

Local Talk Back

APRIL 2022

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

ISSUE 525



Wayne and Lesley, celebrating 30 years running Drewett's Stores & Post Office, Badminton. Congratulations!!



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

EDITORIAL APRIL 2022

Spring is always a positive time for me. It's the time of the year when I start planning. Planning holidays, planning day trips, planning ways to get more exercise, planning jobs around the house, just generally looking forward to all those things that are so much simpler now the weather's improving and the days are getting longer. The list of things to do might be quite extensive this year for a number of reasons. For a start, it's fair to say my levels of enthusiasm waned over the past couple of years. Much-anticipated plans to go away somewhere warm were dashed when new lockdown rules and restrictions were announced, and cold water was poured on the stay-at-home holiday option by a decidedly chilly summer leaving me at a generally low ebb. I found myself watching more television, in particular programmes about holidays, programmes about transforming homes, and lots of programmes about food. I've therefore got a very long list of places where I'd like to go now that travel is once again an option. I'm also brimming over with ideas for the house, although it has occurred to me that, as most of the home renovation programmes I've been watching were first broadcast 30-odd years ago, I could be about to opt for a look that is as contemporary as an avocado bathroom suite with gold taps. Lastly, as a result of all those food programmes such as the one where the presenter amazes a very excitable audience by rapidly consuming enough food to feed a family of four for a week, I really need to get out more and exercise.

To set the ball rolling I've started with the garden. The patio has already been treated with some amazing gloop that leaves it gleaming and looking like new, and the fence has been painted with something that, according to the advertising, was developed by NASA and used as a preservative on the space shuttle. That should be handy if any of the panels succumb to the next storm and find themselves in near-earth orbit. Although those two jobs have been enthusiastically crossed off my list, as so often happens, their places have been taken by two new tasks, namely removing a large spillage of NASA's finest fence paint from my nice clean patio (I now see why the paint was able to withstand re-entry – nothing touches it) and replanting everything within three feet of the patio which was wiped out when I over-enthusiastically washed it down with what appears to be a derivative of Agent Orange. With any luck, by the end of the summer I'll be back to where I started.

On the plus side I've been able to get out more, and I'm constantly reminded how lucky we are to live in such a lovely part of the country. Strolling around the footpaths that criss-cross the countryside is so very relaxing and provides the perfect opportunity to get away from the trials and tribulations of everyday life. In addition, Talk Back's What's On pages and Diary Dates are starting to fill up with events over the coming months, including the Badminton Open Gardens on the 22nd April and, later in the year, special events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. I think it's got all the makings of a good year.

If you see someone at the Open Gardens asking about plants which are resistant to Agent Orange, make sure you say hello.

Until the next time

IAN CARTER

Congratulations!

As we all know, 2022 marks the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, but locally we're also celebrating 30 years since Wayne and Lesley took over the running of Drewett's Stores and Post Office in Badminton. We couldn't let such a momentous event pass without offering our most sincere congratulations.

When they took over in March 1992, Wayne and Lesley became the ninth family to run the store since it opened in 1750. In their hands it has gone from strength to strength, offering an every-expanding range of items, a great many of which are sourced from local suppliers. They have become an essential and much appreciated part of the local community, none more so than during the COVID restrictions when they consistently went out of their way to offer help and support to those who needed it.

To Wayne and Lesley - congratulations and thank you, from all of us.

Items for Local Talk Back email to: localtalkback1975@gmail.com Tel: 01454 218267

To advertise in Local Talk Back, please email Pauline on: LocalTalkBackAds@gmail.com

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MAY EDITION OF LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15TH APRIL.

THANK YOU.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

April

Wed 6th Didmarton WoW – see News page for details
 Thurs 7th Didmarton Toddlers Group – see News page
 Fri 8th Rural Cinema- West Side Story
 Wed 13th Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club
 Mon 18th Race meeting, Castle Combe
 Sun 24th Badminton House Open Gardens
 Sat 30th Acton Turville Spring Clean

Forthcoming events

May

Mon 2nd Race meeting, Castle Combe
 Wed 4th - Badminton Horse Trials
 Sun 8th
 Fri 27th / Music In Country Churches – see below
 Sat 28th
 Sat 28th / Castle Combe Steam Fair
 Sun 29th

June

Thurs 2nd Royal Bath & West Show, Shepton Mallet
 - Sat 4th
 Sun 5th Acton Turville Jubilee Picnic
 Sun 19th Badminton House Open Gardens
 Sun 26th Berkeley Show, Berkeley Castle

Please check with venues before setting off

Please let Local Talk Back know if you're planning an event and we'll add it to our dates for the diary.

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

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

Mrs Gloria Gibson £20.00

In addition, £11.13 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,
 6 Hollybush Close, Acton Turville,
 Badminton, South Glos, GL9 1JJ

Music In Country Churches

Music In Country Churches was set up in 1989, with the active support of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, to organise musical concerts and help raise funds to maintain the fabric of country churches.

On the 27th and 28th May, they are organising an event in Minchinhampton Church which will include a Celebration of Cotswold music.

For details, telephone 0333 666 3366 or visit www.musicincountrychurches.org.uk

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

100 Club

WINNERS FOR MARCH 2022

Bridget Hope

Tess Daly

David Burchell

Congratulations!

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Tel: 01454 852255 or email: info@sprint-print.co.uk



In Memoriam

Peggy Bird

We were very sorry to hear that Peggy Bird had passed away. After spending her early years in Grittleton, Peggy married her late husband Gerald Bird. They lived for many years in Badminton before Peggy moved to a nursing home in Chippenham. Peggy was a long term member of the Acton Turville Luncheon Club which she enjoyed very much.

We send our condolences to daughter Caroline and family.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

We publish reports from the Acton Turville Parish Council every month in Local Talk Back but here's something a bit different – a report from the Parish Council meeting held in June 1979.

ACTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

The first meeting of the new Parish Councillors took place on Tuesday 12th June 1979 at the Old School, Acton Turville. Mrs Walton was elected Chairman and Mr Wayman Vice Chairman. The retiring chairman Mr Crook took the chair until the new chairman was elected, and then he left the meeting. The new chairman Mrs Walton said that a letter should be sent to Mr Crook thanking him for his services to the Parish as a councillor for the last 30 years.

Mr Crook came into the village in 1945 and took over the Fox & Hounds. In 1949 it was decided to form a Parish Council and 9 candidates put up for election, 5 were elected and at the first meeting on 4th October those present were Councillor G A Minty (Chairman), Councillor A M Carson (Vice Chairman) Mr H Crook, Mr R C Broomsgrove and Mr R. H Herding, also present was Mr H A Mizen deputy clerk to Sodbury Rural District Council and Mr Hayes as clerk to the Parish Meeting. Mr Crook informed me that when they held their first meeting nobody turned up except the councillors and this was the pattern for the next few years, but he thought there was more interest shown nowadays in the affairs of the Parish. Mr Crook was a Rural District Councillor for 23 years and chairman of planning for 6 years. Mr Crook said his reason for not putting up for election this time is because he is now 74 years old and would be 79 by the time the next election would take place.

I know most of the villagers would like to add their thanks to him for his help and advice through the years. Thank you Harry,

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 16th July 1979 at the Old School, Acton Turville at 6.30 pm.

Collecting Corner

Donations are very important to Local Talk Back and go a long way to covering our not-inconsiderable costs. Collecting boxes can be found in our local shops in Acton Turville and Badminton and we always appreciate everything we receive. Until recently there was another box in the Badminton Social Club, but when the club closed the collecting box disappeared amongst the rest of the various fixtures, fittings and general paraphernalia. There's good news – it's now reappeared. Excitement mounted as the key was turned in the lock, and rightly so as it was found to contain over £50 in cash. And that's not all – it also contained 13 foreign coins from various parts of the world, a handful of tokens from the fruit machine and some random chocolate coins! Belated (but no less sincere) thanks for everyone who contributed, and to those who continue to contribute. We do appreciate everything we receive.

A TRIBUTE TO HILARY PETERS

by Ray Bird, Acton Turville

In last month's Local Talk Back, the Reverend Richard Thomson, in his Vicar's Letter, mentioned the sad passing of Hilary Peters who lived in Worcester Lodge. There is no doubt she was an extraordinary lady who had experienced such a varied lifestyle, so through various articles written about her, and memories from a few locals, I have put together a condensed version of her amazing life.

Generous, eccentric, author, recluse, nomad, are just a few of the words that could be used to describe Hilary. Born in 1939 in London she was the daughter of A.D Peters, a wealthy literary agent. With war looming, and the dangers that living in London meant, for its duration she went to live in Oxfordshire. When the war was over, she returned to London and attended the independent Francis Holland School for girls in Sloane Square. From 1958-1962 she went to St Anne's College, Oxford where she read Theology which fuelled a life-long passion for religion and the inner life which led her to study Vipassana meditation. It is said that she would begin each day with an hour spent watching her breath.



It was after her time at the college that her life was to take many twists and turns. Although given a large sum of money by her wealthy father, she preferred to embrace a simpler lifestyle, and would either give much of her wealth away or put it into projects that benefitted others, in particular projects that encouraged urban people to connect more with nature. In c1963 she took a lease on a house on the Ballast Quay at Greenwich in which she kept chickens, and at nearby Blackheath she had some goats. At around the same time, she transformed her partner's old barge that was moored in a nearby dock, into a floating showroom for their stone display garden, and as a retail outlet for their goat's milk, eggs, fruit, vegetables and honey.

Her first, more widely-known venture was transforming an old commercial site on the River Thames into a nursery garden, which it is said continues to attract visitors to this day. After the nursery garden project, she moved on to starting a city farm on land on the former Surrey docks site. In 1978 she wrote a book called "Docklandscape" which plots the story of that dockland venture. Once the farm was handed over to the local authorities to continue running, she moved on to her own more personal adventures, the first of which was to buy a narrow boat and tour the United Kingdom's canal system, which she duly did over the following years, becoming quite an expert on the subject. Once her canal tours were achieved, she then swapped her canal boat for a converted ambulance and went on a 10-year road tour of the country, from Cornwall to Scotland. During that tour she enjoyed visiting many buildings, in particular churches and follies, as well as going to see many of the country's most beautiful landscapes.

As well as the more published feats already mentioned, she was involved in a variety of other things. These included a period as one-time editor of the Follies magazine, and joining farmers by being at the forefront in the protests against what she saw as the needless slaughter of livestock during the Foot & Mouth epidemic. On the human side, she was a regular visitor to prisons to comfort and chat with inmates, and at home her doors were always open for anyone seeking refuge for a few days.



It would appear she found her way to our area while on her road travels, several residents recalling seeing her converted vehicle, distinctive by the chimney sticking out the top, being parked up periodically by Hinnegar Wood, which was both peaceful and handy for gathering wood for her fire.

With her love for old buildings, landscapes, nature and her mainly solitude lifestyle, it was perhaps fitting she spent the final 15 years or so of her life in the beautiful 18th century Worcester Lodge with its magnificent view looking down the avenue towards Badminton Park and House, and surrounded by woods, fields and the wildlife she loved so much.

Compiled from extracts from various internet articles, Dyddi Digest, and additional info from Didmarton residents Jan Walker and Charley Crewe - my thanks to you all.

CONGRATULATIONS CHARLIE!



Charlie Deutsch with Mum Richanda, Beaufort Hunt 2002

Congratulations to National Hunt Jockey Charlie Deutsch on his first Cheltenham Festival win. From a very early age, Charlie was a regular out with the Beaufort Hunt on his pony where he began learning the basic skills needed by N.H jockeys. On finishing school, following a short spell in one trainer's yard, he went to Venetia Williams, worked his way up, and is now her No 1 stable jockey.

Charlie Deutsch Then & Now

Above: 2002 - Charlie on a lead rein with mum Richanda.

Right: 2022 - Charlie riding his first Cheltenham festival winner



Digital Champions – support to help you get online and make the most of the internet

If you, or someone you know, needs help to get online or would like to learn more about what you can do online, the Digital Champions can help.

Based in seven South Gloucestershire libraries: Yate, Downend, Emersons Green, Hanham, Staple Hill, Thornbury and Winterbourne, the Digital Champions can help you complete specific tasks such as applying for a blue badge, setting up an email account or learning how to make video calls.

The Digital Champions run free one-to-one support sessions to help you feel more confident using the internet and online services.

You can book a session and bring your own device along (such as a laptop, tablet or smartphone), or use one of the library computers on the day - just let us know when you book.

To book your session, visit the library during staffed hours and speak to library staff or phone 01454 865022 (lines open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm and Saturday 9.30am to 12pm).

BEAUFORT HUNT CHARITY DONATIONS

On March 4th at their annual Meet in Sopworth, Wiltshire, the Beaufort Hunt presented cheques for £5,000 each to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and the Youth Action Wiltshire organisations. These donations coming from funds raised at last years Christmas Fair.

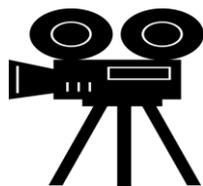
The Wiltshire Air Ambulance needs little introduction, it's fast emergency service often being vital for saving lives. It takes around £4 million a year to keep its air ambulance flying, and getting no direct government funding, nor lottery grant, hence generous donations such as the £5,000 are crucial.

Perhaps not so well known is Youth Action Wiltshire. It is the national award winning "Youth Arm" of supporting local communities for the Swindon and Wiltshire area. Their spokesperson said the donation was greatly appreciated and would be put towards assisting with our local initiatives.

WHAT'S ON

DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Didmarton Village Hall, Friday 8th April 2022



WEST SIDE STORY

(2021, 12A) – Drama, musical

Starring: Ansel Elgort, Rachel Zegler, Maddie Ziegler

Directed by Academy Award winner Steven Spielberg, from a screenplay by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner Tony Kushner, "West Side Story" tells the classic tale of fierce rivalries and young love in 1957 New York City.

Doors open at 6.30pm, film starts 7.30pm

Tickets £5, cash bar

Please let us know in advance if you intend attending so we can arrange tables and chairs

jennybody@btconnect.com

Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club

Wednesday 13th April

Tea/Coffee on arrival

Two Course Lunch (main course + dessert)

Coffee to finish

£10.00 per head

Everyone welcome!

*The Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club meets the
2nd Wednesday of every month.*

FOX
& HOUNDS INN
Acton Turville, nr Badminton
GL9 1HW
01454 218224



DIDMARTON TODDLERS

We meet in Didmarton's village hall on Thursday mornings, 10am until 11.30am. If you are a parent, grandparent or carer of a baby or toddler you will be made most welcome.

There's tea or coffee and biscuits throughout the morning, safe mats for your baby to lie or crawl on, plenty of toys for toddlers to play with and a chance to meet and chat with mums.

There is a small charge of £2 per session.

Do come along and join us. We are a drop-in session so you can come along any time during the morning to suit your little one's needs.

If you would like more information, phone me, Sue Cook, on 01454 238222.

WoW!!

WoW is Welcome on Wednesdays, It's an informal pop-in for anyone who'd like a bit of company and a natter. Any age - dogs and children welcome. There may be a talk, perhaps a game of scrabble or similar, or just conversation.

WoW is held every other Wednesday afternoon in the King's Arms, Didmarton between 3 and 5pm.

April dates are 6th and the 20th.

For any more information please call
01454 238576

Everyone welcome!

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 2022

Playing Field

Mowing season has just started and we would welcome some additional volunteers. If you are looking for a temporary summer escape think of not just holidays but mowing or strimming! Please contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested.

Spring 'Tidy-up'

The date chosen for this year's Spring Tidy-up is Saturday 30th April. Details of how you can get involved are included below. Everyone is welcome!

Lavender Beds

Councillors have been considering the best way to replace the old Lavender Beds opposite the Fox & Hounds and it has been suggested that we should plant Hebes which gives a good cover and are colourful. It has also been suggested as Lavender will no longer be planted the area should be re-named The Jubilee Garden in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and will also include a plaque. Further details to follow.

Parish Councillors:

Chair: Sybil Haddrell 218772, Sally Smith 218510, Vice Chair: Ian Carter 219129
Claire Broomsgrove 218433, Mark Studden 07885 791314

Next Meeting: Monday 11 April 2022 @ 7 pm Venue: St Mary's Church, Acton Turville.
Details on Website & Parish Notice Board

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675

Email: actonturvillepc@aol.com

Website: www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org

THE ACTON TURVILLE SPRING LITTER PICK

The Annual Acton Turville Spring Litter Pick will be held on

Saturday 30 April 2022

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.

Everyone welcome!

Any questions?

Contact actonturvillepc@aol.com

THE ACTON TURVILLE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE PICNIC

SUNDAY JUNE 5TH

3PM - 8PM

PLAYING FIELDS, ACTON TURVILLE

FREE entry for Acton Turville villagers

As part of the Queen's Big Jubilee Lunch, Acton Turville is holding its own Jubilee Picnic. Pack your lunch, grab a blanket and let's celebrate this momentous day in style!

Marquee, cake stall, soft drinks, licenced bar, live music, bouncy castles, traditional games and much, much more!



Entry is by ticket only.

First Ticket Collection 9th April

10.30 -12.00

at the

Fox & Hounds Car Park

Let's Celebrate Together!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you can bake something for the cake stall, donate a bottle for the tombola, offer a prize for the raffle, provide First Aid cover, help with setting up or clearing up afterwards - we'd love to hear from you!

We'd also be very grateful for the loan of the following items - gazebos, a tea urn, traditional games, and wellies for the welly-throwing competition.

If you can help in any way, please contact us at actonturvilleconnect@outlook.com or drop us a note using one of the boxes located in the village shop or the Fox & Hounds.

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 !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the March quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The area around Badminton has featured in many films and television productions over the years. The 2001 epic Pearl Harbor, starring Ben Afflek, was filmed in the park in front of Badminton House, and more recently we had Netflix filming the period drama Bridgerton in and around Badminton. Even Pam Eyres paid a visit last year to film part of her TV series on the Cotswolds.

Back in the late 1980s, one of the most popular series on television was Miss Marple, starring Joan Hickson in the title role. Miss Marple's investigations would take her all around the country, and the many-and-varied filming locations were a major part of the programme's appeal. In 1986, Miss Marple and her entourage descended on the village of Badminton, where they would shoot scenes that appeared in an episode called Nemesis. The plot revolved around a cryptic letter requesting Miss Marple's help to right an unknown injustice, the only clue being a ticket for a guided tour of stately homes and gardens including Hidcote Manor and Berkeley Castle. A number of scenes were also filmed in local villages including Marshfield, but when they needed a village shop the production company chose Drewett's Stores in Badminton which at the time was being run by Mike Luter.

As can be seen in the pictures below taken by Yvonne Nettles, a lot of work went into getting every detail right for the filming. According to the report in Local Talk Back, "the interior of the shop was transformed with a 'makeover' in preparation for the filming. Shelves were painted to look like brown wood and the freezer was covered to look like a counter. The Post Office counter, for filming, was rebuilt in a different location inside the shop. The window display and outdoor display was arranged to match the era of the story."

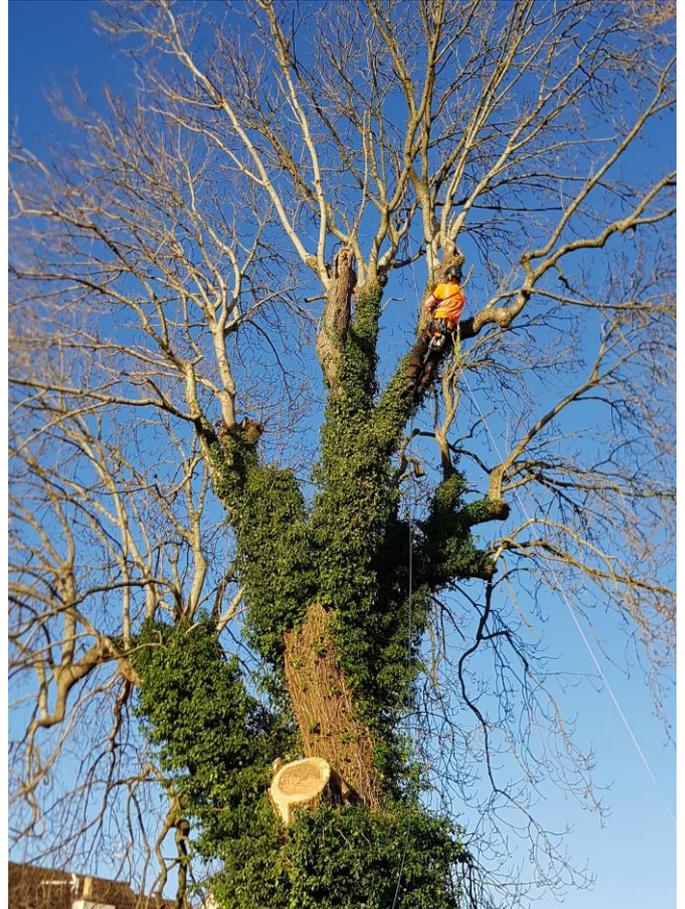
Nemesis was transmitted in two parts on Sunday 8 February and Sunday 15 February at 7.45pm on BBC1, and the February edition of Local Talk Back included a message from the BBC which read: "The BBC hope you will enjoy watching the programme as much as they did making it and would like to thank the villagers for their co-operation in the making of Miss Marple."



Picture Gallery

After losing a large branch back in 2021, it was clear the ash tree located between the school and play area in Acton Turville was on borrowed time. Closer inspection by the Badminton Estate's tree expert revealed signs of ash die-back, so arrangements were made very efficiently to have the tree felled. Sybil Haddrell and Mark Studden were on hand to record the final hours of this once-majestic great ash.

In its place, two oak saplings have been planted as part of an initiative called the Queen's Green Canopy which aims to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and enhance the environment by planting three million saplings. These have been issued free of charge to local groups and communities.



Church Matters

April 2022 Letter from the Vicar

Dear Parishioners,

Last month I shared with you what I consider to make a saint. We are now in Lent, and the picture has darkened as we have watched the sad and horrific events unfolding in Ukraine. Mirrored as they are, by the Christian story moving towards the crucifixion on Good Friday.

No matter how well we think we are doing, or how hard we try to keep things peaceful, sin always has the propensity to break out and cause destruction and hurt. It did to Jesus on the cross and it is doing so in Ukraine. Little wonder that our forebears spoke of Satan as a real and personal embodiment of evil. It is as if the Kremlin is in the grip of evil and has no control over it.

The fear that must encircle the Kremlin that it can feel it necessary to attack Ukraine, is something that it is hard to understand.

The Ukrainians deserve our support and assistance, especially humanitarian. And our prayers are for a truce and a diplomatic way out of this war are really important.

The cost of love and the Christian response to such aggression, is shown to us on the cross, and the Ukrainians are particularly in need of our prayers at this time, when so much is being asked of ordinary men, women and children.

With my prayers this Lent,

Richard Thomson

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

Benefice website: www.badmintonbenefice.com

Email: revrichardthomson@gmail.com

Tel. 01454 219236

Church Services for April 2022

Sunday	Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
5 th Sunday of Lent	3 rd April	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Lay led
		9.30am	Hawkesbury	Holy Communion CW	RT
		11.15am	Didmarton	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong and APCM	RT
Palm Sunday of Christ	10 th April	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Ecum Service at Methodist Church	Rev L Maydew
		9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
		9.30am	Leighterton	Holy Communion BCP	RT
		11.15am	Little Badminton	Matins	RT
Good Friday	15 th April	9.30am	Lasborough	Meditation and Prayer	RT
		Noon	Little Badminton	Good Friday Liturgy	RT
		9.30am	Hawkesbury	Meditation, music & drama	RT
Easter Day	17 th April	9.30am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP (sung)	RT
		9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion CW	Rev J Hunnisett
		9.30am	Hawkesbury	Morning Prayer	Lay Led
		11.00am	Leighterton	Matins	R Wookey
		11.15am	Sopworth	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	RT
2 nd Sunday of Easter	24 th April	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	RT
		11.00am	Leighterton	Matins	Tony King
		11.15am	Little Badminton	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	RT

All services on website badmintonbenefice.com

J J'S GARDENING BLOG



Just a reminder that we are not clear of cold short sharp weather until May, so if you have bought lots of colourful annuals treat them with care. Keep them cosseted in a green house, cold frame or inside and water with tepid water. Sometimes, it is a good plan to place your requirements right now with a local nursery, collecting your small young plants when they will be a little more robust. Acclimatise these plants over a few days: popping them outside on sunny days and putting them back under cover about four or five o'clock towards evening.

Feeding Time

Established plants would like a feed. Hedges, young trees, large shrubs can be given a handful of blood, fish and bone, a tried and tested boost. Buy in a sack of horticultural grit so that when you plant out anything this summer add a handful in the hole to mix with our clay soil. This makes a well-drained and looser environment to get a plant established.

Jobs for This Month

Plants in pots: tip the pot upside down, if it is jammed with roots loosen them a little and select the next size pot - no bigger - and fill the space with some John Innes No.2 soil. If you want them to stay in the original pot, trim a third of the roots back, replace in the pot and fill with said soil. The word "trim" is key - don't go bananas. Water both pots, with rainwater if you have it: this will also move the soil down and around the roots. Top up with a little more soil if needed. If your treatment has been a little drastic but necessary, move the pot into a sheltered place for ten days.

Leave the daffodil leaves to die down until about June, as this is returning food back into the bulbs for next year's display. It is why I plant them at the back of the border behind all the herbaceous which has been cut back.

When tying a supporting stake to a tree, or a climber to a framework use a figure of eight loop to prevent rubbing.

Give a mulch to anything you have pruned and, if you can remember to, anything that looked poorly last season.

Prune dogwood and willows, those with colourful stems, back to two buds from which shoots will grow and provide even more colour next year.

Keeping it Simple

Some easy plants: agapanthus, crocosmia, heucheras, hellebore. With the latter, if you want to have some in a vase, it is more successful if you wait until the anthers have dropped and the plump seed pods have formed. But they will only last about five days.

And Finally

Paths in gardens should lead somewhere, otherwise it disappoints. Shield an eyesore with trellis. Catch the eye with something, from an interesting pot, a bench, something found - like driftwood - or something which is special to you, a view.

BADMINTON HOUSE OPEN GARDENS

Spring Open Day - Sunday 24th April

Open from 10am with last entry at 4pm

Sunday 24th April sees the first of three opportunities in 2022 to visit the private gardens of the historic Badminton House, the home of the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort. As well as the main gardens, visitors will be able to explore the Walled Garden where they'll find the Badminton House kitchen garden, and visit Well Cottage, the home of Miranda Beaufort, and her beautiful cottage gardens.

Plant stalls, cakes and refreshments will be available on the day in the West Wing courtyard.

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SPRING UPDATE



It's lovely to see the court being used now that Spring is... sprung. Children from the village are already making the most of weekly coaching sessions to brush up their skills, and we can't wait to see the court in greater use as the days become longer and the weather more amenable.

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<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/ActonTurvilleTennisClub>.

Please visit the site if you'd like to book the court, want one-on-one coaching, play for fitness, or to improve your skills ahead of Wimbledon. There are plenty of players of all levels in the village, so please reach out if you'd like someone to play with.

