

# VILLAGE VOICE

February - March 2023



## Storm Surge South Milton Ley



We at the Village Voice wish you a very happy and healthy 2023

Our new year's edition of the magazine is packed with a variety of subjects including both photographs and a report from the breach of South Milton Ley at Thurlestone Sands on Boxing Day. Many of us enjoyed a walk on that bright but very windy day but Paul Martin's timing was perfect to capture the spectacle.

There are also pictures and report about a local stalwart of the Village Voice Chris White, enjoying a flight in a WW2 Spitfire an experience which is on many people's bucket list.

An ex-resident of our parish contacted us wanting to put names to children in a school photograph from the 1950's. He is eager to know if anyone from the picture is still living in the area. Talking about our area, Vivien and Mike Stickland are leaving our village and we shall be very sorry to see them go, more tributes inside. Best wishes to you both.

The Parish Hall committee has been very busy correlating the answers from all of the questionnaires returned. The results will be reflected in the reviewing of the Parish Hall use, with various suggestions including more live bands, pub nights and exercise classes for men!! It also showed that whilst the parish has a higher aged population, there has also been an increase in younger families moving to the area.

On the subject of young people, our school children are starting the day with 'Wake and Shake' exercises and are looking forward to Spring with the 'Bikeability' programme so look out for a trail of young cyclists in the village.

Shrove Tuesday is 21<sup>st</sup> February so take note of a couple of great recipes in Tried and Tasted. Finally, My Fair Lady is a forthcoming production from 'KATS' advertised within and there is an insight of what goes on behind the scenes in an article called 'The Show must go on'. Read On .....

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## **February - March 2023**

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**Issue No. 239**

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### **Table of Contents**

District Council Report  
Parish Council Reports  
Boxing Day  
Poster - Great Thurlestone Quiz  
School Report  
Parish Hall News  
Thurlestone Questionnaire (3)  
Our Garden in January(3)  
Old School Ties  
Thurlestone Phone Box  
Poster - Arts Society  
Grey Matter  
Poster - My Fair Lady (KATS)  
All Saints' Church - Editorial  
All Saints' Church - Diary  
All Saints' Church - Poster  
Thurlestone Golf Club  
The Show Must Go On (KATS) (2)  
Village News Round-Up  
Puzzle Page  
TRAMP Reports 1 Nov-Dec  
TRAMP Reports 2 Nov-Dec  
TRAMP Calendar 2023 (from Feb)  
Tried and Tasted (Pancakes)  
The Flight of a Lifetime (1)  
The Flight of a Lifetime (2)  
Poster - Stanborough Chorus  
The Parish of Thurlestone Society  
The Accidental Environmentalist 1  
The Accidental Environmentalist 2  
Thurlestone Bay Birds  
Thurlestone Bay Moths  
Weather Wag  
Eating Out Locally  
Diary Dates  
Contact Information  
Parish Information

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# District Council Report



## Budget Part 2

By Judy Pearce

In the last edition I started explaining to you how South Hams sets its budget. Since then we had a government announcement at the beginning of December, firmed up just before Christmas. This was a settlement for one year only, (once upon a time they used to be for three years), and so we had some certainty and could do some forward planning. We have to set the budget by mid-February, so the council tax billing information is ready to be sent out at the very beginning of March. Therefore we do not have much time to get everything sorted out. Our priorities for next year are set out in our strategy 'Better Lives for all' and have been fully costed.

This year we have received an overall increase in our spending power of 3% from the government, over and above the 3% or £5 increase we are allowed to levy. As you can imagine this is nowhere near the inflation figures we are suffering on wages, heating and fuel for vehicles etc. The increase from the government will be more than eaten up by the increase in audit fees alone which we know already are coming our way for next year. Increases in council tax have been capped by the government for at least ten years now, but the upper tier councils have an extra allowance for social care. We had already determined that we would not charge more than a £5 increase for next year and have now done the necessary adjustments to make the budget balance. Like any budget, future income is always uncertain, particularly the number of planning application fees and how much the car parks are used.

There is also a reset in business rates due next year which introduces a whole new raft of uncertainty, but we know the government will make some 'smoothing' payments to help even this out, although the actual sums are not yet known. Each department of the Council will have made careful calculations on costs for delivering services next year, and there is a process for assessing any capital bids.

The final budget proposals will go before a committee of all back bench councillors in the third week in January. They can make comments and any recommendations they want to the Executive Committee which meets in the last week in January. The Executive, in turn can then make any recommendations it wishes to full Council in mid-February, when the budget will be set. By the end of January, the parishes and towns have to advise the precepts they will be setting, and these are part of the budget papers for Council and will be in the public domain once published. The County Council meets during the week after the Districts and sets their council tax. The final part of the jigsaw is that a small committee of the various political group leaders at South Hams who meet to set the final Band D council tax – other bands are multiples of this. We then bill all households in the South Hams, but only take 8% of the total billed for the District.

Many thanks and kind regards

Judy



# **NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The most recent Parish Council meetings are summarised below. The detailed minutes can be seen online at [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk)

## **Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Thurlestone Parish Hall**

Present: Cllrs Jill Munn (Chairman), Sue Crowther, Rosa Lewis, Adam Ryan-Carter, Gill Stone and Sian Williams.

In Attendance: Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Rufus Gilbert, District Cllrs Judy Pearce and Mark Long, and 20 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Paul Gunning and DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert.

\*This Special Meeting was called specifically to discuss the Bantham Boathouse applications.

### **Open Forum**

The following concerns were raised about the Bantham Boathouse applications: the visual impact of the proposed development particularly the ramp which is not in keeping; there has been no historic use of the ground floor for events; the applicant has not clearly demonstrated that all options have been explored to maintain the boathouse for the purpose it was built (boat storage and repair) and to justify the change of use of the first floor to a holiday let; that the cliff works should be the subject of a separate application; that the building should be preserved for the purpose for which it was built and to create long term jobs.

### **Planning and Tree Matters**

1. 2605/22/FUL & 2606/22/LBC Bantham Boathouse. Proposed conversion of first floor into a holiday let and the cliff stabilisation works (part retrospective)

A full and detailed discussion took place over the course of an hour. Each Councillor demonstrated a full and detailed understanding of the applications and discussed in depth the issues and policies relevant to the site. Councillors then voted 4-3 (the Chairman using her casting vote) in favour of a holding objection. A holding objection is opposition to an application pending the submission of information necessary in order to make an informed decision.

The response was subsequently submitted to SHDC, including preliminary points regarding the red line application site plan, inaccurate certificate of ownership and a request for the cliff stabilisation works to be the subject of a separate application. Councillors were unanimous that the first-floor holiday let use would cause significant harm to the setting of the Grade II listed building and would be contrary to numerous policies in the Neighbourhood Plan relating to the historic environment, neighbour amenity (noise disturbance) and increased light pollution and that it would have a detrimental impact on the natural beauty, special qualities, landscape and scenic beauty of the AONB. With these issues in mind, they also considered that the applicant had failed to demonstrate that all reasonable efforts had been made to sustain either the existing use or to find new uses for the building, as required by the JLP. Furthermore, it was noted that there are errors in the planning statement in so far as the boathouse has never been used by the community and has been used for boat storage and repair since 1937 up until 2019, when it was vacated by the former harbourmaster/boat builder. The use of the ground floor (which floods) was also vague and the WC, which has always been available to the public, was omitted. In particular, they questioned the cost of restoring the building for non-habitable use which would be less harmful to the setting, more beneficial to the local community and less expensive for the applicant. In the above circumstances, Councillors therefore considered the application to be premature.

2. 3206/22/TPO, Furzey Close, Thurlestone. Tree works to remove obstruction to telephone wires. This application had been viewed by the Tree Warden and the works were considered reasonable.

## **Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at Thurlestone Parish Hall**

Present: Cllrs Jill Munn (Chairman), Sue Crowther, Paul Gunning, Rosa Lewis, Adam Ryan-Carter and Gill Stone.

In attendance: Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk), District Cllrs Judy Pearce and Mark Long and 15 members of the public.

### **Open Forum**

Subjects raised included options for the Coronation in May 2023, South Devon College Marine Academy's training plans for young fishermen, marine engineers and boat builders and local apprenticeship opportunities and the poor state of the road at Elston Cross.

### **Parish matters**

(1) The issue of flooding on the road between A379 and Thurlestone will be added to the list of places to view at a meeting with DCC Highways. (2) The anticipated financial spend for 2023/24 was discussed with the Councillors who were very aware of the impact of the current financial climate on many residents. They are minded to limit any increase to no more than 10% to be updated to include a Coronation fund as well as money for a contractor for essential parish maintenance. (3) It was noted that to date the Golf Club have not financially supported the costs of the public toilets at Leasfoot Beach and Councillors agreed that further dialogue with the Golf Club was necessary to obtain assistance with funding the public toilets in order to keep them open. (4) It was resolved to create a mailing list to circulate pertinent parish information that could potentially be used in the future to assist with emergencies and late notifications. (5) The Thurlestone, Bantham and Buckland Environment Group is looking at local issues. This is a small group who would welcome new members (please contact Cllr Ryan-Carter). They are currently looking at composting options including discussions with a local landowner, as well as renewable energy sources that may be viable in the area. District Cllrs Pearce and Long kindly committed £250 from their climate budgets towards the £564.90 cost of 'Gardening for Wildlife' booklets to be purchased by the Council. (6) Cllr Stone attended the Parish Hall Liaison meeting where the Committee is analysing the recent Parish Questionnaires about what people would like from their Parish Hall. On 27 January 2023 there is a 'Welcome to Thurlestone Day' where many of the groups and organisations in the Parish will be present to share what they do and show how residents can benefit from the wide range of offerings in the area.

### **Planning Matters**

3013/22/FUL, Aune Cliff, Demolition & replacement of existing dwelling & related landscape enhancements. Object.

3918/22/TCA, Kennedy, Thurlestone, Tree works requested. 6/12. Object.

4047/22/HHO, Marshalls, Thurlestone, conversion of existing substandard garage to home office & store construction of replacement garage & expansion of existing garden terrace. Support.

4075/22/HHO, 2 Valleyside, West Buckland, rear extension & amendments to fenestration (Re-submission of 1416/22/HHO). Support.

3954/22/FUL, Cowrie House, Ilbert Road, demolition & replacement of existing dwelling. Support.

### **Decisions**

1251/22/HHO, Tree Tops, Thurlestone, was approved; 3601/22/CLE, Cowrie House, Ilbert Road, Thurlestone, a Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing material commencement of building operations was granted; and 3206/22/TPO, Furzey Close, Thurlestone, Tree works were allowed.

3045/22/HHO, Apple Trees, Thurlestone and 3247/22/FUL, Edgecombe House, West Buckland, were withdrawn.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 6 February 2023 in the Parish Hall**

# BOXING DAY 2022

## South Milton Ley flood water burst through the beach at Thurlestone Sands

South Milton Ley Nature Reserve is a sixteen-hectare wildlife refuge designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It includes Devon's second largest reedbed and together with South Huish Nature Reserve in the adjacent valley and the nearby coastline is visited by up to 200 bird species in a typical year.

Occupying a shallow reeded valley 100-150 metres wide, running north-east for 1.5 km inland from the coast at Thurlestone Sands from which it is separated by a shallow sand bar to the sea. At this point there is a permanent shallow lagoon of water which slowly seeps excess water through the sands to the sea unnoticed.

Over the Christmas period 2022 the general weather was awful. Luckily on Boxing Day the sun came out and it was a lovely day for the traditional walk with the family. While we were there an event occurred not witnessed by many people.

Due to the heavy winter rain the wetlands overflow with water. When this happens the freshwater bursts through the sands which starts as just a trickle and after only a few minutes, becomes a torrent of fresh water to the sea, which is quite spectacular. Over the period we were there, the Ley dropped in height by almost a metre which signifies an enormous amount of water draining to the sea over a short period. I only had my mobile phone to visually capture the action the best I could. It was video footage and from this I have created a You Tube video which can be viewed by entering the following link on any Laptop / tablet or mobile phone.

<https://youtu.be/NWJjN3lq0h8>

Paul Martin 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

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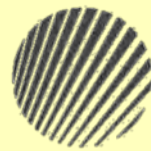
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# Parish Hall News

by Alison Daily



I would like to wish everyone Happy New Year and hope to see many of you at the hall in 2023. Our resolution is to improve your experience of the hall, bring people together and provide some relief from the stress and strains of everyday life and the world around us.

## Mike Stickland

Sadly, Mike will be leaving the committee after many years of service as he is moving to pastures new/the committee will be sorry to see him go but hope he enjoys his new surroundings. Over the years he's helped source many of the artists who have performed at the hall and his insight and contribution to the running of the hall will be greatly missed. Although, I expect he'll not miss the soaking from cleaning the outside of the building which is one way he went above and beyond duty in the past. Good luck Mike.

## New Benches

An issue raised in the questionnaire is that the hall doesn't feel welcoming, which has prompted the forming of a subcommittee to come up with ideas to address this and will be implemented over the year. Something already planned was the replacement of the 2 WI benches commemorating the Queen's coronation, which are sadly beyond repair. Hopefully the two new composite benches from a local company will be in place by the time you read this. One of them will commemorate the coronation of our new king. Thank you to the WI who donated money when they ceased, towards maintenance of the aforementioned benches, which has now been used towards the cost of the replacements. This is just the beginning so keep your eyes peeled for further improvements.

## Donations

Talking of donations, the Committee would also like to thank those who donate on a regular basis as well as one off occasions. Sadly, this usually occurs due to the closure of a group or club. As well as the WI, we've received donations from the Horticultural Club and POTS, which will be spent in accordance with their interests.

## AGM

Our AGM this year will be on Friday 24th February at 6pm in the main hall. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be provided. If you have any issues you would like to raise please come along, we look forward to seeing you.

## Events

We are currently drawing up a full programme of events for 2023, starting with the **What's On drop in event on 27th January**, when you can pop in to find out what happens throughout the parish not just at the hall. You will have the opportunity to meet those behind some of the local organisations and groups, for example, parish councillors, Tramp, Thurlestone Website, All Saints Church and even some from Village Voice plus many more. Why don't you drop in and see for yourself.

Other dates for your diaries include:

March - Dartington String Quartet - Date to be confirmed.

Tuesday 30th May - Annual Family Fun Day.

Watch out for details of these and future events in this magazine, on posters and social media.



## Parish Hall Questionnaire

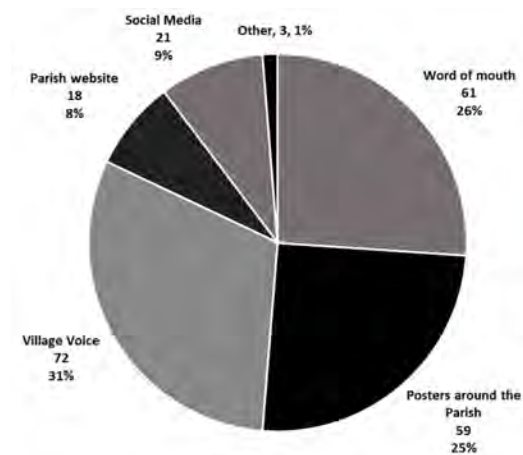
Firstly, we would like to thank all those who completed the questionnaire and provided some really interesting and valuable insight. As mentioned in the last Village Voice, the majority of the suggestions are achievable but unfortunately, some are not, due to practicality, lack of space and storage. As you can see from the detail to follow there is a definite need for a wider variety of activities covering all age groups, and we have taken on board the comments about the hall (more on this later).

403 questionnaires were distributed in the Village Voice to Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone residents, with a 23.33% response rate. We asked a number of questions to help us understand how the hall is currently used and what our community needs from the hall in the future. Due to the limited space in the Village Voice we are reporting on the key points from the information collected, however, a copy of the full report will be available on the Parish website.

### How do you usually find out about activities at the Hall?

The majority of respondents get their information from either the Village Voice (31%), Word of Mouth (26%) or via the Posters (25%) we put up around the villages. What was very clear is that we need to do more on Social Media.

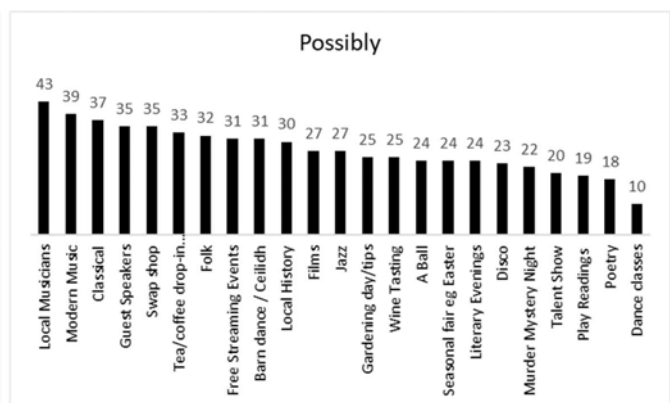
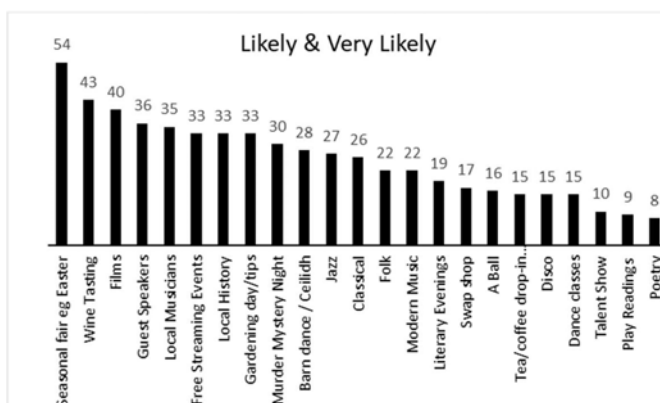
As a result we are looking into how we can better use Social Media platforms (Facebook etc) to promote the activities at the hall as well as reporting back on the upcoming changes from your suggestions and comments.



### How likely is it that you would attend additional activities at the Parish Hall if the following were started?

This question has generated a lot of data and provided some valuable insight into planning future events for the Hall. Our first event to help promote the 'goings on' within the Parish and the Hall is being held on the 27 January at 7pm, where we are inviting everyone in the parish to come along have some refreshments and find out about activities in the area as well as in the Parish Hall.

Below are a couple of tables showing you the most popular events you might like to attend, categorised by Likely & Very Likely and Possibly. There is a far more detailed breakdown of all the responses received which will be available on the Parish website.



## What interests/hobbies/entertainment do you go to out of the Parish to pursue? Which would you like to have at the Parish Hall?

We received details on a very broad range of activities in response to this question, many of which were also echoed in the section for ideas for new activities. We grouped them together and categorised them to enable us to consider their feasibility, as well as take them into consideration alongside your responses to our proposed future activities.



Indoor Rowing Machine  
Yoga/Pilates inc Evening  
Aerial Hoop  
Netball  
Fitness Classes  
Table Tennis Club  
Men's exercise classes: X  
Training, Pilates, Boxercise



Pub music nights –local  
bands  
Classical Concerts  
Live Music  
Irish Music  
Tribute bands  
50's, 60's, 70's, 80's music  
nights  
Choir Practice  
Line Dancing  
Adult dance classes inc  
Ballroom  
Monthly dance evenings



Cinema / Theatre  
Films  
Theatre / Pantomime  
Musicals  
Amateur Dramatics  
Comedy  
Play



Harvest Supper  
Pub night – BYO  
Pop up restaurant – themed  
evenings  
Coffee & Cake  
mornings/afternoons  
Baking Competitions  
Cooking demos  
Specialty restaurants  
Food and wine tastings



Art  
Local History  
Lectures  
Wildlife Talks  
Archeology and  
Geology  
West country  
novelists  
Learning  
opportunities

### **YOUTH**



Beavers  
Ballet  
Gymnastics  
Children's Theatre / Film  
Nights  
Kids clubs  
Children's dance classes  
Youth club  
Basketball  
Kids classes, Art & Crafts

Wreath making  
Art exhibitions  
Sale of local products / Craft fairs  
Instructed Art / Craft / Sewing Classes  
Craft workshops  
Practical demos ie glass blowing etc  
Seasonal markets  
Pottery  
Exhibitions



Pool / Darts  
Snooker / Pool  
Traditional Pub / Parlor Games  
Cribbage evenings  
Bridge evenings and classes  
Bowls or boules  
Bingo  
Race night



Clothes Swap  
Quiz nights  
Community food swap  
Book club  
Fancy Dress  
WI  
Bingo  
Regular or one off  
event for new people  
to meet up  
Sustainability/climate  
change events

Card games eg  
canasta, whist  
Garden club  
History  
Art History  
Tracing Family History  
Jumble Sale / Bring  
and Buy  
Antiques  
Local community  
events  
Supporting charities

## Comments about the Parish Hall

Below are the comments received in the questionnaire. As a result we have formed a group who have already met and will be working to make the Hall more welcoming. We will also be reporting back regularly on other actions being taken to improve the Hall.

Very nice village hall

Well kept,  
good acoustics

Would like the interior to reflect the  
social activities ie comfortable  
seating to encourage a more  
intimate friendly atmosphere.  
Perhaps using round tables,  
comfortable chairs, Sofas, low  
tables.

the hall offers a good  
range of activities.

Excellent –  
very well run.  
Thank you for all  
you do

Need to have more  
evening activities  
which whole of  
village can attend

The hall is drastically  
underused. Such a lovely  
hall, so sad so few village  
events.

More  
information on  
events held

Its  
potentially a great  
performance space  
for small scale  
theatre

generally happy with  
everything

Attract more visitors  
from outside our  
immediate area

Bigger kitchen  
required

Very good  
value to hire

We would like to thank all  
the people involved in  
giving us this facility and  
for arranging the social  
events

The hall would be more  
appealing if it was less  
cold and stark. Make the  
room more welcoming

It has so much equipment so could  
easily run after school clubs say or  
pass on skills to the youth of the  
village. Are there any jobs the  
youth of the village could do to  
help for a little pocket money.

More information of activities to  
be reported in the village voice  
(excellent Mag)

activity for less  
mobile people

The technical side is  
often too complicated  
and difficult to get  
help when needed e.g.  
no heating

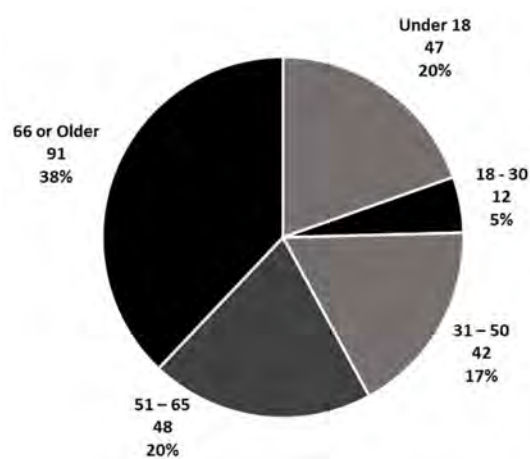
Potentially more  
children's activities, the current variety  
seems quite good for adults. I love the  
exercise options available locally. Its  
important for those less mobile in the area  
to have activities that help them remain part  
of the community and to see people  
frequently

I love the  
parish hall!

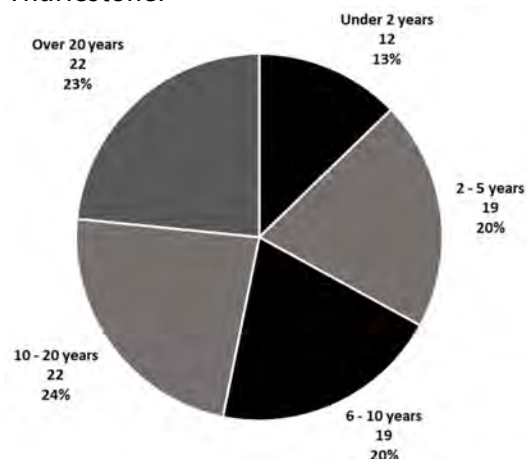
## Parish Demographics

A key aspect to event planning is the understanding of the demographics of the Parish, which was why we asked about the ages of your families, and how long you had lived in the Parish. As you can see from the following charts, whilst the Parish still has a largely aging population, there has been in the last 5 years a younger contingent moving into the Parish. 33% of the respondents (52 residents) had lived within the Parish for less than 5 years, of which 32 residents were under the age of 30.

You/Your families

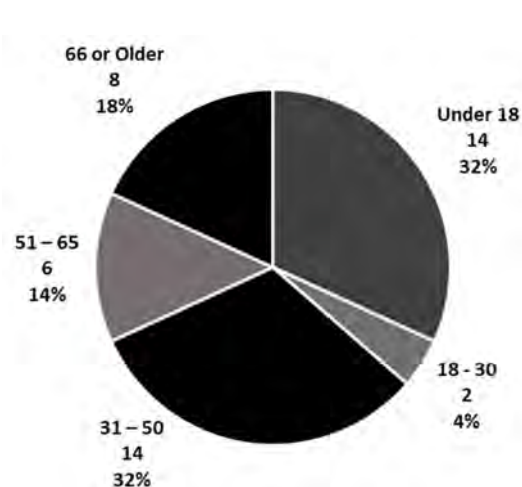


How long have you lived in Bantham, Buckland or Thurlestone?

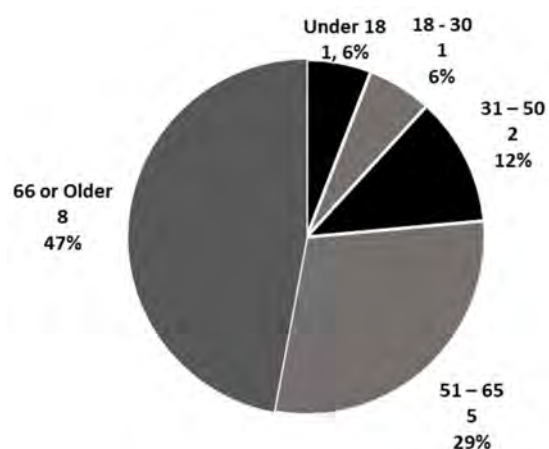


Below is a further breakdown of the demographics by village

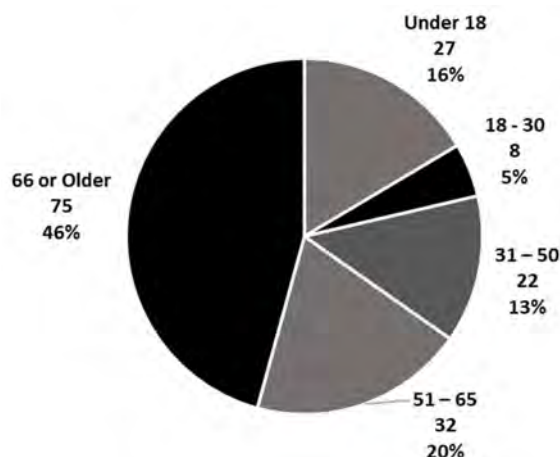
Bantham – 59 Households responded



Buckland – 45 Households responded



Thurlestone – 59 Households responded







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# Our Garden January 2023

By Sue Dwyer

I am writing this on the 3rd January. I suppose Xmas and New Year are over and everyone including myself is getting back into their old routines. Re-reading my article from last January I realise I am writing this on the same day and found I have been doing exactly the same tasks, tending the plants in the greenhouse to remove dead leaves, checking for slugs and snails, removing them from the bottom of pots, and potting up perennials by dividing up large clumps.

The garden is saturated due to the heavy rain we have had. Unlike last summer when we were praying for rain, it seems to have rained daily for the last month. Yesterday was beautiful, no wind and plenty of sunshine and just wonderful to be outside in the fresh air. It seems an age away that we had the very cold spell in early December. I know the dates as on Monday the 5th December I took photographs of dumpy bags of compost being delivered here by tractor. The driver always manages to get the bags through the gate to where I want them alongside the camellia hedge. Next day it was all hands-on deck covering all the borders so when the very cold weather arrived and the ground became frozen, I breathed a sigh of relief knowing my tender dahlia tubers, alstroemerias and other tender plants were wrapped up for the winter. All the tops of the alstroemerias froze and died as they were still flowering at this time, however with the mild weather we have now they are all sprouting again.



In mid-November we visited Rosemoor in north Devon for a day, always a joy and good for ideas. At the entrance there was a lovely pink camellia in full flower. I photographed the plant plus the label. The plant was an autumn flowering Sasanqua, the group of camellias about which I wrote in the December Village Voice. The name was *Camellia sasanqua* Mignonne and as soon as I returned home, I searched the RHS website to find this plant was available from only one nursery. I placed an order immediately! I looked at their website later that day and noticed "out of stock" so was happy I had ordered so promptly. The plant arrived about five days later, a splendid specimen about one metre tall in a pot. This was a Christmas gift to myself. At present due to the high winds, it is safely in my small greenhouse waiting to be planted. At Rosemoor the tall late flowering salvias were in abundance. Three tall varieties took my eye so I photographed them plus their name tag and have acquired them, firstly *Salvia elegans* Scarlet Pineapple, this has vibrant red flowers in huge swaths which no small garden would have room for. *Salvia leucantha* was in full flower, this has greyish felted leaves with downy purple calyces from which small white or purple flowers emerge. Jeff my gardener has given me one which is in full flower in the greenhouse. I will only plant this out after the last frosts as it is not frost hardy also *Salvia involucrata* which had green downy leaves with downy vibrant cerise flowers.

I have grown to love salvias over the years. They come as tender annual, half-hardy annuals and hardy perennials. They have many attributes gardeners want being drought tolerant, not eaten by wildlife such as rabbits, insect friendly, they flower for prolonged periods and come in many colours, shapes and forms. Some shrubby varieties originated in the UK and were known as Clarys. I like the tall leafy late flowering varieties which sway in the breeze. Many of these have raceme flowers, defined as a flower cluster with the separate flowers attached by short equal stalks at equal distances along a central stem. The flowers at the base of the central stem develop first. The shrubby varieties tend to have smaller leaves with flower spikes, which are defined as stalkless flowers attached to a central stem, generally forming a



highly elongated cluster. The small shrubby varieties tend to be hardier than the late flowering tall varieties which I like so much.

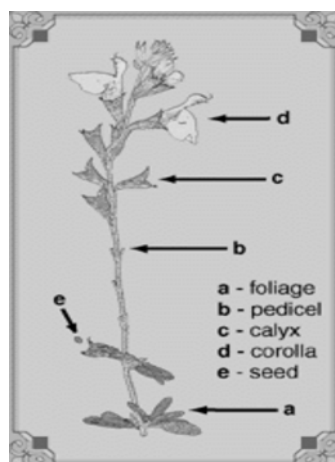
There are over 1000 varieties of salvia and they originate in Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. In our mild climate they usually survive the winter but I always take cuttings just in case we have a very hard winter or indeed a very wet winter. They do not like their roots to be water logged. Our garden soil is very light and drains well so all that are left in the flower beds are usually fine but I never take chances. The racemes show off the coloured calyces from which the two petals of the flower emerge in all varieties. To me the calyces seem more prominent in the tall varieties with racemes not flower spikes.

I bought my first salvia about 30 years ago as an offer of three plants all blue but they were short medium and tall varieties. The only name I remember was the medium height Cambridge Blue but this never survived the winter nor did the short one. However, the tall one thrived and has been divided coming up in clumps with lovely racemes flowering all summer and looking on websites I am sure this one is *Salvia guaranitica* Blue Enigma

Over the last few years, I have increased the salvia varieties in our garden and thought I would describe some that are here. One of the first I bought was *Salvia* Hot Lips. This is widely available and one of the first bi-coloured varieties. Interestingly when it starts to flower in May/June the flowers are red but as the temperature increases and daylight lengthens, they become bicoloured with a white lip. Last Autumn after the hot summer they turned pure white. In my border they are pruned to about 30cm after any threat of frost, usually late April/May and develop into a 3ft bush during the growing season. A few years ago, I planted some cuttings I had grown over in the left-hand border in the spring and they made a nice display but that winter every one of them died, obviously the conditions were not as conducive as is the sheltered west side border

At the same time, I bought a similar shaped flowered magenta salvia. This has proven hardy and easy to propagate from cuttings and gives a blaze of colour that people always comment on when they visit the garden. I do not know the name but the flower shape is exactly like Hot Lips. Another similar flowered one I bought last year was Newby Hall. This has bright red flowers and is the easiest I have ever known to propagate from cuttings. A new plant I bought this autumn is *Salvia* Nachtlinder which has maroon/purple flowers with green turning to black calyces, this plant will be planted out next spring.

A very hardy group of salvias are the *Salvia nemorosa* type these originate from the Balkans and from the native plant named Balkan Clary. These are about 50 - 80 cms tall, bushy and have spikes of flowers in various colours. They produce a tight group of flower spikes and if cut back after their first flush produce another batch later in the season. They are a neat tidy hardy and reliable plant. I have several types Amethyst, Caradonna, Schneehugel, Crystal Blue and Ostfriesland.



Beside the tall Blue Enigma and the recent acquisitions other tall specimens I have are Phyllis Fancy which has purple calyces with a pale purple flower. Blue and Black has black calyces with a dark blue flower. Embers Wish acquired last year is a sport of the Love and Wishes series. A sport is defined as a '**genetic mutation**;' one that has no explanation and no specific rhyme or reason for its occurrence. Sport is a chance genetic mutation and can occur on any plant, anytime in a plant. I bought this plant because I had never seen such an amazing coloured salvia before. The flowers are red/orange and the Calyces dark terracotta. This plant is tender and I have cuttings in the greenhouse as I am uncertain if this plant will survive the winter. The frosts killed all the leaves and the plant looks in a sorry state now. I also have Amistad and the new Amistad Pink in the garden, time will tell if the pink variety will be as lovely as the deep purple flowers with black calyces of Amistad which has become a great garden favourite.

Walking around the garden on the 4th January, again windy and soil very wet with low cloud I was cheered to see my very first snowdrops in bloom, as well as hellebores, plus spring

flowering camellias. This gives me a psychological lift on such a dank day. A few narcissus are also in flower. Besides the spring flowers there are bronze coloured Osteospermum in pots on the patio that have survived the frosts. Antirrhinums in sheltered spots are in flower as are pansies. The plant that amazes me is the small Cyclamen hederifolium, the autumn flowering variety, which were self-seeded. I dug up the seedlings which were put into small cell trays to grow them on. In the freezing weather I discovered them in the vegetable garden frozen solid so I removed the trays into the cold greenhouse. They have not turned a hair and are happily back outside in the garden growing away ready to be planted out later. Some plants turn up their toes with a hint of frost whilst others thrive, that is nature for you. Happy Gardening!

---

## OLD SCHOOL TIES

We have recently been contacted by a once-local resident, Dave Humphrey, who now lives in Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada. He reports that, at the time of writing, he was “enjoying” temperatures of -35 degrees!

Dave lived at Buckland Park in the days when it was a guest house and attended Thurlestone Primary School from 1950-1956. He recalls that he and his parents were involved with the conversion into flats of Court Park House after purchasing it from Eric Stidston. During a couple of summers, he remembers working with Rodney and Geoffrey Stidston assisting on the farm with the dairy and harvesting.

He has sent us a photograph (possibly dated 1950/51) from his schooldays here and hopes there may be someone still around who recalls some faces. Dave tells us he is the young fellow in the front row wearing gumboots. His sister Jennifer is circled in the third row from the front. The teacher on the left is Mrs Brown but Dave doesn't recall the name of the other teacher.

He would love to be reminded of the names of any others that can be identified. So, readers out with the magnifying glasses and on with the thinking caps! If you can help Dave on his trip down memory lane by providing any titbits, please contact a member of the Village Voice team and we can make sure they are passed on.



## **Thurlestone Phone Box**



Despite being one of the coldest rainy days of the year, around 100 souls braved the elements for our Christmas Carols on the Green. Although, let's be honest, once the mulled wine, Joanie's delicious mince pies and Father Christmas's basket of goodies had been emptied there was a general exodus to warmer places. The school, as usual, enchanted us with their singing, as did the Razor Sharp harmony group, and BBC's Shep kept us groaning with his panto-style humour and switched on the Carol lights which surely rivalled Blackpool Tower.

Many thanks to our sponsors: Village Inn, Toad Hall Cottages, Caro Mellor and Martin Berryman. Almost £100 was donated for school projects.

Santa Claus made the Phonebox his HQ over Christmas and has now gone home to tend to the Reindeer for a well-earned rest. He enjoyed looking at the Crib and Manger amongst the flowers over the road and one day saw a bike fall over. Why? Because it was two tired!!

Our next celebrations will be Valentine's Day and don't forget to reserve your time-slot in the Phonebox for that special romantic tryst.

Have a good one.

**Kit Marshall**

## **ARTS SOCIETY KINGSBRIDGE forthcoming meetings 2023**



Wednesday 22nd February  
**"20<sup>th</sup> Century Gardeners"**

*James Bolton*

Wednesday 22nd March  
**"Linking China with Europe: Blue & White in the  
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*James Allan*

at 2pm for 2.30pm + **Zoom.**

*Call 01548 532850 for a link*

All welcome - no need to be a member - £10 (£8 for Zoom)  
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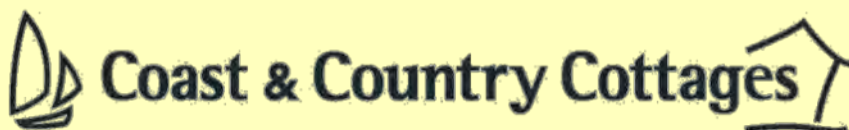
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# Grey Matter

**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 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: [cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk)

## WELL-DEFINED TV

Here are some definitions of words that happen to be the title of a TV show past or present. Name the show. We have made life easier for you by providing the year in which they were first broadcast as well as the initial letters of the shows. What could be easier?

Eg People living next door or nearby 1985 N.....NEIGHBOURS

1. In ancient Rome, men trained to fight in an arena 1992 G.....
2. A situation that creates a sudden increase in good fortune or wealth 1959 B.....
3. A game in which players search for objects by following clues 1982 TH.....
4. A flag raised by a ship about to leave port 1958 BP.....
5. Having little or no sense, use or purpose 2009 P.....
6. An act of reciting numerals in reverse order to zero 1982 C.....
7. A dish consisting of oatmeal boiled in water or milk 1974 P.....
8. A person who plans an ingenious scheme or enterprise 1972 M.....
9. A convoy of covered horse-drawn vehicles as used by settlers in North America 1957 WT.....
10. A biscuit often eaten with cheese 1993 C.....
11. An establishment where youngsters take their first steps in education 1964 P.....
12. Someone who has acquired very high-level cooking skills 1990 M.....
13. An intersection of two or more highways 1964 C.....
14. Those who work to prepare and serve school meals 1998 D.....
15. A scene or photograph containing a wide view 1953 P.....
16. A place for spectators that offers the best view of a racecourse or sports ground 1958 G.....
17. The highest driving ratio 2002 TG.....
18. A line of hereditary rulers of a country 1981 D.....
19. A well-known holiday resort on the Costa Blanca 2007 B.....
20. Having a secret job in addition to ones regular employment 1985 M.....
21. A dirty person or animal infested with small jumping insects 2016 F.....
22. An older male sibling 2000 BB.....
23. The line at which the earth's surface and the sky appear to meet 1964 H.....
24. Expression of good wishes when raising a glass 1982 C.....
25. Baked foodstuff made of flour, water and yeast 1986 B .....

## Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. I saw three ships 2.Coventry carol 3. Little Donkey 4. All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth 5. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas 6. The holly and the ivy 7. Silent Night 8. When Santa got stuck up the chimney 9. Hark the herald angels sing 10. Little drummer boy 11.Oh come all ye faithful 12. The twelve days of Christmas 13. White Christmas 14. The first Noel 15. Mary's boy child 16. Fairytale of New York 17. In the bleak midwinter 18. Winter wonderland 19. Good King Wenceslas 20. Let it snow 21. We three kings 22. Jingle bells 23. Deck the halls 24. Frosty the snowman.

*There were 4 all correct entries last month. First out of the hat, and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Alexander Tindale. Commiserations to Mary Barons, Viv Gibby, and Nigel Green.*



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---

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**LAY READER:** Peter Gornall



## *Lent idea - Don't throw in the towel*

Temptation is a word whose cutting edge can only too easily be blunted by, for instance, using it to name chocolates or scanty swimwear. Recently I saw a **compilation of quotations about temptation: the one I liked best "Free cheese is always available in mousetraps" is decently biting about petty greed or the can-I-get-something-for-nothing temptation.** These pale beside some of the subtle and insidious temptations which face us all; not least the temptation to throw in the towel when we are faced with the gargantuan problems of, for instance, climate change, oceanic plastic pollution, war in Eastern Europe.

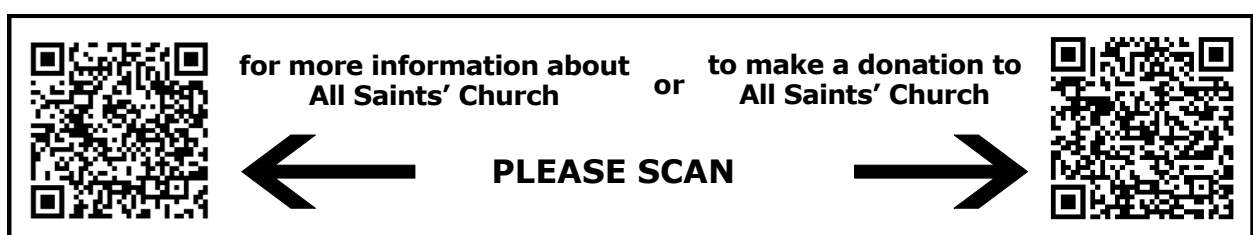
**Lent is supposedly a period of forty days to commemorate Jesus' time in the wilderness subject to devilish temptations on how to conduct his ministry.** Jesus was already thirty, and he knew that in only a short time his teaching and his deeds would lead to official condemnation and its consequences. The temptations could be summarised as becoming magician, stuntman or power-grabber. All were rejected. In the face of huge obstacles, he never ducked out or threw in the towel. His ministry appeared to come to an ignominious end. Yet through a warm magic not previously conceived, through the irresistible stunts of being vulnerable but **unwavering humans, through empowering new life in the world's underdogs and have-nots, Jesus' disciples have proved and continue to prove immense and still growing influence in changing the world.** Yet it is virtually all done in small, thoughtful acts, sacrificial giving of time and money, patient engagement with problems and kind opportune words in millions of places and situations.

So we might wish to be in a position to cancel the burning of fossil fuels; to make commercially viable the conversion of plastic back to oil; to be the general whose decisive move stopped the war. Instead, and not shrugging our way to throwing in the towel, we need to direct our energies to being part of those millions of small acts of considerate generosity, patience and kindness. In that way we become **witnesses to Jesus' triumph over pointless popularity, headline-grabbing, or the vacuity of badly used power.**

It will be worth taking a few Lenten moments to take stock of our direction, and how to harness his power to give us all the perseverance and concentration we need. Even if we ourselves never measure the outcomes, experience is that Jesus' power multiplies the input beyond all expectations.

***Every Blessing!***

*Peter*



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**PLEASE SCAN**





# All Saints' Diary

**Churchwardens:** Liz Webb 560090 & Mike Hodges 561124

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

## Church Services

### Sundays

<b>FEB/MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup></b> (BCP), <b>26<sup>TH</sup></b> (CW)	<b>9.00am</b> Holy Communion (said) (NOTE TIME)
<b>FEB. 5<sup>TH</sup>, 19<sup>TH</sup>, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>11.10am</b> Parish Eucharist (CW)
<b>FEB. 12<sup>TH</sup> &amp; 26<sup>TH</sup>, MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>11.10am</b> Morning Worship
<b>MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>11.10am</b> Matins (BCP)
<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>11.10am</b> Mothering Sunday Family Communion (CW)

### Weekdays

<b>ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b> Benefice Communion (CW) with hymns
<b>EVERY WEDNESDAY</b> (except Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup> )	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP) (said)
<b>THURSDAYS FEB. &amp; MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b> Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at Bantham

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



### Sunday Services



[www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/recorded-services.html](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/recorded-services.html)

### Regular Activities

Contact:

<b>EVERY MONDAY</b>	<b>7.15pm</b> Home Group at 11 Mead Lane/Zoom	561124
<b>THURS FEB/MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> &amp; 23<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>5.00pm</b> Thurlestone Warblers in M Room	560509

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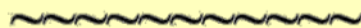
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# Thurlestone Golf Club



Following World War II, Lord Mildmay of Flete died in 1947, having been Club President for 50 years. He was succeeded by Lt. Col. F. A. Ilbert who, for many years previously, had been Chairman of successive committees. He had been the Club's Vice President, and had guided the Club from the end of the Brunskill era through the important developments of the 1930's. The Membership of the Club stood at 120 in 1945, comprising of 45 Men, 46 Ladies and 29 Juniors and by 1950 it had almost doubled.

The continued ban on Sunday morning golf had inconvenienced the village hotels for many years, with their golfing guests having to travel and play at a primitive 9 holes course at Bolberry which was established by the R.A.F. personnel during the war. Although the course was basic, the facility boasted an excellent clubhouse which was forced to close when Sunday morning golf was allowed at Thurlestone in 1951.

In 1949 a Mr T Barnes was appointed Secretary after the Club had received 151 applications for the vacancy. He brought his wife and son Brian to Thurlestone during his 2-year stint at the Club. The son, Brian, was to go on and achieve fame as a world class golfer who appeared in six Ryder Cups Matches and went on to enjoy a lucrative period on the US PGA Tour.

Jock Foale was Club Professional from 1950 to 1980. Jock was a man who dedicated his life to the Club and was universally loved by the members and visitors alike. He was born in Scotland and came to Kingsbridge at 5 years of age. Throughout his school days he spent his spare time caddying and learning the fundamentals of the game. As soon as he left school, he became assistant to James Coombes the then Club Professional. As a professional golfer Jock carded a pair of 63's on the old course, an achievement he cherished and was extremely proud of. He was a very fine club maker and club repairer, with his reputation and quality travelling across the County and beyond. At a presentation made on Jock's premature retirement in 1980, due to rheumatoid arthritis, the captain of the day Ken Weedy, said he was a man of "total integrity and kindness". The commemorative plaque beside the 18<sup>th</sup> green is a fitting tribute to the service he gave the Club.

By the early 1960's the facilities in the Clubhouse had become inadequate for the expanding membership. The Committee embarked upon a general discussion of possible improvements to the various component parts, right down to the provision of a children's playroom. Such a provocative subject does not lend itself to a committee including members with forthright views which they did not mind expressing and one that changes at every AGM. Eventually in 1964, after many proposals and counter proposals, a much larger lounge bar was opened with due pomp and ceremony.

It is nice to know in an ever-changing world some things never change!

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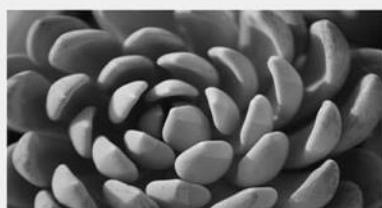
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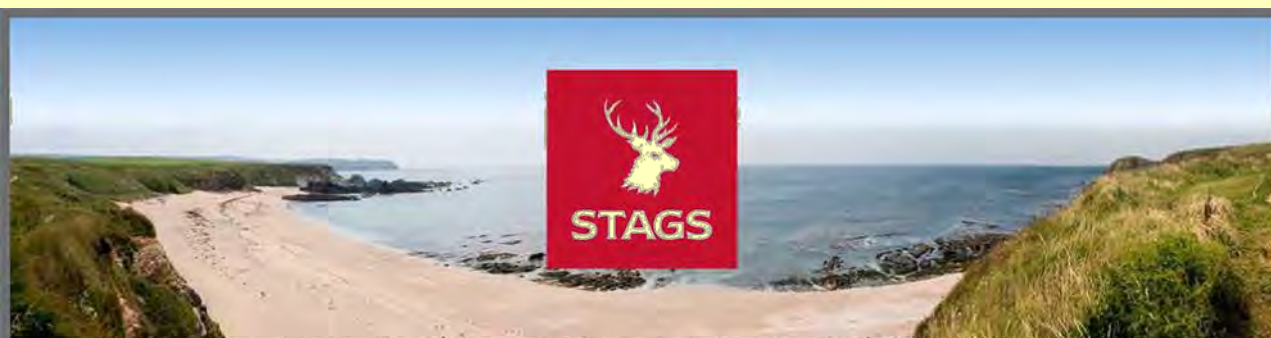


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# The Show Must Go On?



By KATS director Carey Ryan-Carter (My Fair Lady 2023)

For those of you who are unaware of the Acronym, KATS, it stands for Kingsbridge Amateur Theatrical Society and has been going for over 120 years (except for a short spell during and after the second world war.) We put on 2 performances a year, a play in September and a musical in March. I became involved about 8 years ago shortly after I arrived from Manchester, initially as a performer and shortly afterwards as a choreographer and director. And I am currently in the middle of rehearsals for our latest offering 'My Fair Lady.'

As a professional performer, I find the 'A' for 'amateur' more than a little irksome and those of you who regularly attend our shows (and there is a core of at least 30 residents of Buckland, Bantham and Thurlestone whose familiar and supportive faces I regularly spot in the audience), will hopefully testify to the quality and professionalism of our productions. And if you don't believe me, we hold NODA awards for 'best musical' for 'Oliver' and Best drama for 'Blood Brothers (in which I played a lead role!) to prove it. And after our outstanding reviews and standing ovations for last year's '9 to 5' we await news of a potential nomination for that too.

For those of you who may be put off by the fact that our performances take place in a village hall and not a 'proper' theatre, please rest assured that a team of roughly 30 people descend on the hall very early on the Sunday morning before show week starts. Several hours and a hundred bacon butties later, they manage to rig the scaffolding for the professional sound and lighting desks, and unload and build a complex configuration of flat packed MDF panels that make up our ingenious raked seating. This is after our set designer and skilled carpenters have worked their magic on the stage. It's still one of my favourite moments when the auditorium is just finished and I stand there looking down at the stage and begin to feel the mingling of nerves and excitement as the start of the show beckons.

This is just a tiny glimpse into the 6 months of work behind the scenes that it takes to stage our musicals. We have a very strong committee of 12 dedicated volunteers in the background who organise licenses, permissions, insurance, safeguarding, hall rental, marketing, sponsorship, fundraising, ticket sales, programme poster and website design, social media, light, set and costume design, promotional photography, front of house...the list goes on and on. It's a cliché, but without this team no show would go on and in August of last year after a long hard look at our bank balance, it very nearly didn't.

You see to put on a show you are not just reliant on local people who can sing, dance and act their socks off, even with a well-oiled and very competent committee in the background, you still need MONEY. Even with the director, producer, committee and all the performers on stage not just giving their services for free, but paying their annual subs and show fees which are put towards the costs, musicals are still very expensive. Just to give you an example, last year '9 to 5' cost £15,745.69 and other than on the opening night (which is always a tough night to sell), we played to full houses and still made a loss of £3783.02. (Ironically, we'd budgeted for a loss of £4500 so we were actually quite pleased with ourselves!)

So how do we afford to put on the next show if the last show makes a loss? Good question, and the answer is complicated. Traditionally, the idea of the September play (which is far cheaper to stage) is that it tops up the coffers and effectively subsidises the annual musical, but this is a risky strategy as you can't predict the popularity of the play chosen. It was partly due to the runaway success of our last play 'Calendar Girls' plus a private donation from a member's family, that 'My Fair Lady' was saved at the eleventh hour. We had applied and paid the £500 licence to MTI (Musical Theatre International) but had sent back the scripts and asked for a refund explaining that after receiving this year's quotes we just couldn't see a way of affording the show.

The price of everything has gone up. Especially our costs associated with engaging professional companies for the lighting and sound (nearly £5000.) We also saw a jump in our insurance due to Covid after we were forced to submit a claim after making the heart-breaking decision to pull our production of 'Whistle Down the Wind' just 5 days before opening night.

Hall costs are also crippling. The hire of Malborough for exclusive use for the run is just over £2000. Then we have rehearsal costs for Dodbrooke and Charleton Village Halls which usually adds up to another thousand. But we are happy to share the wealth locally and our rehearsals help keep 3 local village halls afloat. We have a band to pay for but we are very lucky on that score and usually find first class musicians to play for peanuts (it helps that I'm married to one.) And then we have the costumes, set and props. Fortunately, I have a producer/ set designer that happens to thrive on the challenge of adapting clothes bought from charity shops and also happens to be married to our set builder who can work miracles with £200. But to me, the most painful expense is the royalties we have to pay; despite having to pay a hefty licence fee, MTI also takes a percentage of all the ticket sales and for '9 to 5' this amounted to a staggering £2742.

So how do we make up the shortfall? It's a yearly challenge. This year more than ever. We have a fundraising event once a year in November, a team that takes part in the rotary club swimathon, we hold raffles, table top sales and are heavily reliant on ice-cream and bar sales at our shows. We seek out grants and charitable foundations and are indebted to District councillors Judy Pearce and Julian Brazil this year for their support. But despite this, for the first time in many years we have had to increase our ticket prices in order to stay viable. We are always looking for sponsorship and are lucky to have some loyal local businesses who buy advertising space in our programme (if you're interested in advertising, please do get in touch

[careyrc@icloud.com](mailto:careyrc@icloud.com) deadline for copy Feb 24th).

Are we worth it? Is it just a vanity project? Well, yes there are a good few show offs who love to get out on that stage and perform, but KATs is much more than that. We provide local theatre at a reasonable price for people who cannot make the long journey to Plymouth. We are cross-generational from teenagers to 80-year-olds and beyond. We are a family. We have a lot of members who live alone and tell us KATs helps combat their feelings of loneliness, members who are new to the area and wanted a way of making friends and a member who has lost her husband, sister and mum in a very short space of time and KATs has been her lifeline. I have kept a heartfelt message from a cast member of one of the shows, who thanked me for changing his life. He had mental health issues and crippling anxiety but taking part in the show boosted his self-esteem and made him feel able to face life. We're worth it!

## SCHOOL REPORT

### All Set For Spring!

Spring is only just around the corner, although that feels hard to believe as I write this!

But we haven't let the winter dampen our spirits here at the school as we've begun a new regime of Wake & Shake in the playground each week. Consisting of dances and songs to get our circulation flowing, it really does set us in the mood for learning!

The older children are also getting out and about on their bikes this spring, as Years 5 & 6 take their Bikeability course to help ensure safety on the roads.

The same older year groups will also be spreading their wings and enjoying a residential trip to Torbay for a wide range of activities including kayaking, climbing, problem solving and raft building. It's also a great opportunity for the children to build confidence and resilience away from the home, and get involved in community tasks such as bed making and washing up!

The younger ones also have a lot to look forward to, with a visit from P.G. Wells, author of The Train to Impossible, and a visit to the Plymouth synagogue.

The whole school is getting excited about Science Week in March, which promises to bring a host of experiments to the school, to feed those curious little minds. And for those whose imaginations just cannot be tamed, National Storytelling Week is almost upon us, with wild flights of fantasy the order of the day!

Emma Richards



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**Anne Rainbow**

# **VILLAGE NEWS ROUNDUP**

## **Modbury Road Closure**

The closure of the main road in Modbury reported in our last edition has been delayed for a year.

## **Mike & Vivien Stickland**

Mike and Vivien have been part of the current editorial team since taking over in 2018, but now sadly they will be leaving Devon and the Village Voice behind in the next few months to start an exciting new life in Salisbury, Wiltshire. Vivien was responsible for writing the articles about eating out locally, but at least she'll have lots of new places to try once they move. We shall miss her descriptive reviews. But Mike's red pen used for his proofreading duties may not be missed quite so much by the compilers! As you will also read throughout the magazine, Mike has held many other roles within the parish and played a large part in our lives, so we thank them for their contribution on behalf of us all and wish them the very best for their future adventures.

## **Dining Out**

As you will have just read, we are losing our resident reviewer of dining out in local restaurants and would love to carry on with this column. Do you eat out on a regular basis and would be willing to write about your experience? Even if it's an occasional occurrence but the experience was so enjoyable, would you like to share it? Then please send it in for inclusion.

## **Thank You Pat**

The Thursday Table Tennis club has taken delivery of a brand-new table courtesy of Pat Macdonald, who donated it in memory of her late husband Robin who started up the club many years ago. The club is thriving and all the members would like to say a huge thank you to Pat for her generous gift.

## **Alvington Singers**

After the retirement of Robin Brett who had stepped in as Musical Director, they now have a replacement in Harriet Oakley. They have ambitious plans under their new Musical Director in the coming months. During the Christmas period they supported two local charities, The Bridge for Hope which provides a home for a refugee family in Kingsbridge, and also choir members donated food and warm clothing to the Kingsbridge Food Bank.

## **Price Rise**

Reluctantly, we've had to raise the cost of the magazine sold in the village stores to £2 a copy with effect from this issue. As with everything else the cost of paper, ink etc. has increased to such an extent it has forced us to take this course.

## **Dance Teacher Wanted**

The parish hall would very much like to offer adult and children's dance classes, especially ballroom and latin, but need a teacher. Do you have a background in dance or know of anyone who would be willing to come along and teach those parishioners who are eager to learn? Dancing is an excellent way to meet people whilst keeping your mind and body in shape.

## **Drop in Session**

Don't forget the drop in session at the Parish Hall on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, this is the place to be to find out what happens in our parish, more details on Parish Hall News.

To find to find out what happens in the parish.

# Puzzle Page

**A BOTTLE OF WINE** to the first all correct entry drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: [cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk)

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

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

## CODEWORD

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

Can you crack the code and solve the crossword?

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

## Sudoku - hard

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

## Sudoku - medium

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

*There were 5 all correct entries last month. First out of the hat and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Pauline Lonsdale. Commiserations to Dave Gibby, Dave Hayward, David and Mary Horne, and Neill Irwin.*



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# **TRAMP Reports**

## **November to December**



### **THANK YOU, MIKE.**

I have only been a member of Tramp for 4 years. The moment I took my first walk with Tramp, I was made to feel extremely welcome. Mike Stickland has been coordinator and participant in our local walking group, Tramp, for many, many years. Mike is now taking a step back, and I could not let this moment go by without recognition for his stalwart work in organising and coordinating likeminded people who socially enjoy walking. Even during lockdown Mike kept us informed, his enthusiasm never wavering. I believe Tramp is so important to our community, It encourages people to exercise, to interact and I have heard say on more than one occasion that Tramp has been instrumental in helping them through difficult times, for whatever reason.

So a huge thank you Mike; I know this sentiment is echoed throughout Tramp. Thank you to Vivien for entertaining Tramp at home on our yearly gatherings  
From a very appreciative fellow Trampers.  
Linda Chilcott

### **Tramp Reports - November to December**

#### **14th November. Wistman Woods and Dartmoor Walk. Neil Mackay**

14 walkers and 2 dogs set off across Dartmoor from Two Bridges Car Park on a clear and mild day and headed along the pathway leading to Wistmans Woods - about ¾ mile away. On reaching Wistmans Woods, we saw a magical looking group of mainly oak trees and granite boulders ("clatter") covered in lichen and moss covering an area of about 3.5 hectares or 8.6 acres - in stark contrast to the undulating hills of traditional Dartmoor filled with gorse, heather and fern.

Copses of scrub extend beyond the main body of the wood, suggesting that it originally extended over the entirety of the clatter deposits on the hillside. In the present day, the clatter outside the main wood is covered in bracken, bilberry and occasional gorse. Wistman's Wood is owned by the Duchy of Cornwall and has been managed since 1961 under a nature reserve agreement with the Nature Conservancy Council, English Nature and Natural England. Cattle and sheep have free access where the terrain permits, outside of a small fenced enclosure. On one of the large boulders known as the 'Buller Stone', the following: is carved "By permission of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Wentworth Buller, on September 16th 1866, cut down a tree near this spot; it measured nine inches in diameter, and appeared to be about one hundred and sixty-eight years old'.

After the woods, we proceeded over the moors to Longaford Tor and Higher White Tor where we had a break. If a tor could talk then the one with the best stories has to be Longaford Tor, sitting proudly on a moorland ridge the granite pyramid overlooks extensive vistas.

The actual tor itself sits majestically at a height of 1,663 feet (507m) and consists of two outcrops of granite, in a cartographical context it displays the unusual feature of having grown in height. In 1890 the Ordnance surveyors recorded the height of the tor at 1,595 feet (487m) but later revised their calculations and increased it by 69 feet (20m). This brings to mind the 1995 film called, "The Englishman who went up a hill, but came down a mountain," in which some Welsh villagers wanted the surveyors to increase the height of their local hill in order to classify it as a mountain.

After this it was even terrain to get back to the Two Bridges carpark where a picnic lunch was enjoyed before heading home.

## **29th November. East Soar to Overbecks.**

### **Jeremy Tucker**

Seven of us did a very pleasant three miles leisurely walk from the National Trust carpark at East Soar along the fields to just before Overbecks and thence along the coastal path with glorious sea and inland views and back to the carpark. The weather was magnificent for the end of November being windless and sunny and warm! For those who wanted, we ended with a nice picnic. A lovely day!

## **6th December. Buckland - Worthy - South Milton. 6.75 miles. Linda Chilcott**

On a chilly but dry morning, 9 Trampers plus 3 dogs set off from Court Park down to Buckland and then East Buckland to investigate a stone butter well next to Buckland stream (by kind permission of Mrs Pellay) This cooler was probably used by the local community around 18th to the early 20th C. Amazingly the banks are already full of snowdrops.

At Clanacombe Hill we turned left across several fields with beautiful views across a green valley opposite Buckland Park and farm. Reaching Worthy we walked along a track that was obviously lined with trees and stone walls, which must have been grand at one time, now much in ruin. To the left is Worthy House, once a working farm, now a listed building, covered in scaffolding having a make-over, opposite a new build in progress; very grand, for an apple store.

Across more fields we had a bit of a slog working our way out of the valley. On to Huxton Cross heading to South Milton and All Saints church, by which time we were more than ready for a drink and a mince pie which was enjoyed while resting in the church porch, laughing at Christmas cracker jokes (without the crackers) followed by a carol "oh come all ye faithful" which was sung with gusto. A great party of people, lots of chatter and laughter. We set a good pace. 6.75 miles in 3 hours.

"What did the skunk say when the wind changed?"

"it's all coming back to me now!"

## **15th December 2022, Christmas Walk Bolberry Down**

The day turned out to be clear, sunny and dry,

so fifteen members of TRAMP set out from the upper car park of the Cottage Hotel, Hope Cove with clear views out to sea. The route took us past Hope Cove's two churches, St Clements the fisherman's church, just to the south of the Cottage Hotel, and the Methodist Church at the top of the picturesque "Square" of thatched cottages in Inner Hope. As we entered "The Square" the children attending the Venture Outdoor Kindergarten, who spend the whole day outdoor, on the beach, cliff and in the woodland were playing happily in the old reading room garden. Following the path up the valley to the cliffs from "The Square" we quickly realized why the midway mulled wine stop had been moved from Bolberry Down to Bolberry Hamlet in the valley as we felt the full force of the bracing north easterly wind. Following the cliff path up onto Bolberry Down the damage from the summer fires was clear to all as the cliff vegetation has still to recover. One last glance up and down the coast from above Salterns Pike, and then past the old Decca navigation station, only one of the three masts still standing, and down the hill to the Hamlet of Bolberry to be greeted by Mike and Vivien Stickland serving HOT mulled wine and mince pies from the back of their car in a layby. This proved a great opportunity to thank Mike for his many years leading the TRAMP group, and mark his retirement at the end of 2022.

Once warmed up it was off past Valley Cottage, where a stream runs through the garden well above the height of the cottage ground floor, which can lead to some issues in very wet winters! Heading for North Bolberry we squelched down the rather muddy "Lovers Lane", now renamed "Sweet Hearts Lane" reflecting the ageing of the local population. Once up on the ridge above North Bolberry we had the north east wind behind us, and clear views across to Dartmoor, out to sea and into Cornwall with snow on Bodmin moor. Back in the Cottage Hotel car park, walking boots were exchanged for dress shoes for the annual TRAMP Christmas lunch.

A big thank you to Mike Stickland for another successful year of TRAMP walks and his many years of leading the group, as it has explored the cliffs, valleys, and moorland of South Devon.

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## TRAMP PLANNING CALENDAR 2023

Date	Day	Leader	Miles	Planned Route
w/c Feb 6th	TBC			
Feb 14th	Tue	Peter and Wendy Gornall	4.5	Staverton circular snowdrop walk
w/c Feb 20th	TBC			
w/c Feb 27th	TBC			
w/c Mar 6th	TBC	Tony Burn		Prawle
Mar 13th	Mon	Alastair and Gill Durden	4.5	Dartington Estate
Mar 22nd	Wed	Jill Miller	6	Stokeley/Slapton
Mar 30th	Thurs	Peter and Wendy Gornall	4	Parke/Bovey Tracey
April 3rd	TBC	Vanessa Barton		
April 13th	Thurs	Harry Forrester	3.75	West Alvington
April 21st	Fri	Liz and Peter Coates	4+	Stokenham Beesands circular
April 27th	Thurs	Jill Miller	4	Malborough - Hope Cove
May 2nd	Tue	Alastair and Gill Durden	5.25	Shaugh Bridge - Cadover Bridge
May 10th	Wed	Linda Chilcott	5	Ringmore/Kingston
May 15th	Mon	Neil Mackay+Jenny Webb	6.5	Avon Estuary with ferry
May 19th	Fri	Mike and Sian Hodges	5.5	Avon river bed walk
May 25th	Thurs	Peter and Wendy Gornall	5	Stover Park circular
May 29th	Mon	Linda and Gareth Scott	7.5	Ivybridge/Erme Valley
June 5th	Mon	Neil Mackay+Jenny Webb		Dartmouth
June 15th	Thurs	Jill Miller	6	Tuckenhay
June 19th	Mon	Neil Mackay+Jenny Webb	4.5	Beesands
June 27th	Tue	Claudette Uff	5.5	South Pool
July 4th	Tue	Alastair Durden	6	Cross Furze Buckfast to Avon Reservoir
July 10th	Mon	Mike and Sian Hodges	5	South Dartmoor circular
July 19th	Wed	Annie Lukehurst	3.75	Aveton Gifford/Chantry
w/c July 24th	TBC	Robin Hart		Bere Ferris
w/c July 31st	TBC			
Aug 10th	Thurs	Peter and Liz Coates	5.5	Kingston Wonwell circular
w/c Aug 14th	TBC	Vanessa Barton	7	Dartmoor circular
Aug 21st	Mon	Linda and Gareth Scott	7	Yealmpton and the River Yealm
w/c Aug 28th	TBC			
w/c Sep 4th	TBC			
Sep 13th	Wed	Jill Miller		TBC
Sep 20th	Wed	Eric Candy	4	Noss Mayo circular
Sep 25th	Mon	Linda Chilcott	5.5	Clanacombe circular
Oct 5th	Thurs	Harry Forrester	6.25	Avon Valley circular
Oct 11th	Wed	Eric Candy	4.5	Cremyll Ferry/Mt Edgecombe circular
w/c Oct 16th	TBC	Tony Burn		Kingston
Oct 24th	Tue	Claudette Uff	5	Aveton Gifford
w/c Oct 30th	TBC	Robin Hart		Modbury circular
Nov 6th	Mon	Alan Rustad	6	Blackawton circular
w/c Nov 13th	TBC			
Nov 24th	Fri	Alastair and Gill Durden	4.25	Blackpool Sands/Stoke Fleming
w/c Nov 27th	TBC			
w/c Dec 4th	TBC			
Dec 14th	Thurs	Christmas Walk		TBC
w/c Dec 18th	TBC			



# TRIED AND TASTED

## Scruffy Veg Lasagne

This Lasagne is an easy recipe to do on a budget as it uses ingredients readily available in the larder.

### Ingredients:

1 leek	2 heaped tablespoons plain flour
olive oil	2 teaspoons English mustard
1 teaspoon dried mint	1 litre semi-skimmed milk
160g grated mature Cheddar cheese	300g frozen peas
50g stale bread (grated to create rustic breadcrumbs)	500g frozen broccoli
	250g dried lasagne sheets

Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas 6. Put a large shallow casserole pan on a medium-high heat. Wash, trim and slice the leek (Finely slice the green part and as you move towards the white part, move to chunkier 1cm slices); place the leeks in the pan with the oil and dried mint. Season with salt and pepper, then cover and fry for 5 minutes, or until soft. Stir in the flour, followed by the mustard, and slowly stir in the milk to give you a loose white sauce, then add just half of the grated Cheddar and leave for a few minutes. Season with salt and pepper, then stir in the frozen peas and broccoli. Snap in the pasta sheets, mix really well, then pull some of the sheets to the top to create a top layer – use the back of a spoon to create some dips and wells. Mix the remaining Cheddar with the breadcrumbs, then scatter over the top. Finish with a drizzle of olive oil and bake for 20 minutes, or until golden and bubbling.

## Sweet Pancakes

Shrove Tuesday (21<sup>st</sup> February) is the day we traditionally have pancakes

### Ingredients:

125g plain flour  
1 egg and 1 yolk  
300ml milk  
Pinch of salt  
Oil or butter for frying the pancakes



Sift 125g plain flour into a bowl and make a well in the middle. In a separate bowl whisk one egg, one yolk and a little of the milk and pour into the well. Whisk with a little of the flour then gradually whisk in half of the remaining milk to make a smooth batter, stir in the remaining milk. Cover and leave to stand for about 30 minutes. Heat the frying pan with a little oil. Add two or three tablespoons of batter into the pan and tilt the pan so that the batter spreads out evenly over the bottom. Cook each pancake over a med-high heat for 45-60 seconds until small holes appear on the surface, the underside is lightly browned and the edge has started to curl. Turn the pancake, cook for about 30 seconds until golden.

Serve on their own or with caster sugar and lemon juice; maple or golden syrup or with a fruit filling and ice cream

## Fresh Mincemeat Pancakes

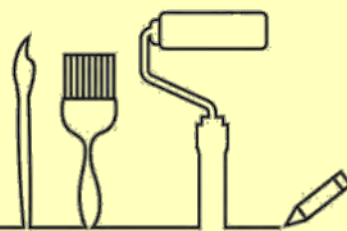
### Ingredients:

1lb/450g cooking apples - peeled, sliced and cooked	6oz/175g mixed dried fruit
4oz/11g soft brown sugar	1tbs lemon juice
2oz/50g butter	A little finely grated lemon rind
1/4tsp mixed spice	8 pancakes

Make the pancakes as above. Cook the apples, sugar, butter and spice gently, stirring occasionally, until tender. Stir in the dried fruit, lemon juice and rind and leave to cool. Divide the filling between the pancakes, either roll up or fold up like a parcel. Open freeze or cover with tinfoil and heat.

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# THE FLIGHT OF A LIFETIME

For as long as I can remember, I've always been fascinated by aeroplanes. As a child, I always gravitated towards books about Bush Pilots, Biggles, and similar adventure stories.

I am less clear about when my fascination became fixed on Spitfires. I think it probably started when I became more interested in cars, engines, and anything mechanical or technical. The sound of the iconic Rolls Royce Merlin engine was probably the starting point, and the fact that whenever I got an opportunity to hear it, it was usually fitted to a Spitfire. Without doubt it's the most beautiful aircraft ever designed. A classic occasion when form and function are miraculously combined, to produce something extraordinary.

I was able to put my fascination into practice, when, at the age of 17, I got the opportunity to apply for a Royal Naval flying scholarship. A few aptitude tests later, I was the proud possessor of a ticket for 30 hours of free flying lessons. I soon emerged with a Private Pilot's Licence (before I had a licence to drive a car), but from then, until last year, I never flew a light aircraft again. There were two reasons for this. Firstly, the exorbitant cost (£30/hour in 1964), and secondly the fact that whilst I was still fascinated by planes, I didn't enjoy flying them, as much as I thought I would – it was extremely easy to get completely lost, which was very scary!

As the years rolled on my dream of flying a Spitfire increased with each year, but one look at the cost was enough to put it to the back of my mind again – until last year. I read an article about Spitfire flights, which basically said that with the increasing cost of aviation fuel and maintenance (£200,000 for an engine overhaul, every 12-18 months), they would soon become the preserve of the ultra-rich. That, and my advancing years, was the trigger I needed, and soon after, my flight was booked with Spifires.com. I went for the 35 minute option, 10 minutes on the ground and 25 in the air – not a huge amount of time, but still eye wateringly expensive.

The great event took place at Goodwood on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The weather Gods were kind, and it was an excellent day for flying. For those who might be interested, I flew in SM250, which was built in 1944, as a single seat Mark IXe. It spent most of its career in South Africa, where it suffered a major flying accident. It languished in bits until it was restored in 2002 and converted into a two seat Trainer 9.

On arrival I was duly briefed, and dressed for the occasion, and there I was, finally sitting in a Spitfire, behind a highly experienced pilot, and a real Merlin engine. I think the first thing that struck me, was how small they are – I felt as though I could touch the wing tip from my seat.

Whilst the Military grade sound cancelling crash helmet did take away a lot of the Merlin's iconic sound, the flames coming out of the exhausts as it was fired up were very real, and we were on our way.



The first thing that they asked me when I arrived was whether I had any previous flying experience, so I told them my history. We'd only been in the air about five minutes when the Pilot casually, and with no warning, said "you have control". Wow!

To explain briefly, without getting too technical, to make an aircraft turn you move the joy stick (or in the planes I learnt on, a steering wheel), to the left or right, and then add a suitable amount of left or right rudder to balance the aircraft. Again, on the planes I learnt on that involved moving the wheel and the rudder pedal several inches, just to make a gentle turn.

I soon discovered that in a Spitfire, all you need to do is apply pressure to the joy stick, rather than move it, to achieve the same result. On top of that, the Spitfire is so beautifully designed that you don't need to add any rudder at all, it just stays balanced. For me, it was almost exactly the same as the difference between driving a standard saloon car, and my TVR. Just a different league of performance, design and engineering. Amazingly, in addition to its incredible responsiveness, it was also very stable – if I left it alone, it just continued to fly straight and level. It was easy to see why it has achieved cult status. It really does just become an extension of your thoughts.

The next input from the Pilot was "how about some aerobatics?". We started with a wing over, which is a roll at the top of a loop, or in combat, a very quick way to go back the way you were coming. He followed that with a Victory roll



and a Barrel roll. The final full Loop, was probably a bridge too far for comfort, but my stomach did eventually catch up with the rest of my body about two days later!

After that, it was "you have control" again, until it was time for him to take us back to the aerodrome at Goodwood. His most memorable statement during that phase, was "now I have to persuade the aircraft to slow down – it doesn't like doing that", because clearly you don't want to try and land it at 200mph!

I was surprised by the fact that, in spite of its age, the Spitfire is quite technically demanding. The planes I learnt on just had a wheel, rudder pedals, and a throttle to control the engine speed. Spitfires not only have the obvious additions of flaps and retractable undercarriage but also a highly sophisticated Constant Speed Variable Pitch propeller, and the pilot has to juggle the control for that, and the throttle, to get the thrust and engine revs that he wants.

The story of how those propellers were retrofitted to the entire Spitfire fleet in 1940, is worthy of another article in its own right.

All in all, a wonderful experience, which left me in even greater awe of the young pilots who flew them in WW2, often with minimal combat training. The Spitfire is so responsive, that even the simple manoeuvres that I did involved quite high G forces, to which you add the disorientating effect of aerobatics, and controlling the technology, all while being shot at. All of that repeated, perhaps several times a day.

Truly awe inspiring.

**Chris White**



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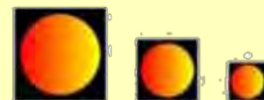
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St. Edmund's Church Kingsbridge

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May Crimp (01548 842361)

Brigitte Haddy (01548 581465)

Tom Gilkes (01548 560973)

Jenny Kinder (01548 810750)



# The Parish of Thurlestone Society (POTS)



The Parish of Thurlestone Society (POTS) was created in 1996 by Thurlestone's resident artist Len Hubbard.

The Pump House (opposite) on Main Street was in dire need of repair, and as the Parish Council at the time were unwilling or unable to have it repaired, it was in danger of being demolished.

Len created POTS, which raised sufficient funds to have the building restored, and it still enhances the Parish with its presence today.

POTS worked by having a small core of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and supporters, who drew on expertise in the Parish for specific projects.

Over the years, POTS carried out a number of projects, but its crowning glory was the creation of the film "Land of the Five Beaches" – a history of the Parish, created for the Millennium, which was so good that it won a Royal Television Society award. The quality of the film was undoubtedly due to the fact that POTS called upon David Smeeton, a resident of Thurlestone who had retired from the BBC after a remarkable 30-year career.

In 2004/5, POTS again made use of Keith Millman's talents, to digitise Peter Hurrell's collection of historic photos of the Parish. Peter's presentation of the digitised photos was one of the first events held in the new Parish Hall, and probably still holds the record for the largest audience for a single event.

Recently, apart from lending its backing to a few worthy causes, POTS has been largely dormant. This is mainly due to the fact the world now has a different view on Heritage, and things like the once endangered Pump House are now officially listed in the Neighbourhood Plan as either designated, or non-designated Heritage Assets, so no longer in need of POTS' protection.

With the departure of Malcolm Le Grice from the Parish, and the increasing age of the remaining officers, it became even more difficult to sustain POTS, so last November, it was decided that it should be formally wound up, with surplus funds being distributed to the Parish Hall, the Phone Box Committee, Bantham Surf Life Saving Club, and Village Voice.

However, it was decided that POTS' legacy shouldn't disappear, so by the time you read this, Land of the Five Beaches will be available to watch on the Parish website. We are also very grateful to the Hurrell family for giving us permission to make Peter's photo collection available to view on the website as well. We're also working on uploading a fascinating film about Thurlestone in the '60s, which was used as source material for some clips in Five Beaches, and a photo montage of the building of the new Parish Hall, created by Malcolm Le Grice.

We still have some historic documents that need to be digitised and uploaded, and also some interviews with well known locals, which we hope to make available, so keep checking the website.

**Chris White**





# *A.J. Gibbons*

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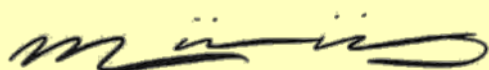
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# The Accidental Environmentalist

Saving the world one robin at a time

**By Adam Ryan-Carter  
(Environmental Parish Councillor)**

Let me set the scene. It's Christmas Day and my wife is shouting "Come down Darling and test drive your present," She hands me the keys to my futuristic Lamborghini XXS fuel injection convertible, 0 - 300 mph in 2.4 secs, complete with 2 beautiful young bikini clad women in Santa hats. My wife! What a sport! We drive through long country lanes to my private jet and as we take off, champagne corks pop and we begin to dance to the music of Russ Abbott's "Atmosphere ... I like a party with a happy atmosphere ...' Eventually the plane lands on an idyllic island with golden sands and palm trees and hold on...plastic bottles everywhere and the sea begins to turn brown as the water level rises..... Oh! I know what this is ... it's bloody Climate Change ruining my dreams again just before the good bit ... I'm being swallowed by the sea as the poor shivering girls shout ...you sexist old bastard!" before they're engulfed by the plastic debris.



But wait, I've woken up and it really is Christmas Day and my dreams really have come true because my darling wife actually read my last article in the Village Voice and for the first time in our marriage acted on my instructions and ordered me; 2 bird boxes, 3 roosting pockets and a bug hotel from the RSPB website! And your dreams are coming true today because I've included a FREE booklet "Gardening for Wildlife in each copy of the Village Voice. (Thanks to the kind funding by The Parish Council, Councillors Judy Pearce and Mark Long.)

Unusually I am going to encourage you **not to recycle** this immediately but keep it close by for reference over the next year as we **improve the chances for wildlife in our gardens together in 2023.**

Ok your **first** challenge is to find a pen or pencil, then read the list on the inside cover and see whether you can tick **any** of the boxes (I'm setting the bar deliberately low for beginners like me.) I ran my finger down the list and immediately felt sure that not many other parishioners could smugly tick '**hedgehog gap**.' I can reveal that when building our new stone garden wall, 2 hedgehog gaps were built into the structure. I remember Simon Hurrell, our trusty stonemason, shouting down the garden, "How big do the hedgehog holes have to be again?" I ran off to look up the measurements stipulated in the plans, "30" I shouted up to him. "They must be bloody big hedgehogs!" He gasped. "30 cm not 30 inches!" I instructed.

So that is my first box ticked. I can also confidently tick the **scruffy hedge** box as our garden is bordered by roughly 20 metres of native Devon hedge which is only flailed once a year (after the nesting season) and this is already well used by the robins, tits, blackbirds and wrens. After we built our garden wall, we had some of the smaller stones leftover so my wife fashioned a large artistic **rock pile** in a formerly untidy corner which not only made it look like we'd had a visit from Andy Goldsworthy but more importantly allowed me to tick my third box. Our garden is a south facing sun trap and it turns out it is the perfect habitat for reptiles. It wasn't long before the common lizards moved in to their new home and over summer, we regularly watched

a family of 4, each with very distinct markings, bravely basking on the rocks in the afternoon sun. After our recent building work, we had also chucked a few leftover delabole roof slates onto our bank, primarily to keep the weeds down until we came round to planting something but this turned out to become an ideal shelter for the slow worms who revelled in the heat trapped underneath. As the roof slates absorb heat in the same way a **tin sheet** does, I am going to cheat slightly and tick this box too. Since the slow worms moved in, we have left them some **longer grass** around the area for them to slink through undetected (and now I am about to show off) we used some left-over cobbles and turf to line and roof our newly dug **hibernaculum** (see page 11 if you want to keep up with the Jones'). I didn't go to private school just the local comprehensive so I haven't got a clue how you pronounce 'hibernaculum' and those of you who understand Latin root words will be able to have a stab at its meaning. In layman's terms it's a winter 'hidey-hole' for reptiles and I'll let you know whether there have been any signs of life in ours in the next article. So, that's 5 boxes out of 22 ticked already which I don't think is too shabby. However, I'm going to hold off ticking my 6th box until I've actually hung up my Christmas bird boxes as they are still on the kitchen worktop waiting for a dry day. Locating the boxes so they will actually get used by the birds is more important than you might think.

My boxes are from the RSPB so the timber is responsibly sourced and they are finished in a non-toxic coating. They come with important features including drainage holes to prevent water logging and without a perch at the entrance to prevent predators. My wife bought one open fronted box, which will hopefully attract Robins and Wrens and a 28mm hole box for Sparrows, Fly Catchers and Great Tits. They are both beautifully built and designed and suit her Farrow and Ball sensibilities! The instructions tell you where to site the boxes and our difficulty is that our south facing aspect is unsuitable as the birds can overheat in Summer. Between north and east in a sheltered spot is best, so I reckon I'll site one round the back of the house and another on my studio wall. The height depends on the species you want to attract. Also, many birds start prospecting for nests as early as January so it's time to get out my drill and blow away the cobwebs ASAP. She also bought me a pack of three roosting pockets which are already in use and as they have wire hooks on the back can easily be attached to a sheltered branch or a sturdy trellis to provide help to our feathered friends so they can snuggle together during rough winter spells. The only thing I have to remember to do is clean out the bird boxes annually in early Autumn to remove the old nests and parasites as birds won't return to a used nest.

So, with all our efforts maybe dreams will come true and one day in the future, me and my wife can visit that beautiful island in a hydrogen fuelled, solar powered boat. Perhaps we'll leave the bikini clad girls behind!

### **Check out these new Green Initiatives in the Parish and Local area**

**Kingsbridge Repair Cafe** is getting started at end of this month  
<https://www.kingsbridgeclimateaction.co.uk/repair-cafe>

**South Milton** is holding a **home energy event** on **Saturday 18th Feb** starting at **4:30pm in their village hall**. All you need to know about energy efficiency (LEDs, draft excluders, etc.) and green home tech (Solar Panels, Heat Pumps - do they really work?) etc.). Practical experience in easy to access talks and conversations from people who have been there.

And finally, the **Bantham Buckland Thurlestone Sustainability group** (Can anyone suggest a better name please?) are planning a hands-on composting and wormery workshop, could be messy and fun! Details to follow. Watch this space.

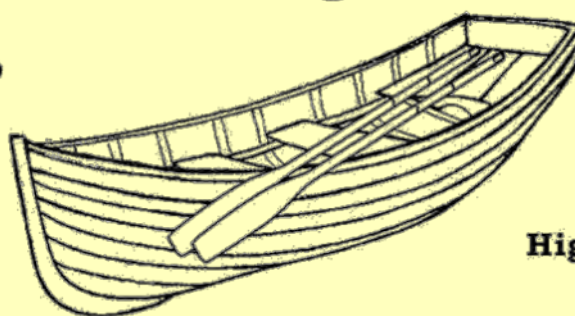


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# THURLESTONE BAY BIRDS

## REVIEW OF 2022

The total number of species recorded around the patch finished on 186 with only 2 new additions in December - RED BREASTED MERGANSER and GOLDEN PLOVER.

This, the lowest total in the last 10 years, is almost certainly due to the problems encountered with the blocked outflow pipe at South Huish Marsh.

Some of the more enjoyable days of birdwatching during the year were:-

**JANUARY** - 2nd to 5th - Unexpected visits by 4 different types of *GEESE* - 4 *PINK FOOTED*, 5 *WHITE FRONTED*, 7 *GREYLAG* and 1 *BARNACLE* along with our resident *CANADAS*. It was the first time I recorded 5 species of *GEESE* on South Huish Marsh. Other unusual records were a *RED-NECKED GREBE* in the Bay on 18th, 6 *BLACK THROATED DIVERS* together on 26th and an adult *ICELAND GULL* flying across the bay on 27th.

**FEBRUARY** - Highlight this month were 2 *EIDER* on 15th.

**MARCH** - 5 *MANX SHEARWATER* on 8th were the earliest spring record - they spend the winter in the warmer seas of Brazil.

First *SANDWICH TERN* recorded on 9th when there were 12 *WATER PIPIT* on the Marsh.

A record day total of 66 *MEDITERRANEAN GULL* was recorded on 11th with 1 flock totalling 28.

A gale force 8/9 south- easterly wind on 19th resulted in the first big duck passage of the year with 35 *GARGANEY* - a summer visitor to the UK which winters on the lakes of Central Africa - This is the second highest day count after 65 on 1st April 2005. A flock of 42 *SHOVELER* was on the sea along with 4 *GADWALL*, 35 *TEAL* and 4 *SCAUP*.

There was the first spring wader passage with a flock of 21 *BAR TAILED GODWIT* and 2 *GREY PLOVER* flying in off the sea and going up the valley.

On 20th 8 *PINTAIL* flew up the valley whilst on 21st another 11 *GARGANEY* were recorded.

**APRIL** - month started with me isolating until 11th due to Covid!

On 11th first 4 *ARCTIC SKUA* recorded along with the first flock of *SWALLOW* by the footbridge. A total of 267 *COMMON SCOTER* was recorded with 1 flock of 11 also including a female *LONG TAILED DUCK*. A flock of 23 *WHIMBREL* flew over the marsh whilst a total of 25 *SANDWICH TERN* was in the bay - numbers increased to 65 on the 12th and a *COMMON TERN*.

On the 18th a *CUCKOO* was heard in West Buckland - these have become scarce passage migrants, only 3 logged this year.

On 23rd a number of summer visitors was recorded, the most interesting being *WHITETHROAT*, 8 *WHEATEAR*, 2 *MALE YELLOW WAGTAIL* and a hybrid *BLUE HEADED/CHANNEL WAGTAIL*.

The first *SWIFT* arrived on 28th May when 2 *VELVET SCOTER* (only record this year) flew across the bay.

**MAY** - Highlights for May were an *OSPREY* in off the sea at Hope Cove on 1st. A *GREAT WHITE EGRET* and a *SPOONBILL* seen over the Marsh on 10th and 13th.

My special record for this month was listening to a *GRASSHOPPER WARBLER* reeling outside my garden on 15th.



Common Scoter

**JUNE** - Only noteworthy records were a single *GREAT SKUA* on 26th followed by a *CORY'S SHEARWATER* on 27th.

**JULY** - highlights were a juvenile *CUCKOO* over the Marsh on 14th when a juvenile *YELLOW LEGGED GULL* was recorded. These breed in Central France and Europe.

**AUGUST** - On 24th a *GREY PHALAROPE* was found resting on the rocks whilst a *LITTLE GULL* was on the Marsh.

**SEPTEMBER** - A juvenile *BLACK TERN* spent 4 days from 5th on the Marsh - this is only the third record for the site. Waders on their return passage to winter in Southern Europe/Africa were -

4 *GREEN SANDPIPER* on 5th, *CURLEW SANDPIPER* on the 6th and 8th, a female *RUFF* on the 19th and a *LITTLE STINT* on 23rd. A *WRYNECK* was found by the pumping station near the footbridge on 21st - a member of the *WOODPECKER* family now breeding only in Northern Europe - they winter in Africa.

**NOVEMBER** - The highlight of the year - SW winds up to F10 resulted in an influx of seabirds on 8th. A total of 61 *LEACH'S PETREL* was recorded - these birds breed in the Islands of NW Scotland and winter in the South Atlantic - in over 20 years of seawatching over the bay I have only seen 5 (and 2 of those were on November 1st).

Other unexpected records that day were - 2 Juvenile *SABINE'S GULLS* and a *POMARINE SKUA*, 3 *ARCTIC SKUA* and a *LONG TAILED SKUA*.



Sabine's Gull

On 20th November a *REDSHANK*, found on the Marsh with colour coded rings fixed onto its legs, had been ringed on 26th October 2022 near Dublin - it was last seen there on 8th November. It must like the Marsh as it was still there on 10th January 2023 and has become the first *REDSHANK* to over winter here.

Another monumental occasion was on 24th November - my website [thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk](http://thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk) recorded its millionth visitor since I started it in 2012. All the birdwatchers visiting the blog have found out about it by word of mouth.

Certainly a very interesting year with a very varied number of birds recorded. Hopefully 2023 will be a much better year as the National Trust have completed the work to replace the outflow pipe and we will once again be able to control the water levels and make it far more attractive for waders to feed on before continuing their journey to winter in Southern Europe/Africa

**Mike Passman**  
[thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk](http://thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk)

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# **THURLESTONE MOTHS**

## **FIRST PART OF 2022**

Moths are nocturnal (usually) and are rarely seen to be able to appreciate their splendour be it size, colour or rarity. Very few moths are flying during the winter months but starting from April the number recorded in my garden last year was 221, increasing to 2705 in June, 3888 in July, 3714 in August before reducing to 808 in October.

Weather conditions of calm warm evenings and nights with no rain are the best.

During the year I recorded 13934 moths of 364 different species. All of the moths were released by the following day and were returned unharmed back into my garden.

Like other species of wildlife, moths have also reduced in spectacular numbers due to loss of habitat - they have fallen by 80% in total numbers in the last 20 years. Statistics to gauge how moths are surviving are provided by a network of moth-ers who submit records to a County Recorder - In Devon there are less than 30 active moth-ers, nearest enthusiasts to me are in Wembury, Plymouth, South Brent, Dawlish with one person just outside Kingsbridge.

Condensing a years activity into a small article does not do the moths or the work involved justice.

Most of the species I mention will be unknown to almost all the Village Voice readers. All I can hope to do is to illustrate in words some of the more exciting nights of my year.

Most activities take place in July when moths don't start flying until after 21.00 hours. On the more productive nights I will attend the moth traps until 01.00 so there are many late nights.

In July there were 7 nights where the total of moths trapped exceeded 200 with the highest on July 17 of 280 of 86 species, plenty of work required to record them and where needed photographs which can assist with confirming the identification for any which may have to be looked at in greater detail.

One of my favourite group are the HAWK-MOTHS. This year there were 8 different species which were recorded. Undoubted highlight was the first record of a moth normally resident in Southern Europe and North Africa. On 19th May a STRIPED HAWK-MOTH was trapped and photographed, another was found on 21st May. These were part of an influx into South West England of up to 40 individuals, normally there would only be up to 3 and in some years none at all.

Another immigrant from Southern France is the CONVULVULUS HAWK-MOTH. This year a record seven individuals were found between the 20th August and 18th September - all singles apart from 2 on 29th August. This species has a wing span of over 50mm and likes to feed on tobacco plants and petunias,

One of the few day time flying moths is the HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH, as the name implies it hovers over a plant whilst nectaring like a HUMMINGBIRD. A first for my garden was on 10th July. They do like the plant Red valerian which is uncommon in Thurlestone but quite common in other local villages.

The most numerous this year was ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH, first of the year was on 26th May, the last on 1st August, a total of 191 individuals recorded with a maximum of 16 on 17th July.

POPLAR HAWK-MOTH first recorded on 20th May with last on 29th July.

A total of 18 individuals - all records relate to singles apart from 2 on 31st May.

PRIVET HAWK-MOTH - first were 2 on 28th May, last on 21st July with a max of 4 on 22nd June. Likes gardens with privet hedges, lilac and ash trees (all three are in or around my garden)

EYED HAWK-MOTH when disturbed will expose its eye-spots on hind wings. Only 4 recorded this year between 6th June and 1st July. Feeds on willow and apple trees.

Finally LIME HAWK-MOTH - only 2 records, singles on 28th and 29th May feeds on lime, elm and birch trees.

Another very colourful family are the TIGER-MOTHS, although not as large in size as the HAWKS they can be found during the day resting on the walls of your house.

JERSEY TIGER is the most numerous - black with creamy white striped markings on forewing with orange or yellow hindwings. Managed to find 47 last year - first on 17th July, last on 22nd August.

Highest numbers were 7 on both 31st July and 1st August. A scarce moth in the UK apart from South/West Devon. Likes to feed on bramble and nettle - hope the area outside my garden will recover as the landscape Contractors last week cleared the copse of both.

GARDEN TIGER - only 5 records this year, 1 on 29th June the others on 18th/19th and 22nd July. Likes to feed on herbaceous garden plants.

CREAM SPOT TIGER - another black moth with creamy blotches has a yellow underwing with black fringes. Very much a limited distribution along the coastal dunes and marshes of Devon. Only 5 records this year between 25th April and 23rd May.



Cinnabar Moth

CINNABAR is classed as common throughout England. Again last year I only had a single record - on 23rd June, smaller but beautiful colouring of very dark grey with red stripes along the outer edges of its wings and red spots along the base of its wings.

Finally the smallest of them all is RUBY TIGER - deep pink, common, during July and August, I recorded 82 between 19th July and 14 August with a maximum of 14 on 31st July.

Because there will be very few moths in flight before April I will complete my review of last year in the next issue.

On my website - [thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk](http://thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk) you will find five headings of moth photos for 2022. If you want to see what the moths look like you will find the photographs very helpful.

Mike Passman  
[thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk](http://thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk)

## Weather Wag

### January 2023



So far we have had a mild early winter, with above average temperatures and below average rainfall (though it may not seem so!). Today Friday 13<sup>th</sup>! all is well after a very stormy day yesterday. I struggled to get outside the gate in the morning but it was okay later. In fact it was a lovely afternoon with lots of folks emerging from their homes for a walk with or without a dog. The beach was reasonably clean with just a Crab Pot marker ashore, now in the dunes so it doesn't set sail again. There was no name on it, so I guess the harbourmaster will collect it in due course. The Ley is meandering out; I never cease to be amazed at the amount of sand that the water shifts in a night; the path taken is never the same two days running. Against the far rocks, the Bronze Age river bed and tree trunks are or were showing. An interesting spectacle if you are there at the right time to see it.

Rainfall has been a bit erratic to say the least. In December 2021 there was 128mm and December 2022 there was just 111mm. We have heard all about the low levels of our reservoirs, which depend on collecting the water from the rainfall on the land. In some parts of the country water is tapped from deep underground and is usually more reliable. East Devon is one such area and is rarely short of domestic water.

In December no rain was recorded here until 13<sup>th</sup> so a very dry month, with only the 18 to 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> recording over 10mm. On December 29<sup>th</sup> the Met Office announced officially, that 2022 had been the warmest year since records began in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

On January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023 (Monday), there were crowds of people on the beach and walking the paths towards Hope Cove and Thurlestone. I noted in my diary that I had never seen so many folks about on that day ever! The type of weather is never the same two days running (that's what we get from living here). So on January 5<sup>th</sup> the temperature rose to 17C and with it the wind increased to a gale force 45mph.

Today is a much more benign day with a sprightly westerly breeze, some light showers and spells of sunshine. However a good log fire and a warm house is much to be desired. Sometimes I feel a bit guilty when scenes of deprivation appear on the news, so along with many of you, I do my little bit with contributions to the charities that work so hard to bring relief to those in need across the continents.

Although January is well under way, I, along with many of you will know that late January and into February, the weather can throw all sorts at us, just to let us know who is boss! I sincerely hope no one is ever able to control the weather, just simply accommodate it and move on.

As we watch the weather events in parts of our country and other countries we thank our lucky stars it is not us.

Stay warm and dry, remember to air your house once in a while, as mine gets an airing every time I open the door!!

**Jan Turner**



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# Eating Out Locally

## **CHURCH HOUSE INN, Churchstow**



Churchstow's Church House Inn opened for 2023 in mid-January and we were thankful, on that chilly damp evening, that the distance from their car park to the entrance was only a few steps. We relaxed at a table for two in a window alcove where we benefitted from the warmth of a glowing log fire. Above the fire hung an impressive row of copper pans. A framed picture of local thatch cottages also adorned the rock wall. This Devon pub bar glows with the typically warm and welcoming vernacular which we remember with fondness whenever we're away from Devon.

We walked with curiosity through to the far end of the pub exploring five different dining areas. A cosy snug made a comfortable setting for a group of up to ten, ideal for families. Another room is suitable for twelve and the conservatory seats thirty-five. Outside, a patio furnished with rustic tables is where alfresco breakfasts, lunches and dinner are served. Out there, beach hut pods provide personal space if alfresco is not fully what you want. To the side, in a sunny position, there's a Secret Garden – a lovely backdrop for events such as weddings. In all these areas you may have your dog with you, if kept on a lead.

From the bar we ordered a Chardonnay from SE Australia at £6.90. It was light and fresh and 'not heavy or oaky' and, from South Africa, a Chenin Blanc at £6.40 with 'zesty tropical freshness'.

On the menu, foods from the sea were some of the starters on the specials board as well as the a la carte menu. They were plated with a colourful salad in a delicious dressing.

It was Thursday which is specials night for Fish & Chips. When we'd thawed from the chills of that mid-winter evening, to see white fish (cod) cooked well in crisp golden batter, lying alongside golden chips (which were equally crisp), peas, homemade tartar sauce and (gladly) a piece of lemon, was satisfying. Other seafoods, steak, burgers, curry (with or without meat) were tempting.

For dessert (all are £7.50) the sticky toffee pudding was more than worthy. It was outstanding. As was the Apple Crumble and custard, or warm Brownie & Berry Compote. For sunnier seasons, Ice Cream Parfait is topped with good things like cherries, chocolate, marzipan, nuts... to name a few.

The Church House Inn was built in the thirteenth century. They say that, way back when village churches were being built, Church House Inns were there to provide food and lodging for those involved in their construction. It's very likely that that is how Harbertonford, Rattery, Stokenham, Stoke Gabriel, and Totnes Church House Inns all began. In Churchstow's history there was a period when the inn was a rest house for Benedictine monks.

In the 21st century, staff shortages and rising food prices are challenges for restaurateurs. Some have borne the trials (not least of all, Covid) more successfully than others and each have had their own waves of success and failure. Diners who return to a restaurant they know, can encounter new experiences. New management. A new sign on display? Maybe there's just an empty shop window. Where there are no apparent changes, you may find the story of the kitchen is being written by a different chef whose culinary background has incomparable ethos. Your experience may be influenced by how you feel that day – how the staff responds to you, and whether their catch of the day brings food that you like to your plate, at the temperature you want, with the same level of chilli heat, at a table with a view that's pleasing, and how the company is - all at a cost which is acceptable. In returning to Churchstow, we acknowledged these things, and were glad that we had come back. With dinner over, we wrapped up and left through a hall, taking a step over the glass well cover which reveals the well's shaft... and there lies another tale from the inn's history.

Tel 01548 852237

**Vivien Stickland**

# DIARY DATES

## February

Thursday	2	TRAMP - from Malborough Village Hall at 10am - Claudette Uff
Friday	3	Kingsbridge Estuary U3A - Monthly talk at Malborough Village Hall 10am to 12noon - "The Chelsea Flower Show" with Saul Walker
Saturday	4	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am - 1pm Kingsbridge Choral Workshop 10am - 5pm Kingsbridge Community College - Coronation Music - Elgar's "Coronation Ode" and Parry's "I Was Glad"
Monday	6	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Thursday	9	The Great Thurlestone Quiz Night in Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Monday 13 - 17		Devon Schools Half Term
Tuesday	14	TRAMP - Staverton Circular Snow Drop Walk 4.5 miles - Wendy and Peter Gornall
Saturday	18	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am - 1pm
Wednesday	22	Kingsbridge Arts Society, Methodist Hall, Kingsbridge 2pm for 2.30pm (and on Zoom. 01548 532850 for a link) - "20 <sup>th</sup> Century Gardeners" with James Bolton
Friday	24	Kingsbridge Estuary U3A - Monthly talk at Malborough Village Hall 10am to 12noon - "The Wacky World of Heath Robinson" with Adam Hart-Davis

## March

Saturday	4	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am - 1pm
Monday	6	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Monday	13	TRAMP - Dartington Estate 4.5 miles - Alastair Durden
Saturday	18	Kingsbridge Farmers Market 9am - 1pm STANBOROUGH CHORUS in concert - Carmina Burana by Carl Orff - St Edmunds Church, Kingsbridge 7.30pm. Tickets £18 (Under 16s free entry)
Wednesday	22	TRAMP - Stokeley and Slapton 6 miles - Jill Miller Kingsbridge Arts Society, Methodist Hall, Kingsbridge 2pm for 2.30pm (and on Zoom. 01548 532850 for a link) - "Linkin China with Europe: Blue and White in the Middle East" with James Allan
Wed	22 - 25	KATS presents "My Fair Lady" at Malborough Village Hall Tickets £17 from kats-kingsbridge.co.uk or Kingsbridge Information Centre 01548 853195
Sunday	26	British Summer Time starts at 1am when clocks go forward 1 hour
Monday	27	Kingsbridge Cookworthy Museum re-opens
Tuesday	28	Alvington Singers - an informal recital - "Seasons of Change" - at South Hams Christian Fellowship, Fore St, Kingsbridge
Thursday	30	TRAMP - Parke, Bovey Tracey 4 miles - Wendy and Peter Gornall
Friday	31	Kingsbridge Estuary U3A - Monthly talk at Malborough Village Hall 10am to 12noon - "Agatha Christie, her life and deaths by poisons" with Janet Sellick Devon Schools - end of term

## April

Monday	3	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
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Bolberry Down Parkrun. A free, weekly, timed 5k walk/jog/run at 9:00am every Saturday. Details at [www.parkrun.org.uk/bolberrydown/](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/bolberrydown/) or on Facebook.



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**email: [kingsbridge@abbeyfieldsws.org](mailto:kingsbridge@abbeyfieldsws.org)**

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# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

## **CLUBS & GROUPS**

<b>ALVINGTON SINGERS</b> (Wed 7pm - 9pm)	Contact	Liz Coates	714849
<b>ART CLASS</b> (Tues 11am - 1pm)	Contact	Marianne Smith	531413
<b>AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION</b>	Chairman	Stuart Watts	810373
<b>BADMINTON CLUB</b> (Fri 4pm - 5pm)	Contact	Sian Hodges	07784893405
<b>BANTHAM SAILING CLUB</b>	Secretary	Nikki Smith	560275
<b>BANTHAM SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB</b>	Clubhouse		560447
<b>BRIDGE CLUB</b> (Wed 6.15pm)	Contact	Lisa White	560505
<b>BUCKLAND PHONE BOX</b>	Contact	Anna Martin	560796
<b>FITNESS YOGA WITH SUZI</b> (Mon 5pm - 6pm)	Contact	Suzi Griffiths	07557334802
<b>FRENCH CONVERSATION</b> (Thurs 1.30-3.30pm)	Contact	Angela Luckhurst	521595
<b>FRIENDS OF THURLESTONE CHURCH</b>	Contact	Phil Millard	560843
<b>HEALTHY MOVEMENT</b> (Mon 2.15pm - 3.15pm)	Contact	Saffron Craig	07840788511
<b>LINE DANCING</b> (Wed 2pm - 3pm)	Contact	Sue Bain	07989817898
<b>POWER HOUR WITH SUZI</b> (Tuesday 2pm - 3pm)	Contact	Suzi Griffiths	07557334802
<b>SEA BEYOND PILATES</b> (Wed 9.30am-10.30am)	Contact	Sharron05@btinternet.com	
<b>SMASH HIIT WITH SUZI</b> (Thurs 6pm - 7pm)	Contact	Suzi Griffiths	07557334802
<b>STITCH and BITCH</b> (Mon 10.30am - 12.30pm)	Contact	Sally Martin	561356
<b>TABLE TENNIS</b> (Thurs 7.30pm - 9pm)	Contact	Paul Ferguson	07866802800
<b>THURLESTONE GOLF CLUB</b>	Office & General Enquiries		560405
<b>TENNIS SECTION</b> (at Golf Club)	Book via Pro Shop		560715
<b>THURLESTONE PHONE BOX</b>	Contact	Mary Horne	561853
<b>THURLESTONE SINGING GROUP</b>	Contact	Alastair Durden	560509
<b>TRAMP</b> (Thurlestone Ramblers)	Contact	Linda Scott	560298
<b>YOGA with Sarah</b> (Tues and Thurs 9.15am)	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
Non-emergency NHS Direct	111

## **POLICE**

Emergency 999      Non-emergency 101

## **RUBBISH COLLECTION** - Wednesdays

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 Brown Bin (garden waste) alternate Wednesdays - temporarily suspended

## **RECYCLING CENTRE** - Torr Quarry Site, Totnes Road, Kingsbridge TQ9 7QQ T:0345 1551010

Opening Hours:

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

## **TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES**

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

## **LIBRARIES**

Kingsbridge - Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1EB T: 852315 Open Monday, Friday 9am - 6pm  
 Tuesday, Wednesday 9am - 5pm, Thursday closed  
 Mobile library visits Thurlestone Parish Hall Car Park Wednesdays February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> - 10.30am to 11.00am

## **TRAVEL & TRANSPORT**

Local Bus Service - Tally Ho! Service No. 162 - Destinations from Thurlestone (Bus stop by Shop) are:- Kingsbridge, South Milton, Malborough, Galmpton and Hope Cove.  
 For timetable contact Tally Ho! on 01548 853081 or see [www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable](http://www.tallyhocoaches.co.uk/162-timetable)  
 For other Bus, Rail and Coach information contact Traveline South West T: 0871 2002233 (7.00am - 10.00pm)  
 Taxi Companies - Taxi-Mike (0771 4512516) - see advert in this magazine

## **PARISH INFORMATION**

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

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

Chairman	Jill Munn	560732
Vice-chairman	Vacant	
Parish Clerk	Kathy Harrod	thurlestoneparish@gmail.com
Members	Sue Crowther	560098
	Paul Gunning	07971 378121
	Rosa Lewis	07463 856156
	Adam Ryan-Carter	562708 (Tree Warden)
	Gillian Stone	07967 666719
	Sian Williams	560339
District Councillors	Mark Long	843828
	Judy Pearce	561370
County Councillor	Rufus Gilbert	856659

### **PARISH HALL** (see Thurlestone Parish Website for more details)

Telephone (payphone in foyer) 562189

Chairman: Vacant

Bookings: Diane Martin email: via Parish Website or directly on [tphbookings@gmail.com](mailto:tphbookings@gmail.com)  
or telephone 560070 Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5.30pm

### **THE PARISH HELPLINE ..... Co-ordinator Milla 07711 870337**

**PARISH WEBSITE** ([www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk](http://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

<b>Shop Opening Hours</b>	Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri	8.00am - 5.00pm
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	Sunday and Bank Holidays	8.30am - 2.00pm

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## **PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS**

- Thurlestone Parish Hall
- Thurlestone Hotel (Garage)
- Golf Club (Tennis Pav Wall)
- Sloop Inn Bantham (Lobby)
- Bantham Quay
- Buckland Phone Box

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