

VILLAGE VOICE

August - September 2023



Our Parish Goes Wild



Our Parish Goes Wild, the beautiful photo on the cover, is only part of the environmental developments happening in the area. You can see an abundance of wild flowers and grasses on your walks along Bantham Ham whilst, on and alongside the golf course, there are various coloured grasses swaying in the wind. (Now home to far too many golf balls).

Summer is here and although our weather thankfully is not as extreme as in Europe, the roads are getting busier, the schools have finished and we have a hosepipe ban already!! Therefore, to cheer you all up you will find recipes for summer cocktails to drink with your BBQ.

The Parish Hall has provided a variety of entertainment close to home, a Pub night, Family Fun evening and music via the sea shanty group, 'All Hands On Deck'. Read inside for upcoming Autumn events.

In 'Our Garden' Sue tells us what a great year it has been for the roses in the gardens, they have been beautiful. She also writes an interesting report about Lily Beetles and Gall Mite, which are attacking her flowers, BUT please do not read the article if you are squeamish!

Finally, check out the old photographs taken from Court Park Road in the mid 1960s with a non-existent Mead Estate. What would Thurlestone have been like if the estate hadn't been built, a topic which will spark many a discussion!

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Table of Contents

Note from County Councillor
Notes from Parish Council Meetings
Pub Night Poster
All Saints' School Report
Snippets from the Past
The Accidental Environmentalist
Devon Road Warden Scheme
Our Garden in June
Parish Hall News
Village News Round-Up
Buckland Phone Box
Arts Society Poster
All Saints' Editorial
All Saints' Diary
Cream Teas Poster
BBQ Poster
Tribute to Samantha
Composting
Jack's Journey Continued
Permission to Complain
Bookshelf
Kats Poster
Thurlestone Golf Club
Divertimento Poster
Grey Matter
Thurlestone Bay Birds
Thurlestone Bay Moths
Puzzle Page
Summer Cocktails
TRAMP Reports
Weather Wag
Diary Dates
Contact Information
Parish Information

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South Hams District Council Report

By Cllr Samantha Dennis

As this is my first time writing for the Village Voice, I wanted to introduce myself.

I have just been elected to represent you as a District Councillor alongside Cllr Mark Long (Ind).

A huge THANK YOU to all those who voted for me.

I look forward to representing everyone in our ward, and with your support I will serve you to the best of my ability.

If you have questions to do with our ward, please get in touch. If I am unable to help, then I will signpost you to someone who can.

There are many ways of contacting me; you can call, text or WhatsApp me on 07720 863626 or email samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk

I have a Councillor Facebook page on which you are welcome to make comments, and where I will post updates. Search for [Facebook.com/CllrSamanthaDennis](https://www.facebook.com/CllrSamanthaDennis) or follow the QR code below.

If you would prefer to meet me face-to-face then I am happy to arrange a visit.

I will be at the Parish Council meetings and will try to attend as many local events as I can. Please invite me to visit your club or association and I will do my best to be there and to promote it to others.

I have been appointed to the Audit & Governance Committee, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Salcombe Harbour Board.

There's a lot to learn, a lot to read (not least six neighbourhood plans), and a lot to do. I thank everyone for their patience with me in these first few weeks in the job.

I haven't forgotten my election promises to you and I expect you to hold me to those over the next four years.

Let's work together, to make our ward a happy place to live, work and play, for everyone.



NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The most recent Parish Council meetings are summarised below. The detailed minutes can be seen online at www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk

Annual Meeting held on Monday 9th May at Thurlestone Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Rosa Lewis (Chair), Eric Palmer, Adam Ryan Carter, Gill Stone
In Attendance: Kathy Harrod (parish clerk), Jill Munn (outgoing Chairman), SHDC Cllrs Samantha Dennis, Mark Long

Apologies: Cllr Rufus Gilbert

Election of Chair

Cllr Jill Munn, who did not seek re-election, stood down as Chair and Cllr Rosa Lewis was unanimously elected.

Open Forum

Rupert Stockwell from the Rockbox attended to confirm that he would like to work with the parishes to ensure that the Rockbox is acceptable to all.

There are issues with overflowing bins with rubbish and dog waste at certain areas in the parish. Cllr Long advised that the bins are being reviewed as are the charges. When SHDC are made aware of full bins they are targeted to empty them within 24 hours of the notification being received.

Clerk's Report

Details were given of the patching work and resetting of some drain covers in the Parish that resulted in some road closure and diversionary routes.

Parish matters and councillor reports

Devon County Cllr Rufus Gilbert reported that finances were better than expected and promised to share further information. He said there had been a dramatic increase in the number of potholes over the last six weeks and noted the number of potholes being reported and repaired has fallen year on year. However, there was currently a backlog and a time delay in filling the existing holes.

District Cllrs Samantha Dennis and Mark Long reported that following the recent elections, the council is now administered by a Liberal Democrat majority. Thanks were given to the previous councillors for all they have done for the parish. Many people do not appreciate how much time Councillors give voluntarily.

Planning and Tree Matters

0322/23/HHO, 31 Court Park, Thurlestone, proposed extensions and general refurbishment Supported - with conditions regarding glass and landscaping.

4405/22/HHO, 24 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, alterations & modifications including external access steps, extension to first floor terrace, new glass balustrade & privacy screen, installation of photovoltaic solar panels & air source heat pump Supported

0412/23/HHO, 21 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, proposed infill extension, internal alterations & modifications to dwelling & garage, porch extension, replacement first floor balcony, modifications to existing openings & installation of decked area Supported

0365/23/NMM, Bolt View, Glebe Field, Thurlestone, Minor amendment to planning consent 0921/21/VAR to extend garage by 1m & install solar PV panels on roof. Objection.

South Hams District Council Decisions

1017/22/HHO, 24 Court Park, Thurlestone, Devon TQ7 3LX, Planning Inspectorate Appeal Decision: Dismissed.

3954/22/FUL, Cowrie House, Ilbert Road. Conditional Approval.

4169/22/HHO, Byeways, Thurlestone. Conditional Approval.

4175/22/HHO, Warren House, Thurlestone. Conditional Approval.

4421/22/TPO, T79: Grove Cottages, Ash & Alder. Tree Works Allowed.

Meeting held on Monday 5th June at Thurlestone Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Rosa Lewis (Chair), Adam Ryan Carter, Gill Stone

In Attendance, Kathy Harrod (parish clerk), SHDC Cllr Mark Long and 6 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Samantha Dennis, Eric Palmer

Open Forum

Concerns were raised about issues with cars parking on the War Memorial grass and double yellows in Thurlestone, causing obstruction, particularly outside Home Cottage and the Old Rectory. It was also noted that a lot of traffic is parking outside the Chapel along West Buckland Road, causing increased rutting and holes. This will be notified to Highways.

Grass cutting is to take place by the raised path and a sweeper visit is being scheduled.

Clerk's Report

The Housing Team has changed the approach to Housing Needs Surveys (HNS), it is timetabling surveys over the next 18 months so that no Parish or Town should have an HNS more than 5 years old. The team is looking to attend Town and Parish Council meetings to explain the process and the end use. This parish will be surveyed in August.

Parish matters and councillor reports

A quote of £625 has been received for works required to rebuild the stone wall in six parts along the supporting footpath on Warren Hill. A second quote will be obtained, and Cllrs agreed in principle to have the work done.

Councillors are to request an increase to the capacity of dog waste bins. It was noted that the bins at Bantham Lifesaving and Leas Foot are on private land and are not the responsibility of South Hams District Council.

District Cllrs Judy Pearce and Mark Long reported that Cllr Julian Brazil, ward member for Stokenham was named as Leader of South Hams District Council for the next four years. Cllr Mark Long was appointed as Chair of the Development Committee (Planning) and the Council Tax Setting Committee and Cllr Sam Dennis was appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the Audit & Governance Committee.

Planning and Tree Matters

1580/23/ARC, West Buckland Farm, Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 4 (Joinery Paint), 5 (Green Roof) and 6 (Landscaping) of planning consent 2160/22/HHO Object

1608/23/HHO, 16 Meadcombe Rd, Thurlestone, removal of first-floor balcony & replace with first-floor extension. Reinstate existing integral garage 29/6. Object

South Hams District Council Decisions:

0401/23/HHO, 2 Leonards Close, Thurlestone, 13/4. Conditional Approval.

1607/23/COM, 4 Avonside, Bantham. Permitted Development.

Meeting held on Monday, 3rd July at Thurlestone Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs Rosa Lewis (Chair), Eric Palmer, Adam Ryan Carter, Gill Stone
In Attendance, DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert, SHDC Cllrs Mark Long, Samantha Dennis and two members of the public

Clerk's Report

Thanks were given to Jack Rhymes who has placed several large stones across the grassed area of the War Memorial to prevent vehicular access.

The Thurlestone Hotel has recently purchased a new battery and pads and the defibrillator at this site is now fully operational. It has also registered the defibrillator on the national defibrillator network.

Parishioners are urged to note illegal parking on double yellow lines in the parish and to please report directly to Devon County Council Enforcement who have the authority to visit and ticket offenders. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

Parish matters and councillor reports

It was resolved to approve a rolling maintenance contract for the parish.

Councillors resolved to sign up to the Devon County Council Road Warden Scheme and a request for volunteers will be made on the website and in Village Voice.

Two Coronation/Memorial mulberry trees are being obtained by the church. It was resolved that Cllr Stone will submit the order to purchase two plaques at a cost of £140 each.

SHDC Cllrs Mark Long and Samantha Dennis reported they have been nominated to serve for the next four years on the Salcombe Harbour Board with Cllr Mark Long taking the role of Salcombe Harbour Board Chairman.

Since the last meeting Cllr Dennis has been speaking with several parishioners in the Ward regarding the increased cost of taxi fares. There is a maximum fare set by South Hams District Council (<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/9087/Hackney-Carriage-Fares-2022>) and it has recently come to light that some taxis have exceeded this. If anyone has been charged more than the maximum amounts stated please contact Cllr Dennis.

Planning and Tree Matters

South Hams District Council Decisions:

0401/23/HHO, 2 Leonards Close, Thurlestone, 13/4 Conditional Approval.

1607/23/COM, 4 Avonside, Bantham. Permitted Development

0793/23/HHO, The Paddocks, Thurlestone. Conditional Approved.

We are pleased to welcome Helen Leather as the new Parish Clerk from 4th July 2023

Plus 3 new Parish Councillors:
Mike Hodges, Thurlestone
Nigel Hadaway, Thurlestone
David Smyth, Bantham

More information to follow in the next edition.



NIGHT

Thurlestone Parish Hall
Saturday 16 September

7pm – 10.30pm

Everyone Welcome



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and at

www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/welcome-to-the-parish-hall



SCHOOL REPORT

Time For A Well-Earned Holiday

What an action-packed end to the term it has been! Along with the usual Sports Day fun, which was blessed with sunshine and large crowds to cheer the athletes, we have seen the various trips go well, with the children heading off in all directions on their quest for knowledge.

The younger children in Key Stage 1 had a great time at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter, where the extensive collections of antiquities and art made for a fascinating trip.

The bigger children in Key Stage 2 visited the Aerospace Museum in Bristol, and were able to board Concorde and even go in the cockpit! This made for a very memorable day, and along with the workshops and the gift shop, a wonderful time was had by all.

We also saw an incredible turnout for our Science Share, where each child was invited to conduct an experiment at home; based on a question they had about science, nature or the world. The hall was full of children with their presentations, all eager to explain what they had learned and to show their results. As I walked around, I was blown away by the enthusiasm, from the very young ones right up to the 'Leavers'. Each child was so pleased to be asked about their experiment, and share their newfound knowledge.

On a more artistic note, a mosaic is being installed in school, which has been designed by Years 1-4 to reflect our school vision and values, including Thankfulness and Love. The Years 5-6 have been working in small groups to help create the mosaic which will soon be complete.

We have seen some glorious weather, helping our budding gardeners' vegetables to grow well, and there's even been a harvest sale in the playground each Friday, to share the bounty, and raise some money for seeds and equipment for next year.

And finally, the football! The All Saints Thurlestone Premiere League has finally reached its exciting climax, with the winning team crowned champions, and all the teams celebrated for their dedication and participation. There were individual awards for Golden Boot and Player of the Year, along with music and coloured smoke!

After a very busy few weeks, the school will now stand quietly as the children and staff all take a well-earned holiday, until their return in September for the beginning of Autumn term.

We hope you all also enjoy a restful summer break.

Emma Richards



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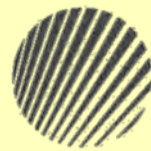
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SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST:

NEW DEVELOPMENTS!

By Michael Stephens

I haven't contributed for a while, but these photographs turned up out of the blue, in a remarkable coincidence which I won't go into here, but I hope they will be of interest. As far as I am aware, no other photos of Court Park at this time have turned-up before (unless anyone knows otherwise of course!).

The first two show Court Park on the edge of our village c.1965-66, when the first houses were being completed; it looks to me as though they are as yet uninhabited, with just mounds of rubble in front of each one, and fence panelling is all which separates them. The view is, I think, from outside number 18 (note the double garages) but those of us who live here and have tried to place the other dwellings, can't be entirely sure which ones we are looking at, as there is no foliage nor hedges yet to help identify them and, of course, changes to the houses themselves over the last 70 years or so add to the puzzle. No.1 can be discerned right at the bottom, but the intervening houses are set further back from the road and can't be seen.



Note the cattle & sheep in Mr. Stidston's field, and numerous telegraph poles follow the fence line. No tarmac yet – just a rubble track. And of course (shock, horror!!) no 'Mead' – just the meadows as they originally were.



West Buckland residents are invited to jog up the hill and find the spot from where the third photo was taken by the same (unknown) photographer at the same point in time. It's a good candidate for 'spot the difference'.



Any further observations or comments from readers would be welcome. These three photos can also be seen on the Thurlestone Parish website at www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/thurlestons-past-in-postcards. Here you will also find many other historic views of Thurlestone and you can enlarge all the photos and study them in further detail.



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The Accidental Environmentalist

Saving the world one raindrop at a time

By Adam Ryan-Carter the Environmental Parish Councillor



I need to begin by giving our Parish a massive pat on the back for all the efforts in wildflower sowing that have come to fruition this summer. I will be the first to admit that I scoffed at the premature erection of meadow information boards at Bantham Ham, years before there was any sign of a single flower. But this year I was proven spectacularly wrong as I watched the backdrop for my dog walks change from daisies and cow parsley to meadow buttercups, poppies, thistles, that pretty purple blue thing (the wife informs me it's called vipers bugloss), and a multitude of grasses swaying elegantly on the breeze. The margins of the golf course have also been abundant with unusual flora and fauna, and it was really satisfying to watch the mini meadow I had a small hand in creating burst into flower by the village green. I am delighted to report that our own garden meadow was a triumph despite Muppy using it as an afternoon nap spot. Thanks are largely due to the packets of wildflower seeds given away as favours at my brother-in-law's wedding, (our meadow might have been considerably smaller if my wife hadn't scooped up all the unwanted packets left behind by drunken guests). And to think that just a couple of hours of digging, the sprinkling of a some seeds and a bit of watering was all that was needed to not only put a smile on the faces of passers-by, but also to sustain a population of bees, hoverflies, moths and butterflies and provide food for birds and shelter for small mammals and reptiles..

During one of the aforementioned dog-walks, during the very hot spell when the grass in the fields was scorched and the earth parched and cracked, Muppy and I were discussing the current hosepipe ban and how we could do our bit to try and reduce our water consumption. Muppy very generously said he would take one for the team by forgoing his baths altogether and offered to give me a daily 'tongue bath' instead of shower. (I told him I'd think about it.) When we eventually arrived at the coffee shop in Bantham, a few of our friends and neighbours were gathered around and the water saving discussion continued. Inevitably memories of the British drought of 1976 came up and we chatted about having to queue for the bathroom, as family members were forced to use the same bath water, (if you were the youngest in the household your bath water not only tended to be murky and luke warm, but you could only pray your older sibling hadn't peed in it.) The idea of sharing showers, instead of bathwater, was broached and this seemed much more appealing to some of our residents, "Usually, that sort of thing only happens on my birthday" commented Mike with a mischievous smile. But his wife's next suggestion of introducing 'bed baths' didn't get quite the same reaction!

But on a more serious note, finding ways of harvesting rainwater and reducing our consumption of water has to become the new normal, and needs to be considered every time we buy a new dishwasher or washing machine, replace a toilet or shower or build an extension to our homes. If you're about to fit a new kitchen, a boiling water tap can cut out water wasted when the tap is run waiting for water to heat up, and if you're going for a remodel of your house, consider a 'grey water system' which is a brilliant way to recycle the water you have already used. I've certainly felt more motivated about saving water since reading, 'On time and Water - A history of our future,' the bestseller by Icelandic writer Andri Snær Magnason, in which he suggests that in the future, wars will not be fought over oil or gold but over water. A sobering thought.

So how can we all make a difference? Well Mike Hodges and his fellow BBATS (Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone Sustainability Group) have been having a think. Some ideas include finding the ideal sized brick to put in the cistern of your loo (Hippo bags are also an option), collecting your vegetable water and using your washing up water to give your roses a drink and kill the greenfly in the process, teaching children to use a tooth cup or turn off the tap between brushing, and using a 5 minute shower timer to try and foster good lifelong

habits from a young age. For smaller households a Smart Water meter linked to your PC is an option, and those of us who did not subscribe to the garden waste collection can easily convert their brown bin into a water butt after a quick You-tube tutorial or two.

Unless of course, like me and other parishioners who live in a thatched cottage, you don't actually have any rainwater goods. This was particularly problematic when we needed rainwater to fill our new pond, so every available garden trug, bucket, bin and watering can was put on the patio to catch rain in the wet spell, but when this was followed by a spell of scorching temperatures, we watched the water we had so carefully curated evaporate at an alarming rate. I think our only option is to have a large open water trough rather like those used by farmers for cattle, and try and cover it over on hotter days. This is Monty Don's preferred method, as you can simply dip your watering can in to fill it, which is quicker and more efficient than using the tap of a water butt which unless raised up on bricks isn't usually high enough to actually get your watering can underneath.

Maggie from BBATS reliably informs me that you can get a 100L or 200L water butt FREE from South West water, but warns it is a bit of a convoluted process and takes 16 weeks for delivery. But with a little bit of forward planning, that means it will hopefully arrive in time to fill up over winter, and have water reserves ready for any dry spells next summer. So here is the link to South West Water and Maggie's tips for navigating the process;

<https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/services/save-water/#/login>

"From the SWW home page - select 'Your services' from the top menu, then choose 'Save Water' from the next menu and scroll down to where it says 'free offers and support'.

You have to fill out a questionnaire about your water use and submit your email address. It then offers a few things you can order like attachments to slow down your shower flow and finally it offers two types of water butt - 100L and 200L. The 200L is 16 weeks delivery.

At this point, it's not obvious but you have to click 'Basket' at the bottom of the page then fill in some address details and then click 'Submit'. I've now had an email confirmation so it does work (I'll let you know if I get a water butt in 16 weeks time!)

The first time I tried it I did it on my phone and couldn't find how to actually submit the order but I've now done it on my PC and it has worked."

Maybe we could have a competition and see who receives their FREE water butt first? Write to us at the Village Voice and let us know how you get on.

Devon Road Warden Scheme

Would you be interested in volunteering?

Thurlestone Parish Council is now part of the Devon Highways "[Road Warden Scheme](#)". This allows the community to carry out minor works such as filling small potholes, repairing signposts or clearing blocked drains, using funds from the County Council. The intention is not to do the Highways Department's job for them, but to ensure that small issues don't become major problems that we are forced to wait for a long time to be fixed. It will also give us a closer working relationship with the Highways team, so we can hopefully influence the priority of any larger scale work on our patch. We will receive grant funding from Devon County Council, and will hold materials, signs and tools (including a whacker plate) locally. There is free training available for volunteers and funding for protective clothing.

If you would like to know more about the scheme, or feel you can spare a few hours to help, please contact Helen Leather via email, thurlestoneparish@gmail.com. Full details about the scheme can be found at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/communities/opportunities/road-warden-scheme>

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Our Garden June 2023

by Sue Dwyer

Writing this article on June 24th there seems little rain on the horizon. I have been waiting several weeks to plant out some annuals and salvias grown from cuttings. I use these plants as fillers in the borders. I decided enough was enough and took the plunge by planting them all out into the garden. This increased the amount of water can carrying. However, after over a month the "weight training" has made me feel fitter as well as losing a few pounds in the process.

I cannot remember a summer when the roses have ever been so wonderful in the size and number of blooms. Last week I hosted afternoon tea in the garden for members of the Catholic Church to raise money for WORK (Widows and Orphans in Rural Kenya). I must say the garden looked stunning. That night we had our only rain which was VERY welcome, however the open rose blooms collapsed so the garden was festooned with rose petals on the lawn. One visitor last week thought our rose arch at the bottom which lines the path to the Golf Club would be a wonderful place for wedding photos!

This year I have never seen so many lily beetles. These appeared in the UK in the 1990s. I always have had a laissez faire attitude to these rather attractive insects, I squash any I see with my nail but I never worried too much about any minor damage they cause to the lily. They also will attack lily of the valley, fritillarias, Solomon's seal and Cardiocrinums which is the Himalayan lily which I wrote about in May. Certainly, mine have a few leaf holes on its lower leaves. The lilies will still produce a good display of flowers although if there is severe loss of leaves this will produce smaller bulbs which may not flower the following year. The adult lily beetle overwinters in the soil but not necessarily below the plant so there is no point in treating the soil under the plant. The adult emerges in April and starts to lay eggs on lilies and the other hosts. The grubs move into the soil when fully fed and pupate into adults in mid summer. However, these do not mate or lay any eggs until the next year but they still cause damage by feeding on the plants but there is only one generation a year.



Lily Beetle

Well, this year I have been inundated with the lily beetle and the larva. In fact, it's been an infestation. I have read what to do about this and it is not for any faint-hearted person. Firstly, the beetle is 6-8 mm long having a black head and abdomen with scarlet wings. They are easy to see and the best way I find to catch them is to put one hand below them as they are very sensitive to vibration. They will drop off the lily onto the ground if disturbed and you fail to catch them. They lie upside down so are impossible to see against the soil. Another method is to put newspaper below the plant. The eggs are laid on the underside of the leaf between April and September. Small reddish-brown grubs emerge after about a week. They feed on the underside of the leaves where they are easily seen as a black squiggly mass. This is because their anus is on the top of their body and they cover themselves with their disgusting excrement known as frass. They munch away at the leaves causing holes or transparent patches but will also attack the stems and buds causing the petals to deform. I put on disposable gloves and take a bucket of warm soapy water with an old cloth. Again, the grub is sensitive to vibration and will drop to the ground so a sheet of newspaper is helpful. The grub needs to be squashed which is messy or left in the water for about 48 hours. The frass is messy and your gloves need regular washing in the bucket. The plants need inspecting every 3-4 days and the process repeated.

The RHS says tolerate populations where possible (this is what I have done up to this year) otherwise remove manually which I am doing now. Encourage wild life into the garden such as birds, frogs and wasps along with predatory ground beetles which eat the larvae. There are three predatory wasps which feed within the larvae and the larvae dies. Grazers sell a product which is supposed to be repellent to the beetle but I have never tried this. I have not

used any insecticides in the garden for years now as they cause so much damage to bees and other insect life. At the end of the day, I will live with the problem. I do have many types of lilies in the garden that flower between April and October and the garden would not be the same without them.



Fuchsia Gall Mite

Another problem I have is the fuchsia gall mite. This mite appeared in the UK in 2007 and is now widespread in the south of the country and is spreading northwards. This does not kill the plant but affects new growth at the shoot tips causing clumps of swollen leaves and flowers which look very unattractive. Some fuchsias are more susceptible especially *Fuchsia magellanica* which forms the hedge down the west side of the garden. This is a hardy fuchsia plant originating in southern Chile. One very hard winter in the mid 80s the whole hedge died but the next spring shoots emerged from the ground and in 3 years it was as high as before. This infestation was chronic for several years, however this year the hedge looks much better with healthy foliage and flowers. There is no treatment except to cut the

hedge to the ground but I was reluctant to do this. However, I heard on, I think, Gardeners' Question Time one of the experts saying how when he moved to a new area to live, the hedging fuchsias were looking terrible due to fuchsia gall. He could not understand why the hedges had not been removed. He left them and after about 5 years the hedges had regained their normal appearance. He put this down to the plants developing immunity against the mite. Certainly, this would mirror what happens in humans and other animals to a new disease. Populations, especially in South America, were decimated by European diseases from the 16th to 18th centuries. Even in the late 1880s a measles outbreak killed 50% of the native population in Tierra del Fuego and 2 years later another 50% of those who survived. This was described by Lucas Bridges in his autobiography "The Uttermost part of the Earth", an excellent read with strong local connections.

After the doom and gloom of disease let me tell you about some fantastic plants that are flowering now. I wrote last year about dwarf alstroemerias which I had purchased which are known as the Princess series. This series has about 10 varieties with a wide range of colour from white to purple. I bought 8 varieties of these and last year kept them in pots and planted them in the main border last autumn. They have all grown into lovely clumps no higher than 30cms high and are a mass of compact flowers giving good ground cover as well as colour. The first flush of flowers is finishing, but by pulling the spent flower heads out more flowers will form, hopefully until the first frosts like the taller varieties which I have had for nearly 30 years. The only place I know you can buy the Princess series is from Burncoose Nursery near Redruth. I do have *Alstroemeria Inca Gold* and a couple of *Alstroemeria Intichanca* type and these are easier to find in nurseries locally and are dwarf types also.

Another plant which was in the garden when I arrived and I have only just learnt to appreciate(!) is *Filipendula vulgaris* or Dropwort. This is the single (and native) form of this lovely plant. It is a picture of elegance with its coral-bronze buds opening to clusters of creamy white flowers, all carried on bronzy wiry stems. There are attractive rosettes of dark ferny foliage. In fact, until this year I had thought this plant was a fern!!! Only to find its true identity using my plant app whilst I was planting some, I had divided into the new planter at the Parish Hall, helped by Caro and Anna. Several people have admired the plant and at the afternoon tea a very keen plants-man was enthralled by the plants which I have in the garden.



Dropwort

The borders are alive now with colour from perennials such as *Agastache*, phlox, verbenas, nepeta, along with dahlias, iris and of course roses

I hope you are all enjoying your gardening as now the days are getting shorter and another autumn approaches, which will produce its own lovely range of late flowering beauties.

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Parish Hall News

by Alison Daily



As the end of summer approaches and the start of Autumn follows there is much to catch up on.

Our Family Fun evening on 30th May was a great success, helped by the weather which stayed fine enabling families to take full advantage of all that was on offer. The children enjoyed playing the games and showed a real aptitude in some of the sportier activities. The adults' preference seemed to be for something slightly more sedate judging by how swiftly the Pimms and draught beer disappeared. It was wonderful to see all the smiling faces as everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all those who came along to help steward the activities, your help, as always, is greatly appreciated.

The second Pub Night took place on 24th June and we were blessed with a glorious warm evening, many took advantage of the table and chairs placed outside to catch up with friends for a chat over their drinks whilst bathing in the sun. Inside it was a touch livelier with some enjoying a bit of friendly rivalry at darts, pool, cards, dominoes and skittles. Comments received afterwards said "there was a lovely pub atmosphere". As that is the aim of the evening, we couldn't ask for more. More of these pub nights will take place in September and November with perhaps a little twist. Please let us know if there is something different you would like included.

You may have noticed the new addition to the entrance (as seen in the new logo above), or possibly not, as it blends in so well and looks as if it's always been part of the fabric of the building! The wall with glazing above was built to provide a bit more shelter, now if there is a queue to enter the hall you should be drier and warmer whilst you wait. It should also help protect the front door from the elements which can cause problems. Together with the exquisite flower troughs and the new lighting in the car park it has made a real difference, thank you to all who helped bring these projects to fruition and for maintaining them. This forms part of our quest to make the hall more welcoming, hopefully these little touches are helping.



As this edition goes to print the Sea Shanty evening will be held on 22nd July and I'm pleased to say it sold out well in advance, a report on how the evening went will appear in the next edition.

Talking of the sea you will find there is something fishy going on in the car park from 3rd August as we welcome Steve Inch a former local fisherman who will be selling fresh fish and shellfish from 11am to 1pm. Very handy if you are in need of something for dinner.

Future dates for your diaries:

Pub Night 16th September – see poster.

Divertimento String Quartet 20th October – see poster.

Pub Night 17th or 18th November

The film “Village People” which is the follow up to “The Land of the Five Beaches” will be shown in the near future, hopefully in conjunction with something else we have planned, watch this space!

The 2024 programme will be drawn up in the coming months, but if you have anything specific you would like the hall to put on, then please get in touch with a member of the committee or via our Thurlestone Parish Hall Facebook page and we'll endeavour to accommodate you.

Most classes and groups take a break during August before returning refreshed when classes resume in September. Please find the schedule below:

Weekly Groups at the Parish Hall

(August / September 2023)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Contact for Price and Availability</u>
Monday	10:30 – 12:30	Stitch & Bitch	Sally – 01548 561356
	14:00 – 15:00	Yoga-Wise Warriors	Diane – 01548 560070
	17:00 – 18:00	Yoga-Fitness	Saffron - 07840 788511
Tuesday	09:00 – 10:00	Yoga	Suzi – 07557 334802
	14:00 – 15:00	Power Hour	Sarah – 07879 627939
	<i>Sept-March</i> 11:00 – 13:00	Art Class	Marianne – 01548 531413
Wednesday	09:30 – 10:30	Pilates	Sharron – 07818 410017
	14:00 – 15:15	Line Dancing	Sue – 01548 550348
	18:15 – 22:00	Bridge	Lisa – 01548 560505
Thursday	09:15 – 10:15	Yoga	Sarah – 07879 627939
	13:30 – 15:30	French Lessons	Angela – 07749 493931
	14:00 – 15:00	Pilates	Lara – 07765 423906
	18:00 – 19:00	Boot Camp	Suzi – 07557 334802
	19:30 – 21:00	Table Tennis	Paul – 07866 802800
Friday	16:00 – 17:00	Badminton	Sian – 07784 893405

NB: Please telephone the instructor before attending, as some classes do not run during the school summer holidays.

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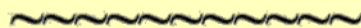
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Village News Roundup

Problems with Delivery

We now have a dedicated contact number for any queries regarding delivery of Village Voice, this means the team will be made aware of any problems and can then deal with them accordingly. The contact number is 07743 293356.

Thank you and Farewell

We say a sad farewell to past members of the Village Voice team who have moved on to pastures new.

Michael and Shirley Barnes have moved to be closer to their daughter in Cornwall. Shirley was a volunteer on the magazine from 2005 until quite recently helping to print and collate. She also organised the annual lunch for several years which is held to thank contributors for their articles. Shirley was also a member of the Parish Hall committee from mid 2008, and took on the secretarial role from October of the same year until 2012. Michael was a founding member of the maintenance committee at the Parish Hall and being a retired Service Engineer understood the complicated heating system at that time, so took on the responsibility for that as well as Fire Safety, only relinquishing this very recently. He also produced reports on the Parish Council meetings for Village Voice under the guise of "Citizen".

Carolyn Taylor moved to a retirement village in Haywards Heath also to be nearer to family. This isn't just any ordinary retirement village, but the very same where Richard Osman's mother lives and which he uses for the basis of his popular Thursday Murder Club book series. This is very apt as Carolyn wrote book reviews for the Bookshelf page from 2009 before helping to print from 2015.

Thank you to all three of them for their contributions not only to this magazine but to the parish as a whole and we wish them well for the future.

Kingsbridge Oxfam needs You!

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BBQ on the Green

After a break of a few years, the church will be holding their BBQ on the green to help raise funds. Details can be found on the poster in this edition.

Kingsbridge Events

On some Friday evenings in August, a selection of family favourite films will be shown on a giant outdoor screen which is free to watch with no need to book. Limited seating is available but you can take your own. There will also be classic car meets in August and September when owners bring along their cars for the public to peruse. Both events will have food and drink on offer.

Vintage buses will once again be running in September to various destinations.

Please turn to our diary page for details of the films being shown plus dates and times for all events.

Tuesday Quiz Night Returns

A favourite makes a welcome return, so dust off your little grey cells for quiz nights at the golf club starting on 26th September. Teams of 6 at £2.50 per person. Fish and chips will be available on the first night and every first Tuesday of the month thereafter. Booking essential if you wish to have food.

The Buckland Phone Box Recycling Project

Our Buckland phone box is still collecting all brands of packets from crisps, snacks and more for charity. We also collect used print cartridges to support the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. So far, we have collected over 4000 crisp packets and have raised over £30 from the ink cartridges thanks to you. Not only is this helping the charity, it is also helping the environment by reducing waste build up in Landfills.



- Send in nuts, popcorn, crisps, pretzels packets and ink cartridges from all brands to The Buckland Phone Box and we'll recycle them through our nearest TerraCycle drop off and send the used ink cartridges to The Cystic Fibrosis Trust.
- Once collected, the aggregated nuts, popcorn, crisps and pretzels packets are sorted, shredded and washed.
- The material is then densified into hard-granulated plastic granules. The granules are then extruded so they can be incorporated into the production of different plastic products such as fence posts and benches.
- Our TerraCycle drop off point is currently collecting for the 'Brain Charity' and our used print cartridges are still being collected for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Thank you all for the increasing donations.
Jed Barry



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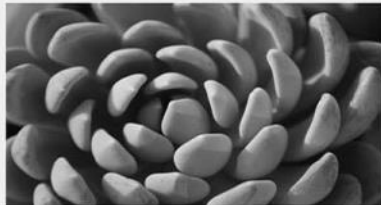
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READER: Peter Gornall

PASTURES NEW



[A Version of this article appeared in the July edition of the Church magazine, The Rock]

I have been in post, here in the Aune Valley Mission Community, for a little over eight years. As many of you are aware I have now discerned that it is time for me to "concretely explore" the next stage in my journey of discipleship and ministry – a stage that will take me to pastures new. After careful prayer and reflection I have reached a "working conclusion". A conclusion that will, God willing, take me on a journey back up the M5 and M1. It is time for me to return north! There are obvious family reasons for me to return north, but I've also discerned that a return to an urban/suburban setting will allow me to face the next challenge and opportunity in my ministry of service.

I have enjoyed, and continue to enjoy, my time here in this beautiful part of God's creation. But I must follow my conscience and my calling as I explore what God has in store for me in the coming years. This will mean a time of change and upheaval for me and for my family. Above I referred to my explorations as being "concrete". This means that I am actively looking for my next post.

At this stage I have no idea when I'll be moving. It could be within a few months, but equally I could still be with you this time next year. I wait upon the Lord (and the Church Times Vacancies Page!). A time of change for me also means a time of change in the life of the Church here in Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland. It provides an opportunity to "take stock" and to discern how the Church can serve God in new and fresh ways.

Needless to say I will keep you all informed of all further developments in my "concrete explorations". But, for now, I remain your priest. I remain a disciple and servant still labouring in this part of God's vineyard!

David Hartley



Thank you to everyone who helped and/or contributed during this year's **Christian Aid Week**, whether by envelope or online.

The total donated was **£1368**, of which 67% was Gift Aided, adding a further **£261** and giving the truly magnificent

GRAND TOTAL OF £1629. THANK YOU.



All Saints' Diary

CHURCHWARDENS: Liz Webb 560090 & Mike Hodges (561124)

Everyone is welcome at all services.

Church Services at Thurlestone Church,
unless indicated otherwise

Sunday Services

AUG. 20TH, SEPT. 3RD, 17TH

8.00am Holy Communion (said) (BCP: 1st; CW: 3rd Sundays)

AUG. 6TH, 20TH, SEPT. 3RD

11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW)

SEPTEMBER 17TH

11.10am Family Communion with Baptism

AUG. 13TH & 27TH

11.10am Morning Worship

SEPTEMBER 10TH

9.00am Benefice Communion (CW) (said) at Thurlestone

11.00am Benefice Sea Sunday Service at Bantham (see below)

SEPTEMBER 24TH

11.10am Matins (BCP)

OCTOBER 1ST

8.00am Holy Communion

11.10am Harvest Thanksgiving (+ Harvest Lunch?)



YouTube

Sunday Services led by the Revd. Daniel Hartley

www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/recorded-services.html

Weekday Services

THURS SEPT. 7TH (Not in August) **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at White Horses, Bantham

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

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

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See also <https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-events-diary.html>

2024 Local Calendar

featuring the winning photographs of the
Thurlestone, Buckland and Bantham Area
in the recent competition

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A TRIBUTE TO SAMANTHA

Life began for Samantha at a kennel in Wales, her pedigree was most impressive with best in breed, best in show champion and even an international champion. My introduction was through our daughter who rang to say she had put a deposit on an Afghan hound for us. Although I love animals and dogs in particular my first reaction was NO. I was working and did not think it fair to leave a puppy alone in the house. The rest of the family saw no problem with promises to walk and feed her and generally give a hand, all would be well. So it was with trepidation that we made our way from Hertfordshire to Wales. On arrival at the kennels, we were ushered into a room to await my first glimpse of Samantha, at last she walked into the room a leggy bundle of fur, walking straight towards me I lifted her up, from that moment I knew she was very special and there was no doubt I would keep her. Her kennel name was 'Naterlie girl at the top' but Kenny Ball was playing SAMANTHA so that was my name for her. All the way home she lay in my lap with her nose snuggled up under my chin, a bond had been forged between us. We returned home to Hertfordshire and our life with her began. She proved to be a very good puppy never making a mess or chewing things up as seemed usual with other puppies. The only naughty thing I recall her doing was chasing the washing round as it twirled around in the breeze, I also had a teddy bear at the time which she became jealous of and kept throwing about.



Samantha

I am sure my love of flowers communicated itself to her because on several occasions she picked flowers from the garden and brought them to me the heads one side of her mouth and stalks out the other, reminding me of a flamenco dancer. One day we took her to the seaside and she fell in love with the sand running around like any child would do digging and flopping down in the pools of water.

One day I noticed a sore on top of her nose which seemed to be spreading. On taking her to the vet he gave us some ointment to put on her. To our horror the sores got bigger and bigger and then started to travel down her legs. The vet was puzzled and made an appointment for us at the Newmarket Veterinary hospital. We were very fortunate that the vet we saw was available as he was just going abroad and was, at that time, one of the few people able to diagnose her condition. His diagnosis was demodectic mange which is rare in long haired dogs and also very difficult to treat. We were devastated with what we were told.

The treatment meant treating every hair follicle with a powerful lotion which alone could kill her, it was very intensive and had to be done daily also the dog could refuse to let you touch them. Sammie was a perfect patient accepting what we did even jumping in the bath ready for it although in great pain. After 3 months we could see an improvement and knew we were winning. It took a full year for a complete recovery and to get her appetite back. We were overjoyed, and because the disease was caused by her mother Afghan hound we accepted a second dog that the kennel offered up.

And so, Pandora arrived to keep her company. They got on extremely well and played together as dogs do. Within a year we were left with another Afghan hound called Jade and all our spare time was used up grooming the three of them but their coats looked lovely. One day there was a knock on the door a couple stood there begging me to take an Afghan in as she was going to be put to sleep. The couple had rescued her but could not keep her as they lived in a caravan. I couldn't refuse or turn her away. She was adorable but terrified of men. The first thing we did was put her in a bath and then gave her some food, her body was very thin and she was small for her age. We called her Cassie and she stuck to me like glue. The other dogs accepted her and they were soon playing together, Sammie would keep them all in order by just standing still and looking.

We moved to Devon with the dogs in the back of our estate car, they seemed very happy with the journey as they were used to going on holiday with us. I was still working and the dogs would pop into the garage if they needed to do the necessary. We always knew if Sammie had been in there because she always managed to wrap it up after her in the newspaper that was left for them.

It was very eye catching for people to see 4 Afghans going for a walk especially if it was raining and they had on their red macs with only their heads and tails showing. As she got older, I realised something was wrong with Sammie. On taking her to the vet he said she had an enlarged heart and put her on medication so I let her have the freedom to go where she liked while I was at work. The bedroom suited her quite well even at night. In the mornings she would lift the phone to make it ring then pull the pillow from under my head. If that failed the bed clothes came off.

One Halloween I crept up the stairs after coming home from work with a mask on my face. On creeping round the door Sam sat up looked at me and I knew she was thinking that's my mum but her face is all wrong!

One holiday in Cornwall the dogs all had their own beds there. When I went to bed, I found all the Afghans on there so I said well, where was I supposed to sleep?!! Sammie got off and pulled me to her bed as much as to say you can have mine. We would take the dogs for a ride over the moor with them looking out of the car roof and people looking and pointing their fingers, even the horses would come and have a look at them.

They loved Christmas and had their own stockings hung on the mantelpiece filled with treats and they would sit patiently while waiting for them.

After moving to the coast and walking round the footpath one day Sammie was finding it difficult to breathe so we took her to the vet but there was nothing he could do her heart was giving out. That night I sat up with her on the floor holding her head up so she could breathe easier and called the vet again. She is dying he said and gave her an injection. I cried all day and as I write this I cry again.

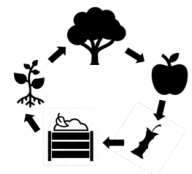
Shirley Chapman

Composting – what's it all about?

Composting is the best way of disposing of garden and kitchen waste. It's good for the environment, sustainable and produces a usable product for free! So why aren't we all doing it? Judging from the results of our recent Composting Questionnaire, there is widespread support for a local workshop to learn more about it.

If you don't know where to start or are afraid of ending up with a smelly, slimy mess rather than rich loamy compost, then we have the answer. On Sunday 1st October from 14:00 – 16:00 (TBC) we will be running a composting workshop led by South Hams Composting expert, Ben Bryant, in the Parish Hall. You will learn about:

- The best methods for composting at home
- How to convert your redundant brown wheelie bin into a compost box or wormery
- Ideas for community composting
- The wonders of soil and the benefits of biochar!



So, if you're new to composting and want to know how to get started or have been composting for years and want some tips on improving your technique, look out for further information on the Thurlestone website and posters in the local area.

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Jack's Journey – Part 2

“Just Do It! You'll Feel Better For It!” Jack

As I walked into Jack's garden one Friday afternoon in April to sit down for our chat, I was feeling incredibly nervous. This is an important “interview”. We will be talking about something very heavy and I don't want to get it wrong. To my surprise and relief, I was put at ease straight away. The sun was shining; Jack and his mum Emma were relaxed and normal. I thought to myself; here sit a Mother and Son going through something that you couldn't begin to imagine and yet they were the ones putting me at ease.

Straight away you get the feel of the mental strength which these two possess. I asked mum Emma first if there was anything she wanted to say. She replied “It has been tough, but it is a lot better now that Jack is stable”. “Cancer just hadn't happened in our family before. We thought it wouldn't happen. The way we have got through it is to use fitness. It has given us another more positive focus”.

As mentioned previously, they both credit ‘Will Power's Fitness’ and Will himself for helping them get through. Being with people who have had experience with cancer, and their support has been valuable to Jack and his family. This proves that being understood and supported mentally and emotionally goes a long way in helping a person to get through an illness or, tough times.



Activities that Jack had to consider he may never do again.



I mentioned how, at times I was upset about something which seemed so trivial, when I thought about what she was going through. She replied that people have their own things happening and they are big to them. Jack agreed with this sentiment. She said that there were times when they didn't feel as tolerant, but mostly it is just how life goes. This is an example of how they are just nice, decent people, dealing with a cruel twist in life, but not resenting others who are not going through the same. So many of us would, understandably, fall to pieces and be angry with the world, but this isn't happening here. If anything, it has made them more determined to live.

It is clear that Emma is very proud of Jack and supports him in his life choices, even if it is hard for her. This has helped him on his journey to be part of the Paralympian Academy, as well as going back to ‘Uni’ to study Environmental Studies. He has even moved into Halls. This is such a huge achievement for Jack and not one that Emma was fully happy with, as any parent would understand. He seems to be coping with it the same as anyone else, but for mum, there is always going to be that added worry. As you talk to Jack, you can feel his determination to live a full life, and it is inspiring.

Living life is what Jack and his family like to do. In fact, they had been on a skiing holiday in Austria when Jack had his first seizure, which ultimately led to the cancer diagnosis. They were having a great time. They got snowed in, so were unable to leave the country. They visited Red Bull Land which Jack enjoyed, and then they visited a coffee shop. It was here that Jack had a seizure which caused him to lose control of his right arm. It went rigid and started to rise up, and he also blacked out. What was a quick coffee stop turned out to be the start of an unimaginable journey!



All smiles - The morning of that fateful day.

Emma went on to talk about the events that Jack has coming up. These are in Loughborough, Klenicky (just past Swansea), Swansea, Eton Dorney and Mallory. He won't be competing at Klenicky because it is a very long swim, and that is Jack's weakest part. He also has to be careful with his epilepsy, but he will compete in the others. He needs equipment to take part in the triathlon, and was very grateful to have been gifted a bike which has helped to save costs. He still has to cover the service costs, to make sure the bike is in top condition.

Another thing that has helped Jack save costs and time is being able to have his driving license back. This means he is able to drive to the events, which can sometimes be cheaper than the train.

As Jack has hemiplegia, he has to wear a brace to help him walk. He needs to get his brace adjusted regularly, which is too far away to drive and takes a whole day on the train. This is more time and money. As his new brace is not quite right, he is using an NHS appliance. It does the job, but it is really designed for an elderly person needing to get around their home, not competing in triathlons! The braces are prone to breaking, they are made from a heat injected mould and cheap plastic. If you put any flex on it, then it is liable to snap. There is a thick plate that goes through the middle, which Jack has also managed to snap before. The problem with a brace which doesn't fit correctly is that it rubs the skin and actually takes the skin away, therefore he risks an infection. This happened to Jack and meant he had to take 4 weeks off training because he couldn't run. This is another show of determination from Jack. Even a brace that will hurt him and isn't designed for what he is using it for does not deter him or make him give up.

When I asked him if he ever felt like giving up and he said "Everyday!" He told me that whenever he is procrastinating, he just tells himself to "do it, you'll feel better for it". This sounds so simple when Jack says it, but it isn't everyone who can pull themselves up like that and carry on. He said that he has the discipline of one session at a time. Sometimes he wants to give up mid-session, sometimes he doesn't even want to start. But he will tell himself 'just do 10 minutes', then he thinks, let's go to 20, and continues to break it down until he has finished his hour. At this point, my mind is reminding me of all the times I have procrastinated and given up. I don't mind telling you, that I was feeling slightly embarrassed at this point.

To be in the presence of someone who puts it so simply and in a way which makes you think, if he can do it, then I really have no excuse! He made me feel that I can do anything and for that I will forever be grateful. My new saying is "What would Jack do?"

If you would like to donate please visit www.gofundme.com/f/help-jack-compete-at-the-paralympics Here you can read more about the beginning of his journey in his own words.

You can also check out Jack's instagram page www.instagram.com/jackrehab/

On behalf of Jack and his family; a massive **THANK YOU** to all those who have kindly donated. Your generosity has blown them away.

To be continued.....

Natasha Baldwin

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PERMISSION TO COMPLAIN

Below are genuine funny holiday complaints made by holiday makers from around the world.

"The water in the Gulf of Mexico was too salty. No one told me that there was going to be salt in the water. It was gross!"

"The ice in my glass melted too quickly."

"It was windy on the beach and the sand went in my eyes,"

"We went to Australia over Christmas and were shocked when it wasn't cold"

"The bar wasn't open so I couldn't have my 7am airport pint,"

"The food was so cheap by the time we got home I'd put on half a stone,"

"The restaurant said 'Children eat free' but my 19-year-old daughter still got charged for her meal,"

"My husband drank the local beer and ended up violently drunk. They must put something in the alcohol here."

"There was no sign telling you that you shouldn't get on the hot air balloon ride if you're afraid of heights,"

"We went on a canoe trip but were very disappointed that no one told us there wouldn't be a bathroom onboard. It was very inconvenient."

"We went on a skiing holiday but we weren't informed that we would actually have to be able to ski."

One who found a Do Not Disturb sign on the back of his room door said: "I thought the staff had locked me in."

"The weather at home was nice while we were away so the whole holiday seemed a bit pointless."

"Our room was just 16C. As evidence, I am sending you a photo of the thermometer reading 20C."

"The brochure stated: 'No hairdressers at the resort'. We're trainee hairdressers and we think they knew it and made us wait longer for service."

"Nobody told us the sand would be hot. It was almost impossible to walk on it."

"I only got 2 toilet paper rolls per day."

"I'm sure I've stayed in this hotel room in a previous life. I cannot stay here again."

"The roads were uneven and bumpy, so we could not read the local guide book during the bus ride to the resort. Because of this, we were unaware of many things that would have made our holiday more fun."

"There was no English food in our hotel; we had to eat in the Chinese Restaurant opposite every night"

"There were no shells on the beach"

"We bought Ray-Ban sunglasses for 3 Euros from a street trader, only to find out they were fake."

"Although the brochure said that there was a fully-equipped kitchen, there was no egg-slicer in the drawers."



BOOKSHELF

My Lovely Wife by Samantha Downing

This book was a real page turner and one which we didn't want to put down! The story is told from the husband's point of view, a tennis coach and family man who loves his 2 children and adores his attractive wife Millicent, who is not only the perfect wife but also a super organised working mother. They have a nice house on a smart American estate and look like any normal couple, but they hide a very dark secret which just happens to be getting away with murder. It has an out of the ordinary beginning, with a twist at the end of the very first chapter. Some of our group were reading this genre for the first time and were unsure, while others were hooked from the start, but eventually we were all drawn in and were eager to know what happened next. Because of the non-graphic nature of the narrative your imagination ran wild in all directions, trying to figure out the twists and turns this novel takes. As all actions have consequences, their lives eventually start to unravel affecting the whole family and the realisation that they do not know each other as well as they thought. Will they be found out or will they continue to get away with murder? You need to read it to find out.

We had differing opinions regarding the conclusion sparking plenty of debate, with one of us feeling quite indignant, but that's what makes a book club interesting as you get different perspectives. This book can be summed up by the letter C, creepy, chilling and compelling.

The Island by Victoria Hislop

Alexis Fielding's mother Sofia has always been secretive about her past, but when Alexis travels to Crete she contacts Fortini, her mum's old friend who reveals the past by transporting her back in time to Alexis' great-grandmother Eleni, who was an inhabitant of the leper colony on the real-life island of Spinalonga which is interwoven into the story. We follow Eleni, her husband and two daughters of differing characters, feisty Anna and loyal Maria and learn the part the island plays in their lives. As the girls get older their lives take different paths with tragic consequences. The daily routines, traditions and celebrations of the Greek village of Plaka are brought vividly to life.

This was a re-read for many of the group, but after the events of the past few years felt it was worth re-visiting as it may give us more of an insight into how some of the characters were affected. The book deals sympathetically with how leprosy (now called Hansen's disease and still affects around 200,000 people) was considered at that time and how it touched the lives of so many people. We couldn't help but compare it with the COVID pandemic and found there were some parallels to be drawn.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the book especially the descriptions of conditions on the island, and changes made once the Athenians arrived and how against all the odds a community was formed. Our one negative was once the narrative returned to the present, we felt it was rushed and lacked in depth detail of the character's lives in the intervening years. The answer to this was provided by a member who brought along the sequel, 'One August Night' which explains all.

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By Agatha Christie



August 1939. Ten strangers are lured to a mansion on a remote island off the Devon coast.

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“None of us will leave this island....”

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE remains the biggest selling crime novel of all time. Christie’s play is based on this, her iconic novel.

More of a thriller than a who-dunnit, the play is a dark and chilling psychological drama with a complex plot and fascinating characters.

The talented cast and creative team at KATS are excited by the challenge of presenting this enduringly popular genre. With atmospheric original music and dramatic sound and lighting effects, KATS production holds plenty of promise.

KATS are definitely maintaining their long standing reputation for presenting top quality local entertainment. Their production of *9-5 The Musical* in March 2022 won the NODA award for the Best Small Musical and the comedy drama *Calendar Girls* and the musical *My Fair lady* in march this year, both played to full houses and enjoyed huge critical acclaim.

My Fair Lady had a waiting list for ticket returns, so KATS are advising audiences to book early for **AND THEN THERE WERE NONE**.

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THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB



I came across an old Thurlestone Golf Club Official Handbook. Amazingly, although it is 20 pages in size there was no reference to a date. To help us date the publication, Lt-Col. T. H. Reed was the Club Secretary at the time. However, despite this it makes for a fascinating study of that era. Many of the businesses who were asked to contribute have, I am sure ceased trading. For example, Balkwill & Co Ltd located on the Quay in Kingsbridge, were ironmongers and specialised in “Rotoscythe” mowers and “Aga” Cookers. The Stores at Thurlestone were run and owned by R. E. & E. M. Edgcombe, and were Grocers & Provision Merchants, Fruit, Confectionery & Cooked Meats. They also ran a delivery service with a promise of prompt delivery. They were obviously the forerunner of Deliveroo!

We have the usual smatterings of hotels advertising their tariffs; The Links Hotel, with hot and cold water in all bedrooms; The Albion Hotel in Kingsbridge; The Thurlestone Hotel which it said of itself, “A beautiful modern hotel in picturesque gardens with glorious sea and country views. All bedrooms fitted with Telephone and Hot and Cold running water, 30 rooms with a Private Bathroom”; The Resthaven AA & RAC appointed, owned by Mr R. I. Berry & Mr. and Mrs. S. Berry – who prided themselves with growing their own produce, and having beds fitted with “interior spring mattresses”; And finally, where it all started at the Kings Arms Hotel in Kingsbridge suggesting a week’s stay in high season would be Ten Guineas!

The Lugger Brothers could print all your brochures. W. J. D. Codd could be called when you needed a specialist in Sanitary, Domestic and Heating. G. Moysey & Son were your latter day ‘super store’, and sold amongst other things Furniture, China, Glass, Ironmongery, Oil, and Agricultural Supplies; Oke Bros. Ltd. would look after all your motoring needs.

Of the Golf Course and area itself, it says “Have you on your travels or on holiday, ever come upon a place so unusually quiet and secluded – that you think it is of a different world”. Tom Scott went on to say “I do not know how old Thurlestone is, but that it is old, very old, and there is no doubt, for was it not this very coast, in these very coves that the infamous, one might also say famous, smugglers used to operate, to their own advantage and to the vexation of those who had the unenviable task of keeping illicit goods out of the country. There is no smuggling at Thurlestone nowadays, but there is tranquillity and the beauty of the land and seascape, and what is more important to us all there is golf. This particular brand of golf that is exhilarating, sporting and enjoyable, it is the kind of golf that is found in too few places in these days of so-called Championship courses which in some cases are no more than moderate circuits lengthened to satisfy the ego of the “Tiger” and break the heart of the “Rabbit”. It is not so with Thurlestone. It is a fine, natural course of the downland type beside the sea, so well exemplified at Sheringham and other splendid links, and let me say here that I have found all courses of this kind are always in the most splendid condition. Thurlestone is no exception.”

Simon Bawden

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Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct – if you don't have all the answers, send in your entry anyway – you never know!) drawn on 1st September 2023. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk

BIRD BRAIN

Fill each gap with the name of a bird so that the story makes sense when read aloud.

Choose from the birds named at the bottom of the page.

Harry had always been a likeable rogue. He never enjoyed school and made a _____ exit as soon as he reached the age of 16. He joined the Royal Navy where he met and fell in love with Tanya who was serving as a _____ on the same ship. Their romance blossomed and it wasn't long before the _____ came along with a little bundle of joy.

They were so _____ed to announce the arrival of their beautiful daughter whom they named Kylie.

Harry and Tanya married and all went well until they decided to go back to Civvy Street, at which point things took a _____ for the worse. Harry found work hard to come by and suddenly realised that providing for his small family was becoming harder. He started to get involved with petty crime. He never resorted to _____ banks or violence but he was responsible for quite a few _____ burglaries and became adept at picking pockets to keep the wolf from the door.

One morning, as he was trudging home with his meagre bag of shopping (a pack of _____ biscuits, 3 _____ fruits and a bar of _____ soap) he spotted a bunch of keys on the ground outside one of the smart up-market houses near the park. Quick as a flash, he took out the soap, made an imprint of the front door key and left before he could be spotted by an _____-eyed neighbour. He knew all the right people so having a replica key cut was no problem.

As the weeks went by, money was getting tighter all the time and Harry realised that something drastic was needed if he was going to be able to continue spending time in the betting shop as it was an expensive _____. He made the decision to use the replica key he had kept for desperate times.

That night he crept silently out of his house and, crouching in the shadows, made his way to his victim's home. Using all that stealth was hard work and when he arrived he found he was _____ quite hard. He let his breathing steady then deftly opened the door and entered, relieved that no alarm sounded. All went well as he moved from room to room gathering his booty. Then his luck ran out. While he was adding a shiny, new-looking iPad to his swag bag the _____ clock on the wall started to chime. Every _____ the back of his neck stood on end and he dropped his haul, making an enormous clatter. All the lights in the house came on and he was confronted by the owner who was a huge fit-looking man with muscles like The Hulk! It was clear that he was _____ mad.

There was nothing else for it. Harry had to _____ his pride, hold up his hands and say, "It's a fair cop" The police were called, Harry was arrested, found guilty and given community service. He never turned to crime again. After all, once _____ twice shy!

FINCH WOODPECKER EAGLE KIWI PIGEON STORK PENGUIN HOBBY NIGHTINGALE
CHICKEN CUCKOO KINGFISHER CHOUGH TERN WREN PUFFIN ROBIN TOUCAN
HERON SWIFT THRUSH BITTERN RAVEN DOVE SWALLOW KESTREL GULL STILT
MYNAH STARLING LINNET BUZZARD CORMORANT

Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. Polly Put the Kettle on 2. Little Miss Muffet Sat on her Tuffet 3. Ride a Cock Horse to Banbury Cross 4. Old Mother Hubbard 5. Ding Dong Bell Pussy's in the Well 6. It's Raining it's Pouring the Old Man's Snoring 7. Tom Tom the Piper's Son 8. Hey Diddle Diddle the Cat and the Fiddle 9. Georgie Porgie Pudding and Pie 10. Wee Willie Winkie Ran Through the Town 11. Old King Cole was a Merry Old Soul 12. Mary Mary Quite Contrary 13. Doctor Foster Went to Gloucester 14. Sing a Song of Sixpence 15. Jack Spratt Would Eat No Fat 16. Pat-a-Cake Pat-a-Cake Baker's Man 17. Lavenders Blue Dilly Dilly Lavenders Green 18. Little Jack Horner Sat in the Corner 19. Baa Baa Black Sheep 20. There Was a Crooked Man 21. Little Boy Blue Come Blow Your Horn 22. The Queen of Hearts she Made Some Tarts 23. Who Killed Cock Robin? 24. Pussy Cat Pussy Cat Where Have You Been 25. Jack and Jill Went up the Hill 26. Hickory Dickory Dock the Mouse Ran up the Clock 27. Diddle Diddle Dumpling my Son John.

There were 6 all correct entries last month. First out of the hat, and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Viv Gibby. Commiserations to Linda Cant, Graham Clack, Dave Hayward, Andrew and Sara White, Donna Yeoman and Wayne Kovacic.



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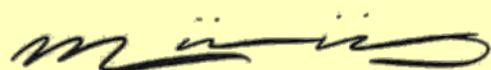
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THURLESTONE BAY BIRDS

SUMMER 2023

Traditionally it is a fairly quiet period for new birds being added to the records for 2023. Since the last report only seven additions have been sighted with the total rising to 164 up to 10th July.

On 10th May whilst sea watching, a female *POCHARD* flew across the Bay - a species of Duck which has become a scarce visitor to our area due to the big reduction in birds migrating from Eastern Europe, as the warmer climate does not result in lakes freezing over.



Female Pochard Duck

A visit to a local site near Hatch Bridge produced two more additions; - *DIPPER* and *GOOSANDER*, both of these species live on the River Avon and breed in some of the quieter areas along the river.

Towards the end of May sightings of *RED KITE* start to be reported. The first this year was on 21st May with 2 over South Efford Marsh. Over the next 6 weeks there were regular sightings mostly of single birds but on occasions up to four. There is no proof of breeding along the wooded valley but surely there will be over the next few years.

One bird that has become scarce on the spring passage is *CUCKOO*, after a few years of declining numbers migrating back from their winter quarters in Central Africa, this year more have been reported from Dartmoor. On 26th May a local resident reported hearing one in the South Milton Valley. There were two more reports at the beginning of June from the area around South Milton Ley near to the Sewage Works. It is unlikely that the bird would breed here but it could probably be a male that failed to find a suitable mate on the moors.

For the second year running a sighting of a *LESSER WHITE THROAT* was reported from a local marsh - unfortunately just the one male, so again no breeding attempt.

The highlight of this time of the year was on 15th June, when a local birder was taking advantage of the warm early evening weather to have a swim from the beach near South Huish Marsh. To his surprise he found a *WHITE WINGED BLACK TERN* feeding over the marsh before heading up the valley. This is the first record of this Marsh Tern which breeds on the lakes and marshes of Eastern Europe - nearest being Poland and Hungary. A very scarce visitor to Devon!

With this issue of Village Voice being distributed at the end of July when the return passage of birds migrating back to their wintering sites in Southern Europe and Africa starts, here are a few tips for sighting them.

A walk around the perimeter of the Golf Course particularly early in the morning you can experience birds migrating like *SWALLOW*, *HOUSE MARTIN* and *SWIFTS*. On the beaches, small flocks of Waders - particularly *SANDERLING*, *DUNLIN* and *RINGED PLOVER* can be found feeding and resting. A visit to South Huish Marsh can be particularly rewarding if there are areas of mud along the water's edge, this is favoured by *DUNLIN*, *RINGED PLOVER*, *GREENSHANK*, *GREEN SANDPIPER*, *RUFF* and later in September *CURLEW SANDPIPER* and *LITTLE STINT*.

Whatever birds you manage to see please realise what a fantastic area we live in, Enjoy!

Mike Passman
thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk

THURLESTONE MOTHS

SUMMER 2023

May, June and July are the best months of the year for moths - 2023 is certainly proving that, with over 5800 moths recorded up to 9th July and a total of 280 different species logged for the year.

HAWKMOTHS are very much one of my favourite species. Overall the total numbers are lower than last year, the first one spotted was a *POPLAR HAWK-MOTH* on 9th May, followed by a *LIME HAWK-MOTH* on 18th May and an *EYED HAWK-MOTH* on the 31st. The first *PRIVET HAWK-MOTH* arrived on 10th June, *ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH* on 22nd June and a *SMALL ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH* on 26th June and finally on 27th a *HUMMING-BIRD HAWK-MOTH* (only the second recorded in my garden).

So far this year I have recorded 26 new species, many of these have been small micro moths, however 10 are macros with some stunning moths. On 26th May an *ALDER KITTEN* was recorded, - scarce in Devon with only 14 recorded in 2022. A *FOX MOTH* on 5th June was another surprise. On 12th June, 2 *SAND DART* were one of the most unexpected recordings, whilst they inhabit sand dunes, they are very scarce in Devon with only 2 recorded in 2022. A pure white *SATIN MOTH* with black and white bands on its legs was found on 21st June - another scarce moth in Devon only 15 recorded in 2022. A new addition to the *WAINSCOT* family of moths was a *SILKY WAINSCOT* on the 26th June - again a scarce moth in Devon only 6 recorded in 2022.



Alder Kitten Moth

Mostly of my moth trapping takes place in my garden as it is much easier for getting to bed after some early morning finishes. There are a group of recorders called 'The Flying Trappers' in South Devon who visit local nature reserves and farms to provide valuable records of what occurs at these sites. Recently I accompanied them at two local sites - Kerse Farm on 28th May, where there were 80 different species recorded by the 8 traps set up, and at South Milton Ley on 29th June with 66 different species from just 3 traps.

During periods of warmer weather and favourable southerly winds, there can be some migrant moths which make the hazardous journey of crossing the Channel from France. So far this year there have been several arrivals, amongst them the more scarce ones have been – *BLAIR'S MOCHA* (only 16 recorded in Devon in 2022) *L-ALBUM WAINSCOT*, *KENT BLACK ARCHES*, *PALE MOTTLED WILLOW*, *RUSTY DOT PEARL* and *THE GEM*.

So far this year there is one night which will be long remembered! On 7th July it was absolutely mayhem particularly the area behind the garden chalet, a highest ever total of 367 moths in one night - records for individual species; 66 *SILVER*; 64 *DARK ARCHES*; 44 *LARGE YELLOW UNDERWING*; 14 *SWALLOW-TAILED MOTHS*. I had to retire to my bed at 01.00 because I ran out of pots!

If you would like to see some detailed photos of some of the more colourful species please look at my website thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk among the headings are moth photos - latest is from 12/6/23.

We still have the best part of July and August to look forward to.

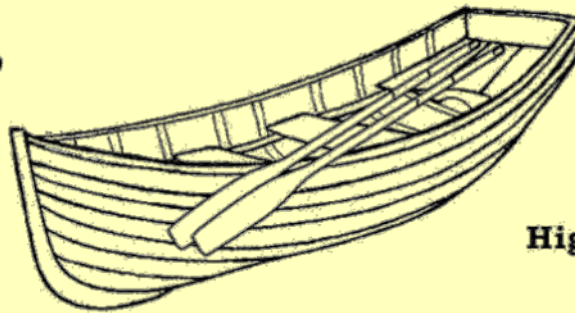
Mike Passman

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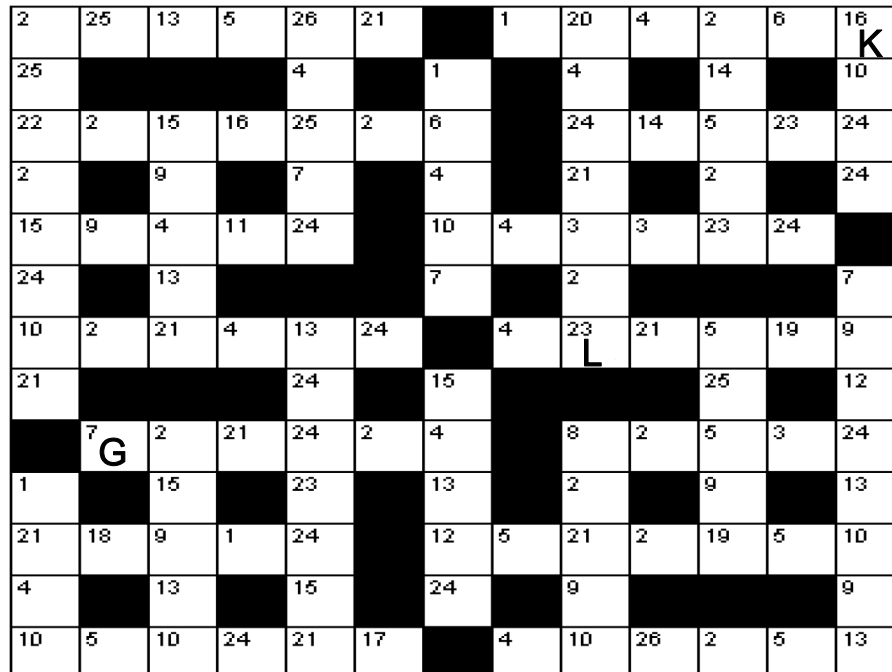
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Puzzle Page

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry drawn on 1st September 2023. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk



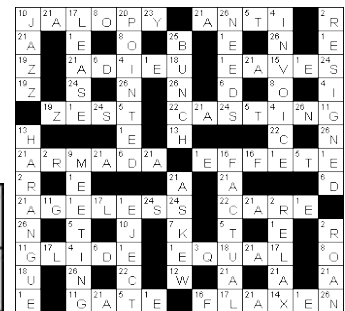
CODEWORD

Each letter in this puzzle is represented by a number 1-26.

Can you crack the code and solve the crossword?

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Three letters are already in place to get you started.

Answer to last puzzle.



Sudoku - hard

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

Sudoku - medium

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

There were 6 all correct entries last month. First out of the hat and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Lindy Price. Commiserations to Dave Gibby, Dave Hayward, David and Mary Horne, Neill Irwin, and Pauline Lonsdale,

Summer Cocktails

Homemade Pimm's

Makes 750ml
250ml Gin
250ml Red Vermouth
125ml Sherry or Port
125ml Orange Liqueur, Cointreau or Orange Curacao



Mix all the ingredients in a jug and garnish with mint, lemon, orange, strawberries, cucumber or apple
Serve one part Pimm's to 3 parts lemonade



Aperol Spritz

Makes 1 glass
75ml of Prosecco
50ml of Aperol
Squeeze of fresh orange juice
25ml of soda (or more if preferred)
1 slice of orange

Fill a large wine glass with ice, add the Aperol, squeeze of orange juice, Prosecco and top up with soda. Garnish with a slice of orange

Mojito

Makes 1 glass
Juice of 1 lime
1 tsp granulated sugar
Small handful mint leaves, plus extra to serve
60ml White Rum
Soda water to taste



Muddle the lime juice, sugar and mint leaves in a small jug, crushing the mint. Pour into a tall glass and add a handful of ice. Add the rum, stirring with a long-handled spoon. Top up with soda water and garnish with mint.



Elderflower Fizz

Makes 1 Glass
45ml Elderflower Liqueur
60ml Sauvignon blanc wine (or Prosecco)
60ml soda water/sparkling water
Cucumber slices to garnish

Add ice to a glass and pour over the Elderflower Liqueur, add the wine or Prosecco, then top up with the soda/sparkling water. Garnish with slices or swirls of cucumber.

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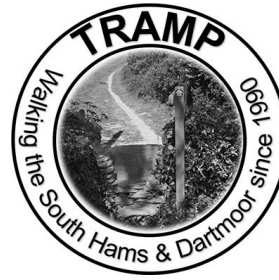
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TRAMP

Reports for May and June



25th May. Stover Park Heritage Trail. Peter and Wendy Gornall

...What?" You say, ...Only six on a Tramp walk with no hills; and on a very fine day after a rain-free fortnight." Yes, it is true; but don't forget that it was of course the absolute cream of the group who gathered in the shady car park of Stover. At first we were cheered by two groups of nursery children in Hi-Viz jackets romping by the waterside, but then calm descended as we moved from the Ted Hughes "Pillars of Poetry" to the information boards describing the pond life. To prove its own point, as we read the relevant blurb, a large red damselfly perched on Annie's hand. The woods, loud with birdsong shaded us along a minor road and then we continued on to Ventiford, past hedgerow vetch and wild roses, and on to the origin of the disused Stover canal. A semi-circular path through dry meadows took us along the side of a very peaceful Teign river meandering deep below its banks, and thence back to the canal.

After walking woodlands and past the memorial to the Canadian ...Sawdust Fusiliers" who moved so much timber during the First World War, the path back to Stover Lake took us beside surprisingly damp meadows with plenteous Lady's Smock (favourite of one leader) in flower.

By the lake there are shaded picnic tables, and we feasted there. There had been so much to see, hear, and wonder at; not least Ted Hughes' delightful, surprising and sometimes challenging poetry.

29th May. Ivybridge/Erme Valley. Linda & Gareth Scott

On a beautifully sunny Bank Holiday Monday morning, 11 TRAMPERS and 2 dogs set off from Ivybridge station 'park and ride' for a 7.5 mile circular walk. We walked past the now disused Stowford Mill – an enormous paper

mill established in 1787 and extended in 1849 – then crossed the River Erme over the Ivy Bridge. The original bridge was built in the 13th century, but a new bridge was built in 1823 to allow a team of horses and the stage coach to cross on their way to Plymouth. We then walked along Station Road – where the original Ivybridge station was sited, and then on to the path which follows the Erme. We stood under the impressive viaduct which towered above us and marveled at this feat of engineering. We could see the pillars of the original Brunel viaduct built in 1848 which supported a timber bridge for his broad gauge South Devon Railway. In 1876 The Great Western Railway took over the line and in 1898 a new two way viaduct was built. We continued our walk, in dappled sunshine, alongside the beautiful River Erme and our next stop was to look at the old sheep pound, built by local farmers to corral their sheep before driving them down to Ivybridge cattle market. Next to this was the reservoir, now dry which had been converted to a swimming pool, complete with a man-made sandy beach, built by the American troops in WW2. We followed the path through woodland, across fields, along a green lane onto the lane at Harford. We had lunch in the churchyard, where the adults spent some time looking at the interesting headstones, and the two children were fascinated by the chickens wandering around them. We entered the moor through Harford Gate and managed to cross the river without getting wet feet. We carefully navigated the shallows, boulder to boulder and one of the children managed an enormous leap across a deep but narrow section! We then walked across the moor to join the track of the Two Moors Way. Keeping Western Beacon to our left, we dropped down from the moor to the track which took us to back to Ivybridge. A short walk along the road took us back to the car park. It had been a beautiful and varied walk in wonderful weather.

5th June. Malborough - Hope Cove Circular. Jill Miller

The glorious sunny weather continued although there was a fresh breeze when 8 trampers and two dogs set off from Malborough Village Hall car park. Heading towards Hope Cove along the road we saw a steady stream of traffic. We picked up the well-hidden footpath on the left. The fabulous views and a sensory experience of walking through the wheat fields which swayed in the breeze was good for the soul.

The sheep gave us a cursory glance as we passed by the wind turbines and continued a steady pace down to Inner Hope. Here we stopped, sat on the wall to take in the idyllic views of sun, blue skies, yachts bobbing on the water, and enjoyed our drinks and cake. Heading back towards Malborough alongside the stream, passing Hope Barns, Karrageen Caravan Park, Sweetheart lane and continued up the hill to pick up the Ridgway path.

A thoroughly enjoyable walk with the usual good company, and exercise with the advantage of being local and therefore we had the rest of the day to make the most of the good weather.

Well done to Barney especially, and Benji for being well behaved dogs.

19th June. Beesands/ Hallsands Walk. Neil Mackay & Jenny Webb

This circular walk started and ended in Beesand's Seafront Car Park (mercifully free!)

7 walkers and 2 dogs set off on a bright sunny warm day from the lovely Beesands seafront through the village and onto the steps leading up the coastal path towards Hallsands.

At most points along the walk there were glorious views of the South Devon coast line from Start Point Lighthouse ahead of us and Blackpool Sands beach and Dartmouth estuary behind us.

On reaching Hallsands village we discovered that the viewing platform of the ruined village was closed due to coastal sea erosion. A couple of destroyed houses were visible and the platform itself was still intact.

We then headed inland past newly renovated flats until we came to a challenging stile. One dog leapt over with great aplomb, while the

other more senior one had to be lifted over as there wasn't a dog opening. (No small feat considering she weighs about 27kg!).

Across open fields until we reached the first of about 4 euphemistically named "Green Lanes" we trampers would have called them highly overgrown pathways. Not to fear, your leader had brought a large walking stick and pruners to pave the way for all of us. And so we tackled the brambles, ferns and other vegetation with abandon.

Finally we came to the pleasant Hamlet of Bickerton bedecked in glorious varieties of flowers and shrubs. It was a welcome sight after the wild ride through the 'semi jungle'. Another "Green Lane" led us to what used to be known as Higher Middlecombe Farm – now a recently renovated recording studio of the Pop group "Blur" and owned by the leader Damon Albarn.

However no dulcet tones or otherwise greeted us as we passed – only the sounds of the installation of a new turning circle for cars and vans. Soon after this we reached the fields that led us back to the coastal path and Beesands- not before one last lovely view of the Devon coast line and crops of wheat and barley wafting in the gentle breeze.

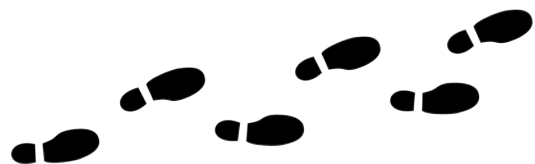
Total distance was about 3.75 miles or 7km

27th June. South Pool. Claudette Uff

The intrepid group set off from South Pool Creek, climbing up beside Gullet Farm, where views of the Kingsbridge estuary could be glimpsed and looking towards Salcombe the view was spectacular.

We traversed the stepping stones at Waterhead Creek, heading towards Holset, stopping for a coffee break in the wonderful valley.

Cutting through Newhouse Cottage, literally right across their garden, (does seem strange), we walked down Wood lane, which is stunning when the bluebells are out. We then headed towards Chivelstone, taking the Green lanes back to South Pool, where we sat and enjoyed our picnic lunch besides the creek.





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Weather Wag

By Jan Turner



After Sunday's heavy rainfall, the rest of this month (July) has been seasonal, with average temperatures but the wind strength and direction leave much to be desired! Today, 12th the wind has been fierce and unpleasant. It has blown hard all day from the south west, but thankfully no rain. I always feel it is a shame when the gardens are blooming well and in comes the wind and blows so hard that most flowers and veg (if not sheltered) are battered almost to death. My lawns are showing signs of stress, dry, dusty and becoming bare in places. But, I'm ever hopeful all will be well in the next week or so.

Over these last couple of months, the statistics are interesting but not abnormal. The temperature topped 25C on 3 days but mostly it was around 22C. The average was lower of course but overall, not too bad. Wind speed was average with no surprises and rainfall below average - 18.5mm in June and 13mm so far in July. I will concentrate a little on rainfall (seeing that we are short of it!) and refer to a little pocket book on weather, compiled by Michael Bright. He classifies the rainfall intensity: -



Very Light – Scattered drops do not completely wet a surface.

Light – Greater than a trace and up to 2.54mm (0.11 inches) per hour.

Moderate – Rate of fall between 2.794mm (0.11 inches) and 7.62mm (0.30 inches) per hour.

Heavy – Rain falling at a greater rate than 7.62mm (0.30 inches) per hour.



In the UK, the most rain recorded in a single day was 279.4mm (11 inches) at Martinstown in Dorset, on 18th July 1955. Two people were killed in this downpour. Very up-to-date records may exceed this copy from 2013. Hawaii's Mount Waialua is probably the wettest place on earth, the weather station on its slopes at 1,569m (5,148feet) records on average 11.68m (38 feet, 4 inches) – 13m (42 feet 8 inches) of rainfall per year, and it rains 335-360 days of the year. So, we do not have much cause to complain.

Very hot and humid weather can have a strange effect on us humans e.g., possibly the Toxteth riots in 1981 may well have been caused by very hot weather at the time, it being the spark to set up the unrest. My book goes on the list many events that have occurred in periods of very hot weather: - something to do with levels of serotonin released into the brain (causes heightened aggression). 5 lots of serious riots in the UK are listed between 1976 and 1985.

Let's hope that we can all remain sane and happy as we go through our summer of hot events and even those not so hot times.

Keep the cooling fans going and water the garden plants sparingly.

DIARY DATES

August

Tuesday	1-5	Salcombe Town Regatta continued
Friday	4	Movies on the Town Square, Kingsbridge - free - 9.15pm - 'The Italian Job'
Saturday	5	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am - 1pm
	5	Loddiswell Show 12 noon to 5pm
	5,7,8,9	Arts, Crafts and Collectables Market - Kingsbridge Market Hall - 10am to 4pm
Sunday	6	LOVE YOUR PARK 2023 - a celebration of Kingsbridge Recreation Park - 11am to 4pm
	6,13,20,27	Family Nature Stroll with Ken Neal - a Sunday stroll around Dittiscombe Valley revealing nature in all its glory
Tuesday	8	Quay Side Classic Cars - Kingsbridge Quay from 6.30pm
Thursday	10	TRAMP - Kingston, Wonwell Circular - 5.5 miles - Liz and Peter Coates
Friday	11	Movies on the Town Square, Kingsbridge - free - 9pm - 'Night at the Museum'
Saturday	12	Horticultural Show at South Milton Village Hall - Set up 10am - Show open 2.30pm
	12-13	2 Day South Hams Vintage Machinery Club Rally - Sorley Cross
Sunday	13	Celebrate Start Bay Festival 11am to 5pm
Monday	14	TRAMP - Dartmoor Circular - 7 miles - Vanessa Barton
	14-28	Kingsbridge and South Hams Art Club Exhibition - Market Hall - a vibrant and exciting exhibition by local artists
Wednesday	16-17	The British Fireworks Championship in Plymouth - Funfair on Plymouth Hoe from 2pm, entertainment on stage from 6pm and the "oohs and ahhs" begin at 9.30pm with the firework displays
Friday	18	Movies on the Town Square, Kingsbridge - free - 8.45pm - 'The Jungle Book'
Saturday	19	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	21	TRAMP - Yealmpton and the River Yealm - 7 miles - Gareth and Linda Scott
Tuesday	22	Barbecue on the Green, Thurlestone 6.30pm to 8.30pm
Wednesday	23-26	Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta
Friday	25-28	Hope Cove Weekend
Sunday	27	Aveton Gifford Classic Car Show 11am to 3pm
Monday	28	August Bank Holiday
Thursday	31-1	Craft Market - Market Hall, Kingsbridge 10am to 4pm

September

Saturday	2	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am to 1pm Kingsbridge Show, Borough Farm, Kingsbridge. Gates open at 9am
Sunday	3	St Luke's Hospice Open Gardens - Bowringsleigh 2pm to 5pm
Monday	4	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Wednesday	6	Devon Schools start
Friday	8-17	The International Agatha Christie Festival 2023 - various events in Torquay and Paignton
Tuesday	12	Quay Side Classic Cars - Kingsbridge from 6.30pm
Wednesday	13	TRAMP - TBC - Jill Miller
Saturday	16	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am to 1pm Kingsbridge Vintage Bus Running Day from 10am to 5.30pm Pub Night in Thurlestone Parish Hall 7pm to 10.30pm
Wednesday	20	TRAMP - Noss Mayo Circular - 4 miles - Eric Candy
Friday	22	Kingsbridge Estuary U3A - Open meeting at Malborough Village Hall 10am until noon. Learn about the wealth of activities enjoyed by the various groups
Saturday	23	Arts, Crafts and Collectables Market - Kingsbridge Market Hall - 10am to 4pm
Monday	25	TRAMP - Lannacombe Circular - 5-6 miles - Linda Chilcott
Tuesday	26	Quiz Nights at Thurlestone Golf Club restart 7.30pm
Wednesday	27	Kingsbridge Arts Society, Methodist Hall, Kingsbridge 2pm for 2.30pm (and on Zoom - 01548 532850 for a link) - 'Diaghilev and the Ballet Russe' with Rosamund Bartlett
Saturday	30	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am to 1pm

Car Boot Sales every Sunday through to September (excluding 16 and 23 July) Kingsbridge Quay Car Park 9am - 12 noon - in aid of various local charities
Bolberry Down Parkrun. A free, weekly, timed 5k walk/jog/run at 9:00am every Saturday. Details at www.parkrun.org.uk/bolberrydown/ or on Facebook.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CLUBS & GROUPS

ALVINGTON SINGERS (Wednesday 7pm - 9pm)	Liz Coates	714849
ART CLASS (Tuesday 11am - 1pm)	Marianne Smith	531413
AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION	Chairman Stuart Watts	810373
BADMINTON CLUB (Friday 4pm - 5pm)	Sian Hodges	07784 893405
BANTHAM SAILING CLUB	Secretary Nikki Smith	560275
BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB	Clubhouse	560447
BRIDGE CLUB (Wednesday 6.15pm)	Lisa White	560505
BUCKLAND PHONE BOX	Anna Martin	560796
FITNESS YOGA with SUZI (Monday 5pm - 6pm)	Suzi Griffiths	07557 334802
FRENCH CONVERSATION (Thursday 1.30-3.30pm)	Angela Luckhurst	521595
FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH	Phil Millard	560843
HEALTHY MOVEMENT (Monday 2.15pm - 3.15pm)	Saffron Craig	07840 788511
LINE DANCING (Wednesday 2pm - 3pm)	Sue Bain	07989 817898
PILATES with LARA (Thursday 2pm - 3pm)	Lara Christopher	07765 423906
POWER HOUR with SUZI (Tuesday 2pm - 3pm)	Suzi Griffiths	07557 334802
SEA BEYOND PILATES (Wednesday 9.30am-10.30am)	Sharron05@btinternet.com	
SMASH HIIT with SUZI (Thursday 6pm - 7pm)	Suzi Griffiths	07557 334802
STITCH and BITCH (Monday 10.30am - 12.30pm)	Sally Martin	561356
TABLE TENNIS (Thursday 7.30pm - 9pm)	Paul Ferguson	07866 802800
THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB	Office & General Enquiries	560405
TENNIS SECTION (at Golf Club)	Book via Pro Shop	560715
THURLESTONE PHONE BOX	Mary Horne	561853
THURLESTONE SINGING GROUP	Alastair Durden	560509
TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)	Linda Scott	560298
WALKING FOOTBALL (Monday 6.15pm - 7.15pm)	Martin Sterne	07557 149603
YOGA with Sarah (Tuesday and Thursday 9.15am)	Sarah Scott	07879 627939

HEALTH CENTRES

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

POLICE

Emergency 999 Non-emergency 101

RUBBISH COLLECTION - Wednesdays. August Bank Holiday week - check SHDC Waste and Recycling Website

Recycling Boxes 1 and 2, Reusable White Sack, and Food Waste Caddy - EVERY WEEK
 Black/Grey Bin (non-recyclable landfill) alternate Wednesdays from 9th August
 Brown Bin (garden waste) alternate Wednesdays from 2nd August (Subscription service started 6th March 2023. Apply via SHDC website)

RECYCLING CENTRE - Torr Quarry Site, Totnes Road, Kingsbridge TQ9 7QQ T:0345 155 1010

Opening Hours:

Mon - Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 6.00pm (1st April - 30th September)
 Mon - Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 4.30pm (1st October - 31st March)

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Kingsbridge T: 853195, Salcombe T: 843927, Totnes T: 01803 269190, Dartmouth T: 01803 834224

LIBRARIES

Kingsbridge - Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1EB T: 852315 Open Monday, Friday 9am - 6pm Tuesday, Wednesday 9am -5pm, Thursday closed
 Mobile library visits Thurlestone Parish Hall Car Park Wednesdays 23rd August and 20th September - 10.30am to 11.00am

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

Local Bus Service - Tally Ho! Service No. 162 - Destinations from Thurlestone (Bus stop by Shop) are:- Kingsbridge, South Milton, Marlborough, Galmpton and Hope Cove.
 For timetable contact Tally Ho! on 01548 853081 or see www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable
 For other Bus, Rail and Coach information contact Traveline South West T: 0871 2002233 7am - 8pm)
 Taxi Companies - Taxi-Mike (0771 4512516) - see advert in this magazine

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings take place on 1st Monday of every month except August
And Bank Holidays

Chairman	Rosa Lewis	07463 856156
Parish Clerk	Helen Leather	thurlestoneparish@gmail.com
Members	Eric Palmer	0796619202
	Adam Ryan-Carter	562708 (Tree Warden)
	Gillian Stone	07967 666719
	Nigel Hadaway	07885 518333
Co-opted Members	Mike Hodges	561124
	David Smyth	07768300358
District Councillors	Samantha Dennis	07720 863626
	Mark Long	843828
County Councillor	Rufus Gilbert	856659

PARISH HALL (see Thurlestone Parish Website for more details)

Telephone (payphone in foyer) 562189

Chairman: Malcolm Breton

Bookings: Ingrid French email: via Parish Website or directly on tphbookings@gmail.com
or telephone 07727 449018 Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE (www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk) Mike Bone 07791471761

Paul Martin 560070

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

See All Saints' Diary pages earlier in magazine

All Saints' Church

Telephone Rector: Revd. Daniel Hartley 562727

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL Executive Head Miss Lesa Garside 560494

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE & STORES Contact Sarah Tyers 561917

Shop Opening Hours	Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri	8.00am - 5.00pm
	Wednesday	8.00am - 2.00pm
	Saturday	8.00am - 2.00pm
	Sunday and Bank Holiday	8.30am - 2.00pm

Post Office Hours	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri	9.00am - 4.00pm
	Wednesday	9.00am - 1.00pm
	Saturday	9.30am - 12.30pm
	Sunday and Bank Holidays	Closed

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

BANTHAM VILLAGE STORES & COFFEE SHOP Contact Kelly Seymour 560645

Opening Hours	August	Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed	9.00am - 5.30pm
		Thursday, Friday, Saturday	9.00am - 7.00pm
	September	Every day	9.00am - 5.30pm

PUBS The Village Inn (Thurlestone) - 563525 The Sloop Inn (Bantham) - 560489

Organic Milk Delivery- How Now Dairy 01752 466870 - Monday and Thursday

PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

- Thurlestone Parish Hall
 - Thurlestone Hotel (Garage)
 - Golf Club (Tennis Pav Wall)
 - Sloop Inn Bantham (Lobby)
 - Bantham Quay
 - Buckland Phone Box
- Scan the QR Code to see these locations on a map

