

# VILLAGE VOICE

August - September 2018



**Mac-nificent**

**The couple who gave the Village its Voice**

*The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone*



**Aug-Sept 2018**

Issue No. 212

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37th Year of Publication

**Front Cover**

Pat & Robin  
Macdonald

Photo courtesy of  
Keith Millman OBE

## **THANK YOU AND WELL DONE!**

For many years Pat and Robin Macdonald have led the Village Voice team, ensuring that our Parish magazine has been compiled, published and delivered in a seamless fashion. Now they have decided to step back and take a well-earned rest. Although we all feel sad to say goodbye, we do recognise that they fully deserve the opportunity to relax and put their feet up occasionally! From all who are involved with the production of the Village Voice and from all who enjoy reading it we say "Thank you and well done" to a wonderful couple.

Over the past three years Village Voice has, in no small way, helped to keep parishioners informed and updated regarding the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan which has now been overwhelmingly approved. So it is another big "Thank you and well done" to the Steering Group who did such sterling work and to all the four hundred and twenty four people who took time to vote on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

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**Archived copies of Village Voice can be found on the  
Parish website at [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk)**

# **PAT AND ROBIN MACDONALD**

## **Bringing us the voice of the village for 23 years**

We have been talking to Rosemary Mackay and Jo Parkin about their recollections of the early days of Village Voice and, in particular, the huge contribution made by Robin and Pat Macdonald.

When Kendall Macdonald had to relinquish his role as editor in 1995, due to his wife Penny's illness, Sheila Parker sprang into action and instigated a meeting of anyone interested in keeping the magazine going. Around 20 people attended. The main job was to find a volunteer to take over the editor's role. Immediately, Pat Macdonald (no relation to Kendall) offered to do it and Robin, her husband, was persuaded to take charge of the compiling.

Ron and Jo Parkin had recently moved into the village when the question of the continuation of the magazine came up. They too attended the meeting and Jo became advertising manager for the new team. She took charge of the organisation and payments for advertisements which were so necessary in order to fund the publication which is delivered free to all permanent residents of Thurlestone, Bantham and West Buckland.

Jo remembers that Pat took on more than other editors would dream of doing! This included helping Jo to deal with a certain well-named Mr Trickey who used to supply the electronic transfers which were needed for the ads. Mr Trickey took about 9 days to do it so if he was going on holiday or if the team, battling with the duplicator, broke one of the transfers, they were in trouble! Undaunted, Pat found someone in Malborough who could step in in an emergency, much to everyone's relief.

Pat was the one who collected the contents of Village Voice, often by attending important parish meetings to gather news. She would organise submissions for the next edition and ensure that it came out perfectly on the due date.

As time went on, much progress was made, especially with the introduction by Ian Fraser of a modern printer. The Parish Hall became the centre for the committee meetings, printing and collating. Robin took meticulous measurements to ensure that the paper store could be housed in a cupboard in the boiler room. Importantly, the printing team no longer felt obliged to wear black clothes to hide the ink stains that had plagued them in the old days of the duplicator!

Village Voice has gone from strength to strength over the years under the leadership of the Macdonalds, in spite of Robin's year-long illness towards the end of the 1990s. Pat has been a wonderful editor - kind but firm and full of enthusiasm. Robin has been the power behind the throne, producing perfectly aligned pages that miraculously fill the spaces available! How Pat also managed to produce delicious refreshments to feed the hungry team after each collating session is nothing short of amazing!

We are all so grateful to Pat and Robin for the years of hard work they have put into making our Village Voice such a success. They are a very hard act to follow but the new team promises to do its very best to KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON!

## A NOTE FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Perhaps I should start by saying that for some reason the Leader of DCC, Councillor John Hart asked me if I'd like to join the Cabinet. After consideration, I accepted the role with the portfolio of "Economy, Innovation & Skills for Devon". It's an interesting portfolio covering the LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership), economic development, regeneration and investment, post 16 education and training, trading standards, consumer protection, and strategic objectives. Alas, I have had to forgo being Chairman of the Devon Pension Fund which has 100,000 participants and has investments valued at £4.5 Billion. It also means that I cannot sit on any other DCC Committees.

DCC Highways continues to catch up with post winter road repairs and in particular The Slapton Line. The building of the new road should begin in Autumn and be ready for early next year. Who knows what will happen next time it's washed away?

The big subject, other than Brexit, is the NHS and the required extra funding alongside Adult Social Care and the ever-increasing demand of an ageing society. This is more so in Devon as compared with the metropolitan areas.

Hope you are enjoying the glorious summer weather, as it is at the time of writing.

**Devon County Councillor Rufus Gilbert**

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### **JOHNNY MERCER VISITS THURLESTONE ON JUNE 8<sup>th</sup>** FORMER ARMY OFFICER AND MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR PLYMOUTH

Johnny Mercer, Conservative MP for Plymouth Moor, took time out from his busy schedule, including the apprehension of an alleged villain in London, to visit the tranquillity of an English country garden in Thurlestone. The news of the London skirmish was breaking as Johnny Mercer was driving to The Old Rectory in Thurlestone to be a guest of Thurlestone and South Milton Conservatives hosted by Marian and Bryan Rigby.

A casual lunch of sandwiches, Pimms and Puds was served in the garden to an appreciative crowd of more than 70 guests. Johnny Mercer spoke of how he came to serve in the army and his later motivation to become an MP in order to try to make a difference in a wider society. He spoke about the less privileged areas of his own constituency and his aims to try to help create more opportunities for all. Johnny spoke with passion and deep feeling about his concerns for mental health issues presented by many of our returning service men and women.

Johnny Mercer has written a book entitled "We Were Warriors" and was able to sign copies during his visit. It has received favourable reviews.

Hostess, Marian Rigby and Chairperson for Thurlestone and South Milton Conservatives said, "It's was so good of Johnny to find the time to come and visit us, great to hear him speak. You can rely on Johnny to tell it how it is!"

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

## We have done it!

At the count at Follaton House at midday on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June the Counting Officer declared that with a turnout of nearly 61% of those people registered to vote in the parish, 92.67% had voted in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan with only 7.33% (equivalent to only 31 votes) against.



What was particularly pleasing was the turnout figure which was a nationally remarkable figure compared with the average of around 32%.

Jack Rhymes, the Chairman of the Parish Council, on behalf of the whole parish community, presented our Project Director Sue Crowther with a magnificent

engraved silver salver with an accompanying painting to reflect her major contribution to the achievement. We are indebted to David Houghton for arranging this with his son, a top end silversmith.

I took the opportunity of the occasion to thank the Parish Council for its financial support, Judy Pearce our District Councillor who after Sue was the main driver of the Plan for her assistance, the members of the Steering Group for their help and support over the years, Village Voice and the Website team for doing so much to keep the Plan in the forefront of people's minds and above all, the parish community for turning out in such numbers at our engagement events and finally for the Referendum.

We now have a Neighbourhood Plan with statutory weight in the planning system (derived from the Localism Act 2011) with the same legal status as the South Hams Local Development Framework and together they comprise the Development Plan for our area in



accordance with which all planning applications in the parish will now be determined.

What now must happen is that the Neighbourhood Plan must be implemented, monitored reviewed and, when necessary, be modified and/or updated over the Plan period (up to 2034). I accordingly wrote to the Parish Council telling them that Sue Crowther had volunteered (been volunteered would be more accurate!) to put together a small working group to undertake these tasks and to guide and help facilitate schemes associated with the implementation of the Plan.

The group would also provide advice and assistance to the Parish Council (who have many other matters other than planning to consider) on all planning applications by communicating to them through the Parish Clerk any policies and material planning considerations that are relevant to the applications. The Councillors would remain solely responsible for the decision on the applications.

At their meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July the Parish Council accepted this offer and agreed the Terms of Reference of this group – named the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group - that had been drafted by Sue Crowther with the input of the Steering Group and assistance of the Parish Clerk.

Over the past three years the community has developed a shared vision for our parish and I truly believe we can now look forward with confidence to being much better able (in the words of the Plan) “to shape the development and growth of the area.”

### **Tony Goddard**

(Steering Group Chairman)



# Village News Round-Up

## RNLI Patrols

As we come into peak season for visits from family and friends, it might be useful to have the following note of the RNLI patrols on local beaches:  
Thurlestone is from 7 July to 2 September, daily 10am to 6pm.  
Banham until 30 September, daily 10am to 6pm; 6 to 14 October weekends only 10am to 6pm; 20 to 28 October (half term) daily 10am to 6pm.

## Surf Life Saving Club

The Club is delighted to have been awarded a grant from Kingsbridge Estuary Rotary Club which they will put towards buying mannequins for training of life-savers in resuscitation.

The Club, which was established in 1960, provides life-guard training to an advanced level with members going on to work with the RNLI covering many of the South Hams beaches.

## Latin Verse

On 27 June a full-page article about the Latin scholar in our midst, John Davie, appeared on page 3 of *The Times* newspaper. Back in our April issue we included John's article "Epitaphs for Pets" on the very same subject.....we scooped *The Times*!

## Botanical Painting

Thurlestone's Margaret Houghton paints with the SW Botanical Artists. At the invitation of the Royal Horticultural Society, the group has put together an entry for an RHS exhibition featuring many of the common wild flowers, trees, etc which, sadly, have been omitted from the Junior Oxford Dictionary to make room for all the new 'techy' words. Margaret's work shows a buttercup and is on display at the RHS headquarters in Vincent Square, SW1.

Village Voice is fortunate to have been able to use some of Margaret's lovely

paintings as front covers, particularly over Christmas periods.

## Mammals on Roads

The charity People's Trust for Endangered Species is asking the road-using public to help record sightings, dead or alive, of mammals over the summer months until 30 September. This will help them spot changes in animal population trends and identify where conservation action might be needed. The information can be sent online to [www.ptes.org](http://www.ptes.org) or a survey pack can be requested by e-mailing [more@ptes.org](mailto:more@ptes.org)

## Tribal Clash

Banham Estate was host to this event which took place again this year, but earlier than usual. The competitors arrived on the evening of the 6<sup>th</sup> July ready to start on the 7<sup>th</sup> July enjoying competitive athletics using the sea, part of the beach and the adjoining field.

## Avon to Bantham 'Swoosh'

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July saw another local fixture namely the grand swim down the Avon from Aveton Gifford to Banham beach. This is the fourth successive year of this event with wild swimmers taking part. The event was organised by the Outdoor Swimming Society. Entering the water at Aveton Gifford on the outgoing tide competitors swam downstream six kilometres to finish at Banham beach.

## Can You Help?

For many years, Julian Lee has provided and watered the plants at Rockhill corner, the Pump House, and the trough opposite Toyes Orchard. He has been unable to do it so far this year due to ill health, but is now able to do so. However, he will not be able to water them on a regular basis. Is there anyone in the Village prepared to take on this task? If so, please contact Chris White on 560505.

# Postbag

Dear Editors

It is hard to imagine that it is 23 years since Kendall McDonald retired as Editor of *Village Voice*. He had tried to find a new editor without success, and it looked as though the magazine would fold. But the late Sheila Parker (Al's wife) sent out a rallying cry to the WI saying "We cannot lose *Village Voice*" and organised a meeting to find a replacement editor.

Some residents expressed doubts about the chances of the magazine's survival without Kendall but this only served as a spur to the volunteers who were determined that it should continue. Happily it has with vast strides being made in the production methods.

None of this would have been possible without stalwart and loyal support from

the parishioners who, over the years, have made up the production team....the people who have printed, collated, delivered, and, most importantly, supplied the written words.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege for me and Robin to have acted as the editorial team. We have thoroughly enjoyed our years at the helm and the friendships forged and are very confident that the new editorial team will continue with the good work - a vital source of information in our community. We send them our wholehearted good wishes and really look forward now to sitting back and waiting for the next edition of *Village Voice* to come rattling through the letterbox at No 25!

**Pat Macdonald**  
Thurlestone

## Facebook for the Senior Generation

For those of my generation who do not and cannot comprehend why Facebook exists .....

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel now, what I have done the night before, what I will do later, and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog, me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day.

I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like them.

And it works just like Facebook.

I already have four people following me:

**Two police officers, a private investigator, and a psychiatrist !**

# PARISH HALL NEWS

By Alison Daily



Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Chairman of the last six years, Neill Irwin, for his great contribution to the Hall during this time. He will be greatly missed.



The **Family Fun Day** on **29<sup>th</sup> May** proved a highly successful and enjoyable evening, with the Pizza Van (El Volcano) especially proving a big hit. It was wonderful to see so many family groups coming along to participate in the fun and games. Next year promises to be bigger and better with more games being planned.

A very warm Saturday **23<sup>rd</sup> June** saw 66 people attend the **Midsummer Cheese and Wine Luncheon**, various Pates and salads and Pimms were also provided; the latter was greatly appreciated in the heat. This is a perfect opportunity for the community to get together and catch up with each other. Thank you to all the committee and helpers for making these events the success they are.



**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June** saw the Hall playing its part in making Parish history when it was transformed into the polling station, when voting took place on the Neighbourhood plan.



The **Open Gardens** took place on a lovely sunny afternoon on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July**, a marked contrast to last time when it rained. In spite of the extreme weather conditions thrown at them this year, all the gardens looked resplendent under the circumstances. A good number of people took advantage of the weather and enjoyed their strolling round the gardens before returning for a refreshing cup of tea and a slice of delicious cake while watching Wimbledon on the big screen. Well done to all those involved.

It will be interesting to see what effects, if any, the weather has on the entries in the **Horticultural Show**, which takes place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August**. It is well worth coming along to find out.

The **Autumn Fair** takes place on **15<sup>th</sup> September**, where there will be interesting stalls to pick up some tasty morsels or dare I say it some early bits and pieces for Christmas. Most stalls are kindly provided by the organisations and groups that meet in the Hall, and this annual income provides very useful revenue towards keeping the Hall in first-rate condition.

Our last two events for this year are on **27<sup>th</sup> October** when the Hall plays host to pianist **Johan de Cock** who plays light Classical and Jazzy pieces. Then **on 17<sup>th</sup> November** a **Murder Mystery** will take place when you can employ your little grey cells. It was a very popular evening last time and is much anticipated.

Enjoy your summer and remember the Hall is available for hire during inclement weather for family groups to use any of the equipment the hall has to offer.

# Autumn Fair

Cakes

Books Games

Garden Produce

Bric a Brac

Raffle Prizes

*All the Fun of the Fair!*

Thurlestone Parish Hall

Saturday 15th September

at 2.30pm

Refreshments

*Come along, bring your friends, and support your Parish Hall*

# Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: [cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk)

## Cryptic Place Names

**Guess the name of the town from the cryptic clues**

- Eg. A. Straw, goose or black = Bury (berry)  
B. Set fire to Mr Mack, the comedian = Burnley (Burn Lee)

1. Honey producer belongs to fairy tale author
2. Puts fence around insects
3. Female Rock
4. Means of capturing butterflies in pubs
5. Pond for internal organ
6. Former facial feature
7. Underwear for a grain
8. Tic caused by sight of grandmother
9. Shock caused by style of music performed by Dylan or Whittacker
10. Mondeo specifically for a little old lady
11. Former consumer of food
12. The best fake
13. Puddle for the highest scoring snooker ball
14. Means of fixing farm shed together
15. Enquiry about mum's health
16. All of the meal remains
17. Chubby barrel
18. Where ceramic markers drink
19. Squashed the middle bit of a candle
20. A swivelling wheel under a professor
21. Applied shiny paint to that woman
22. How to tell someone to forcibly insert the thing that is over there
23. Somewhere between male and female
24. Sporty Spice stood up
25. I once grew a very short beard but won't do it again

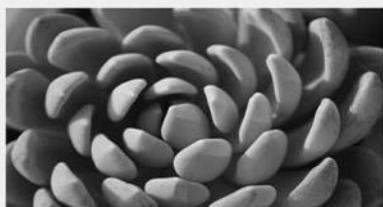
### Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. Hanging basket, 2. Shed, 3. Pot plant, 4. Leaves, 5. Gumboot, 6. Spider, 7. Moa (mower), 8. Cold Frame, 9. Petal, 10. Red Admiral, 11. Bark, 12. Rabbit, 13. Sucker, 14. Toad Stool, 15. Gazebo, 16. Carrot, 17. (Little) weed, 18. Bee, 19. Grub, 20. Hosepipe, 21. Hoe, 22. Palm, 23. Summer House, 24. Fungi, 25. Ladybird, 26. Rocket, 27. Soil, 28. Sage, 29. Daddy Longlegs, 30. Cabbage, 31. Water Butt, 32. Fresh Air, 33. Fence, 34. Nettles, 35. Broom, 36. Marrow, 37. Pine Cone, 38. Root, 39. Pollen, 40. Grass

*No all correct entries this time but the closest to all correct and our Congratulations and the bottle of wine to Mary Barrons of Taunton*

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Aune Conservation Association

## Aune Conservation

It's time for an update on the Aune Conservation Association (ACA) for Village Voice readers! Since its foundation, the ACA - an environmental conservation charity focused on the South Hams' Avon - has depended exclusively upon limited funds generated by our lifetime membership subscription (only £20 for a family), occasional charitable donations and money raised through social events. However, our limited income has always somewhat restricted our activities. So we applied and have been accepted to be a beneficiary of the new SHDC-sponsored Sea Moor Lotto, which aims to help a variety of local causes. Now, we need the support of at least 50 donors to derive the maximum benefit from the lottery. Please help by going to our lotto webpage by typing the following address into your internet search engine: <https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/aune-conservation-association> and making a donation. Look out for the logo - thank you!

One of our priorities is the quality and quantity of river water because this controls the health of the river, all its flora and fauna, and much that goes on in the surrounding environment. Other areas of interest include river siltation, habitat regeneration, pollution and safe navigation. These areas and others are covered on our website at <http://www.auneconservation.org.uk>

We recognise that different groups of people depend upon the river for a variety of reasons and most of them care deeply about the river and its welfare. However, we are keen to raise awareness, amongst all who live and work in the Avon catchment, of the need for careful husbandry of this priceless resource. We work together with other community groups, local government, businesses, landowners, farmers and national agencies, many of whom share our goal, but perhaps, without the same focus. The membership consists, mostly, of local people who meet several times a year for lectures, organized walks and social get-togethers. In addition, there are opportunities for volunteers to join estuary clean-ups and occasional special projects.

Our existing funds are spent upon such activities as: arranging educational workshops for local schools e.g. on South Efford Marsh; organising expert talks on topics of interest e.g. micro-plastic pollution; supporting the Avon Patrol to prevent unlawful speeding by water craft and associated environmental damage in the estuary; participating in the South Devon Catchment Partnership and organising the Devon Avon Group to improve both the quality and quantity of river water from moor to sea. However, we'd like to do more with these initiatives and others, to help the public enjoy the unspoilt and idyllic environment of our wonderful river and estuary. For example, with adequate funding, we could arrange for regular independent testing of river water quality (several sewage treatment works discharge into the Avon), do more to help the Avon Patrol and, maybe, even improve the Avon Estuary ferry from Cockleridge (Bigbury) to Bantham harbour, which forms an important but under-used link in the SW Coastal Path.

(continued over)

Readers may be interested in an example giving some insight into our behind-the-scenes activities - all carried out by unpaid volunteers. On the topic of the Avon Patrol, I heard just before the Avon Estuary Forum in May, that this vital service was to be withdrawn as a cost-saving measure, on the recommendation of the former Salcombe Harbourmaster. None of those organisations that had contributed to the patrol for many years had been informed, including the ACA. One had even been invoiced for their 2018 contribution! After a prolonged series of email enquiries and complaints to Parish, District and County Councillors, as well as the Manager of Commercial Services at SHDC, I was informed eventually that some way would be found to resurrect the patrol for July, August and September this year but that the future of the service beyond 2018 was uncertain. However, a new Salcombe Harbourmaster has been appointed since this story broke and, as of today, I have been told by him that the usual patrol service will be resurrected from 1st July. I sense that we can expect a more enlightened and collaborative approach towards our estuary from SHDC in the future.

Recently, DEFRA launched a consultation about proposed new Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs). One of these proposals covers the tidal zone of the Avon Estuary, up to Venn Weir. As the DEFRA Fact Sheet notes, 'the mouth of the estuary has semi-exposed rock platforms with rich rock pool, under-boulder and overhang communities on the lower shore. The estuary is an important system supporting a variety of habitats and wildlife. Various species of worm and crustacean can be found. The rare tentacled lagoon worm (*Alkmaria romijni*) has been recorded and lives in the thick, deep mud of the estuary. These small worms, up to 5 mm long, with eight tentacles, live within tubes made of mud in sheltered lagoons and estuaries and are particularly vulnerable to changes in their habitat. The Devon Avon Estuary is an important nursery area for fish species and is potentially important for seahorse populations as it provides suitable food and shelter. The salt marshes provide habitat for crustaceans, molluscs and a nursery area for fish, as well as feeding grounds for birds.' The ACA has responded to the consultation with strong support for a new MCZ around the estuary but has recommended extending the proposed boundary to include South Efford Salt Marsh, a relatively new nature reserve that is managed by the Devon Wildlife Trust, and the full area of the established bass nursery, which stretches beyond the mouth of the estuary - out to Burgh Island, as shown in the South Devon AONB's Estuary Management Plan.

On an unrelated topic, the recent international fuss about possible abuse of database information stored by organisations (usually known by the acronym, GDPR) has meant that the ACA was required to invite all its members, many of whom live in Thurlestone parish, to grant permission for their details to be stored on a new database. However, an unintended consequence of this process has been a considerable reduction in our membership number! This reduction may have come about for a variety of reasons, but I am anxious that anybody who has been eliminated from our new database should be given the opportunity to re-join. If you believe this affects you (you will no longer have been receiving email updates on our activities since the GDPR deadline on 25th May) please contact me so that I can correct the situation.

**Stuart Watts** (sdmw2@btopenworld.com or 01548 810373)



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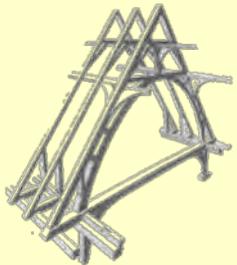
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The grand total of the House-to-House Collection during Christian Aid Week was £1150, of which 59% was Gifted Aided which will add a further £180.

Together with other fund raising,  
**The total raised in the Parish was £1246.**  
**A magnificent Result! Thank you!!**

All  
Saints



**RECTOR:** Revd. Daniel Hartley  
01548 5677/07864 630326  
danielhartley.aunevalley@gmail.com

**READER:** Peter Gornall

## THANKFULNESS

As I write this article we have just had the news of the successful rescue of the young footballers in Thailand. This is good news indeed. Many people have been praying for a successful outcome and, due to the bravery and endeavour of many, the boys and their coach have indeed been rescued. When amazing things like this happen, it seems natural for us to be thankful; to be thankful for human perseverance, courage and ingenuity and to be thankful for God's presence in the midst of these human endeavours.

In this article I want to ask a question on the theme of thankfulness, a question asked not only of you but of me as well. Are we thankful in our daily lives? I'm sure that we'd all like to say yes, but when I think about my own life I'm not entirely sure that this would be accurate. There is much in life to be thankful for but I, like many people, all too easily bypass the spirit of thankfulness on the way to the spirit of moaning and complaining! But if we truly take a moment to look at the things that we can be thankful for then we can find ourselves overwhelmed by beauty, hope and love.

The gift of life itself is amazing: we live, we breathe, we eat, we play, we work, we enjoy, we relax. The gift of family life is amazing: we marry, we bring up children (our own and other peoples), we relate to one another in the complexities of human bonds. The gift of human society is amazing: people finding ways to share the same space, to trade together, to create art and expression. The gift of nature is amazing: the beaches, the seas, the hills, the villages, towns and cities.

Once we allow thankfulness to shape our lives then we become people that see reasons to be thankful. So give it a go! Let thankfulness shape your life and let it raise your spirits.

"It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich!" —Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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Revd. Daniel Hartley



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Entry forms for 2019 Competition at sale points



# All Saints' Diary

**CHURCHWARDENS:** Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall (562016)

Everyone is welcome at all services.

**Church Services** at Thurlestone Church,  
unless indicated otherwise

## Sundays

<b>Every Sunday</b>	<b>8.00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP: 1st & 3rd; CW: 2nd & 4th)
<b>AUG. 5TH, 19TH, SEPT. 16TH, 30TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Parish Eucharist (CW) ( <i>Fairtrade Stall Aug. 5 &amp; Sept. 9</i> )
<b>AUGUST 12TH, SEPTEMBER 9TH</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> Benefice Evensong (BCP) at Woodleigh
<b>AUGUST 12TH &amp; 26TH, SEPT. 9TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Morning Worship
<b>SEPTEMBER 2ND</b>	<b>11.00am</b> Benefice Sea Sunday Service at Bantham
<b>SEPTEMBER 16TH</b> (No service August)	<b>5.30pm</b> Prayer & Praise in the Meeting Room
<b>SEPTEMBER 23RD</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Matins (BCP)
<b>OCTOBER 7TH</b>	<b>11.10am</b> Harvest Thanksgiving + Harvest Lunch

## Weekdays

<b>THURS SEPT. 7TH</b> (No service August)	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP) at White Horses, Bantham
<b>EVERY WEDNESDAY</b> except Aug. 1 & 8	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP) ( <i>said</i> )
<b>MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY</b>	<b>8.30am</b> Morning Prayer ( <i>said</i> ) (8.15 a.m. on Weds) except July 30th-Aug. 9th, Aug. 20th-24th

Variations & more information on Church Notice Boards & [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-services](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-services)

## Benefice Sea Sunday Service

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND 11.00 A.M. BANTHAM**



at the Surf Lifesaving Club House

Parking at the sea end of the overflow carpark, to the left of main one  
by kind permission of Nicholas Johnston and Bantham Estate

Collection for the Mission to Seafarers and Bantham Surf Life saving Club

Some seating available but, if possible, please bring a chair or sit on the grass

The Service will be followed by an optional **BRING & SHARE LUNCH**

Please bring a savoury or sweet dish for two people ~ Soft Drinks, tea & coffee provided

If you wish to take advantage of the free parking (10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.),  
please obtain a parking ticket in advance from the Churchwardens (see above)

Everyone is welcome to  
**Hymns & Songs of Praise**  
by Buckland Stream  
Sunday August 26th 4.00 p.m.  
(down hill & follow signs)



Bring your own chair ~ Parking available ~ Cancelled, if wet

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**Tuesday**  
**August 21st**  
**6 p.m.**

*in aid of new Central Heating Boiler in Church*



**Cream Teas**

**3.00 - 5.00 P.M.**



**EVERY THURSDAY UNTIL SEPT. 6TH**

**IN THURLESTONE CHURCH MEETING ROOM**

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## National Trust South Hams Centre

Programme for August and September 2018

<b>Wednesday 1st August</b>	<b>Pinetum Gardens, Holmbush, Cornwall.</b> "A place to relax and explore" say the owners of the largest new garden in Cornwall promising tranquillity and stunning scenery. Refreshments available or bring a picnic.
<b>Monday 13th August</b>	<b>Cruise on the Kingsbridge Estuary.</b> An evening cruise on the "Rivermaid" departing from Kingsbridge Quay. Perhaps bring your own supper to eat on board and enjoy the spectacular scenery and the bird life.
<b>Thursday 6th September</b>	<b>A walk around Bolt Head.</b> Meet at East Soar NT car park (SX713375) for a circular walk of about 4.5 miles along the coast via Overbecks where there will be time to have lunch before visiting the lovely garden.
<b>Friday 21st September</b>	<b>Cadhay Manor, Ottery St Mary and Honiton.</b> Late morning in time for lunch in Honiton and a quick dash to an antique shop before going on to Cadhay Manor. A house of great historic interest and "one of the treasures of Devon" according to Sir Simon Jenkins.

For information about these events, or about joining the National Trust South Hams Centre, contact Joan Johnstone on 01548 852014 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm only please)

## The Arts Society Kingsbridge

formerly KEDFAS

Meetings: August - October 2018

### September Wed 26th & Thur 27th

#### The Queen of Sheba

Speaker: Louise Schofield

How this legendary Queen has inspired artists, film makers and archeologists. Detailing discoveries of great temples, tombs and treasures associated with her in Yemen and Ethiopia.

### October Wed 24th & Thur 25th

#### Female Faces of Victorian Art: Facial Features and the Fallen Woman

Speaker: Janet Couloute

Taking the Theme of the Fallen Woman, Janet will look at a series of 19C works many underpinned with Pre-Raphaelite influences that chimed with the morals of the times and challenged them.

Meetings in Kingsbridge Methodist Hall, 100 Fore St. TQ7 1AW on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm and Thursday mornings at 10.30am.

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# NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

## Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**# OPEN FORUM** An update was given about Bantham Wi-Fi. Contracts have been exchanged on the base station at Thurlestone. Possible sites for the main receiver, and repeater stations have been looked at in Bantham. The decision has been made to take the signal from the Thurlestone base to the Bantham receiver at the pub, with 2 repeaters, one at the shop and one by the entrance to the car park.

**# HIGHWAYS** There are now 38 pothole gangs and they have a significant number to repair but are making progress. Larger roads are a priority. The subsidence in Bantham is awaiting work by South West Water

**# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** Chair of the NP group asked that word be spread about the referendum to encourage as many as possible to vote. Chair was thanked for her hard work as was Village Voice for its part in promoting the plan.

**# FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH** Councillor Rhymes was elected to be the Parish Council representative for the Friends of Thurlestone Parish Church .

## Meeting 27th June 2018

**# TRIBAL CLASH** David Martin (Production and Safety Manager) and Andrew Barker (Director) attended at 6pm to talk to councillors and answer questions about the Tribal Clash event on 7<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

**# ACCOUNTS** The Parish Clerk explained that because of inconsistent and incomplete accounting in the Financial Year 2017/2018, it was advisable to contract an accountant to balance them. It was agreed to hand them over to Totnes and S Devon Bookkeeping. Expected cost-no more

than £120. Accounts to then be internally audited before being submitted to an external auditor.

## Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**# OPEN FORUM** A further update was given on the Community WiFi and Wireless Broadband system. The temporary mast for the repeater station at Buckland Park Farm, for the Wireless Broadband system, was on site but not yet erected. It was explained that the mast was temporary so that take up of the system could be assessed before a permanent mast was installed. It was pointed out that the system may never progress to a permanent installation because of the imminent arrival of Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) broadband connections for every property in the Parish, provided by Gigaclear and contracted by Connecting Devon and Somerset. This will not affect the Community WiFi system in Bantham, which is intended to make up for the lack of a mobile signal and will not change with the arrival of FTTP.

**# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY GROUP** Terms of Reference were agreed for a small Advisory Group to be formed, which would look at all planning applications in the Parish, and provide advice to the Parish Council on which policies, if any, in the Neighbourhood Plan were relevant to each application. This will assist the Parish Council when making decisions on planning applications and help to ensure that policies in the approved plan are followed.

---

The editors would like to thank Mike Barnes who has been providing these notes for many years. Mike has decided to stand down from this role and, in future, these notes will be produced from the meeting minutes which are now much more comprehensive than they were previously.

## **The ‘other’ Australian Connection!**

by Gillian Marshall

It was a phone call, out of the blue, from Kit’s second cousin who lives in Melbourne. She had received a call from someone in Tasmania who wanted to know if the Were family still existed in Australia and explained she was trying to trace the descendants of a convict! My ears immediately pricked up and I contacted the lady and, lo and behold, it proved to be true. Kit’s 3xgreat grandmother was a convict sent to Australia on a one-way ticket in 1804. Her crime? Theft.

Kit and I went to the National Archives in Kew to look up her records. It was a fascinating and successful experience as we found the parchment which detailed her crime and punishment. She turned out to have been quite a prolific thief and had stolen a huge number of items. I believe if she had been a man she would have been hanged but as they seemed to desperately need women in Australia she was sentenced to 7 years “beyond the seas”.

Maria Risley was convicted in August 1802 but it was more than a year later before she was transported aboard the Experiment which sailed on 2/1/1804 from Cowes arriving in Australia (don’t know where) on 12 June 1804. There were 2 males and 136 females embarked.

Maria was one of the first women to be accommodated in the two rooms above the prison at Parramatta (Sydney) which became the Female Factory. Edward Lord, a young second Lieutenant of the Royal Marines had been posted to Van Diemens Land (now known as Tasmania) from Wales in 1804. He and his friend decided to go to Sydney with the intention of ‘finding wives’. Edward Lord apparently chose Maria in a line-up at the Female Factory in Parramatta and she agreed to go with him – assigned as his convict servant. She kept this status until he obtained her pardon in 1808 and married her that same year in Hobart Town.

Lord became one of the wealthiest men in Van Diemens Land. On his arrival there he was quick to see the opportunities the new Settlement offered. With his friend, Adolorius Humphrey, Lord quickly got into the meat (kangaroo) trade. Together they built a small house - the first in Hobart (known as Sladden’s cottage). By late 1806 he was the colony’s largest stock-owner and the second most senior officer in the settlement.

Edward was Acting Lieutenant Governor after the death of Col. Collins, from March 1810 to July 1810! At this stage he was already married to Maria. It is hard to imagine the Governor of Van Diemens Land with an ex-convict wife! – or an ex-convict becoming the Governor General’s wife!

However, Maria was a clever business woman and helped Lord run his business very successfully. Lord travelled frequently to England and would often take one or more of his children to leave with relatives or in education establishments and leaving Maria in charge of the business. They had several children together. One of these, Corbetta, was born in 1815 and is Kit’s 2x great grandmother.

Sadly, Kit’s mother, Barbara Were, did not know about her ancestor. I think she would have been very amused.

“Most family historians in Australia regard a convict in their ancestry as enormously desirable”!



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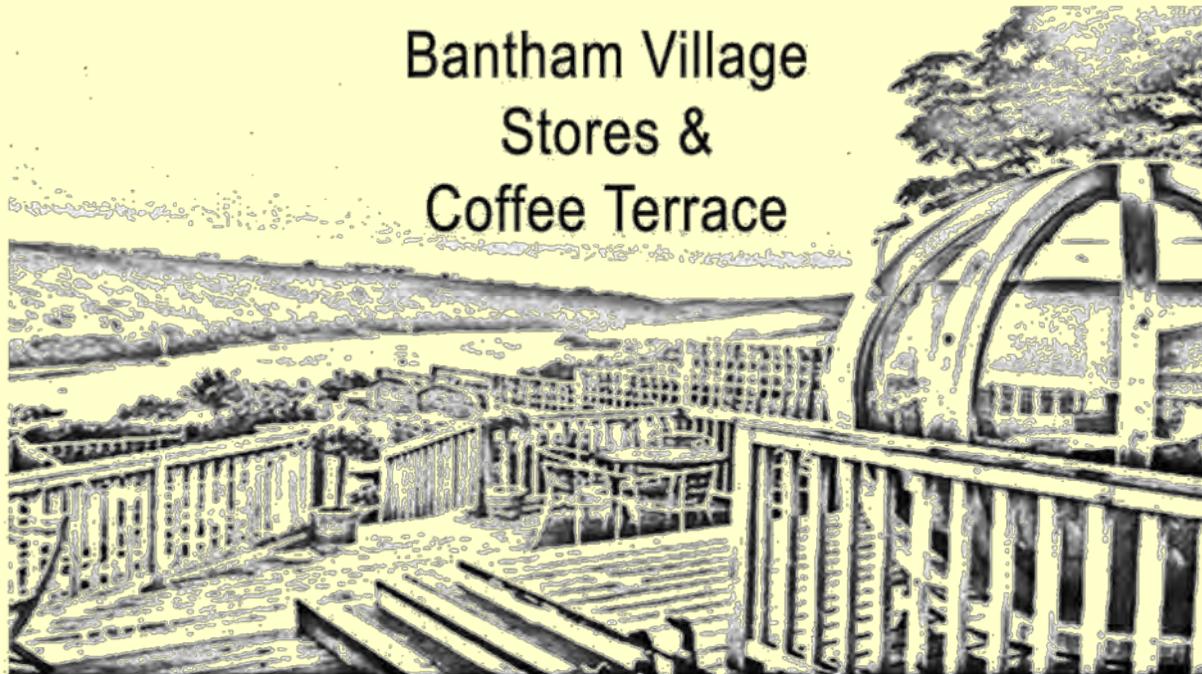
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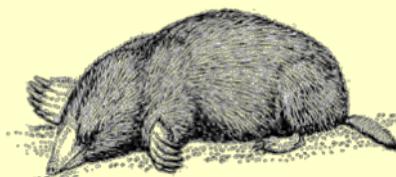
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# Puzzle Page

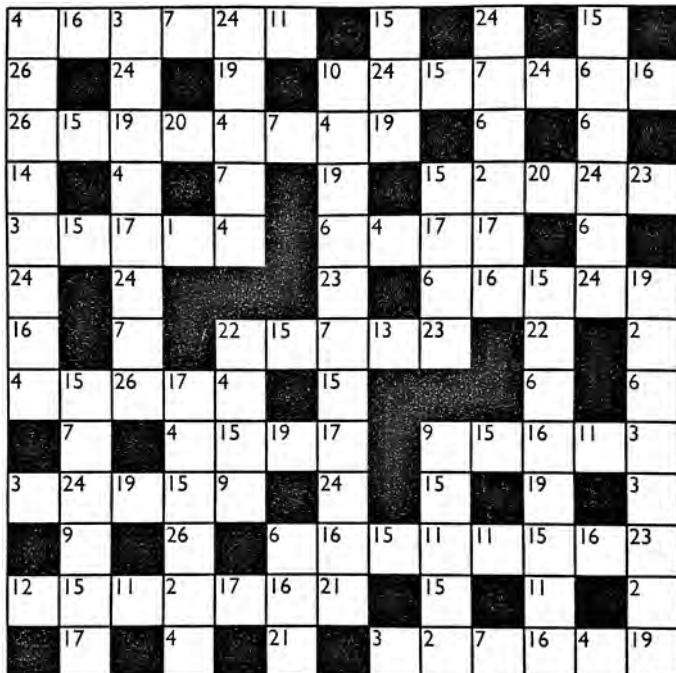
**A BOTTLE OF WINE** to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct!) drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: [cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk)

## Sudoku puzzles

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

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

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



Cipherword puzzles use a basic form of encryption in which each letter of the alphabet is replaced by a number; as a starter clue the grid shows that B=22, E=4, G=26 and S=6 using these as a starter attempt to fill in the rest of the grid

A	B 22	C	D	E 4	F	G 26	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S 6	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

All correct entries for last issue were received from George Delafield, Lisa White, Elaine Grant, Neil Irwin, Pauline Lonsdale and Pat Leare – all the names went into the sudoku hat and Pat Leare was the lucky one, so a treasured bottle from the VV Sudoku wine cellar will be on its way to her soon.

## **Who should have an LPA?**

It is a popular misconception that a Lasting Power of Attorney (often called an LPA) is something that only old people need to think about.

It is perhaps understandable that most people would make this assumption. An LPA is a legal document that allows you to appoint a person (or people) to make decisions for you in the future if you are unable to make them yourself. Quite naturally, none of us think that anything is going to affect our ability to make our own decisions until we are (really) old.

We all go around our day to day lives with our heads full of jobs we need to do today, tomorrow or next week. What you probably never contemplate is what would happen if you were involved in a serious car accident later today or tomorrow. Imagine that you sustain injuries that have long term consequences. You are in a coma for weeks and when you eventually come around you struggle to focus and concentrate on basic tasks and it is going to take at least six months for you to recover.

There will be all sorts of things that you would normally do, decisions that you normally make without even really thinking about them, that you won't be able to manage. How many decisions do you make on a daily basis about your day to day life?

Someone else will need to make these decisions for you. Someone will need to make decisions about your daily routine and your medical care. Have you ever thought about who you would want to make those decisions for you if you are unable to make them for yourself?

If you don't have a lasting power of attorney you will have no control over who makes any of these decisions for you, if you are judged to no longer have capacity to make these decisions.

A friend or family member who wants to make decisions for you will have to apply to the Office of the Public Guardian to be appointed as your Deputy and this could take months. What happens to any urgent immediate decisions that need to be made?

If you want to keep any control over who is going to make decisions on your behalf and if you want to make it as easy as possible for your friends and family to carry on whilst you recover from your accident, you need to have at least one LPA which will need to be registered before it can be used.

A property and financial affairs LPA gives your attorney or attorneys the right to make financial decisions on your behalf. They can manage your finances in the same way you could if you had mental capacity.

In order to appoint a different person to make decisions such as whether you should receive certain treatments, medication or be taken into care or to allow them to make life sustaining decisions on your behalf you will need to also have a health and welfare LPA.

For more information contact Start Point Law about this and all other services offered.

**Rebecca Bristow**  
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## Golf Club



### CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

Well what a period of weather, scorching hot sunshine with hardly any rain. Fantastic for activities like golf, BBQs and visits to the beach. However, this prolonged hot dry spell has changed the character of the course, more of a links feel than cliff top. Although I have equal amounts of skill and bravery a well struck shot will still hold the green – hence why the long chip and run is my preferred option. A little rain would be welcome but preferably at night time! So, our continued thanks to Vic and his team for presenting the course in excellent condition despite the dryness.

At the time of writing the country is gripped with World Cup Fever. Despite our disappointment I think we can look back on our participation in this World Cup with a certain amount of pride and optimism for the future.

I understand the Thurlestone Parish Neighbourhood Plan was accepted and with an excellent turnout. It must be pleasing for all those involved to have the plan approved. I am sure there was a great deal of detailed work and months of planning to achieve this milestone. Much of this work, similar to the running of the golf club, is done by volunteers. Someone once said to me that a volunteer does not get paid because the work they do is priceless! Never a truer word.

Thurlestone takes pride in helping the wider community. One way is to offer our course for charity fundraising days. This year we hosted the Rotary Charity Golf Day, the Hope Cove Life Boat Charity Golf Day and the Kingsbridge Rugby & Football Charity Golf Day supporting the Devon Air Ambulance. We also send vouchers to other good causes for auction and raffle prizes. Furthermore, we hold our own fundraising activities. I suspect in total the Club helps to raise for

good causes in excess of £25,000 per year.

As in recent years we will soon be manning the car park on a daily basis and the Club would like to offer the readers an opportunity to purchase a season long Car Park pass for £25.00. If you would like to take advantage of this offer please pop into the office and collect a pass.

Just a reminder the AED has moved from inside the premises to the veranda of the Tennis Pavilion. This defibrillator is now available for the public use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Directional signage is displayed on the outside of the Clubhouse.

All the tennis courts are now ready for play, courts 5-10 are marked up and look pristine in readiness of the influx of visitors. Our Wimblestone tournament was played by an enthusiastic group of 16 players, they were split into two groups of 4 pairs and the winners of each group played in the final. The eventual winners in a very tight match which went to a tie break were Martin Beck and Caroline Newton. There was a great atmosphere around the courts and it was lovely to see so many competitors stay behind and support the final. Our sincere thanks to Janet Richardson for her organisation of this event and everything tennis. Please remember our courts are open to the public by the hour. Weekly and fortnightly family passes are available.

Moving on to golf, my continued thanks to the team captains who continue their sterling efforts on behalf of us all. The various knockouts are progressing well and I ask all competitors to adhere to the cut off dates for each round.

The Parker Trophy team, headed up by Chris Jones was narrowly beaten in the last round by Fingle Glen at Stover.

The Palairet team had a similar fate at Staddon Heights losing 4 – 1 to a very

competitive Wrangaton side. It was good to see so many members supporting the team.

In the Dartmoor League our chaps continue to top the table, albeit having played more matches than others teams below us. We wish them well for the rest of the season.

The Seniors Emerton Court team continues to progress through the various rounds. They play Saunton next on a home and away basis. We wish them well in what will be a tough fixture.

I am very much looking forward to my Captain's Day on Sunday 12th August. I have selected a 4-man team event of 2 scores to count on all the holes with 3 scores to count on the 3rd, 6th and 13th. Many prizes will be on offer including a Car for a Hole in One on the 5th, nearest the pin and longest drive prizes.

I hope you enjoy the Summer weeks ahead and I look forward to speaking with you again in September/October time.

**Harry J Cattrell**

### LADY CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

The weather has been fantastic for most of May and June and only one competition was cancelled due to fog. Most of the ladies team matches are now completed and the Devon League has had some success in winning five out of eight matches so far. They still have two more to play. The Presidents team have won two and lost three matches.

For my Lady Captains day in June, 63 ladies turned up for a 9.30am shotgun start and a testing competition. In teams of three with one score to count on the first six holes, 2 scores on the next six and 3 scores on the final six. There were also different coloured tees used, the longest drive and nearest the pin and Pros challenge on the first hole. Plus, old hickory shafted clubs were used on the 5th hole. My thanks to Graham Cant and Graham Smith who manned the refreshment tent on the 10th tee. The winners were Liz Line, Gwen Hale and Diane Baker with 84 points. Gill Hicks won longest drive on the

7th and Janet Richardson won nearest the pin on the 6th. After an excellent meal and prize giving, the raffle raised £172 for my charity "William's fund "which supports research into Children's cancer.

Tuesday and Wednesday in July were the two days we played our Club Championship with a record number of sixteen ladies. A huge thank you to Janet Richardson for being our 'Starter' on both days. Unfortunately, the weather didn't match up with what we've enjoyed for the last month. It was cool, windy, with the threat of rain in the air. Wednesday was a complete contrast; calm conditions, despite misty and murky at the start. Jennifer Roberts (3) is the 2018 Club Champion with rounds of 77+77. However, Gill Hicks (13) had a fantastic Championship and was a worthy runner up; seeing her handicap reduced to 12.

Angela Ford would have been pleased her handicap trophy Ford Salver was keenly fought over by so many ladies. The winner wasn't known until the final match finished. With two rounds of net 70+69 Liz Sharman (18) finished in first place from Gill Hicks net 73+68. Gill also saw her handicap reduced to 17. Many congratulations to them all.

On Monday 9th July 33 ladies travelled for an away day to Bovey Castle, which is a fantastic hotel and golf course. We were met at our cars and clubs and trolleys taken for us so we could meet and enjoy coffee/tea and croissants with fellow players. We played in threes (two scores to count) and Wendy Stewart, Bernadette Law and Liz Stewart won with 73 points. It was a wonderful memorable day, albeit hot.

We are looking forward to hosting Ladies Opens in July and September. The entry list is almost full and ladies are coming from all over the West Country.

The next big competitions will be the Allcomers cup on the 15th August and the Stableford ladies invitation day on 29th August.

We also have new Get into Golf Sessions commencing Saturday 28th July. If you know of anyone who would like to give golf a try or get back into golf then please give the Pro shop a call.

**Heather Spencer**

## JUNIORS' NEWSLETTER

Due to the fantastic weather we've had plenty of golf and the handicaps have been coming down. The West Devon League matches have been successful as they beat Bigbury away 4-0 and home 4-1. The match against Borrington B team on Sunday 1st July resulted in a narrow loss of 3-2 but they won at home 4-1 and so finished first in their group. They have certainly qualified for Championship day in August.

The Devon Under 14 Tour is going well, they have played at Dartmouth, Woodbury and Holsworthy. We have a number of juniors entered including Yasmin Nixon, Dom Holt-Wilson, Alfie Tabiner and Louis Tollins. We wish them good luck at Stover on 5th August. Golf Access is a new scoring system for golf before a junior obtains an official club handicap.

Some of the juniors have been picked to play in the men's top Palairet Team matches such as George Holland, handicap 4. However, the team was beaten in the third round by Wrangaton on Sunday 1st July and is now out of the

competition. George Holland narrowly missed winning the Thurlestone Hotel Cup in June, he was beaten by Ashley Crow by one point.

The Junior Order of Merit and Open in July was really hot with very little wind. There were 75 entries from all over Devon with prizes in 7 different categories. The overall winner with a fantastic score of net 59 was Lucas Bellamy (14) from Thurlestone. He just beat his elder brother Ethan Bellamy (9) net 62.

No junior was allowed to win more than one prize, so Best Boys for Handicap 0-14 winner was Matt Millar (3) net 65 of Dainton. Best Boy Handicaps 15-28 was Matthew Lewis (18) net 65 of East Devon club. Non congu 9 holes winner off bronze was 7 year old Aiden Mulligan (34) of Thurlestone. Non congu 9 holes off blue tees was Yasmin Nixon (43) also of Thurlestone.

The juniors are planning to raise money for team kit and the Junior Captain's charity "Young Devon" by playing four rounds of golf in one day. This will take place on Friday 24th August and they are working hard to get sponsors for this event.

**Liz Line**

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Gretchen Kibbler

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## **Thurlestone Phonebox.....Ring Ring**

Exciting times for the Phonebox this summer. The great Referendum overwhelmingly approved the Neighbourhood Plan which names your Phonebox library as one of Thurlestone's non-designated Heritage Assets and so places the onus on the Parish Council to preserve it for future generations.



During the last couple of months it has been decorated for four weddings and we have a lovely photo for the Phonebox album of Lizzy and Rob in full wedding regalia posing in front of it. No doubt that will be the silver framed picture on their mantelpiece. Glad to say that degradable confetti really does seem to degrade quickly.

And, of course, the World Cup. Our bunting with the flags of all the participating nations.....how many could you identify? The Cup replica on the front of the box beautifully crafted by Alan and Joannie B. As I write this the Cross of St. George still proudly riding high, fingers and everything else crossed for our great team. An interesting evening at home when Colombia played England as Gillian was born in Colombia and I of course in England..... a bit like our differing views on Brexit, but we are still wedded after 50+ years!

The weather? Well, it's always like this in Thurlestone, isn't it? Have fun.

**Kit Marshall**

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## **Bantham Sailing Club**

The weekend of 7/8th July was Bantham Sailing Club's GALA weekend, which heralds the opening of the season's sailing races. In spite of the earlier than usual start to the season, due to the tides, there was a good turnout, with Lasers, Bantham Boats, Toppers and a Yawl. Unfortunately on both days the Racing was reduced to one race because of neap tides, but there was enough water and light breeze to get the races in and all the sailors enjoyed the first of the season.

The BSC Sailing School has been renamed the Bantham Community Sailing, run by Tim Hunt. There are about 50 members of all ages from the local area enjoying the chance to sail and there are boats available to borrow under Tim's watchful eye. And many of his recruits have taken part in the races.

Further information can be found on the Bantham sailing club notice board outside Whiddons in Bantham, or by contacting the Secretary, Jo Smith at [jo@cottonspringfarm.co.uk](mailto:jo@cottonspringfarm.co.uk).

# SCHOOL REPORT

All our children have recently been enjoying Forest School sessions, delivered by Forest and Beach. This is a great opportunity for the children to take part in a wide variety of activities, such as: den building, lighting fires, cooking pizzas and grilling marshmallows!



**ALL SAINTS'  
THURLESTONE**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

We have equally finally revamped the area at the back of our playground, turning it into a beautiful 'Garden of Life' that now boasts courgettes, cucumbers, radishes, herbs, lettuce, spinach, runner beans and glorious marigolds! We are incorporating the food into our planning, giving the children the opportunity to enjoy the produce and learn about its health benefits. **We are looking for volunteers from the Community to help care for the garden during the school holidays. Please contact the school should you be interested to lend a hand.**

This term we have been focusing on the benefits of sport, fitness and diet in terms of improving our general sense of health and wellbeing. The pupils have had some mindfulness sessions and on 10th July Year 1-3 put on their own Mini-Olympics, including an opening ceremony, where family members were invited to come and witness the great progress they had made in a variety of disciplines. We also had our Sports Day in June, where the whole school competed against one another in their family groups, taking part in both field and track events.

We are very proud, as a school, to have achieved the 'Plastic Clever Status'. We are the only school alongside Salcombe Primary to have achieved it. This has meant introducing a number of changes and vastly reducing our school plastic waste. The children are passionate about the subject. We now have a school Eco team, comprised of 16 pupils, across all age groups, who continue to meet on a regular basis and discuss the changes that need to take place. All very exciting.

Sadly, we will be waving off our Year 6s at the end of the Academic Year. They have performed extremely well in their SATS and but are now ready to move on to horizons new. They are currently preparing their end of year play, which they will be performing to parents in the final week of term.

Once again, we would like to invite members of our Community to come and join in the regular events that we organise at our school. We greatly value your contributions!

**Natasha Kostka**

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## You've got to laugh.....

A man walked into the doctor's, he said, 'I've hurt my arm in several places'. The doctor said, 'Well don't go there any more'.

'You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen. It said, 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice.'

*Tommy Cooper*

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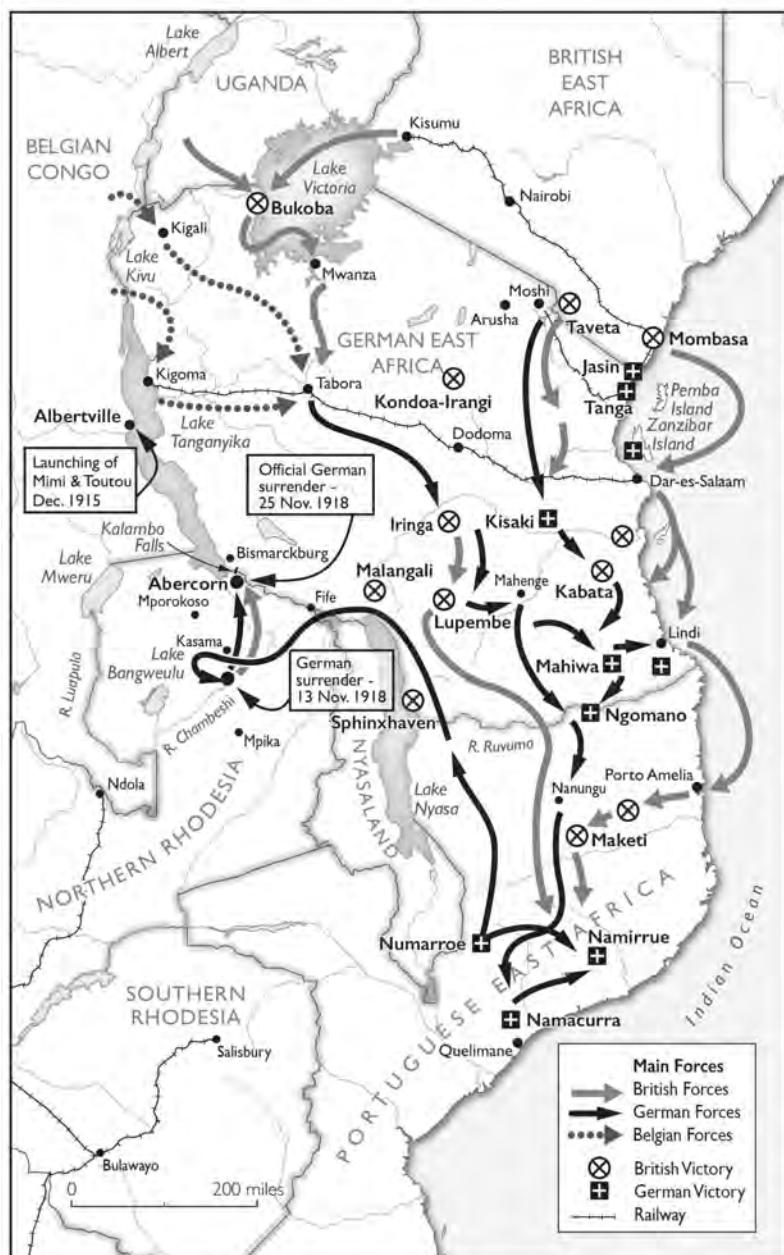
## The Surrender of the Germans at Abercorn

Following on from the account of *Mimi* and *Toutou* on Lake Tanganyika in 1915-16, Malcolm Alexander concludes his story of WWI in East Africa ...

By September 1916, the campaign in East Africa had begun to swing in favour of the Allied forces. The German *Schutzruppe* led by General Paul von Lettow-Vorbeck had been confined to the south-east of their colony, German East Africa (later Tanganyika, now the mainland of Tanzania). By November 1917, Lettow-Vorbeck had been forced south across the border into Portuguese East Africa (today's Mozambique), where he maintained a very mobile campaign throughout 1918.

My interest in these events in Africa has been stirred by finding my great uncle Claude's personal photographs of Lettow-Vorbeck's 'Surrender' at Abercorn on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1918, but how had this come about? By late October 1918, news was reaching the German forces that an armistice was about to be imposed on Germany, but Lettow-Vorbeck's reaction was to push on. He had now entered British territory in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) and on 12<sup>th</sup> November had reached Kasama, whilst one of his divisions under Captain Spangenburg seized the bridge over the Chambeshi river, 50 miles to the south. The next morning, after the capture of an English motorcycle dispatch rider, Lettow-Vorbeck was handed a telegram: 'Send following to Colonel von Lettow-Vorbeck under white flag. The Prime Minister of England has announced that an armistice was signed at 5 hours on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> and that hostilities on all fronts cease at 11 hours on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> ... – General van Deventer.'

Lettow-Vorbeck remained unbowed: 'I felt convinced that the conclusion of hostilities must have been favourable, or at least not unfavourable to Germany.' On 14<sup>th</sup> November, he met with the District Officer, Hector Croad, who explained that the Kaiser had abdicated and quit Germany. Eventually accepting the news, he was instructed to proceed immediately with his troops to Abercorn.



Map showing German East Africa and neighbouring territories in WWI

On the morning of Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November, the sky swollen with rain over Abercorn's parade ground, as the British flag fluttered in the wind and a contingent of Northern Rhodesia riflemen and askari formed up as guard of honour for the signing of the surrender, they could see the 'Lion of Africa' for themselves. Lt. Col. Hawkins was surprised:

'Von Lettow himself turned out to be a very different man from what we had expected. A little over medium height, and wearing a short pointed beard, with fair hair turning grey, he is a fine looking man of forty-nine ... instead of the haughty Prussian one had expected to meet, he turned out to be a most courteous and perfectly mannered man: his behaviour throughout his captivity was a model to anyone in such a position.'

Back in Berlin a hero's welcome awaited. On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1919, Lettow-Vorbeck led a so-called 'Victory Parade', marching through the Brandenburg Gate to be received by the Weimar government. He and his men had earned the distinction of being the only German force to occupy British territory during WWI, fighting the last battle on African soil on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1918.



General Paul von Lettow-Vorbeck leading the Victory Parade, Berlin, 1919

Some historians have referred to the Great War in East Africa as a 'sideshow' to the war in Europe. Although in absolute terms, this may be technically correct, it is nevertheless demeaning. The scale and impact of the campaign were gargantuan - the troops, carriers and millions of civilians caught up in the fighting in East Africa should not be forgotten. Over the four-year period, the German forces consisted of approximately 3,000 white and 12,000 black and Arab men, opposed by some 127,000 British, including

white, Indian, black and Arab. In all 11,189 men died, with 10,811 incapacitated through disease and wounding, and more died of illness and starvation than from battle injuries. The armies could not have functioned without the work of black African porters, carriers and labourers, bearing loads of up to 60lb. An estimated 95,000 black support service men died, the majority, 41,000, coming from GEA.

As demobilization got underway, a further calamity for the African population was gathering pace, with the outbreak of what became known as 'Spanish 'flu', said to have originated in Sierra Leone. Although normally a killer of the young and elderly, it hit those in the prime of life, striking with amazing speed, killing around four per cent of the East African population, and an estimated 20 – 40 million worldwide. In Africa, the loss of so many able-bodied males resulted in acute food shortages. In the words of Mulenga Chisanga Paulo, a young survivor of the pandemic, 'After the end of the White Man's War catastrophe fell upon us. A bad air fell upon our country. People died like flies. No village or family was spared. There was death everywhere.'

On 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018, the Centenary of the End of WWI in Africa will be commemorated in Abercorn (now known as Mbala) in northern Zambia.

Malcolm Alexander has written *Ulendo: Claude's African Journey into War and Passion*, the biography of his great-uncle, Claude Oldfield, to be published in October by Aldridge Press.



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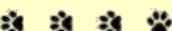
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# BOOKSHELF

## The Recent Past

by James Ravilious

Apart from the introduction, there is no reading to be had in this book, the main content being glorious black and white photographs of farmers, their families, village life in North Devon, all taken in the 1970s and 1980s. James Ravilious was given the task by the Beaford Centre to record the changing ways of farming which was taking place during these years, in some cases in very isolated villages. The Beaford Centre was set up by John Lane on behalf of the Dartington Hall Trust. John Lane felt that North Devon had a special quality, with old fashioned methods and lingering traditions.

I love looking at these photographs and could study them for ages. There is the photo of a family in the kitchen watching a Cup Final, wife in wellies, farmer in his working clothes, thermos, milk bottle, mugs on the side, teenage son with no shirt on and, teenage daughter in tight jeans, fashionable top and trainers. There are photos of the doctor making home visits, even checking a farmer's chest in his barn. There are lovely photos of farmers with coats tied up with string getting on with the work, there is the WI monitoring a pancake race, horticultural shows, village parades and Remembrance Day. The Great Blizzard of 1978 is recorded with some stunning photos – oh, I could go on...The whole book is a joy.

Published at the same time is:

## James Ravilious. A Life

by Robin Ravilious

In this gentle story, Robin, James's wife, tells of their life together. They both came from gifted parents. James's father was a talented wood engraver and Robin's father was Laurence Whistler. Both seem to have had lonely childhoods. Robin had spent part of her childhood living with her grandparents at Halsdon, near Dolton and, when her grandfather died he left her a small cottage near Dolton. When their London flat was to be demolished, they decided to move down to the cottage using their compensation money for some much needed renovation.

James seems to have been a lovely man, who made friends easily and loved to hear the farmers' tales. He would visit people's homes, start chatting and, when he saw the perfect relaxed moment, click would go the camera. This of course was well before the digital age and he spent many hours in his dark room going through and through the negatives until he came to what he thought was the 'right' one. In her book Robin fills us in with some of the lives and difficulties of the farmers and villagers who we see in the photographs, which makes it a perfect companion to 'The Recent Past'.

Sadly, James died in 1999 at the young age of 60. I wonder what he would make of today's prolific photographers and 'selfies'. Probably this quiet, gentle man would have accepted and thrived on it.

**Both reviews by Carolyn Taylor**

## Tougher Penalties for Irresponsible Dog Owners

South Hams District Council is cracking down on dog owners who have their dogs off the lead in public areas, or who don't clean up after their dogs.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) have been introduced across the South Hams, clarifying where it will be mandatory to keep dogs on a lead. In some areas, such as children's play areas, dogs are banned entirely.

In addition, the new laws give authorised council officers the power to request that an owner place their dog on a lead in any open public area where the dog is causing a nuisance or likely to do so.

During the summer months, dogs are not permitted on a number of beaches in the South Hams, and officers will be able to issue on the spot fines for those ignoring this regulation.

Failure to comply with the PSPO or a request from a council officer is punishable by an on-the-spot fine of £100.

Uniformed Officers will be patrolling regularly from early July.

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Executive Portfolio Holder for Commercial Services at South Hams District Council, said: "The majority of South Hams dog owners are law abiding and considerate of others, but there are a minority that spoil it for everyone, and it is these owners that the new regulations will target. It's important that everyone is familiar with the areas where dogs must be kept on a lead, or where they are forbidden, so that responsible dog owners are not caught out."

Failure to clean up after your dog is also covered by the PSPOs and is punishable by an on-the-spot fine of £100.

Cllr Gilbert continued: "Dog mess is unsightly, unpleasant and dangerous and we will no longer tolerate irresponsible owners who fail to clean up after their animals. If you know of an area that is regularly fouled, please let us know using the 'report it' function on our website, and our officers will add it to their patrols. If you are walking your dog, make sure you remain observant as to where it fouls, always carry bags and place the bags in a litter bin or take them home. Please don't hang the bags in trees and bushes; they're not baubles and this could constitute a littering offence."

For a full list of the areas where dogs must be kept on a lead, and where dogs are not permitted, please see:

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4114/Dogs-on-Leads>

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4109/Dog-Exclusion-Areas-Beaches>

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4541/Dog-Exclusion-Areas-Except-Beaches>



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# TRAMP ACTIVITIES

This last two months our members have been enjoying both the exercise and the fine walking weather. After such a wet and muddy spring, this has been an unexpected bonus!



Visitors are welcome to join us on our walks and the weekly details are posted in the Post Office window a few days in advance. New members are very welcome. Just contact Mike Stickland on [stix@talktalk.net](mailto:stix@talktalk.net) for more information.

## May 25<sup>th</sup> - Malborough to Salcombe

Five regular walkers plus two visiting ex-Trampers plus one new member and two dogs set off from Malborough to walk to Salcombe.

From the Car Park at Malborough we walked into Lower Town via Wells Hill. A sunken lane with masses of pretty wild flowers took us down to Portlemore Barton and then on to Combe. We stopped to look at the 'goods on sale' at Old Walls (they made £6,700.00 for Charity last year split between Devon Air Ambulance and the Donkey Sanctuary) and one walker purchased some jam.

From there we climbed up a steep rocky path which led us to a tree plantation and down a wide grassy corridor to descend to Lower Collaton Barn. Then over a stream and on to a beautiful steep-sided valley and, after negotiating a very overgrown path, arrived at the pretty holiday complex of Hanger Mill. A short stride later and we were at North Sands where the party divided - some having coffee at the Winking Prawn with the dogs taking advantage of the beach and the others walking on to the town to have some refreshment.

We all met up again at 1.30pm to catch the 606 Bus back to Malborough to collect the cars. A very pleasant way to spend a morning in lovely sunny weather.

## **Trisha Wilson**

## June 15<sup>th</sup> - Shaugh Bridge to Cadover Bridge

Twelve walkers met at the National Trust car park at Shaugh Bridge on the River Plym for this lovely, shortish, circular walk following the river upstream to Cadover Bridge and back across open moor to Dowerstone Hill, descending past granite quarries back to Shaugh Bridge. The weather was mostly kind. The clouds looked threatening, but any rain fell while we were walking through wooded stretches.

The walk started with a steepish climb, but we were soon rewarded with splendid views across the river valley to the three great buttresses of the Dowerstone, which stand sheer above the river well over 100 feet high. They are popular with rock-climbers. Then we went through a wooded area, the path descending gradually to the river. All the time we were following an old clay pipeline constructed to bring china clay mixed with water from the clay pits near Cadover Bridge to the processing works at Shaugh Bridge, the ruins of which are still there. This activity went on from 1880 until around 1960. Now the pipeline is disused – indeed broken in many places – but still lies beneath the path to be caught sight of every now and

then. We stopped for refreshments in a lovely spot by the river, sitting on rocks and having our coffee. Then went into the open where there is a car park at Cadover bridge popular with picnickers.

We crossed the river via Cadover Bridge, then made our way across Wigford Down. The high ground there afforded marvellous views over to the west of Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor in the distance, and ahead of us to Plymouth Sound. The sun shone on us here which made us grateful as we were out in the open. We reached Dowerstone Hill which is a fairly significant outcrop of rock which I think is worthy of being called a "tor". From here we descended to the river, going past granite quarries, stopping to look at the ruins of a winding house which housed machinery operating trucks carrying granite down the slope on a pulley system. The inclined plain here carried two parallel lines of rails, on which the trucks loaded with dressed granite would be attached to a cable which was wound round one of the two drums of the winding gear. The other drum also had a cable which was extended down the inclined plane and attached to the empty trucks waiting below. At a given signal the loaded trucks would be started off down the incline, the drum turning as the cable paid out. As this happened, the other cable wound onto its drum and the empty trucks were drawn up by the weight of the laden ones going down. The laden trucks eventually found their way along a system of tracks which connected with the South Devon Railway near Goodmeavy, about half a mile away.

The Dowerstone quarries went out of business well over 100 years ago, but it was interesting to be reminded of the industrial nature of the area, and to imagine all the activity there in former times. Our 5½ mile excursion ended by crossing the river once again back to the car park, but not before we had been to see where the rivers Meavy and Plym meet, just upstream from the bridge.

We ended our walk with a snack at the The White Thorn pub in Shaugh Prior, which we were glad to see re-opened after having been closed for 3 years.

### **Alastair and Gill Durden**

#### **June 19<sup>th</sup> - Evening walk to Hope Cove**

The weather was overcast for our Summer Evening walk on Tuesday 19th June from Thurlestone to Hope Cove and back. 12 walkers set off from Thurlestone at 4pm over the fields to Whitlocksworthy. Unfortunately, the walk leader had a dodgy knee and so she became the support vehicle, meeting up with the walkers at various points along the route. The path across the fields was well trodden with "tram lines" leading down to the bottom of the valley.

The walkers continued past the sewage walks and on to Horswell Cottages where another walker joined the group. The walkers continued over the fields to South Huish where Peter and Liz Coates most generously refreshed us with Pimms and Elderflower Cordial in their lovely garden. It was a perfect setting.

At this point, several of our walkers decided to take the short cut to Hope Cove but the rest (3 in total + 1 who had been driven to the Pimms stop) carried on to Galmpton, and then up onto the Ridgeway Path between Malborough and Hope Cove. The views towards Plymouth and beyond were stunning as the walkers progressed along the path to Hope Cove and much needed refreshment at the Hope and Anchor where we were joined by other Friends of Tramps.

In fact, by the time we reached the Hope and Anchor our numbers had increased to 22! The Hope and Anchor staff were great and produced our food very quickly. The return to Thurlestone was via the Coast Path. The route out of Hope Cove on the Coast Path started over a temporary bridge. It is quite scary seeing how much of the cliff has fallen away beneath us. The full walk was 7+ miles and I must give a very special thanks to Peter and Liz Coates for their generous hospitality. The Pimms definitely kept everyone going!

### **Lisa White**

#### **June 26<sup>th</sup> - Little Dartmouth**

On June 26th eight Tramps turned up for our walk including two family visitors. Normally it can take ages to sort out car sharing but today it was simple. We headed off towards Dartmouth to do the Diamond Jubilee Walk which commemorates the Queen's 60th year as monarch. On reaching Redlap Lane leading to the car park at Little Dartmouth, I had to reverse all the way back to the main road. This happens every time so I've come to the conclusion that men in large white vans are taking it in turns to charge up the lane!

From Little Dartmouth car park, we went in a northerly direction towards Dartmouth, across beautiful undulating countryside. A very short stretch of road brought us to Jawbones Hill. A slight diversion to look at the view of Britannia Royal Naval College is compulsory. It looked glorious! There is now a bench and a picnic table there. From there we descended towards a path above a road called Above Town. The views were stunning. We could see the steam train advancing to Kingswear, the ferries gliding back and forth and the River Dart looked bluer than ever.

We then proceeded down to the river and along to Warfleet passing the Dartmouth Pottery, now converted to dwellings. The lime kiln was the next point of interest and then we were just a short walk from the Castle Tearooms. Here we enjoyed refreshments as the paddle steamer came into view. After that it was all uphill to the carpark with views of the sea. A quick visit was made to Lidl by everyone before we returned home.

### **Rachel Wayth**

#### **July 2<sup>nd</sup> - Plymouth Waterfront**

On Monday 2nd of July eight Tramps mustered at Mount Batten in Plymouth for Linda and Gareth's annual waterfront walk. However, Linda had a prior commitment so I had sole charge! Having consulted my fellow Tramps, I changed the running order of the walk to do the second part first as last year we ran out of time. We embarked the Mount Batten/Barbican ferry or at least the first two did as the boat is only licensed for ten, and eight people were already seated! The boatman promised to return straight away so there was only a short delay before we were all reunited on the Barbican; the advanced party having checked out the coffee shop in the meantime. After pointing out the highlights of the waterfront area (the Leviathan and Mayflower steps) we set off towards the Hoe.

As we walked along, we saw the Stella Maris, St James Scallop and the Royal Citadel and then we stopped to overlook the Tinside Lido. We were just too early to go for a dip but spent a few minutes watching one lucky staff member wading round cleaning the pool. Carrying on down to the West Hoe we passed the site of

Plymouth's bullring and pier, the latter was wrecked by some German tourists in March 1941. Walking on round the Rusty Anchor (the grand terrace built for senior naval officers in the 1850s) we had a sad reminder of how small the Royal Navy has become; there are a number of model ships on the wall and all but one of the real ships they represent have been sold or scrapped.

At the corner of Millbay park we stopped to admire the Eddystone Lighthouse pavement which shows how John Smeaton designed the interlocking stonework that enabled the tower to withstand wind and wave for 123 years before being replaced because the rock it was standing on was wearing away. We also read the grizzly tale told on the lead nugget, about the fate of one of the lighthouse keepers of the previous lighthouse. I was going to show the group the gold bullion just around the corner but someone had stolen it. (Removed due to redevelopment)

Walking on round Millbay we read the railing plaques (come on the walk to find out what they say) and along Durnford Street where we had quotations from Sherlock Holmes to help pass the time. Having stopped to look at the Artillery Tower and take in the views from Devil's point we descended into the Royal William Yard where we took lunch. The plan had been to take the waterbus back to the Barbican and walk back round to Mount Batten, but at my suggestion we headed off into Stonehouse and the delights of Devonport!

After crossing the creek, we followed the coast path around Mount Wise to Mutton Cove where the coast path meets the southern wall of the dockyard. At this point we headed towards the Devonport Column and the Guildhall. No one wished to climb the column but we all had a look round the lower floor of the Guildhall and at the artwork on show in the cells. Walking back towards the city we passed the "Egyptian House" then headed up Union Street to see the old "New Palace Theatre" and then on to the Barbican where we resisted the temptation of the gin distillery but did have a well-earned ice cream before catching the boat back across to Mount Batten and the cars.

**Gareth Scott**

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## Eating Out Locally

Vivien Stickland reports on another interesting local hostelry

### The White Thorn Inn at Shaugh Prior Village

There's a lovely outing to be had when you go to this country pub. It is out of our neighbourhood but the twenty-mile drive is a pleasant part of a worthwhile Dartmoor visit.

Once through Modbury town, the route took us off-the-beaten-track and along the lanes that link Penquit, Ivybridge and Cornwood. It then passed an equestrian centre and Wotter before arriving at Shaugh Prior. (It is two miles from Bickleigh Military Base for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Commando, Royal Marines.) We parked in The White Thorn's ample car park and noticed that there *is* a hitching rail for horses!

We were soon seated at a shaded table on decking, next to a garden that sloped down away from us. We relaxed with scenic views, beyond, of farming on the Dartmoor Fringe and noticed, at the bottom of the White Thorn garden, a flag with skull-&-crossbones that marks a kiddie's play park. That 'Black Thorn' area, is fenced to keep kids safe from wandering into the car park. As they played on a climbing frame, swing and slide, there were two goats grazing among them.

White Thorn Inn caters well for families and in an easy casual style it accommodates various social events. There's a welcome for walkers from Dartmoor. A walking group from Thurlestone, 'Tramps', who arrived without fore-warning after a lengthy mid-week hike, were provided with good soup, sandwiches and kebabs. At the time, the inn's staff were already occupied with a barbecue for a Funeral Wake.

My visit was on a sunny Saturday. The ambiance was quiet and the pace relaxed. Inside, there was a mood that could span decades with a dart board, chess board, and a TV for viewing sport. Walls displayed talented locals' art work and, a mounted stag's head and stuffed pheasant with glorious colouring, fitted in well with traditional dark furniture. There's good value for money here and live music of different genres is frequently programmed in – such as on their curry night.

Lunch choices include a ploughman's, soup, jacket potatoes, chicken wings and various sandwiches. All are moderately priced. A Carvery is a favourite choice from the popular dishes on the menu. We found their food to have a satisfyingly home-cooked touch. Their Barbeque, 'The Cuckoo's Nest', is for parties (and, sensibly, there is a gong to call diners to the grill). Generous portions of fruit crumble, sticky toffee pudding, and popular desserts like ice cream sundaes, complete your meal.

Locals know there is good humour and good ale in this inn and travellers get a warm welcome from friendly staff. We left with a feeling of well-being. As visitors from Thurlestone, we intend to call again at this inn on the west side of Dartmoor. We drove back through beautiful lanes, and were reminded of how privileged we are to be here. For more information call The White Thorn 01752 839245

**Vivien Stickland**

### June Meeting

Newly elected president, Jo Parkin, welcomed our Speaker, Penny Townsend, whose talk was entitled "Strawberries and Suntan – Summer with Jane Austen". From June until September, fruit picking, cherries as well as strawberries, would be important social occasions in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. However, it was not the done thing to acquire a suntan – this is what happened to the labouring classes in the fields! So, the use of herbal remedies, such as lupin water and strawberry juice, rubbed into the complexion, and judicious use of bonnets, a parasol and fan, were employed. At that time, strawberry development was becoming more important, breeding large fruit from Chile with flavoursome fruit from Virginia and high up in Europe.

Jo reminded members of coming events, our Garden Lunch on 5<sup>th</sup> July when we are asked to wear "Tickled Pink", and also to vote on 28<sup>th</sup> June for our Parish Plan Referendum.

Judith Le Grice read a report on the Annual Meeting in Cardiff, with the Resolution "Mental Health Matters as much as Physical Health" being passed overwhelmingly.

It was also brought to our attention that it is possible to claim VAT back on post cancer surgery bras.

Our Annual Garden Lunch was held, by kind invitation of Sally and Howard Martin, in their home and beautiful garden on 5<sup>th</sup> July. 30 members attended and had dressed with the theme "Tickled Pink" in mind, but the winner was Val Brown. Many people opted to have their lunch indoors as it was very hot. The delicious buffet had been provided by the Committee, with strawberries and lashings of cream for dessert.

### July Meeting

President Jo Parkin opened the meeting by thanking Sally and Howard Martin for hosting the Garden Lunch, and Paul Martin and Howard Martin for transporting the Hall tables and chairs to the house. She also thanked the Committee for providing the delicious lunch.

We were reminded of several forthcoming dates. Thurlestone Open Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup> July from 1 – 4 pm, with tickets and teas available in the Hall. Jo Odams and Julia Thompson are collecting jewellery, scarves and beauty products, to sell on their stall at the Church Fete on 21<sup>st</sup> July. Pat Macdonald put in a plea for baking and crafts contributions to the Horticultural Show in the Parish Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> August, saying that this year had been a difficult one for growing plants and that consequently entries for those classes may be down. 15<sup>th</sup> September is the Parish Hall Autumn Fair when the WI has their usual cake stall and Jo asked for contributions of cakes and volunteers to help.

Our Speaker/Entertainer was Chris Seth -Ward, a retired schoolteacher who started teaching the Ukelele to children and parents at Newton Ferrers. They were spotted at a music festival in Devon by Michael Eavis who invited the group of 30 to play on the stage at his Glastonbury Festival six years ago. He then went on to teach groups on cruise ships whilst on their "sea" days and to present small concerts. He had brought a number of ukeleles with him, also diagrams of the fingering for easy chords, so that we could all have a go at playing. Some of us found it more difficult than others! We ended up accompanying ourselves singing "Polly-Wolly-Doodle", and "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In".

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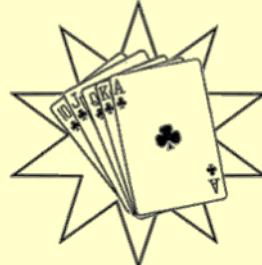
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# Weather Wag

I started to look up the information I have on HOT WEATHER on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. That was last Monday by my reckoning. Since then the days have become even hotter or at least maintained the 24+C level.



July 2<sup>nd</sup>. In the heatwave of 1976, my Wedgewood and Penn copy of The Wrong Kind of Snow reports: 'When temperatures reached 33C today there was nearly a constitutional crisis in the stewards' enclosure at Henley Regatta. Throwing 137 years of history to the wind, the stewards take an unprecedented decision. Members and guests are permitted to remove their jackets inside the sardine-packed Stewards Enclosure. It's the first time the dress protocol, which simply demands that people dress in accordance with established tradition, has been slackened. Ties and top buttons, naturally, must stay firmly fastened'.

July 3<sup>rd</sup>. In that summer of 1976: 'At 35.9C in Cheltenham, today is the hottest day of a summer when, for 10 long weeks, the sun never goes in and we learn what it is like to be Mediterranean. Roads melt (*ring any bells for 2018!*) we share baths and day after day the news shows people queuing at standpipes. Reservoirs are reduced to cracked mud paving. For the first time in its 143-year history, the MCC at Lord's allows members to remove their blazers, while ties remain, obviously.' Wedgewood and Penn then describes how the heatwave begins during Wimbledon, in the last week of June. For over a fortnight, temperatures exceed 32C, every day.

'By the first week of August, water is running out and a drought bill is rushed through Parliament. Mains water in South Wales is switched off between 7pm and 8am. Still the sun shines. A self-perpetuating high pressure gets blocked over the British Isles, like a boulder in a river, diverting the usual stream of Atlantic rains to the Med (which, satisfactorily, has a lousy summer). The hot weather continues (except in the North West) throughout August until Prime Minister James Callaghan appoints a Minister for Drought. This, along with the August Bank Holiday, is the catalyst the heavens need. Thunderstorms arrive on the 29<sup>th</sup>, after which it rains and rains throughout September (the wettest since 1918) and October (the wettest on record).

'What were the consequences of all this? Well, apart from incessant heath and forest fires (*recent news in 2018*) the Notting Hill Carnival riots at the end of August are blamed on the heat. The financial cost is £500 million worth of failed crops and £60 million worth of subsidence-related insurance claims from home-owners living in clay areas (most in London). In 1977, a new National Water Authority is granted wide-ranging powers to co-ordinate national water management more effectively.'

6<sup>th</sup> July: There has to be a reference to Wimbledon from Wedgewood and Penn. We are not disappointed.

In 2001, 'On a cool evening in London SW19, Tim Henman is on the brink of achieving his destiny- a Wimbledon final. Only the aging Goran Ivanisevic stands in his way. Henman loses the first set and scrapes through to a tie-break to hold the second. Then, with a display of dazzling tennis, he thunders through the third 6-0 in just fifteen minutes, dismantling the Croat's game. As the fourth set begins, the first spot of rain falls. Stressful though this is, and with the match undoubtedly going Henman's way with the nation in a frenzy, at 6.18pm rain stops play. It's a disaster. The spell is broken. The remainder of the game is played out over two agonizing, wet days. After 48 hours of rain, tears and intermittent tennis, Ivanisevic clinches the

match. "God wanted me to win," he says. "He sent the rains". Let's hope that this year the rains hold off and the tournament, so bedevilled by the vagaries of our climate, will continue without interruption for rain.

9<sup>th</sup> July: A day of thunder and lightning.

In 1923, in London, between 1 and 5am: 'men thought of France and the war as they recollected the sounds of guns and bursting shells, and of birds that woke without song.' The Times reported 'grand terrors of the night', of the most dramatic lightning display on record then: 6924 flashes in 6 hours – there was almost one every three seconds for four hours. It may have been beaten in recent years.

In 1984, 'shortly after midnight, lightning ignites Britain's largest cathedral, York Minster. A series of unfortunate happenings, mainly the fire alarm being delayed, led to the South transept being gutted. The rose window is also gutted, though most of the stained glass was salvaged.' Repairs took 4 years, cost twice as much as estimated and include roof bosses designed by children in a Blue Peter competition.

In 1846, a thunderstorm in Truro floods a mine. (*a situation dramatized in Poldark recently*). 'In just a few moments 39 men drown.

In 1923, the same day that London gets its lightning show, Carrbridge in Scotland loses its railway bridge for the second time (nine years earlier, in 1914 the first 'Carrbridge Cloudburst' washes away the bridge as a train was crossing, killing 5).

In 1959, there was radar coverage of a storm in Wokingham, Berkshire. A hailstorm, subsequently dubbed 'a supercell', leads to the formulation of new theories on how storms travel and form."

Now, in July 2018, here at Beach Cottage, the temperature has hovered around 25C for about 6 days, with the highest being 27.5C. Most winds were from the east and quite powerful. During these last three days (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> July) there has been a calm and balmy westerly airstream. Although still hot, it's feeling fresher. Rainfall has been minimal: In May 20mm, of which 11 mm fell on 2<sup>nd</sup>; June, just 1mm on 10<sup>th</sup>; and, July so far has had 13mm on 1<sup>st</sup> – all far below what's normal for these months.

I hope the fine weather lasts for the church Fêtes at Thurlestone and South Milton, both in July. Farmers, vegetable growers and gardeners are feeling the effects of dry weather. But, as ever, we bat on hoping for a heavy dew overnight or some mist at night, or day. However, I am not complaining as we so rarely have spells of weather, such as this year, to enjoy. Anoraks and Welly boots have been conspicuous in their absence, as have exasperated parents and unhappy children.

Here is a little anecdote I discovered, reputedly from Joyce Grenfell, who was in London during the hot summer of 1933, "Much too hot. I'm sitting legs apart, stay-less, stocking-less and floppy in front of the window. It's boiling." I can just hear her saying that in her unique way of speaking. How are you keeping cool? Or do you revel in the heat? Or do you keep calm, cool and carry on!

Today has been my birthday and I've enjoyed the day very much, now it's time to resume life and get the jobs done, prepare for visitors and walk the dog. Here's to the horticultural show, if there is anything left!

**Jan Turner**

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## DIARY DATES

### August

Saturday	4	Horticultural Show, Thurlestone Parish Hall 2.30pm
Wednesday	8—11	MAD Kids Group presents Bugsy Malone Malborough Village Hall
Friday	10	TRAMP Ugborough Beacon (short)
Saturday	11	South Hams Society—Beach Clean at Yarmer & Leasfoot Beaches at 2pm
Friday	17	TRAMP East Prawle (long)
Wednesday	22	TRAMP Short Walk TBA
Friday	24	BBQ on the Green 6pm (see advert)
Wednesday	29	TRAMP Dartmoor (long)

### September

Saturday	1	Kingsbridge Show
Monday	3	Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall
Tuesday	4	TRAMP Dartmoor TBA (short)
Thursday	13	WI, Parish Hall 2.30pm (Art Nouveau - History, Impact, Legacy)
Friday	14	TRAMP Burrator Reservoir (short)
Saturday	15	<b>Thurlestone Parish Hall Autumn Fair 2.30pm</b>
Monday	17	TRAMP Yealmpton and Environs (short)
Wednesday	19—22	KATS presents Murder in a Play Malborough Village Hall
Tuesday	25	TRAMP Holne Woods to Charrah Pool (long)
Wednesday	26	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 7.30pm "The Queen of Sheba"
Thursday	27	Arts Soc, K'bridge Methodist Hall 10.30am "The Queen of Sheba"

### October

Monday	1	Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday	2	TRAMP Totnes Area (short)

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## VILLAGE VOICE

### PARISH DIRECTORY

and

### DIARY DATES

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

There is also a **subscription service**, which mails copies to readers at an annual cost for 2018 of **£15.00 for six issues**. Please apply to:

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

It was founded on behalf of Thurlestone Parish Council

and is delighted to remain under the Council's sponsorship.

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

In Thurlestone, Village Voice is delivered by a team of volunteer helpers organised by **Graham & Val Palmer**. In Buckland it is delivered by **Tink Donald** and in Bantham by **Anna & David Martin**.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT (Oct-Nov) ISSUE = 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018**

Please drop any contributions marked "Village Voice" through the letterbox at 25 Mead Drive (note new address) before that date, or e-mail to [alisonjbone@gmail.com](mailto:alisonjbone@gmail.com)

# PARISH

**PARISH COUNCIL** (Meetings take place on 1st Monday)

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

**Tree Warden** Charles Mitchelmore 560602

**PARISH HALL** (see Parish website)

Chairman	Vacant	
Bookings	Barbara Williams	560145
Pay-phone in foyer		562189

**PARISH WEBSITE** ([www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk)) Contacts Mike Bone 288436 Paul Martin 560070

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Rector	Rev Daniel Hartley	562727
Graham Worrall	562016	Liz Webb 560090

**CHURCHWARDENS**

Office	561246
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**COFFEE TIME** (Every Wednesday 10.30 - 11.30am)

Contact	Rosemary Chipman	562013
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**FILMS FOR ALL** (1st Tuesday monthly at 2.30pm)

Contact	Liz Webb	560090
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**FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH**

Contact	Gillian Marshall	560214
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**ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Executive Head	Susan Rowe-Jones	560494
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**PEARSON'S PRE-SCHOOL**

Manager	Linda Quinn	560816
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**THURLESTONE POST OFFICE & STORES**

Contact	Sarah Tyers	561917
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<b>BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB</b>	Clubhouse		560447
<b>BRIDGE CLUB (Wed &amp; Fri 6.30pm)</b>	Contact	Lisa White	560505
<b>BUCKLAND PHONE BOX</b>	Contact	Anna Martin	560796
<b>HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)</b>	Contact	Tom Gilkes	560973
<b>LINE DANCING (Wed 2pm)</b>	Contact	Sue Bain	0798917898
<b>NIA WITH NOLA FITNESS (Mon 10.15am)</b>	Contact	Nola Baylis	842877
<b>PILATES (Mon 2.15pm Wed 9am)</b>	Contact	Franny Morris	07590506027
<b>PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOC (POTS)</b>	Chairman	Chris White	560505
<b>TABLE TENNIS (Thurs 7.30pm)</b>	Contact	Paul Ferguson	560578
<b>TAI CHI CHUAN (Wed 10.30am)</b>	Contact	Vida Hodder	561182
<b>TAI CHI SHIATSU (Thurs from 9.30am)</b>	Contact	Greg Cutler	07816230211
<b>THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB</b>	Office & General Enquiries		560405
<b>TENNIS SECTION (at Golf Club)</b>	Book via Pro Shop		560715
<b>THURLESTONE PHONE BOX</b>	Contact	Kit Marshall	560214
<b>TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)</b>	Contact	Mike Stickland	560763
<b>WI (2nd Thurs in mth 2.30pm not Aug or Dec)</b>	Contact	Jo Parkin	561215
<b>YOGA (Tues 9am)</b>	Contact	Sarah Scott	07879627939

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