

VILLAGE VOICE



*Thatcher takes on Top Job
in Thurlestone*

April - May 2016

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone



NUMBER 198
April - May 2016

TOP STORY

With the weather improving, our roving cameraman was out and about to see what's happening, and spotted this intrepid roofer at work atop Cob Cottage in Main Street. His front cover picture is a reminder of the heritage we all enjoy throughout this beautiful parish, and that there is always work to be done to ensure that it is maintained and preserved.

Craftsman and cameraman might both have repaired to the Village Inn, where refurbishment is transforming this hub of local togetherness with good taste, and contemporary plumbing, but preserving its traditional ambience.

Across the road, the church tower is now proudly set to weather another century or two, thanks to collective effort, generosity, and the work of other skilled craftsmen.

These are promising omens that while we all enjoy our good fortune in having inherited this exquisite corner of Devon we are still mindful of our local heritage and wish to secure it for the next generation. And we all have a part to play here - to engage, to work together, to contribute to tomorrow's Thurlestone - rather than simply take, absorb, and enjoy what it gives us today.

The neighbourhood plan might seem like a piece of tiresome bureaucracy, but it is actually a dynamic opportunity for us all to do something positive to shape the future face of this parish. Let's grasp it while we can.

Founder Dudley Drabble

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Front Cover: Thatcher Chris Broomhead at work

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A LETTER FROM YOUR MP

By Dr Sarah Wollaston MP

Dear All

21 March 2016

Fair School Funding

It was a delight to be back at All Saints Primary School in Thurlestone at the end of last year to join their interactive assembly on safe ways to use the internet and tackling online bullying.

All Saints is one of the many small rural schools that would stand to benefit if we had a fairer system of allocating funding for our children's education. I was pleased to be one of the signatories to the letter that went to the Prime Minister pressing for the Fair School Funding review and to have joined other South West and rural MPs in this successful campaign.

For too long, school funding has been a complex affair which has left schools in Devon, and more importantly our children, way down the national league table in terms of funding per pupil.

A consultation is currently being run on the proposals and will run until 17th April. Anyone who wishes to contribute to this can find out how to do so via the following website:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula>

Rural Pharmacy

Many people have contacted me to support our community pharmacies and I took the opportunity to raise this directly with the minister, Alastair Burt MP at the All Party Pharmacy Group last week.. There is a clear recognition that the funding for community pharmacy must recognise the needs of rural areas. I feel that their role could be expanded to bring more of their expertise and skill into primary care and it was reassuring to hear support for this from the government.

The EU Referendum

On June 23rd, the referendum on the UK's membership on the European Union will be one of the most contentious and significant decisions to be taken by the British people in my lifetime. My own view is that the balance of our national interest now lies outside the EU but whatever the outcome, I will be respecting and fully supporting the views of the majority.

Debate on this subject is already emotive and passionate but more than anything else, people in this constituency tell me that they would like more information to help them reach their decisions. As a result I have created the following page on my website which I hope will be of interest, it provides information and links to views from both sides of the debate as well as to detailed and unbiased briefings from the House of Commons library:

<http://www.drsarah.org.uk/issues/the-eu>



Parish Council Meetings

Meetings held on 1st February and 7th March 2016

News & Views by Citizen

Six Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, the District Councillor and eighteen members of the public were present at the February meeting, and in March seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, the District Councillor and eight members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

Planning The application in respect of 'Treburrick' raised many objections - it was not shown in the current Gazette newspaper so the Parish Council would need a separate meeting as the application had yet to reach them.

A Buckland Street Party to celebrate HM the Queen's 90th birthday was being planned and a resident asked if the Parish Council would donate £200 towards this and they agreed.

Telephone problems were still being experienced and the point was put that probably the South Milton telephone exchange wiring is becoming too old.

PARISH HALL

Councillor Bronwyn Zaffiro said that a second concrete hardstanding for disabled parking was being provided. A memorial bench will be put in place in memory of a former Hall caretaker, Mrs Josie Pedrick, provided by her family.

HIGHWAYS

The 'No Parking' strips on the road outside the school have been removed and a check is needed to find out if they are to be reinstated. The 'Thurlestone' sign at the Court Park turn is dirty and the plants need trimming, so a volunteer with bucket, water, sponge and secateurs is to be sought. The road sign at Huxton Cross has been damaged and needs repair.

FOOTPATHS/HERITAGE COAST

Public Rights of Way Ros Davies, the P3 Liaison Officer at Devon County Council gave a talk at the February meeting on the Parish Paths Partnership. Her role is to co-ordinate grants for parishes that are able to organise improvements. Our parish has

18 footpaths covering 120 miles, two of which are coastal. A grant of £30 per mile per annum, excluding coastal paths, is available, so our eight miles could get £240 a year. Currently some 160 parishes in Devon have signed up and, following the presentation, the Parish Council has agreed to join. Mike Stickland of Tramps, the local walking group, will be the representative and monitor the state of our footpaths.

TREES

Councillor Charles Mitchelmore reported that trees at Sunny Bank need trimming as branches recently fell into the single section of the road between the village green and the Golf Club. The trees have a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on them, so Councillor Mitchelmore will liaise with the owners.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillors Tony Goddard and Kit Marshall reported:

Following the report in Village Voice, a community questionnaire is now needed to be carried out by a professional market research agency at a cost of between £3000 and £5000 plus VAT with a down payment due in March. The Parish Council agreed a loan of £3000 until the Government grant, scheduled for May, is received.

A public meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 12 April, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, when Martin Parkes of *Devon Communities Together* will give a talk on what a Neighbourhood Plan is all about.

There is no further news on the subject of a mobile phone mast for the parish and the current reception continues patchy or non-existent.

The Parish website opened in January continues to be improved and expanded.

PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Phil Millard reported:

Village Voice The magazine's printer had reached the end of its working life and must be replaced at a cost of around £2000. They asked if the Parish Council could donate half of the cost. This was agreed, as the magazine is one of the parish assets.

Drain Cleaning There has been no progress on this nor any hints as to when it might be done.

Refuse Bags Toad Hall Cottages are looking into the problem of holiday homes putting out rubbish bags well before collection day, but there had been no response from Coast & Country.

Auditor Ken Abraham, who has been our internal auditor for the past 15 years is to have his contract renewed.

Neighbourhood Watch The Mead is looking for someone to liaise with the police.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Judy Pearce reported:

How would the Parish Council use any Section 106 money were it to be received?

The damaged road near Leasfoot Beach would not be repaired by SHDC.

Gull-proof rubbish bags are available from SHDC at a cost of £1 each.

The SHDC budget has been approved but from 2019 the Government subsidy will cease. A suggestion that council services could be put into a company will be evaluated by a consultant at a cost of £30,000.

The link between Parish Councils and the SHDC could be broken.

The Duty Planning Officer scheme is changing in that an appointment will have to be made on the Monday in the week prior to arranging a meeting on the following Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. The large

planning backlog, due to poor management, is to be tackled by a specialist team starting in April 2016. A separate team will deal with new planning applications. Where Enforcement Notices are needed, there is a jam in the legal department. It had been acknowledged that too many large houses were being built and a new housing mix for large schemes has been agreed. An officer for Neighbourhood Planning is being employed.

POLICE

Advice has been given to be aware of being stopped in your car by a supposedly unmarked police car; the 'officer' tells you to get out of your car. He then jumps in and drives your car off! Don't get out unless you are sure it is a genuine policeman and, if you do get out, put the key in your pocket first.

Only one incident has been reported and dealt with - a dog dangerously out of control.

BUSINESS BY DIRECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Cobbled road Ownership is still unresolved. If it can be proved the Parish Council own the kerbs on both sides of the road then it owns the road. Research is still going on as are discussions with the Yarmer Estate about funding of repairs.

Storage The purchase of a fire-proof cabinet for storage of Council documents is to be explored along with size required, what will be stored, and where it will be sited.

Trees on the Green A quotation has been obtained for the reduction of the fir trees on the green but this will have to wait until September due to nesting birds. The two cherry trees are to be removed and any damaged paving slabs replaced once the tree roots are removed.

Banham Gastrobus The Parish Council will object to the application for an alcohol licence due to probably detrimental effect on the Sloop Inn.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 4 April at 7.30pm in the Yeo Room.

Thurlestone Parish Website

Our website has been live for nearly three months now!
We are happy to say all feedback has been very positive!



What can we report? Well as we have said before, a website is never finished. There are always improvements, additions, changes and new initiatives to be made. So, let's look at our thoughts and actions over the last two months. As the webmasters, our first thought was "Is anybody looking at it?"

Luckily that's not a difficult question to answer as the website system has some clever tools to help us see who is looking at it. Don't worry we are not spying on you directly - just the total numbers of people visiting the site.

On average over 250 people visit the site and are viewing 1000 different pages per week. As a community website, that's not bad! We have other sophisticated tools called Google Analytics that let us see much more - even which countries are looking at it. Unbelievably, when the site was first launched, 30% of the viewings were from Russia! Maybe a little bit of "spying" don't you think? Now it's predominantly UK visitors.

A new area now working is the **Parish Hall Diary**. Here you can see all the bookings for the Main Hall and the Yeo Room. No reason to miss an event now! Prior to the website the whole process was paper based. Now all concerned in the booking, opening and charging for the hall use the website directly, thus simplifying the process and eliminating a printing paper chase (good for the trees!)

The advertising of businesses is growing on the website and that needs a fair amount of interaction with the businesses to keep it all in order. Alison Bone has kindly taken over that activity for the Village Voice and the website for which we are very grateful. Also, Gavin Price is now looking after our finances.

We have to thank Rufus Gilbert our district councillor for being proactive in securing some initial funding for our website. These funds have enabled us to make the website data more centrally available and secure. This was achieved by purchasing and installing a NAS (Network Attached Storage) Drive in the Parish Hall. All the information on our website is now also stored centrally on hard drives in the Parish Hall, as well as our own computers, and can be accessed from the web masters' homes via the internet. It is also planned to store data beyond the website content such as Parish Council records, historical records, pictures and videos, etc. This material could be accessed by certain people via their home computers if and when required.

We are always looking for new content! Again, keeping our website live means we need you to submit new material. Are there any other news, events, photos, posters, please? Can you suggest new areas of information? We have been considering a "For Sale" and "Wanted" section. Just contact the webmasters via the website with your ideas. Residents' participation is key! Our next focus is residents' involvement, not only in providing content but ***giving a few individuals editing rights to update certain pages directly themselves from their home computers. So who is up for it?***

Our events coverage is still fragmented. We are still struggling to have an effective central event area covering everything that goes on in the Parish. We need a person with the contacts to centrally capture and funnel it through to the webmasters, or better still, add it to the website themselves. Are there any takers?

Historically, Chris White e-mails a large percentage of residents with forthcoming events. Does his list cover everybody? If you are not receiving e-mails on events then please submit your e-mail address to Chris White (chrisandlisa@themead.co.uk) so that it can be added to his circulation list.

Mike Bone – Tel: 288436, Email: mike.bone@talk21.com

Paul Martin – Tel: 560070, Email: pmove60@gmail.com

THURLESTONE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

A vital part of the procedure for producing a Neighbourhood Plan is to carry out a **Housing Needs Survey** and thanks to the Village Voice distribution team of volunteers, copies of the Survey are being circulated to all households in the Parish with this issue of Village Voice. It is most important that you complete this Survey as it will help identify whether there is a need to plan for new housing, as well as the amount and type of housing which may be required in the Parish. It will also inform the questions in the main Questionnaire (more on that below). The Survey is also available online, via a link on the Parish website. If you are able to complete the survey online this would be appreciated, but if you prefer to complete the paper copy, then that will be fine too. The results of the Survey will in due course be published by South Hams District Council and made available on the Parish website.

The **Family Events** mentioned in my February Update are taking place in the Parish Hall on a drop-in basis between 11am and 1pm on **Tuesday 29th March** and **Tuesday 5th April**. These events are principally aimed at young families who live in the Parish and any families who have a connection with the Parish, such as school, work or family. The theme is "Wellbeing" and covers health, education, sport and recreation. The purpose is to see how better the Parish could serve young families – including whether any of our existing facilities need to be improved, and whether any new facilities may be needed, and if so, what kind of facilities?

Another date for your diaries is **Tuesday 12th April** when Martin Parkes of Devon Communities Together, who is a specialist in Neighbourhood Planning, is coming to talk to the Parish. The subject of his talk is "**What is a Neighbourhood Plan?**" He will explain what Neighbourhood Planning is all about, including what can and cannot be covered by a Neighbourhood Plan, and what the benefits are of having a Neighbourhood Plan.

Meanwhile, as reported in previous Updates, three Working Groups have been continuing their fact-finding of the following topics: **Our Homes, Our Economy and Our Wellbeing**. They have been focusing on what direction the Neighbourhood Plan may take, based on present and future requirements up to 2030. We are also now pleased to report that we have a fourth Working Group who are considering four topics that act as constraints on development, namely, **Our Environment, Our Infrastructure, Our Resources and Our Heritage**. The group consists of Tony Goddard, Robin MacDonald, Jill Munn, Chris White and Judy Pearce. Malcolm Le Grice has also kindly agreed to assist the group on the topic of Heritage. We hope that more members of the Community will join us, as we gear up to the main Parish Questionnaire.

The **Parish Questionnaire** will be circulated at the end of May with the next issue (June/July) of Village Voice. It will mark the culmination of nine months of fact-finding by the Steering Group about the issues identified as being important to the Parish obtained from the **Post-it** responses of those attending the Community Engagement Meeting last September. More details about this questionnaire will follow in my next Update.

Finally, the Steering Group would like to thank the Parish Council for agreeing to provide us with funds to help towards the costs incurred in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, without which the work of the Steering Group would have been seriously and perhaps irretrievably delayed.

Tony Goddard
Steering Group Chairman

Neighbourhood Plan Events

1 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

An envelope containing a Questionnaire and a reply envelope has been delivered to your home along with this issue of Village Voice. Please complete the Survey either online via a link on the Parish website, or return the paper copy as requested before **Sunday 24th April**. The information you provide will inform our Parish Neighbourhood Plan and help provide the right housing here for the future.

2 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FAMILY EVENT

On **Tuesday 5th April** between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm you and your family are invited to share your ideas on how better the Parish could serve young families who live here or have a connection with the Parish through school, work, or family. Just drop in and say what you would like to see in the way of improved and additional facilities that would bring greater well-being to your daily life here.

3 WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

On **Tuesday 12th April** at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall there will be a Public Meeting at which **Martin Parkes** of **Devon Communities Together** will explain the benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan, what importance it will have for future Planning Applications, and how we can help to achieve the best possible outcome for Bantham, Buckland, and Thurlestone.

Everyone is welcome - and encouraged to ask questions!

4 PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

With the **June** issue of Village Voice you will also receive a detailed questionnaire covering the key areas of the Neighbourhood Plan, in which you will be able to approve or disapprove of the ideas and proposals that have been put together by the Steering Group to shape a vision of the future for the Parish. You will also be able to add your comments on what you believe should be included or excluded. You can complete this on paper, or on-line. Your responses will decide the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.

After the Plan has been finalised, there will be a Parish Referendum to approve it, requiring a majority vote by Parish residents. This is expected to take place in **May 2017**.

SPIFFING TUNES



The Trio of
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Eddie Gasser (Trombone)

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Village News Round-Up

Eileen Dayment

The funeral of Eileen Dayment took place at Thurlestone on the 19th February. Aged 83, Eileen was the wife of farmer John Dayment of Aunemouth. She was born in West Buckland and attended Thurlestone Primary School and Kingsbridge School.

In 1947 Eileen met John and they married in 1955, celebrating their Diamond Wedding anniversary last year with their four children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved her garden, was a music fan and, with John, was a founder-member of Thurlestone Bowls Club. She will be remembered fondly by many friends and neighbours as a kind and warm-hearted lady and we extend to John and the family our deep sympathy.

Rosemary Jeffery ("Rosie")

Rosemary died in early February and her funeral was held on the 26th February at Thurlestone.

She lived for many years at Watch Cottages in Bantham with her husband Bert, until they moved more recently to Chillington. We extend our condolences to Bert, children Diane and Robert, and grandchildren Tim, Emily, Abigail and Liam.

Michael Day

Michael died unexpectedly on 10th February at the age of 73. He had come to live at Crosslands in Thurlestone in 2010 with his wife, Vivienne, moving from Cambridgeshire after his retirement as a building surveyor. He was father to two sons and a daughter and beloved grandfather.

With Vivienne he entered into life at Thurlestone, loved walking on the beach and swimming in the sea. With a keen interest in local history he was also responsible for much of the researching of the WW1 names on the Thurlestone war memorial. Model-making was one of his great hobbies and the fantastic model of a WW1 trench for the exhibition at the Parish Hall in 2014 will be long remembered. Folk dancing and painting were also undertaken. Always smiling and ready for a laugh he will be greatly missed.

We send to Vivienne and the family our condolences.

Parish Hall bookings clerk

The Parish Hall is still in search of someone to take over the duties at present done by Diane Martin, whose contact details are (phone) 01548 560070 (email) dmover60@gmail.com

It is a job that could be undertaken by a man, woman, or couple, and a small remuneration may be arranged. The Hall is the hub of a considerable number of parish activities and if you are new to the parish it is a very good way to get to know people in the community and integrate into village life.

Introduction to i-pads

The session on Thursday 3rd March in the Parish Hall was over-subscribed and fully booked early on. Some thirty eager "paddlers" were taken through the basics of operation and use. There is clearly interest in having some further sessions where people can become more experienced and confident in the use of both i-pads and android tablets.

If you would like to learn more yourself, and/or share your knowledge with others, please contact Robin Macdonald on 560436 or e-mail < RbnMacd@aol.com >

NSPCC

Each year the Thurlestone supporters of the NSPCC hold a Jumble Sale in order to raise funds for children in need of help. This year it will be on Saturday 30th April, at 2pm in the Parish Hall and they are relying on the generous residents of the parish to make it a success! If you have any goods surplus to your requirements and would care to donate them, they would be delighted. They can be delivered to the Hall from 10am on the day of the sale, or can be picked up earlier by arrangement (see separate advert). If you do not have goods, they would of course be very pleased to have donations, large or small.

Plant Sale

The Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show will be staging its annual plant sale on Saturday 7th May at the Parish Hall, from

10am to noon. There will be lots of bedding and vegetable plants, herbaceous perennials and shrubs, all at very reasonable prices so come early to avoid disappointment. The schedule for the annual show on Saturday 6th August will also be available at the sale.

Pilates at the Hall

A Pilates class will be starting at the Parish Hall on Mondays, the first one on 11th April, from 2pm until 3.30pm. If you would like to know more, please contact Franny Morris at email < frannym69@icloud.com >

Garden Photography

The man who founded the International Garden Photographer of the Year, Philip Smith, will be at Overbeck's, at Salcombe, on Saturday 7th May, 5.30pm to 7.30pm, to give a talk on better garden photography. The £8 charge will include a tour of the exhibition which is being held at this venue, plus a glass of wine, and the gardens will remain open until 8pm (weather dependent), so grab your camera and book a place!

Thurlestone gardens

On Sunday 19th June half a dozen gardens will be taking part in the 'Open Gardens' event at Thurlestone. Starting at 1 pm, until 5 pm, teas will also be available in one of the gardens. Watch out in the next edition for full details. If you wish to know more about this event, the person to contact is Sue Dwyer on 01548 - 560648.

Parish Hall Phone Number

You may not have noticed that the Parish Hall pay phone in the foyer now has a new number. It is 01548 - 562189.

Volunteers Wanted

Village Voice is looking to recruit a couple of volunteers to join its printing team. The hours are very reasonable - only two hours once every two months - and very little training is required. It is a good opportunity to get involved with a real community effort and to join a convivial team. Please contact Chris White on 560505.

Farm Day

On Sunday 15th May, 1 - 5pm, enjoy a family day out on East Soar farm with NT Rangers and the AONB team. See the animals, bird walks and bug hunts.

Have a go canoeing

'Singing Paddles' and the NT rangers have organised sessions in a canoe on Salcombe estuary on Tuesday 31st May (noon to 2pm and 2.30pm to 4.30pm). The sessions are for two hours and suitable for all ages. Equipment will be provided but booking is essential (01752-346585) - adults £25 and children £10.

Car Sharing

The limitations of the local bus service to Kingsbridge provide an opportunity for car owners to lend a helping hand to those who are no longer able to drive themselves, and for whom the bus times are not always very convenient. It is hoped that such a service might be organised via the new parish website. If you would be willing to help in this way, please contact Robin Macdonald on 560436 or e-mail < RbnMacd@aol.com >

Iolanthe

Tickets for the Plymouth Gilbert & Sullivan Fellowship's production of Iolanthe at the Devonport Playhouse 17-21 May are available by phone from 01752-225505 or online at www.plymouthgilbertandsullivan.com priced £16, £14 (O60s), and £10 (U16s).

Superfast Broadband

Cabinet 5, which serves the Mead Estate and Court Park area, was soon fully taken up by residents switching to the new fibre optic supply, so that BT have been forced to provide additional contacts in the cabinet to meet the continuing demand. These were promised to be installed in mid-March. Anyone who was unable to get connected before that date should now try again, as the extra connections will be available.

Ron Parkin

It is with great sadness that we have to record the death of Ron Parkin on Sunday 20th March. He has been a pivotal member of our parish and community for many years, and a key member of the *Village Voice* team over two decades. We hope to include a fuller tribute to him in our next issue of *Village Voice*. Our sincere condolences go out to Jo and all the family at this difficult time.

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All Saints

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READER: Peter Gornall

A Reader Reflects



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
THRELKELD, CUMBRIA

The madness-message: How you too can help

How can you account for it? After that traumatic Passover of 30 AD, the dozen or so of Jesus' followers, and the women who supported them, were all thoroughly demoralised, not a little scared of showing themselves in public, and very unlikely to commit any rule-breaking which might bring them to the attention of the authorities. Somehow in those next 50 days they became articulate, fearless and socially progressive; they confidently ignored and bypassed the conventions which separated Jew from gentile, freemen from slaves; they rebuked those who tried to take commercial advantage of the illiterate, the gullible and the superstitious; and they organised care of the needy. In fact they laid the foundations of a new form of civilization. They certainly didn't call it that – the message went that now God, in the crucified Jesus, was King: a message that sounded like madness. Yet there was no denying that the results were evidence for its truth.

This year beginning on the day of Pentecost comes Christian Aid week. How does your vision of Christian Aid work out? On doorsteps in the Midlands I was often challenged to say that I wasn't going to use the money to buy Bibles. It was easy to agree to that. The Christian message has so much more been about people than texts; about being alongside people in their deprivation, their loneliness, their dislocation as refugees rather than finding a scriptural recipe.

Christian Aid takes the whole of God's world, the earth itself and its people, as the arena to bring in the madness-message by changing things for His reign. Global warming, energy crisis, the sea levels and temperatures threatening millions; tax evasion by the rich which disadvantages us all but especially the poor nations; the arms dealers who sell misery and danger; all are on the Christian Aid agenda. Oh yes, so also are the relief needed in droughts, El Niño, hurricane, floods and war-zones.

Of course the money as such isn't everything this world needs. But generosity is one of the qualities that make a difference - a difference bigger than the measured pounds and pence. Thanks in advance for your part in fulfilling the madness-message.

Every Blessing!



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?



All Saints' Diary

Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall 562016

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

Church Services

Sundays

EVERY SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP: April 3rd, 17th, May 1st, 8th & 22nd;
CW: April 10th, 24th & May 15th & 29th)

APRIL 3RD

11.10am Family Communion (CW) with Baptism

APRIL 10TH

11.10am Morning Worship *(Fairtrade Stall)*
6.00pm Benefice Evensong (BCP) at Woodleigh

APRIL 17TH

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW)

APRIL 24TH,

11.10am Matins (BCP)

MAY 1ST

11.00am Rogation Service at Shute Farm, South Milton (*see below*)

MAY 8TH, MAY 22ND

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW) *(Fairtrade Stall on May 8th)*

MAY 15TH

11.10am Pentecost Service
6.00pm Benefice Praise Pentecost Communion (CW) at Woodleigh

MAY 29TH

11.10am Morning Worship

Weekdays

THURSDAY APRIL 7TH, MAY 5TH **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at Bantham

ASCENSION DAY THURS MAY 5TH **6.00pm** Benefice Eucharist (CW) at Churchstow

EVERY MON, WED, THURS, FRI **8.30am** Morning Prayer (said) (8.20am on Mondays)

EVERY WEDNESDAY **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) (said)

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

Everyone is particularly welcome to the

Rogation Sunday Service

SUNDAY MAY 1ST 11.00 A.M.

SHUTE FARM, SOUTH MILTON

followed by optional "Bring & Share" Lunch

Tea/coffee/soft drinks provided - Parking available

Wear warm, waterproof clothing

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MILTON CHURCH** (*Check with Liz or Graham!*)



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

**Films for
All
TUESDAYS
2.30 p.m.**

**APRIL 5TH
The Lady in the Van**
Maggie Smith, Alex Jennings,
Jim Broadbent



**MAY 3RD
Brooklyn**
Saoirse Ronan, Emory Cohen,
Domhnall Gleeson

Donations to Church funds ~ Leaflets in Church, Meeting Room & Shop

EVERY WEDNESDAY

10.30am Coffee-Time in aid of monthly charity

FRIDAYS

12.30pm Lunch Club – Book on 560090

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to choose photos for a

2017 Calendar

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Entry forms available from:

Thurlestone Church, Church Meeting Room,
Bantham/Thurlestone Shop, The Sloop Inn, Bantham
or Liz Webb (560090/thurlallsaint@btinternet.com)

Entries must be received by May 1st

Without photographs there can be no competition

Without the competition there can be no calendar

IT'S UP TO YOU!!!!

We then need **YOU** to come
and help choose the winning photos at a

Photographic Exhibition

MAY 28TH - JUNE 1ST

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**

Thurlestone Phonebox Ring Ring

Santa's Christmas visit fortunately didn't clash with Tim Peake in his International Space Station who frequently passes over our Phone Box. The ISS orbits our neck of the woods every 6 weeks or so and, if the sky is clear, can be seen for about 10 consecutive nights, sometimes even twice in an evening. You don't need a telescope. It is very bright and moves quickly starting from the West. The ISS maintains an orbital altitude of between 205 miles and 255 miles and travels at an average speed of 17,227 mph, completing 15.7 orbits per day.

Full details as to exact times and directions will be sent to you automatically by registering on-line at spotthestation.nasa.gov whenever the ISS is about to orbit over our Phone Box. Rumour hath it that Major Tim always waves as he passes over.

Plenty to celebrate. Easter coming up....as if we need more bunny rabbits...the Queen's 90th birthday, and the 400th anniversary of Will Shakespeare's death. In honour of this latter we are holding a competition to find the **Bard of Thurlestone**. Details can be found in the

advertisement below but basically potential Bards are asked to compose a limerick about the Phone Box. Entries will be judged by David "Shep" Sheppard and a team of BBC Radio Devon who will present prizes donated by the Village Inn at an event hosted by the Village Inn on Thursday 28th April, 6.30pm. Entries must be in by Friday 22nd April. We look forward to enjoying your entries, the more the merrier. The Phone Box's own Bard offers you this sample for inspiration:



If you've ever got nothing to do
Check the phone box for books – there's a few!
And if you're dead beat
There's a nice wooden seat,
So relax and enjoy the good view.

Kit Marshall

Buckland Phone-Box

The Buckland Box has received an AED (automatic external defibrillator) from the British Heart Foundation. We have also been given a cabinet, with a heater and fan in it, and teaching materials which include 10 DVD's on how to do CPR, and how to use a defibrillator, and 10 Mini Annes, which are inflatable mannequins on which to practice CPR. So if anyone would like to borrow a Mini Anne plus the DVD, please contact me on 01548 560796, or email me at annacmrtin@gmail.com. We are very grateful to the British Heart Foundation for giving us these items, but the AED - which is now in place in the phone box ready for use - will only be useful if we know how to use them.

Knowing that we were going to get the defibrillator, we had an excellent teaching session in the Parish Hall, when the Heartstart team from Kingsbridge Estuary Rotary Club came and taught about 15 of us to do CPR and to use an AED. The BBC sent a reporter along to film an interview with Dr Carl Gwinnutt, of Heartstart, who also happens to be President of the Resuscitation Council, with the aim of dissuading people from stealing defibrillators. In some parts of the country there have been opportunist thefts, and the devices and their components have appeared on E-bay. Defibrillators and their components have no resale value whatsoever, and their theft could cause the death of someone in need of an AED.



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Eating Out Locally

Continuing our series of readers' accounts of their visits to local restaurants, we include reports on The Millbrook Inn (Vivien Stickland) and The Seven Stars (John King).

The Millbrook Inn

"Where English pub food collides with French auberge cuisine in a spectacular fashion."

To find restaurants with Indian, Chinese or Italian fare is not difficult, but I know of only two places that have that truly French flavour: France, and The Millbrook Inn in South Pool. There have to be others, but I have not yet come across them.

French chef Jean Philippe Bidart is at The Millbrook Inn so to find Escargots, Foie gras, and Bouillabaisse on the menu is no surprise. If you're wanting a burger, or fish and chips, your destination is elsewhere.

The proprietors of the Millbrook say of themselves that they are 'reassuringly pubby', but theirs is a favourite place to dine and we went straight to our reserved table in one of the three dining rooms, each of which seats about 12. There are 40 covers inside; 40 outside.

The ambiance has the intimacy of a 17th century cottage. Cob walls are painted white with warm red here and there. There are no white tablecloths or other marks of formality, but the unpolished table reserved for us is welcoming and set near a fireplace. Overhead there are beams, but most importantly, this restaurant has wonderful cuisine. It's a restaurant for fine-dining on food that is mainly from the sea between Fowey and Salcombe.

With the compliments of Travelzoo membership we drink Prosecco as we peruse the menu believing there is no wrong choice; nothing will disappoint us.

There is a delightful vegetarian Tortilla dinner; and for meat eaters, braised shin of beef. Bouillabaisse; and grey mullet fillet are among the fish dishes and each is fully satisfying. We see changes on the menu with each visit, but today it's the pigeon breasts with bath chaps that wins my favour. Bath chaps are a regional speciality enjoying a revival in restaurants and pubs in Bath and Bristol. Chaps, the lower half of the pig's cheek, are rich and marry especially well with lean meats such as the pigeon breasts they accompany on this menu. They arrived plated up with flageolet beans, artichoke chips, and grilled pancetta – a superb combination.

My starter was a fish soup - crab bisque, but if escargots are your fancy, they are pan-fried with wild mushrooms, flambéed with cognac and a garlic butter sauce. This is award winning food. Flavours are fabulously robust. Textures are soft and tender where they should be and crisp where crispness is wanted. Every ingredient is meticulously sourced.

Cheese and biscuits with celery, and figs cooked in port, was good to share afterwards. Puddings frequently change and might be chocolate fondants, pannacottas, Tarte Tatins and parfaits according to the creativity and mood of the kitchen.

We lingered with coffee along with other diners in this candle-lit place where cottage character and classy cuisine seem to stimulate a congenial mood.

Mains are priced £14 - £20 and a starter costs around £8. Our meal was sensitively served against the easy backdrop of this South Hams country pub whose hours are 12 noon to 11.30pm. They are open every day of the year. Book a table with a call to 01548 531581. View on line: www.millbrookinnsouthpool.co.uk

Vivien Stickland

The Seven Stars

After an hour or so of imbibing knowledge we do feel the need for something more substantial.

So from the car-park, courtesy of Tesco (we buy the paper to assuage our conscience) to the car-park of The Seven Stars. This is after Kedfas.

At what is a fairly early arrival for lunch we have always been able to find a space but it is a very short walk from the Quay parking if not. Access from the front is on the flat. The back entrance from Mill Street involves quite a step. The gents is outside, the ladies just within the entrance area but, as is so frequently the case, constrained by the original footprint.

On entry from the front the one downside is not visible: it is a flat screen on the wall to the right, which is silent but shows the rolling news. The seating in this "old pub" area is in fact quite cleverly set up so few of the dining tables (some large) are in its aura although some low sofas and chairs are in its line of sight. These are more used for coffee or by those who no longer notice if their TV is on (note to editor; this may be too politically incorrect. I occasionally have to see people in their homes and it is the rule with few exceptions).

There is the one bar, which is within the footprint of the original pub. There is now an artificial fire, but still welcoming and warming.

A relatively new extension has lots more seating but can be cool in winter (they will bring a heater if need be). As always the acoustic of an extension tends to emphasise small voices, and this is often where they go.

Choose your table (and be creative with chairs; not all have padding!) and order drinks at the bar. There you will also find the menus. These are clipboards which enables frequent menu changes which is a good sign; there is a blackboard on the wall to the left of the front entrance which is well worth inspecting.

The kitchen is open all day, which leads to some variation, but we have yet to have a poor meal.

The starters are tasty and something like squid with a chilli dip is well judged; there is quite a selection and I enjoy the whitebait. On the main menu the fish pie has been consistently good. Crab tagliatelle is great when they have crab and I enjoy the steak and kidney pudding. Fish and chips and ham and eggs are very acceptable. We have never had a duff item from the blackboard. The usual sandwiches and paninis are available.

There is a quite adequate kids' menu with a most exotic pud called *Mud and Worms*. Don't ask! Full menus online at www.sevenstarskingsbridge.co.uk

The adult pudding choices are more mainstream but they do try and use local sources. Post-prandial tea or coffee is in stylish modern porcelain.

There is outside seating under large umbrellas but as usual this is the haunt of the smokers; I don't know if there are non-smoking tables as quite frankly if I wanted to sit outside I would not go there. That does not detract however from a perfectly functional place to eat. Once the first drinks are ordered the obliging staff will take all further orders at the table. The prices are restrained and there is a good choice of beers and wines by the glass.

It's not really necessary to book but you can phone 01548 852331 if you're worried, just to make sure.

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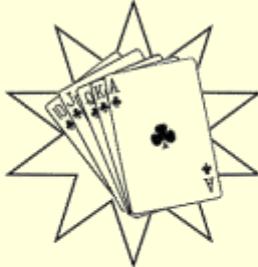
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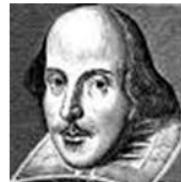
Programme for April and May 2016

- Thursday 7 April** A walk from Wembury beach. Meet at the NT car park (GR 517484) for a circular walk of about four miles towards Heybrook Bay. Return in time for a pub lunch nearby.
- Tuesday 19 April** Trip to Duchy of Cornwall Nursery and Bodmin & Wenford Railway. An extended stop at the nursery, then on to Bodmin for a steam train ride through lovely Spring countryside. Refreshments available or bring a picnic.
- Thursday 12 May** Coach trip to Teignmouth and Powderham Castle. Time for coffee in Teignmouth before driving to Powderham, the historic home of the Earl of Devon. In the afternoon there is a guided tour of the castle with time to visit the gardens, the tea-room and excellent country store.
- Wednesday 25 May** Coach trip to Truro and Trerice (NT). Late morning and lunch in Truro before our visit to Trerice. This romantic Elizabethan manor house, near Newquay, tells a tale of prosperity, decline and partial ruin, followed by 20th century restoration. Teas available.

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



To mark the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, the Thurlestone Phonebox announces a **Grand Competition** to crown:



The Thurlestone Phonebox Bard

To enter: write a Limerick which must include something about the Phonebox

Send your entry, no later than Friday 22nd April, together with
your name and contact details to thurlestonephonebox@gmail.com
or drop it into the Shop

*David Sheppard of Radio Devon will present the prizes at a Ceremony in the Village Inn on Thursday 28th April at 6pm.
Suitable entries will be broadcast on BBC Radio Devon.*

Top prize will be a dinner for two at the Village Inn and
two runners-up will each win a bottle of bubbly
all courtesy of the Village Inn

So get your rhyming boots and scansion scarves on now!

Kate's Kitchen



Here are a couple of useful light lunch or supper dishes, for one or two or as many as you want, made quickly and easily. Most of us have heard of the French snack '*Croque Monsieur*'. This is the feminine alternative!

CROQUE MADAME

Ingredients:

For each person you will need:

- # 2 thin slices of white bread
- # About a teaspoon of boiled ham, finely chopped
- # A little strong Cheddar cheese, grated
- # 1 egg (not too large)
- # Butter

Preparation:

- * Remove crusts from bread.
- * Roll bread slices with a rolling pin to flatten and stretch (press hard!)
- * Butter both sides of the rolled out bread.
- * Line a small round baking tin into which each bread slice will fit with a small overhang (a large ramekin or large hole patty-tin is also fine), one slice at a time, staggering each slightly, one over the other, to make 8 distinct points. Press gently into the pan.
- * Put the ham on top of the bread.
- * Carefully break the egg on top (if too much egg white, don't use it all).
- * Sprinkle the Cheddar cheese over (be quite generous).
- * Put on a baking tray and bake at 200C for 10 minutes until golden and bubbling.

ROASTED CHEESE

Cut slices from a French loaf, about a quarter inch thick then cover with slices of a good strong Cheddar cheese a little thinner than the bread. Put the slices flat on an oven-proof dish or baking tray and put them in the top of a very hot (220°C) oven for about 8 minutes. Sprinkle generously with black pepper when they are removed from the oven.

You can also make a tomato sauce to pour over if you wish: Melt a little butter into which chopped ripe fresh tomatoes are placed, add a scrap of garlic and a little chopped parsley or other herbs to your taste. Cook for about 3 minutes then pour over the cheese slices directly they come out of the oven.

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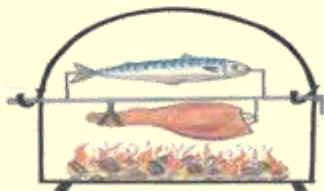


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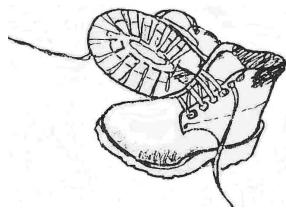


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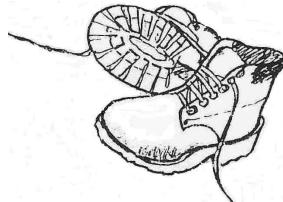
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TRAMP



1 At the TRAMPS planning meeting back in November it was noted that no one had offered to lead a walk around Ayrmer Cove – so I agreed to do so. I planned a circular route from Ringmore and two weeks before the due date I walked the route – or rather waded through mud and slid along the paths. It then rained for the next couple of weeks so I decided, on Health and Safety grounds, to do an alternative walk that was not knee deep in mud and during which we would remain upright.

So, on Monday 1 February, nine TRAMPERS set off from the quay to explore the history of Kingsbridge! It was damp and windy but we were pleased not to be on an exposed coast. First we looked at copies of several photographs which showed that the estuary used to flow right up to the far edge of the bus station. We compared the existing buildings to those in the photos- which people found really interesting. We then walked to the shelter at the end of the quay to find out more about shipbuilding on the estuary. We looked at photographs of the saw mills on Squares Quay and learned that in the 1850's, Date's Shipbuilders, who built schooners, barges and fruit clippers, was the biggest employer in Kingsbridge with shipwrights, carpenters, riggers, rope makers and sail makers along with the allied tradesmen at Lidstone's foundry. This industry declined with the advent of the paddle steamers which were then built on New Quay or Bond's Quay. We all enjoyed reading the information boards in the park and lamented the disappearance of the palm tree walk. We were impressed by Dodbrooke Lodge and thought it was almost too grand a coachhouse for Dodbrooke Manor. We saw the malt houses in Ebrington Street and were surprised that there were 11 maltsters in Kingsbridge in 1823 as well as 20 inns and taverns by 1850.

We identified the site of the town mill and followed the leat along Western Backway, discussing the large number, and variety, of places of worship as we ambled along. We entered Fore Street at White Hart Passage and were surprised to discover how many coaching hotels Kingsbridge had after the

formation of the Turnpike Trust in 1823 – The Seven Stars, The Albion, The White Hart, The Exeter Inn, The Red Lion and The Kings Arms. We were amused by this inscription at St Edmund's Church – "Here lie I at the chancel door. Here lie I because I'm poor. The further in the more you pay. Here lie I as warm as they." We also looked out over the workhouse and learned more about life for the poor in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. We (or rather Al) decided that a coffee break was in order so we stopped under the Shambles and ended up with pastries too – so thank you Al for the suggestion, it was very pleasant!

The planned walk along Eastern Backway was shortened because part of the footpath was closed but we nevertheless really enjoyed exploring the alleyways behind Fore Street. We saw the old cottage hospital and found out more about the education of the children of Kingsbridge through photographs and the evidence left by the British School. We identified the site of Dodbrooke market at the bottom of Church Street and were impressed by the imposing Market House. We saw a lot more than this but I hope this gives a flavour of the outing. It was a very pleasant and, I hope an interesting and informative morning. At the end, suggestions were flying around about other town tours in the future!

Linda Scott

2 For several days gale-force winds and torrential rain (the effects of Storm Imogen) battered the South Hams. It had been debateable whether or not a walk would go ahead for Tuesday 9 February. The day arrived and it was like the proverbial calm after the storm.

Ten walkers and Ben the dog set off from the car park at Snapes Point and, although high up and exposed, there was little wind and felt quite Spring-like. Walking the route in a clockwise direction we took in the lovely estuary views down to Lincombe boatyard and stretching up to Kingsbridge. Following the path down and along the bottom of the fields, keeping the estuary on our left, the views opened out to Frogmore Creek and South Pool

Creek. Still very wet and muddy after the heavy rainfall we took care to stay on our feet - although some went slipping and sliding!

We then climbed to the high point ahead and stood a while, taking in the magnificent view in all directions. A superb panorama of Salcombe, from Bolt Head at the mouth of the estuary, right across the town and its waterfront, along to Batson Creek and over to East Portlemouth and Mill Bay on the other side of the harbour. Following the path down the hill, through a kissing-gate and down some steps, we turned right and joined the wide, stony track with Batson Creek now on our left. Continuing along this track we arrived back at the gate leading to the car park.

Having completed the circular walk of Snapes Point (2 miles) four members of the group decided to head back to Thurlestone. The remaining six and Ben the dog followed the lane from the car park as far as the next cross-roads (Balls Cross) and turned left down to Batson Creek. We stood on the 'green' admiring the pretty village but dark clouds were looming. So, missing out on going for coffee at The Crab Shed in the creek car/boat park, we took the road on the other side of the creek leading to Snapes Manor. After several short sharp rises, just before the Manor house we turned left through a kissing-gate and followed the path back up towards Snapes Point and the stony track leading to the car park.

This completed a figure-of-eight walk which, with the extra mileage, made a total of four miles.

Jenny Webb

3 Tuesday 16 February dawned a bright, crisp winter's day. I think the fourteen people and five dogs (a Tramps record?) were glad to get out after such a lot of rain and take some much-needed exercise.

We drove to Gara Bridge and parked. From there we walked along the bridle way until we descended to an open area by the river where the dogs paddled and played! As the previous night had been so cold, most of the path was partially frozen, but there were a few muddy places which we tentatively walked through. The track eventually turns into a road, and passes through a farmyard where we saw two goats and several chickens. From there we followed the quiet lane to Bickham Bridge.

Then it was back the other side of the River Avon, along a road and through woodland, until we returned to the cars. Unfortunately there weren't the mass of snowdrops we found last year, but a good time was had by all, especially the dogs!

Annie Kendrick



On 25 February we could not have asked for better weather for the 4½ mile easy but interesting tramp around Revelstoke Drive from Noss Mayo. There was a fourfold increase on our previous attendance (of five trampers) when no fewer than seventeen people (including first-timers) joined the walk along with three dogs. In fact the group was so large and the walk so relaxing that several members were surprised to encounter their fellow walkers only in the car park at the end!

We had to have evidence of this abundant attendance in the depths of winter and a photograph of most of the group was kindly circulated by Diana afterwards. Oscar, Benjy and Ben were almost still enough to be in shot along with a very sparkly Wembury further along the coast path towards Plymouth.

NOTE: Past experience suggests that this is usually shrouded in fog even in high summer.

Accepting this date for a walk had seemed inauspicious back in November but we were all suitably rewarded for keeping up the walking momentum with the glorious sunshine and views. After an initial climb out of Noss Mayo, we turned clockwise to follow the wide and well-trodden coastal path once used as a carriage drive. There were a few muddy sections and we eschewed the steep diversion down the cliff path in favour of the higher level views of sea and coast.

The quirky buildings *en route* were all looking very spring-like and there were sheep in the fields with lambs. There were also a few cows ruminating on the path and the dogs had to be led past those tempting smells – and hooves.

Lunch at the end of the walk is, of course, another incentive and about half our number enjoyed the hospitality of the Ship Inn.

George and Catherine Delafield



Friday 4 March was a cold, bright morning, with isolated wintry showers forecast. 14 walkers met in Court Park and drove in 3 cars to the "park & walk" lay-by just east of Slapton Village, where a 15th walker was

waiting. We set off at 10.20 am and walked through Slapton village, climbing steadily to Lower Green Cross, with views south across to the Start Point lighthouse. After a loo stop at the Field Study Centre, we continued north to Merrifield Cross, by which time a dark blue sky warned of approaching rain. In fact it turned out to be a brisk shower of soft hail, which abruptly dropped the temperature and partly obscured the view up the wooded valley of the Gara stream. It had stopped by the time we reached the stream itself after a precipitous descent through the holiday cottages in and below Hansel.

The climb out of the valley on the north side was pretty strenuous, and brought us to the handsome farmstead of Higher Fuge, with fine views south over the lower valley of the Gara stream and Slapton Ley. A footpath across 3 fields brought us to the outskirts of Strete, and 5 minutes later, at 12.30 pm, we arrived for lunch at the Kings Arms - a listed building recently re-opened under new management after a closure of two years and renovation. Ten of us ate in the first floor dining room (the other 4 had more pressing business), overlooking the coast northwards towards Stoke Fleming and the Kingswear day-mark beyond.

After lunch, we turned south and soon left the main A379 to join a newly-cut section of the SW Coast Path, which dropped in steps and hairpins about 400 ft down to near sea-level at Strete Gate, giving outstanding views as we went along the full length of Slapton Sands. The final leg was a half-hour level walk alongside Slapton Ley, until we turned inland for a short distance to re-join the cars.

David Radford



Tramp has always had a special relationship with the weatherman. Forty eight hours previously the forecast had been for light rain all morning on 8th March, but somehow by the day that rain was postponed to the afternoon. So under dull skies, but with good footing after several dry days, seven of us set out from The Levels car park in Dittisham. Sadly we were lacking one co-leader whose vocal cords were on strike; and what is a Tramp walk without conversation?

Two made a shorter route over meadows near Raleigh's fire beacon. The rest of us went on past the beautiful Bozomzeal conversions and down to Old Mill Creek. Though the tide was out, the waterside woods are still a great place to walk in. At the eastern end the going is steep and badger sets are frequent and close to the path. The rewards should have been views from the high meadows across the Dart valley to Torbay, but the threatened damp was coming in. Greenways loomed impressively through the mist. Very new lamb twins were sheltering by our gate and their lame mother none too pleased to have to move them. There was a dash of watery sunshine just as we arrived back at the lane near Dittisham Old Rectory, a lane walled by primroses.

And so to the Ferry Boat Inn (it always sounds important to be lunching at the FBI) where the short-route pair were well ensconced in preparation for a leisurely meal. And the rain had hardly started by the time we were back at the cars. The Old Mill Creek walk is one of the best, and superb company (bar one absentee) made it merry too.

Peter Gornall

Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show



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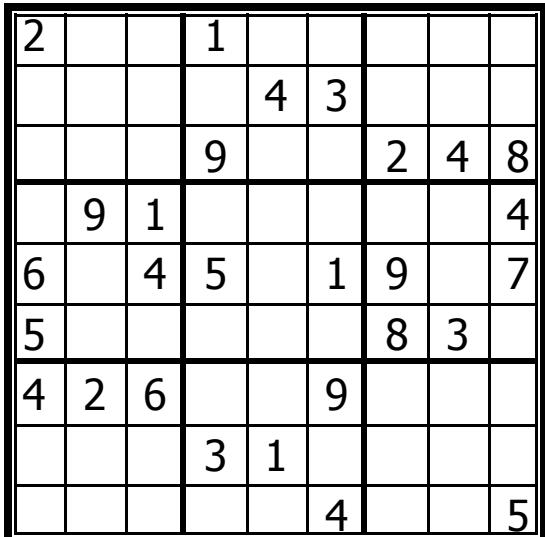
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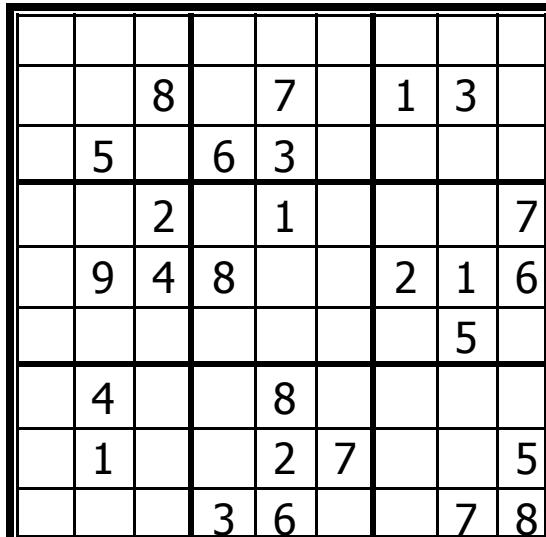
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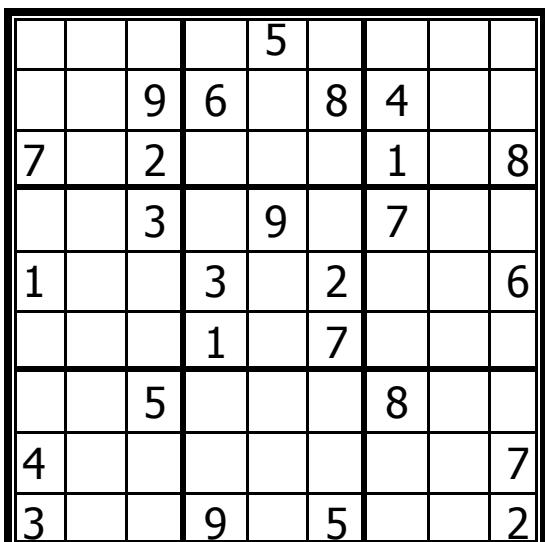
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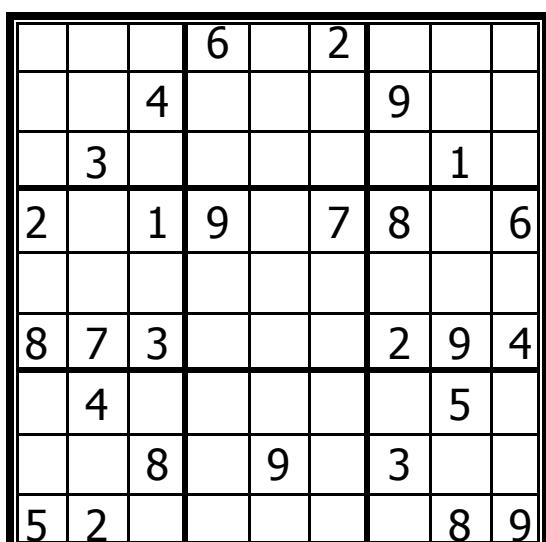
Tough

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Tougher

No. 117



Tougher

No. 118

Ladies To The Fore

George Delafield was a solitary gentleman among a host of ladies in our last issue's challenge, though one anonymous entry proved unidentifiable. These two correct solutions apart, it was a clean sweep for mesdames Dwyer, Edgeley, Hailey, Hanmer-Grant, Killingsworth, Leare, Le Grice, Lonsdale, McLay, Palmer, Pollard, and White, who were all correct and had to trust to luck in our draw. The lucky name this time was that of **Gill Pollard**, who will receive our customary bottle of premier sudocru, while all the others will have to be content with our warmest congratulations. Entries for this month's four-part challenge to 25 Mead Lane as usual by 5th May 2016, please.

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February

Fiona van Es, an ecologist, gave her talk at our February meeting the intriguing title of "A bottle of Benylin, a Cadbury 'Flake' advert and Damart underwear - influences on an ecological career". The first two items marked significant turning-points in her younger life and the third was when she found out how cold being an ecologist can be!

Her keen interest in natural history developed early in life as she lived between a beach and the North York Moors and often sailed with her father to the mouth of the River Tees, all places abounding with wildlife in many forms. The great attraction continued and she graduated with a botany degree from Bangor University. She started work on the Kennet & Avon Canal, doing botanical surveys between Newbury and Reading during the restoration of this waterway. This was followed by work on a 250 acre Oxfordshire nature reserve besides the Thames for 7 years.

Fiona then married a fellow scientist, they came to live in Loddiswell and her husband now teaches science at a school in Plymouth. Work with the Devon Wildlife Trust then followed, principally teaching children how to appreciate natural history, at Slapton Field Study Centre and with naturalist Gordon Waterhouse. The tv series 'Springwatch' came to her garden to film visiting hedgehogs with her two young sons playing starring roles. Work on the Jurassic Coast Centre at Seaton now keeps her busy, along with much freelance ecological and illustrative work - she is also a skilled artist. At the end of her interesting and enthusiastic talk she summed up her career as "most rewarding, thrilling and invigorating".

Devon members raised £2,373 for Denman College by holding special raffles at their meetings. Eight of our members will travel to Brighton for the national AGM on 11 June, travelling up in advance to enable them to have a 'jolly' before the meeting. The resolution most popular with Devon members is the one on the dangers of plastic waste

'beads' getting into the food chain and it is hoped this will be on the final agenda. Members were also asked to inform the secretary should their e-mail address alter.

March

Coming from a family "who have not thrown any papers away for 300 years", our March speaker, Mike Rendell, inherited a unique treasure-trove of written history - journals, accounts, diaries, letters, and books. Armed with this collection Mike, a former lawyer and now social historian, researched 18th century eating and drinking customs of Georgian England.

He gave us an enlightening and entertaining talk on the elegant dining refinements which evolved during the 1700s. Furniture designers such as Chippendale, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton were much sought after; drinking vessels and tankards were replaced by fine glassware, and cutlery became a far cry from the simple two-pronged fork, small sharp knife (and fingers) that had gone before.

His great-great-great grandfather's meticulously detailed diaries of everyday life in the 1700s put into sharp focus what life was like then. Excellent illustrations of the time, particularly the satirical cartoons of Rowlandson and Gillray, added to this enjoyable talk.

Future Events

The county's spring meeting would be at Torquay on 13 April.

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People would provide a speaker at the group meeting on 21 April at West Charleton.

The May meeting will be the time Lisa retires as President and a new committee formed. Members were urged to put their names forward for election, which need be for as little as one year.

We were reminded that our parish is in the process of evolving a Neighbourhood Plan and urged to attend the public meeting on the subject at the Parish Hall on Tuesday 12

Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on
1st May 2016. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB
or email: cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk

COUNTRIES AND THEIR CAPITALS

Here are lists of countries (some less well known than others) and their capital cities but the vowels have been removed and the lists are not aligned, so you have to match the correct pairs

| COUNTRY | ANSWER | CAPITAL CITIES |
|----------|------------|----------------|
| Jpn | p | |
| Mdgscr | Kbl | |
| Npl | Prmrbb | |
| Lchtnstn | ndrrl VII | |
| Ht | Blgrd | |
| Grc | Mnsk | |
| str | Kmpl | |
| Vnt | Tp | |
| gnd | Tllnn | |
| Twn | gdg | |
| stn | Lnd | |
| Brkn Fs | Lm | |
| ngl | Kv | |
| fghnstn | Mntvd | |
| ndrr | sncn | |
| Btrs | Msct | |
| Cmrn | Qt | |
| Dmnc | Snt Grgs | |
| Grnd | Rs | |
| cdr | Bghdd | |
| mn | Ynd | |
| Prgy | Bchrst | |
| rgy | Prt-VI | |
| krn | Vnn | |
| Tg | thns | |
| Srnm | Prt- -Prnc | |
| Srb | Vdz | |
| Rmn | Kthmnd | |
| rq | ntnnrv | |
| Sm | Tky | |

Solution to previous Grey Matter:

01. A Walk to Remember / 03. Moonstruck / 04. Pride and Prejudice / 05. Roman Holiday / 06. Sleepless in Seattle / 07. Ever After / 08. Casablanca / 09. Four Weddings and a Funeral / 10. Out of Africa / Sense and Sensibility / 12. Save the Last Dance / 13. The Notebook / 14. Titanic / 15. Pretty Woman / 16. An Officer and a Gentleman / 17. Breakfast at Tiffany's / 18. Sunset Boulevard / 19. The Wedding Singer / 20. Princess Bride / 21. Message in a Bottle

Congratulations and the bottle of wine to Harry Gadsden

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POSTBAG

Dear Editor

The Church Fete

I am sure your readers have been getting tired of the wind and rain this winter. However, the good news is, Spring and Summer are just around the corner! This means we all have some exciting things to look forward to.

One event is the Church Fete, which is being held on the 23rd July 2016 at Toyes Orchard in the centre of the village. This year, all the proceeds from the fete will go into the Organ Fund. Due to the age of the organ, reducing availability of essential spare parts, and concern regarding dependability during services, weddings and funerals, it is planned to purchase a replacement when funds permit. Can you imagine a church without an organ?

We would be extremely grateful for any help to make this year's Church Fete event more successful and more fun than ever before. We are looking for help in the following ways:

- # Setting up gazebos and preparing the fete site: Friday 22nd July (2.00 - 4.30pm), and Saturday 23rd July (9.00am - 12.30 pm)
- # Taking gazebos down and clearing the fete site: Saturday 23rd July (5 - 6.30pm)
- # Running the games and manning the stalls
- # Selling Grand Summer Draw raffle tickets (prior to the event). There are some outstanding prizes this year.

Please could any volunteers for the above, contact Sue Westendorp: 01548 560433

The Church Fete is one of the big events of the year. Hopefully everyone, including visitors, will enjoy themselves, so please get involved. so we can continue to improve it, and enable us to keep our beautiful church, and replace the organ.

With many thanks and best wishes,

Sue Westendorp

Dear Editor

Quiz Thanks

Can we express our gratitude to all those who supported the GREAT THURLESTONE QUIZ NIGHT. We hope you enjoyed it even if a team from outside the village rightly called the 'Interlopers' were the champions. Let's make sure we put that right next year.

We raised **£1,045** for our END POLIO NOW campaign - a great amount, especially as the Bill Gates Foundation will now add that amount twice over to our total. The incidence of polio has decreased significantly during the past year, and is now only endemic in two countries. Total eradication is certainly within our sights, but it will be costly and will only succeed if we continue to support it. Many thanks to you all.

**Andrew Girling
Peter Gornall**



JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 30th April
2.00 - 4.00 pm
Thurlestone Parish Hall

We should be most grateful for donations of good quality clothing and other items surplus to your requirements to help this most deserving charity. May be brought to the Hall from 10 am, or collected earlier by arrangement.

Regret no electrical goods.

Contacts

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Judith Le Grice | 562135 |
| Pat Crawford | 560688 |

DEMENTIA MATTERS

in Kingsbridge

FREE information event for anyone interested in making their village or organisation more inclusive for people living with dementia

Thursday 28th April from 7pm—9pm

Kingsbridge Age Concern Building, Quay House TQ9 1DZ

How can Kingsbridge and the surrounding parishes be more
‘dementia friendly’?

What support already exists for people with dementia
and their families and can this be replicated across the area?

GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Dr Mottram - Norton Brook Medical Centre

Anne Ayling - Alzheimers Society

Leah Parsons – Ivybridge Dementia Champion

Judy Snape – Kingsbridge Library

There will be time for questions and discussion on how local villages can become dementia friendly communities

We look forward to you joining us!

Places are limited, please book by emailing: cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk or phoning 01803 862266



This event is part of South Hams CVS Facing Forward to 2020 project, funded by Big Lottery and South Hams District Councillors locality grants

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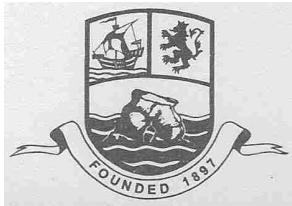
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Thurlestone Golf Club



CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

A change of month, a change of season and a prayer for a change in the weather! Let us hope the advent of Spring will be the start of more favourable playing conditions however, as I sit writing this I can hear the hailstones bouncing off the Velux windows – another wrecked day for our ladies' medal competition.

Carrying on in the same vein, several of the men's competitions had to be cancelled, so an extra Stableford has been incorporated into the calendar on 18th March. I am grateful for the co-operation of the ladies who have accommodated us by delaying their tee time on that day.

In my last newsletter mention was made of the delayed Sunday Mail competition. This was eventually played at Dartmouth, in an extremely strong and cold wind. Despite this, the match was played in good humour, with Dartmouth being the victors by three matches to two. This was a monumental effort by our five members as they conceded 18 shots to their opponents.

Our team for the Daily Mail Pairs competition play their first round match later this month – so we wish good luck to Harry Cattell and Craig Blount.

There are several competitions this month including one of our fun days when the ladies challenge the men for the rather large wooden spoon which hangs over the bar counter. Already there are a number of ladies signed up for the event, but very few gentlemen. So, fellow golfers, let's rise to the challenge!

Easter, earlier this year, sees the opening of our tennis section on 28th March, ably organised by Jane Smyth, Janet Richardson and her Committee.

On the 19th March, we are holding an event for all new members of the past two years,

to join the Captain's Committee, the Club Professional and the General Manager in nine holes of golf followed by a brief social gathering. The object of this new venture is to welcome and integrate newcomers to the Club and promote its facilities. For those members who are unable to attend a further two events are planned for 23rd July and 15th October.

We have another occasion to look forward to on 11th March when our excellent catering and hospitality team will be tempting us with an enticing Spanish menu. These themed events are proving very popular, as are the excellent Sunday lunches. In fact, whilst there was very little golf being played during the months of January and February, the Club was kept alive by the ambience in the bar and cuisine in the dining room!

Looking ahead to next month, the Juniors are due to start their golf evenings, at 5pm on 15th April. The Club greatly appreciates the considerable endeavours made by our professional staff and Club members in tutoring our Juniors, so securing the growth of the Club's future. Special thanks go to Liz Line, Matt Messias and Nigel Whelan.

Another note for the diary is 30th April, when a new event is to take place between the Ladies and the Juniors. This will be led respectively by Lady Captain, Yvonne Pike and Junior Captain, George Holland. Further information will follow.

In the meantime, I wish you all a good golfing and tennis month ahead.

Alastair Proctor

LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

It has been a stormy start to my year of captaincy, with the extreme weather conditions closing the golf course for many days due to saturation and frost. However my thanks must go to Vic Dyer, our Course

Manager and his hardworking staff for looking after the course in January and February and preserving the greens and fairways. It was just as well that we had put plenty of 'fun' 11 hole competitions in the diary to start the year off and only one ladies competition out of four was cancelled in February but two out of four were cancelled in January.

The first ladies competition for 2016 was on Wednesday 6th January and it was a fun competition of 5 Clubs and a Putter which was only over 11 holes as we were carrying our clubs, but 33 ladies participated. The winner was Gill Hicks with 21 points from Barbara Smith 20 points.

Our next outing was a ladies Fielder's Choice and 23 ladies went out in sunshine only to be caught in a hail storm, which was short lived but really nasty. They all enjoyed the eleven holes even though it was carrying clubs as there was a trolley ban. The winner was Kay Morley with 12 points on count back, from Lindsey Fletcher also 12 points.

In February we played a Delaney Texas Scramble and there were no trolleys allowed so the competition was reduced to eleven holes. The winning team was Heather Spencer, Ann Seymour, Barbara Smith with 47 net. The runners up were Kay Morley, Mary Rawsthorn, Dawn St Pier, with 47.7 net.

The next competition was a Stableford three clubs and a putter, again no trolleys allowed so the competition was reduced to eleven holes, and it was sun and showers. The winners were Jan Brooking and Lesley Saffin with 18 points. The runners up were Liz Sharman and Lindsey Fletcher with 17 points.

The Mail on Sunday ladies team played Bigbury ladies away in February, in difficult conditions it was very cold and with strong winds. The match was all square after five matches, resulting in Laura Tregelles playing the 19th hole and duly winning on the 20th. The team was Heather Spencer, Barbara Smith, Jane Mahood, Jan Brooking, and Laura Tregelles. Well done to them!

On Sunday 6th March Liz Sharman was in action again but this time with Sue Curry in the Daily Mail foursomes against the Bigbury ladies. The result was a win for Thurlestone

on the 18th hole, they won 1up.

In February we paid £1,187.62 to the Parkinson UK Charity which was the 2015 ladies' captain Kay Morley's charity. This fantastic amount was raised last year by the ladies. Bill Hutchison, the 2015 club captain raised £1,118 for his charity for Prostate cancer the Chestnut appeal at Derriford hospital.

Now that February is over and we are into March we can all hopefully look forward to some sunny spring days. The next couple of months are busy ones with the start of some of our Friendly and County Matches. Our Open Days have already attracted a lot of entries as has our Coffee morning. This is being held on Monday 4th April and is open to visitors. The ladies can play 18 holes, have a coffee and buy some of our wares. We have many stalls, including cakes and preserves, books, clothing, and plants. We look forward to welcoming old friends and making new ones!

Yvonne Pike

JUNIOR SECTION NEWSLETTER

The weather was so bad in January and February that the juniors had three of their competitions cancelled as the course was closed. The draw for the Devon juniors Basil Steer knockout competition has been done and we have to play Holsworthy juniors at Tavistock before the end of April. Our opponents in the West Devon League are Yelverton, Borrington and Staddon and they have to play a home and away match against each team. We are waiting for the draw for the first round of the Tamar cup.

Tom Orr the junior captain for 2015 presented Mark Howlett, the representative from Diabetes UK, with a cheque for £400. This was raised last season when a junior Thurlestone team completed 4 rounds in one day. The event was sponsored by parents, friends, and members of the club and some of the funds raised went to the Junior Captain's charity of choice and some towards kit for future junior team players. Tom Orr as junior Captain asked if his charity could be Diabetes UK. A great day and a very

welcome donation. A big thanks to Tom, Nigel and Paula and all those who sponsored and took part in the event!

On Saturday 23rd January, the junior Stableford competition took place although no trolleys were allowed. At last the Juniors were able to get outside and play some golf! The weather was far from ideal, yet 13 junior players took part. Thanks to Dave Mulligan who sponsored the day and prizes for the winners. In the Congu competition, it was pleasing to see a new name top the leader board - Sammy Ingham (28) won with 35 points. George Holland (8) was 2nd with 34 points, and Ethan Bellamy (15) was 3rd with 33 points. In the non-congu competition, Toby White (31) finished first with an excellent score of 40 points which was highly commendable given the wet conditions. Lucas Bellamy (34) was 2nd with 34 points, and Noah Mulligan (45) was 3rd with 28 points.

Saturday 27th February another Stableford competition went ahead and 13 juniors took

part on a cold and windy day. In the CONGU competition the winner was George Messias (20) with 38 points on count back from Sammy Ingham (28), third was Oliver Griffiths (28) with 34 points and joint fourth George Holland (8) and Toby White (28) with 30 points. In the non-CONGU group the winner was Alfie Messias (32) with 36 points from Noah Mulligan (45) with 33, while 3rd was Lucas Bellamy (35) with 28 points.

Now we are into March I hope the weather picks up and the juniors can enjoy two competitions each month. In April we will be starting junior club nights which will be taking place on Fridays from 5pm. Please come along on Friday 15th April and support the 6 or 9 hole competitions.

Finally, congratulations to one of our junior organisers Matt Messias who got a hole in one in February. His son George achieved the same feat last year. Well done, both!

Liz Line



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BOOKSHELF

How Steeple Sinderby Wanderers

Won the Cup

by James L Carr

(Quince Tree Press £6.99)

This book was published in 1975, at a time when the FA Cup really meant something and emptied the streets as people watched on tv or listened on radio. I love all of J L Carr's books and this is no exception; it is quirky, funny, and full of unconventional characters and the Chairman of the Club, Mr Fangfoss, is a splendid one.

Alex Slingsby is one of the staff at the village school. He is also a brilliant footballer who played six games for Aston Villa before, as the author puts it, "withdrawing into that vast and crowded silence which lies just off the sports pages". We find out that his withdrawal is because he has an invalid wife to care for. The headmaster of the School is a Dr Kossuth, a Hungarian by birth, who knows nothing about football. He has, however, a Theory in educating children and so runs a very successful school.

Alex Slingsby realises that this success could be transferred to the local football team. So Dr Kossuth attends a professional game at Leicester, counting this far beyond the call of duty - "paying money to look at grown men booting a ball about" - but comes up with several 'postulations' which are slightly bizarre, one of which being to have the home pitch as dissimilar as possible from anything a professional footballer could have played on, and small enough so that local supporters are not drowned out by the away supporters.

That is how it all began, and obviously the ending is in the title. What follows is the very unconventional way they choose the team, the blocked lanes and fights when a professional team comes to Steeple Sinderby (despite the Chief Constable's plea that they move the home game to another pitch) and more. We also get some marvellous football reports from the sports pages. Throughout the book the author takes subversive digs at present-day education, professional footballers and others. Altogether, a very funny read.

(I am an Aston Villa supporter, and feel they need a Dr Kossuth at the moment!)

Carolyn Taylor

The Pebbles on the Beach

by Clarence Ellis

(Faber & Faber 1965)

This book is a little treasure which I bought many years ago, and which is sadly no longer currently in print, though second-hand copies can be acquired via the Amazon website. I recently got down to reading it again, and would like to share it with you, as it is a veritable mine of information.

Living in a coastal parish as we do, we don't have far to go before finding a wonderful source of pebbles on our local beaches - to look at, to handle, to throw into the water. But have you ever wondered how they came to be there and why they all seem so different?

This little book tells you all about them - their names and how they acquired their different shapes, textures, composition and colours - and all in highly readable form without geological textbook jargon. The author starts off in Berwick-on-Tweed and follows the coastlines of England and Wales, with a good deal of information about Devon pebbles on the way, ending up at Solway Firth. If you want to know something about the pebbles on Thurlestone's "land of five beaches" this is the book you need. And of course you will be able to impress your colleagues with your pebble expertise when you are helping out on the next beach cleaning exercise.

It is fascinating to learn about their amazing age and their journeys to their eventual beach destinations (the pebbles, that is, not your beach cleaning colleagues).

Pat Macdonald

Climbing the Bookshelves

by Shirley Williams

(Virago £10.99)

A very readable autobiography by a feisty lady with a remarkable record in contemporary UK and international politics. Two marriages; one of the "gang of four"; cabinet office; and a professorship in an American University are all part of her intensely active and constructive life. Her assessments of UK premiers and leading politicians are frank and insightful. Good bedtime reading - even for Tories!

Robin Macdonald

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School Report

News and activities at All Saints Primary School

Sue Morgan

Firstly, at the end of this term our School and Federation are all going to say a very sad goodbye to Mrs Sue Morgan who has worked at this School for 20ish years. Sue is such a lovely person to work with and to know.

She is known by all of the children in School very well and has a natural ability to maintain being both highly professional and well-respected by the children and at the same time being incredibly kind and approachable.

Sue has done so much work for the children of this School that we are all not quite ready to accept that she's really going. The only silver lining here is that we have someone of such high quality as Mrs Charlotte Ramsden to take on Sue's role as SEND Co-ordinator for the Federation. We will say our collective goodbyes at our Federation Day next week and I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing Sue a lovely and relaxing retirement.

Year 6

Y6 have already been out improving their road bike-riding skills with the Bikeability Trainers and have been to Plymouth University Humanities Department to work on a local history project about Exercise Tiger at Slapton Sands.

The Y6 children that didn't get to go to Plymouth University were kept back

so they could compete in the Netball Competition at KCC. I'm very pleased and proud to report that they won the whole tournament and went on to come 4th in the Devon County Championships. An amazing effort from a very highly skilled team that have astounding instincts for all invasion games combined with an irrepressible competitiveness. Well done to all the squad, and special thanks to Jules for all your coaching and help.

RE Week - Creation Stories

What an interesting week we have all had. Each class has looked at a range of different creation stories, including the scientific one. The children have produced a dazzling variety of work which we shared in assembly. The RE section of the National Curriculum explains that children need to know about a variety of different religious beliefs and that tolerance and respect of these is learned early in their education.

The importance of this week and the questions and messages that the children have worked with has been massive. The children have looked at ultimate questions to which there are no answers and that have puzzled humans forever. They have learned that whatever way people choose to answer these questions is personal and important to them.

One of the messages that the children

will be taking away from this week is that it actually doesn't matter which version of events you believe to be true, what is important is that you show value to all beliefs and treat all people well.

Shamas - The Arctic Wolf

Class 4 have been learning about different seasons. As part of this Mrs Carpenter arranged a visit from a real Arctic Wolf. Kevin, his handler, rescued Shamas from the Arctic five years ago. The whole School got to meet Shamas - it was a real treat!

Leap Year Film Night

Thank you to all the children who attended the above Film Night. We raised approximately £150. Also thank you to our parent helpers. The children were very well behaved, but also had a great time.

FTS News

The Swimarathon Event raised no less than £235 for the School. A cheque was presented to the FTS and the money will be used to purchase sports equipment for the children to use at break-times.

Judo Star

On Wednesday, 2nd March, Mr Medway invited ex pupil Cerys Callard in to share with the School her latest achievement. In December, Cerys won Bronze at the British Cadet Championships, securing for herself a place in the England Judo Squad. Cerys is now ranked 3rd in the Under 40kg nationally.

Gym and Dance Show

On Wednesday 16 March Class 1A took part in the Gym and Dance Show at Quayside. Their performance was simply stunning and I was thrilled! If any parents were not there and would like to see a recording of it, please contact Mrs Linn.

Sport Relief 2016

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped with this year's 25 hour 'Sport-a-thon', and I am looking forward to finding out what the final outcome will be - not known at the time of writing.

Federation Day

We all went to West Alvington Primary for this year's Federation Day, taking a coach to and from West Alvington. We were all back for the end of the day at the normal time.

The children took part in a Church Service, shared lunch and some communal activities at our Federated School before coming back. These days are a great way for the children to get to know our partner schools better and make new friends.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our children, parents and staff a very relaxing and enjoyable Easter break. I look forward to seeing everyone back for Summer Term on Monday 11 April well rested and ready to go again. Thanks to all of our parents for your continued support and involvement in all we do.

Jan Bosence

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Weather Wag

There are times when I think it would be quite exciting to live in the north of England or in Scotland. The only reason for this is to be able to witness the Northern Lights, or Aurora, when on a not infrequent occasion it gives a dazzling display of coloured lights in the sky. This year it happened in February, when unusually the phenomenon was seen as far south as Oxford.

On 6th March 1716, 300 years ago, a display covered a large area of southern England which was a fantastic sight for the people of the day. They were amazed by the sight of lights dancing gracefully across the sky. Paul Simons relates that "*In London, thousands of people came out into the streets, and some said they saw two men fighting with flaming swords in the night sky*". Another witness described a battle of armies in the sky over Lincoln's Inn Fields, London. "*Then appeared in the sky two great armies which contained thousands of Men and Horses, these seemed fiercely to Encounter Each Other.*" This battle was seen also in Oxford, "*Swords drawn, and Armies fighting in the Air*". In Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire, others observed the armies with weapons in full use – the smell of the gunpowder and sulphur filled the atmosphere.

For others this was a divine sign that became known as "Lord Derwentwater's Lights". During the year before, James Radcliffe, the third Earl of Derwentwater, had led a Jacobite army into Lancashire, but was soundly beaten by Government forces at Preston. He was captured and later executed on February 24th 1716. When the lights appeared on March 6th, an old family servant described how the strange sight looked like the earl's funeral hearse. An observer in London

by Jan Turner

described this aurora (as we now describe it) as a huge body of light which gradually began to move and form streaks of coloured light which waved and swerved around the in the atmosphere. They were composed of green, red, blue and yellow shapes which were probably like the "Curtains" with which we are familiar.

I am sure that we all know that this optical phenomenon is caused by solar activity activating magnetic solar storms which occur when the number of sunspots is at its largest. The streams of charged particles spewed out in a solar wind (the fastest wind in our solar system, which is travelling at the speed of light) finally collide with the earth's atmosphere and produce the aurora. The charged particles in the solar wind are drawn towards the poles. As they do so, they excite the gas molecules in the atmosphere rather like a giant fluorescent tube lighting up into the different colours that we can see in the displays.

What is perhaps not so well known is that these auroras can affect us on the ground. They can cause damage to communications and power supplies. In March 1989, Quebec experienced the disruption to power supplies to the tune of 9 hours of blackout. It is also a fact that the auroras can affect our weather. Recent work (1996) quoted in Paul Simon's book *Weird Weather* says that some work has been done on the effects on depressions moving into NW Alaska, deepening these weather systems which go on to affect the severity of weather over the USA. How exactly this works is still under investigation. As we all know, new research is always bringing different theories about the weather and its vagaries.

It is the 13th March today - the Ides of March, I think (just a mention for you to enjoy). On this day in 1947 the great snowstorm, etched in my memory for ever, was one of the worst for many years. *The Wrong Kind of Snow* states that the worst traffic conditions were on Shap Fell "the biggest road transport hold-up ever known". For us in the West Country 1891 provided the mother of all snowstorms, where the word Blizzard is appropriate (I have written about that before). I guess you have all seen the classic photo of Thurlestone main street during the aftermath of this storm.

I write this just to remind myself and you that the weather can turn nasty at any time of the year, and cease to conform to what we happily think is the norm. Beware the Equinoctial gales due around the last ten days of March.

In the meantime enjoy this spell of quiet, dry and sunny weather after a winter of storms, rain, mild temperatures and continuous dull and miserable days. The beach - Thurlestone that is - has never looked more lovely than it has these last few days; ideal for paddle-boarders, divers, and even just to sit and look.

Amazingly, the profile changes every day and never ceases to amaze me in its raw beauty. Luckily all was quiet and calm on 10th and 11th March (Thursday and Friday of this last week) as these were the days of the highest tides (5.6m) for the year, so just as well we had high pressure and calm.

Now, get out into the garden and do some clearing up and preparation for the year's crops of vegetables and flowers.

Jan T



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DIARY DATES

April

- Monday 4 Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Tuesday 5 TRAMP, Dartington Hall estate (short)
Tuesday 5 N'hood Plan Family Event, Parish Hall, 11.00am-1.00pm
Monday 11 Pilates classes commence, Parish Hall, 2/3.30pm
Monday 11 TRAMP, Sheepstor & Warren House (long)
Tuesday 12 **What is a Neighbourhood Plan?**, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
Thursday 14 WI, Parish Hall, 2.30pm (Washday Blues)
Wednesday 20 TRAMP, Avon Mill to Topsham Bridge (short)
Monday 25 **Annual Parish Meeting**, 7.30pm, Yeo Room
Wednesday 27 TRAMP, around the Avon reservoir (long)
Wednesday 27 KEDFAS, K'b Methodist Church, 7.30pm (But is it Art?)
Thursday 28 KEDFAS, K'b Methodist Church, 10.30am (Lynne Gibson)
Thursday 28 Phone Box Bard Awards, Village Inn, 6pm
Saturday 30 NSPCC Jumble Sale, Parish Hall, 2 - 4pm (see advert)

May

- Tuesday 3 **Parish Hall AGM**, Parish Hall, 6 pm
Thursday 5 TRAMP - tba
Saturday 7 Horticultural Show Plant Sale, Parish Hall, 10am/noon
Monday 9 **Annual Parish Council Meeting**, Yeo Room, 7.30pm
Tuesday 10 TRAMP, Plymbridge & the falcons (long)
Thursday 12 WI, Parish Hall, 2.30pm (annual meeting & 'Jambusters')
Saturday 14 **'Spiffing Tunes'**, 7.30 pm, Parish Hall (see advert)
Friday 20 TRAMP, Avon Valley from Buckland (short)
Wednesday 25 TRAMP, Dart Valley Trail (long)
Wednesday 25 KEDFAS, K'b Methodist Church, 7.30pm (Cabinet Making)
Thursday 26 KEDFAS, K'b Methodist Church, 10.30am (N. Merchant)
Monday 30 TRAMP - tba (short)

VILLAGE VOICE

Your *Cut Out and Keep*

PARISH DIRECTORY and DIARY DATES

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

There is also a **subscription service**, which mails copies to readers at an annual cost for 2016 of **£15.00 for six issues**. Please apply to:

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

The magazine is entirely self-supporting and is not a charge on the parish rate.

It was founded on behalf of Thurlestone Parish Council and is delighted to remain under the Council's sponsorship.

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

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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT (June-July) ISSUE = 5th May 2016

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

Advertising Rates for Village Voice - 12 months (six issues)
Whole Page - £75.00 Half Page - £55 .00 Quarter Page - £35.00

PARISH

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

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Chairman | Andrew Rhymes | 560564 |
| Vice-chairman | Charles Mitchelmore | 560602 |
| Parish Clerk | Philip Millard | 560843 |
| Members | Tony Goddard | 562282 |
| | Nigel Hurrell | 560691 |
| | Kit Marshall | 560214 |
| | Jill Munn | 560732 |
| District Councillor | Bronwen Zaffiro | 560020 |
| County Councillor | Judy Pearce | 561370 |
| | Rufus Gilbert | 856659 |

Tree Warden Charles Mitchelmore 560602

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------|
| PARISH HALL | Chairman | Neill Irwin | 561661 |
| | Bookings | Diane Martin | 560070 |
| | Pay-phone in foyer | | 562189 |

PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOCIETY (P.O.T.S.) Chairman Chris White 560505

| | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|----------|
| ALL SAINTS CHURCH | Rector | Rev Daniel Hartley | 562727 |
| CHURCHWARDENS | Graham Worrall | 562016 | Liz Webb |
| CHURCH MEETING ROOM ACTIVITIES | | Office | 560090 |
| COFFEE TIME (Every Wednesday 10.30 -11.30 am) | Contact | Rosemary Chipman | 561246 |
| FILMS FOR ALL (1 st Tuesday Monthly 2.30 pm) | Contact | Liz Webb | 562013 |
| LUNCH CLUB (Fridays 12.30 pm) | Contact | Liz Webb | 560090 |
| SOUP & A ROLL (3 rd Monday 12 noon-1.00 pm) | Contact | Eve Gilkes | 560973 |
| UNDER 3s (Thursdays 9.30-11.00 am term-time) | Contact | Lucy Panteney | 560508 |

FRINEDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH Contact Gillian Marshall 560214

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL Headmaster Philip Medway 560494

PEARSON'S PRE-SCHOOL Manager Linda Quinn 560816

UNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION Chairman Stuart Watts 810373

BANTHAM SAILING CLUB Secretary Jo Smith 560347

BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB Clubhouse 560447

BRIDGE CLUBS 6.30 p.m Wednesdays and Fridays Contact Lisa White 560505

THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB TENNIS SECTION General Manager Steve Gledhill 560405
Chairman Jane Smyth 561084

KEEP FIT Contact Karen Livett 560131

TAI CHI Contact Vida Hodder 561182

HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual) Contact Caroline Alderton 562250

PILATES Contact Franny Morris 07590506027

TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers) Contact Mike Stickland 560763

PARISH WEBSITE Contacts Mike Bone 288436 Paul Martin 560070 Chris White 560505

- PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS**
1. Thurlestone Hotel (Garage)
 2. Sloop Inn, Bantham (lobby)
 3. Golf Club (entrance foyer)
 4. Buckland Phone Box

DIRECTORY

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

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

BADMINTON Mondays 7.30 to 9.00 pm Parish Hall (Eqpt provided) Heather 560892 or Paul 560070

HEALTH CENTRES Kingsbridge 853551 Salcombe 842284

MILK DELIVERY R. Bruckner & Son 01803 - 832801

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Wednesday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm
(Bank Holidays open from 8.00 am - 4.00 pm) Saturday, 8.00 am - 1.00 pm
Sunday, 8.30 am - 1.00 pm

(NB. The 1.00 pm closing times may sometimes be extended during school holidays and at weekends)

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

THURLESTONE PHONE BOX Contact Kit Marshall 560214
BUCKLAND PHONE BOX Contact Anna Martin 560796

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Co-ordinator Charles Mitchelmore 560602

POLICE Dave Gibson (Community Support Officer) 08456 - 568637
Emergency 999 General enquiries & Non-emergency calls 101 Minicom
users 01392 - 452935 Confidential information 0800-555-111

RUBBISH COLLECTION
Monday (But **Tuesday** in Bank Holiday Monday weeks) **Grey Wheelies** - alternate Mondays from 11th April
White & Blue Sack collections (recyclables) and **Brown Wheelies** - alternate Mondays from 4th April

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GARAGE (Blight Engineering) Keith Foale 560220

KINGSBRIDGE LIBRARY 852315
(Mobile Library) from Ivybridge now calls only monthly - **Wednesday 27 April & 25 May**

South Milton (Backshay Close) 14.15 - 15.00 pm Thurlestone (Parish Hall Car Park) 15.10 - 16.10 pm



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Bar Open Daily

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6.00pm – 11.00pm

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

11.00am – 11.00pm
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12.00pm – 2.30pm
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during the Summer!

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- New Year Celebrations
- Real Wood Fires

Please call Scott and his Team for information regarding Table Bookings, Functions,
Private Dining Room Hire and Menu Enquiries

The Village Inn, Thurlestone, Kingsbridge, South Devon, TQ7 3NN

Telephone: 01548 563525

Email: thevillageinn@thurlestone.co.uk Website: www.thurlestone.co.uk