

VILLAGE VOICE

August - September 2020



Thurlestone in Bloom

The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone



We have continued to live lives close to home in recent weeks and you may have noticed unusually well-tended gardens in the neighbourhood. As many have never looked so good, it was disappointing for Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland's Open Garden event to be cancelled this year. However, lovely gardens can be seen from footpaths as you walk. With so many photographs offered for the front cover, it was a difficult choice to make. Thank you, Sue Dwyer and Christine Dunne for these colourful views. And thank you to all garden lovers who shared pictures with us.

The wider beauty of the natural world around us was especially appreciated while on lockdown and we hear from Mike Passman how the numerous bird varieties are breeding, and where we may find them. Mike also tells us about moths, his new interest.

The onset of the pandemic brought overnight changes and, while some normality is returning, we've not forgotten to use common sense. Our member of Parliament Anthony Mangnall, acknowledges the response of our community to lockdown, referring to its strengths and resilience, as well as the spirit towards the vulnerable among us. Indeed, we hear from the WI how members have got to know each other even better.

On a light note, enjoy our puzzle pages and find the story of 'The Middle Wife' for a laugh. Don't miss 'Sniggers from the Past' for more humour. And there's a smile to be had from Kit who writes about: *The Telephone Box* (correction: *The Library*). Looking for holiday reading? 'Kisses on a Postcard' by Terence Frisby, is a story set in the West Country, and is well recommended by Carolyn Taylor.

We trust that our summer visitors will keep due social-distancing and other current guidelines, for everyone's safety, while enjoying their holiday.

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Front Cover

Thanks to Sue Dwyer and Christine Dunne for their garden photos

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August - September 2020

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A Letter From Your MP, Anthony Mangnall



Winning in politics is akin to plugging a hole in a Dutch dam. The minute you have managed to solve one problem another suddenly arises.

Just last week after three months of heavy lifting and with the help of eighty-four colleagues, I successfully lobbied the Chancellor to reduce tourism and hospitality VAT to 5%. For years these two sectors have called out for the UK to match the European model of a low VAT level.

Now that we have achieved it the calls have already started up to make it permanent. Solutions give way to new problems!

It has been eight months to the day at the time of writing (13th July) since I was elected to be your Member of Parliament, although I am sorry to say that it feels like a great deal longer. The last three months have passed by slowly. My team and I have been working 7 days a week in an effort to help provide support and assurance to those who have been so badly impacted by Covid-19.

While the days, weeks and months might have felt longer it has been the steepest learning curve a 'newbie' MP could have ever experienced. From getting to grips with Westminster's parliamentary procedure to helping introduce a new, and rather rudimentary, virtual system it has allowed me to see how Westminster operates from the chamber and from the comfort of my own sitting room.

Perhaps, most importantly, this entire period has revealed the unique and inspiring strengths of our communities. From our caring groups to our local village shops whose efforts to help the vulnerable, isolated and elderly have gone above and beyond what we might ever have predicted. These front-line networks are ingrained in our local areas and their knowledge is second to none. In the coming months and when we are able to reflect on the lessons learnt from this period, it is my hope that we will drive investment and support into our rural networks. As the first line of defence and assistance against Covid-19, they are part of the resilience that we will need to deal with future crises.

Another lesson of the last few months is never to confuse movement for action. Politics is certainly a talking game, but you can spend your life in meetings (or rather Zoom calls) and fall into the belief that the utterances of a counterpart will translate into action. Sadly, all too often this is not the case. At a time when our rural areas are disconnected (transport & digitally) and the South West is often left behind it has been essential to ensure that if someone says something they are going to deliver, they are then held to it. Being difficult and persistent are two qualities I have had to re-adopt and to ensure that I am always pushing the South West's agenda.

There is no doubt, that the last few months have been tough for us all, we have seen the very best of our society. Perversely, a study at the start of January found that more people knew the name of characters on Coronation Street than on their own streets. I would wager that this crisis has turned all of that on its head. We have proven to ourselves that the care and compassion have not been diluted but just needed to be put to the test.

It remains the greatest honour to be your representative to be doing my best to help you at this difficult time. I look forward to the day when we can gather together and reflect on our unique and wonderful part of the world.

NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meeting 1st June 2020, held online

OPEN FORUM

A resident of West Buckland opposed the suggested site for community housing in West Buckland.

Another resident made a statement supporting the Bantham site.

Three residents also supported the Bantham site, and felt that the PC had prevaricated and now has the opportunity to make a difference for young people and the community.

A resident asked the following 3 questions:

- How will the PC assess the votes on the voting cards?
- What happened about the request for the PC to look into the allocation of moorings in Bantham?
- Indications are that numbers of visitors to Devon and Cornwall could be huge this summer and the large numbers are already causing problems – what planning is there to ensure that this does not cause problems for key things like access to emergency services, for example?

A Thurlestone resident commented that he was unhappy about the lack of due process surrounding the two new sites for community housing, and didn't think that the Village Voice flyer contained sufficient information to make a decision.

MATTERS ARISING

Coronation Quay has now been closed for a further 6 months.

Cyclists using the coast path is a matter of trespass and needs to be pursued by landowners. Councillors discussed the possibility of installing better and larger signs – the Clerk will investigate whether we can pay for our own to be put up. She will also contact the NT to see if they can help.

PLANNING

3 EDWARDS CLOSE, THURLESTONE Householder application for first floor extension. OBJECTION.

OLD CHAPEL, WEST BUCKLAND Householder application for extension. SUPPORTED.

THE CHASE, WARREN ROAD, THURLESTONE Householder application for proposed renovation and internal alterations to existing property with 2 storey rear extension. New single garage with annex flat above. OBJECTION.

5 MEAD LANE, THURLESTONE Householder application for installation of cladding to south and west elevations. SUPPORTED.

20 COURT PARK THURLESTONE Householder application for alterations and extension to dwelling. OBJECTION.

THE YARD, LAND AT SX 699 454 AUNEMOUTH CROSS SUPPORTED.

11 MEAD LANE, THURLESTONE Householder application for alterations and external works. SUPPORTED.

BROADSANDS, ILBERT RD, THURLESTONE Application for removal of Condition 5 of planning permission 0433/20/HHO. OBJECTION

YELLOW SANDS ILBERT ROAD THURLESTONE Householder application for replacement garage and summer bedroom (to supersede application 3430/19/HHO). SUPPORTED.

6 MEADCOMBE ROAD THURLESTONE Householder application for front extension to dwelling with replacement balcony over. DEFERRED.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT & # DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The reports were noted.

Councillor Pearce reminded people to respond to the consultation around dogs on beaches, which has only just been opened and details of which can be found on the SHDC and Parish websites. In particular, it is recommending a reduction in the times when dogs will be excluded from Bantham beach.

Councillor Mitchelmore stated that he thought that the PC had been dictated to by SHDC about the location of community housing and he was not happy about it. He supported community housing but felt that the decision about where it should go should be taken by the parish.

PARISH MATTERS

Problems have been reported with parking on the road leading from the War memorial to the church car park.

Speeding has been a problem along the road from West Buckland to Bantham. The road was recently cleaned between West Buckland and Bantham but was so ineffective as to be worthless. This needs to be reported to Highways. The Parish Clerk had attended a County Focus Group which looked at the issues faced by town and parish councils during the pandemic. Many other parishes around the county are worried about the influx of visitors and consider that the problems are not yet over for the south west.

Discussion was had about a tree which was taken down on the Yarmer Estate and then burned for a few days. The advice in such a case is to call the Fire Brigade.

Meeting 6th July, held online

OPEN FORUM

At the community meeting on Jan 28th 2019 to discuss the Community Led Housing project, Minutes were issued and 2 things were promised: 1) that we would all receive an email keeping us up to date with progress and 2) a public meeting to update us all as progress was made and prior to site approval. Neither of these two promises have been met to the knowledge of the parishioner asking the question. It was suggested that this has led to a suspicion amongst some parishioners that the PC has a hidden agenda, so would the council agree to meet their commitments of January 2019?

Another parishioner asked why Thurlestone village has not had any proposals for community housing? It was explained that landowners had been approached and any land that may be suitable for affordable housing had been put forward – no sites in Thurlestone were on offer.

It was suggested that if there isn't a suitable site then the project shouldn't go ahead. It was explained that a large majority of responses to the Village Voice flyer have been returned in favour of the Bantham site.

MATTERS ARISING

The Estate have explained that the waiting list for the moorings is maintained in chronological order and that when one becomes available, then the next person on the list is offered it. Historically, they said they had tried to give local residents priority but that it had proved impracticable to apply and would now be too complicated from a legal perspective.

It was explained that the PC will assess the votes on the voting cards on the subject of community-led housing on the basis that it is a parish-led initiative, and the Parish Council will support what they believe is best for the parish.

PLANNING

HIGHER FURLONG, WARREN ROAD, THURLESTONE Householder application for 3no. dormer windows, external alterations, and erection of detached garage to rear. DEFERRED.

GROVE COTTAGES, WEST BUCKLAND Removal of five Ash trees, as they have Ash die back. SUPPORTED, subject to SHDC confirming the diagnosis.

GROVE COTTAGES, WEST BUCKLAND remove 2 fallen alder branches (exempt works); Reduction of alder and branch on East side over pond raised beds by approx. 15 metres; Reduction of alder and branch on East side over neighbour's summer house by approx. 15 metres. SUPPORTED.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, EDDYSTONE ROAD, THURLESTONE Holm Oak - crown reduction by 1.5/2m on east side to reduce pressure on union and likelihood of further failure, installation of bracing system to help support remainder of the union. Corsican Pine - crown reduction by 2-3m on east side to appropriate growing points due to heavy stem lean. SUPPORTED, subject to permission from SHDC.

COMMUNITY LED HOUSING Councillors voted six to one in favour of proceeding with the Bantham site.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT & # DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The reports were noted.

PARISH MATTERS

SHDC was thanked for getting the toilets opened and this has been well received.

Cllr Marshall gave an update about the Covid helpline, which is still running very successfully. It is now quite quiet but still being used for requests for help or to talk. It costs £6 per month for the phone and he asked for approval to keep it running, which all councillors approved. Thanks were passed on to the helpers and Cllr Rhymes said that, when things had returned to normal, there would be a big get together to thank everyone who had helped within the community. A question was asked about thanking the village shop for their contribution. He agreed that this was a good point and thanked the speaker for making it. He thought that there were many, many people like this to be thanked and that it would be done collectively in time to come.

For more detailed information, see the full Minutes on the Parish Website.



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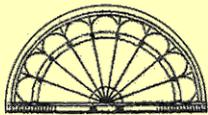
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THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LED HOUSING UPDATE



The last issue of Village Voice included a leaflet containing a location map of two possible sites for six affordable homes for sale to people who meet the parish's local connection criteria.

Finding a suitable site depends on a landowner being willing to sell land to SHDC for £10,000 per plot and, not surprisingly, no land was offered within the settlement boundary of any of our three villages due to its high commercial value. The planning regime therefore makes an exception for affordable housing on land adjoining a settlement boundary, where planning permission would not normally be granted for housing.

We were offered two sites – one adjoining Bantham and another adjoining West Buckland.

Of the 418 leaflets that were circulated, 102 were completed; 44 were posted at the Bantham shop and 58 at the Thurlestone shop. The responses were as follows:

- 80 households favoured the Bantham site
- 12 households favoured the West Buckland site
- 10 households thought neither site is suitable

The comments are set out on the parish website and Councillors are very grateful for the time and effort which people put into giving us their views. The most repeated comment in favour of the Bantham site was that it would make the village more year-round and help sustain the shop/cafe and pub. Concerns about the West Buckland site focused on the undeveloped, steep terrain.

We also obtained initial 'without prejudice' comments from an independent quantity surveyor and the Manager of the South Devon AONB to help us with our decision. Details are set out in full in the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 6 July (on the parish website). Councillors were advised that the West Buckland site may incur an additional 30% uplift due to the topography of the site and that the development would fail to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB, a critical planning requirement. The roadside development of the Bantham site, subject to caveats including appropriate design and use of materials, could be regarded as a natural extension of the existing linear built form of the village. Views of the site would need to be mitigated by appropriate landscaping and further biodiversity and landscape improvements would also be needed to help conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB. In terms of the design, it would be important to avoid massing and ensure sufficient variation with different rooflines so as to echo the character of the existing built form and reinforce the distinctive character of the area.

Having therefore considered environmental, topographical, ecological and highways issues, as well as residents' comments and the likely development costs, Councillors held a vote to decide whether to promote the Bantham site for community led housing and it was approved 6 to 1. It was agreed that the project must be 100% affordable housing and that the Parish Council must be involved with the design, bearing in mind the advice received from the AONB Manager.

The next stages of the project will involve (1) SHDC entering into an option agreement with the Bantham Estate to buy the land, (2) the Parish Council submitting an application to Homes England for grant funding, and (3) SHDC preparing a detailed planning application for the project which conforms with the Thurlestone Parish Neighbourhood Plan, working in collaboration with the Parish Council.

Thank you once again for your assistance with this important decision which will allow local people – and future generations – the chance to get on the property ladder.

Jack Rhymes, Chairman of Thurlestone Parish Council

The 'Middle Wife'

(by an Anonymous Teacher)

I've been teaching now for about fifteen years. I have two kids myself, but the best birth story I know is the one I saw in my own second grade classroom a few years ago.

When I was a kid, I loved show-and-tell. So I always have a few sessions with my students. It helps them get over shyness and usually, show-and-tell is pretty tame. Kids bring in pet turtles, model airplanes, pictures of fish they catch, stuff like that. And I never, ever place any boundaries or limitations on them. If they want to lug it in to school and talk about it, they're welcome.

Well, one day this little girl, Erica, a very bright, very outgoing kid, takes her turn and waddles up to the front of the class with a pillow stuffed under her jumper.

She holds up a snapshot of an infant. 'This is Luke, my baby brother, and I'm going to tell you about his birthday.'

'First, Mum and Dad made him as a symbol of their love, and then Dad put a seed in my Mum's stomach, and Luke grew in there. He ate for nine months through an umbrella cord.'

She's standing there with her hands on the pillow, and I'm trying not to laugh and wishing I had my camcorder with me. The kids are watching her in amazement.

'Then, about two Saturdays ago, my Mum starts saying and going, 'Oh, Oh, Oh, Oh!' Erica puts a hand behind her back and groans. 'She walked around the house for, like an hour, 'Oh, oh, oh!' (Now this kid is doing a hysterical duck walk and groaning.)

'My Dad called the middle wife. She delivers babies, but she doesn't have a sign on the car like the Domino's man. They got my Mum to lie down in bed like this.' (Then Erica lies down with her back against the wall.)

'And then, pop! My Mom had this bag of water she kept in there in case he got thirsty, and it just blew up and spilled all over the bed, like psshheew!' (This kid has her legs spread with her little hands miming water flowing away. It was too much!)

'Then the middle wife starts saying 'push, push,' and 'breathe, breathe. They started counting, but never even got past ten. Then, all of a sudden, out comes my brother. He was covered in yucky stuff that they all said was from Mum's play-centre, (placenta) so there must be a lot of toys inside there. When he got out, the middle wife spanked him for 'crawling up in there.'

Then Erica stood up, took a big theatrical bow and returned to her seat. I'm sure I applauded the loudest. Ever since then, when it's show-and-tell day, I bring my camcorder, just in case another 'Middle Wife' comes along.



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Thurlestone Phonebox.....Ring Ring

Thanks to Paul Martin, our Phonebox has never looked so pristine and resplendent. New windows, rust removed, holes sealed, fresh paint even on the floor and all surmounted by sparkling gilded crowns. Keen observers will even have noticed the squeaky new sign over the door replacing "Telephone" with "Library". But.....a bit of a premature misnomer I'm afraid as there are still no books on the shelves. To misuse and mix metaphors: "A Phonebox without books is like a meal without wine is like a day without sunshine". Come along Boris surely our Phonebox Library is a National Essential Service?

Paul's expertise has not stopped there. Take a look at the old redundant Letterbox set in the shop wall over the road. Has ever a letterbox looked so majestic and magnificent? Royal Mail eat your heart out.



Thank you, Paul, for brightening up our village.

Mr. O. Wilde is reputed to have said "...to do nothing is the most difficult thing in the world and the most intellectual". So obviously the good citizens of our Parish will have had minimal problems navigating through the doldrums of lock-down.

But keep smiling because, as we all know, the sun always shines in Thurlestone.

Kit Marshall

The Thurlestone Parish Lockdown Support Hotline

07955 607873

The Support Hotline is still performing an essential role and we would encourage anyone who needs help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, dog-walking or whatever not to hesitate in calling the Helpline. Our fantastic volunteers are very happy to lend a helping hand even if it's just having a chat over the phone.

If you, or anyone you know, need some assistance for anything other than medical matters please do not hesitate to call the Hotline and speak to a very supportive person who will do their best to find a way to help.

So please take note of the number and pass it on to anyone who might be in need of some sympathetic help.

079556 07873

Waggy Tales

A Few Antics of a Certain Golden Retriever!

My name is Pebble. I have lived at Thurlestone since I was 10 weeks old and am now 9 years old.

I seem to be well known (better than my owner I think!) for my good looks, cheek, charm and gentle nature I am told.

I enjoy my walks especially when I meet Heidi who has already featured in Village Voice.

Despite being a retriever, that is not my greatest skill. Swimming is my passion, especially in the sea where I enjoy surfing, no need for a board as I put my fore legs out to balance. I don't mind the odd waves going over my head much to my owner's dismay. I often bark as I catch the splashes I make but best of all I enjoy splashing the holidaymakers who paddle, thinking how cold the sea is. They eventually, once they are wet enough, go in!

When I was very young and being trained to walk off the lead, the greenkeepers on the golf course soon got to know me. I used to escape my owner to go and greet them, preferably bearing a golf tee with its long spike which I picked up en route. Nowadays my manners are better and I never go across greens or through the bunkers.

My best claim to fame has to be when I climbed into the driver's seat and drove my owner's vehicle into a tree in the garden causing a lot of damage and resulting in the vehicle having to go on a low loader for necessary repairs. I didn't own up to having chewed the hand brake, preferring that for others to discover. My owner now makes sure that the vehicle is always put into gear as well as the handbrake being on!



Those are just a very few of my antics during my younger days. My owner does not often get cross and when she does I get tied to the naughty tap outside our garage. My only vice seems to be chewing such things as golf galls, sticks and pieces of slate.

I have now become older and wiser and soon get forgiven when I show my big brown sorrowful eyes and creep onto my owner's lap for a cuddle. Who is to say that a retriever cannot be a lapdog?

Now life is somewhat quiet, as I get my owner to write this, because we are in a Lockdown restriction due to a nasty virus that none of us with 2 legs or 4 want. So now I rest, in self isolation, and dream of happy social days to come once again.

Juliet Atkin

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All
Saints

RECTOR:

Revd. Daniel Hartley 562727

LAY READER: Peter Gornall



At the time of writing this article we've just said goodbye to our Year 6 children at All Saints' Primary School. Normally the children, along with parents and grandparents, cram into our beautiful church here in Thurlestone for their Leavers' Service. Things looked very different this year. It has been a difficult final year for our leavers. No Year 6 residential, no final end-of-year play, no proper parties. And yet the children were still filled with that same joy and enthusiasm for life that they had the last time that I saw them in March. In fact it was almost as if the peculiarity of the situation had brought out more joy and enthusiasm from the children than they'd had before (if that's possible!). Because of the rules and regulations that govern our schools, children in the same "bubble" can interact with each other without social distancing. I'd forgotten what it looks like to see people being together without the awkwardness of always having to think about 2 metre distancing and about face masks.

As we move forward into "stage 2" of the battle against COVID-19, my experience at the primary school reminded me that we're moving into a time of "differentiated practice". In order for us to function as a society we will need to make different provisions in different circumstances. It has been a joy and a pleasure to reopen many of our local churches for public worship. On the surface this worship looks very different from how it looked before. Government guidelines prohibit singing and fellowship over coffee. We have to space people out in church to comply with the 2 metre rule. At the time of writing we have not been asked to enforce the wearing of face masks. It might be tricky for me as it would muffle what I have to say (although this might be popular with some!). Despite all of this though, we are still able to worship in "spirit and in truth". Last Sunday we met together for the first time and, just like the children at the primary school, we embraced the "new normal".

As I prepared for this first public act of worship for nearly 4 months, it struck me that I had a choice. Either I could dwell on the many things that were different or I could embrace the things that were the same. After all we were still gathering in church. We were still praying. We were still worshipping God. It seemed clear to me that if we wait until things are just as we want them to be then we will be waiting for a long time. Much better instead to find hope in the small steps that take us forward rather to wait for the giant leap that might never come.

Daniel Hartley

LOCAL AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

While you may not feel able to come to church, the following may help:

DAILY HOPE PHONE LINE: For those without access to the internet Daily, Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line (0800 804 8044).



RADIO WORSHIP RESOURCES: BBC Radio Devon Sunday Service (8.00 a.m. Sunday) and daily Pause for Thought (6.35 a.m. weekdays, 7.35 a.m. weekends).

INTERNET SERVICES: Exeter Diocese: Sunday services and a daily *Pause & Pray* on <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/worship/sunday-services-to-watch-online/>

National Church of England: Sunday services on <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>



All Saints' Diary

Churchwardens: Liz Webb 560090 & Graham Worrall 562016

We are pleased that the Church is now open for Sunday Services

*Unfortunately singing and serving coffee after the service are currently not permitted
The Government is now strongly advising clergy and their congregations to wear face coverings
when attending church services. However we will not turn people away who are not wearing masks.*

As space is limited due to social distancing, priority is currently given to the regular congregation and full time residents of the parish and it is necessary to operate a booking system. If you wish to come on a particular Sunday, please contact Liz Webb by the previous Friday on 01548 560090/thurlallsaints@btinternet.com.

AUGUST 2ND, 16TH, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 20TH 11.10am Parish Eucharist (CW)

AUGUST 9TH, 23RD, 30TH, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 27TH 11.10am Morning Worship

As Government regulations evolve, including the wearing of face masks, there may be changes or additions to these services. For variations and more information please see the Church Notice Boards and www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-services

The Church is also open for

Private Prayer

WEDNESDAYS 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Unfortunately we have to keep the church closed at other times and casual visiting is still not permitted

When entering and exiting the church, please ensure that you use the hand sanitiser provided, observe social distancing at all times and the safety guidance given.

CHURCH ONLINE

SUNDAY REFLECTIONS

Although we can once again worship together on Sundays, you can still listen to the podcast by the Rector, Revd. Daniel Hartley, and sing hymns on:

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

THE ROCK - CHURCH MAGAZINE

can be found on www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/welcome-to-all-saints-church.html

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETINGS

We are still meeting using ZOOM. Download the software free from <https://zoom.us>. Please contact Mike Hodges on mike2.hodges@btinternet.com/01548 561124 for more information.

VIRTUAL HOME GROUP: Monday 7.15pm for 7.30 - 9.00pm: See and hear each other, read and study the Bible together, meditate, praise God in song, bring our needs to God in prayer.

VIRTUAL PRAYER MEETING: Wednesday 8.30 - 9.15am: A chance to pray together in a relaxed session starting with the Bible reading and Prayer for the day, followed by open prayer.

VIRTUAL COFFEE-TIME: Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30am: All are welcome. Catch up with friends, share a joke, bring your own coffee and cake! The Rector, Daniel Hartley, joins us to share a reflection.

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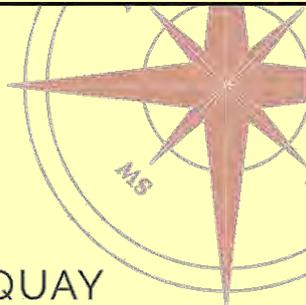
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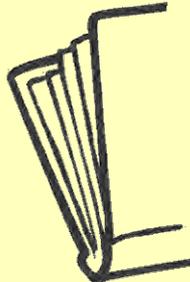
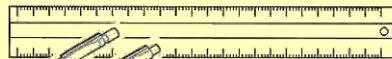
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Grey Matter

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 2020. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk

FIRST LINERS.

Name the song and the artist(s) using the first line. The artist's initials and the year the song was first released are provided to aid your memory.

E.g. Don't want your love anymore. EB 1960... Cathy's Clown / Everley Brothers

1. You tell me that you love me baby. CR 1959
2. They paved Paradise. JM 1970
3. Please lock me away. P & G 1964
4. Mama, just killed a man. Q 1976
5. I believe in miracles. HC 1975
6. I met her in a club down in old Soho. The K 1970
7. Yeah, I'll tell you something. The B 1963
8. We've already said goodbye. MB 1965
9. Say goodbye, my own true lover. The S 1965
10. Out in the wiley, windy moors. KB 1978
11. Well, we got no choice. AC 1972
12. She ain't got no money. EL 1970
13. In this dirty old part of the city. The A 1965
14. Hey baby, won't you take a chance. CM 1962
15. I'm in the phonebooth, it's across the hall. B 1978
16. You talk like Marlene Dietrich. PS 1969
17. Everybody's doing a brand new dance, now. LE 1962
18. Slow down, you move too fast. HB 1967
19. Billy Ray was a preacher's son. DS 1968
20. I love the colourful clothes she wears. The BB 1966
21. When I was just a little girl. DD 1956
22. When we kiss my heart's on fire. EP 1961
23. Dum dum dum dumdy doo wah. RO 1960
24. Well, I bet you're wondering how I knew. MG 1969
25. Oh, my love, my darling. JY 1955
26. Oh, the shark babe, has such teeth dear. BD 1959
27. When the mist's a-rising. JL 1961
28. Drinking in the morning sun. E 2008
29. Well, you call your mamma tiger. SQ 1973
30. You never close your eyes any more when I kiss your lips. The RB 1965

Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. sad said raids drains darns rand dan
2. set rest aster arrest tears star sat
3. pet pert toper report retro tore rot
4. par reap spare repast pasture purest spurt rust rut

There were 5 all correct answers last month. First out of the hat and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Susan Penwell. Commiserations to Emma Hartley, David Stevens, Hodges Family and Stephanie Adams.

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PARISH HALL NEWS

by Alison Daily
(Secretary)



Lights, Camera and Music Maestro Please

We have taken advantage during the closure of the hall to modernise the media and performance areas which are now 15 years old and have advanced since then. Sound and connectivity have been proving problematic to us and hall users alike. Chris has tried for a couple of years to obtain the services of the engineer who installed the original sound system but, he was always busy abroad. Fortunately for us, due to the pandemic, he has had to remain in the country which will enable him to install a new media system which takes multi-media devices including Bluetooth. Connectivity between laptops and the screen will be greatly improved and avoid the necessity to have someone on call when being used.

The 13 stage lights need to be changed and moved manually which entails climbing a tall ladder and, as no one is getting any younger, this is becoming more precarious but, once again, we benefited from the lockdown and acquired the services of Luke Adams who is responsible for the lighting for KATS and was trained at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth. The 13 lights will be replaced by 4 LEDs which can be controlled by a lighting desk with 10 pre-programmable buttons. This can also be connected to the media player. You can even have disco lights if desired for any budding John Travoltas out there. More buttons can be programmed and it will be easier and safer to use.

Thank you

I would like to say a huge thank you to Paul Dunne, Alan Daily, Michael Stephens, Christian Woodford and Bob the Builder (AKA Paul Martin) for their hard work in distributing the new gravel around the car park which had become quite sparse. The 10 tons of chippings were spread over two sessions, the first with the aid of a small digger. Thankfully there weren't any cars parked there at this point. The second using their trusty old wheelbarrows, spades and rakes. I have to say Bob (Paul M) had far too much fun on the digger. The photo shows the chaps having a well-earned break. Thank you to Lindy Price who was commandeered by Paul Martin into taking the snap as she was passing. Thank you also, to Mike Stickland for power washing the guttering and fascias. Well done and thank you once again to you all.



Re-Opening of the Hall

At the time of writing the committee is sifting through various reports and guidelines from different sources regarding the re-opening of the hall. There is much to take in, several actions required and things constantly change. The majority of hall users are in the over 70 age bracket and some of them are not in any rush to return to groups or classes this year, but we are also acutely aware that others including those who earn their living from fitness and lifestyle classes are desperate to restart once the schools reopen. We will be carrying out risk assessments to determine what needs to be put in place to ensure the safety of everyone but unfortunately there is an issue with one of the main criteria for re-opening. One thing is certain if we are able to open - it involves lots of cleaning by all parties.

This leads me on to the loss of the new caretakers, due to changed circumstances, who were to start later this year. Therefore, once again we are in need of someone to fill this position, details can be found in the advert following this article.

Committee

The pandemic has made people re-evaluate their way of life and highlighted areas to change, it has also emphasized to us the practical limitations of the committee. Meetings can be carried out remotely but the more physical aspects are being restricted to fewer of us. We were so fortunate as a parish that the hall was flourishing with many different activities which have sadly been curtailed but for the hall to survive in the new normal it requires an injection of new volunteers to assist the invaluable existing members and carry us forward into the future. The past months have shown we live in a caring and helpful community, so perhaps some of you would like to continue helping out the parish by giving up some of your time to keep the hall thriving and ensure it remains one part of the central hub for bringing people together socially.

Best wishes to you all, stay safe and well.



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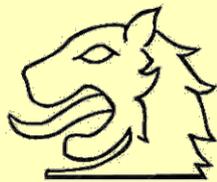
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Sniggers from the Past

"I Name This Child..."

My last two gloomy offerings about the poor and the workhouse were well timed weren't they! I thought I should lighten the tone this time. Now, it's very naughty to laugh at people who through no fault of their own end up with a funny name; let's laugh anyway – the blame is with the parents, and I make no further excuses for the following!

[I have referenced each case, as I would if were a quote from a book, for authenticity]

My interest in local history (various locales) and genealogy over very many years, has led me to trawl through countless parish registers, census returns and other documents. Odd entries that I wasn't actually looking for have sometimes jumped off the page, be they curious, comical, or downright ridiculous.

Most of the following are not to with my own family tree, though the following ladies are on the peripheral twiglets (cousins, siblings etc. of my ancestors):
OBEDIENCE CHALK; PRUDENCE PAY; FRUIT WILLIAMS.

Looking for a specific marriage, I thought "*this marriage register looks curious – I've never seen the actual time of day recorded*" until it dawned on me: the bride was going to marry a Mr. Day – his first name? 'Time Of' – yes really! [Chatham St. Mary 06 FEB 1831] - and 'Mr. Time Of Day' continued as a name for at least three more 'hysterical' generations.

Also " 'avin a larf" were Mr. & Mrs. Eve, proud parents of twins Adam Eve & Eve Eve!
[bapt. 24 MAY 1829, High Easter, Essex].

More daftness: Leaf Temple Dunk [bapt. Rye, Sussex, 18 AUG 1834] ; Theophilus Bunkum [bridegroom, Landulph, 17 APR 1721] ; Flossie Pratt [bapt St. Mary Magdalen, Chatham, 07 JUN 1899] ; Freke Dorothy Fluck Lane [bride, St. Austell, 07 AUG 1764] ; Archelaus Trollop [1871 census, Horningsham, Wilts.] ; Hercules Belch [bridegroom, St. Andrews, Plymouth, 09 FEB 1645] ; Foschonorius Tapperell [1744 Voters list, Stoke Damarel].

Boy or girl? Alfred Frank Sarah Prettyman [bapt. 25 SEP 1879]
Boy, girl, or bottle of perfume? Nea Ada Arthur Rose d'Amour Annesley
She married Hercules George Robert Robinson at St. James, Westminster, 24 APR 1846.

A proper little madam?
Prima Donna Charlotte Mildren [bapt. St. Mawes Wesleyan Chapel, 11 APR 1870]

Nothing to do with my family, but a baptism at Morice Street Methodist (Devonport)
Marie Antionette Joyce Stephens

Perhaps more 'Carry On' than 'politically correct' is this chap from the 1841 census in Totnes. The 'head of household' was responsible for naming those at any specific address ; easy enough if it's your own family, but in an institution, or as in this case a lodging house, then perhaps you may not know the actual names of one or two and just have to make something up, as I am sure was the case here, for an itinerant Irish labourer recorded as Patrick Spud! Yes really!

Now, alliteration may best be left to poets rather than to parents, especially if your name is Pudden; pity poor Priscilla Pudden [bapt. 10 JUL 1831 East Coker, Somerset] or even Priscilla Plenty [bapt. 17 JAN 1838, Wells, Somerset]. Did these two have distant cousins further West do you think? Dinah Dinner [bapt. Milton Abbot 20 JAN 1782] – or poor little Caleb Gluttony, [buried 23 FEB 1783 at Maker, Cornwall]

More alliteration with:
Benedict Bastard [bridegroom, Stokenham, 22 JUL 1807]
Fanny Frances Fedrick [bride, St. James the Great, Devonport, 29 MAY 1816].

John Johns & Fanny Field [married St. Peters, Plymouth, 19 AUG 1872]
Loveday Laundry [bapt. South Hill, Cornwall, 26 JUL 1835]

Pity the clergy trying to keep a straight face with these tongue-twisters:
Fanny Albertine Stephens married Cadwallader Waddy [St. Budeaux 1871]
Francis Mordaunt Longworth Dames married Unita Edith Beatrice Fanny Farley
[St. Stephens, Devonport 09 NOV 1938]

Patriotic names were very popular in the 19th century; it turns out that there was a *real*
Horatio Hornblower, middle name 'Nelson' [bapt. Illogan, 01 JAN 1810]

Some forward-thinking, if rather morbid parents:
Emily Grace Pyne Coffin [bride, Antony, Cornwall, 13 APR 1837]

Surely this man became a barber?
William Whitehair Dyer [bapt St. Andrews, Plymouth, 25 JUL 1773]

...and this one from near Callington in Cornwall, a miner?
Abraham Strike Shovel [bapt. South Hill, Cornwall, 13 AUG 1833]

From the animal kingdom come...
Betty Batt [bride, Langford Budville, Somerset, 12 OCT 1777]
Gertrude Gosling [bride, St. Mary Cattedown, Plymouth, 22 OCT 1929]
Edwin Cocks & Cordelia Maud Perkins Chick [m. Holy Trinity, Plymouth 27 DEC 1887]
Francis Duck, Son of George Duck (seaman) of Swanage
[bridegroom, Melcombe Regis, Dorset, 29 May 1659]

A combination in remembrance of the Romans introducing the Coney to Britain? The Minister
of Wanstrow, Somerset in 1841 was Revd. Cicero Rabbits!

... and some decidedly fishy ones:
Grace Chance Crab [bapt. South Hill, Cornwall, 08 MAR 1812]
Melchizedeck Dabb [bridegroom, St. Agnes 05 OCT 1793]
Ellis Herring [bridegroom, Pillaton, Cornwall, 05 FEB 1593]
Hercules Trout [bridegroom, Stokenham 22 JUL 1707]

The bible is obviously the source of Christian names, but a number of weird and wonderful
names re-surfaced in the 18th century, especially in Cornwall:
Kerrenhapuch Usler [bride, Redruth, 31 AUG 1779]
Melchizedeck Breadcutt [bridegroom, Stoke Damerel 25 APR 1804]
Pentecost Bunshole [burial at St. Budeaux, 12 JUN 1773]
Zacchaeus Gribble [bapt. Camborne, 11 MAR 1761]
Zacharius Johns [bridegroom, St. Agnes 17 SEP 1743]
Zebudah Renfree Geach [bride, St. Gluvias, 03 DEC 1837].

Three for the price of one here - and if you're familiar with the story from the bible, was it a
case of 'out of the fiery furnace and into the fire' when this chap got married?
Shadrach Meshach Abednego Clark [bridegroom, Maker, Cornwall, 1836]

Meanwhile at Stoke Damerel [baptism 17 MAR 1822]: Adonijah Abner Frederick Gubbins.
Adonijah was a son of King David, and Abner a cousin of King Saul. This chap however was
son of Mark Gubbins, a shipwright of Plymouth Dock.

Don't try telling me this family were not Puritans! A Kingsbridge baptism from 01 JAN 1620
records a girl named Pentecost Pentecost! Yes really – father was a John Pentecost.

Given the nature of the rough & ready St. Agnes mining fraternity, who were down upon a
wreck before you could say "jam on first, cream second", it seems at odds with so many
bearing these now-obscure biblical names. Here's a favourite – and I kid you not -
Mahershalalhashbaz Richards [baptised St. Agnes, 27 DEC 1773] - "Call me Al" or "Call me
Baz"? HOWEVER – the name actually means 'hasten to the plunder' – which could explain

a lot! Ironic or deliberate? - they were a wily lot these Cornish wreckers!

Violetta Stone who is connected by marriage to a family line of mine in Dorset, posed problems for all of a clerical ilk from the outset. Why such a poetic name was selected for her I cannot say but it was obviously unfamiliar in 18th century Weymouth! Starting with her baptism, Christian name and surname were run together – and with Dorset accent - to result in 'Phia-Lettuce Stone' – and by the time of her marriage to Thomas Harris at Wyke Regis in 1766, simply 'Lettuce Stone'! Burial register changes it yet again to Laetitia Harris. Maybe she should have just settled for 'Lettie'...

Archelaus Geake (a.k.a. Barret – don't ask!) was distantly related to me. One of many named Archelaus through several generations of my Pearce ancestors (a.k.a. Geake, a.k.a. Barret - no really, don't ask!). Apparently pronounced 'Ark-less' rather than as three syllables. His mother, g-g-g-grandmother to me, was a poor widow living at Callington, and when not at sea, her sailor son Archelaus lived with her. So, as head of household, for the 1861 census, when asked who else lived in the household, she would have replied in a broad Cornish accent, only her son, Arkless – which is how the unenlightened enumerator came to record him on the census as Hartless Barratt!

The late Rik Mayall created the character of Sir Alan B'stard. Living locally, he would no doubt have been inspired by this prevalent South Hams surname, the Bastard family have long been associated with Kitley, Yealmpton. The golden jubilee for King George III prompted this baptism: William Jubilee Bastard Mallet [bapt. Stoke Damerel 17 JAN 1810]. Parents should have stuck with the jubilee theme without further embellishment!

My only connection here is an ancestor called Sicily Bastard (or Cecily) born at Slapton in 1638, and her father Peter Bastard, of whom I know little, but who is probably from some centuries-old illegitimate (!) off-shoot of this noble Norman family.

A later occurrence not, as far as I am aware, connected with any of the above, is only on my family tree through marriage. Pity then poor Emily, whose parents really ought to have been conveyed to the nearest asylum. Now, if you have a silly surname, you'd presumably not want to draw attention to it by giving your daughter Emily a middle name like 'Bastard' (notwithstanding it being her mother's maiden name) especially if your surname actually is 'Silly' [Emily Bastard Silly, born Dartmouth 1837]. Actually, the family lived at the old Customs House on Dartmouth's historic waterfront and should have known better.

And yes, although not related directly to the above family I do have lots of SILLY ancestors (surprise surprise!). The name is sometimes spelled 'Silly' and centuries back as 'Ceeley'. It derives from the old Saxon word 'sælig' which means 'blessed' – so titter ye not!! My ancestors of that name were living at Galmpton in the parish of Churston Ferrers, and before that, Dittisham. At least one, Thomas, worked on the Greenaway Estate, before the present house (Agatha Christie's) was built there, as the burial register at Dittisham gives a little more detail than usual: "Old Thomas Sealey of Greenaway" (died 1755).

His wife's death poses an interesting conundrum! From Churston Ferrers burial register: 'Jane Silley, widow, was buried the 19th of April 1763', whilst from Dittisham burial register: 'Jane Sealey of Greenaway' April 19th 1763.'

I have never come across the same person being buried in two different places before on the same day! The only explanation I have is that one or both registers were filled in in advance and perhaps inclement weather or the current being too strong prevented the coffin crossing the Dart, or that arrangements were made at the last minute for Jane to be buried with her husband at Dittisham. 'Of Greenaway' confirms that this Jane was Thomas' wife, and also the consistent spelling in the Dittisham register with her husband's name. Answers on a postcard please!!

Meanwhile in deepest, darkest early 19th century Kent, my ancestor James Holden gave all his children names beginning with 'H' and was known in the village simply as 'Aitch'. Some are biblical, while others, none can fathom, and seem to be invented by him! Harriott (female); Hazael (male); Hezekiah; Henrietta; Heli (m); Hezro (m); Hariph (m);

Hetabeth (f); Helen. It might amuse – and indeed astonish – certain readers to know that the men of this clan and other direct ancestors of mine who married into this family, were described by the vicar of this certain parish as “the greatest rascals in all Kent”!

My family can boast no manufacturers of lorries, nor even of biscuits for armies on the march, despite my great-grandfather being William Medland Garibaldi Scammell. My grandmother used to say “Fancy naming him after a biscuit” which was to make us laugh as children – at least I'm 50% sure it was ... but I *am* sure she didn't know the real reason. General Garibaldi was cheered wherever he went, and in Britain he was fêted by all classes of people. On 25 April 1864 he alighted at Plymouth station (en route for Penquite near Fowey), and was greeted by vast crowds. It seems that dockyard workers got a half day holiday to see him passing through, and that's why my great-grandfather who was born on that very day, was given the additional middle name.

My grandmother can have the last word – one of her favourite expressions: “What a name to go to bed with!”.

Michael Stephens

POSTBAG



Dear editors,

With the lanes having been quieter during the Covid -19 lockdown, it was good to see so much of the community in Bantham coming together (social distance included), generally you only tend to see villagers as they pass in their cars. Families were out cycling together, people walking dogs and riding horses all enjoying the quiet and the sunshine.

The hub, of course has been the Bantham shop, which Kelly and Linda have been running throughout. Nothing being too much trouble to get for us all, even Maisie has been lending a hand passing out hand sanitizer ably delivered in the net of a long fishing pole. The Sloop Inn have been doing a great trade, the Fish and Chips delivered to us on a Friday were excellent and piping hot, a real treat.

When I first lived in Bantham, getting on for 30 years now, there were young families in the village and it's a shame that most of them have grown up and moved away. I think that the Community Led Housing development would be great for Bantham, bringing young families back, with a super shop and cafe, a great child friendly pub and the beach so close it would be a perfect location to bring up children.

Kind Regards, Vida Hodder.

Dear Editors,

We would like to publicly thank Kelly and Linda in the Bantham shop for their excellent service during Lockdown. In the early days of Lockdown, like many others, I could not get a supermarket delivery, and, because of our age, we were supposed to stay at home, so I really wondered how we were going to manage. Kelly quickly got herself organised, started serving through the shop window and has managed to get the fresh vegetables, fruit and dairy products that we wanted- always serving us with a smile.

Thank you, too, to Rod of the Sloop, who produced and delivered good takeaways, the wonderful people who manned the Phone Box help line, and those who collected things for us.

Now we are all more used to this strange and restricted life, many companies are now delivering and supermarkets have more delivery slots but, for me, it was those who helped us in the early days of the Pandemic that really made a huge difference.
Thank you. Anna Martin

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URGENT APPEAL FROM KINGSBRIDGE AREA FOODBANK

The coronavirus pandemic has had a devastating effect on many across the country as jobs and opportunities to earn have been lost. The Kingsbridge Foodbank is experiencing a 700% increase in applications for vital food support which has now increased to 420 individuals being supported per week.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Donations of non-perishable foods, hygiene and household products will be gratefully received in the designated bins in Morrisons and Tesco or at the Scout Hut, Derby Road TQ7 1JJ from 10 am until 4 pm weekdays.

Financial donations can be made to the Kingsbridge Food Bank account at Lloyds Bank, Kingsbridge. Sort code 77-09-24, Account number 17928860

For more information call on 07593 881633 or [Facebook.com/KingsbridgeFoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/KingsbridgeFoodbank)

NO MATTER HOW BIG OR HOW SMALL – EVERY GIFT WILL MAKE A GREAT DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE IN NEED.

Our local Foodbank, Kingsbridge Area Foodbank (Mike Stickland, Trustee)

Someone said to me the other day that they thought that this organisation was just for Kingsbridge. That is not the case.

The clue is in the title! “Kingsbridge Area”. Our constitution specifically includes surrounding villages and this includes Thurlestone, Salcombe, Loddiswell, the Charletons and so on. But, rest assured, we do not allow people to go hungry just because they have the wrong postcode!

Covid-19 has brought tough new challenges to the organisation and I am delighted to report that our organisers, supported by an amazing band of volunteers, have risen positively to the challenge.

Currently, our volunteers are delivering (by car) over 140 food parcels per week to those in need from Monday to Friday. These parcels have until recently been made up at Horizons, the youth club building in Fore Street. We have now moved to larger, temporary accommodation in the Scout Hut, Derby Road TQ7 1JJ until early September.

We get our food supplies from local businesses. Our supermarkets and high street shops generously supply food on a regular basis. Additionally, we are currently spending about £5,000 per week of KAFB funds to ensure that no-one in our community goes hungry.

With government furloughing changing in August and the anticipated round of redundancies, we expect demand to increase significantly between now and the end of the year.

So, the above appeal for funds reflects a genuine need for our local community as we need £5,000 per week to allow the operation to operate.

BOOKSHELF

'Kisses on a Postcard' by Terence Frisby (Bloomsbury Publishing)

I found this book in the Oxfam shop and although I managed to get a few books from the library just before lock down, this is the one that I finished with a sigh of contentment. Terence Frisby tells the story of his evacuation from London during the war. In 1940 he was 7 and his older brother, Jack, 11. The night before they left London their mother gave them a postcard, stamped and addressed to their parents. She said they had a secret code and when they arrived at their new home they must write their new address on the card and they were to put one kiss if it was horrible and she would come and take them straight home, two kisses if it was all right and three if was nice, really nice.

On the 13th June 1940 they join hundreds of children on Welling station, having been told to stay together at all times. Their father worked for the railway which meant both boys were interested in trains and hoping for something special to take them to their new address. However, when their special train puffed into the station 'It's an N-class, a manky old N'. It hasn't even got a name' they both moan. As the train rumbles on its journey the author names all the places and stations they pass, until finally they arrive at Liskeard. Buses take them to the next destination, where villagers are waiting to choose who they look after. Terence and Jack are a bit taken aback by the Cornish dialect, but fortunately are taken on by a Welsh couple, who are known forever as Uncle Jack and Auntie Rose. Uncle Jack easily puts the boys at ease on the journey to their home, Railway Cottages, Doublebois. After the boys have had an initial look around the cottage and surrounds, they find to their absolute delight, tucked down in a cutting, the main London to Plymouth railway line, with the station practically below them. In bed that night they have the postcard to write. Jack tries to take his responsibilities seriously, but despite sleeping on the floor (there are two soldiers temporarily in the cottage also), no taps, no electricity, no lavatory, they both agree that it's pretty good, and in the end it's 4 kisses they put on the card.

The book then follows their three-year stay. They attend school in Dobwalls and soon learn some country ways, with the freedom to wander through fields and woods. They were extremely lucky in Auntie Rose and Uncle Jack, who were wise, witty, and so competent. They were taken fishing, hung around the trains and station, had days out in Plymouth, were even allowed in the signal box on two occasions. This is, quite simply, a lovely book, and even if the author has embroidered some of the adventures, he certainly had a pretty good 3 years in Cornwall.

Carolyn Taylor

'The Forgotten Dead' by Ken Small (Osprey Publishing)

What a fascinating piece of history!

Because we live in the South Hams, we probably all know of "Exercise Tiger" – the military exercise at Slapton Sands where so many military personnel lost their lives in World War 2. We will know of it but not all about it – until you read this fascinating book.

The book starts with a harrowing account of the moment when the German e-boats struck at the unguarded convoy of American craft practising for the D-Day landings in Normandy.

The book then moves on to the reason for its writing. The author, who ran a B&B in Torcross, spent the next 17 years of his life in first buying the American amphibious tank which had sunk just offshore and then bringing it ashore before creating a monument to all those killed in this tragic exercise.

The exercise was officially "kept secret" for 50 years and the writer explains the ongoing problems that he wrestled with in order to achieve his goal.

This book is a MUST for Village Voice readers in order that we can all be properly informed on this important piece of our national history.

Mike Stickland



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Thurlestone Bay Birds

Breeding Birds

The very favourable spell of weather in May provided an opportunity for the early nesting birds to have a successful start to their breeding season thus allowing some species to start laying a second clutch of eggs. Judging by the number of *BLACKBIRDS* and *ROBINS* feeding in my garden, the breeding season got off to a particularly good start.



I have completed a list of the birds that I know will be breeding in our local area. The total came to 69 different species. Those that I have classified as common breeders which you will find throughout the patch number around 20 species - *HERRING GULL*, *WOOD PIGEON*, *COLLARED DOVE*, *MAGPIE*, *JACKDAW*, *ROOK*, *CARRION CROW*, *BLUE TIT*, *GREAT TIT*, *CHIFFCHAFF*, *BLACKCAP*, *WREN*, *BLACKBIRD*, *SONG THRUSH*, *ROBIN*, *DUNNOCK*, *HOUSE SPARROW*, *CHAFFINCH* and *GOLDFINCH*.

Some of our summer visitors are also common breeders but they choose particular areas to build their nests:-

- *SWIFT* - small colonies at Thurlestone and Bantham - declining because of the lack of suitable sites.
- *SWALLOW* - pairs nesting through the local area, usually in barns.
- *HOUSE MARTIN* - there are at least four sites where they breed. The largest colony is under the eaves of houses/flats around South Huish Marsh where at least 15 nests can be seen. Along Buckland Valley there are 3 houses where they nest.
- *SAND MARTIN* - only aware of one colony along the River Avon which contains around 10 nests. *SEDGE WARBLER* - South Milton Ley is the main site with up to 12 pairs and South Huish Marsh has up to 5 pairs. Thurlestone Marsh still has 3 pairs.
- *REED WARBLER* - South Milton Ley is the only site, holding up to 15 pairs.
- *WHITETHROAT* - at least 5 pairs breeding around the hedgerows along the coast path.

There is still a pair of *MUTE SWANS* which have just produced 4 *CYGNETS* on South Huish Marsh. Also there is a pair of *CANADA GEESE* with 2 *GOSLINGS* and at least 3 pairs of *MALLARD*, each starting with 6/8 *DUCKLINGS*. Both *MOORHEN* and *COOT* also bred there. This year 2 pairs of *SHELDUCK* have hatched broods of 8 and 5. Sometimes they breed in old rabbit burrows and as soon as they hatch, the *DUCKLINGS* have to jump into the sea, sometimes from a height of over 20 feet. Recently I watched a pair swimming across the bay off Warren Point with 10 *DUCKLINGS* in tow and in a choppy sea.

The cliffs also provide nesting sites for *CORMORANT* and *SHAG*, particularly on Burgh Island. There is a small heronry on the lower part of the Avon Estuary. It is on private land so not so easy to find.

Up to 12 pairs of *HERON* and 6 Pairs of *LITTLE EGRET* nest in the one community. 2 years ago it was also the site of the first ever record of breeding in Devon by a pair of *CATTLE EGRET*.

The only *RAPTORS* breeding in woodlands around the villages are *BUZZARD*, numbering at least 3 pairs; *KESTREL* - at least 1 pair and *SPARROWHAWK* - up to 3 pairs. *TAWNY OWLS* are very vocal in the evenings. There must be 4 or 5 pairs breeding in our area. There is 1 pair of *BARN OWL* breeding in the Valley with a further 2 pairs around Aveton Gifford.

Other species which breed in the Woodlands are *JAY* - South Milton; *RAVEN* - Horswell House Wood and along the coast; *GREEN WOODPECKER* - the Thurlestone Hotel grounds and in Buckland Valley; *GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER* - in at least 5 sites; *COAL TIT* - South Milton Village and Buckland Valley; *LONGTAILED TIT*, *GOLDCREST*, *BULLFINCH*, *MISTLE THRUSH* and *TREE CREEPERS* - restricted to Buckland Valley and

Aveton Gifford. Also along the Buckland Valley and near Hatch Bridge are up to 3 pairs of *SPOTTED FLYCATCHERS* - very much reduced from the numbers recorded 10 years ago.

South Milton Ley is the only site where you will find breeding pairs of *CETTIS WARBLER* and *REED BUNTING*. Along the coast path and fields around the Golf Course you will find *STONECHAT* - at least 5 pairs, *SKYLARK* and *MEADOW PIPIT*. Breeding in the cliffs are at least 8 pairs of *ROCK PIPIT*, whilst in the gorse and bramble bushes are *LINNET*.

Finally, along the banks of the River Avon and some of the small streams you can find breeding pairs of *GREY WAGTAIL*, *PIED WAGTAIL* with probably a pair of *DIPPER* underneath one of the road bridges.

Hope you find this article informative and giving you some indication of the wide variety of breeding birds we are fortunate enough to be able to find and watch.

Mike Passman

Revelations of a White Night Light In Edwards Close

With Lockdown restrictions producing some limitation on my birdwatching activities I decided it was time to join in some night life activity.

A small white box shape trap with a metal frame and an electricity supply to power a 20W compact outdoor backlight was purchased at the beginning of May. So began an illuminating interest into the night life of moths....

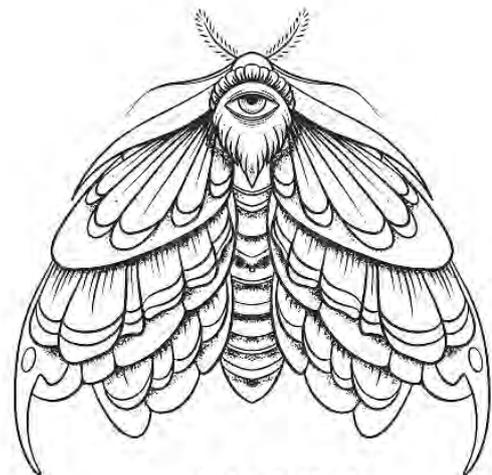
There are in excess of 900 species of Macro Moths recorded in the UK - they can be found in your garden throughout the year with different species found in different seasons, although the summer months with the best results are on mild cloudy and still nights.

Since starting the trap on 10th May I have collected moths for a total of 40 nights up to the end of June resulting in a total of 102 different species.

Having started with only attracting a total of 20 moths of 6 species, the milder nights in mid-June were producing over 100 moths of up to 25 species.

Of particular interest have been the *HAWK MOTH* family - there are 15 different very colourful species - so far my trap has attracted - *PRIVET HAWKMOTH*, *EYED HAWKMOTH*, *POPLAR HAWKMOTH*, *ELEPHANT* and *SMALL ELEPHANT HAWKMOTH*.

Photographs are the only way to appreciate the beauty and markings of them - I have started to put photos on my bird website - thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk - look up the section headed 2020 photos.



Eyed Hawk Moth

I am not aware of anyone else in Thurlestone who is trapping moths - if there is, hopefully they will contact me to compare records.

For now, the light is switched on from 10.00 p.m. I can just sit in the garden watching the moths in flight - something I had not realised was happening. The only downside is having to get up around 06.00 to switch the light out and cover the trap up until after breakfast and find out what the night's catch contained.

Mike Passman

Richard Jackson

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THURLESTONE THEN

Continuing the memoirs of Monica Coope
Chapter 7, Part 1

Thurlestone Church was falling down or at least it would already have fallen down were it not for mighty baulks of timber holding up the crumbling walls. The timber itself inclined inland, but had long since adapted itself to the souwesterly gales and was probably safer at the present angle than before. Father, eager for fresh fields to conquer, would not rest until the church had been restored and continued to collect for a Church Restoration Fund in his tiny parish of under four hundred souls, forming a committee with Mr. Chandos Pole as Treasurer and confidently expecting the hundreds and thousands to roll in. Roll in they did, in trickles, over a number of years, and people would say, laughingly, Rector can get money out of stones. We had bazaars, concerts, plays, all of which we got up ourselves, and Father sat down to write the history of Thurlestone Church and Parish, which ran into two editions, and raised a healthy sum of money. In this little book he traced the features; it had times during the Reformation period and the clergy who, in spite of considerable persecution, went their ways according to their consciences. Many a visit did he pay to the British Museum for research and more research, and gradually he pieced together the story which he told simply and graphically, with illustrations and exquisite drawings by Maxwell Aynton. He also recounted the love of the countryside, stories of smuggling, excise men, brandy running, (precious kegs hidden away in a secret room over the church porch, with one left behind as a little thanks offering for parson) and some really terrible accounts of wrecking and looting. Pixies have their place in his story, especially the pixies who refused to allow the church to be built at Clanna Combe Head, about a mile inland, and resolutely moved the masonry down to the present site, not once, but twice. These same pixies were apt to play tricks upon some of the younger men, homeward bound late at night, and lead them round and round and round again, unable to find the gate leading from the field to the road. Although we children did not seriously believe in pixies, we were apt to blame them for anything that went wrong.

A church Bazaar in our garden, given on a fine day, attracted plenty of people from outside the parish; for one reason, there was little enough of organised entertainment in those days and one met old friends and acquaintances and had a magnificent tea for sixpence. Cleaning up for the "Feet" was Jackman's main concern for weeks beforehand in the garden and paths would be needed, beds dug, lawns mown and swept, until our tangled acres looked like the grounds of a prosperous mansion. We always had a lovely show of flowers in the Ash walk, below the terrace, where sub-tropical plants grew and flourished, figs ripened in the sunshine, and honeysuckle blossomed early in spring. Mr. Hill, once a London policeman, was installed at the front gates to take the admission money, and the stalls were set out on the big lawn, fancy china and glass, sweets, toys, bran pie, and what you will. Mrs Chandos Pole always had the sweet stall, beautifully decorated with bright strips of crepe paper, and she would dress in gay clothing and a marvellous hat from Modlands, all to match. Round on the little lawn would be a putting green and here too would be produced the piece de resistance, a play. Generally it was the Mad Hatter's Tea Party which never seemed to pall; we did it year after year and still they paid to see it.

We also showed the mystery Chinese babies and managed to puzzle people afresh every time. I have never seen it done anywhere else and really it is most effective. This is the way of it. Two or three of you lie on the floor under a table, with the cloth hanging right down to your faces. Pillows are placed, one, two, three, length ways out into the room and covered with suitable little blankets. Your forehead is visible, and your eyes, but the rest of your face is under the table. Nostrils and lips are painted on your forehead, and you lie there making baby noises, rolling your eyes and, bless me, you can't believe it yourself. I have entertained my grown-up friends in London with this little joke and sober, middle aged doctors have stood

there gaping and arguing among themselves while we cried bitterly under the table. Of course a dim light is essential. You try it.

We invariably had packed houses for a concert at the village school. Mr. Bowden Smith, Rector of Bigbury, had a monopoly of Polly-Wolly-Doodle-all-the-day and was in great demand round the diocese. He sang it at a tremendous rate and never got out of breath. I used to simper and flutter, dressed in a blue kimono with paper flowers and a large paper fan, declaring that I was "A merry little Jap, Jap, come across the sea, from the honeysuckle land, with my big fan in my hand, and my name is Tootsie-Wee." Encored, I would sing it all over again. Mrs. Hewitt and Mary played duets very rapidly, and generally ended up together. The second half of the programme we presented a play such as "Ici on parle francais", but our talent and scope was limited and Gertrude Jennings came to our rescue a bit too late for the Church Restoration Fund. The Boy in Buttons was my own especial triumph, as I played the lead, and overplayed it shockingly. The first act showed me, a pert little housemaid, getting the sack and flipping my check duster in my mistress' face. As my stage mistress was our governess Miss Webb I relished the impertinence even more. Then Act 2 brought a smart little boy in buttons applying for the vacant job. The buttons coat was specially hired for the occasion, and Cecil Harcourt (Later-Admiral, Sir Cecil Harcourt) lent me his best Dartmouth trousers. Yes, I was the boy in buttons, come back for my revenge on my cruel mistress, and I played my part as never before, reducing the other artistes to helpless laughter and really spoiling the show with my excited burlesque. However, the house roared its approval, and my buttons nearly burst with pride, but I was never given a leading role again. Arthur sometimes took part, rather against his will, and once when he had to kiss Mary they plighted their troth, he did this so unwillingly and chastely that the back rows took the matter in hand. "Do it again Master Arthur. Give her a good 'un this time." Father had a very nice singing voice and treated us to sentimental ballads with Mother playing the accompaniment. A member of the choir, Ernest Snowden I think, obliged with Uncle Tom Cobby. However bad we were, it was a great success. We generally took about four pounds, and five was not usual.

We loved acting and wet days at the Rectory often saw impromptu theatricals either in the nursery or up in the barn over the coach house. We were our own audience, with a few cronies from the village, and had practically no props or costumes. Father never missed the show if he could help it; the humour was so unconscious and ingenuous his laughter scarcely halted even at the most tragic moments. Joan and Gwen and the Prince and Cinderella reduced him to a slight heart attack when Joan tucking her gingham frock into her grubby gingham knickers and, planting a bedraggled feather into an old felt hat of Mother's, went down on one knee to Gwen, resplendent in a dirty old pink shawl as a train and a cracker frill round her head. "Wilt thou be mine" begged Joan. Gwen stretched out a condescending paw, "Indeed I wilt," she said kindly. That "Act" ended with an incident which was quickly suppressed by Father, for Joan took off Mother's old hat and proffered it around the audience, explaining that she had got up to the play to raise funds to buy herself a St. Bernard pup. I may say that our idea of publicity was a very simple one as it consisted of a notice pinned up first thing in the morning on the door of the smallest room in the house.

That smallest room did not exist when we first went to Thurlestone, and the only convenience was out through the stable yard to a W.C. in the coach house. Father built the new luxury W.C. in an angle of the house, supported on a long iron pillar. Being of plaster outside, this small excrescence was painfully obvious against the sober stonework of the main walls and wherever you went you could see the wretched little thing. However, it faced south and had a glorious view over the bay, and was my favourite retreat with the "Girl's Own" when I wanted a quiet afternoon of resting and reading and meditation. We were not supposed to use it when we were out in the garden and the W.C. in the coach house was our province then. This apartment had a little private door at the back for removal of the bucket and it was only to our best friends that Girlie and I accorded the privilege of tickle torture through the little door, with a handy branch of twigs.

The rambling outhouses were perfect for hide and seek, for we boasted stabling for two, cow sheds, straw lofts, an onion room with a separate stone staircase and the big barn where we did our acting and where great stacks of evergreens would be brought for us and our friends to wind wreaths to decorate the church at Christmas. The straw loft and the onion room were all the better for that purpose as they had large gaps in the floors and, if you were found, you only had to jump through to the shed below to make good your escape. We never seemed to get hurt and our visiting friends were not bold or daring enough to follow us.

“Home” was the green arbour, really half a boat set on end, and a most charming piece of garden furniture. The other half of the boat, the bows, was the blue arbour in the rose walk, more private and secluded. When the tender passion began to show itself in our elder sisters, and one of them was missing, we would assume sarcastically that she was up in the blue arbour with so and so. The red arbour under the nursery window was more of a summerhouse proper, with a slated floor, and good for winter games, also for our religious services and doll’s tea parties. About once a year we did our doll’s laundry and hung them up in the red arbour, but they never looked any cleaner and when I think of my doll Connie I can at once recall the musty scent of her nether garments. There was one doll who descended right down the family, and by the time he got to me he had lost both arms and legs and was merely a hulk of wood. But he was very dear to all of us and his name was Boniface. Pope Boniface I used to believe in my superior way, and it was a shock when Father chuckled and said No, Boniface the dustman at Eastbourne.

Against the kitchen garden wall and behind the blue arbour was Arthur’s owl house, for having rescued a baby owl fallen from its nest, he brought it up by hand and it had its first home in another wire house under the wall opposite Toy Cot, where Mrs. Chandos Pole lived. Jimmy was very tame, but he did hoot so at night, and disturbed Mrs.C.P. to such an extent that she complained to Father, Arthur being away at school. That afternoon there was a ring at her bell and something dropped into the letterbox — a visiting card it proved to be, beautifully printed in Father’s hand.

J.Hooter,Esq;
P.P.C.

Jimmy had indeed taken his conge, and moved to his new home behind the blue arbour, where he proceeded to lay an egg. So was renamed Jemima.

Arthur’s collection of bird’s eggs was a never-ending source of joy to him and to Father, who was an ardent naturalist. As a boy, Father had had been in Mr. Bosworth Smith’s house at Harrow and learnt from him nearly all he knew about wild birds and their eggs, so Arthur had a good start when he got keen and Father had a special cabinet made for him with tiny compartments lined with cotton wool. There was one egg, an enormous thing, labelled Great Auk, which used to deceive and puzzle our friends, especially the more knowing ones. It was really a double-yoked goose egg which Father had cunningly painted to look like what might have been the real thing. Arthur had climbing irons and could get up nearly every tree around, being adept at bringing down eggs safely in his mouth. I used to watch him blow the eggs, and marvelled at his patience as he puffed at the single minute hole he allowed himself. He was very particular not to scare the parent birds when he was nesting, and to bring home more than two eggs was a crime, which he did not commit. The cliffs were his happy hunting ground when, roped to a friend above, he would search and scramble for rare eggs and always hoped to be the one to find a raven’s nest. The Long Stone beat him to it once when he was slow in coming down and got caught by the tide with the young brother of a girl (with whom he would have liked to have gone to the blue arbour.) They had to stay there for some hours, and word went round the village of their plight, which was not serious, but it might have been. Some days later at the dentists in Kingsbridge, I was asked whether it was true that Arthur and Miss. . . had been marooned all night together on Long Stone. I grinned and said I was afraid not.

Puzzle Page

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry drawn on 1st September 2020.

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

cgwonthenet@themead.co.uk

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

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.

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

Sudoku - Hard

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

Sudoku - Hard

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

There were 8 correct entries last month. First out of the hat to win the coveted bottle of wine is Dave Gibby. Commiserations to Emma Hartley, Neill Irwin, Pauline Lonsdale, Steve Wallis & Emma Howitt, Stephanie Adams and Susan Penwell.

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It is now just over a year ago that, strongly supported by the ACA, the Avon Estuary was designated as a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), partly based on the existence of the mysterious Tentacled Lagoon Worm (TLM), about which most local people were/are completely ignorant. (Nature never ceases to surprise!)

Devon Avon Estuary - a summary of MCZ features

<u>Protected features</u>	<u>General Management Approach (GMA)</u>
1. Coastal saltmarshes and saline reed beds	Maintain in favourable condition
2. Intertidal mud	Maintain in favourable condition
3. Intertidal sand and muddy sand	Maintain in favourable condition
4. Moderate energy intertidal rock	Maintain in favourable condition
5. Tentacled lagoon worm (<i>Alkmaria romijni</i>)	Maintain in favourable condition

At the time I expressed some scepticism about how the MCZ would be monitored and managed but I was pleased when early in June, this year, I was approached by Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority because that agency has a duty to conduct assessments to establish whether any fishing activity occurring on the Avon is having a detrimental impact on the protected features or conservation objectives of the MCZ. IFCA wanted to know whether we - in the ACA - have ever seen any bait-diggers or hand-gatherers on the estuary and if so the location of such activities.



Features designated in 2019

★ Tentacled lagoon-worm (*Alkmaria romijni*)

As luck would have it, the ever-watchful Ryan Hooper, our Bantham Harbourmaster (and ACA Committee member), had just taken a photograph of bait-digging right outside his office and close by an area inhabited by our somewhat reclusive, friend - the TLM (see map). Since then, I have seen signs of survey digging further up the estuary, presumably checking to ensure that the TLMs are still content in their muddy home. Of course, the Duchy of Cornwall has always permitted limited bait-digging and hand-gathering (e.g. of Marsh Samphire) for private, non-commercial, use and I assume such activities are still permitted as long as the protected features of the MCZ are not disturbed. IFCA is watching!

Stuart Watts – July 2020

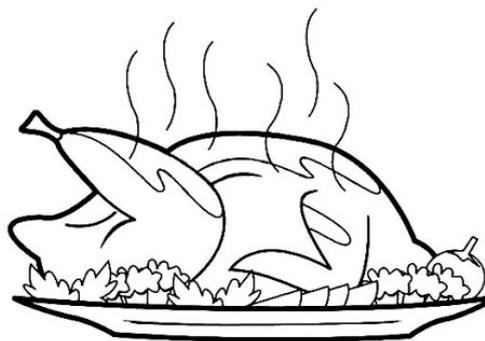
TRIED AND TASTED

Barbecued Picnic Chicken

Total time: Prep: 15 min. Grill: 45 min. 8 servings.

Ingredients

2 garlic cloves, minced
2 teaspoons butter
1 cup (225g) tomato ketchup
1/4 cup (50g) packed brown sugar
1/4 cup (60g) chilli sauce
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon celery seed
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 dashes hot pepper sauce
2 chickens (3.5 to 4 lbs or 1.5 to 1.8kg each), cut up



Instructions

1. In a large saucepan, sauté garlic in butter until tender. Add the next 8 ingredients. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from the heat; set aside.
2. On a lightly greased grill rack, grill chicken, covered, over medium heat for 30 minutes, turning occasionally. Baste with sauce. Grill 15 minutes longer or until a thermometer reaches 170°, basting and turning several times.

Crustless Spinach Quiche

Total Time: Prep: 25 min. Bake: 40 min. 8 servings.

Ingredients

1 cup (150g) chopped onion
1 cup (75g) sliced fresh mushrooms
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 package (10 oz or 285g) frozen chopped spinach, thawed (or fresh at this time of year)
2/3 cup (300/450g) finely chopped fully cooked ham
5 large eggs
3 cups (300g) shredded Muenster or Monterey Jack cheese
1/8 teaspoon pepper

Instructions

In a large skillet, sauté onion and mushrooms in oil until tender. Add spinach and ham; cook and stir until the excess moisture is evaporated. Cool slightly. Beat eggs; add cheese and mix well. Stir in spinach mixture and pepper; blend well. Spread evenly into a greased 9" pie plate or quiche dish. Bake at 350° for 40-45 minutes or until a knife inserted in centre comes out clean.

Kitchen Tips

To ensure perfectly cooked quiche, start checking early to see whether it's done. Baking times are great guidelines, but because every oven heats differently, we recommend taking an early look, especially delicate egg-based dishes. For cheese that's extra melty, shred or grate it yourself.

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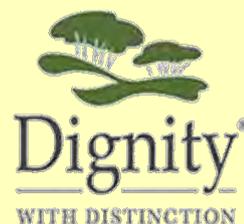
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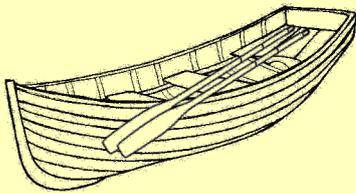
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June 14th 2020 was the centenary date of the Devon Federation of WIs when individual WIs were encouraged to celebrate in their own way; but, because of the Coronavirus, perhaps the best we could do this year was a cream tea in our own gardens. This would have been followed by a sumptuous cream tea in the grounds of Blundells College in Tiverton on July 8th when the WI hoped to break the world record for the number of people attending a cream tea. Needless to say, this was cancelled. It's not the first time that the Devon Federation has needed to postpone the celebration of a significant event. In 1945, the 25th anniversary festivities didn't take place until the following year because running special events was not a priority during World War 2. We hope that we will be able to reconvene at Blundells College on July 7th 2021.

Since lockdown started on March 23rd, the Thurlestone and West Buckland WI Committee have been operating a telephone rota so each member received a telephone call every week. By the end of July, each committee member had telephoned the entire membership twice. As lockdown eases, some members have opted out of receiving calls but the Committee will continue to call those who would still like to have them. These calls have been very much appreciated by our members and the Committee have thoroughly enjoyed making them. We now know our membership so much better.

Many WI members around the County have been making scrubs, hats and masks, and in Thurlestone Joan Booth has taken up this baton for which we are extremely grateful. She definitely deserves a clap from all of us.

Members around the County have also contributed nearly 80,000 pieces of knitted bunting which should have been on display at the Devon County Show in May. This not only broke but smashed the Guinness Book of Records for the longest piece of bunting at approximately 9 miles long.

The WI is a Charity and must comply with Charity rules. Each WI maintains their own accounts and at the end of each of Financial Year, these accounts must be checked by an Independent Financial Adviser (IFE). I am an IFE and currently I have checked 8 sets of WI accounts. In the past, I have been very busy checking accounts during March and April. This time, I was able to do 4 sets before lockdown with 4 since the easing of lockdown.

Denman College is the WIs centre for learning near Oxford offering over 650 courses through day schools and residential courses in cookery, craft and lifestyle. They have been closed during the pandemic and are unlikely to reopen before September. However, they have delighted many members by offering "Denman at Home" online courses which are very reasonably priced.

During the pandemic, WIs have been unable to hold their normal meetings. In the past, our subscription year has started in January, but we are to be given an extra 3 months in 2021 and our subscription year will then run from the beginning of April each year in the future.

The Devon Federation consider that it is very unlikely that we shall be having any events involving gatherings in 2020. I hope that will not apply to our meetings in Thurlestone but we will keep our members informed and perhaps, when we are back in action, we could encourage new members to join our WI.

Lisa White

Mobile Libraries Return to the Road

Heidi and Ivybridge Mobile Library are back on the road bringing books to you from **July 13th 2020**. To make sure that customers and staff are safe, they are only offering a new type of contactless service for the time being. It's called **Choose & Collect**.

If you opt for a Choose & Collect delivery, library staff will ask you about your reading likes and dislikes and select up to 5 books for you based on your preferences. The books will be issued to your library card, placed in a bag, and you simply collect them from your regular stop.

They are currently working through their records and calling as many customers as they can to offer this service. If you have not heard from them a week before your timetabled visit and would like a Choose & Collect delivery, please contact Ivybridge Library by email **ivybridge.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk** or calling **01752 893140** during their normal opening hours. Remember to tell library staff you are a customer of the mobile library and which stop you use when you get in touch.

New customers are also welcome. Please contact Ivybridge Library to set up a new mobile library membership, and they will endeavour to deliver to you too. You do need a mobile library card even if you are already a member of a library without wheels. You can find an A-Z of where they visit and their timetable on their webpage **devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries**

Mobile Library Assistant Heidi is very glad to be out on the road again serving her customers. She hopes to be able to allow readers safely back on the mobile library to choose for themselves in the not too distant future. In the meantime, please bear with library staff while they get used to this new way of working and follow the instructions when you arrive at your stop.

Eating Out Locally

With the easing of restraints on social distancing, restaurants are back in business with emphasis on alfresco. Where there's a garden or courtyard, eating places are able to accommodate greater numbers. A firm favourite is the Turtley Cornmill (Tel: 01364 646100). Their open lawn has plenty of tables and they continue to serve the high standard of food for which they're well known.

In restaurants where dining is restricted to indoors, you'll be seated where thought has been given to your safety. Fewer diners share the dining room so an early call to book a table is advisable. And for takeaways of a different style, try Rosie's with 'gourmet' appeal. www.rosiesofsalcombe.co.uk. Tel: 07834883170.

And at home, a fresh way to eat out locally is happening. There's a resurgence of entertaining in the open air. The fine weather makes it possible for friends to meet for afternoon tea - a wonderful reason to bake a favourite cake... or scones for a Devon cream tea? Why not do a cool lunch with summer salads... or drinks in the cocktail hour? After being apart for so long, it's not surprising that creative couples are keeping to the guidelines while sharing food with friends during these pleasant summer months. All that's needed is a shady place (or sun umbrellas) in your garden or on your patio where you can seat and give distance between the couples. There are fabulous weeks of warm days ahead for alfresco at home.

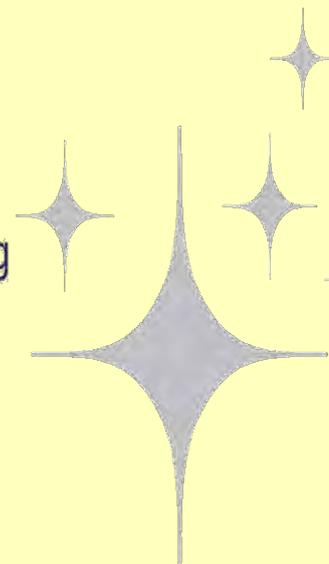
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One of our current Tramp members, Declan Dwyer, led walking holidays for Ramblers Worldwide Holidays between 1992-2018. Here is one fascinating tale.

Traumatic and True.....

Meeting the new holiday walking group which you will be leading for the first time is always interesting. You get a glimpse of what may lie ahead. Certain characters begin to etch on your consciousness and what appear to be 'unfortunate' arrivals are usually nothing of the case, but are the first example of repetitive behaviour likely to leave a stinging memory of the holiday and probably a complaint letter at the end.

For example, the lady who met me twenty yards from Cape Town airport passport control who had already lost her passport which had "flipped down", her words, between some scanning machine and the airport wall. It was only retrieved two days later by taking the scanning machine apart. I had six (yes six) weeks with this lady and "flipping" was only a small part of her repertoire! Or the Vegetarian, who did not want to offend the hotel chef on the first evening and poured her uneatable vegetable puree straight into her handbag. Unable to find anywhere to dispose of it ("it will block the loos") she poured it, a big mess, on to the hotel porch for the hotel dog who decided to roll in it (it had that sort of smell) and walk it through the foyer and around the lounge.

As is often the case, I found myself waiting at Mexico City airport for a group whose flight arrived two hours late. Not their fault, you say. I'm not so sure!

It was late when we departed the airport but they wanted a food stop on route. So, we checked in to the hotel in Mexico City even later and I went to bed. I was woken at 6am by an excited voice from hotel reception. An Englishman had fallen into the slimy canal next to the hotel, and the receptionist was worried he was "half drowned and infected". Sleep walking? No, he just wanted to get the tour started.

Thus, I arrived at breakfast early and the group began to arrive. First in was someone who had left his wallet in a guesthouse near Heathrow. Next down had left his camera and binoculars in the toilet of the café we had stopped at the previous night and was panicking. A room key had been dropped through the door slit of the hotel lift and had somehow put it out of action. It seemed never ending. Two clients had blocked the delicate loo system and flooded their bathrooms with goodness knows what and a lady was arguing with a receptionist about the safe key she had lost. The hotel by this time was demanding megabucks.

As I sat pondering all of this and, not least, my prospects of surviving the next three weeks, I observed the real star client of the group trip in the middle of the restaurant and I saw a large bowl fly across the room and crash against the far wall covering a dozen Germans in strawberry yoghurt. My German was not up to this (I still don't know how to say 'calm down, strawberry will wash out') and besides the coach for the Tour to the Ruins had just arrived. Yes, the holiday was only a sight-seeing one.

I do not often feel pressure but I managed to miscount the number on the coach so one of the few sensible people in the group missed the entire first day.

What happened next? Well during the next three weeks, I spent most of one night sitting with a client in a Mexican police station, got to know the British

Embassy staff and chased a Mexican handbag snatcher down the road - not recommended but my ire was up. When we arrived back in Mexico City, I noted our hotel had been changed. I could only guess why!

These were examples of two walking holidays out of the one hundred and sixty or so that I have led. I must emphasise that the large majority passed off routinely with only the odd death in St Lucia, tsunami in Sri Lanka, storm below Everest base camp which was on the BBC News, armed guards for walks in Northern Pakistan (where the mountain scenery is the best in the world), a civil war in Uzbekistan, a bush fire in Patagonia and various broken arms, legs and noses along the way.

In the Third World, stomach upsets used to be frequent and fierce in the 90's, however recently they have become much less and it is now rarely the fault of the hotels where we eat, rather the fruit, salads and ice cream consumed outside. Even the famous re-heated Indian buffet has become safe. In half a dozen visits to India I cannot remember anything worse than a bit of nausea amongst the clients. Though I do remember watching a waiter in Nepal with a drop hanging from his nose while lifting the lids of the morning buffet to see which needed restocking and noting into which tray it eventually fell.

I suppose the lesson has been to take out holiday insurance if you go on an outdoor holiday. During this time the nearest I have come to personal injury is from my neighbours' garage door in Thurlestone. You can't be too careful!

Start Point Lighthouse Safari. Neil Mackay/Jenny Webb

It was a bright, warm, sunny day during the early part of lockdown easing when 2 hardened, weather beaten Tramp walkers and their 2 furry friends and 2 packed lunches set off early for Start Point Lighthouse (did I mention that I am

a Gemini and everything has to be done in pairs).

This walk was not a bad idea except that the lighthouse was closed due to our infernal lock down restrictions and we could not see a thing anyway due to our soupy west coast fog. Anyway as I mentioned before we are hardened weather beaten Tramps and we were not to be overawed by a couple of minor setbacks.

Heading west along the much lauded South West coastal path, we managed to blow the fog away with our powerful lungs (seriously the sun was slowly burning it away – so we could at least see where we were going). After walking for at least 20 minutes, it was time for a coffee - not just any coffee but one that allowed us to see 3 or 4 cavorting seals on the rocks about 100 metres from where we were sitting. I checked with my fellow tramp to see if she had added anything to the coffee but after being assured it was a teetotal version, we sat down to enjoy the entertainment. Wow! do they put on a show – jumping, diving and disappearing for long stretches only to reappear somewhere else nearby.

Onwards we went for about an hour and half to Great Mattiscombe Sands where we saw the after effects of locked down hordes in all their glory - hundreds of sun and sea worshippers basking in their new found freedom on the beach and even a few intrepid ones in the sea. We carved out a few square inches to park ourselves to watch yet more frolicking in the sea after our earlier seal watching – not much difference actually!

Our 2 fearless furry friends (could not resist that alliteration) joined the intrepid ones in the drink and cooled down nicely in time for the return back to the cars. One of the more curious elements to the walk was how so many people negotiated the rather perilous descent from the carpark to the beach, especially given their oversize girths. Even our 2 furry friends struggled to make it back up the hill.

A second Marching Song to enliven our spirits during the Covid crisis: The North Devon Coast. With thanks to Sheila Fairley.

Duckpool start
No ducks - just us
And a walking group
From Tavistock.
Wait a bit,
Let them pass.
Then on we go,
Steady and slow,
Waves crashing
Far below
On jagged rocks.
Sandymouth -
Shall we stop?
Well stocked cafe
And surf shop
Must be ignored.
We walk some more
To Northcott beach
And tea's in reach.
Then let's go back
On inland tracks.
Our last day
On Pensioners' Way.

Sheila also wrote the Marching Song in the previous edition of Village Voice. Regrettably, she was not credited with that song – our apologies Sheila.

*..... and now for a little nostalgia
the oldest Tramp report on my computer
is just ten years old and times
haven't changed much in that decade.*

Tramping on October 13th, 2010 - Mike Stickland

A matched team for a change!! Four ladies and four men accompanied by one dog (Rosie) set off from The Mead for Start Point car park at 9.30 on an apparently still, cloudy but dry morning. Our arrival on the cliff edge proved to be anything but still! The cold north east wind was blowing very briskly and extra clothes were quickly donned.

We set off for Hallsands (and the lost village) on the easy downhill section. (The village history had been seen on TV

on last Sunday evening on a programme referring to lost villages around our coast). We then went off inland on a contouring track around to Bickerton. Our arrival at the village was greeted by a farmer on a quad bike who had seen that we had not taken the official path and came to check that his gates had been secured properly!!

We then progressed up a good track which led us past the remote Higher Middlecombe Farm, the home of pop star Damon Albarn of Blur (1990's). Unfortunately we were not invited in for coffee !!

Lunch was at 12.30pm at the Cricket pub in Beesands: for those who have not been there, it comes very well recommended but make sure you reserve a table. The pub was full even on a winter Wednesday. Our return to the cars was simply along the coastal path with the uphill bit at the end but Rosemary and Rosie set a good pace for us all: well it can't all be downhill despite the myth spread by most walk leaders !!

..... and a little more nostalgia as we recall one of the group's favourite walks.

Tramping on September 2nd 2013 – Mike Stickland

What a glorious day for a walk on the fringes of Dartmoor. The sun shone all day with hardly a cloud in the sky. Three ladies, three gents and two dogs set off for the eastern fringes of Dartmoor adjacent to the River Dart.

The initial descent to the Dart was quite steep but nobody complained that we would have to climb up again later!! We strolled along the road by the river admiring the gurgling waters and the superb autumn colour all around us. The dogs went for a swim in the river to cool off a bit and have a drink! For the next 90 minutes we climbed steadily uphill but on such gentle slopes that no one complained or commented. We walked through amazing woods, through strangely named hamlets, enjoyed the

best views of the season, admired the idyllic thatched houses snuggling in their surroundings, drooled over the local manor house once owned by Dr Blackall (Sheriff of the City of Exeter – see link below), and walked through green pastures and up ancient lanes to our “summit” for the day.

And yes, it was downhill all the way from there ! We crossed a bit of rough moor and then accessed Dr Blackall’s Drive which meanders along the side of the Dart valley high above the river and the thick woodland. This made for a really easy and gentle descent and all the while we were enjoying both the sunshine and the incredible views.

The walk was just under 3 hours duration and 5.5 miles in length. The repeat of last year’s walk came as a result of a request from last year’s group. We certainly enjoyed all that is on offer in this beautiful corner of Devon.

We lunched at the Tavistock Inn in Poundsgate. This pub dates back to about 1413 and is one of the oldest pubs in England.

Link to website information http://www.legendarydartmoor.co.uk/blackalls_drive.htm



11-year-old Tess Fleming shares the secrets of Yarmer beach with her Manhattan school friends

I thought Village Voice readers might enjoy this piece from my niece. We all know the delight that small people show on our beaches - finding crabs and tiny fishes - or in this case museums and hotels! Alan Taylor Bigg

Hello from Thurlestone. It's on the coast of England. It is hot here. I think you would like the beach a lot.

We go to the beach every day. Alice and I have discovered lots of little beaches. Basically, if you climb across the rock pools and go through the gap in some rocks you get to an opening filled with lots of big orange rocks. Some of them have caveman paintings but they are not real. Some kids made paint using rocks and made lots of handprints. We call this area "the museum."

If you keep going you will get to a mini beach. Last year we made it into a fake restaurant. This year it got a bit messy so we kept going. Now if you keep going you will reach a long rock formation with lots of little dips. We call this the modern rocks.

Keep going and you will get to lots of Little Rock pools. You will then reach the "Hotel." To your left is a small cave that is reception. In front of you is a very big rock. That is the hanging out area. There are also lots of caves that are the rooms. If you keep going through a gap in the rocks you will reach the family room.

Next, you'll reach the kitchen which is where there are lots of big rocks and one big flat rock where Alice "cooks her meals." Now you don't have to keep going, but if you do you will go through some rocks to a big rock pool. If you look through the gap in the rocks you can see the next beach Thurlestone Rock beach. From here you can't go any further. So, you have to head back.

You can also go swimming. The water is always cold but never too cold. You just have to watch out for jellyfish. You can also build stuff in the sand because there are lots of rocks and shells. One day you should come.



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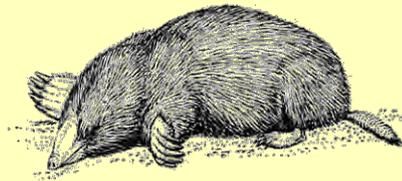


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Weather Wag



After several days of lovely sunshine, clear skies, and a calm atmosphere, today July 14th is really rather dull with rain threatening to arrive at any moment. Our holiday-makers are still trudging to the beach with all sorts of gadgets and of course children and dogs. So far so good except yesterday 13th when it really rained for a short time at the end of the afternoon. It amounted to 2mm, not even enough to lay the dust. Even the leaves on the beetroot plants didn't raise themselves. Still the latest silage and hay cuts have been successfully hauled in and stored for winter feed. All is not lost, as we say.

This is a quote from Winston Churchill to his wife Clementine in 1911. "It is very pleasant here. The weather perfect: the garden delicious. We all bathe each morning, lie back and bask on the hot rocks. How I wish you were here my dearest, and how glorious you would look in your thinnest Venetian bathing dress!" He was at Penrhos, North Wales attending the Prince of Wales's Investiture at Caernarvon Castle.

I do wonder when and if we will have a thunderstorm soon. I have to confess that I find it a thrilling spectacle even if there is a tinge of danger about it. The latter was experienced in 1955, after a week of intense heat the skies exploded across southern England. The Wrong Kind of Snow authors relate the events at Ascot on that day. "At Royal Ascot (moved from its traditional June day due to a railway strike), a bolt of lightning hits the metal railing around the enclosure on the heath in the centre of the course, fizzing along it and 'throwing out blue sparks'. The force of the strike mows down over 100 spectators. Many are lifted off their feet and knocked unconscious; 49 are injured. 'It was like being stabbed in the stomach', one man says, 2 including a pregnant woman, are killed.

Poor Ascot! In 1930 there was another instance when a storm struck, killing a bookmaker who was sheltering under an umbrella. The meeting was abandoned for the first time in 200 years.

Yet again, in 1964, terrible weather strikes again. The Royal Procession had to be cancelled. Two days of racing were lost. One foreigner describes the scene of well-heeled, straight-backed, dressed up, dripping race-goers as 'trees in a rainforest'. It was the worst wash-out in RA's history and leads to a huge programme of drainage works. In 2000, the rain returns. Every umbrella had been sold by mid-morning - but the course drained beautifully.

Today my Metcheck forecast gives 31% rain until morning with amounts of 1/2mm although cloud cover will be 100% in that time. Little or none forecast for tomorrow but still some cloud cover. Time will tell; I must make a note of what happens so that the saga may continue in two months time.

Stay safe and enjoy the summer weather if we get any worth a mention!

Jan Turner

DIARY DATES

August

Saturday	1	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	3	Parish Council Meeting conducted remotely via ZOOM 7.30pm
Sunday	9 - 14	Salcombe Yacht Club Regatta
Saturday	15	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	31	August Bank Holiday

September

Saturday	5	Kingsbridge Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	7	Parish Council Meeting conducted remotely via ZOOM 7.30pm
Monday	13	Bowringsleigh Open Gardens 2pm to 5pm - admission £5, children free - in aid of St Lukes Hospice
Saturday	19	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Friday	25	Hope Cove Lifeboat Charity Golf Day at Thurlestone Golf Club
Sunday	26	East Allington Whacky Races 10am - 5pm
Wednesday	30	Thurlestone Church Meeting Room - Grand Draw in aid of the Church Bell Tower Roof at midday

October

Saturday	3	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	5	Parish Council Meeting, Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm - maybe remotely via ZOOM

Events are subject to change due to the Coronavirus

....and it all began in Thurlestone

Spirit Works Distillery of Sebastopol California was named "2020 Distillery of the Year" by the American Distilling Institute.....and it all began in Thurlestone. In September 2006 Timo Marshall with his wife Ashby and in-laws Curt and Mary came from California to visit Timo's parents, Kit and Gillian, in Thurlestone. One day they went foraging for sloes around the Parish and subsequently made up a batch of Sloe Gin using an old family recipe. A seed was sown. No Sloe Gin was produced in the USA so could this be the niche they were looking for? Three years hard study and planning and the decision was taken to build a distillery, starting with Sloe Gin, which immediately gained many fans and, according to the ADI rivals, 'surpasses European expressions'. They moved on to a range of products including Gin, Vodka and various types of Whiskey which mature for a minimum of four years.

As dedicated environmentalists Timo and Ashby are committed to using local organic ingredients and, where possible, support the local community. During the pandemic they have been producing sanitizer liquids which they donated to essential services around the area.

So, from a humble sloe in Thurlestone the most prestigious award in the USA for craft distilleries has been won. No wonder Gillian and Kit are proud!

Kit Marshall

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BADMINTON CLUB	Contact	Sian Hodges	07784893405
BANTHAM SAILING CLUB	Secretary	Nikki Smith	560275
BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB	Clubhouse		560447
BRIDGE CLUB (Wed & Fri 6.30pm)	Contact	Lisa White	560505
BUCKLAND PHONE BOX	Contact	Anna Martin	560796
CIRCUIT TRAINING	Contact	Sue Richards	07810751083
FRENCH CONVERSATION (Thurs 2pm - 4pm)	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
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

HEALTH CENTRES

Norton Brook Medical Centre, Cookworthy Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1AE	853551
Redfern Health Centre, Shadycombe Road, Salcombe TQ8 8DJ	842284
Minor Injuries Unit (NOT 24 Hrs) ,South Hams Hospital, Kingsbridge TQ7 1XT	852349
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Mon - Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm, Sat - Sun 10.00am to 4.30pm (1st October - 31st March)

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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 12th & Sept 9th 3.10pm - 4.10pm

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For timetable contact Tally Ho! on 01548 853081 or see www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable

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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)

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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
Church Meeting Room Telephone 561246

ALL SAINTS PRIMARY SCHOOL Executive Head Miss Lesa Garside 560494

THURLESTONE POST OFFICE & STORES Contact Sarah Tyers 561917

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