

A CAN *of* WORMS (CAN FEED A NATION)

The Late Diaries of

Professor Brian Thrupiece

VOLUME 8

The most insightful
personal record of
an age since Pepys

DAILY MAIL



The Diaries of Professor Thrupiece are amongst the most important scientific documents of the 20th and 21st centuries. Often compared to those of Piers Morgan and Andrew Lloyd-Webber, they provide a fascinating insight into the private world of one of Britain's leading Culinary Bio-ethical thinkers as well as the extraordinary era in which he lived and worked.

Collected and published for the first time in this definitive edition under the general editorship of Audrey Badminton-Court, Volume 8 prepared by Mrs Edna Whisky-McNightly will only add to Professor Thrupiece's reputation as a diarist of the first rank.

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edited by
MRS EDNA WHISKY McNIGHTLY

FOREWORD

Professor Simon Nosebag-Malapense

I have been asked by Mrs Whisky-McNightly (a non academic) to write a Foreword to *The Thrupiece Diaries* and, as a great admirer of the Professor's work, I am delighted to do so.

Only a moron - or at best an uneducated critic from a northern sink hole - could have voted for Brexit: a self-inflicted wound which will do inestimable damage to Britain but more importantly to the academic community of which I am a proud and representative member. Vital research - ranging from the *Iconography of Toilet Graffiti in Islington* to *Gender Identity amongst post-Brexit Sure-Starters in Roehampton* - lies in peril as massive EU grants are withdrawn and the academic gravy-train (*Train beurre-noisette*) shudders to a halt just north of the Garre du Nord. Who will fund our not inconsiderable research expenses now? And who will identify gratuitous non-synergetic collaborative partners in other EU Institutions thereby affording us frequent opportunities for mind-expanding travel to the night-spots of Prague, Rome and Barcelona? My own critical work on *Life-Work Dynamics in the Norfolk Pea-Industry (June 1843 - August 1844)* undertaken in collaboration with Herr Dr Dr Dr Fritzel-Mann of the Department of Aeronautical Aviation in Tübingen is a case in point. A five year €2.7m project - vital to the well-being of Civilisation as we know it - may yet founder on the whim of the great unwashed with who knows what consequence for the world in general and for ME *in particular*? Harbours only trivial and selfish concerns about jobs, immigration, sovereignty and the price of fish, these people should never have been ALLOWED to vote: they simply do not understand the higher concerns and needs of the academic community.

Democracy is all well and good and - as my great friend and fellow Liberal Democrat Tim Moral-Highground said over port and nuts in the Senuor Combination Room last week “*fine when it delivers the result we want*”, but why should it extend to allowing non-academics the right to impose their opinion on those of us who know better because we are educated and understand the meaning of self-interest? Every academic with whom I discuss this agrees 100% and we should know because we are not only clever but fully *au fait* with the *Projet Européen* and all we stand to gain from it. Where is Rochdale anyway and what on earth is it for? [*If we still had access to EU Research Grants we could probably put the matter beyond doubt (ed).*]

So in parting I say vote Liberal Democrat and reverse this maddening decision. Only by voting Liberal Democrat will you get to feel good about yourself, overbearingly righteous in your indignation, self-satisfied in your opinions and wholly superior to your selfish and less-principled neighbours. Liberal Democrats: Winning Here!

Professor Simon Nosebag-Malapense
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ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS NOTE: Other parties are available but not worth voting for.

November 2003 - January 2004

3 November 2003

Late start today - one boiled egg and 3 soldiers. Delicious. Considered marmite but decided to weight-watch a little as I haven't seen S for a couple of weeks and don't want to get bigger - not in the stomach dept. anyway. A on the phone at 11 - wants me to see if Mr T can get a discount through the RSCBE for a little project he and "the Spaniard" are working on. Why do these people always assume I can solve their problems?

Worked a little on Fluff Genome Stretching but made little headway before the post arrived. Wine and double-glazing promotions mainly plus a statement from the bank. S is certainly expensive but worth it.

4 November 2003

Early start - porridge. Lumpy. Slept badly and woke in the night. Couldn't stop trying to resolve the Reified Asparagus v Pntologivallu-Privileged Broccoli Paradox and whether the revised edition should include it. Will discuss it with A B-C when she and C return from the Whitstable Compatible Ladies Rendezvous. Percolator on the blink and may have to call an engineer. Why don't things last these days? Only bought it last century and paid at least a fiver at the Evershot boot sale. Haven't used it more than twice a day and never for decaf. Note to self: is Columbian to be preferred bio-ethically to Ethiopian and do beans suffer/complain when ground? Issues, issues, issues ...

5 November 2003

S called. Needs money for waxing. I told her to go the whole hog and I would see her right.

6 November 2003

Apricots first thing. Hope that shifts it.

Call from RSCBE about a conference in Geneva next Spring. Will I give the plenary? Not sure! Am due to give a lecture at my alma mater in Cambridge (around about then and I am not as young as I was - as time with S makes clear. Oh to be 60 again!

E called with ideas for a new diet product involving hydrogenated earwax. As if I am not working hard enough!

8 November 2003

Marvellous day with S yesterday. We drove over to Chilfrome and I sketched her in the fields as nature intended. Complained it was freezing, though I liked the way the cold made her stand out. Sketch promising though S certainly needs touching up!

pm. Hot soup at the Batcombe cottage. Got the fire roaring and watched Prime Suspect (Helen Mirren like an older S). I think it's a detective series but it might be about clothes. Thought about writing to the BBC to suggest a drama set in the world of Culinary Bio-ethics with a Professor as the lead investigator - Silent Witness meets the Moral Maze - Michael Buerke would be good.

9 November 2003

Or perhaps David Starkey - the bow-tie might lend gravitas. Thought about earwax-based fish fingers: are they technically possible and ethically negotiable? Will discuss with A B-C. Might depend on the poss. of a lint-based golden crumb.

14 November 2003

Returned late from visit to Hazelbury Bryan Research Station on behalf of MoD. Fascinating. The things they can do with licorice torpedoes makes the eyes water. Promised RSCBE a paper considering the bio-ethical & psycho-logistical aspects of it all which currently compromise full deployment. Apparently Downing Steet want a report asap. TB himself has a lifelong interest in moulded confectionary and sees it as a vote winner next time round.

Letter from the Inland revenue waiting for me. Something about VAT on rocket fuel - an issue going back a decade - which made my spirits sink. Tried to phone S but got a message she was "still sore and avoiding friction at all costs". Early night.

18 November 2003

Letter from the Council. Will I switch on the Christmas Lights as they are a bit tired of A doing it and want a "celebrity" instead. I suggested my old protégé Timmy Mallet but apparently he's very old hat these days and couldn't attract more than three to the Burton Bradstock gymkhana last summer. Remember when he was big enough to be front-runner as the face of thrupiecediet Ready-spread for Kids. Just can't keep up with it all.

Will think about the lights when I've completed the "Ethics of Hydrogenated Skin Flakes" manuscript which the IJCBE has been pestering me about. Refereed a paper on "Transformational Jam Layering in Wagonwheel Manufacture". I think it could have huge implications in the Object-nominated Baked Goods Arena and need to think about the ethics of publication. Science can be dangerous when the epistemological pathway is so unclear!

21 November 2003

Two rashers and beans. Marvellous.

Council rang again.. Could I? Should I? Will I? S says yes but E says A will be put out and is it worth it so near Christmas?

S called in briefly but I had been bent over a pasta-related conceptual thermo-coil all morning and couldn't straighten up in time. She left disappointed and a little angry. Is she too naive to realise the significance of my work? Must finish the sketch before I forget and find something to spray on it.

Remember to buy rubber bands, seat restraints and a plug.

23 November 2003

Grapenuts. Still nothing.

Lecture in Mintern Magna to A's DHRA on "Women in Science". Focused on A B-C's work on the thrupiecetables which I thought would interest them, but they seemed determined to find the love interest and with both S and C in the wings there wasn't much I could say. Madeira cake was v good - spongy with a hint of digital resistance when probed which I have always found attractive in a cake and a woman.

Gave the Fiat Panda an outing and reached 45 on the bipass.

24 November 2003

S called. Needs money for waxing. I said it seemed to grow quite quickly. She disagreed and said it was a restyle.

30 November 2003

Butterbeans on toast.

Finally agreed to go to Geneva in the Spring. They are planning a Thrupiece retrospective and a Thrupiecediet Graduate Research Bulletin Board so could hardly refuse. Will have to tell Cambridge it's off but will wait until nearer the time and claim some kind of emergency. Maybe Dr S can substitute?

A B-C and C called on their way to the Poxwell Women's Action Day Steam Rally and asked to borrow a beret. In the end they took a scarf, a waterproof and a hand-towel as well.

Then settled to an afternoon of practicals with S. She's fearless and encourages me to take things further than I might left to my own devices. I think good things will come of this: there's a sense of optimism I had thought lost. Maybe we will develop the Christmas Feast Discs in time for the planned 19 December 2016 launch after all!

2 December 2003

Cornflakes with haggis fritters. Not a success - either way.

Setback yesterday - the after-effects of the practicals I imagine. Need to be more careful at my age and let things take their course. S will have to learn to be patient and a tad less manipulative.

Read the latest Doug Graves whilst recuperating in bed. He's always good and Inspector Allardyce is a terrific invention. Set in Egypt and involving a woman who gets her bits and bobs pinched by a dusky stranger. No sign of S.

14 December 2003

Passed on the Christmas lights, so A will do the needful. Meant I had more time to work on the Bio-ethics of Tangerine Replacement in an Era of Proactive Clementine Promotion which is topical given it's nearly Christmas and Treadescos (later to become ThreadboneExtra (ed)) are pushing the latter like there's no tomorrow. Is the thickness of peel an ontological or an existential issue?

A called. Mr T has had a turn and only "the Spaniard" could satisfy him. Rang Arthur S (the Cub Scout Leader) to see if he had any spare pills I could try on Mr T but there's been a run on them since a new boy arrived.

23 December 2003

Mince pies and brandy butter with chocolate log. Not ideal for breakfast but all I had in the meatsafe.

Decided I will go to E's for Christmas though the nephews will all be there with their ghastly offspring. Got some socks through the post from S who says she has to be elsewhere over the Festive period and that "these might help keep you warm". Made me wonder whether there might be a future in a company from which you can buy things and have them delivered to your door. Would need an exotic name to work - maybe one suggesting a long exciting journey - perhaps a South American river would do.

25 December 2003

Christmas day. Off to E's. Fuck.

28 December 2003

Late start. Fried tomatoes, fried bread, non-organic sausage.

S wants to go away for the New Year but I explained my commitment to research - yet again! Promised to take her abroad next year - maybe when I go to Geneva if I can keep her under the radar. Might she pass as an amanuesnis? Perhaps with shoulder pads, spectacles, a briefcase and shorty-raincoat?

Marvellous present from A during what turned out to be a decent Christmas given the circs. Electrical nasal clippers made in Japan. V stylish and look v efficient. I think I will wait until Geneva before trying them - there's plenty of life left in the old ones once they've been de-scurfed and given a spot of lubricant.

31 December 2003

The turn of the year - poached egg on (stale) toast. OK.

What will 2004 bring? Not what I expect - I am old and wise enough to know that. Feeling a tad nostalgic - for the old days and the old gang. More than 20 years since Dr K C died in the Care Home. Wish I'd seen more of his dear face - would have if only he'd shaved.

S rang - needs a small loan to buy a crotchless cat-suit for the New Year's Ball to which I am not invited. Evening in for me: walnuts and the latest DG - this one set on a yacht with an opera singer - sounds callous/Callas? (just thought of that!)

1 January 2004

Fridge empty and the hoover's pack up. Damn it.

3 January 2004

A B-C rang. Could we apply for an EU grant to evaluate the econometrics of non-activity induced dust subparticle management before an irrevocable decision to leave the EU in 12 year's time threatens all such collaborative research? It's a v good idea but do I have the time and energy? I am beginning to feel the advancing years and every session with S confirms I haven't the stamina I once had. Plus I have so many lectures and trips planned. Can I do the heavy lifting?

Must remember to tell Magd Coll. the Association Lecture is off.

8 January 2003

Constipation in the night. Probably the cheese.

Went into Knowleton to research flights and found a good deal wrt Geneva in the Spring. I will go 1st and charge the Conference, whilst S can go steerage at my expense and kill two birds by arriving separately. Buy a briefcase.

Cornavin again I think - v discreet and good croissants even if they are a bit lippy in that superior Swiss way. Plus good reliable in-room power supply ideal for small electrical applicances.

Bought a new propelling pencil and spent the afternoon twiddling it. Nice nipple-shaped eraser on the end - reminded me of that wonderful day in Chilfrome. S called ...

10 January 2004

Heavy cold. Friars balsam and a towel. Roll on April. Good feelings about Geneva. Where there's life etc etc.

Mrs Edna Whisky McNightly is a cousin of Professor Thrupiece's and they spent much of their childhood together roaming the county of Dorset.

On Professor Thrupiece's untimely death she assumed responsibility for all his affairs, though the day-to-day management burden was such that she soon chose to share it with Mrs Amanda J Threadbone whose name has since become even more synonymous with that of the Professor and his post-mortem affairs.

*What will 2004 bring? Not what I expect -
I am old and wise enough to know that.*

Professor Thrupiece
31 December 2003

