

Local Talk Back

APRIL 2021

ISSUE 514



Exercising the Hounds. Picture by Piers Talalla, Little Badminton



A MAGAZINE WITH NEWS, VIEWS AND REPORTS FOR THE RESIDENTS
OF ACTON TURVILLE, BADMINTON AND LITTLE BADMINTON

EDITORIAL APRIL 2021

Every morning for the past decade I have woken up to the sound of birdsong. The simple cheep cheep of the common House Sparrow, the melodious chirping of the Blackbird or the blood-curdling screech of the Patagonian Condor, all have at some time or other featured on Radio 4's Tweet of the Day programme which just happens to coincide with the alarm setting of my clock radio. It's a relaxing way to start the day. Chris Packham, Sir David Attenborough or another member of the BBC natural history department spend two minutes reeling off some fascinating facts about one of our feathered friends, while in the background we hear clips of the same bird cheeping, chirping, clucking or warbling away to its heart's content. Or just occasionally screeching. The first series of Tweet of the Day restricted itself to birds of the British Isles. A second series followed with an expanded scope that allowed the programme to feature the most exotic birds from around the world, but for me it was hearing about the colourful visitors to our garden that I found most compelling. It tempted me to find out more about them, and investigate ways of attracting them in greater numbers.

Step 1 was to buy some books which enabled me to differentiate between a Blackbird and a Starling, or a Greenfinch and a Blue Tit. I also learned how to attract different species to the garden. As a result I moved to Step 2, and our trees swiftly gained a growing array of feeders offering a wide range of treats for the more discerning beak. There was Niger seed for the Goldfinches, peanuts for the Tits and Sparrows, and sunflower seeds for the Greenfinches. It was interesting to watch how different birds approached feeding time. Some would feed for ages, patiently pecking one seed at a time until they'd had their fill. Others would swoop in, assault the feeder in a blur of beak and feathers then depart just as frenetically. I admired those who'd worked out that the best place to feed was directly beneath the feeders. For these clever birds, their meals would literally fall around them, dislodged by their colleagues who were haranguing the feeders above.

The wild bird food market in Britain is now big business, estimated to be worth as much as £235m per annum and growing by a healthy margin year on year. Even supermarkets are cashing in, tempting shoppers with an increasingly-varied range of avian delights and reinforcing the message that we should all play our part to support the animals. However, I have to admit that all is not completely rosy in the Carter bird sanctuary. A recent wildlife programme demonstrated the ingenuity of animals who were able to overcome some seemingly impossible obstacles to access a particularly tasty morsel. Squirrels would race along tightropes and jump from pole to pole to reach the prize, and crows would open trapdoors and conquer a maze if the reward was sufficiently succulent.

It would appear some of our local wildlife might have been watching the same programme. I hang the bird feeders from metal hooks which are looped over a convenient branch. A couple of months ago I noticed a feeder on the ground, lying on a bed of discarded Tesco's Finest luxury bird seed. I refilled it and hung it back on its hook, only for the same thing to happen within a couple of hours. It soon became apparent that the crows had worked out that, if they lifted the feeder high enough, it would pop off the hook and spill its contents on the ground. I tightened the hook around the branch and the feeder. The same thing happened, only now the local squirrel population had come to watch the show, patiently sitting on the wall while the crows dislodged the feeders before coming down to join in the feast. To make matters worse, the squirrels spotted the peanut feeders. Steel mesh is no barrier to a ninja squirrel and they made fast work of gnawing holes large enough to empty the feeders in no time.

The days when feeding the birds was a simple, pleasant and relaxing past-time seem but a distant memory. Where once our garden was full of colourful songbirds who were content to gnaw all day on a handful of Tesco's Value-Range bird food, we now find ourselves feeding an army of large, aggressive crows who emit a menacing, rasping caw as they bulldoze their way through piles of seed, eagerly encouraged by a growing number of squirrels.

I no longer listen to Tweet of the Day. I find it distressing.

Until the next time

IAN CARTER

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DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

We have received the following donations this month for which we are most grateful:

Anonymous - £20

Miss Karen Tucker - £30

Mr & Mrs Packer - £25

In addition, £57.76 was very generously donated in the local shop boxes.

Thank you!

We very much appreciate all donations as it helps to keep the Local Talk Back being delivered to your doors.

There are Local Talk Back collection boxes in Acton Turville Stores and Badminton Stores.

*To donate by cheque, please make payable to
LOCAL TALK BACK and send to:*

*The Treasurer, Local Talk Back,
Church Farm House, The Street, Acton
Turville, Badminton, S-Glos, GL9 1HL*

Thank you!

Unless you're reading this on-line, your copy of Local Talk Back will at some stage have passed through the hands of Richard Elford. Every month, Richard and his wife Belinda collect 400 copies of Talk Back from the printers. These are then split down into a series of smaller bundles which they hand to local distributors who deliver them to you, our readers. Richard has recently had a stay in hospital but thankfully is now back home and on the road to full fitness. He's asked us to pass on his sincere thanks to all those who kindly enquired after his health and offered their help and support to Belinda during the 5+ weeks he was in hospital. Both he and Belinda were very grateful for the kindness shown by friends and neighbours. We're sure you'll join us in sending our best wishes to Richard.

LOCAL TALK BACK ON-LINE

Did you know Local Talk Back is now just a click away?

Copies are available from the Acton Turville Information website at the following address:

<http://actonturville.info/talkback/>

NEWS NEWS NEWS

THE ACTON TURVILLE SPRING LITTER PICK

The 2021 Acton Turville Spring Litter Pick will be held on

Saturday 17 April 2021.

Can you help keep our lovely village looking green, clean and tidy? If you can, join us at the Fox & Hounds Car Park between 10 and 11am.

Bags, gloves and pickers will be provided to help with litter clearing, or bring your gardening tools if you fancy getting stuck into something more horticultural.

Social distancing rules will apply at all times.

Everyone welcome!

Any questions?

Contact actonturvillepc@aol.com

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

100 CLUB

WINNERS FOR MARCH 2021

Roger Orton

Mick Bell

Tim Penney

Congratulations!

Gate Tying

We are indebted to Bill Major for this lovely picture. It shows Bill lifting his beautiful bride Jill over the tied gate at Luckington Church. They were married in 1962 and moved to Little Badminton 10 years or so later.

Sadly, Bill lost Jill a few years ago but is very happy to share this photo with us. Thanks Bill.



Picture Mystery

We had an interesting email recently from Ian Gott who lives in Acton Turville. His email included a picture of villagers gathered together outside the Fox & Hounds public house, and was apparently taken to mark the Millennium. We'll publish the picture in a future issue. Judging by what people are wearing, the picture must have been taken in the summer. There are also suggestions that similar pictures were taken in other neighbouring villages.

Can anyone remember the picture being taken and who arranged it? Were pictures taken in other villages? Please get in touch with us at Talk Back if you know.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Two pictures from the archives this month, both with a Royal theme.

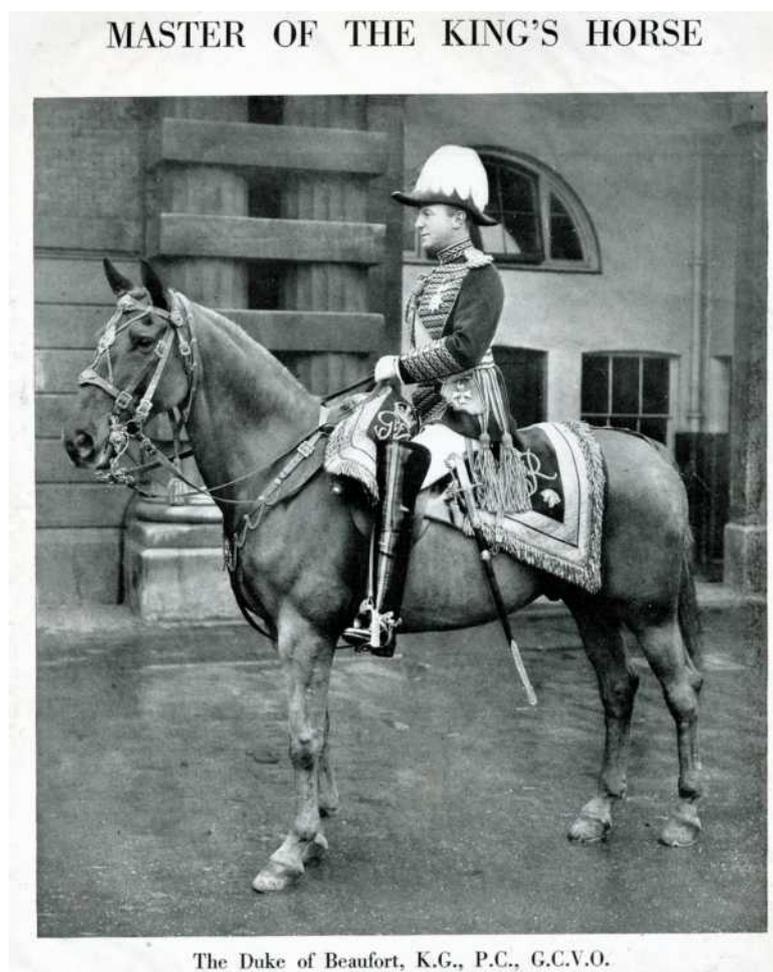
The first picture shows the 10th Duke of Beaufort as Master of the King's Horse, as he appeared in the Coronation procession for King George VI in 1937.

He was Master of the Horse from February 1936 until 1978. That's 42 years, the longest time the position was held by anyone. He was M o H to three monarchs – Edward VIII, George VI and (as Master of the Queen's Horse) Elizabeth II.

The Duchess of Beaufort, Mary, was first cousin to King Edward and King George, being Queen Mary's niece.

He was succeeded by David Fane 15th Earl of Westmorland, who also lived locally. (possibly Didmarton?) His daughter lives in Little Badminton.

The 8th Duke of Beaufort had also been Master of the Horse, to Queen Victoria, between 1858 – 59 and 1866 – 68.



For our second picture we go back another 30 years or so, to 1909. This photograph was amongst a number of early images of the Beaufort Hunt obtained by Ray Bird which will feature in a book due to be published shortly chronicling the history of the hunt. Although the quality isn't great, it's significant because the lady standing to the right of centre is Queen Alexandra, who was the wife of King Edward VII and mother to King George V. She was born in 1844, so at the time the photograph was taken she would have been 65. Ray has been studying the picture but is unable to establish where it was taken. Can anyone help? You can see the picture more clearly in the on-line version of Local Talk Back which is available here: <http://actonturville.info/talkback/>

We're always on the lookout for pictures which show what life was like in our villages in years gone by. If you have any that you'd be prepared to share, please contact Local Talk Back at localtalkback1975@gmail.com.



A POTTED HISTORY

by Ray Bird, Acton Turville

On the road between Acton Turville and Luckington there stands an old Pottery Kiln. The kiln that we see today is said to have been the last of three kilns that had stood on the site over the years; it is thought the kiln was built c1913, but never fired. Today it is all that remains of what was once a thriving industry that employed a number of local people.

Whilst researching the history of the potteries, I came upon the following article. Its original source is unknown:



"The Potteries dates back to the early 17th century. At that time they were situated on the right hand side of the Bristol Road leading to Acton Turville, on the Badminton side. Pottery made here was exported to all large towns in England and Wales, mostly as garden ornaments and chimney pots.

Towards the end of the 19th century clay was becoming more difficult to find, as all the clay for miles around the potteries had been dug out. A new site for a pottery was found and building work started as the old one closed down. By 1900 we find a new pottery built on the opposite side of the road just before Hebden Farm.

It was built for a Mr James Tanner of The Manor, Luckington. A new kiln, pottery shed, mill and stores were built. Mr John Ford from Bristol was chief potter and foreman. It was a thriving business and employed 12 men. Goods were sent to Bristol and Bath, and furnished the gardens of large country houses in the district with garden ornaments, also bricks, ornamental vases and garden figurines and chimney pots, all safely delivered by horse and cart.

Mr James Tanner died in January 1922 followed by his foreman Mr John Ford in February 1922. Mr Tanner bequeathed the potteries to his daughter Mrs Kate Denly of Corsham. She employed Mr Ayliffe from Acton Turville to build the present house at a cost of £400. Mrs Denly's son Alfred came to live at the house and to run the business, unfortunately lack of experience and the fact that most customers only paid their account yearly resulted in the business failing. Eventually Mrs Denly sold the potteries to Lady Blanche Scott-Douglas.

Lady Blanche Scott-Douglas lived at that time at 'Claremont' Luckington and, together with her sister in law the Dowager Duchess of Beaufort, Mrs E Richards, Baron F De Tuyls, Mr J Bagnall Bryan and Mr A. Harford as directors, attempted to make the potteries a success again. Lady Blanche Scott-Douglas imported clay from Cornwall to mix with the local clay in an endeavour to produce china jugs, mugs and tableware. Unfortunately the clay was not suitable for this type of work and the end product was unstable.



Workers photographed at the potteries in the 1930's.

Outside the potteries on the grass verge stood a large display cabinet showing the chinaware, but sadly the potteries closed in 1945. The new kiln was never fired and eventually the house became accommodation for farm workers at Hebden Farm".

**JAMES TANNER,
POTTER,
Brick, Tile, and Draining Pipe Manufacturer,
ARTIST IN VASES, ITALIAN BASKETS, &C.,
ACTON TURVILLE, NEAR BADMINTON.
Postal Address - LUCKINGTON, near Giggleswick.**

Item	Dimensions	Price
FLOWER POTS.		
2 1/2 inch	3d	
3 inch	4d	
4 inch	6d	
5 inch	8d	
6 inch	1s 0d	
8 inch	1s 6d	
10 inch	2s 0d	
12 inch	2s 6d	
14 inch	3s 0d	
16 inch	3s 6d	
18 inch	4s 0d	
20 inch	4s 6d	
22 inch	5s 0d	
24 inch	5s 6d	
26 inch	6s 0d	
28 inch	6s 6d	
30 inch	7s 0d	
32 inch	7s 6d	
34 inch	8s 0d	
36 inch	8s 6d	
38 inch	9s 0d	
40 inch	9s 6d	
42 inch	10s 0d	
44 inch	10s 6d	
46 inch	11s 0d	
48 inch	11s 6d	
50 inch	12s 0d	
52 inch	12s 6d	
54 inch	13s 0d	
56 inch	13s 6d	
58 inch	14s 0d	
60 inch	14s 6d	
62 inch	15s 0d	
64 inch	15s 6d	
66 inch	16s 0d	
68 inch	16s 6d	
70 inch	17s 0d	
72 inch	17s 6d	
74 inch	18s 0d	
76 inch	18s 6d	
78 inch	19s 0d	
80 inch	19s 6d	
82 inch	20s 0d	
84 inch	20s 6d	
86 inch	21s 0d	
88 inch	21s 6d	
90 inch	22s 0d	
92 inch	22s 6d	
94 inch	23s 0d	
96 inch	23s 6d	
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100 inch	24s 6d	
102 inch	25s 0d	
104 inch	25s 6d	
106 inch	26s 0d	
108 inch	26s 6d	
110 inch	27s 0d	
112 inch	27s 6d	
114 inch	28s 0d	
116 inch	28s 6d	
118 inch	29s 0d	
120 inch	29s 6d	
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124 inch	30s 6d	
126 inch	31s 0d	
128 inch	31s 6d	
130 inch	32s 0d	
132 inch	32s 6d	
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264 inch	65s 6d	
266 inch	66s 0d	
268 inch	66s 6d	
270 inch	67s 0d	
272 inch	67s 6d	
274 inch	68s 0d	
276 inch	68s 6d	
278 inch	69s 0d	
280 inch	69s 6d	
282 inch	70s 0d	
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290 inch	72s 0d	
292 inch	72s 6d	
294 inch	73s 0d	
296 inch	73s 6d	
298 inch	74s 0d	
300 inch	74s 6d	
302 inch	75s 0d	
304 inch	75s 6d	
306 inch	76s 0d	
308 inch	76s 6d	
310 inch	77s 0d	
312 inch	77s 6d	
314 inch	78s 0d	
316 inch	78s 6d	
318 inch	79s 0d	
320 inch	79s 6d	
322 inch	80s 0d	
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326 inch	81s 0d	
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366 inch	91s 0d	
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410 inch	102s 0d	
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420 inch	104s 6d	
422 inch	105s 0d	
424 inch	105s 6d	
426 inch	106s 0d	
428 inch	106s 6d	
430 inch	107s 0d	
432 inch	107s 6d	
434 inch	108s 0d	
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440 inch	109s 6d	
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444 inch	110s 6d	
446 inch	111s 0d	
448 inch	111s 6d	
450 inch	112s 0d	
452 inch	112s 6d	
454 inch	113s 0d	
456 inch	113s 6d	
458 inch	114s 0d	
460 inch	114s 6d	
462 inch	115s 0d	
464 inch	115s 6d	
466 inch	116s 0d	
468 inch	116s 6d	
470 inch	117s 0d	
472 inch	117s 6d	
474 inch	118s 0d	
476 inch	118s 6d	
478 inch	119s 0d	
480 inch	119s 6d	
482 inch	120s 0d	
484 inch	120s 6d	
486 inch	121s 0d	
488 inch	121s 6d	
490 inch	122s 0d	
492 inch	122s 6d	
494 inch	123s 0d	
496 inch	123s 6d	
498 inch	124s 0d	
500 inch	124s 6d	

All kinds of GARDEN WARE, CHIMNEY POTS, BRICKS, &c., kept in Stock, or Made to Order.

The above article makes several references of the clay being dug in the area of the kilns. I have not been able to find any documents of the exact location of any of the sites, however, the following does seem a real possibility of where one of those sites may have been. That being the first field on the left after the railway bridge on the Acton Turville road towards Luckington. As well as its prominent 'ridges and half bowl shape' that can be seen in its landscape which seems likely to have been created by digging, there is also a small pond in the field where, on one of its banks, I found numerous broken clay artefacts. Because some of those artefacts had already been glazed, and given the pond was a ready water source, an essential part of pottery, it begs the question of whether the first kiln, and maybe other buildings, may have been in that field, before later moving to the site where the remaining kiln stands today?

An undated advertising poster in the time of James Tanner, gives us an insight into the products he sold. He describes himself as:

“JAMES TANNER, POTTER.

*Brick, Tile and Draining Pipe Manufacturer,
Artist in Vases, Italian Baskets etc.”*

whilst at the bottom of the poster it says:

*“All kinds of Garden Ware, Chimney Pots,
Bricks etc kept in stock, or made to order.”*

An extensive range of goods and their prices were listed. They included flower pots ranging from 2½ inches for 3d per dozen, up to 22 inches, although only up to 12½ inches were priced, those being at 7 shillings per dozen. A wide range of other pots were available including rhubarb pots at £1.7s.6d per dozen for the large size and £1.0.0 per dozen for the small ones. Vases per pair ranged from 2s.6d up to 4 guineas.

A range of building materials was also on offer, including chimney pots (plain ones were priced from 1s. 6d each for a 2ft one, up to 4 shilling for a 3ft one) and building bricks (12 x 6 inch ones were £5 per 1,000, while Fire Bricks were 14 Shillings per 100). Other bricks available were Fluted Partition, Hollow Roofing, Culvert, Oven and Gutter bricks.

The poster concludes with a list of items such as saucers, seed pans, seakale pots, Italian baskets, draining pipes, socket pipes, and a very extensive range of tiles.

Local Talk Back would be fascinated to know more about the potteries. Maybe you have pictures, or remember stories from those who used to work there. If you have any further information, or stories about the Potteries please contact the Local Talk Back team.

Footnote - the aforementioned Lady Blanche Scott-Douglas was the sister of the 10th Duke of Beaufort. In the 1950s and 1960s she was a well-known owner of Greyhound racing dogs that she kept at her Sherston Kennels.

SNIPPETS

For Sale

Framed limited edition print of
Duke of Beaufort's Hounds - titled 'Four Of The
Best' by Leon Wilson - £70.

Contact Pearl Harris on 079031929013 or
[email pearlharris@yahoo.com](mailto:pearlharris@yahoo.com)



Badminton Garden Farm

Did you know that you can now buy vegetables and eggs from the Badminton village barrow, located at the gate to Kennel Drive? All produce is from the Badminton Garden Farm and is produced to organic standards.

The barrow is "self service", and operates on an honesty box basis. If it's raining, the barrow will be in the horse box inside the gate.

If you would be interested in subscribing to a box of veg in the future, please write to Badminton Walled Garden at tracy@tracyworchester.org.uk

Ideally come and collect your box of veg on a Friday from the horse box.

Thank you!

Sudoku

April's challenge set by Neil Fozard.

To solve the puzzle, each row, column and 3x3 box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

EASY !!

								5
	3							
1		4			6	9		
	1			5	4	3		
				6		2	9	
		1	8					6
	8	9						
	5	8	4					7
9			1	2		4		

NOT SO EASY !!

				7				
	9	2	5		8			
	2			1	6	9	4	
2	7						1	8
				8	5			
9	8						6	7
	3			8	4	5	9	
	5	9	2		1			
				5				

Answers to the March quizzes:

'Easy'

4	7	6	8	9	1	3	5	2
9	2	5	3	7	4	1	6	8
3	8	1	2	6	5	4	9	7
5	4	2	7	8	6	9	1	3
6	9	8	1	2	3	5	7	4
7	1	3	5	4	9	2	8	6
2	6	9	4	1	8	7	3	5
8	3	4	9	5	7	6	2	1
1	5	7	6	3	2	8	4	9

'Not so Easy'

3	5	8	7	2	4	6	9	1
4	7	2	1	9	6	3	5	8
9	6	1	3	8	5	2	4	7
5	1	3	2	7	8	9	6	4
7	8	9	4	6	3	1	2	5
6	2	4	9	5	1	8	7	3
1	4	7	6	3	2	5	8	9
2	9	5	8	1	7	4	3	6
8	3	6	5	4	9	7	1	2

J J'S GARDENING BLOG



April is a busy month for gardeners. Keep hand-weeding the beds while tickling up the soil with a border fork. With the rain we've had this will loosen up the compacted soil. Plants like something a bit fluffy to push their roots into. If you have fed your trees or shrubs with bonemeal your dog or fox may dig it up looking for a tasty snack! Use some chicken wire and canes to encircle it generously. Wire hanging baskets, temporarily out of use, can top pots of bulbs to protect them from being dug up by squirrels. As the bulbs finish flowering, it will be time to retrieve the baskets, fill them with compost and plant up for the summer. Pot up dahlias, gladioli.

Choosing Plants for the Garden

April is the time to see wisteria at its best. If you are planting this energetic climber, varieties which flower before the leaves unfurl bloom particularly well. That is the Chinese wisteria.

Flowering cherry trees will be in flower. For an outing, visit the good display at Batsford Arboretum. Only prune cherries, if you must, in the summer when disease is less likely to take hold.

Tulips will still be flowering through April and May if you choose a selection of varieties.

Some Practical Tips for your Garden

Keep a narrow path at the back of borders for maintenance, dead heading etc. Plants in front will hide it.

Cyclamen will be in flower as will the small beautiful iris, Kathleen Hodgkin. Use them on a garden table perhaps with a fern, auricula or primrose to enjoy close by. Euphorbias make a lovely lime green splash just now.

Does your garden need an eye catcher? Against a solid fence or garden wall put in a full height "fake" door. Just as a decoration, point of interest, to pretend it leads somewhere.

Stepping stones: keep the space between each slab narrow. Too wide and it becomes awkward.

If you have a front garden, is everything in proportion? Are some things too large now, is a hidden gem lost from sight? What about colour, scent, variegation. Annual climbers like Spanish Flag (*Ipomoealobata*), *Thumbergia Alata* merging from pale yellow to apricot with a central dark eye, or *Cobaea scandens* with maroon flowers.

Jobs for this month

If you have access to some mulch do try to put some on now; muck, leaf mould and, on heavy ground, pea gravel. Most plants like good drainage. If you only have a small amount of compost available, use it when planting out your annuals.

Pots. Remove about an inch of old soil from pots and top dress with fresh compost now.

And Finally...

When planting out a single plant or more, place the plant/s in place but leave them in situ until you like where they are. Even hold your decision until the next day? Wait until May and the soil has warmed a little before planting out annuals.

In Memoriam

ELSIE ANDREWS

Elsie Andrews, wife of the late Alan Andrews, has sadly passed away. Elsie had lived in Badminton for over 40 years, first at Castle Barn and then 34 years at Mount Pleasant. Alan was carpenter for Swangrove Farms at Badminton for many years. Elsie was a nurse before marrying Alan.

She was renowned in the village for her baking, especially the apple pies she made for neighbours, charities and for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party for many years. For the last 18 months Elsie had lived at a Care Home in Burnham on sea. She will be fondly remembered here by many friends and her family.

TREVOR PETERS

Trevor sadly passed away recently. His early life was spent in Hullavington. The family later moved to Acton Turville where his father worked on the Badminton Station. Trevor worked in the building trade, firstly for local builder Eddie Hayes and later became self-employed. He was very much involved in village life and was well liked by everyone. We send condolences to his wife June, also to his children Karen and Kevin, and sister Val and their families.

Badminton Air Days

Looking through old copies of *Local Talk Back*, it is fascinating to read about some of the events that used to be organised in our villages. Of course we still have the Horse Trials, but sadly many other events have fallen by the wayside. Who can remember the New Year's Day Fun Run from Acton Turville to Badminton and back, or the bonfire and firework display in the Acton Turville playing field? Another much-missed event is the Badminton Air Day which was a regular fixture in the calendar for many years. One of the many people to enjoy the show was Chris Bennett from Acton Turville, who shares his memories and pictures from the 1990 event.

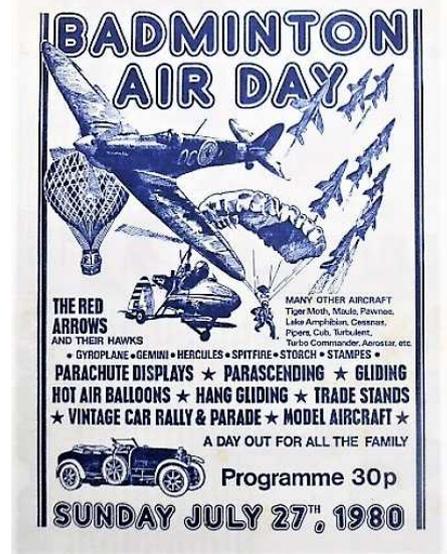
For us, the Badminton Air Day, held in high summer, started with a pleasant walk up to the airfield, carrying chairs and a picnic to be entertained by displays, both on the ground and in the air. The planes that took part covered the entire era of flight from World War I biplanes, through the Second World War to the present day and often included some that were historically noteworthy such as the Fairey Swordfish as well as the familiar 'Battle of Britain Flight'.

Not being a historian, I don't know when the Air Days began. Based on a quick internet search, the earliest reference I could find was a 40 minute cine film record of the July 1979 event by Terry Chatham. You can see the film for yourself on YouTube (https://youtu.be/4s_GdoBLbKk): I think you'll agree it makes for an interesting piece of local history.

Programmes for the Air Days give a flavour of the many attractions put on to keep spectators entertained. As well as the aircraft and flying displays, there were parachute displays, hot air balloons, a vintage car rally and parade, and of course the obligatory trade stands. It was indeed "A Day Out For All The Family".

The accompanying photos were taken at the 1990 event, held in August, which was to be its penultimate running. Highlights included the 'Battle of Britain' fly past with Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster as well as some replica/recreations of other historic war planes including Baron Von Richtofen's Fokker Triplane and a Messerschmitt 109 (which was actually a Spanish built Buchon, modified to look like a 109 for the film, 'The Battle of Britain'). Also present were the Crunchie Bar sponsored 'wing walking' display team along with a number of aerobatic teams of which the Vladivar Vodka sponsored and Russian built Yak-50 was the most notable.

Those were the days!



The crew of this Fairey Swordfish MKII wave to the crowd



Aerobatic planes line up in front of the hangar/control tower

Badminton Air Days



Clockwise from above:

- The Red Baron's Fokker DR1.
- The Crunchie display team get ready to thrill the crowds with a display of wing-walking.
- A 1929 De Havilland Gypsy Moth.
- The Yak-50 of the Vladivar aerobatic team prepares for take off.
- A Spitfire lands at Badminton.
- Almost a Messerschmitt - a Spanish-built Buchon.



Many thanks to Chris for his recollections of what was clearly a memorable day. Do you have any memories of the Badminton Air Days, or the other events that used to take place in our villages? Maybe you ran in the Fun Run or just enjoyed watching the fireworks. Get in touch and tell us your stories, we'd love to hear from you.



From the Archives

Three views of Badminton for you this month. Would anyone like to hazard a guess when the pictures were taken?



ACTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

***Please!** No Dogs are allowed on the playing field or in the play area.*

All gates must be kept shut. No vehicles are allowed in or on the playing field except by permission of the Parish Council. Please put all litter in the bins provided. Thank you.

MARCH 2021

Playing Field:

Boundary Wall - We would like to thank everyone who responded to our request for a contractor to repair the boundary wall. We have received numerous responses and can advise quotes are currently being sought and site visits arranged. Details for the repairs have now been agreed, and we hope the work can be carried out as soon as possible in early Spring. Our thanks and appreciation to everyone who replied.

Grass cutting - We are still looking for volunteers as per our advertisement in the previous edition of Local Talk Back. Our aim is to have at least six people working on a rota basis during the summer months. We have our own mower along with a strimmer for the play area. Safety equipment and instructions will be provided. If you, or anyone such as a friend or relative who might be interested and can spare a little time, please let us know. Thank you.

Annual Precept

Councillors agreed similar to last year there will be no increase in the Annual Precept which we receive from South Gloucestershire Council for the 2021/22 financial year.

Meetings

To report any issues, forward questions or attend a meeting please contact the Clerk via email. Details below. Thank you.

Parish Councillors: Sybil Haddrell (Acting Chair) 218772, Sally Smith 218510, Chris Bennett 218550,
Toby Evans 219116, Ian Carter 219129

Next meeting: Monday 12 April 2021 @ 7.00 pm Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675

Email: actonturvillepc@aol.com Website: www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org



ACTON TURVILLE TENNIS CLUB

The Acton Turville Tennis Club is relaunching with an online booking system!

We are looking for new members and donations to keep the court running.

To join, please go to our website: actonturville.info/tennis or search "Acton Turville Tennis Club".

You can choose to be an annual member, pay as you play, book tennis lessons, or make a donation.

Individual Annual Membership - £30

Family Annual Membership - £50

Pay As You Play - £5

Support the Court by making a Donation

Court bookings, tennis lessons and Memberships can only be made online.

The court will open from the 29th March 2021.

The tennis court can only keep going with your assistance, so please help support the court.

Donations may be made in person at the Old School, Acton Turville.

Cheques payable to 'Acton Turville Tennis Club'.

Church Matters

April 2021 Letter from the Vicar

Dear Parishioners,

I very much empathise with Ian Carter's editorial in the last copy of the 'Local Talk Back', in which he said that technology is great and can help us to communicate across many thousands of miles seamlessly, but.... 'I miss people. Real people'.

I find it magical that we can have prayer and meditation meetings with each other from the secure comfort of our armchairs. This Easter for example will be virtual, Ben Humphries and I will meet in some of our churches and record the services that will then be available on Good Friday and Easter Sunday (on Youtube Badminton Benefice).....but it is not the same as gathering together with other Christians in a real place, in real time.

The most obvious sign that this is the case, is that Easter is the most Holy of all the days of the year and this year, we can not celebrate **Holy Communion**. To celebrate Holy Communion you need to be with a couple of other people at least, to create a gathering of Christians who break bread and remember the sacrifice of Jesus and receive the life giving body and blood of the Saviour. That is the foremost function of the sacred priesthood, to gather Christians together to do just that. Anyone who is adult and baptised can partake, (or younger and admitted to Communion).

So, I share with Ian the desire to be WITH real people again, around the altar. Or at least simply gathered in prayer and praise, at Matins.

Prayer can be said anywhere, anytime. But worship is a gathered reality. And that I miss. Hopefully we will be back in church by at the latest, Whitsun (23rd May). In the meantime, we are doing our best to keep the church congregations as safe as possible.

With my best wishes,

Richard Thomson

Please in the meantime contact me or the Treasurer, if you wish to set up a monthly donation, as all the churches are short of cash.

Priest in charge, Withymoor Vicarage, Old Down Rd. Badminton GL9 1EU

Benefice website: www.badmintonchurch.org.uk

[Email: revrichardthomson@gmail.com](mailto:revrichardthomson@gmail.com)

Tel. 01454 219236

Mobile 077 177 91858

Badminton Benefice Rota for April 2021

	Broadcast Date	Time	Parish	Service
Easter Sunday	4 th April	10AM	From Hawkesbury	www.youtube.com/c/badmintonbenefice
Easter 2	11 th April	10AM	From Leighterton	www.youtube.com/c/badmintonbenefice
Easter 3	18 th April	10AM	From Didmarton	www.youtube.com/c/badmintonbenefice
St Mark the Evangelist	25 th April	10AM	From Lasborough	www.youtube.com/c/badmintonbenefice

*Mid week service and Lent group on Zoom BCP MATINS Wednesday at 9.30AM
Meditation groups - please contact Vicar.*

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF ANY SERVICES RE-COMMENCING IN APRIL

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The Craft Group
Will be hoping to resume activities this Autumn

