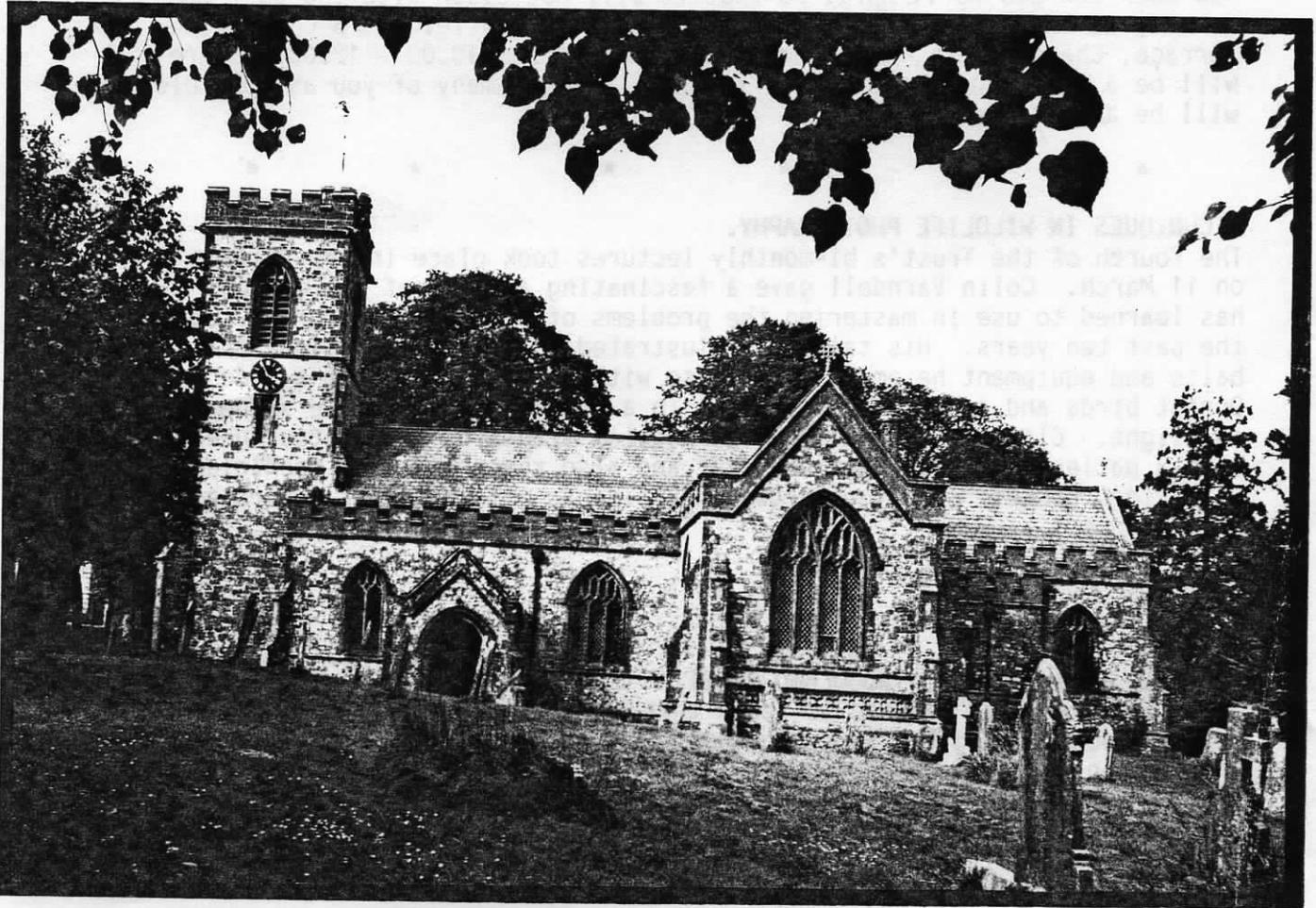


Thorncombe Village Trust **NEWS**



St. Mary's Church Thorncombe.

AGM FOLLOWED BY SLIDE SHOW AND TALK.

The Trust will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 13 May 1987 at the Village Hall, Thorncombe at 7.00p.m. This will be followed by the talk and slide show, which had to be postponed from January owing to the bad weather, entitled 'Thorncombe in the Mid 19th. Century.'

AGM AGENDA.

1. Chairman's Report
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Election of Officers and other Committee members.
5. Thorncombe in the Mid 19th. Century. Tony Smith.

THORNCOMBE IN THE MID 19th. CENTURY.

This talk with slides will be devoted to the local history of the Parish. Our speaker will be Tony Smith, his main theme will be Thorncombe in the mid 19th, Century when the village was at its largest and a good deal of manufacturing activity was centered on it.

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WANTED OLD POSTCARDS OF THORNCOMBE.

The Historical group would like to hear of anyone who has old postcards of the village. We do not want to take them from you but would like to take details of them to add to the historical records of the village. We have to date seen over 20 different postcards, do you have any? If so please contact R.D.J.Hawkes, The Old Crown, Fore Street, or phone him on Winsham 359.

PLEASE NOTE *** CHANGE OF DATE *** PLEASE NOTE *** CHANGE OF DATE.

COFFEE MORNING.

The Coffee Morning, advertised in the last Parish Magazine, for 4 April has now been changed to **11 April** so that it will not clash with the Busy Bee morning at the school. It will be held at Rose Bonfield's, 3 Coronation Terrace, Chard Street, Thorncombe on 11 April from 10.00 - 12.00. There will be a Bring and Buy and a Raffle. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to come along.

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TECHNIQUES IN WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY.

The fourth of the Trust's bi-monthly lectures took place in the Village Hall on 11 March. Colin Varndell gave a fascinating account of the methods he has learned to use in mastering the problems of wildlife photography during the past ten years. His talk was illustrated not only with slides of the baits and equipment he employs but also with superb studies of a wide range of Dorset birds and animals, culminating in a number of remarkable slides of birds in flight. Clearly, to attain Mr Varndell's standards the amateur needs to be both a patient and dedicated observer and also something of a technician with a well lined pocket. Sadly only twenty residents attended this absorbing entertainment.

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VILLAGE LAND GIVEN TO 'WOODLAND TRUST'

The Trust has been pleased to learn that the one-time site of Claypit Cottage (burned down during the War) together with most of the adjoining paddock has been given to the Woodland Trust. A wide range of plants and flowers grow in the gift area and the cottage site itself was planted with a number of broad leaved trees in 1980. The gift will ensure that the site is preserved as a haven for wildlife for all time and it is hoped that in due course, other residents may give similar parcels of land to the Woodland Trust or other bodies specialising in nature conservation. The site, which will be known as Claypit Coppice, will not be open to the public.

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REMEMBER TO PROTECT THE WILDFLOWERS.

Now that spring is just around the corner could we all remember that the wildflowers growing in our hedgerows and woods are for everybody's enjoyment and pleasure. To pick even small bunches interferes with nature's natural propagation, many species are also protected by law. So please enjoy the wildflowers but leave them there for everyone else to see.

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WHERE DORSET'S PLANNERS LAG BEHIND.

Extract from The Daily Telegraph 7 March 1987.

SIR - I was sickened to read a report from England of a plan to build a monstrous service station close to Stinsford in Dorset, the core of Thomas Hardy's mythical Wessex.

When I returned to Dorset last year I was disappointed to find that the authorities were lagging behind those responsible for the Yorkshire Dales. In the Dales we found old buildings faithfully restored, but no hoardings, vandalism or graffiti. We were told by the owners of an inn at Kirby Hall that they were not even permitted to construct a stable because it might spoil the environment.

Why such lack of sensitivity in Dorset planning? The countryside is Britain's priceless asset: must vested interests plunder it?

B.W. Victoria, Australia.