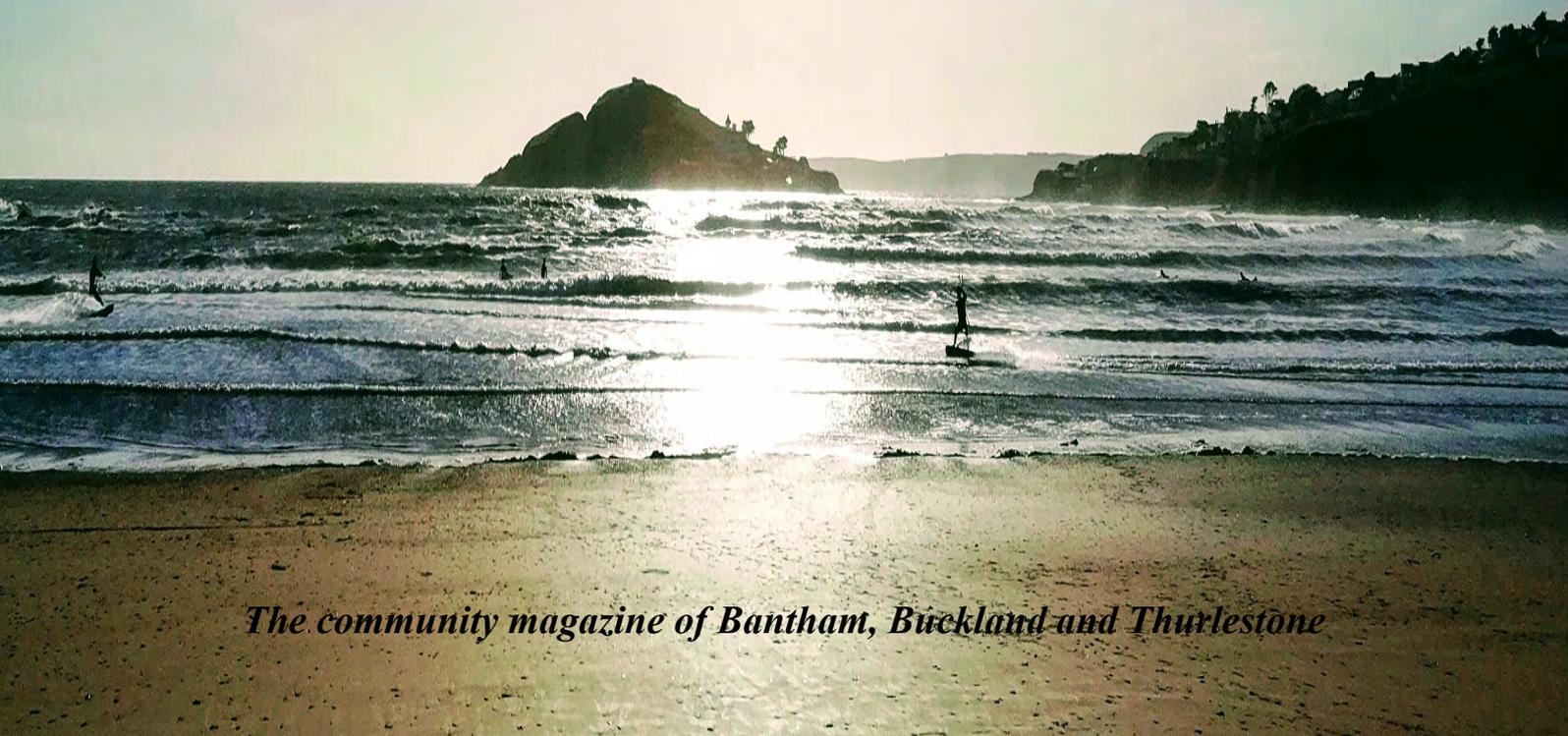


VILLAGE VOICE

August - September 2019



The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone



Holiday time again!

Local residents and visitors will find plenty going on in Buckland, Bantham and Thurlestone through the summer months. The early summer days have excelled with sunshine and little rain, bearing out the south west's reputation for moderate weather at the arrival of the holiday season. You will find details of summer events in our Village Voice News Roundup and take a look at the diary on the closing pages which will inform you of what else is happening. While you are out and about, consider taking photographs of scenery and activities to be prepared for the next local calendar. The 2020 calendar is now available in the Village Store and we congratulate all of you whose pictures were selected to illustrate it.

We want you to enjoy the beaches as well as the countryside and are grateful to have the Bantham Surf Life Saving Club which is committed to providing a safe beach and aquatic environment for the community, whilst developing life-saving skills through the education and training of its members of various ages. The club provides full lifeguard cover at Bantham, every Sunday, throughout the summer season.

The RNLI team, who also play a critical part in our coastal safety, will, in September, be celebrating 150 years of service in Salcombe.

An exciting event to look out for annually, is the Bantham Swoosh, a 6km swim from Aveton Gifford to Bantham. The swim culminates in a "swoosh" as the ebbing tide is funnelled through a narrow section of river, speeding the swimmers over the riverbed. Exciting! They say it's invigorating, beautiful and fun and this year it took place on 6th July.

For a day away from the beach and its water sports, you could go geocaching with your family. See more about this in the Telephone Box report.

And, speaking of things that come around annually, this issue of Village Voice marks the first anniversary of our editorial team.

Point of Contact for all Advertising & Editorial matters

Alison Bone 25, Mead Drive, Thurlestone TQ7 3TA
T: 01548-288436 E: alisonjbone@gmail.com

Front Cover

Photo taken by
Graham Chadwick

Deadline for articles for next issue - 13th September

August - September 2019

38th Year of Publication

Issue No. 218

Archived copies of Village Voice can be found on the Parish website at www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/village-voice

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Editorial and Compiling Team

Graham & Val Palmer
Mike & Vivien Stickland
Alison & Alan Daily
Mike Bone
Chris White

Accounts

Gavin Price

Distribution Organisers

Graham & Val Palmer
Tink Donald
Anna & David Martin

Mail Order Copies

Judith Reynolds
T: 01548 560912
E: judith-reynolds@tiscali.co.uk

Production Team

Chris White (Manager)
Maureen Baker
Shirley Barnes
Vivienne Day
Norma Kendall
Judith Le Grice
Arthur Livett
Gillian Marshall
Al Parker
Gareth & Linda Scott
Graham & Barbara Smith
Jane & Patrick Stanley
Maureen Stannard
Carolyn Taylor
Julia Thompson
Jan Trender
Lisa White

Advertising Rates for Village Voice - 12 months (six issues)

Whole Page - £75.00

Half Page - £55.00

Quarter Page - £35.00

THURLESTONE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – ONE YEAR ON



The Neighbourhood Plan has been in place twelve months and it is now time to review its performance.

Since the Plan was made, nine planning applications have been approved which were all supported by the parish council; two planning applications were refused which the parish council had objected to and two planning applications, which the parish council had objected to, were withdrawn. We are therefore seeing consistency and consensus in the decision-making process between the parish and the district councils. SHDC planning officers are quoting our Plan policies in their reports and on decision notices. *We are being listened to.*

The following policies in the Plan relating to issues that the community feels most strongly about have been tested:

Settlement Boundaries. The objective here is to prioritise infilling within our three settlements and protect the countryside from inappropriate development. One planning application was made for a new open market dwelling outside the settlement boundary of Thurlestone and this was refused earlier in the year. The only housing that is supported outside the settlement boundaries defined in the Plan is affordable housing, which includes Community Led Housing.

Replacement Dwellings and Extensions. The objective here is to prevent overdevelopment and retain a housing mix that is appropriate in terms of its scale and impact on the character of the area. So far, there have been two applications for replacement dwellings, both in Thurlestone. In one case, a like-for-like replacement, which was supported. The other was a proposal for a 2-bed bungalow to be replaced by a 5-bed house. This was not supported as the 127% increase in floor area was well in excess of the 25% threshold and the application was eventually withdrawn. Extensions too have proved particularly challenging. The Plan requires extensions to be subordinate in scale and form to the existing dwelling. Four applications were supported and approved, whilst three were not supported – one was refused by SHDC, one was withdrawn and a third is awaiting determination.

Principal Residence Restriction. The objective here is to help ensure the sustainability of the parish year-round. There have been two applications for new open market dwellings, one in Thurlestone and another in West Buckland. Both have had to comply with the findings of our Housing Needs Survey (2/3-bed maximum) and both are subject to a Section 106 principal residence agreement.

In terms of the initiatives promoted in the Neighbourhood Plan, aside from the **DAAT night landing site** and **Community Wifi**, perhaps the most innovative is the **Community Led Housing**. Providing homes that local working people can afford to buy, particularly those born and bred in the parish, is an important way of helping to ensure the future sustainability of the parish. The housing will be available at a discounted price as it is subsidised by grant funding from central government and it will remain affordable in perpetuity - *so it is not just the first owners who benefit*. The Annual Parish Meeting on 1 April was devoted to this initiative and a copy of the presentation is available on the parish website, together with updates.

Cllr Sue Crowther, Thurlestone Parish Neighbourhood Plan Committee

VILLAGE NEWS ROUND-UP

TED ABEL

The Village Voice team were all very sad when we heard of Ted's death on 16 July 2019. He was a valuable member of our production team and will be much missed. A full obituary will be published in our next edition.

12th KINGSBRIDGE VINTAGE BUS RUNNING DAY

On Saturday 21st September, over 42 vintage buses from the 1930s to 1990s head to Kingsbridge for a day that recreates the experience of road transport in bygone days. Everyone can enjoy free rides to coast and country villages, with services operating from 10.00 until 17.30 from Kingsbridge Bus Station on the Quay. A timetable will be available from Kingsbridge Information Centre. There is definitely one (104?) that comes through Thurlestone (and back again!!) from the bus stop opposite the Shop. This is a nostalgic chance to explore the area.

SPONSORED OBSTACLE RUN

On Sunday 22nd September a sponsored Obstacle Run will be held on South Milton Beach in support of Bowel Cancer West. Covering a 5km course, the obstacles comprise waterslide, cargo nets, ice bath, straw pyramid and monkey bars. There will also be local food and drink plus sports massages on site, with plenty for children and other spectators to enjoy. Details from lindie@bowelcancerwest.com or 01626 333541.

TIM ABEL, PIANO SHOWMAN

Tim has been a popular performer on piano at the Parish Hall on a number of occasions, always accompanied by colleagues from the musical world and latterly by his singer wife, Emma. Tim's fans will be pleased to know that he has made a new CD with Adrian Knowles (bass) and Tim Brickel (drums). He shows his versatility and why he is so popular, covering all forms of music –

ragtime, boogie, classical, show tunes – it is all there. This most enjoyable CD is available at Thurlestone PO Store. Included with the CD, once purchased, there is a link and password to enable a free download of the whole CD. Tim is another of Ted's talented grandsons (see Bookshelf!) Tim and Emma have bought a home in Holmfirth, Yorkshire, and currently work on cruise liners sailing all over the world.

KINGSBRIDGE 800

You may have noticed knitted bees in Kingsbridge and wondered why. The answer is that on Saturday 14th September the town will be celebrating the 800th anniversary of the granting of a royal charter to hold a market and will be holding a town-wide and local community festival. But why bees? Apparently, bees were one of the principal reasons for Kingsbridge becoming a market town as the Abbot of Buckfast wanted an outlet for the sale of honey, beeswax, soap, candles and so on, produced by the abbey's bees and so he successfully petitioned King Henry III in 1219. The day will have a medieval theme featuring locally made produce, street entertainers, storytellers, window displays, games, musicians, and activities for children and lots more. If you would like further information send an email to kingsbridgeshops@gmail.com

THURLESTONE QUIZ NIGHTS

The quiz nights will resume on Tuesday 3rd September at their new venue, Thurlestone Golf Club.

SINGERS WANTED

The Thurlestone Singing Group is a very informal group who enjoy singing for pleasure. We meet once a fortnight on Thursdays from 5.00-6.00pm at the home of Alastair Durden who runs the group. We would be glad to have more singers, especially altos and men. We sing in parts sometimes but certainly not all the time. We restart sessions in September; if interested, do give Alastair a ring on 560509.

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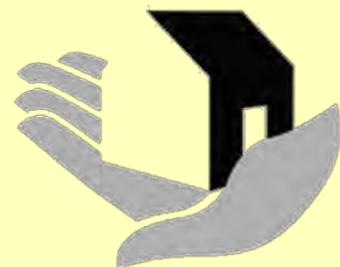


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NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

on 3rd JUNE & 1st JULY

OPEN FORUM a) A member of the public spoke about the footpath to Dixon's Quay. This path is on private land and has recently been closed off by the landowner. An application for a Map Modification Order will be submitted to DCC with evidence that the path has been used as a public right of way for over 20 years with Parish Council support. b) Mention was made of the untidy condition of the railings and frontage of the school. c) Cyclists and horse riders have been illegally using the coastal path. The sign sizes to be increased if possible.

MATTERS ARISING

The Kiftsgate planning application has been refused.

The Thurlestone War Memorial has been listed Grade II.

A new dog litter bin has been installed opposite the church.

Councillor Gilbert to speak to the Highways Officer about whether or not Bantham would qualify for vehicle activated speed signs. A Speed Compliance Action Review is required. There is still the possibility of installing signs made by local children. Speed bumps are no longer DCC approved.

TREES An application for tree works at Furzey Close TQ7 3NP, was supported. Applications for tree works at Oak Wood House, Buckland Park Lane to Buckland Park Bantham, Thurlestone Hotel and Eddystone Road to Kerse Cross Thurlestone Devon TQ7 3NN were noted as exempt works. The removal of trees from the woods opposite Langmans Quarry has been reported to SHDC. There is no enforcement action because they were not in a conservation area. Works to the

trees around the bus shelter will take place in the autumn.

DAAT LANDING SITE The electrical and groundworks have been completed and we are awaiting the MPAN number so that we can set up the electricity supply. The site opening ceremony will most likely take place in September once all aspects of the project are in place.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Gilbert handed out leaflets for residents who might need more confidence when using tradesmen and local businesses.

DCC has allocated £250k to work with the District Councils to improve the environmental credentials of areas within the Councils' remit.

He agreed to help with hastening the investigation into speeding issues in Bantham. He agreed to allocate Locality Funds towards road signs to encourage drivers to slow down.

Enforcement action against poor parking will be investigated and officers will be in Thurlestone and Bantham in the coming weeks.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

REPORTS Cllr Pearce reported that the SHDC is going to lobby for stricter regulations around building inspection. There will be an Avon estuary Patrol during high season.

Cllr Pearce reported that the green sewage pump box in Bantham is to be moved into the garden of Clock Cottage, which solves the problem of its current siting by the lime kiln, a heritage asset.

The dog bin by the cobbled road is not actually a regular dog litter bin and needs a sign to state that it should only be for dog waste.

Councillor Long reported that SHDC has taken on powers under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme which gives designated staff power over anti-social and irresponsible behaviour such as drinking in the streets, dog fouling etc.

SHDC is going to declare a climate emergency in line with DCC policy, although they are not committing any money towards it at present.

Cllr Long reported that refuse collection over half term was problematic and he reminded all of us to report any problems online so that they can be recorded and action taken.

HERITAGE ASSETS Cllr Crowther suggested setting up a Working Group for each part of the parish that would oversee the non-designated heritage assets that are listed in the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Williams agreed to head up a Working Group for Bantham, Cllr Hurrell agreed to head up a Working Group for West Buckland and the Chairman agreed to compile a list of benches for Thurlestone.

COMMUNITY LED HOUSING SHDC is waiting for the Bantham Estate to sign the Option Agreement. The design work will determine the scale of the development. SHDC is spending time and money on this project which creates a risk for them and they need to meet with the PC and talk about the project once the land deal is signed.

MADRON COURT LANE THURLESTONE TQ7 3ND Councillors discussed this and agreed that a site meeting was required before finalising the response.

LEASFOOT BEACH THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB New wooden ramp at South-East end of beach and fence to run along the top of the dunes line to the existing ramp at

the North-West end. The Parish Council supported this proposal to help manage coastal erosion and dune preservation from on-going damage caused by beach users.

BUCKLAND PARK FARM BANTHAM Change of use of existing store room/garage into self-contained holiday unit. The Parish Council supported this proposal.

9 OLD RECTORY GARDENS THURLESTONE Proposed replacement dwelling in lieu of approved alteration & extension. The Parish Council supported this proposal.

11 COURT PARK THURLESTONE Householder application for single storey rear extension and conversion of garage to form bedroom and en-suite. The Parish Council objected to this proposal. Councillors considered that the proposal would have an unacceptable impact on neighbouring residential amenity.

19 MEAD DRIVE THURLESTONE Householder application for alterations to the existing garage doors. Thurlestone Parish Council supported this proposal.

THURLESTONE PO AND STORES Re-siting of A/C unit further away from Dairy Barn, construction of wooden structure to hide it and to accommodate empty crates and boxes. Thurlestone Parish Council supported this proposal.

THURLESTONE PUBLIC TOILETS have been refurbished and will be 'deep cleaned' before handover. The interior of the toilets requires further painting and the PC agreed to do this. Handover date yet to be agreed.

ISLAND VIEW PLAY AREA In 2006 SHDC leased the land to the Parish Council on a 99-year lease for recreation. The land needs to be insured by the PC and registered.

Full minutes of Parish Council Meetings can be found on the Thurlestone Parish website at www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/meeting-minutes-archive

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Beach Safety

As we approach the busiest time of year for our beaches and after recent tragedies, we turned to **Bantham Surf Life Saving Club** for tips and advice on keeping safe on our beaches.



Rip Currents

A number of incidents at Bantham involve rips. A rip is a strong current of water running out to sea. It usually occurs when a channel forms between sandbars or rocks. Waves build up water on the beach, which then returns out to sea through the channel forming a fast flowing current. The larger the surf, the stronger the rip; this is dangerous as they can carry weak or tired swimmers out into deep water. Rip currents are the main cause of surf rescues.

Identifying a rip current - these features will alert you to the presence of a rip:

- murky brown water, caused by sand stirred up off the sea bed
- a rippled look, when the water around is more or less calm
- waves breaking further out on both sides of a rip
- darker colour of sea, indicating deep water
- debris floating out to sea

At Bantham the RIP occurs when there is a good swell (waves) pushing in at ANY state of the tide. It predominately pulls water from right to left as you look at the sea and pulls out alongside the rocks on the left of the beach.

If you are caught in a rip current: don't panic!

If you are a strong swimmer, swim at an angle of 45 degrees across the rip current, towards the beach away from the rocks. Never directly into the rip! If you are tired or an inexperienced swimmer let the rip take you out from

the beach and then either signal for assistance (wave one hand above your head in the direction of the beach/club house) and or swim parallel to the shore for 30 to 40 meters to where the waves are breaking and come straight back to shore.



Top Ten Safety Tips

- Always swim or surf at a beach patrolled by lifesavers or lifeguards.
- Swim between the red and yellow flags. They mark the safest areas to swim.
- Avoid swimming alone or unsupervised.
- Read the signs. Never enter the water if the RED flag is flying. This indicates it is too dangerous.
- If you are unsure of the surf conditions ask a lifeguard or lifesaver.
- Don't swim directly after a meal.
- Don't swim under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Don't run or dive in the water, always check the conditions, they might have changed.
- If you get in trouble in the water, don't panic, raise one arm up and float until help arrives.
- Float with a rip current or undertow don't swim against it.

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THURLESTONE THEN

Continuing the memoirs of Monica Coope
Chapter 2, Part 3

Father had a very simple faith, and one of his hopes of Heaven was that he might become acquainted with Saint Polycarp and Saint Chrysostom, because there was so much he wanted to ask them. As well as St. Ignatius, St. Jerome, and St. Thomas Aquinas. I like to imagine them kindly arranging a discussion circle for Frank Coope, but I do not think that Father would deem it complete until G.G.Coulton had swept through the heavenly gates to join him.

Father used to say that Donald Ilbert would fill a book, and he certainly had a volume of memories about Donald, who was his churchwarden, and also the son of the Rev.Courtenay Peregrine Ilbert who had built our Rectory and brought up his own children there.

Donald was a "simple" soul, and Thurlestone his only possible environment, where everyone knew and loved him and to whom he was still Master Donald when well up in the eighties. He was proud of being born the same day as the Duke of Connaught, and liked you to know it. When he was pleased he would rub his hands together with a noise like sandpaper, and chuckle, and we children used to like him to win at cards or quoits or croquet because it meant much more to him than it did to us, and he would nearly rub his hands off.

He was an upright and good gentleman and if he was not blessed with the sharpest of wits, he played his part in our village with loyalty and distinction, and Father never repented having asked him to be Rector's Churchwarden, wanting as he did to pay respect to the Ilbert family through Donald. So certain lapses from the narrow path during church services would not invite criticism or censure, but amused tolerance, and Father would chuckle over "dear old Donald" and his little ways. He had his own seat at the top of the church with the warden's rod at his elbow and the collection bag ready to hand. This handing round of the bag would sometimes surprise visitors, because he set himself a time limit, and if you fumbled or hesitated he would shake it right in your face, hissing "hurry up, hurry up, can't you?" while to his own sister Mrs Robert Campbell, he was not even so polite, turning in despair to the congregation and exclaiming "Bless the woman, I can't wait here all day".

When Father mounted the pulpit Donald would carefully take out his hunter watch and lay it open before him, leaning forward slightly and gazing intently at it. Then when the twenty minutes were up which he regarded as the outside limit, he would pick up the watch, give an enormous groan, and snap it to with a loud click. Father would compress his lips, and say hastily, "Lastly".....and Donald would relax, but not altogether. One day after church, Father and Donald were talking together in the chancel and Donald ejaculated "Dammit". When Father said "Donald old chap, renumber where you are," Donald clapped a hand to his head and cried, "Dammit, I forgot".

He had a way of coming quickly up to you and pressing something into your hand, then stepping backwards, rubbing his hands together, chuckling, and watching you while you examined his offering. Sometimes it would be a flower, an early rosebud, or a blue squill from the lawn at Rockhill. Often a bird's egg, or a pink quartz stone from

the heap by the side of the road. Once when I kissed him good-bye before I went back to boarding school he gave me a silver sixpence, and my surprise and obvious delight were so great that he laughed with pleasure, and his gnarled old hands went to and fro in their rubbing till I thought he would never stop.

His sister Helen Ilbert was a good friend to us and to our parents, and I know that Father and Mother had her to thank for quiet generousities, which altered the future for some of us. We regarded her as ours, just as we did Thurlestone, and she never failed, year in, year out, to be at her bedroom window to wave us good-bye as we drove off to boarding school, and when we came back. Some grown-ups have the imagination to know what these loyal habits mean to children, and just as we looked for the Eddystone light, so did we look for her waving hand and welcoming smile. She had a wonderful reading voice, low and clear, and dramatic without being theatrical. When Mother had weekly working parties at the Rectory, generally for the annual Garden Fete, Miss Ilbert would come down and read, and I used to be allowed in to embroider some grubby little piece of fancy work in stem stitch, and listen to the reading. So Cranford came to life for a little girl, until I fell from grace and was banished to the nursery. It was all a misunderstanding, at least so I regarded it, for Mother had distinctly said that I might help myself to one buttered tuff cake - (splits to you) - on the sideboard before the work party arrived. I could not make up my mind which had the most butter on it, so I made sure of having one whole good one by taking a small bite out of each in turn. They must have wondered why all the tuff cakes were cut in half that day, but I doubt if they connected it with my sudden absence.

Miss Ilbert had the leisure to teach us card games, and in the lamplight of her drawing room we learnt bezique and poker, patience, whist and cribbage. She was wonderful in organizing games in which you had to use your brain and ingenuity, and entered into them whole-heartedly herself.

I had no doubt it was due to her we made ourselves thoroughly unpopular round and about when we got older, for one, two or three of us used to carry off all the prizes at progressive games and social evenings, and the Coope girls became a menace. She never let us win if she could help it, so we learnt to take a beating with a good grace, and an evening with Miss Ilbert always ended with a tray of good things to eat, and sugar candy with candle wicks in the middle. This sugar candy became such an institution at Rockhill that we came to expect a tiny piece every time we went there, and once when Joan, and Mary had gone up on an errand, Joan refused to budge. "Come on Joan," pleaded Mary, well knowing that Joan could behave like Brownie the donkey when so disposed. "No, I do not leave this house until I have that sugar-candy" said Joan, looking Miss Ilbert fair and square in the face. Being her godchild she felt entitled to put her foot down I suppose.

There was always a party at Christmas at Rockhill for us Rectory children, and instead of a Christmas tree, a lovely pond in the hall in which we fished for our presents. How beautiful it was, that fairy grove of sweet smelling boughs with the great lake of glass reflecting the toy ducks and swans swimming about, and the exciting parcels here and there with loops around them, ready to fasten on to our eager hooks, as we took our turns to lean over the banisters and swing the bamboo rod in proper style over into the cluster of parcels. When we had digested our tea, with a cake from Buzzards and Emily's home made bread and jellies and fairy cakes, and when we had fished for our presents, then Donald came into his own and we played Bears.

The wide, shallow staircase, very like our own, divided halfway up, and became two, one leading to the drawing room, and the other to the bedrooms. You had to try and get up one or the other without Donald catching you, and it was a fearful risk for he growled and snarled and leant with great ferocity, and if you were caught the Bear hugged you tight before he threw your squealing form in among the other captives on the landing. We never ceased to be terrified by Bears, and never allowed a Christmas to pass without playing it, and Donald was always game, rubbing his hands after each capture, and chuckling between the growls.

When we were tired out Mother would collect us one by one, and wrapping us up in our woolly shawls and warm hoods, carrying our party shoes in a little canvas bags, we would say our good-byes, and clutching our desirable presents, make our way down the village and home to bed. "Say your prayers in bed tonight" Mother would say as she blew out the candle, "and thank God for a lovely party".

It was a joy to us when Donald's sister Miss Ilbert would join us for bathing at Yarmer sands, across the golf links and through the rushes. It was safe bathing here, and we knew that we must avoid Broadsands, the next cove, while Leas Foot was rather deep for the little ones. So we generally went to Yarmer and donned our queer blue cotton combinations, reaching well below the knees, and buttoning up under our chins. Miss Ilbert had a smart creation, not faded like ours, but a rich dark bunting very full in the legs and ending in frills round her ankles ornamented with white braid. Thus clad she would cast herself into the ocean and swim strongly around to our great admiration. We had no tent and simply used the clefts in the rocks, and hung our clothes around on pieces that stuck out. Once when there was a high sea running and Miss Ilbert had taken me down alone, she decided to risk it and we went over by the Lion Rock where the water was quieter. Even so it was not quiet enough for me, and a wave caught me and flung me against her but she managed to grasp me safely and together we floundered to the shore, deciding to call it a day. Miss Ilbert's day had not finished though, because in banging against her I had given her two black eyes, and my shame and sorrow was great.

There is a stream, which runs out at Yarmer, over the side of the cliff, and when it is running low it simply disappears into the sands, and is no more seen. But on a winter's day or in spring, we used to spend hours there damming it with wet sand and stones, making lakes with rivers running from them to more lakes, and the more imaginative ones would bring flowers and foliage from the cliffs and fashion Japanese gardens, with tiny stone bridges crossing the rivers, and trees of sea thistle.

There was a short cut up through the fields from Yarmer to Thurlestone Church, and when the manor of Thurlestone was sold, the estate cut up, and a new arrangement of farm tenancies, we came home one day to find the field gate wired up, and no way through. No way meant some other way, so we shinned up the high stonewall and, over the other side, only to find Harry Sherriff reclining on a sack beside us, in wait. It was a funny moment and we all saw the humour of it including Harry, but he put it to us, man to man, that if we went that way so would everyone else, and crops was crops. That was reasonable enough, and we assured him that so far as we were concerned, he could go home now, and after that we stuck to the long way round.

Short cuts are sometimes long cuts though, and to get to Homefield garden when the Squares were there we used to take great pains to avoid the road by climbing over our own high garden bank, across Stidston's orchard, and wiggle our way through

Burn's garden without the old man seeing us. As he spent most of his time in his garden and was very observant, this often meant crawling along on your stomach between the beds, and keeping a wary eye on him at the same time. Then there was the hazard of rising to your feet and scaling Homefield wall before he caught you, and to be caught by Old Bunff meant such a grumbling and grouching and threats of this and that, that you really felt you were in enemy country, in danger of your life. Once arrived at Homefield you were in a free country, for Mrs. Square liked to see us around, and only packed us off when the Rectory gong boomed out in the garden and she knew our dinner was ready. Our Chinese gong had a fine carrying note, and we could sometimes hear it when we were as far off as Leas Foot, that is if it were sounded on the Big Lawn, and with a will. We would answer the summons of the gong, but when a misguided governess took it into her head to call her charges to bed by blowing a whistle, no one appeared and it was looked upon as an insult to be whistled for like a dog. So we shinned up the nearest tree and stayed there.

The Squares had one great advantage over us; they were allowed to take their pleated skirts off and run around in their serge knickers. Even had Mother considered this right for us to do, we could not have competed for long, our own knickers being of poor, wiry material, and after a very few weeks of wear the seat would generate into harp strings, with white calico linings showing through. With their scarlet sailor jumpers and neat knickers, hare legs and brown sandals, they reduced us to despair but we could not hold it against them. We knew we could not compete in looks either, as they had golden hair and brown eyes with dark lashes, and voices like their mother, low, rich, with a humorous undertone. We thought Mrs. Square very old because she used to wear a white fluffy shawl like a Granny, but I suppose she was then in her twenties.



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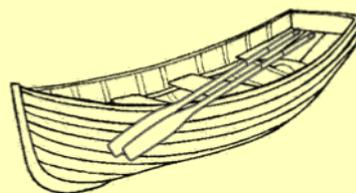
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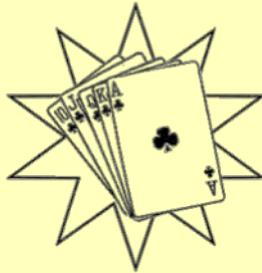
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Grey Matter

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry (or the closest to correct - if you don't have all the answers, send in your entry anyway - you never know!) drawn on 1st September 2019. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk

KNOW YOUR HOMOPHONES?

Use the clues to find words that sound the same but have different meanings
EG: Have it in the neck or in the window. Pain / Pane

1. A tree by the seashore
2. Tossed at the royal seat
3. Baking ingredient with bloom
4. Sugary set of furniture
5. Your sniffing organ understands
6. Reproduced the staff of life
7. Equine animal with a sore throat
8. Enjoys a book amongst the riverside plants
9. Necessity to work the dough
10. Bird sound at bargain price
11. Discarded food can increase your girth
12. Look long and hard at the step
13. What an achievement on those walking appendages!
14. No strength to face the next seven days
15. Staying still in the pencil and paper shop
16. Bigger than the shredder in the kitchen
17. Positive about the edge of the sea
18. Narrow passage on land surrounded by water

NOW LOOK FOR 3 HOMOPHONES:

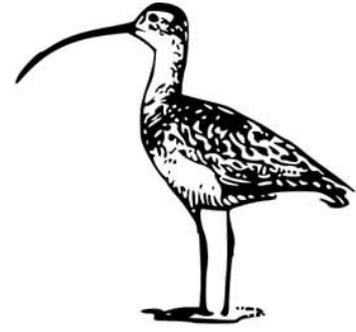
19. Spell in charge of leather strap during inclement weather
20. Peel a piece of fruit at the double
21. Nasty common virus soared up the chimney
22. Watch the arterial weather indicator to no avail
23. Hairless man shouted as he screwed paper into a sphere
24. Unmannerly person witters on about a wild pig
25. Put pen to paper about correct religious ceremony

Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. Start Bay 2. Dawlish 3. Barnstaple 4. Exmoor 5. Crapstone 6. Exeter 7. Bow
8. Frenchbeer 9. Torquay 10. Ringmore 11. Widecombe-in-the-Moor 12. Sparkwell
13. Horrabridge 14. Bantham 15. Drake's Circus 16. Totnes 17. Blackpool 18. Sidmouth
19. Colyford 20. Seven Crosses 21. Nomansland 22. Bideford 23. Kingskerswell
24. Great Hangman 25. Clapworthy 26. California Cross 27. Axminster 28. Topsham
29. Black Dog 30. Simonsbath

There were no perfect entries last month so we chose the closest. Our congratulations and the coveted bottle of wine goes to Mary Barons!

Thurlestone Bay Birds



We are very fortunate to have locally several sites recognised for their variety of birds, many of which can be seen without too much difficulty.

Starting in the east they are :-

1. South Huish Marsh - A fresh water reserve in a shallow valley cut-off from the sea by sand dunes. Water levels are controlled by a series of sluices. Particularly attractive to Ducks, Geese, Gulls and at times of migration, Waders. Owned by the National Trust and leased to Devon Birds who manage the reserve. There is no public access onto the reserve; good viewing facilities from the National Trust Car Park and surrounding lanes.
2. South Milton Ley - A 16 Hectare wildlife refuge designated a Site of Special Interest (SSI) in 1984. Includes the second largest Reedbed in Devon. Owned by Devon Birds since the first Reedbed was purchased in 1976 with subsequent land purchases in later years. One of the best sites in Devon for Warblers, in Winter a roosting area for Starlings and Pied Wagtails. Devon Birds have recently opened the paths around the reserve to non-members, however because of the rare breeding species no dogs are allowed. Regular ringing sessions are undertaken providing some fantastic insight into the substantial distances covered by small Warblers to their winter sites in Central and Southern Africa.
3. South Efford Marsh - A large area of salt marsh along the banks of the River Avon at Aveton Gifford. The site is leased to Devon Wildlife Trust who are responsible for the management of the Reserve. At low tide the mud banks along the tidal road can attract a wide range of species.
4. The beaches, rocks and footpaths along the coast from Hope Cove, South Milton Sands, Leasfoot Sands and Yarmer Beach. All the beaches are used by Waders at times of migration as a feeding station with some species over wintering.
5. West Buckland Valley - A lovely valley to spend a few hours walking round - lots of birds on view both in Winter and Summer.

Finally, there are lots of gardens around Thurlestone that are very attractive to a wide range of species - in my garden I can regularly see over 30 species in an hour.

In recent years over 200 species have been seen at these sites, including some rare ones - DESERT WHEATEAR, WOODCHAT SHRIKE, ISABELLINE SHRIKE, PURPLE HERON, SABINES GULL, AQUATIC WARBLER, LEAST SANDPIPER, KENTISH PLOVER, SPOTTED SANDPIPER, OSPREY.

In future articles I will cover each site in more detail and try to forecast what you should be looking for. Anyone wanting to keep up to date with regular sightings should look at my website - thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk.

Birdwatching can be a very relaxing hobby with plenty of exercise and that fantastic view of the coast.

Mike Passman

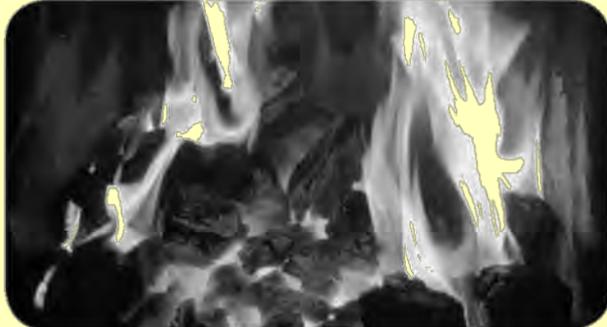


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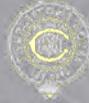
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All Saints

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

READER: Peter Gornall



IN PRAISE OF THE QUIET CHURCH

In an increasingly noisy world it is tempting for the Church to try to compete. As the noise of new products, new lifestyles and new leisure options fills the airwaves of life's market place, the Church may seek to raise its volume and compete. If only we could get our advertising right. If only we could produce ever glossier fliers and ever better websites. If only we could market the message.

Yet in the process of marketing the message and increasing the volume, we risk losing the very essence of the message itself. Perhaps the Church is called not to compete with the noise but to witness to another way of life. A way of life that is all together quieter. When the Church seeks to compete with the world it tends to lose!

So instead of competing we might be better offering an alternative. Don't come to worship because it's cutting edge. Don't come to worship because it's new. Don't come to worship because your friends will be jealous that you've accessed the "latest thing". Don't come to worship because it's exciting.

Come to worship because, in worship, you might find a quiet point in the midst of the noise of life. Come to worship when you've realised that all that is new, exciting and fresh quickly melts into air and you're looking for something else. Come to worship when you're looking for hope, for love, for forgiveness and the for the chance to be the "you" that you can only discover in the quiet. Come to worship to find the God that isn't the God of noise, the God of competing markets or the God of consumption, but is instead the God of peace.

Daniel Hartley

Benefice Sea Sunday Service

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST 11.00 A.M. BANTHAM

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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)





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

- Every Sunday** **8.00am** Holy Communion (BCP: 1st & 3rd; CW: 2nd & 4th)
AUG. 4TH, 18TH, SEPT. 15TH, 29TH **11.10am** Parish Eucharist (CW)
AUGUST 11TH, SEPTEMBER 8TH **6.00pm** Benefice Evensong (BCP) at Woodleigh
AUGUST 11TH & 25TH, SEPT. 8TH **11.10am** Morning Worship (*Fairtrade Stall Aug. 12 & Sept. 8*)
SEPTEMBER 1ST **11.00am** Benefice Sea Sunday Service at Bantham
SEPTEMBER 15TH (No service August) **5.30pm** Prayer & Praise in the Meeting Room
SEPTEMBER 22ND **11.10am** Matins (BCP)
OCTOBER 6TH **11.10am** Harvest Thanksgiving + Harvest Lunch

Weekdays

- THURS SEPT. 5TH** (No service August) **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) at White Horses, Bantham
EVERY WEDNESDAY except Aug. 1 & 8 **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) (said)
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY **8.30am** Morning Prayer (said) (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

Everyone is welcome to
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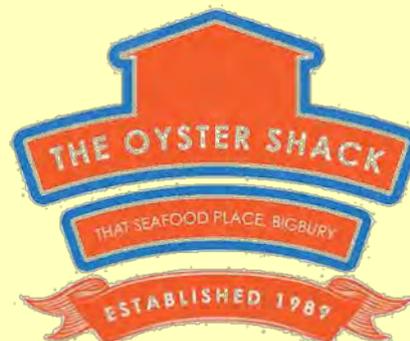
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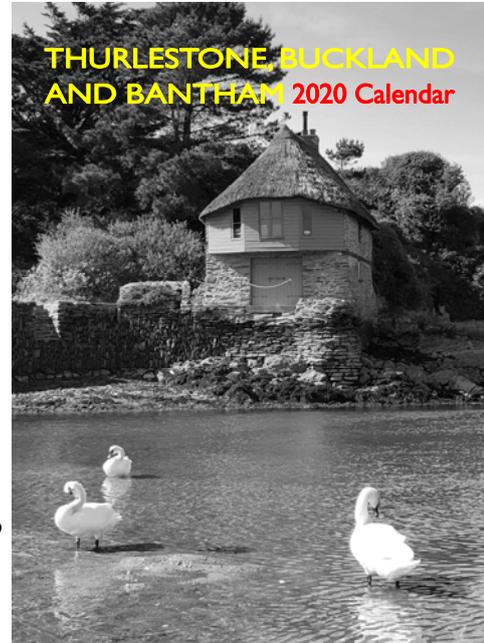
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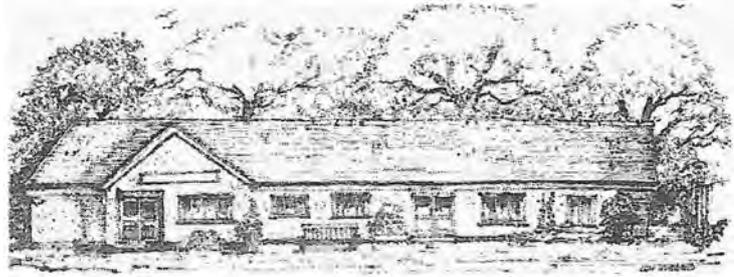
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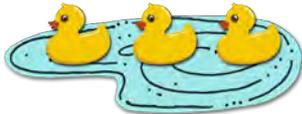
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PARISH HALL NEWS

By Alison Daily
(Secretary)



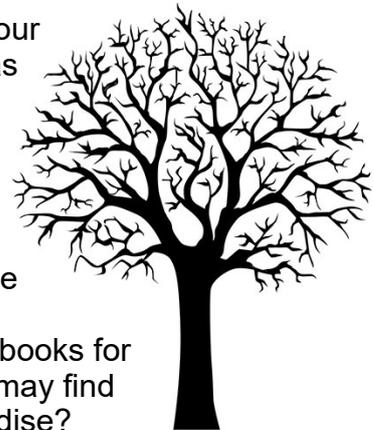
DUCK FISHING



GAME

Family Fun was held on **Tuesday 28th May** and I am pleased to report there was a very good turnout with a mixture of parishioners and visitors. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, judged by the fact the draught beer and Pimms completely sold out. New additions Archery proved a hit and Hook a Duck went swimmingly (sorry couldn't resist) as well as the established games of Kurling, Shove Ha'penny, Golf, Quoits, Bar Billiards, Table Tennis, Boules and Jenga. As always the Human Fruit Machine provided great entertainment; I am not sure who had most fun, the people playing or the wonderful team behind it who performed their duty with great gusto. Where else can all the family come along and participate in different activities together? Planning has already started for next year and our Games Master has a few ingenious ideas up his sleeve. A huge thank you to everyone who helped on the night and to all those who came along to make it a fun filled success.

As I write this on a warm sunny day, my thoughts would not naturally turn to Autumn but one must, as meteorologically (easier to write than say) speaking it begins on 1st September and the next date for your diary is the **Autumn Fair** on **Saturday 7th September**. It has proved very difficult this year to find a satisfactory date to hold this event due to so many others taking place throughout the month, but we hope you will find time to pop in to see the various patrons of the Hall help raise funds towards projects such as the re-gravelling of the car park and redecoration of the main hall. There will be fresh produce and cards for sale, bottle tombola, a raffle and the aforementioned Human Fruit Machine. You can stock up on books for the shorter days ahead and who knows what treasures you may find amongst the Bric a Brac and Cookworthy Museum merchandise? You could simply drop in for a cup of tea, a piece of cake and a chat.



There are many groups who use the Hall and its extensive equipment, but there is one the committee is very keen to see return and that is a Short Mat Bowls Club. Perhaps you play Bowls in the summer and would like to play indoors during the colder months but don't wish to travel out of the village, so for the inexpensive cost of hiring the hall you could get some friends together and play at the Hall. If anyone is interested in starting up this activity again please get in touch with the booking secretary.

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BOOKSHELF

The Salt Path by Raynor Winn

Raynor Winn and her husband Moth had, over 32 years of marriage, built up an old farmhouse in Wales, raised two children and were about to embark on renovating an old barn as a holiday let.

Unfortunately, because of an unwise investment, they lost it all. To add to their misery Moth was told by his consultant that he had a degenerative brain disease for which there was no cure. What to do? The bailiffs were knocking at the door. Raynor thinks 'Walk, we will just walk'. They decide to walk the south west coast path, 630 miles, Somerset to Dorset via Devon and Cornwall, and this memoir is her story of that walk. They have very little money, so it's cheap tent, cheap sleeping bags (which she later regrets) all piled into backpacks.

This is in no way a 'spiritual' journey in which they will 'find themselves'. She writes very chattily and candidly about the walk. Finding a good place to pitch tent, finding a quiet place for the daily constitutional, fighting the wind and rain, finding the summer heat almost unbearable, but seemingly retaining a sense of humour. Some way into the walk they find they have forgotten to put in the bag Moth's extra pills which he was meant to take daily. He plods on slowly and in pain, but gradually as the days wear on and because he is constantly on the move, they see a huge improvement in his health. They have only a small amount of money to last each month and exist mainly on noodles and fudge bars – occasionally indulging in a decent meal, which would mean more noodles and fudge bars later.

As the walk progresses she tells of the changing landscapes, the wild flowers,

the wild seas, and how they come to appreciate being able to watch the ever-changing weather, because they have all the time in the world. (Having only battled around our local cliff path in a howling gale, I can't imagine walking on and on through driving rain and wind). She is amusing when she writes of the many people they encounter along the way. Most of them can't believe that two such old people are attempting to walk the coast path! Many of them ignore them as dirty tramps.

A very enjoyable book, with a hopeful ending. Although she doesn't mention passing Thurlestone Golf Course!

Carolyn Taylor

Adventure at Muffin Bay by Richard Lappas

This is a delightfully gripping tale said to be for 8–12 year olds but grownups will enjoy it too. The central character is 9 year old Chunky McHayden whose father is serving in the army Special Forces and is often away on exercises. Chunky has inherited his dad's sense of adventure.

Chunky's home is in a village on Dorset's Jurassic Coast. It is the start of the school summer holidays and Chunky is really looking forward to being out and about on his mountain bike or swimming in the sea but unfortunately the weather is poor and a storm is brewing. Little does Chunky know that his life is about to change beyond recognition. It is here that we have to suspend belief a little when another important character, a bird, enters the story. A storm petrel called Sarita has been blown off course by the bad weather a long way from her home on the North American coast. Battling

through the fierce gales she is hit by something mysterious which injures and grounds her. Next day the weather is good and when Chunky is out on the cliff tops at Muffin Bay he bumps into a helpless Sarita who, usefully, is able to speak English. He takes her home to his mother and their doctor patches her up but she cannot fly until she has rested.

Meanwhile, further down the coast, a top-secret military exercise is about to start but unfortunately things have gone horribly wrong. There are surprises in store as Sarita and Chunky bravely save the day and, together with Rescue Services across the South West, they help to save lives.

Chunky and his friends are sad to say goodbye to Sarita, now recovered, as she has to continue her interrupted journey to visit her grandmother in the south of France. There will no doubt be more tales to be told as the author is already planning the next instalment.

If you are expecting young visitors this is the book to have to hand. It is well written, entertaining, and beautifully illustrated by Tom Abel, a grandson of Ted Abel. Copies are available to buy locally at Thurlestone PO Store, Bantham Village Stores and Hope Cove PO Store, or can be ordered from any dedicated bookshop.

Pat Macdonald



KATS presents **Blood Brothers (Play Version)** by Willy Russell

KATS are offering something a little different for their summer play this year.

Blood Brothers tells the tale of twin brothers separated at birth because their mother cannot afford to keep them both. Set in Liverpool across the 1960s, 70s and 80s it follows Mickey and Eddie as they grow up. Raised only streets apart, they meet by chance aged 7 and form an instant if unlikely friendship. Unaware of their shared secret, the boys' lives lead them in different directions - with dramatic and tragic consequences.

Blood Brothers is a meaty, moving piece of theatre and the story, although essentially a simple one, is told with epic skill by legendary writer Willy Russell. With a superb cast of 11 talented actors, it is sure to be a hit. The play contains one song, "Marilyn Monroe" and in addition the performance includes a scene setting prologue containing live music, poetry and comedy.

Blood Brothers (play version) will be staged at Malborough Village Hall from 25th to 28th September at 7.30pm. Tickets are £8 Wednesday, £10 Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Under-18s are £8. Group discounts available. For further information when and where to buy tickets please go to www.katskingsbridge.co.uk, follow on Facebook at KATSKingsbridgeDevon or email KATS secretary Pat Barlow on patjbarlow@gmail.com

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AUNE CONSERVATION **ASSOCIATION (ACA)** **NEWSLETTER**

This Newsletter provides an update on developments around the river and estuary

This year our AGM featured an eloquent, semi-philosophical and much appreciated talk by Isabel Carlisle from the Bioregional Learning Research Centre (BRLC) in Totnes. At the Centre they are 'Building collaborations to shift South Devon towards long-term climate resilience. We work in and at the intersection of economy, ecology, learning, arts and culture and the gaps in between.' I met Isabel through my attendance at South Devon Catchment Partnership meetings and at our AGM she spoke about the Centre's plans for a citizens' charter for the River Dart. Such a charter would imply that everybody living or working around the River Dart has a psychological investment in the welfare of the watercourse and, therefore, a common interest in its future. Comparison with our own situation is interesting. Although we don't immediately identify with resilience to climate change, in my opinion we already have an informal but not very widely or explicitly recognised version of that charter around our much smaller Avon where so many people feel blessed to be able to live in the magnificently beautiful and varied environments of the river valley and estuary. Many of us feel that we 'own' a little bit of the river or estuary and are therefore keen to conserve and improve its natural beauty overall. I would like to think that the ACA helps to pull those feelings together in a small way and act as a champion when the need arises. So, for example, conservation of river water quality and quantity has always been a primary concern for us and the challenges of climate change will ensure this goal will remain in place for the wellbeing and conservation of habitat and species - including our own!

I also participate on the ACA's behalf in the South Devon Catchment Partnership, a collaboration between many organisations, organised by the AONB Unit and the Westcountry Rivers Trust (WRT). I am pleased to report that this year, the Partnership's application for an EU-funded Water Environment Grant was partly successful. The funds are to be used for 1) a region-wide soils project, 'The Devon and Cornwall Soils Alliance Project', which aims to deliver improved soils advice as a way of reducing diffuse pollution, 2) to survey and control invasive New Zealand Pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*) in Stover Park SSSI and, if a budget becomes available, 3) the Devon Fisheries Project - which would work towards identifying and addressing barriers to fish migration, and to undertaking fisheries habitat improvement works.

Between 2011 and 2016, the DAG successfully negotiated the activation of compensatory water releases from the Avon Dam by South West Water (SWW) to ameliorate low flow during dry weather periods. However, these releases were put at risk last year by the retirement of key individuals from both SWW and the Environment Agency (EA). I have now made contact with them and the Avon Fishing Association (AFA) so that water releases may continue as in recent years.

Our relationship with the new Salcombe Harbourmaster has improved enormously. In February, under the aegis of the AEF, current sponsors of the Avon Patrol (ACA, Bantham Estate - BE, Avon Valley Waterski Club - AVSC, and Duchy of Cornwall - DoC) met with SHDC's Judy Pearce and the Salcombe Harbourmaster, the Avon Patrol service provider, to put the future of the patrol on a sounder, more business-like footing. Ryan Hooper (BE Manager) was appointed as the new Bantham Harbourmaster and will run the patrol, as SHDC's Agent, on a routine basis. I presented a draft Service Level Agreement, which describes the operation of the patrol, to the group and we have all been working on this document ever since. We hope to reach final agreement shortly and to formally start the

patrol in July this year. There will be an increased annual cost to sponsors, from £250 to £500 each. SHDC will contribute £2,500. I am keeping the 3 riparian parish councils informed of developments because if contributions significantly increase again, we may have to call upon the parishes for contributions to this service, which is so important for the safe and steadily increasing recreational use of the estuary waters.

The revamped Avon Patrol is one example of how our engagement with the Bantham Estate (BE) is so important for the welfare of the estuary. A further example comes from discussions about the future of the Bantham to Cockleridge ferry. Currently, this ferry operates 19th April - 21st September; 10-11am & 3-4pm, but not on Sundays. However, owing to the introduction by Natural England of the England Coast Path in 2020, new arrangements will be necessary to make the ferry more widely accessible for walkers if they are to avoid the long diversion of the SW Coast Path around the existing Avon Estuary Walk to the dangerous Aveton Gifford bridge and back to the coast. It is hoped that the new England Coast Path will 'increase tourism and boost rural economies, connecting communities, allowing us to rediscover our national heritage, and create new opportunities for people to enjoy the simple pleasures of being by the seaside'. The plan is to associate an improved ferry service with the revamped Avon Patrol, both of which will be staffed by SHDC-licensed operators employed by the BE.

The ACA committee was recently invited to carry out a survey of the estuary with Ryan Hooper on 15th May with the use of a BE boat. This enabled us to see the general state of estuary moorings; that new and re-organised moorings had been installed at Bantham (67 moorings of questionable age and reliability were increased to 89 high quality moorings); and that considerable new tree plantings and fencing around the estuary had been carried out as part of BE's participation in Environmental Stewardship. Following this estuary excursion, I was able to obtain a re-statement from the DoC of its support for licensees with moorings' upkeep, when necessary (e.g. help with the expensive removal of 'junk' boats).

You are probably very pleased with the outcome of the DEFRA consultation about designation of the Devon Avon Estuary as a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). I did respond vigorously to the consultation on behalf of the ACA and provided extra data based on research from Plymouth University about both the estuary and South Efford Marsh, some of which research we helped to fund as part of our Siltation Research Project several years ago. Unfortunately, my request for inclusion of South Efford Marsh and the Sea Bass Nursery Area in the MCZ was not granted (the former because it is not yet considered to be sufficiently mature, the latter because bass are too mobile as a species to be included in the designation) but the main estuary features of salt marsh, mud, sand and inter-tidal rock were recognised. Perhaps surprisingly in the current atmosphere, no mention was made in the designation of the important biological role of inter-tidal mud and salt marshes in carbon sequestration. The new MCZ status was confirmed on 31st May 2019 and is largely about habitat protection against damage caused by intrusive planning or other factors. However, it remains to be seen what difference the MCZ status will make in practice. All of the government agencies (Environment Agency, Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, Marine Management Organisation) responsible for managing the estuary and maintaining it in 'favourable condition' are seriously short of resources but that is where the ACA can play a useful role as a watchdog!

We are indebted to the Tentacled Lagoon Worm, *Alkmaria romijni*, which you have probably never encountered! This tiny bristle worm, less than 5 millimetres long, is scarce in this country. It lives in a tube made of mud in sheltered estuaries and lagoons. It has six gills and a number of smooth thread-like tentacles, which it pushes out from around its mouth to gather food from the surrounding mud. The organisms appear to require muddy sediments in brackish water, which is not fully salty and they are included in national conservation legislation because they are scarce and are vulnerable to changes to, or loss of, the habitats in which they live. We should arrange a muddy excursion to find them!

Returning to the theme of the ACA acting as an environmental champion, it is worth

noting that our effectiveness depends in large measure on the perception that we represent local opinion about river and, particularly, estuary concerns. Social activities are important for maintaining that group cohesion. However, I have to confess that in comparison with some years our talks, guided walks, picnics and BBQs have slipped somewhat, recently. There is no shortage of ideas but the committee needs help in developing some of them into a more comprehensive social programme. Everybody is busy and none of us is getting any younger! If you are able to help us in this respect or would like to volunteer in another capacity, please let me know.

Another area in which our performance has fallen short is our educational contribution to local schools and colleges. The ecology, geology and biology of the river/estuary offer brilliant opportunities for study at all levels. The Tentacled Lagoon Worm could provide some interesting topics for study, I'm sure!

Avon Estuary is designated as a new Marine Conservation Zone

DEFRA has announced the designation of the third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) following a public consultation. All 41 new sites and the addition of new features to 12 existing MCZs proposed during last summer's consultation are now designated.

The Devon Avon Estuary is one of the newly designated sites, extending from the estuary mouth up to Venn Weir i.e. the full tidal zone.

This third tranche builds on the 50 MCZs already in place and essentially completes DEFRA's contribution to the ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas in terms of species and habitat representation. In total there are now 175 Marine Protected Areas of different types, conserving 40% of English seas and providing vital protection for a diverse array of wildlife.

Summary of main consultation responses: a) Of the non-campaign responses received, all were in support of this site; b) There was support for Bantham Bay in particular due to concerns over possible damage caused by recreational activities and planned developments; c) Two responses asked that the boundary of the proposed site be extended to include the South Efford nature reserve and the sea bass nursery area.

Evidence changes since consultation: a) Evidence assessments undertaken by Natural England were updated using a broad range of sources including new surveys as well as evidence submitted during the consultation; b) The updated evidence assessments did not result in any significant changes in terms of data certainty and sufficiency or the GMA for features within the site.

Government response: The request for the site to be extended to cover the South Efford nature reserve and a sea bass nursery area was considered but has not been taken forward. The South Efford Marsh is a Local Nature Reserve, with different designation criteria to that of MCZs. As such, for MCZ designation, the pioneer saltmarsh is not currently considered sufficiently developed to be classed as the feature 'Coastal Saltmarshes & Saline Reedbeds' included within this site. With regard to the sea bass nursery area, site-based protection is not considered to be the most effective tool for conserving highly mobile species such as sea bass.

Outcome: After careful consideration of the consultation responses received, scientific advice from Natural England and assessment of the proposed boundary amendments, the site has been designated and the boundary proposed at consultation has been retained.

The Aune Conservation Association's reaction: The ACA is very pleased about the designation but it remains to be seen what difference it will make. Of the agencies responsible for managing the estuary and maintaining it in 'favourable condition', most are seriously short of resources for carrying out this function but that is where the ACA can play a useful role as a watchdog!

Stuart Watts

SCHOOL REPORT



Summer fun and fond farewells at Thurlestone All Saints'

Another academic year has flown by and we say goodbye and good luck to all the Year 6 children who start the next stage of their school journey in September as very grown up Year 7s. We wish them all the very best. A big thank you to the Thurlestone Hotel which hosted a fantastic movie afternoon for all the Year 6 leavers following their SATs exams, they had a wonderful time. Let's not forget the Year 2s who also had to work very hard for their SATs! The very best of luck with their results.

It's not all been hard work, the summer term provided a great range of opportunities for outdoor play and learning and the teaching staff certainly made the most of it. There were residential for the older children to the PGL centre in Torbay as well as overnight camping adventures at Forest and Beach at Beesands. We've also had trips to the Devon County Show, Paignton Zoo and a Poetry workshop at Leasfoot. Sports Day was one of the highlights of the year followed by the FTS Summer Fair with the ever popular water slide as well as bouncy castle, coconut shy and tombolas. The parents' and teachers' races proved massive hits with all our visitors and thank you to Tim Bunn for his excellent commentary!

Our dedicated 'Eco Team' was invited to the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth to take part in The Marine Wildlife Champions project to present the work they have done around reducing plastic and developing the school garden project. Thank you to members of the RNLi who have been in to talk to the children about water safety and how to enjoy the sea without endangering themselves; very important when you live here!

Lastly we must say two fond farewells. One to Mr. Shelling who has done a sterling job with Years 5 and 6; he is staying within the Academy but will be based back in the Torbay area and secondly to Wendy Sullivan. Wendy has been at the school for over 20 years and has helped so many local children during their time at Thurlestone school it would be hard to count. We wish Wendy the happiest of retirements and hope she'll be able to spend more time enjoying her garden. Thank you for everything Wendy.

Sian Williams

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Puzzle Page

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry drawn on 1st September 2019.

Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email:

cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk

20	21	13	1		6	10	14	9	26	18	5	2
9		10		20		25		25		26		21
12	5	21	4	23	2	15		8	17	10	19	9
5		1		9		13		4		14		20
9	21	13	3	7		9	25	7	9	1	11	
1				4		1				9		11
4	10	5	13	G	3	20		H	8	1	11	2
9		26				8		22				1
	18	8	22	10	5	20		8	17	10	5	7
8		1		5		20		24		6		21
26	9	21	13	1		5	20	9	2	9	20	20
4		5		4		26		11		26		7
3	8	22	22	9	26	9	11		16	8	22	20

1	2	3	H	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	I	22	23	24	25	26	

CODEWORD

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

Can you crack the code and solve the crossword?

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

Sudoku - Fiendish

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

Sudoku - Hard

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

There were many correct answers last month so we drew the winner of the coveted bottle of wine from a hat. Congratulations to Glenys Lodge!

Eating Out Locally **at**

The Old Bakery RESTAURANT

The Old Bakery restaurant has a 21st century eating style in a building which dates back to the eighteen-hundreds and which started out as a bakery. The name has stayed the same in spite of the many uses the building has had. Now, and for some twelve years, its character is enhanced as a restaurant.

It is easy to find on Kingsbridge Quay, set back from the shops, behind wrought iron gates and a pretty courtyard and, once inside, you see a spread of fresh breads and olives on display. These are just some of the chef's produce which, like everything here, is made in-house. For their authentic Mediterranean dishes, fish, meat and vegetable produce are sourced from growers on the continent, or from what is found locally. The dishes, with Mediterranean and Persian flavours, are rather like Tapas, but in bigger portions. We noticed how well the shared eating style suited the families with children that were present, as well as groups of friends and couples. Their dishes work very well if you happen to be dining alone.

Vegetarian dishes as well as vegan and gluten free needs are well catered for and you may phone in ahead to ask for other dietary requirements. The chef is happy to discuss food through the open kitchen.

From the dishes listed as starters, we enjoyed Hummus, a classic chickpea dip but with lemon, garlic and pomegranate. Tatziki, a minted yoghurt and cucumber dip is another good choice. And from the mains, where chicken and lamb predominate, there were some delightful flavours. The Persian Lamb (roasted aubergine, stuffed with Persian spiced minced lamb) was superb. The meat and fish mains, and the desserts, are each priced between £5 and £8.50.

The summer opening time for dinner and drinks is 6:15 pm from Tuesday to Saturday. A good way to start is with one of their cocktails, or sherries. On the wine list you will find classic wines as well as some unusual grapes. You can choose to be outside at a courtyard table, indoors at a table downstairs, or upstairs where the beamed cathedral ceiling is lit with chandeliers, candles and tiny sparkling lights. The ambiance (and the background music) is easy. There is every reason to feel relaxed.

Party planning and catering for celebration events is offered by The Old Bakery and viewing their website is recommended to see how they host any special occasion.

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Snippets from the Past

by Michael Stephens

Walk up through the village and you'll have noticed the village well house. Probably most of us ignore it when we walk past, having perhaps given it a cursory glance at one time or another. So, I thought I might clarify one or two points about the old well.

At first glance, the casual observer might be confused by the image on the plaques on the wall and on the green-painted pump casing (see photos). These depict a traditional well with a bucket on a rope, with winding handle to lower it into an underground chamber. This might appear to be at odds with the hand pump in the green wooden casing on display here. The explanation is as follows.

The Women's' Institute had the pump house repaired in 1956 and their plaque shows the well, which was actually in the pump house, and was indeed of the traditional rope-and-bucket variety. Step just inside and the actual well was slightly to your left now covered over with flagstones.

Village women would put wooden pattens over their shoes and trudge up the village street and back with pails full of water. Pattens were crude wooden clogs, probably one-size-fits-all, which encased and protected the indoor shoes, and could be slipped on easily to go outdoors when it was wet or muddy. This was done day-in-day out in all weathers, or there would be no water for the cottagers. Until the end of the nineteenth century at least, this water was for washing and cooking, rather than drinking, as it was not safe to do so. Everyone, including children, drank cider or 'small beer' (low proof). Clothes were usually washed on a Monday and there were stone floors to scrub and pots to wash, so all water had to be fetched and carried. Monica Coope tells of women carrying two pails on a yoke (like a milkmaid). The Coope family lived here from the 1890s to the 1920s so this was still going on at least in the earlier part of that period.



Gradually, as larger and more affluent houses were built, indoor running water became the norm, though not in the cottages. Out-lying farms and hamlets would have had their own springs and wells as sources of their water. No doubt there are a few of these still in situ, but buried in hedges or long-since covered over. Where I was brought-up, at Buckland Monachorum Vicarage, there was also a well in the back yard there, and that house dated from the 1920s, so running water was the exception rather than the rule in rural areas even then.

Back in the well house, the long-handled pump and green wooden casing was in fact nothing to do with the village well, but originated at The Old Rectory. It was found in the grounds of the former Rectory, now known as 'Toyes Orchard', and donated during millennium year to be displayed where it is now found. This house became the Rectory long after the Coopes left in the 1920s and was built originally as a private dwelling on part of the land belonging to what is now known as The Old Rectory. That one was built in the early 1800s for the Ilbert family, the Revd. Ilbert was the Rector here for the larger part of that century. The date on the pump is 1834 which squares with this, and at some point it was dumped unceremoniously in the weeds and undergrowth at the bottom of the grounds which later formed the garden of the subsequent Rectory (Toyes Orchard) until it was restored and placed in the old pump house.

We've been reading about Monica Coope's memoirs in recent issues of 'Village Voice' so I do apologise for any repetition. I refer to the edition, which forms the appendix of 'More Than Just A Cottage' by Kendall MacDonald. She refers to pumping water at the Old Rectory (or rather, Roger Jackman the trusty gardener pumping it) and states that "it took an hour to pump the tank full up in the attics so we had to be very careful of water, especially in summer when the rain water tank was running low"[pp. 147-148]. Where exactly their well was situated or what became of it I don't know, nor whether a well existed on the site before The Old Rectory was built.



Just a bit further up the hill was access to water at street level, fed by the same spring as the deep well. Whether these two sources were ever in use at the same time I don't know. However, the metal plaque still in situ on the water valve box bears the inscription: J. Tylor & Sons. 'Patent 'Waste Not' Wall Box - 2 Newgate Street, London'. This valve tap was for containing and releasing just as much water as was required without waste. The dates tell us when this was installed as the firm was based at the Newgate Street address between 1892 and 1907. Obviously much water would have gone to waste before this was installed. It's interesting that a London firm had to be resorted to, so maybe it was an unusual addition in a Devon village. The firm had a long history and manufactured well pumps, valve taps, cistern apparatus and such like. After many mergers over the years, the firm ended up, by the 1970s, as part of the General Electric Company [G.E.C.]!

A well spring, in similar style of stone cladding may be seen at the top of Buckland Hill ("Sudden Death"), before you turn left down the lane there for Bantham, though without the addition of the metal valve box.

So next time you walk up the street past the well house, take another look, and at the metal plaque at Rocky Hill corner.

References to Monica Coope's memoirs taken from *More Than Just A Cottage – A Village In The South Hams*, McDonald, K., 1981 (revised edition), Sevenoaks, Ashgrove Press.

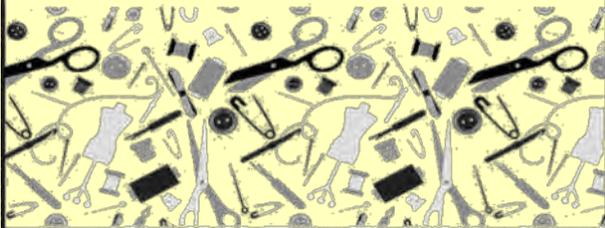
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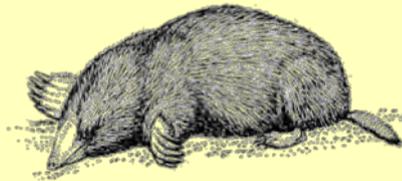
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Thurlestone Golf Club



It is at this time of year that many of our away members make a welcome return to Thurlestone and its wonderful and unique characteristics. How special summer village life is, with a choice beach and sporting activities at everyone's finger tips. Although busy, I think it is my favourite time of year and when the place seems to come alive. Let's hope the hot dry spell continues for a little longer although the course is desperate for some rain.

To coincide with the influx of visitors the Club's bar and catering facilities will remain open in the evenings until 9.00 pm Tuesday through Friday until 23rd August. This facility will be open to non-members but booking is advisable and casual dress is essential when eating inside although a more relaxed attitude is taken when eating alfresco on the terrace. During these times Fish & Chips will be available to take away. Please pop this number in your mobile phone so you have it to hand - 01548 560405.

In the last Village Voice edition I mentioned that we had hosted several Charity Golf Days where we gave of our facilities free of charge. We have hosted 3 since early May - Rotary Charity Golf Day, Hope Cove Life Boat Charity day and Kingsbridge Rugby Football Club Charity Golf Day. The Rotary day raised £3,500 for Shelter Box and another £3,500 for Bowel Cancer West. The Hope Cove Life Boat Day raised over £2,855 for the Hope Cove Life Boat and the recent KRFC Charity Day raised £2,750 for Devon Air Ambulance and another £2,750 for youth rugby. This is on top of our own fund for Kingsbridge & Saltstone caring which during the past 2 months has raised well over £1,000. So, in total Thurlestone Golf Club is a force for good amassing over £15K.

There has been a delay in receiving planning permission to regularise our parking scheme. The gates will be manned through the summer so please make sure you have some change with you during these times, cost of all day parking is £4.00. It is £6.50 at Bantham and £8.00 at Blackpool Sands - Social membership of £74.00 will allow you free parking all the year around.

Many of you will have seen the Club's Planning Application for Leasfoot Beach. This has been met with the general approval of parishioners and the Parish Council. The dunes are being ravaged by human activity and we would like to erect simple and rustic fencing along the top of the dunes and make another formal entrance nearer the footpath to the eastward side of the beach which accesses the car park.

Please remember that most of our Summer Tennis Tournaments are open to non-members. Please come along and look at the notice boards and sign up for Juniors, Ladies' & Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles. You can be sure of a warm friendly welcome in a relaxed but a competitive atmosphere!

It may be that some of you came for our Paella and Prosecco evening, in which case we hope you enjoyed yourselves. We all look forward to the height of the summer and welcoming you to the Club during this fun time.

Best wishes,
Simon Bawden
General Manager

Thurlestone Phonebox.....Ring Ring

We discover our Phonebox has been infiltrated by aliens, actually we have in fact been "Geocached". In essence Geocaching is a worldwide GPS treasure hunt where containers are hidden in strategic places with some form of hi-tech log-book in them for finders to de-code and sign. With our permission one such vessel, disguised as a book, was hidden in our library and hopefully myriads of Geocachers have been coming to Thurlestone to search for it and, using their special code, register their find.

We are told it's an addictive hobby and provides an incentive to explore the country. (See www.geocaching.co.uk for more information).



Summer is with us and the roads are getting busier. We shall be decorating our Phonebox the 20th-22nd September in support of **Salcombe RNLI** celebrating 150 years since their life-boat service was established and which has safe-guarded our own bay on many a heroic occasion. Please support them.

On the same Saturday 21st, after admiring the RNLI, you will be able to cross the road to join in the **12th Kingsbridge Vintage Bus Running Day** - a truly fun way to tour the area.....and it's free of charge! Details can be found in the Village News Round-Up section of this edition.

Enjoy the summer, the sun always shines in Thurlestone!

Kit Marshall

POSTBAG

Dear Editors,

Having just picked up a copy of Village Voice June-July 2019, I was saddened to read the article from Alan Taylor Bigg reporting on the "theft" of books from the Phonebox. We have a house in Thurlestone and our three young grandsons love to spend holiday weeks here. They were thrilled when they first discovered the treasure trove of books and they now happily bring their unwanted copies to swap for new ones. It is inconceivable to us that anyone could want to spoil this wonderful endeavour with such selfishness.

On behalf of our whole family may we express our thanks to all those concerned in the upkeep of this much appreciated community library.

Doug and Frances Tilling - Deveron

Dear Editors

I am writing to update you on the A379 roadworks and traffic lights between Fancy and Edmunston which is between Modbury and the River Erme.

You will have noticed they are still in place with little or no activity. Unfortunately, when clearing the drains and ploughing back the edge in preparation for further work, it was found that the road edge had large cracks/structural damage and thereby classifies as a safety risk to traffic.

I regret to inform you that at present this inconvenience has no termination date and will require considerable structural work to allow the road to open as normal.

I wanted to relay this information to anyone within your communities whom might need to know and regularly uses the road for work or hospital etc.

Thank you, Rufus

DCC Cllr. Rufus Gilbert - Cabinet Member Economy & Skills.

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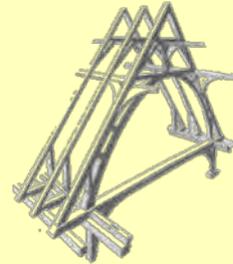
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Tramp Summer walks

2019. Reports for May,

June and July

The summer weather has continued to be very kind to our walkers and we have been able to enjoy lots of fresh air without much rain at all.

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. Contact Mike Stickland on stix@talktalk.net for more information.

May 14th. East Soar. Jenny Webb. 6 miles.

Although strong winds blew, the day was bright and dry. Eleven Tramps and three dogs set off for a circular walk around Bolt Head. Leaving the National Trust carpark at East Soar, we headed along the lane for a short while then across the fields through Middle Soar and on to The Warren. Reaching the coastal path, we turned eastward and followed the track along the cliff whilst enjoying the glorious coastline and sea views up to the top of Bolt Head. As we began the descent with the beautiful Starehole Bay before us, we reminded ourselves of the wreck of the Harzogin Cecilia that lay beneath the water below. A magnificent four-masted steel barque tea clipper that ran aground during a storm in 1937.

Reaching the stream at the bottom of the valley, we passed through a gate and began the steep climb up the rocky steps known as "The Rags". We passed beneath Sharp Tor and the beautiful panorama of Salcombe Estuary opened up before us as we continued along the path. Where the lane goes uphill towards Overbecks (National Trust property), we turned right into Tor Woods. A lovely walk through dappled sunlight and carpets of bluebells as we climbed to the top of the woods and another glorious view of the Salcombe Estuary.

Our exit from Tor Woods brought us out into fields at East Soar. Here the group split with six taking the short cut back to the car park. The remainder completed the slightly longer, and planned, route up to the top of Sharp Tor where we enjoyed amazing views across to Prawle Point.



We finished at the Walker's Hut at East Soar farm for lovely fresh coffee and homemade cake.

May 24th. Bolberry and Hope Cove. Liz Coates. 4 miles.

On 24th May 13 happy Trampers plus one dog set off from the car park of the Oceans Restaurant on Bolberry Down. We headed inland down the hill with banks of pink campion on either side, through Bolberry and then up the hill on the other side, turning left up Sweethearts Lane (only wild flowers in abundance to be seen in the hedges). We carried on up to Higher Barton, and then on through the fields, heading off along the ridge towards Hope Cove, with beautiful views over to Galmpton and beyond.

Dropping down into Hope Cove we stopped off to look inside St Clements, the beautifully kept "Chapel of ease" (a church built to accommodate those living at a distance from the Parish Church) ie Galmpton. There are two unusual stained-glass windows in the chapel, the East Window with St Clement, the patron saint of tanners and fishermen, looking down the whole church. He is shown with a large anchor as the poor man was sentenced to death by drowning tied to an anchor. The west window shows St Peter, the Patron Saint of Fishermen, holding the keys of Heaven and his boat. Around his feet there is a lobsterpot, a lobster and a crab as fishing for these crustaceans was a prominent part of the Hope economy for many years.

We then turned left into Inner Hope and started up the coastal path towards Bolt Tail. After climbing about 200 yards we stopped

at the bench in memory of Christine Hammer, a long-time member of the Tramp group who sadly died so suddenly seven years ago. Emerging from the woods into the open we climbed up to the coastal path and on to Bolt Tail, where we could see the remnants of an Iron Age fort.

After a break to catch our breath and admire the view across to Bantham and Burgh Island we turned back on the cliff path towards the start of the walk. We were all looking forward to our lunch at the Oceans Restaurant, built alongside the apartments built on the site of the old Port Light Pub. We weren't disappointed, with good walkers' fare of soups and sandwiches and other light lunches on offer. Another good morning's walk with friends.

May 27th. Haytor. Richard and Heather Swan. 6 miles

Fourteen of our walking group arrived at the Haytor car park at 10.30 with the weather fine. Visually, the location has an outstanding natural beauty of heather, gorse and woodlands providing an explosion of yellows, greens and purples set in upheavals of grey granite.

The basic route of 6 miles was intended to be roughly triangular in geometry. Starting at the main Haytor Ranger car park and heading North East to Hound Tor via Smallacombe Rocks and the Medieval Village, South to Saddle Tor and finally North East back to Haytor.

The first stop on our journey NE was a small lake within the "Templer Quarry" located a quarter of a mile NE from Haytor Rocks. This Granite quarry was owned and operated by George Templer of Stover from 1780 when the first roads were being constructed across Dartmoor and Princetown foundations were being laid.

We then moved on towards the thirteenth century Medieval Village via a most beautiful walk past Smallacombe Rocks with views of the old Bronze Age hut circles, down Haytor Vale and across the Becca Brook stone bridge and past Greater Rocks. There was a settlement at this site as early as the Bronze Age but abandoned in 1350 due to climate change and possibly the Black Death. We were able to walk between the remains of three longhouses, which sheltered both humans and animals within the same buildings.

With all this overload of information we agreed to by-pass Hound Tor and turn South West downslope to a perfect picnic site by Becca Brook, just upstream from the stone bridge and Bronze Age hutments above. The Team were now fully refreshed and looking forward to the hard grind and slightly tricky climb back up the Southern Flank of Haytor Vale to the second and third series of Haytor Granite Quarries operated by George Templer.

We were now 60% through our planned walk and ready to follow the track SW to Saddle Tor and then E onto the return leg to our starting point via the vibrant colours of gorse and heather at the crest of Haytor. Phew, time for a cup of tea.

June 5th. Dartmeet and Brimpts Wood. Jenny Webb & Trish Wilson. 5 miles.

Ten walkers and three dogs set off for Dartmeet. Turning right from the car park entrance, we crossed the bridge and, on the left, took the path signed for Huccaby. It was not long before drizzly rain took hold and some waterproof jackets were put on! Crossing some wet ground, we followed an old stone path set between granite walls, crossed a stile and continued uphill and down again coming out onto the lane at Huccaby Farm. A right turn took us uphill to join the B3352, another right turn for 100 metres then we crossed the road and headed down a track for Brimpts Farm, passing under a wonderful avenue of tall beech trees. Bearing left before reaching the farmhouse, we came across a Dartmoor Tinworking display.

By this time there were some moans and groans about the weather and those without waterproofs were now rather damp! Shelter was taken in the Tinworking Display building and as it turned out it was well worth a visit – very interesting!!

Having dried off, the rain had eased, the sun was now pushing through and spirits were raised. We followed the bridleway down to a gate where a group of young calves had gathered and needed coaxing back before we could all get through. We continued along the bridleway and Yar Tor could be seen on the other side of the valley. Across fields the path descended gently along the wet bank of the valley and the sparkling East Dart appeared through the trees below. A delightful path led us down to the wooded

banks of the river and onto the stepping stones. Here we had some fun getting over the large boulders. Some found it easier than others but once across and after a few photos, we picked our way along a rough and rooty path that led us to a lovely little clapper bridge. After crossing, we turned left, bearing away from the brook and soon reached a broad, grassy area where we stopped for our picnic lunch.

Moving on after lunch, we turned right into a lane and headed uphill and past an interestingly named Rogues Roost. A little further on we turned right and across fields leading to Yar Tor. There is a path on the western slopes of Yar Tor but it is hard to find. It is indistinct in places especially in summer when the bracken is high. So we decided to get back down to the East Dart river and picked our way downhill through the gorse and bracken reaching the opposite side of the river bank from where we came.

The dogs had a cooling dip in the water and a lovely riverside walk took us back to Dartmeet and the Badger's Holt where we had tea and refreshments accompanied by peacocks strutting their stuff!

June 12th. Both sides of the Avon Valley. Anna Martin. 8 miles.

Eight people and 2 dogs took the ferry from Bantham as soon as the service started at 10am, on a day with a less than brilliant forecast. Marsh had to take us in 2 trips, and very kindly took us as close to the start of our walk at Cockleridge as he could, as it was low tide. We climbed up to the golf club, from where the view of the estuary and Bigbury Bay is stunning, and took the footpath across to Hexdown, then down to Villa Crusoe. The track leading down and just beyond Villa Crusoe was the only part of the walk that we had not reccied, and, of course, was the worst bit. The first part of it was very muddy as cattle had obviously been there recently. The lane leading away from Villa Crusoe was being dug up by a utilities company, but we all managed to squeeze through what remained of the road. From then on, our walk was straightforward.

We climbed up to Lincombe Lane, and then across fields, where again the view is wonderful, and walked on to Stakes road - the tidal road. We were very anxious to reach this point as soon as possible as the tide was coming in, but we actually had

plenty of time, and we need not have chivvied people up as much as we did!

We stopped for coffee at the Fisherman's Rest at Aveton Gifford and ate our picnic lunches. Then we walked over the bridge and through South Efford and up to Stadbury, and on through Stiddicombe wood and on to Bantham, by which time, it had turned into a beautiful afternoon. Most of us got back to West Buckland, where we had parked the cars, by about 3pm, although 3 walkers had walked ahead of us at a faster pace to get to other commitments.

Interestingly, when we did a practice walk of this route, a walking App on my phone said that we had walked 5.5 miles. On the Tramp day, my Fitbit said that I had walked 16k (10 miles), starting and finishing at West Buckland. Another walker had a walking app which said that she had walked 12K (7.5 miles), starting and returning from the Yarmer estate. So, I think that we will say that we did about 8 miles!

June 18th. Evening walk to Hope Cove for pub supper. Lisa White 7 miles.

The question on the day was "will it rain, and if it does at what time, and how wet will we get? In the event, the weather was overcast for the start of our Summer Evening walk on Tuesday 18th June from Thurlestone to Hope Cove and back when 15 walkers and 3 dogs set off from Thurlestone at 4pm over the fields to Whitlocksworthy. The path across the fields was well laid out with walk tracks through the crops.

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 perfect and the rain held off. At this stage, we were joined by several non-walkers.

From South Huish, several of our walkers decided to take the short cut to Hope Cove but the rest (6 in total) carried on to Galmpton, and then up onto the Ridgeway Path between Marlborough and Hope Cove. The views over 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. In fact, by the time we had 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 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! I would also like to thank Alastair Durden, who led the full walk for me, my knee still not able to allow me to walk far.

July 1st. Circular walk around Brixton. Linda Scott. 6.5 miles.

On a lovely sunny morning, 5 Trampers set off from Brixton. We left the village and passed under the first of several railway bridges, built in 1892 to carry the Great Western Railway's single-track branch from Plymouth, to Plymstock. The line, built in 1898 was planned as part of a route to Modbury but the line only went as far as Yealmpton. The passenger service was withdrawn in 1930 but reopened during the Second World War to enable Plymothians to evacuate the city during the air raids. This service stopped again in 1947 and the goods service finished in 1960.

We walked through fields then woodland and then along the disused railway track alongside the River Yealm, trying to picture the scene had the tide been in! We passed the brickworks, which had been a major employer in the area, and the railway workers' cottages. We then walked up the road to where the route continued across fields and along several very pretty green lanes until we arrived at Cofflete bridge, an attractive ancient double arched structure.

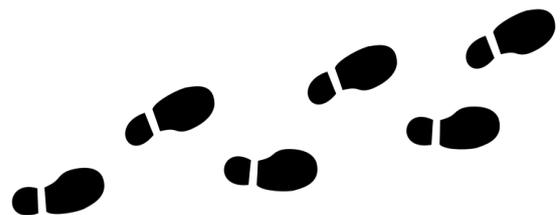
At Brixton Tor we turned to walk between the very pretty 300-year-old properties and through a kissing gate and a narrow path but our way was barred by a very large and stubborn horse. Alastair tried his horse whispering skills and then resorted to trying to push it back but to no avail! We were rethinking our route when a neighbour appeared and moved the horse which, he told us, presented a big problem to walkers. We then went under a long tunnel of the former railway line, which was used as an air raid shelter by Plymouth people at night in World War 2.

A short road section took us under a railway bridge that had been rebuilt when the line was going to be converted into a cycle way. In our attempt to complete the walk before lunch time, we abandoned plans for coffee and cakes at Otter and set off to cross the main road then headed up the hill. From the summit we had fantastic views over Plymouth and Dartmoor. We then crossed the fields, climbed up and down numerous steps and followed pathways around the back of Brixton to arrive back where we had started from. Everyone agreed that it had been an interesting walk and we were all amazed how much history there is behind the A379!

July 9th. Noss Mayo circular walk. Catherine & George Delafield. 4.5 miles.

We had glorious weather for the Noss Mayo-Revelstoke Drive walk on 9 July with eleven walkers and three dogs. When we reached the tennis court parking, a rival group had also arrived so it was a popular day out. This is an easy but interesting tramp of about 4½ miles with views of the sea and of the quirky architecture. Two of our number – including walk leader – had to cover some ground twice around Warren Cottage, however, when our regular escapologist dog missed a gate and tried to join another party. The other Tramps enjoyed a break with views while H*** was retrieved.

After an initial climb out of Noss Mayo, we turned clockwise to follow the wide and well-trodden coastal path once used as a carriage drive. There was one squelchy puddle which the dogs enjoyed in the heat and some new-born calves out on the path as well as lots of sheep resting in the shade on the run in to the village. We were rewarded with glorious views out to sea and in the estuary, there were pretty boats and the odd dinghy being rowed. It was not long before we reached the Ship Inn for lunch by way of a quayside dip (dogs only).



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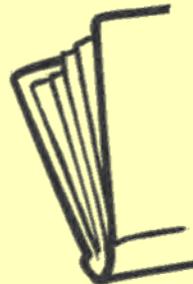
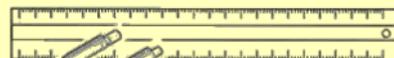
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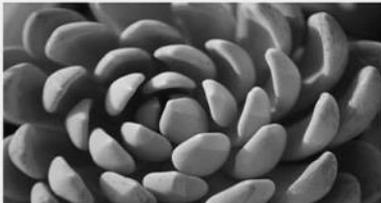
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Curried Coronation Chicken

For 4 servings you will need:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ chicken, cooked and roughly chopped.
- 2x10 oz cans condensed soup (chicken; mushroom & chicken; or celery & chicken)
- 6 oz mayonnaise
- 1 tsp curry powder
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 4 oz cheese grated
- 2 oz butter
- 4 thick slices white bread [crusts removed and cubed]
- Broccoli (cooked)

Preparation:

Place cooked broccoli in bottom of greased dish and cover with chicken.

Mix soup, mayo, curry powder, lemon juice and pepper and pour over chicken.

Sprinkle grated cheese on top.

Melt butter in saucepan and add cubes of bread and when soaked arrange bread over cheese.

Cooking

Cook at 190 degrees for 45 minutes.

Cover before freezing [probably better to leave the bread and cheese until it's defrosted, if freezing].

Home Improvement Loan Scheme

South Hams District Council want to make residents aware of funding that is available to make improvements to homes across the district. Homeowners and landlords can apply for a loan to make improvements to their homes. Essential home repairs such as a replacement boiler, new windows and doors, roof repairs (including thatch), plumbing, heating or electrical works and even structural repairs are included under the scheme. Everyone receives the same interest rate regardless of your circumstances or credit score. You can choose your own contractor and there are a variety of loan products available to suit individual needs.

The scheme is delivered through Wessex Resolutions CIC, a not-for-profit lender that works in close partnership with the council.

For more information, call Wessex Resolutions on 01823 461099, visit www.wessesxresolutions.org.uk or email enquiries@wrcic.org.uk.

June Meeting

New President, Sally Martin, thanked members for voting for her and asked members for suggestions of changes or innovations they would like.

She invited members to our annual Garden Party Lunch on 4th July, held in the Church Meeting Room, with a request to wear blue. Lunch outings will hopefully re-start on the fourth Thursday of each month.

We were fortunate to have as Speaker, Professor Peter Edwards; whose talk "Death of Venice" gave a comprehensive analysis of the city's problems. Founded in 5th century, early tribes escaping the Goth and Visigoth hordes, fled to the swampy islands where they could defend themselves. Over centuries, they built up their city state into a powerful naval force. They drove wooden piles into the marshy, sandy, silty ground in order to build large stone buildings, which are still mainly in good condition after hundreds of years having being preserved in the anaerobic state of the mud. Three main channels between the islands protecting the Lagoon are kept open by dredging for different types of vessels, fishing, industrial and cruise ships. The latter, are one cause of damage to the stonework of houses and seawalls. Water extraction via Artesian wells between 1930-70 for industrial farming caused Venice to sink by 10cms. Global warming causes rising sea levels, as fresh water from melting ice is less dense and takes up more volume.

Aqua Alta, the high water, is measured at 90cms above normal. Should this reach 2 metres, the whole island would be flooded. The big flood of 1966 was measured at 1.94 metres. Aqua Altas are becoming more frequent. Evidence of high water from 16thC, can be seen in paintings by Canaletto, Bellotto and Veronese. Salt water coming above the damp-proof courses damages bricks and mortar, and then buildings are undermined.

Rising property prices mean locals move to the mainland, and hotels take their place. In

an Aqua Alta, people have to use trestles to walk on to keep above the water level. Solutions considered are to redirect shipping away from the Giudecca Canal, building a barrier around the Lagoon to keep out a 3metre rise, sadly corrosion has been found in hinges on the barriers, restoring sand dunes, make natural levees and plant vegetation in the coastal flood plain.

July Meeting

Our Summer Lunch was held inside the Church Meeting Room on 4th July, because of the heat outside. A veritable feast was provided by the Committee, and enjoyed by all our ladies. Vivienne Day organised a cryptic quiz based on flowering plants. We welcomed ladies from South Milton WI who came to listen to the Speaker and Demonstrator, our very own Alice Foster, an accredited Show Judge for over 30 years for floral competitions, who went through the Schedule for the Horticultural Show to be held on 3rd August at South Milton. Whilst demonstrating how to do arrangements for each of the classes, she emphasised the importance of adhering exactly to the requirements and dimensions demanded, remembering that flowers may droop after a while. Alice an excellent gardener, brought most of the flowers and foliage from her own garden, producing beautiful arrangements, which were raffled. She hoped her demonstration would inspire people to put an entry into the Show.

Sally Martin presented Birthday Posies, which Alice makes, and thanked the Committee members who produced the delicious lunch on 4th July. Our monthly lunches will re-start on the fourth Thursday of each month, starting with one at Thurlestone Golf Club in September. She reminded us of upcoming events, including a walk in Historic Plymouth, and an Evening at John Lewis in Exeter.

After the August break, the September meeting will have speaker Mike Thompson talking about the Rev. Keble Martin, from Devon, who produced a wonderful book of wild flowers which became a best-seller when he was in his eighties.

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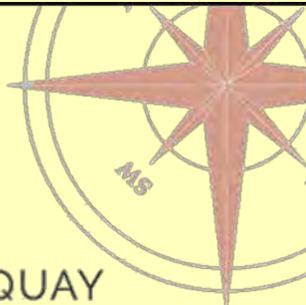
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Weather Wag by Jan Turner

Aren't we lucky, those who live here all year, to be able to walk out the door to the clear blue skies, calm air and warmth that are so welcome. It is a change from the dreary days of much of last summer. Having said that, my Andovarian relatives who were here this time last year had the only few days of really hot summery weather of 2018, and here they are again with much the same conditions. I hope they come again next summer.



At Beach Cottage the mercury rose to 27°C on 10th July. In 2018 on 9th July the top temp. was 28°C, so is similar for two years running, the highest temperature was 35°C at Heathrow on July 26th. As is usual the high pressure dropped but not seriously so and became heavy and thundery. On 28th July our Church Fete was rained off after 40 minutes, it came down in 'stair rods', everyone and everything was soaked.

In my book - 'The Wrong Kind of Snow' 10th July is headed Desert Year and Wettest Day. In 1921 the day temp. was 34°C and one of the warmest and driest summers since the 17th Century, but also very windy. This spelt disaster for farmers on all but the heaviest land, especially in East Anglia, where this year is known as the 'Desert Year'. The drought - almost a year in places - couldn't have come at a worse time. Agriculture had been at a low ebb since 1870, though the First World War with its needs for high productivity provided some temporary respite. World prices collapsed - leading, in America, to the Great Depression. The wettest day saw Cheddar Gorge caves flood for the first time and all major holiday routes to the south west were impassable. **BUT THIS IS, ON AVERAGE THE WETTEST DAY OF THE YEAR!**

With the drop in Agriculture and adverse weather the situation for farmers and farm workers was dismal to say the least. Leonard Thompson, a farm worker in East Anglia relates "We had no rain from March right through to October. The corn grew to only a foot high and most of it didn't come to ear. So there was no grain to harvest and at the end of the 'harvest' we heard that 'the wages are coming down this week'. It was the Government's fault; they ended the Corn Act less than a year after it was made law. As a result the price of wheat quartered, cattle were sold for next to nothing because farmers could not afford to keep them. The farmers were broke and frightened and took it out on us men. We reminded them that we had fought in the Great War, and they reminded us that they had too. So it was hate all round. I drew 27s 6d from the farmer, and after I had given my wife 24s and paid my Union 4d and my rent 3s 1d, I had 1d left! So I threw it across the field. I'd worked hard, I'd been through the war and I'd married. A penny was what a child had, I wasn't having that. I would sooner have nothing".

In my memory a drought year with high winds in East Anglia lead to a devastating loss of topsoil, at least 1-2 inches; it blew into barns, buildings and drainage channels, blocking them. The area resembled the dust storms of the Prairie lands in the USA. Horticultural crops were blown out of the ground and farmers again suffered horrendous losses.

Here, today we are not badly affected; the east of the country has had cooler and damper weather for a change. Farmer friends tell me the harvest is looking better than expected. The Ley outlet on Thurlestone Sands is rimmed with green algae and looks fetid and not nice, though OK I wouldn't want to play in it, but the delightful families of Mallard ducklings don't seem to mind.

Enjoy the sun; watch out for sunburn and water gardens sparingly.

DIARY DATES

August

- Thursday 1 Salcombe Lifeboat Fundraising Crew - Lifeboat Tours
Saturday 3 Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show 2.30pm South Milton Village Hall
Saturday 3 Loddiswell Show
Sat 3 - 10 Salcombe Town Regatta
Monday 5 Art, Craft & Collectibles Items - Market Hall Kingsbridge 8.30am - 4.30pm
Thursday 8 Salcombe Lifeboat Fundraising Crew - Lifeboat Tours
Friday 9 Avon Mill Theatre - "3 Men in a Boat" by Jerome K Jerome
Sat 10 - 11 2 Day Working Vintage Rally at Sorley Cross from 10am
Sunday 11 Frogmore Regatta 12noon - 6pm
Sunday 11 East Portlemouth Church Fete 2pm - 5pm
Sunday 11 - 16 Salcombe Gin Salcombe Yacht Club Regatta
Monday 12 South Hams NT - The Barbican Plymouth & Historic Harbour Cruise
Wed 14 - 17 MAD Kids Group presents The Sound of Music Malborough Village Hall 7.30pm (Sat Matinee 2pm) Adults £10 Child (under 16) £5. Tickets from Malborough Post Office and K'bridge TIC
Saturday 17 South Hams Society Beach Clean - Gara Beach - meet in the car park at 2pm
Saturday 17 Churchstow Church Fete at Whitehall Manor 2pm
Sat 24 - 26 Hope Cove Weekend
Sunday 25 Aveton Gifford Classic Car Show 11.30am - 3.30pm
Thurs 29 - 31 Dartmouth Royal Regatta

September

- Monday 2 Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Tuesday 3 Thurlestone Quiz Nights, hosted by Mike Jones, restarts at their new venue Thurlestone Golf Club 7.30pm
Saturday 7 Thurlestone Parish Hall Autumn Fair 2.30pm
Saturday 7 Kingsbridge Show, Borough Farm, Kingsbridge - Gates open at 9am
Thursday 12 WI 2.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall Mike Thompson discussing Rev Keble Martin, author
Thursday 12 South Hams NT - a Walk from Rattery
Saturday 14 Kingsbridge Celebrates its 800th Birthday
Saturday 14 South Hams Society Beach Clean - Soar Mill Cove - start 2pm
Saturday 14 NT Big Night Out at Thurlestone Sands 4pm - 9.30pm
Saturday 21 Kingsbridge Vintage Bus Running Day
Sunday 22 5K Total Obstacle Run in aid of Bowel Cancer South West. Starting at 9.30am next to Thurlestone Sands.
Wednesday 25 South Hams NT - Hestercombe Gardens nr Taunton
Wednesday 25 Arts Society K'bridge Methodist Hall 7.30pm. Tony Rawlins discusses Art & Advertising "Mad Men and the Artists - how the advertising industry has exploited Fine Art"
Wed 25 - 28 KATS presents Blood Brothers (play version) - Malborough Village Hall 7.30pm. Tickets £8 (Wed) £10 (Thurs/Fri/Sat)
Thursday 26 Arts Society K'bridge Methodist Hall 10.30am Lecture as Wednesday
Saturday 28 East Allington Whacky Races 10am - 5pm

TRAMP Walks - see Programme in February - March 2019 edition of Village Voice and check the walk notice in the Thurlestone shop window.

Kingsbridge Farmers Market 1st and 3rd Saturdays in Month 9am - 1pm

Car Boot Sales every Sunday from 19 May to 29 Sept (excluding 21 & 28 July)
Kingsbridge Quay Car Park 9am - 12noon - in aid of various local charities

CONTACT INFORMATION

CLUBS & GROUPS

AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION	Chairman	Stuart Watts	810373
BANTHAM SAILING CLUB	Secretary	Jo Smith	560347
BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB	Clubhouse		560447
BRIDGE CLUB (Wed & Fri 6.30pm)	Contact	Lisa White	560505
BUCKLAND PHONE BOX	Contact	Anna Martin	560796
FRENCH CONVERSATION (Thurs 2pm - 3pm)	Contact	Angela Luckhurst	521595
FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH	Contact	Phil Millard	560843
HORTICULTURAL SHOW (annual)	Contact	Tom Gilkes	560973
LINE DANCING (Wed 2pm)	Contact	Sue Bain	07989817898
NIA WITH NOLA FITNESS (Mon 10.15am)	Contact	Nola Baylis	842877
PILATES (Mon 2.15pm Wed 9am)	Contact	Franny Morris	07590506027
PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOC (POTS)	Chairman	Chris White	560505
TABLE TENNIS (Thurs 7.30pm)	Contact	Paul Ferguson	07866802800
TAI CHI/CHUAN (Wed 10.30am)	Contact	Vida Hodder	561182
TAI CHI/SHIATSU (Thurs from 9.30am)	Contact	Greg Cutler	07816230211
THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB	Office & General Enquiries		560405
TENNIS SECTION (at Golf Club)	Book via Pro Shop		560715
THURLESTONE PHONE BOX	Contact	Kit Marshall	560214
TRAMP (Thurlestone Ramblers)	Contact	Mike Stickland	560763
WI (2nd Thurs in month 2.30pm not Aug or Dec)	Contact	Sally Martin	561356
YOGA (Tues 9am)	Contact	Sarah Scott	07879627939
YOGA (Tues 7.30pm)	Contact	Will Alpass	07769263988
ZUMBA (Mondays 6.30pm - 7.30pm from 29/4)	Contact	Hannah Winzer	07454003091

HEALTH CENTRES

Norton Brook Medical Centre, Cookworthy Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1AE	853551
Redfern Health Centre, Shadycombe Road, Salcombe TQ8 8DJ	842284
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Non-emergency NHS Direct	111

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- Brown Bin (garden & food waste) alternate Mondays from 12th August
- Blue & Clear sacks (recyclables) with the Brown Bin collection

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Mon - Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 4.30pm (1st Oct - 31st March)

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

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

LIBRARIES

Kingsbridge - Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1EB T: 852315 (closed all day Thur, Sun and Sat pm)
Mobile library visits Thurlestone Parish Hall car park Wednesdays Aug 28th & Sept 25th 3.10 - 4.10pm

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

Local Bus Service - Tally Ho! Service No. 162 - Destinations from Thurlestone (Bus stop by Church) are:- Kingsbridge, South Milton, Malborough, Galmpton and Hope Cove.
For timetable contact Tally Ho! on 01548 853081 or see www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable
For other Bus, Rail and Coach information contact Traveline South West T: 0871 2002233 (7.00am - 10.00pm)
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PARISH INFORMATION

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

Chairman	Andrew Rhymes	560564
Vice-chairman	Jill Munn	560732
Parish Clerk	Helen Nathanson	07813 689717
Members	Sue Crowther	560098
	Nigel Hurrell	560691
	Kit Marshall	560214
	Charlie Mitchelmore	560602 (and Tree Warden)
	Sian Williams	560339

District Councillors	Mark Long	843828
	Judy Pearce	561370

County Councillor	Rufus Gilbert	856659
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PARISH HALL (see Thurlestone Parish Website for more details)

Telephone (Payphone in foyer) 562189

Chairman: Vacant

Bookings: Diane Martin email: via Parish Website or directly on tphbookings@gmail.com

or telephone 560070 Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5.30pm

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

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH See All Saints' Diary pages earlier in magazine

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL Executive Head Susan Rowe-Jones 560494

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE & STORES Contact Sarah Tyers 561917

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Hours extended to 2pm on Wed & 4pm on Sat in summer, and to 4pm on Sun in school summer hols

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- **Bantham Quay**
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