

Local Talk Back

JUNE 2021

ISSUE 516



St Mary's Church, Lasborough . Photo: Yvonne Nettles, Little Badminton



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

EDITORIAL JUNE 2021

You might notice that Local Talk Back has something of a retro feel this month. Articles about days gone by always generate the most feedback from our readers, whether it's pictures of events which took place 20 years ago or stories about something that happened two centuries ago. We're fortunate to have a number of villagers who, over the years, have assembled a well-stocked archive of material. This can be used as the basis of a complete article or just to validate a throw-away comment made by someone in conversation. Leafing through such archives is always a risky business. We've all been there; there's something specific that you're looking for and you've got a vague idea where it might be, so you jump head first into a pile of papers, determined not to stop searching until you find it. By the time you come up for air, half the day has gone and you've forgotten what it was you were looking for in the first place. However you've found lots of other things you didn't know you had which in turn has sent you off on a complete tangent, meaning you now have a much longer list of items to find.

I speak from experience. Having shivered through much of the past winter, I vowed to add some modern insulation to the loft, replacing the wafer-thin matting laid in the 1980s with something a bit more up-to-date. A quick trip to Wickes and I was back home with several rolls of material which was allegedly designed to keep astronauts warm during re-entry from space (which, now I think about it, probably isn't a huge selling point - isn't that when the shuttle glows red as it scorches through the earth's atmosphere? I should have kept my receipt). Next challenge was clearing enough space in the loft to lay this miracle of modern science. Down came boxes containing Christmas decorations, VHS videos, notes from courses I attended 30 years ago and roof racks for cars I can't even remember owning. Amongst the rubbish though were boxes of memories. Nothing grand, just bits of paper I'd collected over the years; a map for a holiday park in Bude where I went with Gill in our old camper back in the 1990s, and a faded receipt issued by a restaurant in Gibraltar from the one overseas visit I ever managed to wangle with work. Then there were the football programmes from the days when Bristol Rovers played at Eastville Stadium (now home to Ikea), and a cricket programme, signed by Ian Botham and Geoff Boycott no less, reminding me when Somerset used to play a couple of games every season at the Imperial Ground in Bristol (now home to a housing estate). All these items hold little intrinsic value, but to me they hold many memories.

The problem with memories is they're not always reliable (again, I speak from experience). These items conjured up mental images and brought to mind recollections which may otherwise have been lost, but chatting to a friend about our trips to the cricket highlighted how differently we remembered things. He had a very clear recollection of the time we cycled to Weston-super-Mare to watch Somerset play, down to the smallest detail; I can't remember that at all. On the other hand, I was able to dig out a ticket stub or slip of paper which substantiated some of my claims which he was questioning. Looking at these artefacts brought back many shared memories which would probably have otherwise been completely forgotten, and helped the two of us enjoy an afternoon of nostalgia during lockdown. I was therefore somewhat taken aback when my colleague admitted to throwing out a suitcase full of similar material at the beginning of lockdown. Like many, he had decided to "de-clutter", so out went a large proportion of the items he had been carefully storing in his loft.

As I get older I find it's the most unlikely items that are capable of reminding me of otherwise long-forgotten events and spark discussions which in turn generate further memories. Talk Back provides us with an opportunity to share these memories, and the feedback we receive suggests people very much appreciate a stroll down memory lane. Why not have a look in your loft and see what you've got that you can share with our readers?

And if anyone knows how to stop the itching caused by laying loft insulation, please let me know.

Until the next time

IAN CARTER

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DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

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

Anonymous - £20

In addition, £14.00 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*

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

100 Club

WINNERS FOR MAY 2021

**Mary Mullens
K. Seymour Smith
Dominic Rennie**

WINNERS FOR JUNE 2021

**Matthew Butler
Prue Moss
John Ridd**

Congratulations!

LOCAL TALK BACK ON-LINE

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



St Mary's Church, Acton Turville

Annual Parochial Council Meeting

A reminder that the annual meeting (AGM) of the parochial church council will be held on Sunday 20th June at 6.45pm, after the evensong service at 6.00pm and a short service of Holy Communion at 6.30pm. It would be great to welcome some new faces in the church. Church electoral roll forms will be available to new participants.

Come and join us for the meeting, and enjoy the refreshments afterwards.

Covid-19 safety measures are in place in the church building.

The PCC is seeking to appoint - (i) a churchwarden to assist Conrad, (ii) a treasurer and (iii) a secretary. This may be the year for you to take up something new in the community. Demand outstrips supply, so you won't be refused! There are gaps in the flower and cleaning rotas too. Ask me for further details.

Eileen Stephens

Outgoing secretary to PCC

ACTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Following no response to the Casual Vacancy notice which closed at 5 pm on 27th May 2021 the Parish Council has been granted permission to co-opt a new member.

Anyone interested should apply by sending a letter of interest along with contact details, and a brief summary introducing themselves, to include any relevant skills which may be beneficial in order for the Council to determine their suitability.

Details should be sent to:

The Parish Clerk either by post (address below)
or email actonturvillepc@aol.com headed 'Casual Vacancy'

The closing date will be no later than 5 pm on Friday 18th June 2021

Parish Clerk: Mrs S A Radford-Hancock
2 Railway Cottages Acton Turville Badminton South Glos GL9 1HE
Tel: 01454 218675 email: actonturvillepc@aol.com website: www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org

NEWS NEWS NEWS

Open Gardens

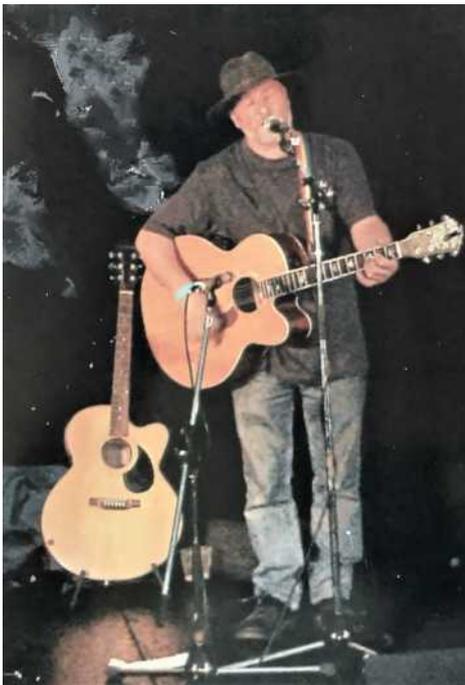
In last month's Talk Back we published some pictures taken at the Badminton House Tulip Day which took place in April. As well as the gardens of the main house, you'll recall that we were enthralled by the gardens of Well Cottage which were generously opened to the public by the Dowager Duchess (and from where the tulips featured on the front cover were photographed). There's more good news - the gardens of the main house are once again due to be opened to the public on Sunday the 13th June. It is also hoped that the gardens of Well Cottage will be open on both the 13th and 27th June, in aid of Dorothy House. Check on-line for details and please give generously - it's a great charity that deserves supporting.

Back Issues of Local Talk Back.

Although you might have spotted that recent editions of Local Talk Back are available to view on-line at <http://actonturville.info/talkback/>, what you might not realise is that copies of ALL past issues, dating from the very first one in November 1975, can be viewed in the Gloucestershire Archives, formerly Gloucester Records Office, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester. That's over 500 issues. If anyone wants to scan them all for us, please get in touch!

Lights, Camera, Action!

We hope you enjoy Yvonne Nettles' pictures of the filming of the Pearl Harbor blockbuster in Badminton some 20 years ago. Back then, the countryside reverberated to the roar of engines as aircraft criss-crossed the sky above our villages in carefully choreographed formation under the careful eye of Director Michael Bay. More recent filming in and around Badminton has been somewhat more genteel. First of all we had the hit Netflix period drama Bridgerton, and more recently the BBC series "In Pursuit of Love", which was filmed in several locations including Dyrham Park, Laycock Abbey and of course Badminton House. It's always fascinating to go behind the scenes and see how production companies miraculously create film sets from what looks like nothing more than a few lengths of timber and some old tarpaulins. Did anyone get any pictures of these (or other) series being filmed? If you did, please send them in and we'll publish them in a future issue.



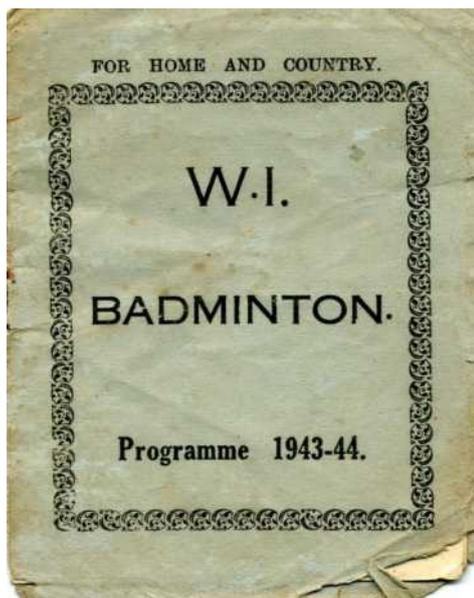
IN MEMORIAM Alex Donaldson

21st December 1946 to 26th May 2021

Janet, James, Lizzy and Jen would like to thank everybody for their loving messages of support on the death of our lovely Alex, who died suddenly on the evening of the 26th of May after a long illness.

Talk Back was greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Alex. A talented musician, it was always an occasion when he played his music at local venues including the Badminton club. He will be much missed. We pass on our sincere condolences to his family and many friends. Rest in peace Alex.

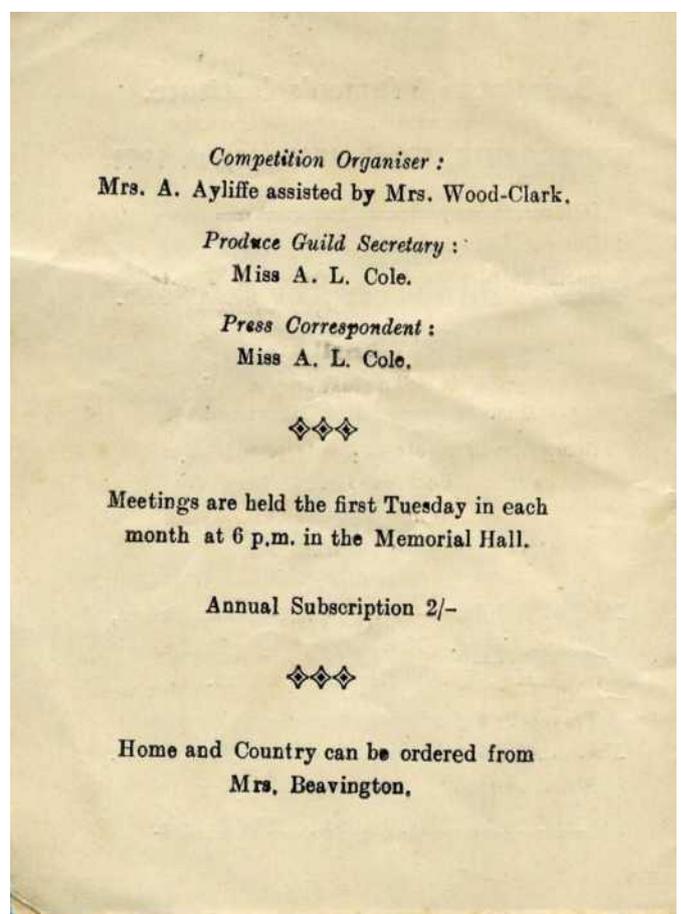
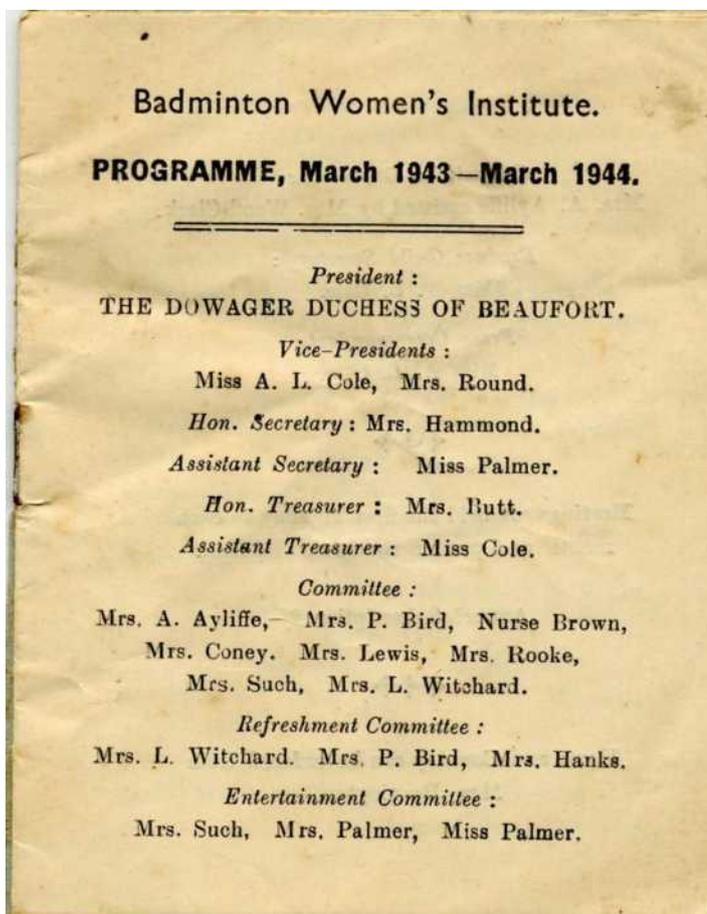
NOT JUST JAM AND JERUSALEM



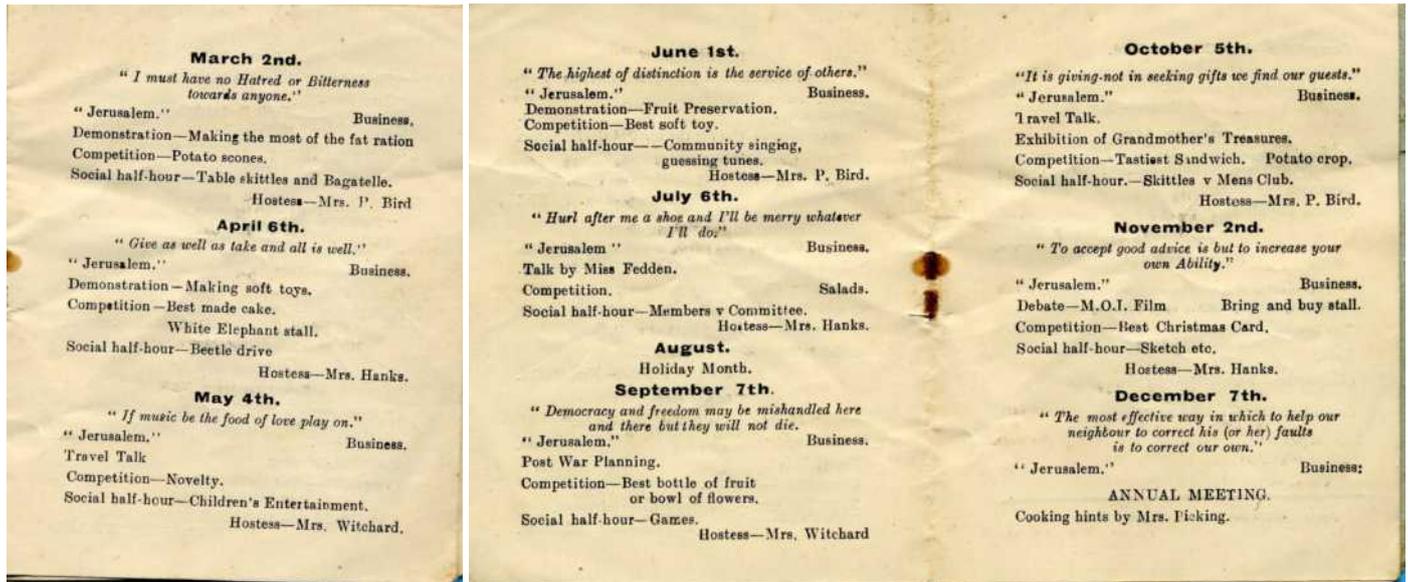
The Women's Institute was formed in Canada at the end of the 19th Century. In 1915, the first meetings of the WI took place in Britain with the aim of revitalising rural communities and encouraging women to take a more active role in the production of food during the First World War. Over the years the organisation has continually evolved and reinvented itself to reflect the demands of an ever-changing world, growing to become the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK. Despite the changes, it has remained true to its core values and continues to inspire women to make a real difference in their communities and to learn valuable life skills.

We're very grateful to Janice Walker for sending us a programme of events organised by the Badminton WI at the height of World War II. The programme, which was passed down to Janice by her mother, Kath Gentry, provides a fascinating insight into life in our local villages during the war, when the monthly meetings must have represented a welcome diversion from everything else that was going on at that difficult time.

The monthly meetings, held in the Badminton Memorial Hall, followed a set format, starting with the traditional singing of the hymn "Jerusalem" which was adopted as the WI's unofficial anthem in the 1920s because of its links to women's suffrage: it is still sung at the annual AGM. After that rousing introduction there would be a guest speaker, discussion or practical demonstration, on subjects ranging from "making soft toys" to "making the most of the fat ration". After that it was Competition Time, where members could compete for "tastiest sandwich", "best soft toy" or "best Christmas card". The meeting would be brought to a close with a social half hour which might include singing, dancing or some games.

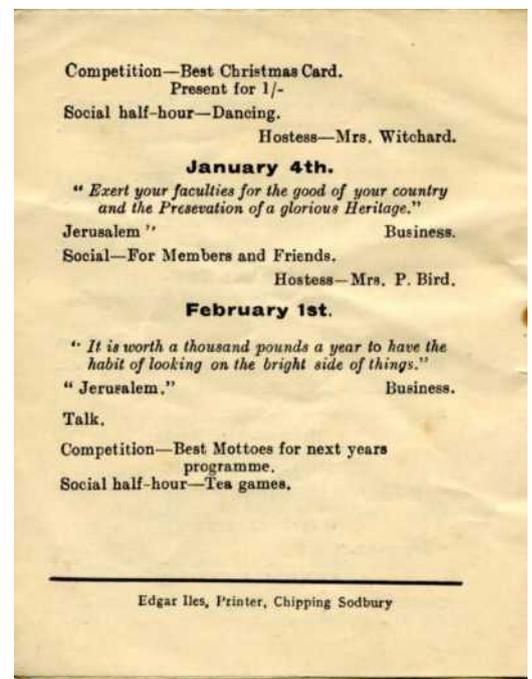


NOT JUST JAM AND JERUSALEM (CONT'D)



Skip forward to the 1990s and Local Talk Back would regularly include reports from the Acton Turville WI group. As you'll see from the selected extracts below, guest speakers were still very much a feature of the meetings with the range of subjects remaining equally diverse, from Lynn Shorthouse who talked about Craniosacral Therapy to Mrs Ashman, who delighted attendees with her Persian Cats. Many of the activities being enjoyed in 1990s Acton Turville would have been familiar to the ladies attending WI meetings in 1940s Badminton, such as icing cakes, carol singing and making Christmas decorations. Others, such as preparations for the Annual Fun Run or arranging probate, would I suspect have been less familiar.

There's a gap in the Talk Back archives during which reports from the Acton Turville WI ceased. We'd therefore love someone to bring this article up to date and tell us whether the WI is still active in our villages. Is it thriving with a packed programme of events for the coming year, or has it sung its last Jerusalem and put the lid on its final jam jar? If you know, please tell us.



ACTON TURVILLE W.I.

At the November meeting we had a very interesting account of the problems of judging at Crufts. The details behind the scenes, and the preparation required were an eye-opener. The specific demands made by the Kennel Club are highly individual.

The business part covered carol singing on 21st Dec, cake icing on 25th Nov, a team for the annual fun run, and Christmas party plans. Catering for the Bonfire night had gone smoothly.

The next meeting will be on Wed Dec 16th, when Nadine will help us make our table decorations, candles and all! Visitors will be warmly welcomed.

At the February meeting the vice president Margaret Greening welcomed members and guests in the absence of the president Belinda Elford.

The normal business covered the Friend of Acton Turville school quiz night, Bristol Shelter for the Homeless and the Hawksbury show.

Our speaker for the evening was Lynn Shorthouse who talked about Craniosacral Therapy. One of our members Carol Corbett had a wonderful hands on experience. After a vote of thanks refreshments were served.

ACTON TURVILLE W.I.

The Sodbury Vale Spring Group Meeting was held at Trinity School, Acton Turville on 21st April. After a very brief Institute meeting, Mrs Ashman delighted us all with her Persian cats. With Anna and Napoleon to help, she demonstrated how to prepare and judge cats, telling us about the Supreme Show held at the N.E.C., Birmingham in November each year. Despite torrential rain the hall was full with group members, and after a substantial spread, the annual reports from each Institute were read. Old Sodbury won the bursary for Denman College and Acton Turville won the competition with an embroidered birthday card for the Queen, all the entries have been sent to Buckingham Palace. The beautiful flower arrangements joined the raffle, and the rain had stopped by the time everyone went home.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th May, when we will discuss the Resolutions. It will be back to biscuits again, unfortunately! However, you are all welcome!

J J'S GARDENING BLOG



It is just about warm enough and settled to plant out containers and annuals. They will need watering in after planting and quite often thereafter. Large shrubs and trees would benefit from good soakings, a large bucketful say weekly, while small annuals very much less. Anyway, keep an eye on this aspect, and if a finger pushed into the soil is dry, this is a sign to water.

Feeding Time

Consider slow release fertiliser, liquid tomato feed for flowers/fruit and seaweed for roots to grow. Make a plan to feed regularly with regard to the suggestions on the container as overdoing it will not be beneficial. Don't forget to add either a good mulch or fertiliser to the base of hedges.

Jobs for this Month

'Clean' the stems of bamboo, ie remove side shoots to expose the colour of the stems. A word of warning about bamboo, it can be very invasive so choose a variety that is sold as 'clump' forming. Though either the black or yellow stemmed varieties are very eye catching.

Do some of the trees or large shrubs need to have their lower branches removed to let in light and create space for bulbs, like crocus? Also, any shrubs that have flowered in the Spring should have two or three branches removed.

Don't forget to pinch out the tops of the broad beans. Tie in climbers like clematis and shade the root area of them with a tile or slab of wood, they like dampness at the roots and warmth on their faces. The very small clematis sold at supermarkets need intensive care and maybe worth taking a chance on but they may also make you sad.

Plant of the Month

A lovely plant during Spring has been the Erythronium Pagoda. A woodland plant liking dappled shade, moisture but with good drainage, quite often preferring a place under ancient trees. The flowers have reflexed petals, similar to the Turks Cap lilies.

And Finally...

Enjoy garden visiting particularly locally as you can note which plants grow well near you and get tips from the owners. Take a notepad and pencil.

THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT AND VEG MARKET GARDEN

ORGANIC VEG BOXES

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE WAITING LIST FOR A BOX OF ORGANIC VEG IN JULY TO BE COLLECTED WEEKLY FROM THE HORSE BOX AT THE GATES AT KENNEL DRIVE, BADMINTON, PLEASE TEXT SIMON, THE GROWER FOR FORBIDDEN FRUIT AND VEG MARKET GARDEN, ON 07709 917 517

WANT TO KNOW HOW TO GROW ORGANIC VEG?

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY THE SUNNY WEATHER WHILE LEARNING HOW TO GROW ORGANIC VEG IN ONE OF BADMINTON'S WALLED GARDENS, PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR A FEW HOURS WITH OUR EXPERIENCED GROWER AT FORBIDDEN FRUIT AND VEG MARKET GARDEN. PLEASE TEXT SIMON MATTHEWS ON 07709 917 517

FROM THE ARCHIVES – 100 years ago. 1921 – OUTINGS AND CELEBRATIONS IN BADMINTON

June

The choir had a trip to Weston-Super-Mare.

July 19th

The Sunday School and other villagers went to Weston-Super-Mare. Four Charabancs of sorts set out from Badminton at 8.45am and returned at 9.30pm. They had ridden in motorboats, the water chute, Switchback and had donkey rides.



How we travelled 100 years ago - a typical 1920's Charabanc

July 23rd

Several members of the Men's Club had a charabanc tour to Gloucester and through the Wye Valley to Ross on Wye.

July 13th/14th

Coming of age celebrations for the Marquis of Worcester (later the 10th Duke of Beaufort). Nearly 1,000 people were at a Garden Party on the East Front. Weather was glorious and the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars Band played. The Marquis of Worcester played cricket against the Officers of the Cavalry School of Netheravon and won by 60 runs.

The following day 350 inhabitants of Badminton sat to lunch in a marquee. The children took part in sports games including: Girls egg and spoon race, boys potato and bucket race 3 legged race, boys sack race, boys high jump, boys and girls threadneedle and bun race and girls skipping race. Then 100 children sat down to tea.

A cricket match took place with the ladies of Badminton playing right handed and the men, captained by the Marquis of Worcester playing left handed.

August

The Bishop of Gloucester held a commission to consider the amalgamation of Badminton and Acton Turville parishes – both are in the gift of the Duke of Beaufort and the Diocese of Gloucester. Joint population 750.

Picture Gallery



Yvonne Nettles has been out and about with her camera again. The machinery returning to nature is apparently a potato harvester, while the tractor at the bottom of the page looks more on-the-button. Anyone know what it is? Our guess is a Fordson but we're happy to be corrected. The horses below are clearly making the most of the summer sunshine - don't they look great? And finally we have a field of dandelions. Looks a lot like my lawn!



Filming of 'Pearl Harbor' at Badminton

Pearl Harbor (2001), was an American romantic war drama. Actor Ben Affleck's character, Rafe McCawley, was sent to England to fly with the RAF in the Battle of Britain. The RAF encampment was set up in the park in front of Badminton House and quite a few local people became 'extras' in the film. Four planes, Spitfires and Hurricanes, took to the air from the Badminton airfield and for several days could be seen flying over the village and surrounding area in formation or doing their manoeuvres.



Supermarine Spitfire V
wearing code RF°C



A Hawker Sea Hurricane wearing code 7°L in the 'camp', and on the right is seen being taken out of the park to cross the road to the airfield for the flying scenes. Note the walls either side were partly taken down to accommodate the wing span



This is a mock-up of Supermarine Spitfire V code letters RF°M, complete with bullet holes. The real one was also on site, suitable for flying.



Hawker Hurricane wearing code XR°T has just crossed the road and entering the airfield to take part in the flying



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.*

MAY 2021

Playing Field

Mowing - We are still looking for additional volunteers to mow the playing field to add to those who have recently come forward. More volunteers mean each individual will mow the playing field or strim the play area less often. Grass cutting is only during the summer months, so please, if there is any way you can help, let us know.

Boundary wall - at long last the boundary wall has been repaired.

Events - Anyone wishing to use the playing field for specific events, fundraising or similar should first please seek permission from the Parish Council prior to organising. This is to comply with our insurance company who need to be made aware of any large or specific events which may affect our insurance cover. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Village Spring Clean

Our thanks to everyone who turned out on 17th April to help with the Village Spring Clean. It was good to see so many people keen to make our village clean and tidy once again. A further suggestion is to hold an 'Autumn Spring Clean' which will be organised under similar circumstances as April but take place in September. We hope to have these events twice a year, every year to continue keeping our village tidy. A note for your Diary. Details to follow nearer the time.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Toby Evans for all his help whilst serving on the Council and wish him well for the future.

The Council now has a Casual Vacancy which will be addressed through the usual process.

Councillors: Sybil Haddrell 218772, Sally Smith 218510, Chris Bennett 218550, Ian Carter 219129

Next Meeting: Monday 14th June 2021 @ 7.00 pm - (venue to be arranged)
Please check the website and notice board for further information.

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675
Email: actonturvillepc@aol.com Website: www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org

Church Matters

June 2021 Letter from the Vicar

My Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the early Summer weather. I write this after a very quiet second weekend in May. Normally, I look across the road at this time of year, and see dozens of caravans and horseboxes, piled into the field. But not this year, the second in a row, with the pandemic. This year it is all very quiet. Which is good from my dog's point of view as there are less reasons not to be taken for a walk!

It is one of the pleasures of living where we do, that nature is all around us all the time, and the skies are big in this part of the world. Not so, in Dorset where we came from. And there can be great joy in seeing cloud movements a long way across the empty sky.

Gerard Manley Hopkins the poet, was a great believer that God could be seen in nature. And that if you looked you could see the hand of God in the world. I was recently watching a debate between Richard Dawkins and Rowan Williams. Much of it centered upon the 'soul' and whether self-consciousness was something that would automatically come about eventually, from intelligent life. And the leap from the human being who had no syntax in his/her language to the progeny that used syntax, ie words such as: 'with', 'if', 'but', 'and' etc. It made one realise what a miracle life is, and that we are here able to speak and write about it.

I hope you have a wonderful early summer and can spend some time, reflecting on the world in which we live. And God within nature.

With my best wishes,

Richard Thomson

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

Benefice website: www.badmintonchurch.org.uk

Email: revrichardthomson@gmail.com

Tel. 01454 219236

Mobile 077 177 91858

Badminton Benefice Rota for June 2021

Sunday	Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
Trinity 2	6 th June	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Lay led
		9.30am	Hawkesbury	Holy Communion CW	RT
		11.15am	Didmarton	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	RT
Trinity 2	13 th June	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
		9.30am	Leighterton	Holy Communion BCP	RT
		11.15am	Little Badminton	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	RT
Trinity 3	20 th June	8.30am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	RT
		9.30am	Hawkesbury	Morning Prayer	Lay led
		11.15am	Sopworth	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	RT
Trinity 4	27 th June	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	RT
		11.15am	Little Badminton	Matins	RT
		6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Festal Eucharist BCP	RT

Sudoku

June'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 !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the May quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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



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BUTTERFLIES



PAINTED LADY

Orange with black & white wing tips. Originates from North Africa and is a migrant to our shores arriving from March to June from the Continent. They are strong in flight and found anywhere in

the British Isles. It is unable to survive our winter at any stage. Primary food plant is the thistle but also heather, ivy, privet, ragwort and red clover. Larval foodplants include the thistle, common nettle, mallows & vipers bugloss. Eggs are laid singly on upper side of leaf.



RED ADMIRAL

Velvety black wings and striking red bands. Primarily a migrant and one of the most well-known frequent visitors, originating in central Europe, this is one of the most well-

known butterflies. Now considered resident in the south but the population is quite small and is topped up by migrants arriving in early summer. They are found everywhere in the British Isles. Most are unable to survive our winter. Some years they are scarce and other times common. Their larval food is the common nettle but adults feed on bramble, privet, thistles, buddleia and ivy blossom



PEACOCK

The underside is almost black, good camouflage when resting on a tree trunk. The 'eyes' on the top deter predators. Found throughout the British Isles. Adults can be seen any time of year as

warm weather can wake them from hibernation, but end of normal hibernation is end of March to April. They can lay up to 400 eggs on the underside of nettle leaves.

SMALL TORTOISESHELL



One of the most familiar butterflies in the British Isles and once common in Europe and Asia. They have declined in the south of our country during the last few years. Can be seen at any time of year even late December

if the temperature wakes them from hibernation. They are found everywhere in town and country but usually where nettles grow in abundance.

BRIMSTONE

Fairly large, pale yellow with distinctive leaf-shaped wings. (male). Female is greenish-white with orange spots in middle of each wing. Adults hibernate through cold weather. Found in damp woodlands and mature

hedgerows. They rest with wings closed.



GATEKEEPER

(female) Also known as HEDGE BROWN

A golden brown butterfly seen in summer, common and widespread in England.

Seen around where shrubs grow close to rough grassland. Only one generation each year. Adults emerge in July.



COMMA The Comma gets its name from white marking that resemble a comma on underside. Looks a bit like a tatty tortoiseshell. When resting with wings closed it has excellent camouflage, the

jagged wing edges give appearance of a withered leaf, making it inconspicuous when resting or hibernating.

Can be seen any time of year, occasionally awakening on warm winter days. It emerges from hibernation in March and the next generation appear at end of June. Lives in a woodland habitat and comes to gardens in late summer to feed on flowers to build up fat reserves before hibernation. Nectar source for adults are thistles, bramble, ivy and privet. They lay a single green egg every few feet or so on larval foodplants of common nettle, currants, elm, willow and hops. They return to the woodland to hibernate.



SPECKLED WOOD

This butterfly lives in the borders of woodland areas, preferring damp places. The colours can vary depending which area they inhabit. The

background of wings range from brown to orange and the spots from white to yellow and orange. Both male and female feed on honeydew in the treetops, on a variety of grass species and only occasionally are seen feeding on garden flowers. Unlike any other British butterfly, speckled woods are able to hibernate as either a caterpillar or chrysalis.

(if you knew this butterfly you could have answered a £1million question on 'Who wants to be a Millionaire')

ORANGE TIP



A distinctive spring butterfly in gardens, hedgerows and woodland. The males have the orange wing-tips while females are white with black wing-tips. The underside of

both is mottled green on white. Pupae form in June/July and hatch the following spring. Larval plants include Cuckoo flower and Lady's Smock.

