of the 15 children at Luppitt. They said they stood by their agreement that children from Luppitt should go to Upottery.

The committee passed a recommendation that the children at Luppitt should be transfered to Upottery at an early date and recommended that the closure of Luppitt School should be re-submitted to the county council.

Where did that name come from? by Gerald Gosling (Probably Honiton News) Sept 7th 1973.

Earlier forms of Luppitt include Lovapit in Domesday, Lovepitte, Lovehutte, Lovehytte, Lovepitte, Lumpuet, Lumpit and Lippitte, but I must confess to a special liking for Pole's Lovehutt. It is of course 'Lufa's pit or hollow'

Domesday

An interesting place in Luppitt is Shelf Farm which must come from 'scylf' or shelf, and it does of course stand on a slope. Barn Farm was more likely to have been the home of Richard de la Berne than to have been just a barn.

Discovery of sinister object P.W.N. 22 April 1975

A witchcraft symbol found in an East Devon farmhouse may have been part of a curse placed upon a former occupier of the home, perhaps hundreds of years ago.

It was found recently, nailed to the top of the chimney, just beneath the thatch of Barn Farm, Luppitt. Later the house was exorcised by the Vicar of Luppitt, the Rev. Peter Allcock.

Barn

Barn farm is an ancient building, some parts of it dating from 1238. It was built originally by a norman, Robert De Burne. When the saxons

1238

Venn

came, the house was occupied by the Venn family. Their occupation continued right up to the beginning of this century.

Village Hall 1982

Roof fault threat to village Hall H.N. Mar 1982

Meetings are to be held soon to decide how to save Luppitt's £20,000 village hall scheme from disaster. An examination has revealed that the roof of the part-completed hall is too heavy and is threatening to bring down the walls.

Construction work on the building stopped last summer when the fault was discovered, but it was not until this week that the reason for the delay was made public.

Mr John Thorne, chairman of the Luppitt Village Committee said "There is not a feud going on and there are no solicitor's letters flying around, but it is a mess and we have got to try to sort it out." He said meetings were being arranged with East Devon Council and Argus Engineering of Honiton, which helped with the design of part of the roof.

East Devon Council has approved grants for the Village Hall project to the tune of more than £15,000 from its rural aid fund. The village committee, which is in charge of the scheme, has so far received about £9,000 of this. The delay has been a serious blow to the villagers who were in the process of deciding which celebrity to invite to open the hall. The project had reached an advanced stage when the work was stopped.

Luppitt used to have a wooden hall which was bought from the war ministry. A building

fund was set up to replace the building eventually and a start to the building was made in 1977. It was decided to build the new hall on the site of the old one. The plan was to replace one half of the old building at a time using voluntary labour. First the kitchen toilets and entrance were re-built and last year it was decided to go ahead with the second stage, the provision of the main hall, a stage and dressing rooms.

Mr Thorne said: Obviously, it is disappointing having a hall which we have not been able to use I am sure a feasible solution will be found. It is just a shame things went wrong." The only room of the new hall which is safe to use is the kitchen where some meetings have been held.

Mr David Pavely, general manager of Argus Engineering, said his firm had been involved in the design of the roof built in the first part of the scheme. He said: "We only designed a small part, thinking it would end there, but they went on extending". Mr Pavely said plans drawn up by his firm had been used in the construction of the rest of the roof, but the right material had not been used. He said Argus would be meeting the village committee and would help in any way it could.

A spokesman for the East Devon Council said the rest of the grant awarded to Luppitt for the hall project would be withheld until the problem could be resolved.

Luppitt man who presides over a diocese of 200,000 square miles P.W.N. 12 Aug 1975

A Honiton district diary.

Photo. Fred Grabb, Bishop of Athebasca, Canada admires the view of his birthplace, Luppitt, with his mother, 92 year old Florence Grabb and sister Ruth, last week.

Grabb. Although he has lived away from his native Luppitt for many years, Fred Grabb, the recently-appointed Bishop of Athebasca, Alberta, Canada, still looks on the East Devon village as his 'real home'. 'When I left Athebasca to come back to Luppitt I told everyone I was going home' he said on Friday. Mr Grabb returned home last week to visit his 92-year-old mother

Calhays Mrs Florence Grabb, who lives at Calhayes Cottage. He was last in England about two years ago. Calhayes Cottage overlooks Blackenfields, where he was born.

1942 Sudan In 1942 he left the peace and quiet of the village and went to Africa and the Sudan as a missionary. He pioneered a college there and was in charge of it until he returned to

1951 England in 1951. He became the Vice-Principal of the London College of Divinity. The head of the college at that time was the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

While in Africa he married a Lancastrian girl who was also a missionary. They have four children, and one is back in the Sudan, teaching in the place where she was born. Another is nursing in Liverpool and the other two have stayed in Canada. The move to

1957

Canada was made in 1957 when Mr Crabb and his wife emigrated to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He then became rector of a parish in Calgary and towards the end of last year became Bishop of Athebasca. On Sunday he told Churchgoers at Luppitt about his Canadian diocese. His is an enormous diocese stretching over 200,000 square miles. With such a large area to cover, his work sometimes means travelling by light aircraft and on Sundays he often preaches at up to five churches over a distance of some hundreds of miles.

As he looked over the beautiful valley in front of Culmhayes at the weekend Bishop Crabb said "Things don't change a great deal in Luppitt, I have recognised a lot of local people and I have even run into old school friends. He leaves England at the end of the month after travelling to various parts of the country and visiting many old friends.

Luppitt Harbour.

Honiton News 1977

The legend of Luppitt harbour grows more and more interesting. I am indebted to Mrs Nora Davey for adding more information – and with her home called Tapsterwater I feel it really has an air of authenticity. The origin of the legend she says, is lost in the mists of time. The parish of Luppitt, originally called Lovepitt, spreads over five square miles – but only the part where the river Love passes Tapsterwater is called Luppitt Harbour, where there was a ford and a shore, but the river was piped under a road in 1934. Only

1934

three or four years ago the Council erected a Ford sign. Mrs Davey says: "My late husband

was Harbourmaster. His duties were to supervise the unloading of the winkle barges and saving people from drowning."

This cutting is probably not complete.—
"My duties now are to keep clear of debris a grid that the council put over the river.
"The men living one side of the river are known as the dockers, the other side the sailors.
"I have a coloured view card and on the foot is Luppitt Shore. I have also seen a coloured comic card with the printed words: The pleasure steamer leaving Luppitt Harbour. Both are dated about 1900. I have heard that a simple youth who lived here 70 years ago 'caught' a bloater in Luppitt Sea.
"We have had people asking us for Luppitt Harbour, who were directed from Honiton. A few months ago we had a caller to see the Harbourmaster, as he wanted to know the names of the sides taking part in a cricket or football match some time past.

Luppitt Sailors
See III 68
See I 68

Honiton News 17th June 1977

Ever since I launched a little story about Luppitt Harbour and the bloaters which were caught in the sea there, I have been inundated with fishy stories about Luppitt—most of them red herrings.
But now from my old friend Bill Tucker I have the true Luppitt story as passed on to him by his father sixty odd years ago.
Apparently there was a glut of mackerel at Ross and Branscombe and a Luppitt chap

set off with a pony and trap to bring back a load. He stopped at Rostéries on the way back and perhaps he was not in full control of the pony by the time he arrived back in the village. At any rate, as he was passing the river before it was piped the pony was startled by the reflection of the moon in the water. The pony reared up and tipped all the fish into the river.

It was then that the locals began catching mackerel in Luppitt Lea.

Well that's Mr Tucker's story and he reckons its the most feasible he's heard. He knows that the story was told to his father by a 90 year-old man and he thinks the events he describes probably took place 150 years ago.

Honiton News June 1977

See I 68

More flotsam from "Luppitt Harbour" has drifted my way on the tide. After my story last week of the bloater found in a mole-trap on Luppitt Common, Les Ackland, that fount of Honiton area tales, has told me of another group of Luppitt Sailors in addition to today's skittlers.

They were a darts team from Luppitt Inn and not long after World War II, when Les was an official of Honiton Darts League he played for them once at the old Dolphin Tap when they were a man short. Les says: "They were all local characters, and a couple of them could play melodeons so it was always great fun." Arthur Braddick was captain, other players were Jack Thorne, Arthur Reed, Fred Tottle, Harold Newbery, B. Dyer, Albie Wright, Nip Slade, Seymour Gribbles,

B. Hain, Danny Buck."

Sec I 68

Whatever the Luppitt Harbour legend, the inland trapped bloater was not confined to one incident. Arthur Braddick who now lives in St John's Close, Honiton, says that Fred Hancock used to do a little nocturnal hunting on Hartridge Common by Dumpdon Hill. The locals one night from the pub put bloaters in his rabbit traps and released the springs.

(Frank) Hartridge

Fred Hancock always reckoned that the box of bloaters came up on the high tide from Honiton.

Walter Summers's father and grandfather, Joe Summers, used to smoke bloaters in their garden in Mill Street, by the Gissage, and so the story went, the box of bloaters got away into the Gissage down to the river Otter at Stoneyford Bridge, then up the Otter to Langford Bridge. The flood gates were open by the bridge and the box of bloaters went up the inland waterway to Luppitt Harbour and the bloaters got away. The blighters!

Dumpdon

Dumpdon Hill: P.W.N. Dec 1979.
Owner answers critics

Sir. May I reply to Mrs Davey's letter regarding Dumpdon Hill ("Pulman's Weekly News", 4th Dec)

Firstly if the lady's views on the amount of shooting she says will take place are correct, I will probably, at the end of two years, donate the hill to some local charity and retire to the Bahamas away from her rage!

Also had she taken the trouble to inquire

she would know that there is no intention of shooting on Sundays, although as owner of Dumpdon I would be perfectly at liberty to do so if I so wished.

Secondly, Dumpdon Hill will, no doubt, always remain as a landmark and beauty spot, but I am sure Mrs Davey must know there are no public footpaths or bridlepaths over Dumpdon, so presumably any non-commoners only use the hill with the owner's consent, which, incidentally, I have no wish to withdraw. So perhaps some non-Luppitt parishioners could have shown a little more appreciation to past owners of the hill.

Lastly, regarding the wildlife and farmstock. Providing I can keep poachers away I would expect wildlife population to increase and farm animals (and country people) have been living with gunshots for, at least, 200 years or more. People walking dogs can be much more disruptive to farm and wildlife.

Finally I would like to think that just a few of the moderate majority would just for once, make their voices heard.

C.A.J. Pickard. Rosebank, Keswell, Cullompton.

Value.

Sir.—

How right your correspondent, Mrs Davey, is in her condemnation of the proposed commercialization of Dumpdon Hill by the creation of a shooting school.

For many, like myself, who have had to commute to the London area at one time or another, Dumpdon Hill has a special significance. Travelling westwards by car or by train, the

first glimpse of this lofty eminence with its plume of beech trees signifies East Devon and home. There can be little doubt that in bygone days the Hill had far greater significance for the local inhabitants; crowned with a sacred grove and dominating the landscape, it would have been a constant reminder to all who looked up at it as they went about their daily tasks of the higher values in life which cannot be measured in material terms.

At this moment of time Dumpdon Hill still stands serene in its remote silence. Is this now to give way to a day-long barrage of noise which could serve only as an indication that in the present day we are concerned solely with commercialization and exploitation? Surely not!

A commercial enterprise such as this is unrelated to what we all understand by the term "shooting rights" and must require the approval of the planning authority. If approval were to be given, what future developments would there be? No shooting school, under whatever guise it might operate, could function satisfactorily without a building of some sort. Would this initially take the form of a caravan, but finish up as a fully-fledged clubhouse in a permanent building with drinking licence and all the rest? Our narrow twisting lanes with their high hedges certainly could not bear the additional road traffic without serious consequences.

Happily we live at a time when people generally are recognizing the value to the community