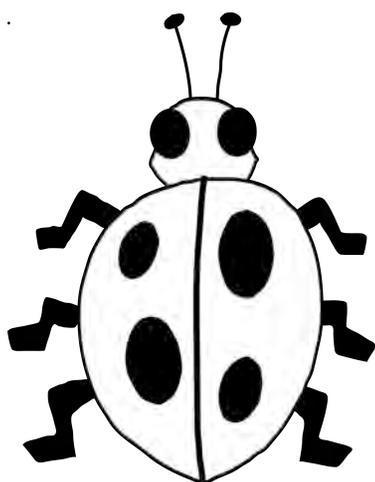
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Village News Round-Up

Richard Bunn

We are sad to report Richard's death on 22 January. His service of thanksgiving was held at All Saints Church on 15 February with about 100 people in attendance. He worked in the city of London where he was known to his colleagues as "Sticky Bunn". He moved to Thurlestone full time in the 1990s and was a member of the golf club. He also served as Chairman of the Friends of the Church. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends to whom we extend our condolences.

Joan Mackenzie

We must also regretfully report the death of Joan Mackenzie at the age of 93. Joan married a Scot, Fergus Mackenzie, who eventually became a Surgeon-Captain of the Royal Navy. When he was serving in Plymouth, they came to live in Thurlestone. Another posting meant a move away to Taunton but when Fergus retired they moved happily back to Thurlestone. The disciplines of service life seem to have rubbed off on Joan as whatever cause she espoused, and there were quite a few, she was well known for "running the ship". Apart from the local Bridge and Golf clubs, another of Joan's local interests was the old Parish Hall. It was fast becoming run down and showing its age. When Joan became Chairman, she set about improving things with great determination and she succeeded as, with her at the helm, the old hall won a county trophy for the "Best Run Village Hall"! She was also a keen photographer of parish events and activities, as the four large photo albums donated to the parish show. Joan also chaired the Kingsbridge branch of the Tinnitus and Hard of Hearing group until she retired due to failing health. Joan will be remembered as a lady who was direct, generous and tireless in the projects with which she was associated. At her request there will be no funeral service.

Great Thurlestone Quiz

The Organisers Andrew Girling and Peter Gornall would like to thank everyone who supported the Great Thurlestone Quiz on February 7th in aid of END POLIO NOW. The event raised £1783, which will be tripled by The Gates Foundation. They would also like to give heartfelt thanks to their sponsors David Grose from Thurlestone Hotel, Tesco, Morrisons, Alan's Apple and the raffle prize donors.

Avon Estuary Photographic Competition

The Avon Valley Water Ski Club is organising a photographic competition on the topic of the Avon Estuary during 2019. Full details of acceptable subject matter, deadline, entry form etc. are available on a dedicated website: [-http://www.avonestuary.co.uk](http://www.avonestuary.co.uk)

Avon Patrol – SeaMoor Lottery

During the summer holidays, the Avon Patrol polices the estuary to maintain safety standards; the ACA considers the patrol to be an indispensable factor. The operation is currently under review, after it was proposed to discontinue the service as a cost saving for SHDC. Even though there was a patrol during 2018, no clarification for 2019 has been received as yet. It is likely contributions from each of the current sponsors will be increased and this will create a growing burden for the future. This will not be sustainable, long-term, without vigorous fund-raising. ACA would like to ask you to consider subscribing to SHDC's SeaMoor Lottery. If you nominate the Aune Conservation Association as your 'good cause', they receive 50p in every £1 and you could also win a prize. www.SeaMoorLotto.co.uk



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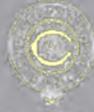
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POSTBAG

Dear Editors,

We always look forward to the arrival of Village Voice, but the edition for February - March was especially enjoyable because of the beautiful cover picture with the glorious spring flowers so true to life in both colour and shape. A very big thank you to Margaret Houghton for bringing such a ray of sunshine on a day when it was dark and dreary outside!

Sincerely

Pat Townsend

Dear Editors,

We have been very remiss in not thanking you for the mention, in a previous edition, and your kind words about our wall at Furzey Orchard! It was indeed based on the Sacsayhuaman walls in Peru, which we were able to see on a journey there in 2008. There was however another point of view when a passer-by asked if Hadrian was at home!

We would like to thank the villagers very sincerely for their patience and interest in our new home. Everyone has been most positive and supportive throughout our project and we are so very grateful for that.

You may be pleased to know that the house was selected as a silver winner for Best Innovative Design in the recent Building Excellence Awards 2019 through Devon Building Control Partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy and Peter Gornall

Dear Editors,

I just found the extensive and impressive website for Thurlestone through a link I followed to Village Voice and wanted to congratulate everyone who works to put both the website and the newsletter together, I know exactly how much work that is.

I count 1951-1959, or up to 1964, if I include holidays, as the happiest of my life. I wrote the following passage back in 1998, just looked at it again and something in it, a reference to attending the primary school for one term before going to Kingsbridge Grammar School in the fall of 1951, led me to Village Voice and then to the website 'My father and I travelled to Vancouver, Canada in 1964 for a family wedding and I never lived in the UK again'. My parents were Donald and Nancy Turner, he was a builder who purchased a small wooden cottage named Cutaway and the land around it, converted an old barn into Query, and built two more houses there. He subsequently built several houses on Eddystone Road, and he and my mother moved into Pillars where they lived until they died, he in March 1976 and she in June 1976. My sister Tessa left England for New Zealand in 1969. Last time I was in Thurlestone, I remember meeting Peter Grose's wife (Peter's mother Muriel was my Sunday school teacher), who I see died recently.

And yes, Thurlestone was very different then, tiny compared with today, before the building boom. I cannot believe the number of people on the beaches in the video taken on an August bank holiday weekend.

With so many happy memories ...

Jo Pleshakov, nee Turner

Parish Hall News

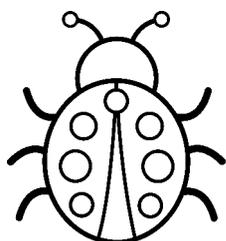
By Alison Daily (Secretary)



The Committee was saddened to hear of the death of **Joan MacKenzie** who was a very generous benefactor and major contributor to the Parish Hall over the years. We have lost a very special lady.

Our **AGM** was held on **Tuesday 12th March** and we were pleased to see an increased number of the public attending. As always the committee pledged to try and arrange varied programmes to suit all tastes but we do need input from Parishioners as to what that may be.

An extremely informative training session is to be held on resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator on **25th April**. This is very worthwhile so book your place early. Details given at the end of this report.



Our next entertainment event is on **Saturday 27th April** when we are hosting a **Beetle Drive**. For the uninitiated, such as myself, this involves drawing the body parts of a beetle in a certain order after the relevant number on a dice has been thrown. Sounds like tremendous fun so do come along and join us.



Family Fun will be held on **Tuesday 28th May** and everyone of all ages is very welcome to come along for some food, drink and, if desired, to play the games on offer. These include Kurling, Table Tennis and Boules along with some exciting new games and activities we are planning. Admittance is free - you pay just £1 each to play 5 games. This is a great sociable evening for whole families or friends. Wood fired pizza ovens will be providing supper and the bar will have a range of drinks. We really look forward to seeing you there.



Make a note of these dates in your diaries for these unmissable events.

LEARN RESUSCITATION TECHNIQUES AND HOW TO USE A DEFIBRILLATOR

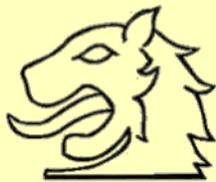
At a training session by the Heartstart team from Kingsbridge Estuary Rotary Club on Thursday 25th April 2019 from 7pm until 9pm in Thurlestone Parish Hall. Limited number of places so please book early by contacting Alison Daily on 01548 561472 or email aldaily@waitrose.com



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South Efford Marsh



South Efford Marsh is a wildlife reserve at the upper end of the Avon Estuary; open to the public. It is on the outskirts of Aveton Gifford at Bridge End, and can be reached by crossing the bridges and taking the lane to the right just before the hill.

Aune Conservation Association

Parking near the site is very limited; the nearest car park is by the Timbers roundabout. Visitors are welcome and there is no entrance charge, but because of the sensitive areas of feeding and nesting birds on the marsh no dogs are allowed. A footpath from the entrance takes walkers around the northern half of the perimeter; visitors are not encouraged to walk down the more open southern half of the site as this will disturb nesting and feeding birds. A hide provides shelter from the weather and excellent views in two directions - not only of the marsh but, also, back over the estuary.

South Efford Marsh was originally created in the 1780's by enclosing an area of foreshore and mud flats in the estuary with a banked retaining wall. Since that time, it was used as a grazing marsh until 2009 when it was bought by the Environment Agency (EA) as part of their Habitat Creation Programme. After the installation of a tidal gate to regulate the flow of water into the marsh, this 17 hectare site is now an enclosed area of riverside pasture and developing saltmarsh containing both fresh and salt/brackish water habitats. The marsh is now leased and managed by the Devon Wildlife Trust.

Cattle graze the fields for part of the year subject to a grazing agreement, and this helps to keep the grass short enough to encourage the growth of a more diverse variety of plants, and also to attract waders and wildfowl during the winter months.

At the northern end, reed- and willow-lined ditches run through the site attracting birds such as sedge warblers, reed buntings, and kingfishers, and in the winter the ditches also attract over-wintering water rail – seldom seen but often heard. The banks adjacent to the river are covered in gorse and wild flowers such as black knapweed and birds foot trefoil, and are a haven for butterflies. Amongst other species this area attracts linnet, whitethroat, chaff, dunnoek, wren, goldfinch, goldcrest and the common lizard.

The tidal sluice creates pools and shallow areas of salt and brackish water; attractive feeding grounds for waders and wildfowl. Plants here include sea spurry, sea arrow-grass and sea club-rush, and in a survey done in the summer of 2013 new saltmarsh species were beginning to grow here – marsh samphire, sea aster, sea purslane and common cordgrass (spartina) – whose seeds are brought from the river with the incoming water. Visitors may see red shank, green shank, black tailed godwit, green sandpiper, oystercatchers and dunlin; and it is a regular feeding site for swallows, swifts, and house and sand martins. Wintering curlew also use the marsh for roosting and feeding at high tide. Unusual and even rare birds may be seen – wood sandpiper, over-wintering water pipits, woodchat shrike, glossy ibis, spoonbill, with sightings of osprey over the estuary. Otters are still on the marsh and the surrounding area.

Well worth a visit!

Stuart Watts

Thurlestone Phonebox.....Ring Ring

As I write storm Freya is certainly blowing away the cobwebs of our balmy February. We were lucky she wasn't around for Valentine's Day or our Phonebox decorations would have ended up spreading their romantic message all over the village.

Who was Saint Valentine anyway? Some gloriously romantic girl or boy? Not quite. It's all a bit vague but basically the 14th February commemorates the execution (beheading no less) of 3rd century Bishop Valentine for helping Roman Soldiers have a Christian marriage which was forbidden by the Christian faith. Hardly romantic but the date also coincided with a pagan fertility festival which was later incorporated, possibly by Chaucer, into the unfortunate Bishop's anniversary and developed into the sentimental celebration it is today. Any other theories?



Finally, a word of thanks to our village DIY expert, Paul. He decided that the bus-shelter timetable notice board needed fixing and then realised that the timetable was at least fifteen years old! Although Tally Ho said it was still valid Paul was able to point out various anomalies. He has now not only fixed the frame but printed a current timetable, so Thurlestone can boast the only **correct bus timetable on the Thurlestone route 162**. Bravo Paul.

Happy Days

Kit Marshall

Saturday 8th June 2019

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Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1st May 2019. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@thamead.co.uk

A selection of chocolates in cryptic form for Easter

Example : High class thoroughfare = Quality Street

1.	Sly giggles	2.	Dark occult
3.	Mother's local	4.	Clever folk
5.	Frankie Vaughan wanted it	6.	Marx brother spun around
7.	Feline equipment	8.	Romantic flowers
9.	Dairy holder	10.	Arrange marriage partners
11.	Edible fasteners	12.	Talk quietly
13.	Big bus	14.	Spin around
15.	Not for the ladies	16.	100% Au
17.	Istanbul harem	18.	Up out there
19.	Even more up out there	20.	Big cat's pub
21.	One who wanders	22.	Musical bard
23.	It's a party	24.	Outside meal
25.	Easily blown	26.	Locals from Malta
27.	Reward	28.	Ten cent pub
29.	Naked Lady	30.	Not smooth

Solutions to the previous Grey Matter

1. Around the World in 80 Days, 2. 7 Sides on a Fifty Pence Piece, 3. 24 Hours from Tulsa, 4. 4 Horsemen of the Apocalypse, 5. 168 Hours in a Week, 6. 1 Man and His Dog, 7. 21 Spots on a Dice, 8. 192 Directory Enquiries (B T), 9. 15 Red Balls on a Snooker Table, 10. 42 The Meaning of Life The Universe and Everything, 11. 11 Pipers Piping, 12. 11 Players in a Cricket Team, 13. 12 Disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, 14. 1 Wheel on a Unicycle, 15. 50 Ways to Leave Your Lover, 16. 1st of April = April Fools Day, 17. 50 Years of Marriage = Golden Wedding Anniversary, 18. 7 Brides for 7 Brothers, 19. 12 Stars on the European Flag, 20. 9 Million Bicycles in Beijing

We had many correct entries but first out of the hat, the lucky winner of our congratulations and the coveted bottle of wine is Emma Hartley

Thurlestone Parish Villages Website

www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk



Have you visited the Thurlestone Parish website recently? If not, go and have a browse now. Did you notice anything different? Your answer will probably have depended on what type of device you used to view the website.

If you used a desktop or laptop computer you may have noticed that the Home page is set out slightly differently but otherwise everything looks much as it did before. However, if you used a tablet or mobile phone then most of the pages will have looked very different.

Over the last few months we have been working in the background to make the website “responsive” – also known as “mobile friendly” – and in mid-February we went live with the changes. When a website is “responsive” it changes, or responds, depending on the size of the screen being used to view it.

If you look at our Home page on a desktop or laptop computer you will see some text describing our wonderful parish in the first column, the Notice Board in a second column, and some links to key pages in a third column. If you try to fit all this information across a mobile screen it becomes impossible to read without a magnifying glass – or by using your fingers to enlarge the text and then scroll around. However, with a “responsive” website the items on a smaller screen rearrange themselves. So, on our Home page as you scroll down on a mobile phone you will see the text first, then the Notice Board and then the links – and all at a size that is much more readable. You will also notice that the menu items, seen across the top of the page on a desktop screen, have now disappeared but are available by clicking on the 3 black lines at the top left of the screen.

Achieving this has required a lot of work. We have had to redesign many of the pages and then check every single page – all 150 of them – on a desktop, tablet and phone to ensure they look OK. If you see something that doesn't look quite right yet please let us know!

So why did we undertake this task? More and more people are accessing the internet via their mobile phones and the mighty Google decided a couple of years ago that any website which wasn't mobile friendly would be pushed down the rankings on their search pages – not helpful for new users looking to find us! Our own statistics tell us that about 50% of people who visit our website use a desktop/laptop computer, 30% use a mobile and 20% use a tablet. But we also see that people using a desktop look at more pages and spend longer on the website. Worse still, around two-thirds of users on a mobile phone only look at one page and then leave the website.

Since most visitors to the area will use a phone to view the website we hope that we have now provided a much more user friendly experience for them – as well as for the many residents who use a phone or tablet. Please have a look and tell us what you think – we can only keep improving it if you tell us what you like and, particularly, what you don't like!

Mike Bone – Tel: 288436, Email: mikebone18@hotmail.com
Paul Martin – Tel: 560070, Email: pmover60@gmail.com

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WEATHER WAG

I don't know about you but I feel as though I am living in a tumble drier! The wind has been, and still is, quite strong and when faced with an obstacle, like a house, it swirls around like a whirl-wind and if you are out in it, it certainly feels like a tumble drier. Add to it rain, either heavy or light, the result is not too nice. Still, it gives all us Brits something to talk about, it is usually the opening comment to most casual conversations isn't it? The birds struggle against it when coming in to land on the bird feeders or the table, but they are persistent in their endeavours and are usually rewarded with a tasty morsel.

It is a salutary fact that the weather is one of the chief factors in controlling our lifestyle the world over. So, what about us here in the South Hams? Well, I have said before, and I'm sure that you all know that we live in a micro-climate with Dartmoor in the north and the coast/sea surrounding us east, south and west. The weather patterns here are often at odds with a general forecast for the South West but we have got used to it over time. Generally we experience an equable climate without extremes. However, rainfall and wind measurements are alternatively often extreme for the area. Once again we are used to high wind gusts at Prawle Point and Berry Head, and heavy rain inland to the foot of Dartmoor. Then there is the sea! Here, conditions are weather led and are not always immediately evident. For example, a couple of weeks ago there were huge rolling waves pounding up the beach as their name suggests. The swell was quite impressive, but not as huge as I have seen in the past. This time it was a deep depression in mid-Atlantic that was the cause. Lots of folks commented that it was strange that there was no wind. This is easily explained, as the energy produced by the swiftly rising warm air in the Atlantic caused the sea level to rise and produce turbulence, the energy is then transferred through the molecules of liquid. It travels very swiftly through the sea and as the waters get shallower on the Continental shelf there is nowhere for the energy to go, so it is concentrated in a fairly regular rising and rolling boost of the waters into the waves that we see breaking on to our beaches. They are higher and, more powerful at high tide than at low tide, and can take people by surprise if they are on the shore watching (or not) the waves as they break. We should be aware of the power of these waves as they retreat down the beach.

During this last week there has been a tragedy in the Scottish Mountains. Three climbers have met their deaths as a result of an avalanche on Ben Nevis. I had a look in my The W.K. of Snow book and the item for March 14th related to Snow and Avalanche in this country. You may even remember an event on this day in 1964, it sadly resulted in the deaths of 3 boy scouts from Derbyshire on a 'Four Inns Walk'. They all succumbed to hypothermia and exhaustion during heavy rain and then snow. During the search 370 people were involved but did not find them in time to save them. As a result of this event, the first Mountain Rescue Group was formed, better equipped in every way. Today they are even more well equipped as are people who go fell/mountain walking. Accidents will still happen however, some with tragic results as we are now aware. 75% of mountain rescue incidents are still due to the weather.

To make the wind seem less horrid, last year on 15th March 2018 the forecast was snow and it lived up to its name. I was snowed in here in Beach Cottage for three days. I could walk but car use was out of the question. I actually enjoyed it. The world became hushed and the wind-driven snow made some wonderful shapes around obstacles and walking took on a different sound.

Keep weather watching, check your wellies are not leaking and hope that the ground will soon dry out for some early tilling and planting.

Jan Turner

Family Fun

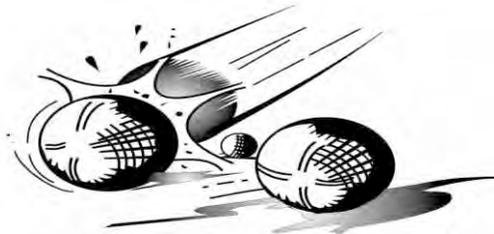
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Thurlestone Golf Club



We can't quite decide if we have had a good, bad or even moderate Winter, the weather has been that variable. Suffice to say, this time last year we were battling the Beast from the East, let us hope there is no recurrence of this winter phenomenon in the next few weeks.

As I write to you we await determination of our Certificate Of Lawfulness and our Planning Application for 2 display machines in the upper car park. We expect a decision by the end of April on both counts.

We are always keen to recruit social members. The annual membership starting on 1st May is £74.00 per year. There are many benefits to being a social member- free parking, discount on food and drink purchases and a full programme of social events including regular bridge drives. If you are interested please contact the office on 01548 560405.

Just recently we had the news that Joan Mackenzie passed away at the age of 93. I mention this because not only was Joan a stalwart of the Club but by all accounts she was a most wonderful lady. Joan held high office in Ladies Amateur Golf culminating in her being elected Chairman of the English Ladies Golf Association in 1979. We marked her passing with a post on the Club's Twitter account and to my delight it was re-tweeted by Devon Golf and England Golf reaffirming Joan's contribution to ladies' golf. I remember someone saying that volunteers don't get paid because their contribution is priceless – how true of many associations and organisations.

I know the Public Toilets opposite our entrance have been a topic of conversation for both the Parish Council and SHDC. Their closure since Christmas has meant that we have a "trickle" of walkers and general public coming in asking to use our toilets. This is not a problem. However this is an important facility for the Village and I hope, collectively, there can be an agreement to operate this public convenience 365 days a year.

We participated in a business network event at Thurlestone Hotel on Thursday 14th March. Although the event was not as well supported as the Hotel would have liked it was a worthwhile exercise and I wanted to thank Mary Grose and the Hotel staff for their efforts in hosting this event and making us feel so welcome. We are all part of the same community and a closer relationship can only benefit us both and the village as a whole.

Many of you would have noticed that the dune system to the rear of Leasfoot beach has been badly eroded by the elements and human activity. Sand is frequently being blown on to the first fairway and is having a detrimental effect on growth and presentation. We are discussing the possibility of reinstating the broken dunes, erecting some sympathetic fencing and adding another formal entrance to the beach. We will be liaising with all the stakeholders including SHDC regarding any planning permission we may need.

This edition covers notable events such as Mother's Day and Easter and these coincide with Spring when we may feel the expectation of new beginnings and the prospect of a brighter future.

Simon Bawden
General Manager
Thurlestone Golf Club

February Meeting

Richard Kenwood, our Speaker, came armed with bundles of willow withies. He proceeded to build a “double helix” framework for plants as he told us about how he got into growing and weaving willow for baskets and plant frameworks. There is evidence that willow has been used for over 8000 years for fish traps and crab and lobster pots. Each fishing village will have its own pattern of weaving. In 1830s, there were 70,000 basket makers in Britain. Railways had their own basket works for shipping ducks from Aylesbury to London. The Wright Brothers made their first planes from the lightweight but flexible willow, and hot air balloon baskets are also made from willow. The first aspirins were made from an extract of willow bark. Willow catkins are an early source of nectar for bees. Nowadays, many people are choosing to be buried in willow coffins. It is important that willows are planted well away from buildings and drains as their roots will quickly find water and undermine foundations.

December is the start of the pollarding, and the harvest needs to be finished by the time the leaves start to appear. The withies are 1 year's growth and the sticks are 2 years' growth. The withies are dried right out then soaked for one week, rendering them workable for a week.

At the end of the talk, Richard invited any who wished to make a star or heart (it being Valentine's Day) to have a go bending the withies and to take home a souvenir.

March Meeting

Jo Parkin welcomed a new member, Jean Patey.

All are welcome to the Sea Coast Meeting which will be hosted by Salcombe WI on 16th April. The competition is to make a model of a lifeboat from recycled materials, no more than 2 feet by 2 feet.

Jo reminded us of the Spring Council Meeting on 27th April, a Bluebell Walk at Hound Tor on Dartmoor on 7th May, also a Hanging Basket Workshop on 7th May.

The Committee has sent a letter to NFWI expressing our anxiety about what is happening with the Devon Federation Committee.

Our Speaker, Brenda Loosemore, presented “Ladies of Laughter”, a miscellany of well-known personalities who have entertained us. Brenda started by giving us some of her own history as an actress, learning to project her voice and eschewing microphones. She has performed in the Torbay theatres in “Murder on the Nile”, and recently as Madame Arkaty in “Blithe Spirit”, and in Terence Rattigan's “Separate Tables”. She is also a volunteer at Coleton Fishacre and Greenway, and was delighted to be able to dress up and enact lady Dorothy Doyley Carte at one of the cocktail parties.

Brenda's first “Lady of Laughter” was Dorothy Parker. She read us the well-loved poem “One perfect rose”, with its twist at the end, and “Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses”.

She then went on to Joyce Grenfell, who started her career at the Cliveden family home of her aunt, Nancy Astor, with an impromptu sketch of a WI lecturer. It was seen by a West End impresario who then asked her to perform on the stage. Brenda read us the poem “Stately as a galleon”.

Victoria Wood was her next presentation, “Bronte”, about a guide at Haworth House, the Bronte family home.

Pam Ayres was Brenda's next “Lady”. Pam had originally been a Civil Servant, then joined the WRAF. She won “Opportunity Knocks”, a TV talent show, and this started her career as a comedienne, with well-known poems such as “I wish I had looked after my teeth”. Brenda read us the amusing poem, “They should have asked my husband!”.

The final “Lady of Laughter” was Jenny Joseph, with her poem, “When I get old I will wear purple with a red hat that doesn't go and that doesn't suit me”, which was the inspiration for the Red Hat Society.

Our Speaker on 11th April is the Hon. Alison Haslam who was a London Blue Badge guide and will give the stories behind some of the capital's famous statues. On 9th May, Kathryn Kelly who comes from a long line of long service lighthouse keepers will talk about life on lighthouses.



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GARDEN TIME

by Greenfly



Plant Sale

On Saturday 4 May the Thurlestone & South Milton horticultural show committee are holding their annual plant sale at the Parish Hall. Don't miss this chance to get healthy, locally grown, plants at very reasonable prices. But get to the hall early - it starts at 10am - as it is a popular event and sales are brisk! The money made from this sale is used to run the annual show, which this year is at South Milton on Saturday 3 August.

Slugs & Snails

Did you know that from June 2019 metaldehyde products, pellets and liquid, widely used to control slugs and snails in the garden, will disappear from stockists' shelves? Although you will not be able to buy them, your remaining pellets or liquid can be used until early 2020. This decision was made on advice from experts who say the products pose an "unacceptable risk" to birds and mammals.

Bulbs

As your daffodils die back snip off the spent heads but don't be tempted to tie the leaves up or tidy them too much. Let them die naturally and this will help next year's flowering.

Roses

After an April pruning feed your roses with a general fertiliser and, if available, mulch them with well-rotted manure.

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Main course: Italian Chicken

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Ingredients

1 Chicken fillet per person
Pesto
Packet of Parma Ham



Method

1. Make a pocket in each chicken fillet.
2. Place a good size tablespoon of the pesto into the pocket.
3. Wrap 1 or 2 slices of Parma ham round each fillet.
4. Cook in oven at 200C or 180C (fan) for about 30 mins.

As a variation, fill chicken with mozzarella, tomato and fresh basil with or without the Parma ham.

Dessert: Apricot Brioche

Serves 4 to 6

Ingredients

1 egg
2 tablespoons Caster sugar
250 grams mascarpone cheese
8oz Brioche cut in 1/2" slices from loaf
1 can of apricot halves, drained
4 tablespoons Demerara sugar



Method

1. Grease a shallow sided dish (about 11" diameter or equivalent)
2. Whisk egg and caster in a bowl. Add mascarpone and whisk until smooth
3. Arrange brioche tidily in base of dish in single layer
4. Spread mixture over the slices to about 1 cm of edge (it spreads during cooking).
5. Arrange Apricots neatly up to the edge of the dish and sprinkle with the Demerara.
6. Bake in preheated oven for 30/35 minutes until custard is golden and set. Use oven at 170 degrees for fan or 180 for conventional.

Note: you can make this in the morning and keep, uncooked, in the fridge.

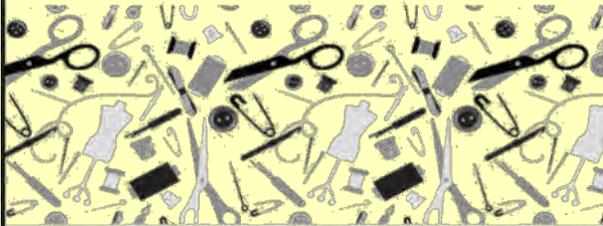
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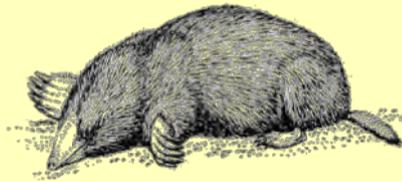
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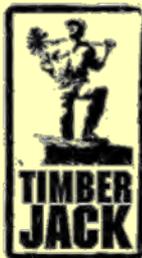
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Tramp reports for Jan, Feb & March 2019.

Visitors are always welcome to join our walks which are advertised in the Post Office window in advance. New members are welcome – contact Mike Stickland on stix@talktalk.net or ring 01548 560763 for more information.

January 17th. Dartington. Trisha Wilson. 5 miles.

What a super day - bright and sunny and no wind, unlike the day before! 13 of us and 4 dogs set out from Dartington Hall on a circular 5 mile walk which took us along the bank of the Dart where we stopped to admire the gnomes/pixies on the other side of the river and the numerous clumps of snowdrops - too early for the primroses and daffodils etc. Then onwards to North Woods which led us to Huston Cross Estate where we encountered The Glade, a very interesting woodland camp complete with the Nest (an indoor hut complete with wood burner and seating 50 people) other covered areas with wooden benches and fire pits, a pop-up bar and an alfresco seating area with parachute coverings for concerts, plays, gigs etc. Even a bush loo, using rainwater! Maybe a possible venue for a Tramps event in the future?! (Check out: thewoodland.co/what's-on/) After that excitement we trudged on via Old Parsonage, pausing to view the goods on sale at the Landworks, a Charity providing a supported route back into employment for those in prison or at risk of going to prison. We passed High Cross House and returned to our starting point via the Estate Gardens - although those with dogs had to take a different route passing St Mary's church tower and the Japanese garden.



January 25th. Totnes Town walk. Mike Stickland. 1.5 miles.

After the success of the Kingsbridge Town walk, another non-muddy town walk seemed appropriate for this time of year. Nine of us set out from The Plains for our short, history filled walk. It is so easy to ignore the beautiful buildings when going for a coffee in the town so keep looking up! The riverside warehouse buildings between the Plains and the river have been sympathetically restored for residential use. The obelisk on the Plains commemorates William Wills who crossed Australia in 1860/61. On the way up Fore Street, look left down Bank Lane. You will see a curious house built in 'Strawberry Hill' Gothic style. Further up the street is the fine Georgian mansion (built 1795) occupied for many years by Totnes Grammar School. Next up is Totnes Museum housed in a fine example of an Elizabethan Merchant's House. In the museum is an exhibition devoted to Charles Babbage – the father of today's computer. At the East Gate, spanning the road, the road name becomes High Street! Here we went up Ramparts Steps onto the old town wall. We turned into the churchyard and through the line of Medlar trees towards the 120 foot high red sandstone tower. (This was the earlier site of Totnes Priory). Behind the church is The Guildhall dating back to 1553 when Edward VI granted to the town the refectory buildings of the Priory for use as a

school and a prison! Town Council meetings are still held in this historic building. Here, by coincidence we met the Town Mayor(ess) dressed in typical way-out Totnes attire!

We continued up the High Street past the Butterwalk. The covered pavement here was constructed to protect the dairy products sold from the sun and rain. We then proceeded up past the old sheep market in The Rotherfield towards the "Leechwells". These natural springs were claimed to have medicinal properties and were looked after by two wardens in 1444. High walled lanes took us back to the Market Square and Civic Hall and thence back down the hill to our starting point.

February 4th. Annie Lukehurst. Bowcombe Creek to Frogmore. 7.5 miles.

The early showers blew over just in time when five walkers plus one dog assembled for this scenic walk. There was some discussion about the names of the Famous Five but we failed to remember! The route took us along Bowcombe Creek to the old bridge then back along the far bank and eventually up and over past the allotments and down into West Charleton. Rising up again to the south, we discovered the dates that the beacon has been lit since its installation in 2000. I remember all the beacons along the coast being lit when we first lived here, in 1988, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Spanish Armada. Does anyone know the siting of all the beacons along the coast? Once on Frogmore Creek we kept to the fields rather than tackle the slippery foreshore. The Frogmore bakery provided hot drinks, and then it was the long climb up the green lane to Duncombe Cross, and back down to Bowcombe. The views were fabulous and, on the return trip, we were treated to some warm sunshine.

February 13th. Staverton Snowdrop walk. 4 ½ miles. Peter and Wendy Gornall.

The first Valentine Snowdrop walk in 2018 was a memorable morning out for a select few in spring sunshine before the "beast from the East" struck later in the month. In 2019 the walk attracted 17 walkers and 2 dogs, a really merry crowd. The weather was perfect, with lovely sunshine and hardly a breath of wind.

From the car park of the Sea Trout Inn at Staverton we passed the "Court Room" and wondered how that got its name. (The parish website informs that an ecclesiastical court sat there centuries ago.) The next call is the Churchyard with its 1000 year-old all hollowed out yew tree. But the sight for sore eyes was indeed the snowdrop carpet, making way at the west end to newly fledged crocus. Lanes brought us to the railway and the crossing ("Stop – Look – Listen") to the riverbank. There was plenty of flow after the rains of the previous week, and still widespread snowdrops. The railway company stores some fine rolling stock and track maintenance kit at Staverton Station.

The minor road curves north west alongside Clay Copse and Abham Copse, where there is enough sunlight shining through the winter brambles for snowdrops to thrive below them. A track bends easterly up to Bartonhill Cross where there are magnificent views northwards to Dartmoor. A combination of woodland lane and open field track took us close to Sparkwell, and the kissing gate specially included for the season.

The road back starts well enough and then comes the challenge of large puddles across the whole width of the track – luckily the banking is just about foot-worthy and everyone got through unscathed. Those with wellies did best! There is clay underfoot in the hill up to Kingston Gate Cross and it stuck to everyone, especially Ben. But the sunshine was still wonderful and it was a short downhill, still with snowdrops in the hedgerows, back to the Sea Trout Inn for lunch.



February 19th. Malborough to South Sands. Vanessa Barton. 5 miles.

I chose this fairly sheltered valley walk in case the weather was wet and chilly but after a short, sharp shower we enjoyed a beautiful February morning. There were eleven of us walking and talking but no one with four paws this time.

We took the road to Portlemore Barton along the newly laid tarmac ready for new housing in Malborough and then passed the house with the assortment of bras hanging from the fence rail – all in aid of charity I would add!

We ambled through Combe enjoying a lovely view of the thatched houses and gardens and eventually a beautiful panorama of the mouth of the estuary at North Sands.

The Winking Prawn was our midway point and perfect timing for a drink and cake before setting northwards again through Hangar Mill showcasing quite a few beautiful spring flowers in its sheltered garden. The footpath then took us up to meet a bridleway and back through Collaton.

February 25th. Dartmoor. Rolf & Viv Burnie. 7 miles.

Dartmoor, and we all, like lemmings... Our walk was in the last of the warm settled sunny weather that dominated so much of February this year. Parking near Cadover Bridge, nine of us wandered gently up past Trowlesworthy

House as far as the leat that carries water from the Plym to the Lee Moor China Clay quarry. Following the leat as far as the stone row that cuts across it, we then headed up to the track that runs around the upper edge of the quarry. Here two of our group who needed just a short walk headed back down again.

The rest of us went on up through the remains of an early settlement to Shell Top itself, enjoying the really wonderful views back over the quarries towards the coast as we did so. Our return was via Great Trowlesworthy Tor. This part of the walk has a fairly notable bog along the way with a passable, if damp, path through the middle. Most of the group balked at the damp and opted for alternatives – which all proved very much worse, with the more fleet of foot needing to go to the rescue of others. Lots of giggles.

Back at our cars we found that even the two who'd opted for an early return had managed to find their own bog, so like lemmings we all finished up wet to greater or lesser degrees. It made for a memorable walk which we celebrated with a late sandwich lunch in the pub in Cornwood on the way home.

March 6th. Ugborough. Trisha Wilson. 5 miles.

Nine stoic Trampers and four dogs met in Ugborough Square. The weather was not too good but we hoped for the best and as it turned out we didn't have a drop of rain!

A lot of the walk was on quiet lanes and we trudged up to Toby Cross with wonderful views of the Moors, especially Western and Ugborough Beacons. We dropped down to the Ludbrook river where the dogs had a swim/paddle and then we went off piste towards Bowcombe woods, across various fields, through a barn and up to a T-junction where we turned left along Windy Ridge, back to Toby Cross and eventually Ugborough.

Eating Out Locally

twenty seven
By Jamie Rogers

in Kingsbridge

It was easy to find 'twenty seven' - we peered through window panes on Mill Street before going around the corner to its entrance in Prince of Wales Road. Our reservation was a table upstairs but we noticed well-spaced tables for diners who like to be down where the bar is.

There was a genuine welcome from the young lady behind the bar and, in their easy ambience, we chatted with other locals before being taken up to the restaurant. From our corner table we saw diners who had already been served meals. It was Thursday and some had chosen the 'Secret Menu' which is offered between 6 and 7 just two days a week. It's a great way to be introduced to three courses of 'twenty seven' quality fare for £30. Place your order, before 7, for the set meal that has the fine-dining style of a Master Chef.



Background music (which did *stay* in the background) added to the easy mood. The décor, with a white and black theme, is simple. Walls and starched table linen are white and rails and beams black. A wooden beamed cathedral ceiling, lit by four chandeliers, adds to the spacious uncrowded feel created by a mirrored wall. Shelves display the chef's awards and include one from a recent Master Chef competition when Jamie Rogers, this 27-year-old chef, was runner-up. Here, you can find fine dining where a varied a la carte menu with venison, lamb, fish and vegetarian dishes, is matched with quality wines and cocktails.

Our table was laid and we handled well-chosen smooth steel cutlery that sat comfortably in the palm. Service was not slow and soon wine was brought to us. It came in good glasses and the red liquid breathed as it was swirled. There were small bites to nibble 'while you ponder'. Dishes on the a la carte menu are priced differently from the Secret Menu. Some of those listed are:

Starters: Wood-pigeon and celeriac + button mushrooms + jus. Or: Smoked ham + button mushrooms + salted pecan nuts + jus. The plated presentation was beautiful.

Main: Venison + red cabbage, haggis, roasted cauliflower, jus; perfectly prepared and cooked vegetables are added on the side, if you wish.

Desserts: The selection included chocolate delice, caramelised bananas, honeycomb, ice cream, jus.

Words on a page do not convey the lovely flavours which are a high point of the food experience at 'twenty seven'. We enjoyed fabulous flavour combinations.

The name of this restaurant is the age of the chef. We went into his kitchen - a predominantly stainless-steel environment, where the ethos is quite simple, 'fresh local produce, skilfully prepared and served in a relaxed vibrant environment'. Quality is key. For a year, Jamie has sourced and cooked the best produce from nature's larder. He came from Langdon Court Hotel in Wembury where he was head chef. You may have seen him at work in the Ward Room - Salcombe's pop-up restaurant, behind Crew.

In summer he will launch Picnic Hampers – wicker or disposable ones with all that's needed for a beach lunch in 'Couple' and 'Family' sizes. It is a chance to have crab pasties. What? You've not had a crab pasty? Phone him on 01548 288847, or visit 'twenty seven's' web page: www.jamierogerschef.com

He'll be at Salcombe Crab Fest, in the car park marquee, next to the Crab Shed on May 5th.

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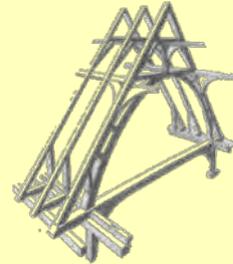
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Junior Voices



Dear Editors

It has come to the attention of Year 3 (7 to 8 year old) pupils at Thurlestone C of E Academy that the environment and those that live in it are being severely affected by plastic pollution and this continues to worsen. We are confident that by 2050 if humans carry on the way they are, there will be more plastic in the oceans than fish, so we have chosen to address this issue by writing letters to various people.

There will be a huge negative impact on the fish and they will be annoyed because they live in the sea, as a result, they may mistake the plastic for food and eat it. This affects humans too and the amount of fish we eat because it is then highly likely humans will have plastic in their bodies. Inevitably, this will lead to people being not able to eat fish or there not being any left to eat. This is not a result the community want as this could be catastrophic for the environment, let alone the world, Humans need to prioritise their good recycling and use of plastic to ensure positive change rather than continuing to be seemingly reckless.

I am aware plastic is cheap and durable but it is not good for our environment. Ultimately the community and pupils at the school would like everyone to do their best to save our environment and stop plastic pollution in our oceans.

Angus

This is sure to greatly impact on how many fish are in the sea because they will eat the plastic then may suffer a slow and painful death.

As a result, humans are going to have less delicious fish to eat; even the fish they do catch may have plastic in them. This oversight could result in a lack of living creatures, such as fish, sharks and octopus in the ocean and more plastic.

Pupils are trying to change how much plastic is in the ocean and we have an Eco team to help. They sometimes go to the beach and find out about global warming, like how the ice is melting in Antarctica.

I strongly feel we should save the ocean because if it were filled with plastic it would take thousands of years to disintegrate.

Undoubtedly, you will carry on trying your best to change it, as we will.

Emily-Rose

This is sure to greatly impact the poor sea creatures crying for help in the ocean. They really need help so call any number you know because animals could be dying and urgently need help. Do your bit by picking up some plastic and recycle.

Inevitably, this will lead to humans not being able to eat fish because they are eating plastic and dying. This is not a result the community want.

Humans need to prioritise their rubbish and not use anything that doesn't recycle.

Items such as metal, plastic, glass and very hard wood can be recycled, so recycle or reuse instead. Not doing this could be killing our kind creatures because you are putting plastic in the ocean where fish eat it, we then catch and cook it.

Freddie

This is sure to greatly impact our amazing oceans and the sea creatures within it so if you could do a little or big thing I don't care, I just want to save our wonderful world. Inevitably this will lead us humans not being able to eat any yummy fish. Humans need to do more recycling to stop this.

Everyone would like to do their best to save our green and blue planet and stop pollution in our oceans. Changes will result in cleaner seas and happier animals. Dog walkers are picking up their poo bags but still finding them everywhere!

Holidaymakers are not having a nice time, as there is far too much plastic so they can't enjoy themselves.

Consequently, if we do our bit we will have lovely clean seas to enjoy. Surfers can surf and have fun in the waves. We can go down to the beach and not find dead animals and plastic everywhere.

Lola

Thank you for reading these letters and hope we have persuaded you to support this cause and make our environment a plastic free zone.



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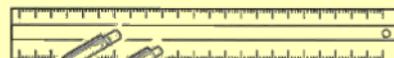
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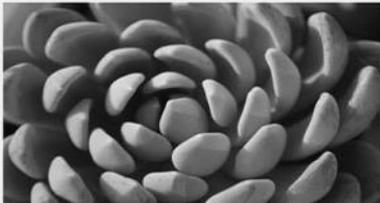
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Entry forms available from:

**Thurlestone Church, Church Meeting Room,
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Entries must be received by May 15th

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Without the competition there can be no calendar

IT'S UP TO YOU!!!!

We then need **YOU** to come
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MAY 25TH - 29TH

in the Church Meeting Room

CREAM TEAS:

Saturday, Sunday

& Monday

3.00 - 5.00 p.m.



COFFEE-TIME:

Wednesday

10.30 a.m.

-12 noon

DIARY DATES

April

Monday	1	Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Saturday	6	Stanborough Chorus in concert at St George's Church, Modbury 7.30pm
Wednesday	10	South Hams NT - Coach trip to Wells and the Bishop's Palace.
Thursday	11	WI 2.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall - Hon Alison Haslam - "Tales behind the Statues"
Friday	12	New Jersey Boys concert at Cliff House, Salcombe 8pm Tickets £15
Sunday	14	Easter Market at Cliff House, Salcombe 1pm - 6pm
Friday	19	Good Friday
Monday	22	Easter Monday
Wednesday	24	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 7.30pm "Zaha Hadid - Architectural Superstar" with Colin Davis
Thursday	25	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 10.30am. Lecture as Wednesday
Thursday	25	Defibrillator Training - Thurlestone Parish Hall 7pm - 9pm
Saturday	27	Beetle Drive - Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm. Tickets £5
Tuesday	30	South Hams NT - Pinsla Gardens, Cardinham and Lanhydrock

May

Thursday	2	District and Parish Elections
Saturday	4	Horticultural Show Plant Sale 10am - 12noon.
Sunday	5	Salcombe Crabfest from 10am
Monday	6	Early May Bank Holiday
Thursday	9	WI 2.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall - Kathryn Kelly - "Life on Lighthouses"
Monday	13	Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Sunday	19	Beach Clean with National Trust and Compass Quay. Thurlestone Sands, 11.30am at the Car Park
Tuesday	21	South Hams NT - Midney Gardens, Somerton and Lytes Cary Manor
Tuesday	21	Arts Soc, K'bridge - Special Day event at Thurlestone Hotel - "Meet me at the Waldorf" with Mary Alexander.
Sunday	26	East Prawle Fair from 2pm.
Monday	27	Spring Bank Holiday
Tuesday	28	Family Fun Evening at Thurlestone Parish Hall from 6pm
Wednesday	29	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 7.30pm "Inn Signia: Art Work and stories behind Peculiar Pub Names" with John Ericson
Thursday	30	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 10.30am. Lecture as Wednesday

June

Saturday	1)	Malborough Open Gardens Event 12noon - 5.30pm) Tickets £5
Sunday	2)	
Monday	3	Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Saturday	8	Alvington Singers in Concert at All Saints Church, Malborough 7.30pm - Faure Requiem - Tickets £12 - in support of MIND
Thursday	13	WI 2.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall - Peter Edwards "Death in Venice"

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CONTACT INFORMATION

CLUBS & GROUPS

AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION	Chairman	Stuart Watts	810373
BANTHAM SAILING CLUB	Secretary	Jo Smith	560347
BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB	Clubhouse		560447
BRIDGE CLUB (Wed & Fri 6.30pm)	Contact	Lisa White	560505
BUCKLAND PHONE BOX	Contact	Anna Martin	560796
FRENCH CONVERSATION (Thurs 2pm - 3pm)	Contact	Angela Luckhurst	521595
FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH	Contact	Phil Millard	560843
HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)	Contact	Tom Gilkes	560973
LINE DANCING (Wed 2pm)	Contact	Sue Bain	07989817898
NIA WITH NOLA FITNESS (Mon 10.15am)	Contact	Nola Baylis	842877
PILATES (Mon 2.15pm Wed 9am)	Contact	Franny Morris	07590506027
PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOC (POTS)	Chairman	Chris White	560505
TABLE TENNIS (Thurs 7.30pm)	Contact	Paul Ferguson	560578
TAI CHI/CHUAN (Wed 10.30am)	Contact	Vida Hodder	561182
TAI CHI/SHIATSU (Thurs from 9.30am)	Contact	Greg Cutler	07816230211
THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB	Office & General Enquiries		560405
TENNIS SECTION (at Golf Club)	Book via Pro Shop		560715
THURLESTONE PHONE BOX	Contact	Kit Marshall	560214
TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)	Contact	Mike Stickland	560763
WI (2nd Thurs in month 2.30pm not Aug or Dec)	Contact	Jo Parkin	561215
YOGA (Tues 9am)	Contact	Sarah Scott	07879627939
ZUMBA (Mondays 6.30pm - 7.30pm from 29/4)	Contact	Hannah Winzer	07454003091

HEALTH CENTRES

Norton Brook Medical Centre, Cookworthy Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1AE	853551
Redfern Health Centre, Shadycombe Road, Salcombe TQ8 8DJ	842284
Minor Injuries Unit (NOT 24 Hrs) ,South Hams Hospital, Kingsbridge TQ7 1XT	852349
Non-emergency NHS Direct	111

POLICE

Emergency 999 Non-emergency 101

RUBBISH COLLECTION - Mondays except:

- Weeks commencing 22nd April, 6th May and 27th May - collections 1 day late.
- Black/Grey Bin (non-recyclable landfill) alternate Mondays from 1st April
- Brown Bin (garden & food waste) alternate Mondays from 8th April
- Blue & Clear sacks (recyclables) with the Brown Bin collection

RECYCLING CENTRE - Torr Quarry Site, Totnes Road, Kingsbridge TQ9 7QQ T: 0345 1551010
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 6.00pm (1st April - 30th Sept)
Mon - Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 4.30pm (1st Oct - 31st March)

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Kingsbridge T: 853195, Salcombe T: 843927, Totnes T: 01803-411183, Dartmouth T: 01803-834224

LIBRARIES

Kingsbridge - Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1EB T: 852315 (closed all day Thur, Sun and Sat pm)
Mobile library visits Thurlestone Parish Hall car park Wednesdays 10th April & 8th May 3.10 - 4.10pm

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

Local Bus Service - Tally Ho! Service No. 162 - Destinations from Thurlestone (Bus stop by Church) are:- Kingsbridge, South Milton, Malborough, Galmpton and Hope Cove.
For timetable contact Tally Ho! on 01548 853081 or see www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable
For other Bus, Rail and Coach information contact Traveline South West T: 0871 2002233 (7.00am - 10.00pm)
Taxi Companies - Taxi-Mike (0771 4512516), Connect Cabs (07443 518087) - see adverts in this magazine

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH COUNCIL Meetings take place on 1st Monday of every month except August

Chairman	Andrew Rhymes	560564
Vice-chairman	Charles Mitchelmore	560602 (and Tree Warden)
Parish Clerk	Helen Nathanson	07813 689717
Members	Tony Goddard	562282
	Nigel Hurrell	560691
	Kit Marshall	560214
	Jill Munn	560732
	Bronwen Zaffiro	560020
District Councillors	Judy Pearce	561370
	Simon Wright	561033
County Councillor	Rufus Gilbert	856659

PARISH HALL (see Thurlestone Parish Website for more details)

Chairman: Vacant

Bookings: Diane Martin email: via Parish Website or directly on tphbookings@gmail.com
or telephone 560070 Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE (www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk) Mike Bone 288436 Paul Martin 560070

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

See All Saints' Diary pages earlier in magazine

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Executive Head Susan Rowe-Jones 560494

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE & STORES

Contact Sarah Tyers 561917

Shop Opening Hours	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri	8.00am - 5.30pm
	Wed	8.00am - 2.00pm
	Sat	8.00am - 1pm
	Sun	8.30am - 1.00pm

Hours extended to 4pm on Sat in summer, and to 4.00pm on Sun in school summer holidays

Post Office Hours	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri	9.00am - 5.30pm
	Wed, Sat	9.00am - 1.00pm
	Sun	Closed

Last postal collection: 4.00pm Monday to Friday; Noon on Saturday; NO collection on Sunday

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- **Thurlestone Hotel (Garage)**
- **Golf Club (Tennis Pav Wall)**
- **Sloop Inn, Bantham (lobby)**
- **Bantham Quay**
- **Buckland Phone Box**