

focus

on thorverton



OCTOBER 2023

£1.00

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At the present time **Focus** is produced each month **except January**.

The Editor welcomes interesting news items, reports etc. for publication. Items for inclusion in *Focus* should be accompanied by the name of the originator, which may be withheld from print if requested. The aims of *Focus* are:

- To produce a non-political monthly magazine serving the people of the parish of Thorverton, providing them with information on activities in the parish;
- For the magazine to be one that villagers are proud of;
- To provide a window for those outside Thorverton to see what the village has to offer;
- To promote local businesses through advertising; and
- To run at a small annual profit, but with surplus funds put to support village organisations for the benefit of Thorverton residents.

Items for publication, adverts, changes to adverts, Diary entries, changes to Thorverton Information lists should be sent to the Editor at thorvertonfocus@gmail.com

PLEASE SEND COPY BY THE 20th OF THE MONTH DEADLINE.

TEXT should be as plain text in an email, or as unformatted **TEXT** in a Word doc file.

PHOTOS should be sent separately and preferably in JPEG or otherwise PDF FORMAT.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND POSTER TYPE NOTICES should be prepared as near as possible to how it is intended to appear, with pictures supplied as required. Please consider A5 LANDSCAPE format for posters to ensure inclusion and readability. **NB: We cannot guarantee a full page for your poster.**

All items received are acknowledged, so if you don't receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please assume not received. Check your item thoroughly before sending, especially dates and contact details.

Focus reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or notice at its sole discretion for any reason whatsoever. Check with editor if you wish to discuss the design of an advert. (Quarter & Eighth page minimum 3 months).

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

11 ENTRIES PER YEAR	B&W		COLOUR	
PRICES From 1 st January 2023	PER ENTRY	FULL YEAR	PER ENTRY	FULL YEAR
Full page (18.2 cm x 24.4 cm)	£30.00	£330.00	£44.00	£484.00
Half page (18.2 cm x 12.2 cm)	£15.00	£165.00	£22.00	£242.00
Quarter page (8.5 cm x 12.2 cm)	£7.50	£82.50	£11.00	£121.00
One-eighth page (8.5 cm x 5.8 cm)	£4.00	£44.00	N/A	N/A

LOCAL ORGANISATION and CHARITIES, ADVERTISEMENTS FREE OF CHARGE (for up to 3 months)

The opinions and views expressed by contributors within the magazine are not necessarily those of *Focus* producers or of the *Focus* Committee.

Front Cover Photo: Mike Stannard

Welcome to the October edition of Focus.

It's been a while since we have had a cat.

Our previous black moggy, Bullet, lived for fifteen years, a good age for a cat I am told. He owned the yard and the barns and would often straddle one of the old elm beams, a very strategic and sensible place to sleep.

He also liked it in the roof space near the garage but being a cat he just saw the old carpet and thought sleep. He was really only aware that the particular area he found the most comfortable was the area where the carpet dipped and formed a snuggly cat-sized space. Even though I did warn him several times, he obviously did not pay much attention until the day we heard a loud crash and cat yelp simultaneously. We rushed out to see what all the noise was about. Bullet scooted past us as he ran, as fast as a Bullet (sorry I couldn't resist that!) across the yard and into the house.

When we took a close look we couldn't help but laugh to see a circular cat-size section of the old roof boarding, a lot of dust and a piece of very old carpet all over the floor. He had been warned but, of course, he is a cat and I have never known any cat to spend their life doing anything but what they wanted to, so I should have known better.

This last week my wife and my grand-daughter went to rescue a new cat from the RSPCA. A beautiful fifteen-month old, all-black moggy with a lovely temperament. Does that sound familiar? However, just to make this one completely different from any other black moggy in the world, unless you know otherwise that is, they have named him Attipus.

Whilst he is being coaxed out from under one or other beds I guess I had better go and repair that bit of the roof!

I hope you have a very good month as there is lots happening in the village, as you will see when you read this month's issue.

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DIARY OF EVENTS

Please notify the Editor of additions or changes. Email: thorvertonfocus@gmail.com

Details of most events are in the Notices Section of *Focus*.

OCTOBER

- Sun: 1st Paganini Cadbury Church 6:30pm
 Mon: 2nd Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Tues: 3rd WI Meeting in WI Hut, 2:30pm, Maggie Roberts – Ex Mayor of Dartmouth
 Wed: 4th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Mon: 9th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Tues: 10th RBL Thorverton Branch AGM, Exeter Inn, 7pm
 Wed: 11th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Wed 11th Friends of Wyndham House Surgery A.G.M Silvertown Village Hall 2:30pm
 Sat: 14th Market and Big Breakfast, Memorial Hall, 9:30 – 11:00am
 Sat: 14th Traditional Village Harvest Supper, WI Hut, 6:30pm. See notice. Please book at the P.O.
 Sat: 14th Bickleigh Village Hall 'It Happened in Devon' 7:30pm
 Sat: 14th Folk music at Newton St Cyres Village Hall 7:30
 Sun: 15th Art Exhibition, Garden House, Thorverton, 11am-4pm
 Mon: 16th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Mon: 16th Upton Pyne Garden Club Talk (see notices)
 Wed: 18th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Fri: 20th Film Night, The Day of The Jackal, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7:30pm
 Mon: 23rd Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 25th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Fri: 27th History Society 'Tombs, Headstones & Graves' WI Hut 7:30pm
 Sat: 28th WI Coffee Morning and Market, WI Hut, 10 o'clock to about 11 o'clock
 Sat: 28th Family Theatre: Stories from the Dust, Crediton Arts Centre.
 Mon: 30th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone

NOVEMBER

- Tues: 7th WI Meeting Games afternoon 2:30pm WI Hut
 Sat: 11th Craft Fair and Big Breakfast, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 9:30am-1pm
 Sun: 12th Remembrance Sunday Service, Thorverton Church, 10am
 Sat: 25th Advent Coffee and Craft Morning Memorial Hall 10-12 am
 Sat: 25th Upton Pyne Garden Club Annual Christmas Dinner (see notices)

DECEMBER

- Mon: 4th Upton Pyne Garden Club Coffee Morning 10:00am Make your own Christmas Wreath
 Fri: 8th Christmas Bingo, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7:30pm
 Thurs: 21st Carol Service, Thorverton Church, Time to be confirmed
 Fri: 22nd The Twelve Days of Christmas, a TADS production Thorverton Church, 7pm

William John Andrews (Jack) 4 May 1929 to 16 August 2023



Jack attended school in Thorverton. Like most young people of his generation, he left school aged fourteen and his first job was at Yellowford Farm working with heavy horses.

As soon as he was eighteen he was eligible for National Service. For Jack, that meant two years in the Army serving with the Devonshire Regiment and sailing from Southampton to be stationed in Singapore and Malaya, where he guarded prisoners of war at the famous Changi Jail and the spraying for mosquitoes seemed never ending.

He was married in 1952 and the newlyweds soon settled at 1, Cleaves Close in the village.

Jack loved his pint at the Bell Inn on a Friday evening, closing the evening with a hunk (of bread) and a chunk (of cheese). Many conversations with Jack focused on football; there was much analysis of every match. Jack looked after the pitch and surrounds

for years and even parked the ride-on mower in his own garden.

Jack's golden years were happy with many a coach tour to the Lake District, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and also abroad, to Italy, France and Amsterdam also visiting some of the War Memorials across the channel. The garden was a paradise; the pond was a huge project and attracted beautiful dragonflies. Jack loved feeding the birds and flocks of goldfinches came to feed, and the dogs would follow him everywhere for their treats. Jack liked to help where he could, perhaps making bird tables or helping with basic building projects and, at home, he enjoyed watching comedy programmes, Westerns and Countryfile.

It was hard to see such a treasured man become frail and forgetful. The family are all grateful to Jen and Martin who were Jack's main carers. They know that they couldn't have done it alone and are thankful for a team of family helpers and health professionals. He avoided the worst that dementia can bring and remained funny and engaged to the end.

He died at the home he'd lived and loved in for 70 years. What a dynasty and what a legacy! Jack was a special man and will be sorely missed by all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Please remember him, not so much as he was when his life ended, but more how he was when his strength and his mind were fully his own.

THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

We did not meet in August so there was a full agenda for the September meeting. Here is a brief update for you all on the main items we discussed:

Lou Ashworth has been looking after the flower beds in **Leigh Gardens** for decades, but has now said she wants to hang up her trowel and pass on the responsibility; we thank her most sincerely for her kind voluntary work. We are therefore looking for either an individual, or a village group, to take on the task of tending to this public space. This could be in a similar fashion to how the RBL group, headed by Alex Fice, look after the Jubilee Green. The PC will offer some financial support by way of a donation. If you are interested in helping out then please contact Jim Roberts, the Parish Clerk, in the first instance – thorvertonpc@gmail.com.

On a similar theme we are going to try and manage the **Grass Cutting** regime in a different way next year, leaving some selected verges un-mowed. This needs to be organised and managed and take into account some specific requirements e.g. DCC Highways will always cut some verges to ensure safe visibility for road users. The PC want to get your views on this; if you are interested in taking part in the process please contact Jim Roberts.

The **Affordable Housing** Group expects to go ahead with the creation of Thorverton Community Land Trust (TCLT) soon. Up until now this has been lead by three Councillors, plus a resident with a background in this field, supported by the PC Clerk. We now need a Steering Group to include volunteers from the village to take this project on to the next stage. This was discussed in the open meeting we held a few months ago and several that attended this have already expressed an interest. Ideally, we are looking for anyone with a background in planning, house construction, legal affairs or mortgage broking etc, but of most importance we need the Steering Group to include people who are passionate about the idea of providing Affordable Homes in Thorverton, so all enthusiastic volunteers are most welcome. Once again, contact Jim Roberts to register your interest.

The PC held an Open Meeting in the WI hut recently. Details of the potential options for renewing the play equipment at the Rec Ground were displayed. Once again we need the village to participate in the decision making process, so please look out for more on this.

The project to improve the **Barliabins** site has been making slow progress over the summer; the main issue has been securing quotes for the work that is required. Anyone who has been trying to get building work done recently will now that labour and materials are at a premium at the moment, but we are confident that the project will be completed before too long.

I haven't mentioned the **new cemetery** for a while, due to the lengthy legal process involved in purchasing land. The good news is that the searches are now complete and we have therefore taken another step along the way. The large reserves held by the PC are for the purchase and ground works involved and I know that some parishioners will be glad to hear that these will soon be used at long last.

In other news we welcome Jim Roberts, our PC Clerk, to the village; Jim moved into The Glebe in August. Although you may seem him more frequently while out and about, the best way of contacting him is still by email.

Finally, I don't know about you, but are we already seeing the Christmas bandwagon starting to roll? Bernaville were setting up their decorations section last week, the supermarkets are tempting us to spend money already and the perfume adverts have started on TV. Your PC is also planning ahead – at the last meeting (in September!) we asked the Clerk to confirm our Christmas Tree order! Just last week we were all wearing shorts.....

Andrew Foster

THORVERTON MEMORIAL HALL

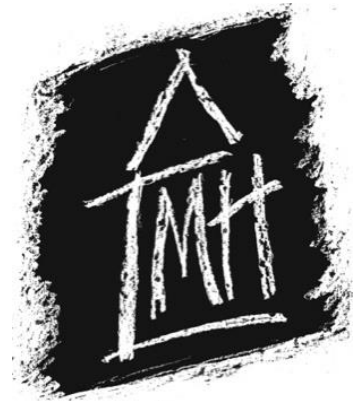
We're pleased to let everyone know that the hall now has a **HEARING LOOP** – it's all connected up and was road-tested at September's film night.



This technology is really helpful for those who use hearing aids.

The three winners of the draw at September's Big Breakfast were Heather Kershaw, Jean Player and Maggie Harrison.

The next film to be shown is 'The Day of the Jackal' on **Friday 20th October**. This iconic film from 50 years ago is based on a Frederick Forsyth novel. It's been described as an excellent political thriller that combines intelligence with a gripping narrative. Edward Fox puts in a memorable performance



TMH CINEMA

FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER



Doors open 6.45pm
Programme Starts 7.30pm

BAR - ICE CREAMS - DRINKS
Adults £5.00 U18 £4.00

Thorverton Memorial Hall

Book tickets @ thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk



additional craft stalls 9.30am – 1pm. Food wise, there will be the normal breakfast fare, and after this homemade soup and scones will be on offer 11.00am – 1.00pm.

Christmas Bingo will take place on **Friday 8th December at 7.00 pm**.

For enquiries about booking the hall, just drop us an email thorvertonmemorialhallbookings@gmail.com

Looking ahead, the run-up to Christmas is always a busy time, so.... here's advance notice of the following events taking place in the hall. The **Craft Fair**, to be held on **Saturday 11th November**, will have the usual stalls 9.30 – 11.00 at Big Breakfast, and there'll be



Lily Christine Gardiner

Her family are sad to announce that Lily Christine Gardiner, 76, of The Glebe, Thorverton, passed away peacefully on Tuesday 22nd August after a long illness. She is survived by her husband John Gardiner, son James Gardiner, and sister Patricia Fry. By whom she will be greatly missed.

The funeral was held in private but there will be a memorial gathering at the Thorverton Arms on Saturday 21st October, from 12pm to 2pm, for anyone wishing to pay their respects.

Donations in memoriam can be made to the MND Association (Charity No. 294354).

LUCY'S LARDER

For those in the local community
with difficulty accessing food and other items.

As well as food/other items freely available from the boxes in the church porch, request slips may also be used to indicate what you most need. Limited supplies can then be directed more effectively.

Pick up a slip from the porch or from the Rev'd Tim Collins
tel: 07449 111663.

DONATIONS WELCOMED

The Larder's existence depends on the generosity of individuals and organisations which is much appreciated. Donations of food/other items/money are always needed as demand exceeds supply.

Please pass to Peter Colebrook tel: 0751 4561406
though food/other items may be left in the boxes.
Payments including regular donations may also be made through the Parish Church Treasurer using the following account details:

PCC Thorverton
Sort Code: 30-93-14 - A/c no: 00436138
Ref: Lucy's Larder



Programme of Talks for October 2023

The weekly programme of Exeter Forum talks for October 2023 is shown below. Meetings take place in the Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter, EX4 3AT on Wednesday mornings. The talks start at 10:45am, while coffee is available from 10:15am. Full descriptions of talks and speakers appear on the Exeter Forum website www.exeterforum.org and in the weekly newsletter sent to Forum members and to visitors who wish to be so notified. Visitors are welcome subject to a small charge for each talk. Any programme changes will be shown on the Exeter Forum website.

Wednesday 4 October 2023	Dr Jenny Moon	Just Going Fishing (2000 miles away - 1590 - Exeter and the Newfoundland Cod trade. Jenny will look at the trade in salted, dried cod, fished in Newfoundland, which operated from as early as the 1500's, mostly from Devon and Dorset ports. She will show the many hazards the fishermen and sailors faced. Jenny worked in Higher Education (Exeter and Bournemouth and Cardiff Universities) in health and educational development, writing and running professional development workshops across the world. She is now a writer and storyteller.
Wednesday 11 October 2023	Vikki Ritchie	The training and work of Police Dogs The Police Dogs in Devon and Cornwall include the traditional German Shepherds alongside other breeds trained specifically to sniff out illegal substances, explosives and digital devices in the fight against crime and terrorism. Vikki will talk about the training and roles of Police Dogs in Devon and Cornwall.
Wednesday 18 October 2023	Robert Guyver	The American adventure of Lady Harriot Acland and her military husband, John Dyke Acland Robert will look at John Dyke Acland's involvement on the British side in the American War of Independence and Lady Harriot's determination to go with him, even behind enemy lines to nurse him after he was wounded. She was an Earl's daughter, hence her title. Their remarkable but tragic story will take us from the West Country to North America.
Wednesday 25 October 2023	David Brandreth	Jane Austen's Purse - History in Coins from the Restoration to the Great Recoinage of 1817. What coins would have been in your purse in the time of Jane Austen? Why were coins needed? Why was a recoinage necessary after the Napoleonic wars? David's talk will give a general overview of aspects of our coins, with some interesting anecdotes from this historical period.

To Book tickets go to: villagesinaction.co.uk
Or telephone 07811 451592 01884 855634
Adults £12 Children £10


Villages in Action

Paganini

MYSTERY, MYTH AND MAGIC

An exceedingly rare chance to hear some of Paganini's astonishing music for solo violin played by one of the country's leading violinists.

A show that will reveal the triumphant and tragic tale of this prototype pop star.



THOMAS BROWN YOUNG
SAMUEL YELLAND PACKER

Venue: Cadbury Church EX5 5LA
6:30 pm Sunday 1 October 2023

UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

All events are held in the Upton Pyne Village Hall and everyone & anyone is welcome to join us.

FOR MORE INFO ON ANY OF THESE EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT June 01392 841272

Monday 18th September our speaker is



PAUL RENDELL (popularly known as Dartmoor Paul)

'THE SECRET WILDLIFE OF DARTMOOR'



Monday 16th October our speaker is

BEN CANDLIN *'PLANTS OF THE CANARY ISLANDS'*

The Canary Islands are packed full of wonderful and unusual plants, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

Saturday 25th November ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

A VERY ENJOYABLE & RELAXED EVENING WITH FESTIVE FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT

(everyone welcome to join us)



Monday 4th Dec 10am at the LOCAL COFFEE MORNING

MAKE YOUR OWN XMAS WREATH



Monday 15th January 2024

@ 3pm our A G M

Followed by refreshments and a talk by

TIM ELLIS on CRETE

Leonard Trust

THE LEONARD TRUST: financial assistance for Thorvertonians

Can the Leonard Trust assist you or your organisation with a small grant? Since it was set up by F.C. (Chip) Leonard in 1972, the Trust has helped local people with a wide range of needs, including buying computing, sporting, musical, medical and many other useful items. Money has been given for educational travel, Lucy's Larder and to Clubs and the Primary School for a variety of purposes.

If you could benefit in this way, please contact the Trust Secretary, Elspeth Holmes, Drill House, Lynch Road, Thorverton.

Email: elspeth.holmes@btinternet.com Tel: 01392 860535

Thorverton & District History Society



**Tombs, Headstones
and Graves**

CHARLOTTE COLES

Charlotte has worked in commercial archaeology for ten years and has a Masters degree in Osteoarchaeology. She carries out animal and human bone identification and analysis for reports.

Friday 27th. October 2023 7:30pm
Thorverton WI Hut.



The Friends of Wyndham House Surgery

The Friends of Wyndham House Surgery will hold their
Annual General Meeting on the
11th October 2023 at 2:30pm
in the Community Hall, Silverton.
Dr. Anthony O'Brien will speak on the topic
'Facing the Future'.
All are welcome

Welcome Café

Every Monday
(except Bank Holidays)

2.30pm in the WI Hut
Thorverton

Tea, coffee, cake and company.
Everyone welcome



Thorverton Parish Church invites you to an

Advent Coffee and Craft Morning

Saturday 25th November
Thorverton Memorial Hall 10-12 noon

*A sociable morning for everyone, young and not-so-young,
to come and prepare for Christmas over delicious coffee,
tea, homemade cakes/biscuits, and crafting.*

Choose to make:

*an Advent wreath, lanterns, Advent elves and elf houses, stars, angels,
wooden decorations, Advent Countdowns, a Lego scene and lots more...*

By popular request, passports for another **Village Advent Window Trail** will be available.
If you have a suitable window in the centre of the village you would like to decorate for the
trail, please contact Allison Toogood (07936 978779) for more details.



Rewe and District Gardening Club

at Rewe Village Hall opposite the Church
Free car park by the Church

On Monday 16th October at 2.30 pm an expert is going to talk to
us and demonstrate the art of pruning in all its aspects. Any
gardeners who are interested will be welcome to join us.

Visitors fee £1

Information: mandsgriffin4@gmail.com

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Charity Christmas cards available from early November

TCT Shop

Mon - Fri 9.00 - 5.30

(closed 1.00 - 2.00)

Saturday 8.00 - 12.00

Sunday 9.00 - 10.30

Bank Hols 8.30 - 9.30

Post Office

Mon - Fri 9.00 - 5.30

(closed 1.00 - 2.00)

Saturday 9.00 - 12.00

Sunday & BHs closed

An Unwelcome Guest

And this is the reason. In our lovely village there is someone who takes things which lawfully is not his or hers to take. An eight feet wooden pole which has the possibility to have several tools attached to it has disappeared from my garden. This was a gift from a friend and has been used by me for the past fifteen years. If it was you who decided to take it, it will never really belong to you. Think of this when you use it and ask yourself 'Does it give you satisfaction to use something you have taken unlawfully?'

Letter from a parishioner

If you know the whereabouts of this item please contact the editor at Focus magazine.

It Happened in Devon. (Just like that)

An entertaining evening of interesting and amusing stories about people, places and strange events all with a Devon connection. Told by local people, some in costume, with on screen photos and a video. A marvellous mix of Robbers, Writers, Adventurers, Leading Ladies, Eccentrics and a Comedian!

Bickleigh Village Hall.

Saturday October 14th 2023 at 7.30pm

Refreshments and Bar.

Tickets £5 from David 01884 855210.



★ Thorverton Memorial Hall ★
★ **Craft Fair** ★
Saturday Market and Big Breakfast
11 November 9.30am-1.00pm
All the normal Market stalls plus craft stalls,
jewellery, knitwear and much more!
Big Breakfast, soup and scones!

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



The Thorverton RBL Branch AGM will be on Tuesday 10th October 7.30pm at the Exeter Inn. Matt & Rick Cox (both members) are starting proceedings at 7pm with free nibbles, it's a chance for you to meet as many old and new members as possible. Please contact Alex Fice if possible to confirm attendance to ensure we have the appropriate space and numbers for catering.

RBL Quiz nights on Wednesday 1st November at the Thorverton Arms sponsored by *Sam Fice "Energy Systems"* and the following Wednesday on the 8th at the Exeter Inn, sponsored by TWATS Thorverton Wheelers and Touring Society also known as "The Old Boys" both start at 7.30pm. £2 per player maximum of six per team plus a raffle on both nights, why not book up to guarantee your table. In aid of the Poppy Appeal and Branch funds.

Thorverton Primary school Armistice service will be 2pm on Friday 10th November outside at the War Memorial. The roll of honour to be read, the laying of the school wreaths and a 2-minute silence will be observed. Afterwards enjoy light refreshments at the Thorverton Arms.

Armistice Day Saturday 11th November 11am at the War Memorial. The roll of Honour and the national 2-minute silence. Afterwards light refreshments again at the Thorverton Arms.

Remembrance Sunday Service 10am 12th November at Thorverton Church followed outside at the War Memorial at 11am for the roll of honour, laying of wreaths and the national 2-minute silence. Afterwards Matt & Rick Cox cordially invites everyone to the Exeter Inn for a light buffet.

A small Remembrance Garden will be just inside the church entrance gate for your own individual wooden cross in memory of a loved one. Poppies may be bought at any of our local amenities as there will only be a limited door-to-door collection.

For the Legion to maintain an active village branch we need people just like you to join, remember you do not have to have served in the Armed Forces to be a member. If you would like to join the Thorverton Branch you can easily join online at the Royal British Legion Membership site.

If any young person between the age of 12 and 18 would like to join it is free, but you will need a paper membership form that has to be signed by a parent, if you would like a form, please contact myself Alex Fice Tel. 01392 861136 or srbf@hotmail.co.uk.

THORVERTON CHURCH : MUSIC



The choir usually sings at services twice a month. We have weekly Thursday evening practices in Thorverton Church from 7.45 – 9.00pm. We sing a wide range of music.

At our Christmas carol service on Dec 21st, we'd love to have some 'extras' singing in the choir so please get in touch so if you'd like to be included.

We'll have a few Thursday practices for that in late November, early December.

We have instrumentalists accompanying some services. We need a few more to help us with our Harvest service on Oct 15th so please contact me ASAP if you can join our band for that. There will be a short practice on the day. The music is usually hymns and worship songs, not too challenging!

The full list of upcoming services is elsewhere in this Focus edition, but those at Thorverton Church with the choir singing, are listed here:

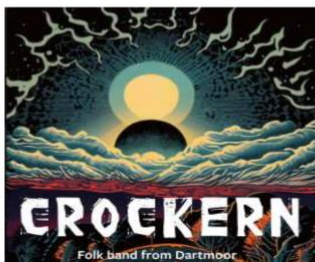
- Oct 1st** Communion service: **9.30am**
- Oct 15th** Harvest Festival informal service: **10.00am**
- Nov 5th** Communion service: **9.30am**
- Nov 12th** Remembrance Day service: **10.00am** jointly with Cadbury Church

Heather Kershaw Music Director and Organist Thorverton Parish Church

heather@kershaw25.eclipse.co.uk 01392 860419

FOLK MUSIC AT NEWTON ST CYRES

We are delighted to work with *Villages in Action* once again, to bring the 3 piece folk band **CROCKERN** from Dartmoor, to Newton St Cyres for an evening of "Reimagining Dartmoor Folk Music"

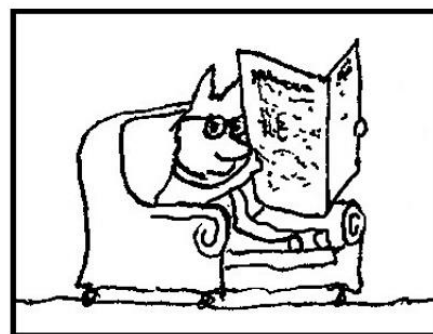
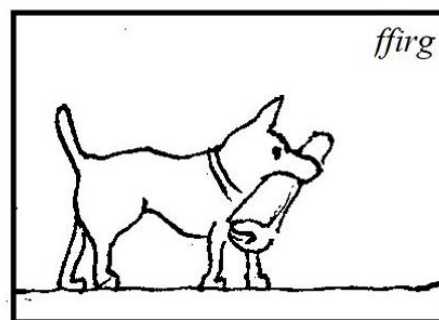


Crockern are in the process of developing an album based around songs and tunes that have been collected or widely sung around the Dartmoor area. Some of these are significant reinterpretations, some are songs and fragments of songs hundreds of years old that have not been previously been recorded, and some are just songs they love playing.

Come and join us at **NEWTON ST CYRES PARISH HALL** for an evening of great music on

Saturday 14th October 7.30pm (Doors 7pm)

Tickets £10 + Cash Bar & Raffle
available from Nicola 01392 851985
or villagesinaction.co.uk/events



Newspaper Dog!

CHURCH SERVICES & INFORMATION OCTOBER 2023

The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter

Please see our website at www.netherexe.org under "Services" section.

We also have a calendar for services & latest events are under "news".

Sunday 1 October Trinity 17

09:30 am	Holy Communion	Thorverton	TC
10:00 am	Harvest Service	Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Harvest Service	Rewe	Lay Led
06:30 pm	Prayer Service	Bramford Speke	TC

Tuesday 3 October

09:00 am	Chattertots	Thorverton	Lay Led
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Sunday 8 October Trinity 18

10:30 am	Holy Communion	Upton Pyne	JD
11:30 am	Harvest Service	Huxham	TC/LF

Sunday 15 October Trinity 19

09:30 am	Holy Communion	Bramford Speke	TC
10:00 am	Harvest Festival Service	Thorverton	Lay Led
11:00 am	Harvest Service	Newton St Cyres	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion & Harvest Service	Cadbury	TC
05:00 pm	Holy Communion	Stoke Canon	MSS

Sunday 22 October Trinity 20

09:30 am	Holy Communion	Newton St Cyres	TC
10:00 am	Messy Church	Stoke Canon	Lay Led
11:15 am	Holy Communion	Rewe	TC
04:00 pm	Prayer Service	Upton Pyne	TC

Sunday 29 October Last Sunday after Trinity

06:00 pm	Service of Light [Mission Community Service]	Thorverton	TC
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Evening Prayer: Every Tuesday 6:00 pm in Rewe Church

Who's Who? Abbreviations Key

TC	Revd Tim Collins	JD	Revd Julia Dallen
JH	Revd Julia Hocking	LF	Laura Ford [Licensed Lay Minister]
TL	Revd Tony Lane	KR	Revd Preb Kathy Roberts
GC	Revd Preb Graham Cotter	MSS	Revd's Michael & Sharon Simpson
SN	Sheila Newton [Licensed Lay Minister]	TBC	To be confirmed.

Revd Tim Collins [Priest in charge] Tel: 01392 860767 tim.collins@netherexe.org

For more information about the Netherexe Parishes please see www.netherexe.org or contact:

Mrs Juliette Lea [Administrator]
Tuesday & Thursday [09:00 – 15:00]
Tel: 07594 714590
Email: administration@netherexe.org

Mr Peter Shepherd [Administrator]
Monday & Wednesday [09:00 – 13:00]
Tel: 07551 844321
Email: administration@netherexe.org

Correspondence:
The Netherexe Parishes, Church Office, St Mary Magdalene Church, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4AS.

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER?

As summer reached a wet and disappointing conclusion; suddenly autumn started as a real scorcher with temperatures we had long forgotten about. Many of us will have felt refreshed by some brighter weather and with it some length to the days, as the cloudy weather in August had darkened our evenings. Opportunities for BBQs, evenings in the garden and visits to the coast which seemed to have passed, were hastily rearranged. Personally, I felt it got far too hot!

Just as this late summer broke, I went to visit a friend who I had not be able to see for some time, except briefly. I used to work with my friend who had decided that she was no longer enjoying her legal career and took the brave decision to walk away.

The time taken to step away had allowed her to reevaluate many things and not just her working life. We spent some time in her wonderful local park near the river and both admired its beauty. My friend commented on how much she was looking forward to autumn and all the colour and the change that it brought.

Have you noticed that weather is reported to us on the basis that we want it to be dry and warm? A forecast of cold and/or rain is reported as a negative whatever time of year. It's assumed that we always want more of the same and that we are not content with weather that might require some preparation (coats, gloves or umbrellas and hats) or for us to step out of our usual schedules.

Having changed her job, my friend had found herself embracing change more widely including the seasonal changes. When you are working full-time it is easy to forget to look up but it can happen to us working or not. We get into our routines and our habits and change can seem an inconvenience rather than something to be embraced and enjoyed.

We often think of change as inherently negative just because it's different but change can also be invigorating and we can learn much from having to do things differently, being in different places or meeting new people. Change can, however, be forced upon us and in painful ways: the loss of a loved one, redundancy, breakdown in relationships or a difficult illness. Such significant changes take time to adjust; to grieve for what we have lost before we can think about moving on.

Of the many things Jesus is called, he is referred to as a rock or an anchor in several hymns. When things change – Jesus does not. His love for us remains whatever is happening in our lives and that gives us something to cling to as we face change. When we sing these together in church, we remember that the love of God and the love of those around us can help us as life inevitably evolves and changes each day.

I shall be remembering my friend's new found enthusiasm for change as we move from autumn into winter. We might rail against it but change occurs: each day, every day. It is our response to it which can make it positive.

Laura Ford



NEWTON ST CYRES TENNIS CLUB

October Update

The Indian summer arrived in September and we have some very hot games.

The Rusty Rackets have their own WhatsApp group and play regularly together. Still time to get the rusty tennis rackets or any other rackets out.

Sarah Statton and Jana Garnsworthy will run the Autumn Challenge in October. It is a great way to play club matches with and against members in doubles and singles.

Our courts have been painted mid August and are looking fantastic and are great to play on.

If you are ready for some tennis try the club for a couple of sessions and then you can decide to join. Our winter membership will start soon which give a reduction on the full fees. Just contact our membership secretary Laura Leigh on 01647 24259 or look at the website.

Junior coaching, run by our club coach Jon Wills, is well attended and takes place on Wednesdays after school during term time. If you would like to enrol for the autumn term please email juniors@newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk for further information.

Jon also offers adult coaching both individually and for small groups, so if you feel you need to brush up your skills or learn more about the doubles' game, just get in touch with Jon Wills via our website

The Tennis Club runs special sessions with the ball machine, using different drills programmed into the machine. They take place on a Saturday morning a from 10.00 to 11.30 so if you would like to have a go, please contact Collin Bulled at colin.bulled@outlook.com.

Hope to see you soon.

Frederiek Maddock

Exploring Our Local History

A small group of local friendly metal detectorists are looking for Mid Exe Valley farmers or land owners who are happy to discover the rich heritage hidden beneath their land. Ideally in the areas of Thorverton, Silverton, Nether Exe, Up Exe and Raddon.

Insured and code of conduct through the National Council for Metal Detecting (NCMD)

If interested, please contact Andy Brewer; andrew.brewer@homecall.co.uk



WI Report for September 2023

We were very pleased to welcome Jon Bell to the September meeting.

Jon is a member of the Redcoat team who provides informative tours around the city of Exeter. Jon's talk for us was entitled 'Stairways to the Stars' – this was all about cinemas in Devon in the Golden Age, 1920 to about 1960.

His well-informed talk was supported by slides of countless cinemas across the county, many or in fact most of which are no longer in existence. He told us that all towns and most villages had cinemas, sometimes a cinema being virtually a small terraced house, where the man of the house would be the projectionist and the wife would take tickets and sell refreshments.

Jon told us how Saturday Morning Cinema Clubs became very popular after the war and he brought along a recording of the Mickey Mouse Club Song from the Odeon. Jon's talk sparked many memories of old films and some of the beautiful interiors of well-loved cinemas, and we were reminded of the introduction of Ice Creams, Eldorado, being on sale. We all agreed that a visit to the cinema in the Golden Age brought back very happy memories and would be a very different experience to a visit to a cinema today.

Dates to Note:

Tuesday 3rd October, 2.30pm – Maggie Roberts – Ex Mayor of Dartmouth

Saturday, 28th October – WI Coffee Morning and Market, 10 o'clock to about 11 o'clock in the WI Hut

Tuesday, 7th November, 2.30pm – Games afternoon

Every Monday, except Bank Holidays, Welcome Café from 2.30pm until about 4pm in the hut. Tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone.

All monthly meetings are in Thorverton WI Hut starting at 2.30pm. New members are always welcome, visitors can also join meetings.

Prince Philip and Kurt Hahn

By former student Andrew Hoellering (Gordonstoun 1951).



Kurt Hahn, who was my headmaster, played a crucial role in Prince Philip's education. He helped form his values and provided the rootless boy with a sense of both security and continuity. Philip first met Hahn at Salem in Germany, then later at Gordonstoun, the school he founded in Scotland. At Salem the 11-year old prince encountered "a large figure, head bowed and covered by a very wide-brimmed felt hat with a handkerchief clenched in his teeth."



Philip wrote that there was something about the headmaster that "commanded instant wariness and respect" - a respect that was to become mutual and lasting.

For Hahn fitness really mattered, and Gordonstoun acquired a reputation for the challenging Spartan-like regime on which Philip thrived. We were aroused at 6.30 for a morning run stripped to the waist, and this was followed by a cold shower. From 10.30 to 11.15 we had a break from lessons for athletics. This included running, jumping, weight and javelin throwing and was followed by a further lesson and then a welcome lunch.

As at Salem a rest period followed, when we lay on our backs listening to classical music. Afternoons were devoted to games, seamanship or the services, including a choice of the fire service, the army cadets or the watchers, whose job it was to look out for ships in distress. This involved manning the coastguard hut on the Moray Firth day and night in stormy weather. A further afternoon went to a project of one's choice, and then, having lived up to the school motto ('Plus est en vous'), we were allowed to enjoy a welcome afternoon off to do what we liked (well, almost).

In his report on the Prince, Dr Hahn wrote that Philip "showed a lively intelligence, but also a determination not to exert himself more than was necessary." "However," Hahn wrote, "in the community he followed a different rule," and a recognisable prince began to emerge. "Once he had made a task his own he showed



meticulous attention to detail and a pride in workmanship which was never content with mediocre results." Philip's chief faults according to his headmaster were "intolerance and impatience" – in other words, his habit of speaking his mind linked to his unwillingness to suffer fools gladly.

The Prince was as discriminating about his headmaster while revealing a lot about himself. Of his own time at Salem and Gordonstoun he writes; "It may not have been an entirely conventional upbringing, but it was certainly an extremely interesting experience. No one who had any frequent contact with him (Kurt Hahn) failed to appreciate his quite remarkable qualities. His active fertile mind was always plotting, scheming, devising and developing new ideas which seemed to bubble up from his constantly evolving philosophy of education.

But, like so many original thinkers, he never seemed to have the time or inclination, nor indeed the talent (which Philip certainly developed), for the tedious details of administration."

"History will judge him on his ideas," the Prince continues, "but as a headmaster I believe it was his absolute certainty about right and wrong, his utter conviction on matters of morality and behaviour which made him such a stabilising influence in a developing community. When he had doubts he shared them and this, too, seemed to add to the sense of participation in the enterprise. He was never afraid to involve others in the experiment, and equally never afraid to admit when he had failed."



Philip clearly also appreciated his headmaster's human qualities. "Hahn undoubtedly made an immense contribution to education in its broadest sense, and, inevitably, this made him sound like some zealous and dedicated reformer with barely a shred of humanity and humour. In fact, of course, his heart was even bigger than his brain and a twinkle was never far from his eye. He had a fund of entertaining and illuminating stories with which he larded his speeches, and an impish sense of humour would transform a rather sombre countenance into a child-like chuckle and delighted expression."

Prince Philip concluded: "Eccentric perhaps, innovator certainly, great beyond doubt."

Double cover in one go

Our understanding of the immune system has developed exponentially since Dr Edward Jenner first tested his theory of cowpox infection creating immunity to smallpox on an eight-year-old boy. We now start vaccinating children at the age of eight weeks with a 6-in-1 injection; it contains vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, Hepatitis B, whooping cough and Haemophilus. We give the combination vaccine to 1-year-olds against Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) alongside vaccines against Meningitis and rotavirus. Adults are regularly offered travel vaccines; combined Hepatitis A and typhoid being the one we administer the most.

We give boosters of all these vaccines regularly through childhood and the high rates of vaccination mean the illness and mortality associated with all of these diseases is remarkably small. They are so successful as the organisms do not mutate; the vaccine does not have to continually change to keep up. This is not the case for Influenza and Covid. They continually alter so changing the target at which our immune systems need to aim. This means the vaccine requires constant updating and we need more regular booster jabs.

Each year a different strain of flu will emerge. It is identified in the preceding Southern Hemisphere winter and a new vaccine manufactured to use in the Northern Hemisphere from mid-September. New strains will then be identified here and used by the Southern Hemisphere countries next May. It is a continually turning vaccine conveyor belt. It is not surprising that Covid is starting to adopt a similar pattern. We need to give the vaccines early enough for our immune systems to respond sufficiently before any outbreak occurs. As a result, this year we will be giving both Covid and Flu vaccines at the same time with the aim of all eligible patients receiving them before the end of October. As above it has been common practice to combine children's vaccinations for a very long time. The evidence shows the effectiveness of the vaccines is the same when given together. There is a small increase in the occurrence of side effects. However, since the most common side effect is a sore arm at the injection site, it is not surprising for the Covid / Flu combination as each patient will have an injection in both arms.

Is natural immunity gained from having Covid better than that obtained from the vaccine? The evidence is quite clear here. If you have had Covid you remain twice as likely to get it again compared to someone who has had it and then had the vaccine after their recovery. This is because the vaccine gives a much more predictable immune response than the infection itself. The dangers of Covid causing you long term symptoms remains significant; hospitalisations and deaths are starting to rise again. Vaccination is also not just about individuals protecting themselves, it is about reducing the chance of you giving it to somebody else and reducing the amount of illness in the community. Fewer patients in hospital means more space for others who need to be there.

This year it is important to vaccinate all those eligible as early as possible for both Flu and Covid. We will be holding a vaccine clinic at Wyndham House all day on Saturday 7th October where all those attending will be offered both vaccines.

Anthony O'Brien

Wyndham House Surgery

News from Thorverton School

The new school year has got off to a flying start. We now have 101 children on roll taught in four classes. Topics that the children are learning about this term range from Mexico, with its history, geography, culture, music and culinary delights, to the history, geography, art and music of our own United Kingdom, to our own local area of Thorverton. You may have seen a group of our youngest children on a tour of the village, finding out about the geography, houses and other buildings here.

We are very excited to be developing our forest area. We would like to thank Focus for a generous donation towards our outdoor areas and learning opportunities. We are running a forest activities after-school club for the children this term as well as making plenty of use of the woodland during school time.



This term the Reception children are spending one afternoon a week learning in the forest. This week, for example, they are practising their fine motor skills using objects they find, like horse chestnuts, sticks, flower petals and leaves to make spiders, spider webs and potions. We are so lucky to have this woodland area on the school grounds and it is so beneficial for the children's social and physical development.



The Exe Valley Federation is making outdoor learning one of its focal points as it has appointed Mr Ed Nichols as Outdoor Education Lead for the federation. He will be leading forest school and other outdoor sessions in each of the federation schools, as well as organising and training individual children and teams for events such as the Exmoor Challenge.

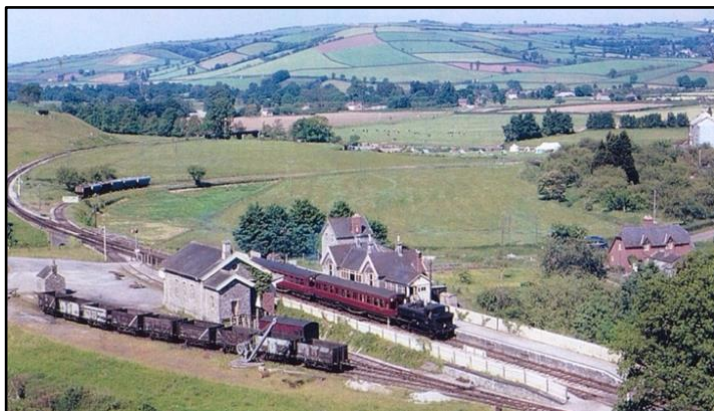
We would also like to share with you some of our sporting successes from the summer term, when our girls' cricket team took part in a girls' cricket tournament and our Thorverton team won the Crediton Learning Community tag rugby festival.



Mr Chris Holding. Head of School, Thorverton

THORVERTON SCHOOLCHILDREN ON THE EXE VALLEY RAILWAY

It's 60 years since the last train, but 77 years ago in 1946 all Thorverton Primary school children aged eleven and over had to have a secondary education at Tiverton, either Heathcoat's or Grammar school. The Government had just introduced the 11+ school exam to determine who went to the Grammar school. The train left Thorverton station at 8.16am.



Heathcoat's school was in Westexe, so those children got off the train at Westexe Halt and walked to school; the Grammar school children carried on to Tiverton station and they also walked to their school in Barrington street. In 1960 a new Heathcoat's Secondary Modern school was built along Bolham road, the Heathcoat children now got off at Tiverton station and was then bused to the new school. The pictures show Thorverton train station and a train approaching Thorverton rail bridge over the Exe with Thorverton flour mill in the background. The return train journey after school departed Tiverton station at 4.12pm arriving at Thorverton 4.33pm.



Barry Park whose uncle (Bill Hancock) was Thorverton Station Master remembers after school in Westexe that, he and a few others used to run down to Westexe Halt catch the up train to Tiverton station, quickly get off

and cross the foot bridge to get on the down train they would have caught at Westexe. Another pupil Michael May, whose father (Arthur May) was a fireman on the trains, sometimes rode back to Thorverton in the train with his dad shovelling coal for the fire.

When the railway closed on the 5th of October 1963 a double-decker bus was used to transport the children to Tiverton. Because the Thorverton railway bridge was too low for the bus to go under, the bus had to stop and turn at the main entrance to the station so the children still had the same journey to walk/bike ride as they did for the train. On the way to Heathcoat's the Grammar school children were dropped off at Saint Peter's Church and after school picked up in Newport Street at the junction with Castle Street.

In September 1966 when the new school year started the school numbers had dropped so a single bus was now large enough to take the children to Tiverton; this meant the bus could pick up in the village.

In September 1973 the school children were transferred from the two Tiverton schools to Crediton Comprehensive school (QE). The picture below shows several former Thorverton school children who had travelled to the Tiverton schools on the old Exe Valley Railway line.



Back Row L to R :-

Rob Turner H/G 60-66, Graham Sims H 53-57, Graham Pitts H 63-67, Brian Langabeer G 52-58, Jean Pook (Park) H 58-62, Barry Park H 55-59, Michael May H 60-64, Martin Rogers H 62-66, Martin Rooks G 62-67, Alex Fice H 62-66.

Front Row L to R:-

Sarah Addicott (Langabeer) H 62-66, Pat Green (Parker) H 62-66, Barbara Tooze (May) H 62-66, Gillian Sargent (Park) H 62-66, Sue Maguire H/G 60-65, Veda Dymond (Mann) H/G 59-64, Janet Manly (Newcombe) G 53-58, Angela Cockram (Folland) H 58-62.

NICK SCOTT – ‘LIGHT BANDS’

Nick Scott's Exhibition is at The Garden House, Thorverton Sun 15th Oct 11-4pm



“I have been painting in a more lively way since I started working alongside the Abstract Expressionist painter Patrick Jones and his group. The emphasis on the use of colour and colour relationships has helped my work develop in new ways. I really appreciate this opportunity offered by Andrew and Penny Wiles to exhibit my recent work in their home.”

Nature Notes

Last month I wrote about eggs laid in and around my moth trap that I had placed in a container and they had hatched. After a while I was able to identify them as Drinker moth caterpillars. Being as caterpillars of this species overwinter as young larvae I decided to let them go into the garden. I placed them among grass beneath a spread of Fleabane. The last time I spotted one of them was 18th September when it had crawled up onto our nearby shed to rest. Notice how it blends in with the weathered wood.



The 'gateway with a view' keeps giving when on 2nd and 3rd September neighbours Jonathan and Marion saw seven common lizards on the gate on both days. That is an amazing number of lizards to be seen in one place. Lizards will still be about in October on sunny days. I've only made one visit to the gateway since I last wrote. It was cloudy all day so no lizards but on the vegetation at the gateway were two feathers which I think could be Tawny Owl.

On 23rd November last year an electricity cable between our house and the transformer on a pole further up in the field next door was put underground. This cable was used by swallows for congregating before setting off back to Africa. At the time I wondered if this would have any effect on the swallows here this year. I was informed by Jim at Raddon Court that swallows have congregated as usual on the electricity cables near his home. So why have they not congregated here as usual? Is it the loss of one of their perches or something else?

By now we are in the second month of autumn and if we get dry and sunny days we should still see some butterflies. You may come across a Small Copper butterfly either nectaring on flowers or flying low over vegetation looking for a suitable place to lay her eggs. Eggs are laid in sunshine on Common and Sheep's Sorrel and larvae will overwinter on this food source. Another butterfly still on the wing is the Speckled Wood, a species that loves dappled light. The butterfly normally feed on honey-dew but at this time of year with little honey-dew production turns to flowers including ragwort. Small Tortoiseshells may be seen as late as November. This is one of our species that overwinters as an adult and favours sheds and buildings in which to roost.



October is the month for the return of Fieldfare and Redwing from Northern Europe who eats our supply of autumn berries and also slugs, worms and insects. The Jay may also be seen more frequently at this time of year as it searches for acorns to cache for winter.

Jenny Garne 01392 860875

jenny.garne2@tiscali.co.uk

Small Copper photographed on the Tarts walk from Nymet Tracey on 2nd September.

Thorverton Cricket Club – October 2023 Update

We are looking forward to celebrating a successful season for the club at our annual dinner and awards evening. The revamped evening will take place at Thorverton Memorial Hall on Friday 6th October.

We have some big plans for 2024...

- Launching a new 3rd XI – interested in getting back into cricket or giving it a go? Our new 3rd XI would be the perfect place.
- Planning for a new pavilion – we will be looking for public consultation ahead of submitting for planning permission.
- Starting a girls cricket section alongside our thriving womens section

We need your help! – Volunteer and be part of TCC

We are on the look out for more volunteers at the club in a range of roles, including

Grounds Maintenance – jobs around the club such as painting and strimming – be part of the grounds team that make the Station Ground look so good!

Junior Coaching – support our thriving junior section- we can put you through an accredited coaching course over the winter

Bar/Catering – we are always in need of more volunteers to be behind the bar or helping with food on busy match days and junior nights

If you can help with any of the above please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing seniors@thorvertoncc.com

You can find out more information about everything going on at the club, including all fixtures, on our website – www.thorvertoncc.co.uk. We also have a monthly newsletter you can subscribe to and a very active Facebook page!

Alex Joplin



Ed Rogers
ed-rogers.co.uk | 07717 845 184

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TARTS NEWS from September

Thorverton Amblers Ramblers and Trampers

Saturday 2nd September

We had a very good turnout of 12 initially for Nevilles' walk starting from Nymet Tracey in Mid Devon, and two canine companions. Two latecomers met the main group in a layby shortly after the start near Appledore Farm.

We then headed north following the Devonshire Heartland Way uphill along some beautiful old footpaths and green lanes, and through a field of extremely interested bullocks! Having two dogs with us some of us were rather nervous because they were running around particularly friskily.



Fortunately, Mike was our knight in shining armour and wielded his trekking poles keeping them at bay until we were safely through the field. We walked past Clannaborough Cross and on to the gorgeous Tuckingmill Bridge where we stopped for lunch.

Shortly before lunch Mike got talking to the couple that lived in the house by the mill, and it turned out her grandfather had worked at the mill many years ago. Olga made friends with the couple's cat, who decided to follow us as we continued on the walk. I think that's the first time we've had an honorary feline tart! We headed south from Tuckingmill Bridge through Bow back to Nymet Tracey. A glorious walk of about 7 miles, apart from Caroline and Olga who had a lift back to the car at Appledore Farm – the cheats!

Thank you, Neville, for leading such a lovely walk.



Saturday 16th September

A group of eleven walkers and two dogs assembled near the church in Dittisham. The village is a mixture of old cottages, now often used as holiday homes and some newer houses. The village church area links via the Ham recreation park across to the River Dart and the Ferry Boat Inn. We summoned the ferry for the crossing ready for the steep climb up the hill, through the gates to Greenway, now owned by the National Trust and the previous home of Agatha Christie. We found a cafe called "Tarts on the Dart" at the quay which amused us.

The views of the River Dart and valley were soon clear. The route took us across the top of the Greenway railway tunnel and into the woods owned by the National Trust which run

down the Easterly bank of the Dart. The two dogs enjoyed running through the undergrowth in the woods. The path is well-maintained through the woods, with occasional glimpses of the Dart and also the railway line where the steam railway runs between Paignton and Kingswear.

The woods are full of Oak and other native English trees. We stopped in a clearing for a rest above the recently built Noss Marina before continuing through more wooded areas and descending to the riverside. We saw the steam train pass us, viewed from the footpath which runs along the riverbank. The size and power of the steam engine was impressive as it passed. The walk continued to Kingswear where we took the lower Ferry to Dartmouth, operated by a tug boat that pushes and pulls the ferry across the river. We explored the Cherub Pub, built in 1380 and had a refreshing drink. The return to Dittisham was on the Sandpiper ferry boat, giving us a chance to view all of the houses near the river, some perched high on the banks overlooking the river, including Greenway and the large range of boats moored in the river and the marinas. We were fortunate that although we saw rain during the car journeys to and from Dittisham, we remained dry on the walk.

Heather has been leading some mid-week walks which tend to be at quite short notice because of the weather so please let us know if you are interested in those and we can keep you posted.

All walks will have details emailed to those on the list about a week beforehand giving details of start location and time and are suitable for dogs unless otherwise stated. Shorter walks are usually 4 – 6 miles in length and longer walks 6 – 9 miles, however precise details of each walk (length, gradient, lunch information etc) will be displayed approximately a week before the walk in the Old Post Office Window and on the village notice board. If you would like to be included on the email list, contact Caroline (07749775304) or Graeme (860203).

Photos were taken by Mike Stannard, Caroline Prince and Olga Kalashnik





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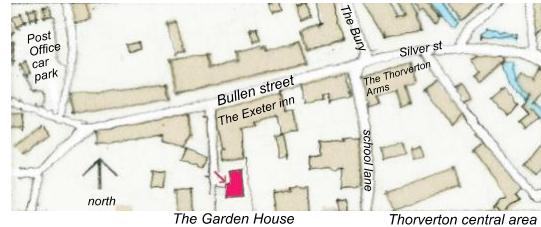


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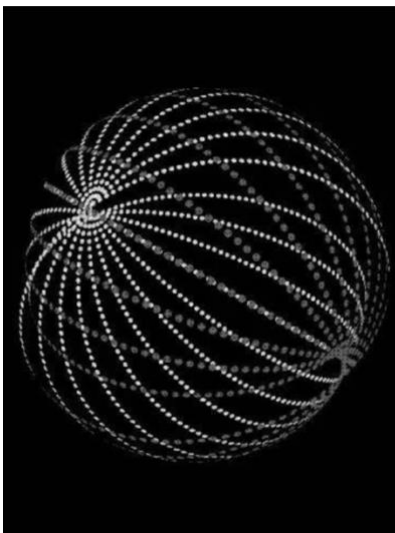
The Sky at Night October 2023

Aliens 3

For those avid Saturn watchers, the bright planet is still very visible in the low Eastern sky after sunset, then into the darkening night.

Whether it's aliens, or the machines programmed to relay the aliens' messages, funded research now exists to explore space for credible messages. SETI, the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, are doing experiments looking for proof, not merely of life, but of beings with intelligence in other star systems. The associated Carl Sagan centre, armed with a hundred scientists, is also heavily engaged in promotion and space education. Harmless, you might think...

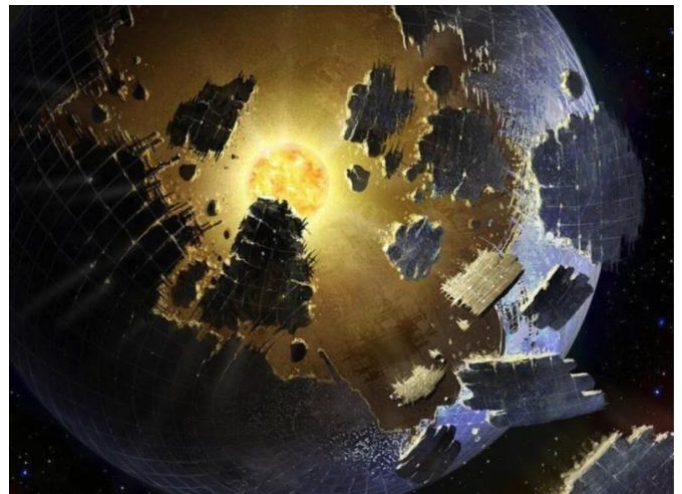
The problem is: we want to know that they're out there, like a very edible prey sticking close to its hungry predator so it can know its whereabouts (there's one thing worse than a large spider in the lounge - the one that has disappeared but is still around). The ex-head of Israeli Space Research, Haim Eshed would have you believe that they've already been in touch and are waiting on Mars for the right moment to 'take things to the next level'!



If they are out there, well, we haven't exactly been hiding. Since the 1920s our radio and then tv signals have been scattered liberally out into space like grass seed. Radio telescopes (see fig.1, SETI) have likewise patiently searched and waited for return signals. Pulsars, regular rhythmic radio signals from violently spinning stars, were discovered in 1967 and originally thought to be 'Little Green Men'. Another signal, also regular but pulsing far more slowly, has been hiding in plain sight for 30 years. Its origins are still not understood. Aliens?

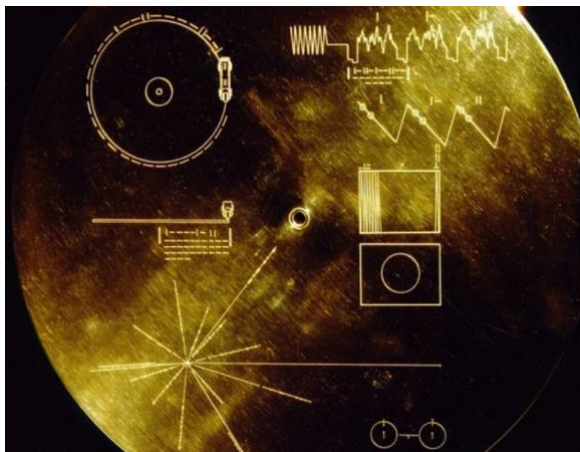
Us oldies can remember when, in a pre-digital age, our radios or TVs were

interrupted by blasts of white noise interference crackling away from broken appliances like shavers, kettles and even cars. Unfiltered radio signals come from all sorts of energetic events out there in space. Fast Radio Bursts (see fig.2, Planetary.org) have been continuously monitored since 2001. The first astounded scientists: astrophysicist Duncan Lorimer stated "the first burst discovered produced as much energy in a few thousandths of a second as the sun does in a month"! A feature of these bursts is their appearance across many frequencies, so an old fashioned radio would be crackling over its whole range.



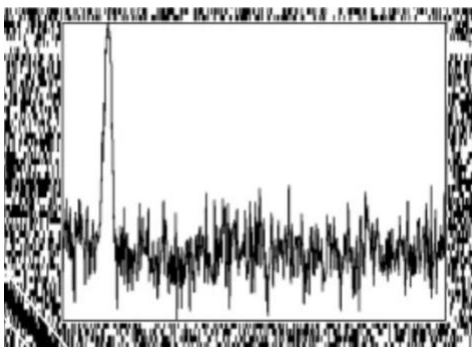
The Wow! signal of 1977 defies this scattered phenomenon by being an absolutely huge signal, very finely tuned at more or less one frequency (narrowband emission); a type of event that could only be artificially created and resembling an individual station on our radio set with the volume turned up to maximum. SETI researchers have postulated that the best frequency to adopt in space is that of a resting hydrogen atom. Like Channel 9 emergency frequency from all maritime craft, this signal should denote production by an intelligent source! The Wow! signal corresponds precisely to that narrow band if you correct for Doppler effect (viz. an approaching ambulance) and assume that the source is closing in to us at a leisurely 10 km/s! Aliens?

The significance of this event was not least because the fixed telescope only tracked each portion of sky for



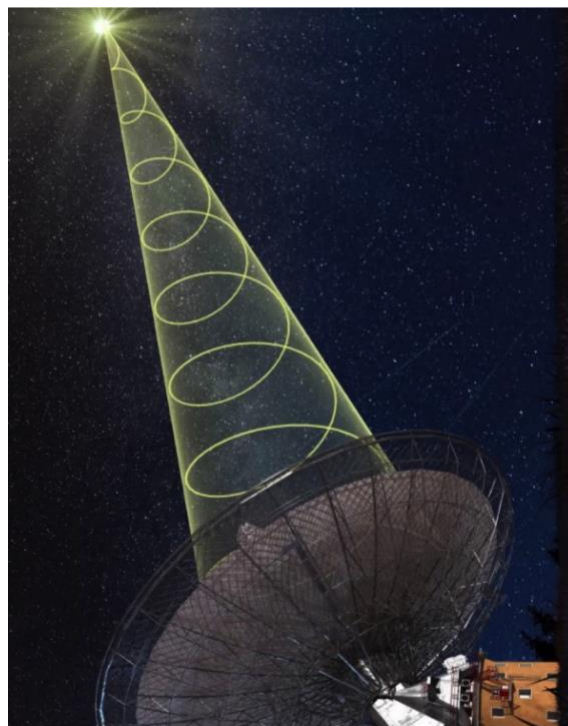
72 seconds - the event must have been even longer. Over the succeeding years many scientists have probed this region of space for clues, trying to obtain a corroborating signal. Nothing. Nil. Zero. Zilch. This didn't prevent the Arecibo telescope message of 10,000 tweets being sent, in our name, into that celestial ear-trumpet. Other messages have been beamed into space with little regard for the consequences. And do you recall Voyager 1 and its gold disc courtesy of Carl Sagan (see fig.3, Scientific American)? A sort of message-in-a-bottle for serendipity's sake. It won't pass a star for 30,000 years! Sentimental twaddle? One writer believes that it will outlast our own civilisation!

The Kardeshev scale describes the competences of such alien societies. Type 1 can change a planet (like us, unforgivably), type 2 can change a solar system whilst type 3 could, improbably, change a whole galaxy. A type 2 product could be a sort of shell surrounding a star to harvest its energy. This 'Dyson sphere' is a bold construct for what alien civilisations might be able to achieve. The erratic behaviour of Tabby's star was uncovered in the years following 2011. My recently fitted LED kitchen bulb is behaving similarly. But for any star to change its brightness by factors above 1% requires some exotic explanations owing to its sheer size and normal, stable behaviour. "The star's changes in brightness are consistent with many small masses orbiting the star in 'tight formation' " (Ross Andersen). Even if a planet the size of Jupiter were to obstruct a star the size of our Sun, then only one percent of luminosity would decrease. So could this be the first Dyson sphere/swarm observed (see figs. 4,5, the debrief.org)?



Elon Musk tweeted recently about there possibly being no aliens out there: "Then we are the only tiny candle of consciousness in an abyss of darkness". He'd do well to reflect

on this statement by considering the Berserker hypothesis. The evolving product of several astrophysicists and writers, this theory projects the ultimate cosmic dystopia. Challenged or dying alien races send out self-replicating probes to populate their home galaxy for nefarious purposes. Charged with the task of mining necessary minerals to grow its population, each one could be monitoring a target planetary system, like ours, choosing whether to be friendly or otherwise. Arthur C Clarke's 'terrifying' scenario of us being utterly alone might then yield cosmic crumbs of comfort.



On this positive note, H G Wells' dystopia 'War of the Worlds' does admittedly begin badly: the wicked Martians have the upper hand. However, they eventually succumb to our microscopic bacteria. In my view we see these exotic alien creatures as spectre-like. They mirror our darkest traits. They feed off our fear and channel our anxieties. We project wild thoughts out into the ether, but the other end of the telescope reminds us that we're merely navel-gazing!

The Joy of Wood

Fortunately, wood *is* something that does grow on trees, world-wide apart from extreme latitudes and altitudes. Without trees the planet would have succumbed to climate change long ago. Also, trees have taken a huge role in construction of shelter and literally fuelled our fires for cooking and keeping us warm.

Wood in the form of trees does indeed bring joy, and the harvested trees can be transformed into objects of beauty; sculptures and buildings, plus utility, tools, furniture, bowls, plates and cricket bats, and, of course, the paper now in your hands.



Many early cars had their chassis constructed from wood (including my first car; a 1937 Morris 8). It is a myth that the Morgan sports car used a wooden chassis, although wood *is* used to support the upper bodywork. The Africar (now defunct) was mostly made of wood to make repairs easier.

Fibreglass uses a mesh of glass (or carbon) fibres embedded in a polymer resin. The fibres are strong in tension and the resin matrix is strong on compression. In essence this is copy of wood which is a composite of cellulose fibres embedded in a matrix of lignin. Wood can be made even stronger by glueing sheets together with the grain going in alternating directions to make plywood or constructional beams.

The photographer Sebastian Delgado now lives on a Brazilian ranch inherited from his father, who bought the 1750 acres of land in the 1940s. If you google his name, you can see photos of the transformation of the land from grassland into forest by planting more than 2 million trees:

an example of what should be done more often to help control the Earth's climate disaster. The recent meeting of representatives from the countries of the Amazon rainforest have agreed to stop the destruction of the forest **by 2030! Why not NOW?** The Earth's existing forests hold more than 500 billion cubic metres of wood of which about 4 billion cubic metres are harvested each year.

As this resource is renewable it can be regarded as carbon neutral as an energy source. However, each year 15 billion trees are cut down but unfortunately only about 5 billion are planted.

Working with wood is a satisfying occupation. With good tools and spacious, well-equipped workshop you can make an enormous variety of objects. The use of modern power tools makes the process much easier. At school we were taught how to make dovetail joints for attaching the front to the sides of drawers (for example); a tedious and frustrating exercise using an assortment of chisels to gouge out the wood. Now we would probably use an electric drill/screwdriver and a couple of cross-head screws to make it a tenth of the time. Youtube videos are available if you wish to be traditional but not speedy!

I recently discovered, to my cost, that weeping willow trees have a short lifespan – only about 30 years. I planted one 33 years ago and in July, on a windless morning, it decided its time was up and it collapsed into a horizontal position, leaning against the garden shed. A week or so later the tree men arrived with several chainsaws and converted the willow into a pile of logs and several large slices of wood to be used as rustic tables and bug/bee hotels with holes drilled. At least the wood stove now has sufficient fuel for a few years.

Wooden plates and bowls, handmade, returned with me from Kenya. They have several advantages over ceramic dishes; they are insulating, they don't break when you drop them, and they make no loud noise when contacted by metal cutlery (our dog is very sensitive to the noise of a knife hitting the surface of a ceramic plate). And since they are not dishwasher-proof you have joy of washing them by hand!

A corner of my workshop has a huge assortment of discarded lengths of wood, waiting to be used for some new purpose. Skips are useful resource. Now **feel** the wood in the paper as you turn the page...

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BONJOUR LA FRANCE (Episode 7)

Vive la Différence

(This series from our time in Orange from January to April of 1968 continues with some recollections of what it was like at that time to settle into a different culture and what everyday differences we found.)

Of course, our main reason for being there was that I had obtained a post-to-post exchange to teach English in a French lycée while my French counterpart taught French at my school in England, Kings Norton Grammar School for Boys, Birmingham. When I got back to Birmingham, my pupils told me how surprised they had been by some of their new teacher's methods, which had included being called out to the front and invited to write their answer to a question on the blackboard. I also learned that - contrary to our own chaotic experiences on arriving in Orange - Madame Donnet had been hospitably welcomed into the home of one of my colleagues for the duration of her stay in Birmingham. The verdict on this experience was somewhat negative - 'Never lifted a finger to help.'! *Vive l'entente cordiale...*

It was interesting being in the French system. At first, I found it difficult having lessons that lasted an hour, whereas at my Birmingham school 45 minutes was the norm. Class sizes varied. I had one of 14 pupils, a commercial group with whom I had to master a new (for me) jargon of retail, wholesale, bills of lading etc. This was quite a motivated group as they knew that they were going to work in industry and commerce and consequently worked well at their studies. It was a member of this class who induced me into my first cultural blunder when she informed me that President De Gaulle was at the meeting. On my enquiring, naturally enough, which meeting, she laughed and explained that she was referring not to 'the meeting' (*la ré-union*) but to the presidential visit to La Ré-union, the island in the Indian Ocean which was at that time an overseas department of France. That is a linguistic ambiguity which must often have caught out many a native speaker and not just a foreigner. Incidentally, the island of Mauritius, also in the Indian Ocean, and which was ceded by the French to the British in 1810, is known in French as L'île Maurice.

Another class had 35 pupils, a literary lot capable of understanding a complicated text of Dickens but completely unable to open their mouths and ask the way to the railway station. Of course, that was a long time ago, and methods have changed. The French have at last tacitly recognised that they have lost the linguistic war, and so it has become imperative, if you want to make any headway in public life or even an ordinary career, to acquire fluent English. In fact, a French government minister has actually gone on record as declaring that for modern life today, English is *incontournable*, you really can't do without it. The British, *par contre*, remain the Ancient Greeks of the modern world, expecting foreigners to master their language as the *lingua franca* of the day while making very little effort to learn anyone else's.

But back to 1968... At that time, it was infinitely less common to fly off on a foreign holiday, and Provence was a long way from the UK. So I cannot claim to have had enthusiastic pupils. The *Astérix* series, immensely popular then as now, was an occasion for banter with older students and an opportunity to compare ways of life, especially the incomparable *Astérix chez Les Anglais*. But on the whole, my pupils put up with English rather than embracing it warmly. It was part of the curriculum, a subject that would count for the *baccalauréat* they would take at the end of their schooling. I did not take their relative lack of interest in my subject personally. When we went back to live in the same area in 1975, attitudes had already changed somewhat. I didn't do any teaching in a school at that time but had several enthusiastic private pupils. I also taught in industry.

I am not familiar with current legislation but in those days government policy was that companies had to allocate a percentage of their budget (I think it was 2%) to the in-service training of their employees. So it was a very enjoyable experience to be dispatched by the American company I worked for part-time to take classes of highly motivated accountants, engineers, secretaries and shop floor workers who had chosen English. It meant considerable travel, mostly up and down the A5 motorway to get to several of these firms but my expenses were refunded and I didn't mind the journeys involved. When teaching times fell near meal-times I would take sandwiches and stop to eat on the way there or afterwards.

My favourite pupils were the engineers, who were invariably enthusiastic since the international conferences they attended were usually conducted in English, which they also needed in order to keep up with their discipline's latest developments via the articles in international scientific magazines published in English. The main group I worked with was at a rather hush-hush atomic centre, where security was very tight and I was invariably kept waiting afterwards while my identity card was duly returned to me by zealous guards never in a hurry to carry out their duties. These particular engineer students were all very friendly. We had some hilarious classroom sessions when they attempted to describe to me their everyday studies on atomic fission. Happily, my task was not to understand the nature of the information but to adjudicate on the quality of the English! One of them invited me to his home to regale me with his talent on the (French) horn. On the conclusion of one of my courses with them the whole group insisted on treating Fiona and myself to an evening at a prestigious restaurant where the food was exquisite although the cabaret which followed was not one we ourselves would have chosen!

But all that is looking ahead somewhat. Back in 1968, I found my colleagues as well as the students an interesting bunch. I didn't get to know them very well, although some of them kindly invited us into their homes. One of the problems was that there wasn't a friendly, untidy staff room such as you have in English schools and which function as a place to relax and socialise. I suppose that is hardly surprising when there was a staff of over some 120, if my memory serves me rightly. But there was also a certain reserve. A typical teaching timetable was 20 hours and there was no obligation for teachers to be in school if they weren't actually teaching that day. Such a system did not make for staff cohesion. In fact, at the little leaving party the English department organised for me I met one language colleague I had never seen before!

Their competence in spoken English varied. Naturally enough, their grammar was impeccable but some of the older ones had a very strong accent not always easy to follow. They had probably learned English as I had first learned French as an eleven-year-old at school, rather like learning dead languages such as Latin or Classical Greek instead of English in its living and vibrant form. But there was one exception to this rule of relative mediocrity. Monsieur Bertrand spoke with an Oxford accent!! I first heard him speak in a school setting and when we were invited to his home I deftly changed the language into English so that Fiona too could marvel at this prodigy. When we explained to him the reason for our admiration he couldn't think of any explanation, as he hadn't studied at Oxford and didn't have any particular connection to the heart of English culture. But if you closed your eyes and listened to him discourse, you felt carried away from the balmy south of France to the English groves of Academe. Remarkable.

A la prochaine!

Maurice Harrison



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In my book, 'Banking Law', published in 1985, I wrote the following regarding the nature of the banker/customer relationship:

"The relationship between a banker and his customer is primarily a contractual one, namely that of debtor and creditor. Additionally, there is an obligation imposed on a banker to honour his customer's cheques, subject to there being a sufficient and available credit balance in the customer's account."

"A banker owes a contractual duty to his customer to take reasonable care in the conduct of the customer's business. Failure to exercise such care will render the banker liable to the customer in damages. The contractual duty to take care is, however, limited to those matters which come within the ambit of the contractual relationship."

In the recent case of **Phillip -v- Barclays Bank UK plc [2023]** both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court had the opportunity to consider

the nature of the relationship. The facts of the case are relatively straight forward and sadly somewhat common place. In 2018, the claimant Fiona Phillips (FP) and her husband fell victim to a fraud. They were deceived into instructing the bank to transfer £700,000 in two payments from the claimant's current account with the bank to bank accounts in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The payments were made, and the money was lost.

The claimant claimed that the bank was responsible for the loss. In essence her claim amounted to an allegation that the bank owed her a duty of care under its contract with her or at common law not to carry out her payment instructions if, as was alleged, the bank had reasonable grounds for believing that she was being defrauded.

The Court of Appeal accepted the claimant's argument that, in principle, a bank owed a contractual duty to its customer of the kind alleged. Whether or not such a duty arose on the

facts was a question that could only be decided at a trial.

The Supreme Court (Judgment 23rd July 2023) disagreed. Lord Leggatt, in the course of his judgment, said that the Court of Appeal was wrong to reach that conclusion, which was inconsistent with the first principles of banking law. It was a basic duty of a bank under its contract with a customer who had a current account in credit to make payments from the account in compliance with the customer's instructions. That duty was strict. His Lordship went on to say that it was not for the bank to concern itself with the wisdom or risk of its customer's payment decisions.

The general effect of fraud is to give the person who was induced to consent to the transaction by fraud a right as against the fraudster to set the transaction aside. So, in the present case, the fact that FP's payment instruction was induced by fraud entitled FP to claim repayment from the fraudster but did not invalidate the instruction given to or give rise to any claim against the bank.

Lord Leggatt pointed out that the type of fraud which occurred in this case was a growing social problem and could undoubtedly cause great hardship to its victims. Whether victims of such frauds should be left to bear the loss themselves or whether losses should be redistributed by requiring banks that had made or received the payments on behalf of customers to reimburse victims of such crimes was a question for regulators, government and ultimately for

parliament to consider, but it was not a question for the courts.

Rather too late for FP, the matter has been addressed by Parliament, **s72 Financial Services and Markets Act 2023** provides for the liability of payment service providers for fraudulent transactions.

Ss(1) requires the Payment Systems Regulator to prepare and publish a draft of a relevant requirement for reimbursement in such qualifying cases of payment orders as the Regulator considers should be eligible for reimbursement.

Ss(2) A case is a "qualifying case for the purposes of this section if –

(a)...

(b) the payment order was executed subsequent to fraud or dishonesty.

Ss(3)...

Ss(4) The duty imposed by subsection (1) must be carried out before the end of two months beginning with the day on which this section comes into force.

S72 came into force two months after the Act received the Royal Assent so, two months after 29th June 2023.

So, when the requirements of **s72** are fully implemented, a person in the position of FP will have recourse to the Regulations for the purposes of determining entitlement of reimbursement.

Clive Hamblin

Puzzles

The answers to last month's question as to how well do you know Thorverton's roads were:

1. Raddon Road
2. Silver Street
3. The Glebe
4. Broadlands

On to this month's puzzles:

a) Rugby World Cup Wordsearch

This month's challenge is a wordsearch, which has the names of each of the 20 World Cup Rugby Union playing nations hidden in the grid. Can you find them? This time I don't intend to give you the names of the nations. The names are in straight lines, but may be horizontal, diagonal or vertical, forwards or backwards:

S	S	S	U	R	U	G	U	A	Y	R	U
I	R	E	C	F	A	H	T	L	A	G	T
G	B	R	L	O	A	I	N	A	M	O	R
E	I	O	A	A	W	N	U	E	W	Z	R
S	M	G	I	C	W	A	O	L	A	E	O
A	A	S	I	R	E	L	A	N	D	A	P
N	A	M	N	O	T	L	S	L	E	E	N
I	I	G	O	A	N	A	D	S	C	D	D
T	J	G	L	A	M	N	H	N	A	F	F
N	I	I	A	N	A	I	A	O	I	I	I
E	A	F	T	L	D	R	B	J	L	A	J
G	E	C	T	U	F	S	I	I	E	I	E
R	N	O	I	D	G	W	L	N	A	L	T
A	C	D	A	R	E	U	G	A	A	A	A
S	I	R	N	J	F	L	R	G	G	R	U
E	N	E	A	A	A	A	N	U	N	T	S
D	G	P	L	N	L	L	H	U	O	S	T
N	A	N	D	P	O	A	A	T	T	U	R
N	L	D	L	A	N	D	E	P	U	A	A
I	A	I	G	R	O	E	G	Z	O	O	L
A	D	R	E	Y	L	A	T	I	W	A	S
P	N	I	C	H	I	L	E	T	R	E	M
S	O	G	N	O	K	G	N	O	H	O	N

b) Su Doku

Each horizontal and vertical line and each 3x3 square must contain each of the numbers from one to nine:

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

c) Thinking outside the bus

What are the times of the buses that you could catch each day (apart from Sundays) to get from Thorverton into Exeter? This may sound like a simple question that can easily be answered by taking a quick look at the bus timetable. However, I think that it might repay more thought.

I am always happy to receive any answers to the monthly puzzle page, or any of your own puzzles that you would like to include.

Happy puzzling.
Neville Lane



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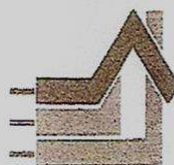
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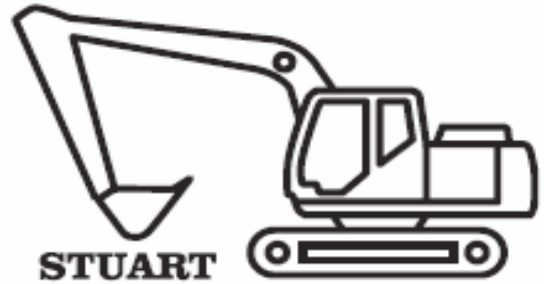


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THORVERTON PARISH INFORMATION

AIR AMBULANCE EMERGENCY: QUOTE NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE

RECREATION GROUND: Sheet 192 SS 923019 MEMORIAL HALL FIELD: Sheet 192 SS 926019

Carers' Support Group	Anne Higman, Wyndham House Surgery, Silverton, 01392 860034 <i>Carers Support Group Lunch, Exe Valley Farm Café, 4th Tuesday of the month, 12:30</i> <i>Contact Trish Jones for details 07484 377298</i>
Church (C of E)	Administrators: Juliette Lea, Peter Shepherd Netherexe Parishes Administration, administration@netherexe.org
Church Wardens	Edwin Greed, Fortescue, Netherexe, 01392 841231 Royston Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419
Church Choir	Heather Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419
PCC Treasurer	Jean Brown, Rydal Cottage, Bullen Street, Thorverton, 01392 861176
Friends of Thorverton Parish Church Trust	Royston Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419
County Councillor	Margaret Squires, 01363 84337, margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk
District Councillor	Cllr Rhys Roberts, 07515 437373, Rroberts@middevon.gov.uk
Doctors	Redlands Primary Care 01363 727111, Wyndham House Surgery 01392 860034
Electricity	Report a loss of power 0800 6783 105 (replaces 0800 365 900)
(Western Power)	EDF bill enquiries 0800 365 000, street lights 0800 197 6763
Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Leonard Trust	<i>Supporting local people's needs with small grants, elspeth.holmes@btinternet.com</i> Secretary: Elspeth Holmes, Drill House, Lynch Road, Thorverton, 01392 860535
Library (Exeter Mobile)	<i>Every 4 weeks 3:45–4:20pm Thursdays, Quarry Car Park (See page 52 for dates.)</i>
Member of Parliament	Mel Stride MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, 02072 197037 mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk
Parish Council Chairman	Cllr Andrew Foster 01392 759560
Parish Clerk	Jim Roberts 01392 202692 or 07768457590, thorvertonpc@gmail.com
Parish Council Meetings	2nd Tuesday of the month (except August), at 7pm in the Memorial Hall <i>(See Notice of Agenda on the Parish Council Notice Board in School Lane.)</i>
Parish Allotments	<i>Contact the Parish Clerk, 01392 202692</i>
Pension Service	PO Box 93, Plymouth, PL6 5WJ, 0845 60 60 265
Police	Non-emergency number 101
Post Office Portacabin (TCT Ltd)	Quarry Car Park, Thorverton, EX5 5NG, 01392 860455 <i>Mon–Fri 9:00–1:00, 2:00–5:30; Sat 8:00–12:00 (PO opens 9:00);</i> <i>Sun 9:00–10:30(for newspapers only) Business Management Team 01392 860419</i> Royston Kershaw, Heather Kershaw, Helen Ratcliffe Chair and Company Secretary: Heather Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419
Public Telephone Kiosk	<i>Opposite the Church, outside the former Bell Inn, Dinneford Street, Thorverton</i>
Thorverton C of E Primary School (Part of the Exe Valley Federation)	Executive Headteacher (Exe Valley Federation): Mr John Jolliffe Head of School (Thorverton): Mr Chris Holding 01392 860374 School Office (Thorverton) 01392 860374 Chair of Governors (Exe Valley Federation): Jackie Enright 01392 851859 Clerk to the Governors: Mrs Heidi Last hlast@exevalleyfederation.org.uk
School PTFA	Chair: Wendy Coles Vice chair: Elaine Green Secretary: Amy Crebo Treasurer: Peter Stevens thorvertonptfa@exevalleyfederation.org.uk <i>Please contact any members of the PTFA via the school office 01392 860374</i>
South West Water	24 hour emergency 0800 169 1144, helpline 0800 169 1133
Thorverton Community Defibrillator Trust	Chair: Di Foxford Secretary: Maggie Dunlop 01392 861185
Thorverton Millennium Green Trust	Chair: John Spivey 01392 861324 Secretary: Peter Hargood

THORVERTON ORGANISATIONS

Amateur Dramatic Society (TADS)

Chair: Sheena Hunter-Hedges 01392 860843

Treasurer: Simon Hedges

Minutes Secretary: Mary Ette

For details of meetings please contact sheena@marhaus.co.uk or by phone.

Association Football Club

Chairman: Jorga Wilson 07801 984 462

Secretary and Treasurer: Paul Webb 07944 533372 grecianwebb@blueyonder.co.uk

Bridge Club

Graeme Culshaw 01392 860203 *New members always welcome, no partner needed. Contact Graeme for more information.*

Cricket Club

Chair: Charles Kislingbury 07971 880421

Andy Pitt 07980 789813, andy-91-pitt@outlook.com

Fixture Secretary: James Meredith, 07972 547609, j.meredith51@hotmail.com

Focus Magazine

Chair: Michael Ayre, Ratcliffe Farm, Raddon, Thorverton, 01392 860434

Editor: Russ Clarke, Wagon Works, Jericho Street, Thorverton, 01392 860279

Secretary: Geoff Bulley, 17 Broadlands, Thorverton

Treasurer: Lynda Crossley, 8 Silver Street, Thorverton, 01392 860690

History Society

Chair: Richard Pocock 01884 855450

Secretary: Karen Marshall 01392 860831

Ladies' Group

Meets 2nd Thursday of month (See Focus Notices for venue and time.)

Saturday Market

2nd Saturday of the month at the Memorial Hall, 09:30–11:00am

Thorverton Pre-School 01392 861707, thorvertonpreschool@gmail.com

*Mondays to Fridays during term-time at Thorverton Primary School site
8:45–11:45am, 12:45–3:30pm, Lunch Club 11:45–12:45pm*

Thorverton Ambling, Rambling and Tramping Society (TARTS)

Caroline Prince 07749 775304 or Graeme Culshaw 01392 860203

See notices of walks in Old Post Office Window, Bullen Street.

TMH Committee

Chair: Penny Wiles, 07884 312627, penny@apwiles.co.uk

Secretary: Mike Baldwin, 01392 860853, sjml@hotmail.com

Bookings: thorvertonmemorialhallbookings@gmail.com

Website: thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

Toddler Group

Liz Armstrong emcarmstrong@outlook.com

Thursdays during term time at the Memorial Hall, 9:30–11.30am, £2 per family, healthy snacks for children and tea/coffee for adults included

Royal British Legion

Chairman/Honorary Secretary: Alex Fice, Lynch Cottage, Thorverton, 01392 861136, srbf@hotmail.co.uk

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Felicity Cashmore

Women's Institute

Bookings: Sue Maguire 860631

WI Meeting: 1st Tuesday of the month, WI Hut, 2:30pm

WI Market & Coffee: 4th Saturday of the month, WI Hut, 10:00–11:00am



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Tuesday	08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm)	Drs. Cook, Saunders & Harris.	08.30 - 13:00	A doctor will be available.	
Wednesday	08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm)	Drs. Griffiths & Kirwan.	08.30 - 17:00 (closed 1-2pm)	Dr Lesley Weiss	Nurse 08.30 – 13.00
Thursday	08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm)	Drs. Harris, Saunders & Kirwan.	08.30 - 13:00	A doctor will be available	Nurse 08.30 – 17.15
Friday	08.30 – 18.00	Drs. Griffiths, Kirwan & Cook.	08.30 - 13:00	A doctor will be available	

Thorverton surgery dispensary is open at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 08.30 – 18.00 (closed 13.00 – 14.00)

Wednesdays 08.30 – 17.00 (closed 13.00 – 14.00)

Extended surgeries are offered on weekday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays
in Crediton (pre-bookable appointments only).

GP and nurse (blood tests only) can be booked through SystmOnline.

Please ask at reception for details.

Our doctors can also be consulted online through **eConsult**.

This service lets patients request advice and treatment from our practice online and get self-help advice for hundreds of common conditions.

Please see our website for information and the **eConsult** link.

Please note we do NOT take prescription requests over the telephone or by email.

Repeat prescriptions (Monday-Friday) – You can request your repeat prescriptions by using our online repeat prescription request at www.redlandsprimarycare.nhs.uk

Please note that 48 hours' notice is required for all repeat prescriptions.

Wellbeing Co-ordinator Update

All the Activities and Services below are subsidised by the generosity of the Friends of Wyndham House Surgery, and are open to anyone who lives in the Exe Valley area.

The Silverton Memory Café meets every Thursday in Silverton Community Hall between 2 and 4 pm. It is aimed at supporting people who are having difficulty with their memories or would just like some company. Admission is free and we offer a variety of stimulating activities, lots of chatter, a delicious tea and often singing. The café welcomes everyone who would like to come along, alone or with their partner or carer.

I am offering **home visits** to anyone who has memory loss or dementia. I can give advice about the condition and where help can be found. Caring for a person with dementia can be quite a challenging undertaking and I am happy to give confidential and practical advice, so do give me a call if you would like some support.

The Carers and Ex Carers Lunch Group meets on the 4th Tuesday monthly in a variety of local venues. Financial help can be given to pay for care while the main carer has a few hours off. Please contact me if you are a care provider and would like to join us.

For people who need help with getting started to use the **Internet or computers, iPads or smart phones**. Joan Povey can help you with online shopping, ordering prescriptions, making video calls with family and friends and researching all sorts of information; she many even lend you an iPad or mobile phone so that you can try before you buy.

Joan's telephone is:- 07958 190554 email :- wyndhamdsp@gmail.com,

or you can leave your contact details at the reception in Wyndham House Surgery.

Befriending. If you are feeling isolated and lonely or have no local support and would like someone to talk to either on the telephone or with a visit, please do get in touch with me as I might be able to help. If you would like to become a Befriender and help people in this situation also please contact me.

There are still a few places remaining on the next course of **Balance Classes** which start on Thursday 14th September and again on 9th November. The Classes are designed for people who have lost confidence in their balance or have had a fall. They are held in the Silverton Community Hall and are free. They will help with leg strength, balance and co-ordination and they are also fun.

Retired Ladies and Men's Keep Fit Classes will restart after the summer break on Monday 18th September at 10.30 am in the Silverton Community Hall. Cost £5.00. For more details please contact Margaret Clough.

Telephone: 07745 565 351 or email:- margaret.mcassoc@outlook.com

Tai Chi restarts in the Community Hall on Friday 8th September at 10.30 am.

The classes are easy and gentle and are a great help for core strength and balance. They can be done seated or standing. Current cost £5.00.

Telephone Bill Croome on 01392 861264 or Email :- billcroom1@gmail.com

The Silverton Film Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday each month, excluding August, at 2.15 pm in Silverton Community Hall. The film show is free, though there is a charge of £2.50 for tea and cake. All the films have subtitles and the interval tea provides an opportunity to meet and socialise. A list of films to be shown is displayed on the Hall notice board and on the door.

I have a list of **local Care Providers**, if you need help or advice with this.

if you would like more information about anything in the above article please do get in touch.

Trish Jones - Wellbeing Co-ordinator Friends of Wyndham House Surgery.

tel:- 0748 437 7298 Email: silverwellbeing@gmail.com

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Tuesday		09:00 – 11:30 14:00 – 17:30	09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30	
Wednesday	09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30	09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30		
Thursday	09:00 – 11:30 14:00 – 16:00		09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30
Friday		09:00 – 11:30	09:00 – 11:30 14:30 – 16:00	

Please note: Consultations are all currently initially by phone. It is frequently more convenient to use e-Consult to let the surgery know your medical issue – this is available on the front page of our website.

Surgery hours: Monday - Thurs. 08:30 - 18:00
Friday 08:30 - 17:00

Dispensary hours: Monday - Thurs. 08.30 - 18:00 There is no closure for lunch and prescriptions
Friday 08.30 - 17:00 may be collected all through the day.

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To Exeter

10:09 at The Berry and Broadlands.

Scheduled to arrive (via Brampford Speke and Upton Pyne) at **10:48** in Sidwell St. stop 40 outside Cancer Research.

To Thorverton

13:35 from the same stop.

(Neither of these bus routes use the Exeter Bus Station.)

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To Tiverton and Silverton (from Exeter)

at Thorverton, The Berry and Broadlands:

07:55, 09:15, 11:31, 13:46, 16:06, 17:31, 18:21

To Thorverton from Tiverton Bus Station:

06:34, 07:30, 08:35, 09:55, 12:10, 14:25, 16:45, 17:45 (Dartline)

To Exeter Bus Station (via St David's Railway Station)

from Thorverton, The Berry & Broadlands:

08:00, 09:06, 10:27, 12:42, 14:57, 17:17, 18:10

To Thorverton from Exeter Bus Station (via St David's Railway Station): 07:30 (Dartline from

Sidwell St.), 08:45, 11:05, 13:20, 15:40, 17:05, 17:55

Stagecoach 55 service runs about every half hour in each direction along the Exeter–Tiverton road, from 05:45 to 22:15 and stopping at the Ruffwell (Thorverton turn). Please consult Stagecoach 55 timetable for details of this service.

Sunday and Bank Holidays (except Christmas, Boxing & New Year's Days):

09:30–20:00 at 1h30m intervals

Stagecoach offers a variety of concessions for regular commuters, shoppers, children, students and jobseekers as well as one-day unlimited-use Explorer tickets. Further details from Stagecoach: 01392 427711 or 01803 664500 or <http://stagecoachbus.com> or <http://devon.gov.uk/devonbus>

Devonbus Timetable information: 0871 200 2233
Timetables are available at the Post Office.

Waste Collection Dates

Collections are on Mondays, unless stated otherwise. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/collectiondaylookup>
(These collection dates apply to most of the village, but outlying parts may have different collection days.)

Food caddies every Monday except after Bank Holidays

General refuse in black wheelie bins every three weeks on Mondays: Oct 9th.

Recycling boxes fortnightly on Mondays: Oct 9th

Chargeable garden waste fortnightly on Mondays: Oct 2nd & 16th

Mobile Library

Thursdays 3:45–4:30pm in Quarry/Post Office Car Park every 4 weeks
2023 Oct 26, Nov 23

Road works

If you want to see up-to-date information on road works, visit: <http://roadworks.org/>

Libraries Unlimited

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS 2023



**Your Mobile Library visits
Thorverton – Quarry Car Park
every 4 weeks on Thursdays 15:45 – 16:30**
Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8,
Jul 6, Aug 3 & 31, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23.

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092.
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

Supported by  **TORBAY COUNCIL**



Supporting the village church

Thorverton Parish Church invites you to a

Traditional Village Harvest Supper

Saturday 14th October
WI Hut 6:30 pm

Tickets from Thorverton Post Office (a limited number)

£7.50 for two courses of delicious local produce including:

- beef kindly donated by Fortescue Farm*
- apples from Fair Oak*
- vegetables from Dave the veg*

Under 10s free of charge

Raffle prizes of local produce ***Table Harvest Quiz (optional)***

Harvest Festival Service **Sunday 15th October, 10 am**

We will donate harvest offerings (monies collected at the service and suitable goods brought to the service) to Lucy's Larder. Offerings of fruit and vegetables will be auctioned after the service.