NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010 NO. 30

Supported by

ATWEST

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT WEST SOMERSET

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ATWEST TRAVEL CLUB

Well, I haven't had any negative feedback about last month's newsletter with the same new size but larger print, so I'm hoping that it is OK for everyone. Mind you, I haven't had any feedback at all so maybe I shouldn't make that assumption!

You'll be pleased to hear that our vehicle trials are going very well. Here is Pete trying out a nippy run-about-town bike – we haven't quite sorted out where the passenger will go but given time I'm sure all will become clear!

On a serious note, work is starting on the campaign against the expected loss of the Concessionary Fare Scheme. Please see page 5.

ATWEST

Mart Road, Minehead, TA24 5BJ

Phone 01643 709701 Email: atwestoffice@aol.com

Website: www.atwest.org.uk

Email Anna at: atwestnews@aol.com

Deb's Joke and Fun Corner!

Two Yorkshiremen were sitting outside a pub supping their ale when a hearse went by. As it disappeared into the distance, the first man asked, "Who's dead?"

"Him int' box, I reckon," said the second man.

"Aye," mused the first, "driver looked alreet".

Well, someone has managed to make time!

A man walked into a shop and asked for some bees.

"How many would you like?" enquired the shop keeper.

"10 please," came the reply. The shop keeper disappeared and came back a few minutes later with a jar containing the bees.

"Hang on a minute," said the customer. "there are 12 bees here, not 10."

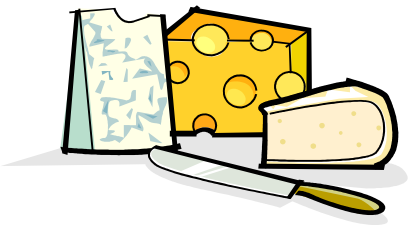
"That's alright," said the shop keeper. "They're freebies."

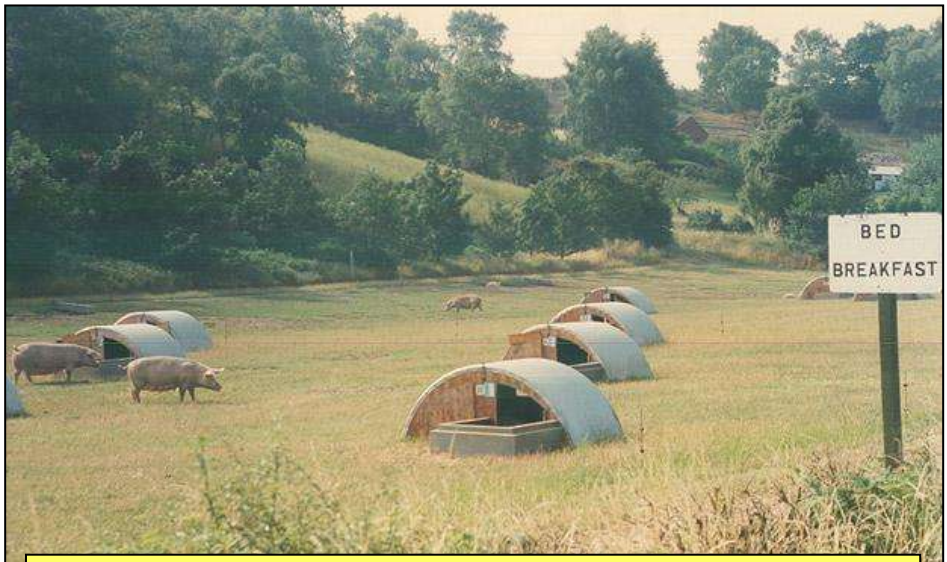
How do monsters like their eggs?

Terri-fried!

What cheese do you use to hide a small horse?

Mascarpone!





Desirable accommodation for a <u>sty</u> in the country?

What do you call a cheese factory in the Middle East?

Cheeses of Nazareth!

Deb's (new) Puzzle Page!

I want a man who's kind and understanding. Is that too much to ask of a millionaire? Zsa Zsa Gabor
(solution to last month's code)

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

H YTU'X GCEA XT OAZTUB XT C GZLO XPCX CGGAJXQ JATJZA ZHWA VA CQ VAVOAEQ.

– BETLGPT VCEM

ALARM CLOCK
ANALOG
ATOMIC CLOCK
BALANCE WHEEL
CARRIAGE CLOCK
CHRONOMETER
CUCKOO CLOCK
DIAL
DIGITAL
ESCAPEMENT
FACE
GRANDFATHER CLOCK
HAIRSPRING
HANDS
HOUR
HOURGLASS
MINUTE
MOVEMENT
PENDULUM
POCKET WATCH
SANDGLASS
SECOND
STOPWATCH
SUNDIAL
TIME
TIMEPIECE
TIMER
WALL CLOCK
WATCH
WATER CLOCK
WRISTWATCH

GROUND WORKS BEGIN

The ground works on the Acorn Site have been started and nearly finished since the last newsletter. As you can see the ground was cleared of the weedy jungle that was there, and a thick layer of concrete laid over the whole area, except where the new office building will stand.

There is still some work to complete, including putting in electricity cables from which to run floodlights for all those early starts and late finishes in the dark!

The plans for the office are still ongoing but with luck and a following wind, we will have some definite news by next month. Fingers crossed all round please!

ATWEST AGM

Sometimes I'm a plonker! I remembered to take the camera to the AGM but in all the excitement of filling flasks with boiling water for tea, setting out biscuits, taking notes at a pre-AGM Directors' meeting and all the other stuff that needed doing, I forgot to take a picture of all of you who managed to attend! So here is the hall after you'd all left and before we put the chairs away!

It was a very good meeting. The formal bits necessary for Atwest to comply with the Companies Act included reports from the Chairman of the Directors, the Treasurer and the manager, and then the meeting was opened up to the audience. There were about 40 of you there, both individual passengers and those representing groups or other passengers. The main point of discussion was the potential changes in the Concessionary Fare Scheme and the main points from this are that a) no decisions have yet been made by Somerset County Council and b) it is definitely worth writing to local and county councillors to make sure they know and understand how important our services are to you, and how much the loss of the Fare Scheme would impact on your lives and independence.

If you would like a copy of the minutes please let us know in the office.

CONCESSIONARY FARES

A MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED SO THAT WE CAN TALK TO OUR LOCAL AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS ABOUT

***CONCESSIONARY FARES*.**

ALL YOUR TRAVEL WITH ATWEST AND SLINKY WILL BE AFFECTED IF THE SCHEME IS REDUCED OR DISAPPEARS ALTOGETHER.

PLEASE COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY OR ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW THIS WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW.

IF WE DON'T SPEAK OUT NOW THEN WE MAY NOT GET ANOTHER CHANCE – THE COUNTY COUNCIL DECISIONS ON WHERE TO APPLY ESSENTIAL SPENDING CUTS HAVEN'T BEEN MADE AND THIS IS DEFINITELY A FIGHT WORTH FIGHTING.

JOIN US IN TIMBERSCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

ON THURSDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

AT 7.00PM

MANY THANKS,

JOHN GOODALL,

THE ORCHARDS SOCIAL CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING PHONE 01643 841778

If you would like to arrange your own local meeting and would like support in doing this, please contact us at the Atwest office for information, advice and assistance. Phone 01643 709701

MINEHEAD REVISITED by Mike Prescott

This is The Parade, Minehead in the 1950s – how peaceful it looks with the narrow central reservation and few cars so one could cross the road in relative safety.

The shops and buildings in the Parade at this time were – Floyds Departmental Stores on the corner of the Parade and Friday Street; Frisbys Shoe Shop; Harold White's China Shop; Boots the Chemist; Turton's Antiques; Batchelors Grocers (I remember I always loved the smell of coffee inside); Mac Fisheries Wet Fish Shop; then on the corner of Bancks Street was the National Provincial Bank.

On the opposite corner of Bancks Street was a very popular Haywards Bar, then Masons Ironmongers; Smiths Shoe Shop; Capron's Cycle Shop; Billie's Snack Bar (very popular with the American soldiers during the war); Miranda's Hairdressers; A.J. Baker (butchers), and Henry Wood Furniture Emporium.

On the north side of the Parade at the bottom of Holloway Street was Reggie Smith Jewellers; Miss Sally's Drapery shop (I remember the fantastic creations of weird and wonderful hats on stands in the windows); Bon-bon Confectionaries; Harold Passmore Newsagent and Tobacconist; Brown's the Jewellers, and Boddy's Bakery and Restaurant.

Next to these was the Town Hall consisting of the public library and the council chambers on the first floor, with Hale and Baker (butchers); Holcombe's (greengrocers) Mac Fisheries (again); Holcombe's Dairy Produce, and Westminster Bank on the ground floor.

The other side of Market House Lane was Venn Fieldens Sports Shop; Stanley Back, Gents Outfitters; Edward White, tobacconists; Rawle's Dairy; Hawkins the Chemist; Lloyds Bank, and Becketts Dress Shop. This corner was and is still called Becketts Corner by the older generation.

I could go right through the town but it would take a couple of year's worth of newsletters!

PENNARD PLANTS

In August Watchet Gardening Club visited Pennard Plants based in East Pennard Walled Garden between Glastonbury and Shepton Mallet.

Robert drove and as a keen gardener we expected him to come back all enthusiastic and slightly poorer! The nursery grows a wide range of plants but has a particular specialism in Agapanthus which can be seen in the polytunnel here.

The garden/nursery is a bit higgledy-piggledy and you might be challenged to find what you are looking for if you have something particular in mind, but there are lots of plants there. Robert resisted the temptations on offer but lots of plants were purchased and a good afternoon was had by all!

MOOR ROVER

Moor Rover has been used by all sorts of people for all sorts of journeys. This party consisted of 3 adults, 5 children, 6 bikes and a fold-up trolley to be pulled by a bike! As you can see it was a bit of a squeeze to get everything into the back of the bus, and I'm not sure where the passengers sat!

The group were on holiday from Germany and on this particular day travelled from Combe Martin to Exford Youth Hostel.

I took a couple and their dog to Molland recently and thoroughly enjoyed the journey – I'd never been that way before and on a lovely clear day the views south were fantastic. I went via Withypool and came back via Landacre Bridge and shall certainly be taking my dog for a walk there soon!

OCTOBER'S TRAVEL CLUB TRIPS

Monday 11th October

WESTON-SUPER-MARE

(£4 per seat)

It could be a beautiful autumn day, or it could be a howling gale, but either way there'll be something to do and see in Weston!

Thursday 14th October

EXETER

(£6 per seat)

I went shopping in Exeter earlier in the year and had a great time. There's all the usual High Street stores, many independent shops and lots of places to eat, sit and contemplate!

Friday 22nd October

AUTUMN COLOUR and LUNCH

Hopefully we'll have an Indian summer and this will be a gorgeous journey through the woods arriving in Dulverton in time for you to find lunch, before continuing the scenic drive!

Tuesday 26th October

TIVERTON

(£4 per seat)

This is a proper market town with a great variety of shops, and the really big supermarkets if you want. There's also a castle if you have the energy to get up the hill!

Thursday 28th October

BURNHAM-ON-SEA

I should think the chance of a howling gale is greater than of a lovely autumn day, but I don't expect anything'll put you off a trip to Burnham! And there's always fish and chips to warm you up!

Monday 1st November

BLACK VENUS INN, CHALLACOMBE

We've been here before and been very well looked after (and fed of course) so we thought it a good place to return to as winter approaches at speed. Hope you agree!

The booking line for Travel Club trips will open at 9.00am on Thursday 30th September. Please remember that bookings will not be taken before this time.

Booking line number 01643 709701

PLEASE NOTE.... the £1 booking fee has not been included in any costs per seat – it must be added to that price.

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Anna 22/09/10