

Monxton Matters

Editor

Mike Cleugh

Issue 5

April 2003

The Village Design Statement Moves Forward After Two Successful Meetings The Three Teams Are Now Working Hard To Produce The First Draft

There have been two public meetings over the last two months, both held in the village hall on two Saturdays 15th February and 8th March, (see over page for March 8th meeting report).

At the first meeting the importance of the Village Design Statement was discussed. The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Sue Ryan and included a short presentation by Joan Leslie, plus a 10min video, showing work undertaken by other villages to produce this document. Diana Coldicott gave an excellent overview of the history of Monxton and provided a historical perspective on the village from Roman times through to today.





Traditional Village Inn
with Riverside Garden
Serving Quality Pub Food
Cask Ales and Fine Wines
FAMILIES WELCOME
Food Served Seven Days a Week
Sunday Roasts
* Senior Citizens' Lunches Mon-Wed £4.50 *



March 8th Meeting Report

The meeting addressed the question "How do we create a Village Design Statement"

The objective of the meeting was to recruit members of the community to form a design team who have the interests of the future of our village at heart and who can give some time and effort to creating this very important document.

The meeting received a presentation by a Professor Peter Gibson who headed the Abbotts Ann design team. The presentation was excellent and provided a great deal of acquired expertise and wisdom, which everyone present greatly appreciated.

How do we create a Village Design Statement?

There will be opportunities for all member of the village to discuss and contribute to the VDS at workshops and assistance will be available from professional sources as the work continues. If any villager has any contribution to make they should contact a member of the appropriate team to give them their input.

For more information contact Joan Leslie:

Telephone number: 01264 710253

e-mail address: leslicot@aol.com.

Or go to http://www.monxton.org.uk

Monxton Village Design Statement Teams

Landscape and surroundings	Pattern/Content of Settlement	Building and Materials
Leo Allen	Alan Barbone	John Chaffey
Ken Hopkins	Diana Coldicott	Robert Davies
Bill Horrell	Mike Cleugh	Jo Day
Charmian Howarth	Ivor Gower	Vince Douglas
David Wells	Diana Jones	David James
Jacky Wells	Len Locke	Phil Jones
Richard Williams	Jennifer Richards	Sue Ryan
Joan Wood	Valerie Whitewick	Catrina Saville
John Wood		

Monxton Web Site has over 500 hits during its first three months in operation after going live in January 2003.

http://www.monxton.org.uk is the Web address of the Monxton Web site, so visit it now and get up to date with what's happening in the village.

Send suggestions for new sections or additions by email to: Monxton.matters@btopenworld.com

Parish Council Elections on 1st May 2003

No new nominations have been received from parishioners for new councillors therefore the current council will automatically be re-elected

Monxton Village Hall Forthcoming Events			
At the VILLAGE HALL			
Thursday May 1st	Borough election $08.00 - 21.00$		
Saturday 24 th May	Saturday 24 th May Duck race starting 11.30ish		
Sunday 25 th May National Garden Day Cream teas at the Village Hall 2.00 – 5.30			
Monday 26 th May	National Garden Day Cream teas at the Village Hall 2.00 – 5.30		
Village Hall Weekly Programme			
Mon. Evening	Jujitsu		
Tues. Evening	Occasional Band Practise and Four Parishes Meetings		
Weds Afternoon:	Weds Afternoon: Badminton		
Wednesday Evening:	Wednesday Evening: Line Dancing		
Thursday: Afternoon: Tai Chi			
Thursday: Evening:	Thursday: Evening: Occasional band practice/ PC Meetings		
Saturday:	Saturday: Jumble sales, occasional children's parties		
Sunday Mornings:	Monthly Church coffee mornings		

Village Hall Charges				
Hall Only	Village residents*	£5/hour	Trestle tables	£4/day
	General public	£6/hour	Card Tables	£2/day
Kitchen facilities	Village residents	£5/hour	Tea Urn	£2/day
	General public	£6/hour	Crockery	£5/day
Parties/receptions				
Adults	Village residents	£50/session (5 hours)	To hire the hall:	
	General public	£60/session (5 hours)	Please contact M	Irs. Diana Jones, on
Children Note: includes Kitchen, facilities & equipment	Village residents General public	£40/session (5 hours) £50/session (5 hours)	* Includes residents of the four parishes, Monxton, Amport, Grately and Quarley	



New Parish Clerk Appointed

The parish Council is please to announce that Monxton has a new Parish Clerk who was appointed at the council meeting in March.

Julie moved to the village some 4 years ago and has lived in Corner Cottage with her husband, daughter and son.

Julie is well qualified for the post having worked in a number of commercial organisations and is familiar with computers and their use in administrative roles.

We would all like to thank Julie for accepting the position and wish her all the best in making it a success.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 13th March 2003

Full edition available on the Website or from the Parish Clerk

MATTERS ARISING

Traffic Calming

A reply was received on 28th February from Mr Martin Wiltshire of HCC, which in general terms outlined possible finance for traffic calming. Mr Jack Taylor attended a meeting of the Test Valley Highway Management Advisory Panel on 28th February where it was reported that the traffic calming in Monxton was completed in December 2002. The Clerk will write again to HCC pointing out that the work program is not complete, that further works are urgently needed to slow the traffic on the Monxton to Andover Road and to suggest that some of the DLO development levy be spent on Monxton.

Village Design Statement

A Public Meeting took place on Saturday 15th February, which was well attended, and workshops will follow to produce the VDS.

Monxton Footpaths

Mr Ross requested that the Parish Council write to the Rights of Way Officer, Mr P Watson and a reply was received on 19 February. With regard to Byway No.11 it is anticipated that the work should start towards the beginning of the next financial year. Footpath No.6 was incorrectly identified as 9 by HCC who are having problems tracking down Railtrack. The Clerk is to acknowledge receipt and correct the footpath number.

Sunnybank

The white lines indicating car parking spaces are an outstanding problem and the Clerk will contact TVBC again to find out when this work will be carried out. Although the Chairman is investigating the possibility of affordable housing, Mr Cleugh asked whether the site could be turned into a tennis court as there was a lack of leisure facilities in the Parish. The Clerk to investigate.

Audit of Accounts for 2002

The audit for 2002 has been completed and a notice to that effect will appear on the Village Hall Notice Board with effect from 13/03/03 as required by law. The cost was only £50.00 plus £30.00 for the internal audit, which compares well against last year, which cost £174.49. The Clerk has carried out a Financial Risk Assessment, which was circulated to the Parish Councillors and approved. A copy will be held with the Financial Regulations and will be required for the next audit.

Bank Balance

The bank balance is £6,211.23 as at the date of the meeting.

Village Hall

Car parking is an outstanding problem. Mr Thelwell has been approached and a response is awaited. The Chairman is to have a meeting with Mr Cox of HCC to investigate the possibility of using the verge alongside Monxton Manor for parking.

Borough Local Plan - Draft

The Parish Council has made a formal response with a number of objections and observations together with a detailed objection to the proposals for the Airfield Site.

Appointment Of New Parish Clerk (The present Clerk and Mrs Douglas withdrew from the Meeting) A Contract of Employment and Job Description was discussed. It was agreed that Mrs Douglas be appointed with effect from 1st April 2003 and will be paid the sum of £7.50 an hour for two hours a week.

Planning Matters (Abridged version)				
Item	Ref/Description	Parish Council	TVBC	Comments
1	TVN.06096/8 - Outline - Business development for Class B1, B2 and B8 together with hotel and conference facilities at Andover Airfield, OS Parcel 8742, Monxton Road, Andover Applicant: Lady Clark	Traffic Report received and responded to. Documents passed to Andover Airfield Assessment Group. This now returned and circulated to Parish Councillors		This item is also in Draft Local Plan to which a response has been made.
2	TVN.08558 - Erection of 4 bedroom dwelling accessed off Chalkpit Lane and formation of new access from the C17 road (Monxton/Abbotts Ann Road) with erection of attached double garage for Abbotts Mead - Mr & Mrs Wild	Objection to original plans dated 15/07/02, revised plans dated 14/08/02 Further objections revised plans dated 01/10/02		19 objections 14 objections 15 objections Withdrawn 07/02/2003
3	TVN.08558/1* - Erection of 4 bedroom dwelling and erection of detached double garage to Abbotts Mead - Mr & Mrs J Wild	Objections on numerous grounds including tandem development	Amended plans received 11/03/03	Shared driveway off Chalkpit Lane & repositioning new house
	*Plans submitted after the parish meeting 1-04-03	Parish Council to comment		*Extension of garden plot garage moved and two trees to remain on frontage to Abbotts Anne road
4	TVN.CLE.00022 +1/2/3 Certificate of lawfulness for existing use at Prospect Farm - Mr Machin	Letter from TVBC (8/11/02) to be resolved by end of Nov 02. No further information	Outstanding application	Clerk to contact TVBC for update on this matter
5	TVN.00808/5 Alterations and conversion of cow shed to provide double garage with store recovering roof with natural slate and demolition of garden shed at Brewery House - Mr R Davies	No objection	Listed Building Consent subject to conditions	

Planning Matters (Abridged version)				
6	TVN.08522/3 Conversion of cow shed to garage and store plus modifications to granary at Brewery House - Mr R Davies	No objection	Permission subject to conditions 06/03/03	
7	TVN.LB.00036/4 Replacement of opaque acrylic roof tiles in rear lean-to with roof lights at The Old Farm House - Dr & Mrs C Rochford	No objection	Consent subject to conditions	
8	TVN.08522/4 - Demolition of existing concrete walls and piers fronting Green Lane and erection of new brick piers with railings at Brewery House - Mr R Davies	Objections to low wall in front of listed brick wall to cowshed		
9	LB.00097/4 Black Swan Replace one window with door on rear elevation - Mr S Barron	Noted in weekly list but plans not yet received		Now received and approved

TRAFFIC MATTERS

It the last edition of Monxton Matters there was a short article explaining Phase 1 of the current Traffic Calming measures, which were awaiting a "spell of dry weather" for full implementation, as well as asking for other views from residents on any traffic matter.

At the Monxton Parish AGM on April11 th there were many, widely differing, views as to what the traffic problems actually are, their causes and how they might be solved. However, it is a subject that the Parish Council have taken on board for 2003. A "Traffic Group" has offered to collate the views of all Parishioners and then to develop a range of solutions for the Parish Council.

Your views DO count so please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire. They should be returned by the end of April to Shoetree Cottage (next door but one to the "Mucky Duck", which has just been refurbished so why not take the opportunity to pop in and check it out.

If you are unable to deliver the questionnaire please call 710308 & we will arrange to collect it.

National Garden Open Days - Monxton Gardens

Three Monxton gardens are open under the National Gardens Scheme, on Sunday and Monday 25th and 26 May, from 2.00 -5.30 p.m. as usual. These are Field House, Carol Pratt, Hutchens cottage Mr & Mrs Crick and White Gables, Mr & Mrs Eaglesham. The money paid as entrance fees goes to a number of specified charities including Macmillan Cancer Relief, The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society, Help the Hospices and other nursing and gardening funds. By tradition we provide tea for the garden visitors in the Village Hall. The money raised from the teas goes to S1. Mary's Church Monxton. The cream teas have been highly acclaimed by those who visit the gardens year by year and appreciate the home made produce. As we are expecting our American visitors and their hosts to tour the gardens on the Sunday we hope to have a particularly good attendance. I shall again be coordinating the provision of teas and would be most grateful for the gift of cakes or donations towards their purchase. Also, volunteers to help would be most welcome.

DATES OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council will meet on Thursday 8th May 2003 in the Village Hall at 8pm. Note that Borough Council Elections will take place on 1st May 2003.

Abridged Edition of the Minutes Of The Annual Parish Assembly Held In The Village Hall On Friday 11th April 2003 at 7.30pm

The full edition is available at www.monxton.org.uk or from the Parish Clerk

In attendance:

Parish Councillors

Mrs Sue Ryan - Chairman
Mr David Eaglesham - Finance Officer
Mrs Jennifer Richards - Councillor
Mr Mike Cleugh - Councillor
Mrs Julie Douglas - Parish Clerk
Thirty-five parishioners attended the meeting.

Visitors

Mr Jack Taylor - TVBC Anna Ward

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF MONXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Sue Ryan explained how she took over as Chairman from Barry Rolfe after last years AGM. Sue raised the following points.

The Best Kept Village Competition: due to the new rules by Calor Gas who run this competition it was agreed by the Parish Council that due to the size of the village we would not be entering this competition in future. However this will not stop the "Annual Clean-Up" which will happen some time in May 2003.

Sue mentioned the Housing Needs Survey and was surprised and a little disappointed that there appeared to be no or little need for low cost housing in the village. However, as a result of the replies form the Village Design Statement questionnaires, over 50% expressed a need for such accommodation. Negotiation is currently underway with Testway Housing to build two bed-roomed houses at Sunnybank but local young people will not have priority. Due to tremendous efforts by residents the allotment site is clear.

The Village Design Statement Project is up and running through the hard work of Joan Leslie. Sue thanked Joan for all her work with this. To be mentioned later.

Sue announced that after 8 years of dedication Carol Pratt is standing down as the Clerk to MPC and that Julie Douglas will be taking over as of 1st April 2003. Sue praised Carol for her hard work in keeping the Council together through her guidance. She advised that as the present Councillors are happy to continue and no other candidates have expressed an interest, there will be no Election on May 1st. Sue presented Carol with a plant to express her appreciation.

The Andover Community Airfield Assessment Group, which was chaired by Robin Asher raised a number of concerns that the Parish had. Sue Ryan spoke on their behalf to a senior civil servant responsible for the development at the DLO. The future on Monxton Road being a major concern and while he agreed that closing it and diverting the traffic was a good idea it would involve a public enquiry for which his department does not have any money. So we will have to wait for further developments.

A major achievement this year was the response to the Local Plan Review. A public meeting was held with 100 villagers and two TVBC officers. Two important points were made. Firstly that the village green should become an area of outstanding importance and that before any further development takes place a second bridge must be placed at Weyhill.

Chris Branwood has taken over as head of the Neighbourhood Watch Programme – which is going very well and the village, has remained crime free except for one small incident.

The Council has dealt with 37 planning matters, all of which have been dealt with relatively smoothly.

Mike Cleugh of Monxton Parish Council has brought us into the 21st Century and Monxton now has its own Website. Mike is also editor of Monxton Matters, the bi-monthly Parish magazine. Many thanks also go the Matt, the new landlord of the Black Swan, who is picking up the tab!

FINANCE REPORT 2002

David Eaglesham outlined the current status of the parish accounts for the village. There is currently a large balance in hand of £5,716.87, which is higher than usual as there is an amount of £2,500 set aside for redevelopment of the village hall and a further £1,000 for traffic management, both sums are yet to be used.

The only question raised was with reference to the Parish Councils special events figure. It was explained that the expenditure was the Jubilee Mugs, the fireworks and the bunting for the village, which was offset a little by the purchase of additional mugs by some parishioners. The accounts were available for inspection at the end of the Meeting.

HIGHWAY, TRAFFIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Richard Williams advised the attendees of the meeting that a private meeting of various concerned villagers was recently held to discuss the speed, size and volume of traffic running through the village and they further agreed that any actions must be implemented by the Parish Council. The main problems are during the morning and afternoon rush hour through the village. Leon has written a letter on behalf of the residents to the Parish Chairman expressing what actions need to be taken and advised that what has implemented to date is deemed as inadequate as it has not alleviated the problems.

The Parish Chairman addressed the issue of the large lorries and advised that having spoken to Manor Farm themselves, they confirmed there would only be one large lorry per week on a Friday going up to their premises.

This was strongly criticized by the villagers, as the problem is present on a daily basis. On a positive note, the planning developments at Manor Farm were rejected but the area is still seen as a distribution plant.

This will no doubt be one of the major topics for the council for the coming year.

REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF MONXTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jennifer Richards distributed some handouts concerning this matter. She explained that the Village Hall had had a difficult year as it has lost its major customer the Play School.

However in spite of this, the accounts are looking profitable with a closing bank balance being almost £2,000 higher than last year.

The future does however, look less promising, the facilities need addressing, not least various improvements and provision of disabled access. While it is estimated that the improvements to the kitchen and entrance could reach £30-£40k, a grant could be available from TVBC should the scheme appear viable.

It was pointed out that we have approached Amport with a view to sharing the Hall, which would give potentially more customers. They are however worried about the lack of parking. This problem is being addressed with Stuart Cox of Hampshire Highways with the possibility of extra parking spaces on the verge opposite. Both Bec House and Manor Farm have been approached for extra land but both parties do not wish to partake.

A member of the parish asked about funding for the parking. It was confirmed by the council, that we would probably be looking at a 25/75 percent ratio from the Monxton Parish Council/TVBC. Carol mentioned at this point that the village would be more likely to get a grant for the Village Hall, should more car parking be available.

Jennifer outlined the plans for the coming year being primarily to redecorate, continue talks with Amport, to decide jointly with the Parish Council on which improvements should be made so that financial support can be sought and to continue with social events.

All updates with reference to the village hall will be mentioned in Monxton Matters. Jennifer mentioned that should anyone have any ideas for raising additional revenue they should contact her immediately.

----- More on traffic

Additional comments from the audience included, Sergeant Streeter, from Whitchurch police who confirmed that the Traffic Management Officer would be happy to look at the present problem but that it is the Highways Department who would make any decisions.

He advised that banning parking on the high street would only make the traffic go faster and advised that due to the cost, a speed camera would not be viable. PC Robinson has been looking at the Traffic Calming Problem in rural areas over a number of years and a weight restriction through the village may be a viable option.

Sue advised that she has spoken to Mr Cox of the DLO and requested him to put a large sign regarding weight restrictions at the old entrance to the DLO so that they do not turn left and come down into the village. There is a weight restriction sign at Weyhill Roundabout.

Jack Taylor pointed out that a small village such as Monxton should not be expected to pay 50/50 for any road improvements.

Sue explained she has spoken to HCC and they will be redoing the red lines on the road. The word 'slow' will also be written on the paint. White lines will also be painted to visually show the road as narrowing. Returning to the Original Traffic Calming Scheme, the new roundabout at the DLO should have been a left turn only and the fact that it is not has only contributed to the issue and therefore, HCC should be funding a high percentage of our scheme. Sue agreed that this matter was of up most importance to the Parish Council.

Planning - Manor Farm

This has already been discussed. Jennifer pointed out that a weight restriction of the bridge near the Farm may be possible and is currently being researched.

Planning - Airfield Site Monxton Parish Council has responded to plans in the appropriate manner. At the moment there is nothing to report. The new 2nd bridge is a must before any development begins.

Black Swan, Monxton

Matt, the new landlord has recently decorated the pub. He has applied for planning permission to open up the back window near the round table and make a door leading from the bar directly into the garden. He has guaranteed that he has no plans to build on the village green.

Footpaths

Mr Ross confirmed that there was still outstanding work to be done on the bridal path, past Little Cottage, there is a tremendous amount of water and the council has promised to rectify this. The damage to the path by the gallops has been partly rectified by the allotment helpers.

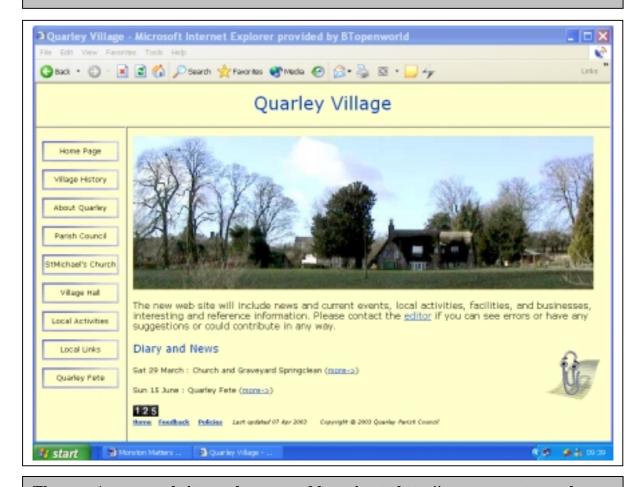
Village Design Statement

Joan expressed her thanks at the 82% response figure of her questionnaires. The 1st work-shop was well attended and the project is under way. The second work-shop will be at the end of April. She advised that the TVBC is very enthusiastic about the project and that they can help with regards to Planning Issues and developments. Before the final draft is issued a display will take place in the village hall for any further comments and then it will be sent to Monxton Parish Council before going to TVBC.

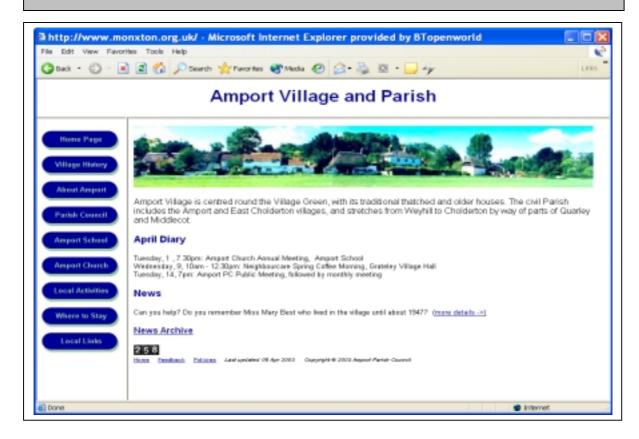
Open Forum

David Aylward of Newlands, Prospect Farm expressed his concern at the TVBC rate increase. He expressed his anger at the potholes at the side of the road in Broad Lane. He advised that he had contacted TVBC, only to be told that there was no funding for this. He would like the Parish Council to put pressure on HCC. Sue advised that when Stuart Cox of the Highways Department was in the village this was brought to his attention and he said he would look into it.

The new Quarley website can be accessed by going to http://www.quarley.org.uk



The new Amport website can be accessed by going to http://www.amport.org.uk



Bec House (A Potted History)



It is said that the monks of Monxton lived on the site of Bec House and that the monastery was affiliated to the Abbey of Bec in northern France, however, that building was destroyed long ago.

The present house dates from William and Mary (1689-1702) according to architects and surveyors, but the front elevation, facing the garden is Queen Anne (1702-1714).

Then in the Victorian period the Rector must have had a lot of children, or a lot of servants, or both, as he had added on two more bedrooms at the rear of the house making six in total.

Finally the Rev. Cobett lived in the House between the two world wars, in the '20s and '30s, and added on a study, on the right-hand side of the house by the rose garden.

The house was taken over by the Royal Air Force during the last war and needed a good deal of modernisation and decoration, forty years ago, when the current owners took over the house.

During the 2^{nd} world war an RAF airplane limping home from a raid over Germany hit the roof of the house and finally landed crashed into the garden, where it burst into flames, unfortunately killing the pilot.

The rector is said to have slept through the entire event!

The house was believed, by some, to contain a number of ghosts, however the present owner has never seen any and believes it to be a very happy house.

Recommendations from Fellow Parishioners of Good Local Tradesman

Monxton Matters recent survey to nominate the best providers of vital services that we all need from time to time has come up with a number of suggestions from several parishioners.

Financial Warning:

Please note that this is not a recommendation by the Editor and we advise you to take references from any trades people mentioned below before signing any contracts.

Trade type	Person/Company Name	Telephone Nos
Plumbers	Murray/Stag Plumbing	01264 392184/
		0777 5751847
	Richard Saunders	01264-363976
		07957-158419
Electrician	Brian Comeley/Spear Electrical Ltd	01264 335350
Builder	Keith George	01264-354855
		07702-225833
	Mike Burford	01264 781499
Carpenter	Chris Goddard	01672562907
_		07887 565680
Tree Surgeon	Tony Darbyshire	01264-773229
Kitchen designer	Gary Black/Penny's Mill	01672 871352

The Best of Times and the Worst of Times

On Friday March 14th Monxton Village Hall rocked to the sound of the 1950's and onto the 80's: from flower power through the three day week and more. The cast of the Time of our Lives entranced the audience of over 70 people brilliant evening of entertainment. A hilarious mix of pop, dance, musical theatre stand up comedy and sketches had people singing along and tapping their feet. Thanks goes to the cast of 4 and their slick and entertaining performance: very enjoyable and successful evening.



"The Alternative Valentine (Quiz Night at Monxton Village Hall)"

More than 40 people enjoyed another Quiz Night at Monxton Village Hall on February 14th. Nigel and Ann Fox were as usual excellent quizmasters, which with the excellent food made for a thoroughly enjoyable evening. We look forward to the next one in the autumn.