

# VILLAGE VOICE

June -July 2022



**70 Glorious Years!**  
**Congratulations, Your Majesty**

*The community magazine of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone*



Our front cover is dedicated to Her Majesty the Queen who has served the nation devotedly through good and bad over the past 70 years. For the majority of people, she has been a constant presence in their lives and we are being given the opportunity to celebrate this magnificent achievement with her. There are certainly plenty of activities to choose from in the community as the magazine is full of events planned all over the Jubilee weekend. Volunteers have been working hard to bring you a variety of different things to participate in and enjoy. It is unlikely we will see another Platinum Jubilee in our lifetimes and after the last couple of years, it will be wonderful to see parishioners enjoying themselves again and the villages adorned in red, white and blue.

As a comparison, in an excellent article by Michael Stephens, you can read how the Golden Jubilee of our last long-serving monarch Queen Victoria, 135 years ago, was celebrated.

Mentioning long service, 4 of our longest serving parish councillors have all retired. This 'awesome foursome' notched up 85 years between them! We're sure everyone will join us in thanking them for all they have done for the parish and wish them all the best in their 'retirement'!

Now summer is upon us, a drive through the lanes offers the glorious sight of hedgerows resplendent with colourful wildflowers. Walking around you also notice gardens springing to life with an abundance of beautiful blooms. A garden you will be familiar with through her regular article in the magazine is Sue Dwyer's and you will get a chance to see it for yourself when her magnificent garden is featured during the Open Garden afternoon in June.

Summer is also the time for picnics which you will see mention of a few times in this edition. If you need inspiration for something different to pack into your basket turn to Tried and Tasted.

Enjoy all the festivities with family and friends, hopefully alongside some lovely warm summery weather.

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## **June - July 2022**

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### **Table of Contents**

The Awesome Foursome  
Thurlestone Phonebox Committee  
Notes from Parish Council Mtgs  
Jubilee Family Fun Poster  
Village News Round-Up  
Grey Matter  
Jubilee Street Party Poster  
Additional Info for Jubilee Weekend  
Our Garden in May  
Jubilee Concert Poster  
School Report  
Parish Hall News  
Open Gardens Poster  
Snippets from the Past  
Photographic Exhibition Poster  
All Saints' Editorial  
All Saints' Diary  
Aune Conservation Association  
Arts Society Poster  
Thurlestone Church Fete Poster  
TRAMP Reports  
Thurlestone Golf Club  
Thurlestone PO & Shop Opening Hours  
Weather Wag  
Tried and Tasted  
Thurlestone Bay Birds  
Thurlestone Village Moths  
Puzzle Page  
Superfast Broadband  
Eating Out Locally  
Diary Dates  
Contact Information  
Parish Information

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# The Awesome Foursome

After many decades of service, four of our Thurlestone Parish Councillors have decided to step down, hang up their boots (or sometimes, spades and shovels) put down their pens and agendas and start to enjoy their retirement from the council.

It's hard to believe but between them, Charlie Mitchelmore, Nigel Hurrell, Kit Marshall and Jack Rhymes have clocked up 85 years of service.



**Jack, Nigel, Charlie and Kit**

Charlie started back in 1991, diligently dedicating 31 years of his time to the Parish. His knowledge of local history is immense and has brought valuable information to the table over 3 decades. He has also acted as tree warden over those years and carried out hundreds of site visits to inspect and assess, sometimes at unsociable hours, weekends and evenings. As outgoing Chairman, Jack Rhymes stated at their last Parish Council meeting on May 9th, "If Charlie didn't know the answer, he'd go out of his way to find out. He's given many hours, and if it weren't for the time and effort he's given this would be a very different place."

Kit's time started in 1999. He has previously acted as Chairman and vice Chairman in his roles at the Council. Over the 23 years, Kit has been a committed and dedicated member of the team, also taking on responsibility for the Thurlestone Phone Box, now a favourite focus to the village, providing a book swap as well as being 'dressed' to celebrate special occasions. Kit and his wife Gill have always helped with community events, fund raising, carol singing, you name it! Jack added; "Kit has been an outstanding vice chairman, he's given a lot to the parish and an awful lot to me and I'm grateful for all his support."

The Hurrell family have a long tradition of working with the Parish Council and Nigel is no exception, joining in 2011 and giving 11 years to the cause. Nigel was born and bred in West Buckland and is part of that rare breed of locals having lived here for 75 years, only moving



recently to be nearer to his daughter and family. His local knowledge is unsurpassed as well as his ability to turn his hand to any job that needed doing. Jack highlighted Nigel's can-do attitude and remembered the times when Nigel ensured paths and roads were kept clear during the stormy and snowy winters saying; "Nigel is a do-er, always ready to give a hand when work needs to be done."

Jack's role cannot be underestimated offering 22 years to Parish Council work and acting as the Chairman since 2008. There are not too many areas of village life and this community that Jack hasn't touched, whether it's been clearing a road, unblocking a gully, fixing a bin, clearing up rubbish or being a governor for Thurlestone school, he's done it all. His drive to make this area a better place to live has always been at the forefront of his mind and his opinions on local matters have proved invaluable. Along with Bett and his family's support, Jack has been nothing less than a community champion. He's not stopping here though! Jack is now leading on the upcoming Jubilee celebrations in the village and is pulling together a team to ensure the Parish has a thoroughly enjoyable and never to be forgotten party.

Councillor Jill Munn who now becomes Chairman said at their last meeting; "Today marks the end of an era, we say goodbye to Jack, Charlie, Kit & Nigel, combined they have served the parish for 85 years. We'll all miss working with them, their knowledge and local connections have been so valuable to the parish. We'd like to say a very big thank you for your hard work and commitment over the years to keep Thurlestone the beautiful parish that it is."

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## Thurlestone Phonebox Committee

Early in May members of the Phone Box Committee (past and present) gathered to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Phone Box – see the photo below. Kit reminded us that when it was decommissioned by the GPO ten years ago it was purchased by us for £1. A great investment considering the enjoyment it has given locals and visitors over the years.

We are looking forward to decorating it for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee: preparations are taking place! The children in the school have been very busy making bunting and we are very grateful for their contribution and enthusiasm.

May I remind keen gardeners that we would really appreciate your contributions too. If you wish to lend a potted flower display for the duration of the celebrations, please leave it outside the Phone Box on 20th May and collect it on 6th June. Remember to put your name somewhere on the pot to avoid confusion!

**Mary Horne**



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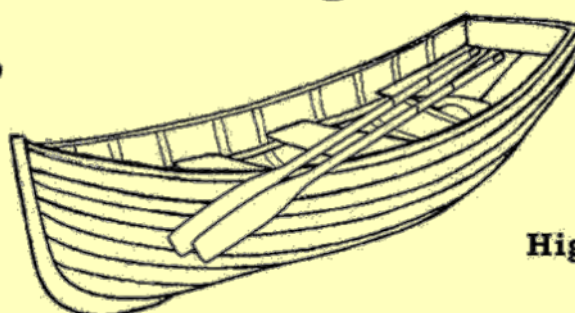
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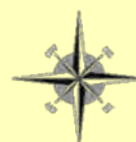
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# NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Thurlestone Parish Hall**

Present: Cllrs Sue Crowther, Kit Marshall, Charlie Mitchelmore, Jill Munn, Jack Rhymes (Chairman) and Sian Williams.

In Attendance: Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Rufus Gilbert and District Cllr Judy Pearce, and 6 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Nigel Hurrell and District Cllr Mark Long.

## **Open Forum**

Residents raised the following matters: (a) Bantham Estate have not renewed moorings that have been with certain families for over 40 years and have also withdrawn parking permits from some residents. (b) A road safety mirror at Aune Cross had come down in the last gale and will be replaced. (c) A query was raised regarding the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. These are being dealt with by a separate committee. Everyone is encouraged to help neighbours attend if they are less able. A road closure is in place and live bands have been confirmed. (d) DCC Public Rights of Way team have advised that a parishioner's application to register the Dixon's Quay footpath as a registered public right of way will be delayed until 2025 earliest. (e) The kerb by Heathfield on the road through Thurlestone has been badly damaged and a letter will be issued requesting its repair.

## **Planning Matters**

Councillors supported the following applications:

0446/22/FUL, Thurlestone Golf Club - Re-roofing flat roof areas.

0192/22/HHO, The Pillars, Eddystone Road, Thurlestone - Ground & lower floor extension.

Councillors objected to the following application:

0316/22/HHO, 1 Lambs Close, Thurlestone - Replacement single storey extension.

Decisions: SHDC granted Conditional Approval for: 4687/21/HHO, The Meadows, Court Park, Thurlestone and 0386/22/HHO, Longstone, Warren Road, Thurlestone. SHDC refused 0293/22/FUL Oonalea, Bantham and 3624/21/HHO Hooters, Ilbert Road, Thurlestone.

4754/21/FUL, 21 Eddystone Road, Thurlestone was withdrawn and 0196/22/TPO, Arden House, Thurlestone, Tree works were allowed.

## **Parish Matters**

Casual Vacancy notices for two councillors have been issued and SHDC will confirm on 22 April if there will be an election or co-option. Anyone who would like to submit an interest in the vacancies, should please email [thurlestoneparish@gmail.com](mailto:thurlestoneparish@gmail.com).

Efforts have continued to site the Airband cabinet by the entrance to Yarmer Estate on the edge of the Memorial Green, as agreed. Cllr Williams has submitted a request on behalf of TPC for a 20mph speed limit for the three villages. Bantham Estate has confirmed that the upcoming shooting season is not certain and they will keep the Council informed. The road resurfacing works on Yarmer Estate are scheduled to start May 3<sup>rd</sup> and last 2-3 weeks. Cllr Crowther has submitted a response to the government's Landscapes Review (National Parks & AONBs). The evidence from SHDC's recent Housing Needs Survey was that six rented properties would be required within the next five years, the proposed site being at Bantham. However, the Council still have some concerns, for example, they felt any housing control must sit



with a public body and not a landowner. Cllr Crowther would investigate further and report back. A quote from SHDC is awaited for repairs to the public toilets and Cllr Williams suggested possible uses for the artisan building next door, which is owned by the Golf Club and becoming increasingly run down.

### **County and District Councillors' Reports**

County Cllr Rufus Gilbert reported that Highways have written to the owner of Elston Cross requesting attention to the land to prevent further flooding. DCC is negotiating a Devolution Deal for Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. It is one of only 10 areas in England to be chosen and covers housing, skills/employment, public transport etc. District Cllr Pearce referred to the revised JLP policy DEV32 that relates to climate change. She also reported that brown bins are now being collected again.

### **Annual General Meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Thurlestone Parish Hall**

Present: Cllrs Sue Crowther, Jill Munn (Chairman) and Sian Williams.

In Attendance: Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Rufus Gilbert and District Cllrs Judy Pearce & Mark Long, and 16 members of the public.

### **Open Forum**

Residents raised the following matters: (a) No brown bin collections have taken place in Bantham & West Buckland. Cllr Pearce will follow this up. (b) The Bantham Shoot may be proceeding and the Council were asked to follow up on their previous communications with the Estate. (c) The Council will continue to financially support the flowers planted at the top of Court Park Road and also, by the Thurlestone Phone Box, providing the Phone Box Committee approve the planting. (e) A query was raised in respect of fibre broadband installation and the properties/estates that are included. Cllr Gilbert has provided a written response to this in his report see minute reference 40 County Council Report. (f) The four retiring councillors were thanked for the time and effort they had put in over many years.

Cllr Rhymes then addressed the meeting, saying what a privilege and honour it had been to represent the parish and he paid tribute to three other retiring councillors, who between them, had a huge amount of local knowledge and had contributed so much time and effort in the course of their service.

### **Election of Chairman and other roles**

Cllr Jill Munn was elected the 2022/23 Chair of the Parish Council and Cllr Rhymes officially retired. Nominations for Vice Chairman and roles on the Council will be delayed until there is a full (or near full) contingent of Councillors, whether elected or co-opted.

### **Planning Matters**

Councillors supported the following applications:

1116/22/HHO, 6 Meadfoot, Thurlestone - enlargement of patio/deck area.

1338/22/HHO & 1339/22/LBC, Worthy, Bantham - restoration & refurbishment of Grade II listed farmhouse.

1357/22/TCA, All Saints' Church, Thurlestone - application to fell two diseased Corsican Pine trees.

Councillors objected to the following application:

1100/22/HHO, Byeways, Warren Rd, Thurlestone - proposed replacement garage & store.

A site visit was required for 1017/22/HHO, 24 Court Park, Thurlestone - Demolition of deck area and existing garage, erection of new two-storey rear extension and extended deck area with double garage and accommodation below, new side entrance (Resubmission of 2346/21/HHO).

Decisions: 0580/22/CLE, Higher Aunemouth Farm, Bantham - Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing Use was granted. 0316/22/HHO, 1 Lambs Close, Thurlestone, 0446/22/FUL, Thurlestone Golf Club and 0467/22/VAR, 18 Meadcombe Rd, Thurlestone were approved; 0372/22/VAR, Plot 29 Highfield, Eddystone Rd, Thurlestone was refused; and 0192/22/HHO, The Pillars, Eddystone Road was withdrawn.

### **Parish Matters**

The first Casual Vacancy notice for two councillors had resulted in ten parishioners writing to SHDC to request an election. A second Casual Vacancy notice for two more Councillors had now been issued and SHDC will confirm shortly whether they can be co-opted or they too will be determined by election. To date, the Clerk had received only one expression of interest in the position of Councillor. The Airband cabinet had now been sited on the edge of Memorial Green, as requested. There will be a road closure between 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June to enable Western Power Distribution to undertake works between Kerse Cross and Whitley Cross, Thurlestone. The Jubilee team have everything now in place for the celebrations. There will be a lantern parade and bonfire on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and a street party with live music, entertainment etc on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

### **County and District Councillors' Reports**

County Cllr Rufus Gilbert explained Airband's methodology for deciding which areas of the parish would benefit, emphasising that any properties already in receipt of superfast broadband (30Mbps or more) will be unable to benefit and that this is national policy. A total 435 people in Devon have sponsored 1,048 Ukrainian guests in Devon and 142 guests have already arrived. District Cllrs Pearce and Long confirmed 9,000 Council Tax rebates of £150 have been paid out to those living in Band A-E properties, that brown bins have not all been collected as anticipated and parishioners need to check the SHDC website for updates and that SHDC have been awarded £1.06m, with the county as a whole receiving around £10m, based on levelling up. This is not as much as other areas and the formula is being queried with the government. St Ann's Chapel affordable housing site has now had the turf cut and will have 8 affordable houses cross-subsidised by 3 open market houses.

Cllr Munn (Chair) closed the meeting by paying tribute to the four retiring councillors and presented them with a gift of thanks from the parish. The County and District Councillors, remaining parish councillors and members of the public had all voiced appreciation in the course of the meeting for the many years of service given to the parish and wished them well with their future plans. They will be missed.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in the Parish Hall.**

### **POST MEETING NOTE:**

SHDC has since confirmed they have received the required number of requests for a poll to be held for all 4 vacancies on Thurlestone Parish Council. Nomination papers are to be hand delivered to the Council Offices by 4pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. If five or more candidates are validly nominated then a poll will be held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The latest information will be posted on the Parish website at [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk).

**Thurlestone Parish Council**

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# VILLAGE NEWS ROUND-UP

## **Eric Kendall**

We are very sad to report that Eric Kendall died suddenly on Saturday 7th May. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Norma, who is a member of the Village Voice team and his daughters Beverley, Jane and Catherine. Eric was a founder member of a group of golfers called "The Tetley Boys" formed 25 years ago. Eric was the one delegated to rush into the bar before it closed to get everyone a pint of Tetley, which were then lined up ready for them. Because of this they were christened the Tetley Boys by Joan Booth. Eric was the president of the group and this allowed him to make up the rules, one being you could only become a member by invitation. Many arguments took place in the bar after a round as they played for the high stakes of £1 each. 25 years later they still pay £1 and the arguments continue. He will be greatly missed by all his friends.

## **Thurlestone & South Milton Horticultural Show**

Tom Gilkes sadly reports his appeal in the February/March edition failed to attract anyone from the Parish prepared to volunteer to join the committee to ensure the continuation of the show, staged and run annually since 1978. An expert gardener did volunteer her help early in the year, but they needed several more to balance the representation of the two villages and also to encourage more enthusiasm in entering and exhibiting.

The remaining Committee decided that it was impractical to arrange, stage and run the show and it has regrettably now been wound up and the bank balance shared equally between the village/parish halls. The cups and trophies will be returned to donors or their relatives and all the records will be archived with the South Milton History Society. A sad end to a popular village event which has given much pleasure over the 44 years of friendly rivalry, to participants, villagers and visitors.

## **Bantham Boomerang and Swoosh 15/16th July**

The Swoosh returns together with a new event - the Bantham Boomerang which is a 7-10km swim taking place on the Friday starting at Bantham Beach with swimmers heading upriver assisted by the incoming

tide. When the tide turns, so do the swimmers, swimming back into Bantham Beach and the finish line.

The Swoosh on Saturday is a world class 6km swim culminating in a "swoosh" as the ebbing tide is funnelled through a narrow section of river up to four times usual swimming speed. Further information can be found on [www.levelwater.org](http://www.levelwater.org)

## **Parking**

There have been a few instances recently when cars have been blocked in by inconsiderate parking. As we enter the busy holiday season with extra visitors, please can everyone think about where they are parking, yellow lines are there for a reason. Look at whether you could be blocking someone's access to and from their property or hindering emergency vehicle access.

## **Road Closures**

A reminder that Thurlestone Main Street will be closed between 10am and 10pm for the Jubilee Street Party on 5<sup>th</sup> June. The A381 between Bantham Cross and Elston Cross will be closed from 7pm on 8<sup>th</sup> June to 7am the following morning. The road between Kerse Cross and Whitley Cross will be closed on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> June. A diversion via South Milton will be in place.

## **Would you like to join our Team?**

Do you have a couple of hours spare every other month? If so, the Village Voice team is looking for extra printers. You would be joining a very happy group of volunteers, who are very sociable and happy to give training on how to use the copier. Our thanks to Kit and Gillian Marshall who are retiring and were a great help over the last couple of challenging years.

## **Information wanted**

We've received the following request – 'I am writing a feature for the magazine Bygone Kent on an evacuee Brian Jefferies, who spent 12/18 months in Thurlestone in August/September 1940. He remembers staying his first night at the Swallows Communal Hostel and then being collected by a 'Granny Smith'. I would like to locate the hostel and if possible further details of 'Granny Smith'. Any information may be sent to Mike Gunnill at [mikegunnill@mac.com](mailto:mikegunnill@mac.com) Thank you'.

# 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> July 2022. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email: [cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@themed.co.uk)

## SMALL CHANGE

We have listed below some well-known books, pop songs and paintings. However, one letter in each word has been changed. Can you provide the correct titles and the artists/singers/authors from the clues given?

Eg Greet Halls On Fare 1958 JLL..... Great Balls Of Fire Jerry Lee Lewis

### SONGS

- 1 Jiving Dolt 1959 CR.....
- 2 Ill Shoot Us 1957 EP.....
- 3 Snoop Join A 1966 BB.....
- 4 Hare Comas Tie Sin 1969 TB.....
- 5 Creaking Op In Yard So So 1960 NS.....
- 6 Homeware Found 1966 S and G.....
- 7 Folding Buck She Bears 1985 SR.....
- 8 Heard If Class 1978 B.....

### PAINTINGS

- 1 Tie Right Witch 1642 R.....
- 2 Tee Miss 1908 GK.....
- 3 She Past Sapper 1498 LdV.....
- 4 Tie Berth On Genus 1486 SB.....
- 5 She May Wait 1821 JC.....
- 6 Toe Sweeping Roman 1937 PP.....
- 7 Doing So She March 1928 LSL.....
- 8 Ten On Toe Warden 2003 BC.....

### BOOKS

- 1 Fast On Even 1952 JS.....
- 2 Break Mouse 1852 CD.....
- 3 Far End Place 1869 LT.....
- 4 Tie Manic Singer 1966 RD.....
- 5 Top Bones 1749 HF.....
- 6 Song End Movers 1913 DHL.....
- 7 Toe Whining 1977 SK.....
- 8 Crave Few Would 1932 AH.....

### Solutions to the previous Grey Matter:

1. Cherub Inn, Dartmouth 2. Globe Inn, Frogmore 3. Seven Stars, Kingsbridge 4. Old Inn, Malborough 5. California Inn, California Cross 6. Queens Arms, Slapton 7. Tower Inn, Slapton 8. Village Inn, Thurlestone 9. Fishermans Rest, Aveton Gifford 10. Ring o' Bells, West Alvington 11. Royal Oak, Malborough 12. Imperial, Ivybridge 13. Hope and Anchor, Hope Cove 14. Royal Castle, Dartmouth 15. Journey's End, Ringmore 16. Green Dragon, Stoke Fleming 17. Floating Bridge, Dartmouth 18. Volunteer, Yealmpton 19. Bear and Blacksmith, Chillington 20. Pilchard Inn, Bigbury on Sea

*There were 3 all correct answers last month. First out of the hat and winner of the coveted bottle of wine is Viv Gibby. Commiserations to Graham Smith, and Mary Barons.*

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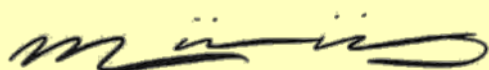
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THE QUEEN'S

PLATINUM JUBILEE Street Party

Sunday 5<sup>TH</sup> June 2022

**Officially Opened at 12pm**

Bring your own picnic to the street party. A large covered area with some seating and tables will be provided but please feel free to bring your own tables and chairs.

Some refreshment will be available as well as a Salcombe Gin bar run by Thurlestone Hotel.

**1pm**

Adult and Under 16's cake competition judging

Music commences featuring Ben Carr and Milo Griffiths

**1.30pm**

Custard Storm Circus Skills to entertain

Bus shelter darts contest

**3pm**

Family Fun Run

Cream Tea provided by Thurlestone Hotel


**4.30pm**

Rose Farm catering available

Pete's ice cream

Headline Act The Wireless

EVERYONE is welcome to come along and celebrate this momentous occasion! Patriotic dress optional but welcomed!



# **Additional Information for Jubilee**

## **Weekend Celebrations**

### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Lantern Parade**

Please meet at Kerse Lane at 8.30pm with your lantern, this can be a homemade creation, a candle lantern, or simply a torch. Please feel free to join along the way if unable to meet at the start point. The parade will leave at 8.40pm to walk through the village to finish at the beacon sited in Sid & Emma's field behind the church. A small bar will be provided where we will watch the sun go down and light our parish beacon in line with all the other beacons across the country at 9.45pm.

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Family Fun**

Event for all the family held at Thurlestone Parish Hall, starting at 6pm until 8pm.

### **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Concert from the Palace**

Starting at 6.30pm, the concert from outside Buckingham Palace will be shown on the big screen at Thurlestone Parish Hall.

Further details about Family Fun and Concert from the Palace can be found in Parish Hall News and posters in the magazine.

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Street Party**

Consent has been granted for a road closure from the Thurlestone Hotel to the entrance to Eddystone Road from 10:00-22:00 to enable the street party to take place. Diversion routes will be in place and can be found on the parish website.

Jubilations will begin at 12pm with the party being officially opened at 12.30pm by Mr Martyn Grose. We have a large covered space should the weather be a tad inclement. Some tables and chairs will be provided but please feel free to bring your own chairs or a picnic blanket. You can bring your own picnic to enjoy with family and friends when you choose. Cream teas are kindly being provided by Thurlestone Hotel. A selection of drinks will be available, including tea and coffee and the Village Inn will be open for those with a real thirst! Later in the afternoon Rose Farm Hog Roast will be on site along with Pete's Ice Creams. Hopefully, something for everyone.

Decorated Cake Competition – Open to all, 2 categories: Adults and U16's, any size cake or sponge but must depict red, white and blue – let your imagination go! 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes in both sections. To be judged by Mrs Jean Yeoman – our very own Prue Leith!

Family Fun Run – It's a run, it's fun and you'll soon be done! Meet on the green at 3pm for the start of the run around the village. Prizes will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> families to cross the finish line.

Water Bottles – Commemorative water bottles have kindly been given by Thurlestone Parish Council for the children of the parish. Collection for those children who are residents of the parish can be made between Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June from either Thurlestone Post Office or Bantham Village Store. Knowing how many children live in our parish is beyond knowledge so the supply ordered is hoped to cover numbers needed but cannot be guaranteed so collect early to avoid disappointment. When they are gone, they are gone.



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**CALOR**

# Our Garden in May

## by Sue Dwyer

Sitting writing this article on May 5<sup>th</sup> we are enjoying a spell of dry settled weather with gentle breezes, having had a spell of rain last weekend which the garden appreciated. April was dry with almost a continuous strong easterly wind which dried out the soil, especially anything in pots.

On my early morning coastal walk with the dogs everywhere I look there are slugs and snails of all colours and sizes at the moment. We have had a mild winter and the creatures have mostly survived. Likewise, there are many in the garden which are eating leaves and leaving holes in some plants. A recent post from the RHS said there are 40 species of slug in the UK and only 9 are harmful because they eat plants. They all help composting dead material and the RHS suggests collecting them and adding them to the compost heap. I have been doing this on and off ever since. Apparently, I learned elsewhere, there are 200 in every cubic square metre of garden so to eliminate them is impossible. I have to learn to live with them. Certainly, keeping debris to a minimum around the garden helps. I have tried wool pellets and crushed eggshells with some success around plants. I do have a soft spot for their appearance, their optical tentacles moving about when they slide along show how they have evolved from snails. Why they lost their outer shell I have no idea. Along the footpath the commonest slug I see are the 10cm shiny black ones. I try to remember that slugs and snails are an important food for our wildlife.

At the moment the wild flowers are so colourful on the walk, pink sea thrift along with yellow kidney vetch and bird's-foot-trefoil as well as red campions.

As perennials emerge from winter slumber many need staking. This is best done when they are small so they hide the supports as the plant grows. About 20 years ago I bought a roll of stock wire which I had Derek Yeoman cut into square or rectangular pieces. I devised this for the alstroemerias to try and keep them neat and tidy. Originally, I tied the wire to canes and gently elevated the piece up the cane as the plants grew. Now I tend to use link stakes or the semi-circular variety and tie the wire to the structure above and gradually shorten the string as the plant grows. Again after a few weeks the wire is invisible but the plant well supported against the wind. Some people use a length of jute webbing which has a similar effect and is more flexible.

In the borders at this time of year small seedlings appear from perennial plants which have germinated from last year's seeds. I fill compartmentalised trays with compost mixed with vermiculite and make sure this is very wet. I then walk around the garden and gently lift these seedlings and place them in the prepared tray in the propagator making sure they get some bottom heat at night if cold. They thrive in the warm humid conditions. Some grow, others do not but this gives a chance to any vigorous seedling. I have *Verbena bonariensis*, some agastache and also nepeta seedlings growing which I have saved. Obviously, they will not be true to the parent plant but I do get some good surprises. I am late this year in pricking out antirrhinum seedlings along with bidens, pansies and rubeckias but I know these plants grow fast when they have their individual space. I spent yesterday doing this all day but the job is now finished.

Keeping the trays watered is a time-consuming job whether it be hardening off outside or in the greenhouse. I have large trays into which I place capillary matting which I buy as a 50m roll, a by-product of the wool industry. It holds water so I can usually manage to water about 2 or 3 times weekly until they are planted out.

The sweet peas are all now in the soil, being trained up bamboos which make a wigwam. I tie them in regularly and cut off the twiddly bits to ensure long stems. Hopefully these will be in flower for Open Gardens at the end of June.

One perennial of which I have 6 varieties are thalictrums, I rarely see this in gardens but I think they are an excellent group of plants. Thalictrums are hardy plants and easy to grow, their main requirement is moisture, although the soil in our garden is light and drains well this

does not seem to be a problem. They like full sun or light shade and seem wind tolerant, so I do not have to stake them which is a blessing. They are from the meadow rue family which occurs in the Northern Hemisphere. The smallest is *T. kiusianum* suitable for a rock garden all the way to *T. 'Elin'* which grows in my garden to about 3 meters. The foliage in some is very like aquilegia and in others maidenhair fern. They flower at different times so having several varieties at least one is always in flower during the summer. The colour of the flower is often from the stamens and this gives them a fluffy appearance like a cloud. They are wind pollinated, the first one that flowers is *T. 'Black Stockings'*, this is in flower now about 1m tall. *T. Nimbus* are a fairly new variety and comes next and is out now, I have the white and purple varieties, this variety flowers for longer and has attractive seed heads. Then *T. 'Elin'* flowers, I can see the flower buds on this and in a couple of weeks clouds of mauve flowers with yellow stamens will be wafting in the wind at the bottom of the garden. In June comes *T. delavayi* Album with white flowers, dainty leaves and about 50cm in height, followed by *T. 'Hewitt's Double'* with similar delicate foliage and a mass of purple flowers growing to 1.5m in July/August. I also have *T. 'Thundercloud'* but for some reason this does not thrive. The plant appears yearly since planted in 2020 and has never flowered or grown to its expected size, there is still hope. All the plants disappear during the winter so I always mark where they are and feel a sense of real pleasure when I see the leaves emerging in the spring. Interesting they do appear at different times. *'Hewitt's Double'* foliage has just emerged whereas *'Black Stocking'* has been in flower for weeks. I have just bought another *T. flavum* subsp. *glaucum* which should grow to 1.5m and is yellow, so I await with interest. At the moment this is about 10cm tall. They all seem to be disease free.



***Thalictrum Delavayi***

Walking around the garden today in the main herbaceous border there is a predominance of blue having had light blue iris and red tulips there last month. A dark blue iris dominates along with red, yellow and cream alstroemerias now coming into bloom and a red tree peony which has been lovely. The herbaceous peonies are well in bud and the yellow Mongolian one has finished just leaving pink seed heads. The blue is tempered by a pink rhododendron at the bottom of the garden which is glorious, plus a coral-coloured azalea. The early daffodil leaves are turning yellow so can be removed soon and I can plant other summer flowering items there in their place. Camellias are still in flower in various places and the *T. 'Black Stockings'* at the back of the border give gentle movement in the breeze. Along the whole narrow border behind the main bed about 70m long are the bearded iris. Mostly various combinations of blue but I do have a lovely dark brown/purple variety I brought back from France about 30 years ago. I bought this in a country market when we had a home there and I did not realise about regulations for bringing plants into the country. Either that or I couldn't speak French! The large *Allium schubertii* is always magnificent, as are foxgloves, pinks and perennial geraniums of many different colours just flowering. All the roses are in bud and *R. 'Compassion'* now has a flower open as do the rugosas elsewhere along the wall to the golf course and in the eastern side of the garden.

I do hope you will support **Open Gardens on June 26<sup>th</sup>**, there are 5 confirmed gardens for you to visit, each very different, and there may be another. I have taken many cuttings from perennials especially salvias, all sizes and colours for sale and any money taken will go to the upkeep of the Parish Hall. The event starts by picking up a map at the Parish Hall and finishes there with a cream tea. I am praying for a dry day. Six years ago, when I organised the event for the first time I awoke to thick mist and could not see the bottom of the garden. However, rain gear went on and people came despite the awful weather. Last time I broke my wrist the night before doing my final watering and spent the night in casualty getting home at 4am, so I am hoping for a dry sunny day with no mishaps.

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# SCHOOL REPORT

## Spring Gardening, Exotic Animals & Scones!



At All Saints' this spring, the sun pouring into the playing field has reminded us that it's time to rejuvenate our school garden. It'll be gloves and trowels at the ready, as we buy plants and seeds for the children to grow. Thanks to a small grant we have received, we soon hope to be picking cucumbers, peppers, raspberries, carrots and much more!

On the theme of healthy eating, we have once more been delighted to invite parents in to share lunches with their children, and sample the delicious offerings of our catering team. So far, parents of the younger children have joined us, and we plan to invite the other year groups soon.

A smoothie making project is also planned for the younger children, as part of their Design & Technology learning. With a colourful selection of fruits donated by Tesco, Sue Durant will be spearheading the project – sounds yummy!

It's not all about eating here though! We're also encouraging lots of exciting outdoor activity to encourage the children to enjoy the sunshine and fresh air. As well as our usual timetable of PE and forest school, we are also attending weekly dinghy sailing at Salcombe with a group of the older children, and getting revved up for a whole-school day of activities with the Exeter Chiefs.

And this year we are thrilled to be holding our school sports day on 7<sup>th</sup> July with live spectators! I'm sure the cheering and general encouragement will be a real boost for our budding athletes.

The Year 4s are off to Forest and Beach for residential camping and exploring the woods overlooking Start Bay, where they will be learning to light fires, cook outdoors and build shelters, as well as activities like canoeing and archery.

Good news for animal lovers - *Frazoo* is coming into school! Bringing her skills and expertise to All Saints' Thurlestone to deliver an indoor Forest School session to all of the children across the school, we will be meeting some animals from around the world, interacting with them and learning all about where they come from, their habitats and what makes them special.

The children always love to be involved in looking after our beautiful coastline. This month the Eco team will be heading down to 'Till the Coast is Clear' in Kingsbridge to find out about all the fantastic work they do to ensure our shorelines are kept clear and plastic free!

We were lucky enough to host a wonderful Jubilee Cream Tea on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of May. The children hugely enjoyed singing a selection of songs, whilst others took great pride in showing off their musical learning by performing with their instruments. There were sandwiches, scones, cakes and hot drinks provided. It was a wonderful opportunity to welcome all our families and the wider community into school.

**Emma Richards**

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# Parish Hall News

by Alison Daily



Well, this is a novel experience, I don't just have one event to tell you about but 3 which are all happening at the hall in June. It's been a while since I've been able to say that, but I'm really pleased to be in a position to welcome you all back to social events once again, enabling you to meet up with friends across the community



## **Friday 3rd June - Jubilee Family Fun 6pm-8pm**

This is a perfect occasion for all the family to come along together to participate in some good old-fashioned fun and games such as shove ha'penny, grab-a-duck, archery and yes, it's back the Human Fruit Machine, how can you resist? Admittance is free - you pay as you play which costs £1 for 5 tickets. As usual there will be a bar serving local beer, wine, Pimms and soft drinks. Food this year will be Jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings at very reasonable prices. Come along for some friendly rivalry with your friends and family. A special mention must go to Lily Broom for designing the eye-catching poster for this event. Thank you Lily for your hard work.

## **Saturday 4th June – Jubilee Party from the Palace 6.30pm**

There will be a live-stream on the big screen of the concert outside Buckingham Palace, we are promised a line-up of some of the world's biggest stars who will be performing on a spectacular circular stage built around the Queen Victoria Memorial. It is a bring your own supper and drink event so everyone can sit and enjoy this memorable occasion. The hall will be bedecked with red, white and blue, why don't you follow suit and dress accordingly or perhaps in an outfit fashionable during her Majesty's 70-year reign. We want all the parish to share this occasion and come together once more to catch up with each other and share in the festivities, there are limited places available so please book early to avoid disappointment

## **Sunday 26th June - Open Gardens 1-5pm**

Once you have recovered from the above 2 events you will be ready for a little gentle exercise, as you walk from one garden to another during this year's Open Gardens event. As you visit each of the 5 participating gardens you will hopefully find inspiration, as well as plants for sale and perhaps pick up some tips for your own gardens. Tea and cake will be served at the hall where you can also purchase tickets. This event always proves popular regardless of the weather and is a very pleasant way to spend the afternoon.

We really look forward to seeing you at these events - further details can be found on the posters within the magazine.

Our classes and clubs continue to thrive, and over the page you will find what is available to you in the coming couple of months.

## Weekly Groups at Parish Hall (June/July 2022)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Contact for Price and Availability</u>
Monday	9-10am	Yoga	Saffron 07840788511
	10.30-11.30am	Yoga	Saffron 07840788511
	10.30-12.30am	Stitch & Bitch	Sally 01548 561356 or Diane 01548 560070
	3.45-4.45pm	Martial Arts	Lesley
	6.30-7.30pm	Martial Arts	Mike
			<a href="mailto:southhamstraining@gmail.com">southhamstraining@gmail.com</a>
Tuesday	5-6pm	Yoga	Suzi 07557334802
	9.15-10.15am	Yoga	Sarah 07879627939
	11am-1pm	Art	Marianne 01548531413
Wednesday	5.45-6.45pm	Bootcamp	Kat 07500870162
	9-10am	Pilates	Sharron 07818410017
	2-3.15pm	Line Dancing	Sue 01548 550348
Thursday	6.15-10pm	Bridge	Lisa 01548 560505
	9.15-10.15am	Yoga	Sarah 07879627939
	From 12.30pm	French Lessons	Angela 07749493931
	5.45-6.45pm	Bootcamp	Kat 07500870162
Friday	7.30-9pm	Table Tennis	Paul 07866802800
	4-5pm	Badminton	Sian 07784893405

Badminton is on its summer break and will re-start in September.

# Thurlestone's OPEN GARDENS

## SUNDAY 26th JUNE 1.00pm to 5.00pm

**Tickets and map available at the Parish Hall from 12.45pm on the day**

£2.00 gardens only ☀ Children under 12 years free  
Proceeds to the Parish Hall

**Teas will be served in the Parish Hall  
throughout the afternoon  
Tea & Cake £2**



**Enquiries to Sue Dwyer 01548 560648**

We are grateful to all the householders who have kindly allowed access to their gardens.  
There will be a perennial plant sale at Yarmer with all proceeds to the Parish Hall






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# *Snippets from the Past*

## *Three Cheers for Roast Beef and Plum Pudding!*

By Michael Stephens

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is almost upon us, so I thought I'd revisit our area 135 years ago when Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee was celebrated in Thurlestone and other villages in our corner of the South Hams

Mr. James Fairweather, proprietor of 'The Kingsbridge Journal' & 'The Salcombe Times' collated reports from Kingsbridge and two dozen surrounding villages and published this as a booklet in 1887, which was reproduced for our Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002. The reports weren't consistent in what they did or did not record, so just because one village reports a specific activity, doesn't mean it didn't also happen in other villages. For example, singing the national anthem is mentioned a few times but presumably it went without saying that it was sung at some point at every single village.

Events followed a similar course in every parish, with more elaborate festivities in Kingsbridge & Salcombe. Villagers were, in many cases, awakened by the church bells, the record for earliest 'merry peals' going to Aveton Gifford "before 4am" (dawn!), whilst at Charleton, guns were fired at 5 am! Country folk rose early back then anyway! Cannon and guns were fired throughout the day in various places (why ever did Blackawton have a cannon?). 'Less is more' springs to mind when Salcombe's attempt at a Royal 21 gun salute was forbidden; the two canons of The Battery were inadequate (yes folks, Health & Safety said 'No' !!).

Morning services of thanksgiving were held in every parish church; the Queen then, as now, was Head of The Church Of England but many Wesleyans etc. would have gone to church on this special day – their Sunday Schools certainly participated in the bigger processions. Children left school after their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday in those days, so those under the age of 14½ received a medal (a small brass token) though only two parishes mention this (it would have been organised nationally, and so not really of specific local interest).

Bunting and 'mottoes' were everywhere; flowers, evergreen boughs, etc. hung from windows and adorned triumphal arches erected in the streets. Note that the festivities were on a Tuesday because all the preparations – arches, lighting (colourful Chinese lanterns lit by gas in many cases) and the preparations for the food in these fridge - & freezer-less times had to be done the day before, a Monday. It would have been unthinkable to have done anything on a Sunday, being observed as a day of no work (or levity!). Such festivities, including the triumphal arches, were not that unusual in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, being features in all major towns to celebrate military victories, royal events, and the coming to town of a railway.

The British Empire was at its height, and the celebrations would have been as much for Victoria, Empress as Victoria, Queen (she had been made Empress of India in 1876). Mottoes would have reflected this, though there is scant mention of what they said except an example in Salcombe which summed it up: "Queen, Empress, God Bless Her". This was in a large wooden frame at the entrance to 'Sandhills' then owned by Major Bennett who used over 200 lamps in the construction, but many failed to light (faulty wicks), although the effect was still impressive. The benevolent major rectified this two days later by inviting folks up to 'Sandhills' to see the display as intended.

And so to the processions. Decorated floats - in the villages as well as in town - represented local industries and rural crafts such as the baker with a giant loaf, builders, smiths, thatchers etc. with the tools of their trade, including, at Salcombe a coal merchant's float carrying a coal weighing machine! Heading the biggest parades were the 'great & the good' of the area,

and children always were a major feature, dressed-up and marching with their Sunday Schools, be they C. of E., Baptists, or Wesleyan. Smaller children often took part, riding in little donkey carts, or in a couple of cases riding in old-fashioned panniers on either side.

There was a surprising number of bands in the area as well, marching in the processions and playing at intervals throughout the day. There was a 'South Hams Band' which played both at Sherford and Slapton, a 'Kingsbridge Band' (brass band?) which also popped up to West Alvington at some point. Most surprisingly, both Loddiswell & Thurlestone had their own brass bands! Blackawton had a distinctly more rural feel with the Queen (a child, akin to the May Queen) with her maids of honour followed by agricultural implements; "plough, harrow, roller, drill, mowing machine, reapers, wagons for makers of reeds, threshers" – all now consigned to history or the Cookworthy Museum. Also marching along were "sheep (live)"! I am baffled by any alternative! Perhaps it needed stressing that they had not been mortified by the Blackawton cannon!!

Kingsbridge had a huge parade of course including drum & fife band and a military band, a schoolboy with a real monkey, plus one particular innovative creation, Mr. Hingston's 'vineyard trophy' - a giant bottle of champagne, which dipped as it went under the arches, and a sparkling liquid fizzed when, at intervals, the cork was removed. Salcombe and Kingston included the local Coastguards in their parades, the Challaborough Coastguard Station also supplying a display of flags for the village bunting at Ringmore.

And now for the roast beef! Every town and village treated its inhabitants (mostly the trades people and labourers with their families) to a proper dinner (that's midday here in Devon!). The main fare was roast beef and plum pudding to follow. Of the 25 villages covered here, about ten didn't specify the food provided, though there was mention of "joints" and "good old English fare" in two cases. In workhouses and other institutions, Christmas dinner or an occasional 'treat' almost always consisted of this meal. The labouring classes otherwise never had beef, lamb or even chicken; those were expensive and for the middle and upper classes. Fish was fed locally by farmers to their live-in labourers, especially salmon and grey mullet from the Ria, but generally the average village family in 1887, unless in extreme difficulty, would have had some bacon, (often from their own pig, killed and salted-down for the winter) and cheap cuts such as 'scrag end of mutton' or 'left-over bits' – tripe, pigs trotters etc., so roast beef really was a treat. There is no mention of whether such vast quantities were roasted on a spit outdoors or in numerous local farmhouse ovens. The precedence given to the carvers listed in each report makes me think that it was an outdoor roast. Meals were served outdoors, in marquees, or in barns in smaller villages. The Vicar of Churchstow personally presented the village with a new 'Parish Room' as a jubilee gift.

Serving the meals were usually members of the various organising committees, local farmer's wives etc. but at West Alvington, 21 well-dressed young men acted as waiters. At Aveton Gifford the Committee were ably assisted by a "large ladies Committee" (ladies of a slight build need not apply!). One report stated that families brought their own cutlery and plates, presumably this was the case elsewhere as well.

A 667lb [303 Kilos] bullock was provided at East Allington by Mr. Cubitt. At Kingsbridge, 1050lb [476 K] of beef served 1200 at dinner. Salcombe fed 1500, Dodbrooke and Stokenham about 1000 persons (the latter including Beesands, Torcross etc.). Slapton villagers may have joined Stokenham for dinner since such a large number is recorded there, and at Slapton the report states only that they headed for the sands where they had high tea! Other villages served between 220 and 500 in the main. Accompaniments were bread & potatoes, beer and ginger beer, but not cider, which was very potent; all who were not teetotal, including children, were used to 'small beer' (low proof). Salad & pickles were mentioned as well, and all of course, home-made. In every parish, the elderly & infirm who could not attend, had good helpings delivered to their homes.

'Plum' pudding contained currants & raisins rather than the whole fruit. It would have been spiced as well, similar to Christmas pudding, with some variation of ingredients. 700lbs of pudding was served at Kingsbridge and about the same at Dodbrooke [c.350 K]. One West Alvington lady made 48 puddings herself. Loyal toasts followed the meal, apart from at Marlborough - "from want of proper organisation" (high treason?!); three cheers sufficed later on. There was tea later on, the same seating arrangements remaining, and the same numbers (or more) partaking of buns & cake etc.

There was, as in 2022, some ceremonial planting of trees, but sports were the main feature of the afternoon, including races we may remember from our own schooldays – egg & spoon, sack race, three-legged race etc. but donkey races and tug-of-war were also popular. All the participants and winners are recorded, mostly men, though there were some womens' and girls' races mentioned – not easy in their voluminous skirts and Sunday best bonnets, let alone the shocking risk of an ankle being seen! One race mentioned more than once has the ladies 'racing for calico' – used earlier for tablecloths apparently at Portlemouth. Nowadays it would need to be designer handbags! South Milton had a donkey race to remember, when they took off at such speed "the riders having great difficulty in preventing their running away and endangering the lives of the spectators".

More unusual sports were wheelbarrow racing blindfold, and 'climbing the greasy pole', which in Buckland Tout Saints was for a leg of mutton tied to the top, and over a pond! Boys here also 'dived for oranges' which would have been in a trough of water. The same featured at Churchstow & South Huish, but at Buckland-T-S the oranges contained sixpences! An old men's race and racing with pails full of water amused West Alvington villagers, and at Chivelstone, the pig race was chasing real pigs; the winner was first to catch one by the tail and hold on to his ears! (Please take note Thurlestone Golf Club for next year!). Surprisingly, not much use was made of the water – apart from a gig & punt race off Dodbrooke Quay.

For those not yet tired-out, dancing followed, outdoors or in barns / halls, accompanied by fiddlers or maybe a harmonium. This went on till dark, or midnight, but every village had a huge bonfire and at many, rockets were sent up. At South Huish, a fire balloon (un-manned hot air balloon) passed over at a great height and disappeared over the Channel. The coastguards at Hope (Bolt Tail Station) counted 54 bonfires in a 30-mile radius, and 50 were seen from Blackdown Rings, whilst from Salcombe, the one at Haytor stood out prominently.

At Thurlestone, the procession of floats representing village trades - not only the baker, ploughman, tailor etc. but also "the fisherman in his boat with sails fully set, the milkman riding a donkey, he and his cans plentifully covered with roses [...], the schoolmistress playing the harmonium etc. - left the church and made its way beneath decorative arches to a field at the top of the village "with a beautiful and extensive view". Perhaps on the Downs, with a Northerly view, or maybe a South-facing field, since built upon. Tea & plum cake were served later, whilst a fiddler played and people danced in the field all afternoon. Games mentioned included hedgehog juggling, quoits, and 'Aunt Sally', which is throwing wooden batons at a ball or painted head balancing on a post – a bit like a coconut shy \*\*.

Children danced around a maypole, accompanied by Miss Ricketts & Miss Firk on the piano (I'm afraid that Hinge & Bracket spring to mind!). After the bonfire had died down and the rockets had been sent up, the older folk went to their beds, but the younger ones retired to the school room and where they "danced vigorously until nearly one a.m."

Acknowledgement of source material: Fairweather, J. 1887, "*Golden Jubilee Of Queen Victoria; South Hams Celebrations, Tuesday June 21<sup>st</sup> 1887*": re-set 2002 by Kingsbridge History Society.

\*\* No, of course not hedgehog juggling, and anyone who believed me, even for two seconds, has to cook me a roast beef and plum pudding dinner!!



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**- SATURDAY JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>**  
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**SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**



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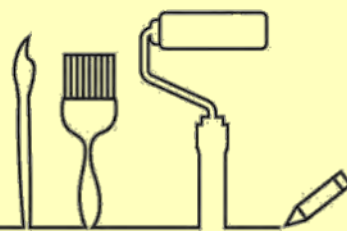
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## **Platinum Jubilee of Witness**

I was 12 and at school breakfast when the Headmaster appeared – he only showed up at that time for something serious. He banged a spoon on the table. “The King died in the night” he announced. This was the King who had seen us through World War II. Clearly a whole era had stopped abruptly, and our muted conversation wondered what would unfold from this gloomy news.

Less than 5 years earlier, on her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, Princess Elizabeth had broadcast from South Africa her solemn act of dedication. “I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service.... But I shall not have the strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do.... God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it”.

Was there ever in all history a publicly-made vow kept for so many years, and kept in full public view too? Our 12 year old minds could never have foreseen that following the apparently gloomy news was coming such unwavering witness to the God whose help was prayed for, and to His Son through whom both the Queen’s own prayers, and ours for her are made.

While we celebrate and party for the Queen’s long life of service and witness, we need also to step back, and ponder what her witness to Jesus Christ really means. Sure, during her reign there have been massive strides in technology, medicine, engineering, education and the arts; and there will be time to evaluate and make thanksgiving for these.

However, the Queen’s reign began during the Korean War and the Ukraine war is current at her Platinum Jubilee, with countless wars between. Nearer to home, the effects of the bitterness in Northern Ireland and the Windrush scandal have stained us all. There have been conflicts and tragedies in the Royal Family, and the Queen has had very sad times.

The whole point of faith in Jesus Christ, and which Her Majesty references over and over again, is the assurance that, however great our pain and loss, God’s own suffering and endless love shown in Jesus has worked the work of full redemption.

So, yes, there is war, community and family conflict. But you can bang a spoon to remind people that Jesus died, died because of the same frailties, jealousies, anger and selfishness as cause conflicts now. Beat a drum roll, though, that He rose from death as the Redeemer for ever.

Please God, (yes, this is a prayer) may we be blessed with courageous and resolute witness similar to the Queen’s, and continued far, far beyond her twilight years.

***Every Blessing!***



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# 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

**2nd & 4th Sundays**                      **8.00am** Holy Communion (said) (BCP 2nd & CW 4th)

**JUNE 5**    **Note Time & see below\*** **10.00am** Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee\*

**JUNE 19; JULY 3, 17**                      **11.10am** Parish Eucharist (CW)

**JUNE 12, JUNE 26; JULY 10, 24**    **11.10am** Morning Worship

**JULY 31**                      **Note Time 11.00am** Benefice Eucharist at Thurlestone

### Weekdays

**THURSDAY JUNE 9, JULY 7**                      **10.00am** Holy Communion (BCP) (said) at Bantham

**ASCENSION DAY THURSDAY JUNE 26** **11.00am** Ascension Day Liturgy at Churchstow

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

BCP = Book of Common Prayer      CW = Common Worship

*\* As the road by the church will be closed for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party from 8.00am, unfortunately the only way to access the church car park is via South Milton*

**See Church Notice Boards or [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-services](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/church-services) for variations & more information**



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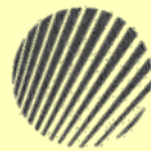
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## AUNE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

*'Conserving the Devonshire Avon, from source to sea'*

### AVON WATER AT A CRITICAL LEVEL

As a 'spate' river, the levels of water in the Avon can rise and fall dramatically in response to rainfall; an effect made even more acute by the construction of the Avon Dam in the early 1950s, which effectively shut off much of the water and gravel flow arising from the moors. During dry weather, the effects on all water-dependent species can become quite stressful but especially so for migratory fish species depending upon suitable water depths to complete their complicated life cycles at particular times of the year. For over half a century, compensatory water releases or 'freshets' from the dam during dry weather were not activated although they had been agreed prior to construction. However, during a prolonged series of meetings between 2011 and 2016, the Devon Avon Group (convened by the ACA and comprised mainly of ourselves, the Avon Fishing Association, South West Water -SWW - and the Environment Agency) successfully negotiated the activation of these water releases by SWW to ameliorate low flow during dry weather in the April/May period.

Happily, this long-overdue arrangement has continued quite well since those negotiations and I have just been informed by the Environment Agency that following a prolonged period of dry weather, during which there has been a period of consistent low flow downstream of Avon Dam with no realistic possibility of the dam 'overtopping' in the near future, that they have arranged for a 'freshet' to be provided to facilitate smolt migration. The increased water flow will start on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 15.00h and finish at 09.00h the following day, to be followed by another 'freshet' on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> May at 1500h if flows remain low. (Smolts are young salmon or sea trout - about two years old - that are at the stage of development when they assume the silvery colour of the adult and are ready to migrate to the sea).

Unfortunately, planned research to objectively measure the effects of these water releases on the river's ecology has never come to pass owing to resource shortages within the monitoring agencies but the effects in the shallower parts of the upper river, at least, should be significant.

**Stuart Watts, ACA Chairman**

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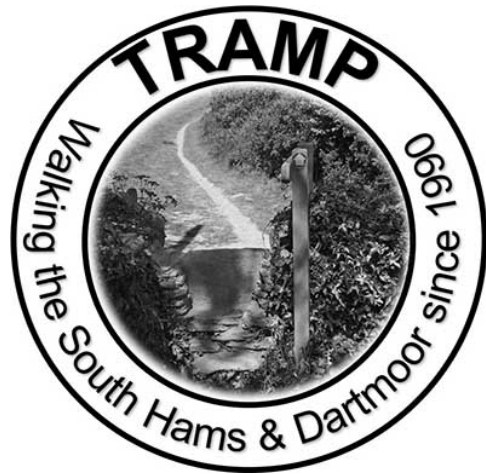
# **Tramp Reports for the Walks during March and April**

## **31st March. Ringmore to Bigbury-on-Sea. Circular 4 miles. Jenny Webb.**

A lovely bright day but with a chill wind. Seven of us and two dogs set off from the National Trust car park in Ringmore. Heading back through the village we took the second right along a footpath leading us through a gate into fields. Here began a little rollercoaster ride, through a copse of trees, down a hillside to a stream and then back up another climb. Passing through several gates, we crossed the road, picking up the path again as it dropped and rose once more before we came to Folly Hill Farm. A 650 acre farm that produces cattle and sheep for organic beef and lamb. They also run a camp site and a wedding venue.

Turning right down Folly Hill we followed the footpath inside the hedge by the road. Now sheltered from the wind and just a gentle downhill trek, we soaked up the glorious views across Bigbury Bay and out to Burgh Island. We crossed the road and another path led us down to Sharpland Point and the mouth of the Avon River. Low tide enabled us to walk along Bigbury beach and up to the Venus Cafe. Sitting outside in the warm sunshine we enjoyed the views, coffee and refreshments - so much so that nobody wanted to do the walk over to Burgh Island!

Replenished, we headed west out of Bigbury-on-Sea following the coastal path that arcs around the shoreline to Challaborough Bay. The trail continues to hug the seaside until reaching the base of the headland opposite and another climb up a grassy rise to Toby's Point. At the top, time for a breather and a last look back at the beautiful scenic coastline. Turning right the path led us



inland over the brow of a hill, across fields and along a clear track back to Ringmore and the car park. Off with the walking boots and a short walk into the village brought us to the Journeys End pub for a lovely lunch.

## **4th April. Bere Alston. Robin Hart.**

Bere Alston, Devon's Western frontier!!

Nine of us plus two dogs set off in damp weather which improved as we progressed. We started from the quaint Bere Alston railway station before going under the railway bridge following the 'apple' symbol. A distant landmark is the chimney on the mine on Kit Hill just over the Tamar River in Cornwall.

Then over a field and through Buttspill Woods. After a short climb, the path goes down to the Tamar with the Cornish port of Calstock on the opposite bank. Walking along the lovely embankment, we went under the amazing Calstock Viaduct (1904-1908) with views of Cotehele Quay through the trees across the river. A great spot for the coffee stop!!

We continued through some more woods passing a house called "Ward Mine". The 13th century silver and lead mine building has some grape vines growing above – this area was also renowned for market gardening. After a gate in the bank, then across a small stream and walking uphill, we found stunning views of the Tamar Valley.



Still following the 'apple' symbol, we passed the farm at Lockeridge and, after a long gentle climb on a track, we arrived back at Alston station.

We adjourned to Sir Francis Drake's former home for lunch! This is Buckland Abbey which is now owned by the National Trust.

### **12th April. Noss Mayo and the Nine Mile Drive. Jeremy Tucker.**

10 of us and one dog did the anticlockwise four miles circular walk from The Ship at Noss Mayo on a mild but misty day. It was a most enjoyable walk with a coffee stop half way round and a lovely lunch at The Ship.

### **21st April. Avon Mill river bank circular, 3 miles. Jill Miller.**

Eight of us plus puppy Barney set off from Avon Mill carpark. It was pleasantly warm with dappled sunshine on the pathway alongside the river.

I decided to let Barney off the lead as he was being "a good boy", coming back when called and not going too far ahead. The relaxing atmosphere of the river bank and general chatting meant that I lost concentration and didn't notice that Barney had veered off the pathway and couldn't be seen....PANIC!

The main group continued to Silveridge Bridge whilst I back tracked, calling and getting ever more stressed. Some fellow walkers reported that they had seen him and eventually I found him looking disorientated and lost.... Huge relief. Not such a "Good Boy" now.

We continued on the other side of the babbling river, the bank was especially colourful with many wild flowers; primroses, wild garlic, wood anemone and others that were identified using a wild flower app.

A couple of fallen trees had to be navigated before we reached our picnic spot. Carrot cake and Simnel Cake were on offer; no refusals.

Some Avon River facts were shared; "our" River Avon is the shortest of the five Avons in England.

We headed back to Avon Mill via Ham Butts. An enjoyable spring walk as the light was beautiful due to there being few leaves on the trees.

A tired Barney finished the walk but I'm not sure he realised his Tramp debut had not been wholly successful. "Work in progress" on his training programme before his next Tramp outing.

### **2nd May. Around East Soar and Bolt Head. Neil Mackay.**

Five of us and Heidi the dog set off on a grey damp May morning from East Soar car park into the early morning gloom.

The walk started out heading to Middle Soar missing the slight detour to view the watchtower as these seasoned Trampers had seen it several times before.

For the uninitiated, the Watch Tower has a board describing its function. It was built in 1794 to warn off French ships approaching and became part of the coastal network of watchtowers that signalled to each other.

We then headed out bypassing Bolt Head and on to Stare Hole Cove where a grain carrying ship ran aground spilling its grain on the way to Salcombe. Then up the steep and craggy cliffs to Sharpitor.

The walk took in spectacular views of the South Devon coast with beaches, craggy rocks and estuaries as well as sweeping farmland.

The coastal path led to the road going to Overbecks (where a Gastrobus is now permanently located) for a welcome and enjoyable coffee break whilst overlooking the lovely gardens.

We then climbed up several hundred metres to the Lookout and Lifeboat Memorial and further along to the

distance plinth and lookout showing distances to various places of interest near and far. It was then an easy walk to East Soar Farm with their 'Grab and Go' which was closed and their Walkers Hut which had some tasty looking cakes and drinks but alas no takers and it was onwards for another 20 minutes back to the car park at East Soar where an impromptu lunch was enjoyed courtesy of a nice new bench and table built by one of our Trumper group.

It was about a 3.5 hour walk covering about 5.5 miles.

**..... and just to break the routine, here is a great walk for your visitors during their summer vacations in Thurlestone!**

**Blackdown Rings just north of Loddiswell** is the site of a prehistoric hill fort from around the 12th century and is located on the hillside west of the river Avon close to Loddiswell. (It is well signposted). Unusually, Blackdown Rings also has the remains of a Norman Motte and Bailey built within the prehistoric embankment. Nationally, there are only about 200 Mottes but

Blackdown Rings is one of only 60 which also has a Bailey.

The site is oval and covers approximately 2.4 hectares enclosed by a rampart with an external ditch. The rampart is about 6 metres in height and stands some 1.7 metres tall above the mound!

There are two original entrances into the enclosure found to the east and west; both about 8 metres wide.

Motte and Bailey were terms used to describe castles in Norman times. The Bailey was a defended yard usually surrounded by a ditch - or filled moat - and contained barracks, stables and the livestock as well as stone buildings for food and weapons. It was crowned and gated by wooden towers (lookouts posts). Locations were essential for these forts; high ground essential and also near to rivers for travel.

These places would have been very intimidating and powerful and the Normans used them to control the population – there is much to read on your arrival in the car park.

---

## Thurlestone Golf Club

In recent editions we have explored the characters who were instrumental in the formative years of Thurlestone Golf Club. In this edition I would like to focus on the early years of the Clubhouse and Course.



At the very start, one of the main problems with the Clubhouse was the lack of water supply. The Village was poorly served by a hand operated iron pump in the recess above the Village Stores, and a well into which a bucket could be lowered, a little further up the street. The old water pump is now restored and is a landmark in the old part of the village. In the early days, water may have been carried to the clubhouse, half a mile down the hill, but to a very limited purpose. Fortunately for the golfers, the Grose family were able to provide much of the catering from the Village Inn where they provided limited accommodation for paying guests. Mrs Grose kept the clubhouse supplied with bottles of aerated water and sent down the occasional lunches which were a godsend.

In 1900, and still without water, the committee installed a hand basin connected to two barrels fixed to the back of the clubhouse. These were unsatisfactory and so the then Secretary was tasked to find or dig for water in the vicinity - with what success is not recorded. The situation was eased in 1903 when the village obtained an improved supply from which the club managed to pipe an intermittent flow. At once members voted a table, three chairs and a water jug for the ladies' room. The Professional's wife, always respectfully addressed as Mrs Coombes, provided admirable Devonshire teas on the trestle tables in front of the club house, a tradition that was continued by her daughter Nellie.

An abundance of rabbits led the Committee to contract out the snaring of rabbits. Traps were often removed at night by rabbit sympathisers and thrown over the cliff! Five dozen replacement traps were bought to replenish depleted stocks.

With regards the early care of the course, sheep were regularly put on the links to keep the grass down. Hired horses, wearing special leather boots provided by the club, pulled the roller at a cost of 7 shillings a day for one horse or 11 shillings for two, to include handlers. On one occasion some village lads were playing with this roller, which had been left on a higher part of the course and managed to launch it down one of the slopes only to demolish one of the huts before it came to rest. One of the culprits of this escapade eventually told of his involvement in the episode some 70 years after the event, they will remain anonymous. The Greens were hand mown and over the early years the Club purchased numerous New Era 18" Pennsylvania mowers for the purpose. The cost of these were £9 5s, the grass box was extra!

**Simon Bawden**

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<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>8am - 5pm</b>
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>8am - 4pm</b>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>8am - 4pm</b>
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>8am - 4pm</b>
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# Weather Wag

Today is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May, and to say that it is a warm and sunny day is stretching the truth. It is sort of sunny, but there is a really cold breeze from the north west which makes it feel almost wintry here at Beach Cottage. Living as close to the coast as I do has its drawbacks as well as its compensations. 'Ne'er cast a clout till May is out' is a very apt saying and particularly so this year.

However, there has been very little rain since Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 11mm fell and since then almost nothing. Lovely for all sorts of occupations, tilling spring corn, reseeded grass fields, getting the lawns into good order, to name a few. However, we need some rain now to save the corn and the root crops plus all of us getting our gardens ready for summer veg.

There have been quite a few folks using the beach for family picnics and BBQs. There is a chapter in my 'The Wrong Kind of Snow' headed 'Picnics'. Round about 1837, give or take a few years, it would seem that Britain had gone picnicking mad. The origin of this rests with Charles Wood. He records that, 'We rode to the top of Helvellyn; on arriving at the top, we had luncheon and made sherry cobbler with sherry and frozen snow.' He was companion to the 16 years old Prince of Wales whilst touring the Lake District. So, they picnicked at 950metres (3,117ft) in the snow, which may seem a little odd, but for the mid-nineteenth century it was novel and exciting.

Picnics were made popular by a group of folks all loving the activity; Dorothy and William Wordsworth, Coleridge, Walter Scott, and Byron. They were undeterred by the weather conditions and ventured into the great outdoors, with "Cold mutton in our pockets". Dorothy Wordsworth writes of a fishing picnic: 'I sat at the foot of the lake until my head ached with the cold.'



My bird feeders are being well used, there is quite a variety visiting the feeders and ground seed trays. The birds are quite sheltered by the hedges of Elaeagnus and Tamarisk. These two shrubs are able to withstand the rigours of wind and salt so grow well (too well really) and offer shelter to my garden as well as the wildlife. This year's Echiums are doing well, one is about 12ft tall and growing, covered in small blue flowers and coated with bees and other nectar loving insects. These plants, surprisingly, can withstand quite strong winds but do sometimes blow down. It is quite interesting to see which plants can withstand the wind. The most destructive wind is from the east, cold, dry and searing or cold, wet and searing. If the latter it never knows when to stop!

Hope you will do some weather watching during these next months, even, perhaps buying a simple rain gauge. Take the readings each day at about 9am, and you will have an interesting set of figures come the end of the year/month.

Good weather watching, take care in the sea and enjoy your picnics.

**Jan Turner**

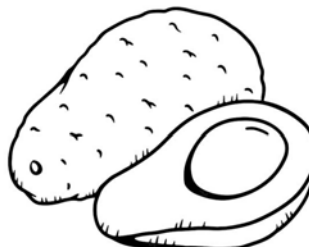
# TRIED AND TASTED

The following recipes have kindly been provided by Jane Stanley

## **EGGS WITH AVOCADO MAYONNAISE**

### **Ingredients**

- 1 peeled medium-sized avocado pear
- 1 egg
- juice of 1 small lemon
- 1 tbsp salad oil
- ½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp made mustard
- 6 hardboiled eggs
- watercress to garnish



### **Method**

Whizz up the avocado flesh with the egg, lemon juice, salad oil and seasoning in a blender until the ingredients are the consistency of mayonnaise. Leave to chill. Cut each egg in ½ lengthways, place on individual plates, spoon a little mayonnaise over each egg and garnish with a sprig of watercress. Sprinkle each one with a little cayenne.

## **RECIPE FOR COLD CHICKEN**

### **Ingredients**

- 250g cold cooked chicken
- ½ mayonnaise / ½ crème fraiche
- mango chutney to taste
- lots & lots of chopped mint
- salt & pepper

### **Method**

Put equal measures of mayonnaise and crème fraiche in a bowl and mix together, add a spoonful of mango chutney (more can be added if desired). Season then add the chopped mint before combining the cooked chicken into the sauce. Serve with the salad of your choice.

## **HONEYCOMB ICE CREAM**

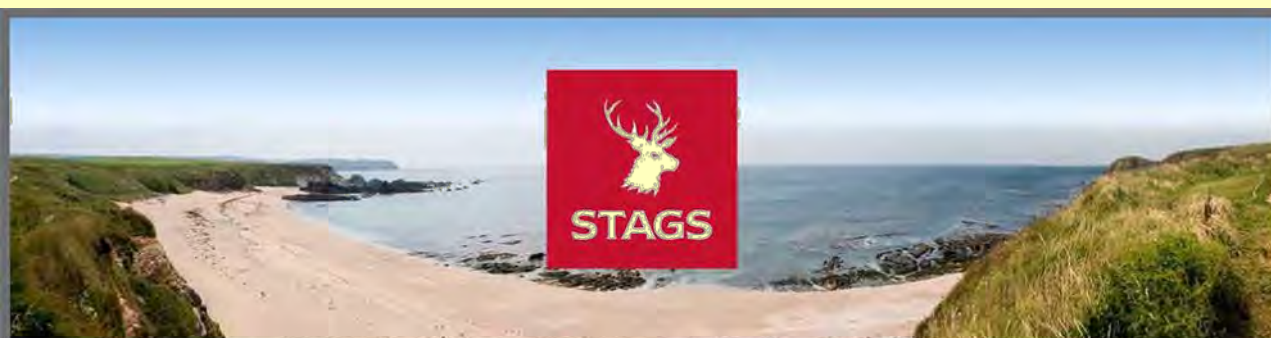
### **Ingredients**

- 1 pt whipping/dbl cream
- 1 small tin condensed milk
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 5 tbsp white sugar
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda



### **Method**

Heat the sugar and syrup in a heavy saucepan until the sugar melts. Boil for 3-4 minutes or until the caramel is a deep golden colour. Quickly stir in the bicarbonate of soda with a wooden spoon and immediately turn on to a parchment-covered baking tin to cool. Whisk the cream until thick, add the condensed milk, crush the cooled honeycomb into small pieces and fold into the cream mixture. Freeze.



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# Thurlestone Bay Birds

## Mid March to Mid May

Spring passage was really good for the period 11th March through to 22<sup>nd</sup>, predominantly offshore with some high counts of *GULLS*. On 11th March during a period of heavy rain and a force 6 SSW wind, flocks of *GULLS* kept taking refuge on South Huish Marsh - 215 *BLACK HEADED GULL*, 33 *LESSER BLACK BACK GULL* and a new day record count for *MEDITERRANEAN GULL* of 66 - previous highest was less than 25.

South Eastern winds on 19th to 22nd March produced some impressive movements of *DUCK*, particularly *GARGANEY* - this is a summer visitor to the UK (they winter on the large lakes in Central Africa). A total of 35 was recorded on 19th - this is the highest total since 1st April 2005 when a British day record of 65 was recorded. On 21st March a further 11 were logged. Offshore, a *GREAT CRESTED GREBE* was resting in the Bay, along with a total of 42 *SHOVELER*, 4 *GADWALL*, 4 *SCAUP* (only the second record in over 25 years) and 8 *PINTAIL*.

Unexpected waders recorded on the 19th March included 12 *BAR TAILED GODWIT*, 2 *GREY PLOVER*, 9 *RINGED PLOVER*, 4 *DUNLIN* and 2 *CURLEW*, with an exceptional record of 12 *REDSHANK* landing on South Huish Marsh in the evening of 22nd.

Our *SWALLOW*, *HOUSE MARTIN* and *SAND MARTIN* passage has been very poor this Spring - although the first *SWALLOW* was recorded on 29th March (same date as last year), totals were poor until 50 on 19th April and 200 on 29th April - *HOUSE MARTIN* are significantly down compared with previous years. Normally they arrive from 25th March - this year the first record was on 12th April with a highest total of 15 on 28th April. Their main nesting area is by the flats and houses around South Huish Marsh, writing these notes on 9th May there are only 3 birds collecting mud to build their nests - usually a breeding population of over 20 birds would be expected. As for *SWIFTS* there have been sightings of 4 single birds with the first arriving on 27th April. By now there should be breeding flocks of up to 20 birds around Thurlestone and other local villages.

One of the most evocative bird sounds in Spring is the call of migrating *WHIMBREL* - again this year total numbers are lower with the first being a flock of 23 flying over the Bay on 11th April. Most years we record over 500 birds spread over a period of 3 or 4 weeks as they migrate from Africa and Southern Europe to their breeding grounds in Greenland and the far north of Europe/Russia - this year the total up to 9th May is less than 200. Similarly *BAR TAILED GODWIT* numbers are well down - last year over 2,200 were recorded in a single day, this year the total is less than 50.



**Whimbrel**

Numbers will fluctuate each year with prevailing weather conditions being the primary cause. If we have South Easterly strong winds the birds are blown into the Bay as they migrate east up the English Channel. There was also a big low pressure weather zone over Spain for several weeks from the end of March.

In April sea watching did produce some good records particularly 2 *BRENT GOOSE*, (pale-bellied birds - we rarely see these as they mainly winter in Ireland), 10 *GADWALL* on 11th April, 10 *SHOVELER* on the same date, flying with small flocks of *COMMON SCOTER* were a female *LONG TAILED DUCK* on 11th and a pair on 12th. Winds on 11th April were Force 5 South Easterly which accounted for the Duck passage and produced the highest

total of *COMMON SCOTER* with 267 logged. On the same day 4 *ARCTIC SKUA* flew south east across the Bay with 4 *BLACK THROATED DIVER* and 1 *RED THROATED DIVER* logged.

Like most of the small passerines the numbers of *WARBLERS* are lower and later arriving this year, only 2 species are holding their own, *CHIFFCHAFF* and *BLACKCAP* both of these are regular visitors to Thurlestone Village gardens.

Towards the end of April a number of spring migrants was recorded at South Huish Marsh - several *SEDGE WARBLER*, a superb male *YELLOW WAGTAIL* with a male *CHANNEL WAGTAIL* - first record for some years - it is a combination of breeding *YELLOW* and *BLUE HEADED WAGTAIL* occurring in Northern France and Holland. Over a period of 4 days from 23rd April a total of 5 *WHINCHAT* and 15 *WHEATEAR* were recorded.

Finally three records from early May - on 1st an *OSPREY* was watched flying west over Hope Cove - only the second Spring record in 20 years, 3 *SANDERLING* were resting on Yarmer Beach on 5th and unexpectedly a *GREAT WHITE EGRET* spent the 6th on South Huish Marsh.

Hopefully these notes will provide you with an insight into the very wide and diverse range of birds that is observed around this part of the South Hams.

**Mike Passman**

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

## Thurlestone Village Moths

Weather conditions and temperature levels are significant requirements for attracting moths, unfortunately this Spring the overnight temperatures have been resulting in poor catches.

The traps were first lit up on 14th April resulting in 9 moths of 4 species, best conditions were on 20th April, a calm and partly cloudy night which produced 48 moths of 13 different species. By the end of April a total of 254 moths of 34 species had been found in my garden.

Amongst these the more interesting species were: *PUSS MOTH* on 24th, *CREAM SPOT TIGER* - on 25th about 2 weeks earlier than expected, also *SWALLOW PROMINENT* and *PALE PROMINENT* and a *MULLEIN* on the same night.

One of the most frequent moths is a bright yellow *BRIMSTONE* first found on 14th April. By the 8th May a total of 33 had been recorded - they can often be found on your house walls particularly if they are painted cream or white.



**Puss Moth**

Early May has seen some improving totals with the highest being 41 moths of 22 species on 6th. Highlights up to 8th May have been: a *POPLAR HAWK MOTH* on 5th - last year the first record was on 1st June - a lovely very large moth, several *NUT TREE TUSOCK*, *WAVED UMBERS*, *EARLY TOOTH STRIPED*, *WHITE ERMINE*, *KNOT GRASS*, *BLOOD VEIN*, *PALE TUSOCK*, *PALE PINION*, *LEAST BLACK ARCHES*.

If you want to see what these moths look like I post photographs of the unusual ones on my website [thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk](http://thurlestonebaybirds.co.uk) - heading page 2022 Moth Photos.

With some warmer nights forecast the expectations are for a lot more interesting moths throughout the month.

**Mike Passman**



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# Puzzle Page

A BOTTLE OF WINE to the first all correct entry drawn on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. Please submit entries to: 5 Mead Lane, Thurlestone, TQ7 3PB or email:

[cgwonthenet@thamead.co.uk](mailto:cgwonthenet@thamead.co.uk)

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

## CODEWORD

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

Can you crack the code and solve the crossword?

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

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

## Sudoku - medium

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

## Sudoku - medium

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

*There were 6 correct entries last month. First out of the hat to win the coveted bottle of wine was Vera Pailthorpe. Commiserations to Dave Gibby, Dave Hayward, Neill Irwin, Pauline Lonsdale, and David and Mary Horne.*

# ***SUPERFAST BROADBAND***

To remind you, Airband have been contracted by Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) to bring Gigabit capable Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) to our Parish, with a completion date which is currently Autumn, or maybe the end of the year.

The situation that we find ourselves in regarding this contract is far from ideal, and is the result of a decision taken by CDS in 2015, to bring Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) to the Parish. The coverage provided by FTTC was patchy, to say the least, but the driving factor behind the latest contract is the download speed that individual premises currently achieve in theory, if not in practice.

CDS carried out a desktop survey of the Parish, and any property which can theoretically receive 30mbps download, or more, is **excluded** from the contract with Airband. Apart from the fact that this creates FTTP coverage for the Parish which is just as patchy as the original FTTC coverage, it has also produced numerous anomalies, whereby one property is included in the contract, and the house next door isn't. This situation is made worse by the fact that FTTC Broadband speed is heavily dependent on the quality of each individual line between the cabinet and the property, so the theoretical speed, based on distance from the FTTC cabinet, can bear little relation to the actual speed achieved, leading to more anomalies.

A classic example of the sort of anomaly that has arisen is the Downs, where three flats are included in the contract, and the rest aren't – and they're all in the same building.

There is a limited amount that you, the end users, can do about this. If your property is excluded from the contract, but you are within 70-75m of a Distribution Point on the new fibre network, then it is likely that you will be able to have your property connected. So, where are the new cables and Distribution Points going to be, I hear you ask? Sorry, they won't tell us as it's "Commercially sensitive information".

The best we can do is to ask you to use the following link [www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/superfast-broadband](http://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/superfast-broadband) which will take you to a page on the Parish website, with the list of all the properties that are included in the contract - it's too long to include in the magazine. If your property is on the list, then you will get a connection. You are not under any obligation to make use of it, but if you want to, then use Airband's Broadband Coverage Checker <https://www.airband.co.uk/broadband-coverage-checker/> to find your property and register your interest.

If your property is not on the list, but it is close to other properties that are on the list, and you would like a connection, then the route is the same. Use the Coverage Checker to register your interest, and Airband should pick this up. If, in addition to not being on the list, you have a "Superfast" Broadband contract, and still receive less than 30mbps download speed, then I suggest that you also contact your Devon County Councillor, Rufus Gilbert, to make sure that your request is not missed - [rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rufus.gilbert@devon.gov.uk).

If your property isn't near any properties that are included in the Contract, then it's likely that you've missed out on the CDS lottery this time. However, there's no harm in registering an interest anyway. It is clear from emails that I have received from Airband, that at one time, they were seriously considering a project to connect a lot more properties, at their own expense. Sadly, as they are now several months behind schedule on their contract, it's also clear from a conversation I've had, and a Webinar I've attended, that CDS are putting them under severe pressure to stick to the contracted properties only, to try and ensure that they don't fall any further behind schedule. However, the more interest we show, the more likely it is that they will come back.

**Chris White** Thurlestone Parish Broadband Champion

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Nearby in popular Salcombe, restaurant owners create menus that give attention to locally bred cattle as well as food that's supplied by the ocean and, during any public holiday, they serve a considerable increase in numbers of diners. With the season's influx, comes a mood change. Streets are filled with strolling holiday makers - some sailors and crabbers dressed with a casual look. By early evening the pubs' open terraces sound cheerful with visitors taking drinks. We noticed them on the upper terrace of the Kings Arms as we parked outside. Under the clear sky, they'd be seeing the blue sea of Salcombe estuary.

We had booked two of the Kings Arms thirty-eight covers and, as we enter at 6.15pm we pick up a relaxed family atmosphere. There are children having a holiday treat of burger or fish and chips and the mood is happy. Staff in this gastro pub respond to their enthusiasm about the burgers. Music in the background is bluesy jazz and we are pleased that we agreed to the free table at a time, earlier than usual - the only reservation available in the four days we had in mind. At that hour, the kitchen is not over-worked and service is calm and unhurried with no delay between courses.

Tempura battered scallops with a Thai chilli sauce from the specials board was an excellent starter - four scallops with jasmine rice. On that day, monkfish had been the catch and, with baby potatoes and a superb fish-sauce, at £22 it was memorable; as was the fish & chips with mushy peas. For £6.50, homemade treacle tart, brownie, choux bun, with treacle or caramel sauces are all served with ice cream. There are quirky touches to this menu.

White wines are priced between £6.50 and £7.50 for 175 ml glass. Reds, between £8.40 and £9.25. Prosecco: £7.25. Champagne: £10.00.

To book at the Kings Arms in Fore Street, call 01548 842202.

Across the road, the Victoria Inn, now under new ownership, is equally busy. Its restaurant and bar have a peaceful garden - a suntrap for al fresco dining. Like the Kings Arms, it's a stone's throw from the banks of Salcombe estuary and their fresh Salcombe seafood is to be taken seriously. Inside, new decor has updated Victoria Inn's character without losing the cosy nooks and, when cold outside, log fires.

The summer menus feature 'reimagined' pub classics as well as a selection of specials. Sunday roast lunch is from a choice of three meats, or a vegan option at £12 - £14 and is served from 12pm until 6pm. It's worth ending on a sweet note with one of their desserts. There's a very fine sticky toffee pudding.

Sharpham is on the wine list; a sparkling wine from grapes picked, crushed and fermented in Devon. To book a table in the 16<sup>th</sup> century Victoria Inn, call 01548 842604.

**Vivien Stickland**



# DIARY DATES

## June

Thursday	2	Spring Bank Holiday
Friday	3	Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday
	3	Family Fun Thurlestone Parish Hall 6pm to 8pm
Saturday	4	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Saturday	4	Jubilee Concert from Buckingham Palace 6.30pm Thurlestone Parish Hall
Sunday	5	Jubilee Street Party from midday Thurlestone Village Centre
Monday	6	TRAMP - Norsworthy Bridge to Dawn Tor (Burrator) 4 miles Alastair and Gill Durden
Monday	6	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Friday	10	Hope Cove Lifeboat Charity Golf Day at Thurlestone Golf Club
Sunday	12	Salcombe Estuary Rowing Club Regatta
Tuesday	14	TRAMP - Ashprington to Totnes and return - Linda Chilcott
Saturday	18	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Tuesday	21	Kingsbridge Probus Club at the Mill Club, Kingsbridge - "The Amazing Bugatti Family" with Roger Hamilton. 10:30am
Wednesday	22	TRAMP - Jennycliff, Plymouth - Christine Wilson
Saturday	25	Armed Forces Day, Plymouth Hoe
Sunday	26	Car Boot Sale at Cuttery Farm, East Allington TQ9 7QD on the A381 from 10am.
Wednesday	29	Kingsbridge Arts Society Methodist Hall and on Zoom 2.30pm - "The Art of the Hero: Commemorating Scott of the Antarctic" with Max Jones
Thursday	30	TRAMP - Ringmore and Kingston - Liz and Peter Coates
Thursday	30	Devon County Show

## July

Friday	1-2	Devon County Show
Saturday	2	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Monday	4	TRAMP - Dartmoor Charity Walk TBA - Mike and Sian Hodges
Monday	4	Parish Council Meeting Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm
Friday	8-10	Tunes on the Sand – Blackpool Sands - a brand new festival
Thursday	14	TRAMP - Widdecombe - 8 miles- Vanessa Barton
Friday	15	Bantham Boomerang
Saturday	16	Bantham Swoosh and Mini Swoosh 9am
Saturday	16	Kingsbridge Farmers' Market 9am to 1pm
Saturday	16-23	Kingsbridge Fair Week
Monday	18	TRAMP - Ivybridge and Erme Valley - Linda and Gareth Scott
Tuesday	19	Kingsbridge Probus Club AGM 10.30am - The Mill Club Kingsbridge
Tuesday	19-23	Dartmouth Shakespeare Week in the open air at Dartmouth Castle
Tuesday	19-20	FSC Slapton Ley Balsam Bashing 9am to 12.30pm - explore how the nature reserve is managed.
Sunday	24	Car Boot Sale at Cuttery Farm, East Allington TQ9 7QD on the A381 from 10am.
Tuesday	26	TRAMP - starting from Archery Close, Kingsbridge - Claudette Uff
Saturday	30-31	Salcombe Town Regatta

## August

Monday	1-6	Salcombe Town Regatta
Wednesday	3	TRAMP - Dartmeet and Brimpts Woods - Tricia Wilson and Jenny Webb

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

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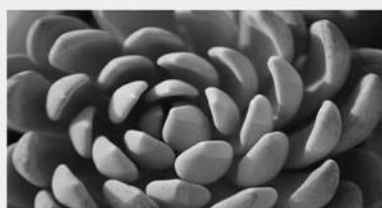
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*ICS & HETAS REGISTERED*

**TEL 01548 858710**

[GMJCHIMNEYSERVICES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GMJCHIMNEYSERVICES@GMAIL.COM)

**GMJCHIMNEYSERVICES.COM**

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

## **CLUBS & GROUPS**

<b>ALVINGTON SINGERS</b> (Wed 7pm - 9pm)	Contact	Liz Coates	562295
<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>CIRCUIT TRAINING</b>	Contact	Sue Richards	07810751083
<b>FITNESS YOGA WITH SUZI</b> (Mon 6pm - 7pm)	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 9am - 11.30am)	Contact	Saffron Craig	07840788511
<b>LINE DANCING</b> (Wed 2pm)	Contact	Sue Bain	07989817898
<b>MUM'S BOOTCAMP</b> (Tues and Thurs 5.45pm)	Contact	Kat Wallace	07500870162
<b>PARISH OF THURLESTONE SOC (POTS)</b>	Chairman	Chris White	560505
<b>SEA BEYOND PILATES</b>	Contact	Sharron05@btinternet	
<b>SOUTH HAMS MARTIAL ARTS</b> (Mon 3.45 & 6.30)	Contact	Leslie McGuire	southhamstraining@gmail.com
<b>STITCH and BITCH</b>	Contact	Sally Martin	561356
<b>TABLE TENNIS</b> (Thurs 7.30pm)	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	Kit Marshall	560214
<b>THURLESTONE SINGING GROUP</b>	Contact	Alastair Durden	560509
<b>TRAMP</b> (Thurlestone Ramblers)	Contact	Mike Stickland	560763
<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. Bank Holiday weeks - check SHDC Waste and Recycling website

Recycling Boxes 1 and 2, Reusable White Sack, and Food Waste Caddy - EVERY WEEK

Black/Grey Bin (non-recyclable landfill) alternate Wednesdays from 1<sup>st</sup> June

Brown Bin (garden waste) alternate Wednesdays from 8<sup>th</sup> June

**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 (closed all day Thur, Sun and Sat pm)

Mobile library visits Thurlestone Parish Hall Car Park Wednesdays June 15th and July 13th.

## **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

Taxi Companies - Taxi-Mike (0771 4512516) - see advert in this magazine

## PARISH INFORMATION

### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Jill Munn	560732
Vice-chairman	Vacant	
Parish Clerk	Kathy Harrod	thurlestoneparish@gmail.com
Members	Sue Crowther	560098
	Sian Williams	560339
	Vacant	
	Vacant	
	Vacant	

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
Special Jubilee Bank Holiday	Wednesday	8.00am - 2.00pm
Opening Hours - see advert	Saturday	8.00am - 4.00pm
in magazine	Sunday and Bank Holidays	8.30am - 2.00pm

<b>Post Office Hours</b>	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri	9.00am - 4.00pm
	Wed	9.00am - 1.00pm
	Sat	9.30am - 12.30pm
	Sun	Closed

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

**BANTHAM VILLAGE STORES & COFFEE SHOP** Contact Kelly Seymour 560645

<b>Opening Hours</b>	Every Day	9.00am - 2.30pm
	Evening opening to start mid July	

### PUBS

The Village Inn (Thurlestone) - 563525

The Sloop Inn (Bantham) - 560489

### MILK DELIVERY

Dartmouth Dairy (R Bruckner & Son)

01803-832801

## PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

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

Scan the QR Code to see these locations on a map

