

# Local Talk Back

MAY 2021

ISSUE 515



It's Tulip Day at Badminton House Open Gardens. Photograph by Gill Love, Acton Turville



---

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

# EDITORIAL MAY 2021

I think it's fair to say 2021 has got off to a strange start. As we enter May, the weather forecast is still suggesting we can expect frost, meaning our conservatory and any available window sills are home to a collection of rapidly-growing bedding plants. They enjoy the odd day outdoors, and even stay out overnight if the forecast is amenable, but I've not yet been brave enough to plant them in the garden. Hopefully the plants won't develop an aversion to outdoor living, unlike my sister's rabbit which realised life in a nice warm house was much preferable to being stuck in a cold hutch at the bottom of the garden. It provided my sister with much-needed company and a sympathetic ear, but blotted its copy book when it started chewing through cables. The phone line was its favourite, which it severed on numerous occasions. It only got half way through a mains cable though before it learned a very valuable lesson. It's safe to say it never did that (or anything else) again.

May is when we can traditionally look forward to those summer events we all look forward to taking place, such as the village fetes, country fairs and outdoor music events that are always so popular. This year the calendar is still very much up in the air with an understandable reluctance on the part of organisers to commit to something that may fall victim to on-going COVID restrictions. That makes those events that do take place so much more valuable and appreciated. In this issue of Talk Back you'll see pictures from the gardens of Badminton House (and, this year, the magnificent Well Cottage) which opened their gates to the public on a fine Sunday in April. Everyone I've spoken to agreed that the gardens just get better every year. The April event was billed as "Tulip Day", and despite some blooms being reluctant to emerge due to the unseasonably cold weather, the overall effect was quite spectacular. What always draws my eye is the tightly-clipped hedging which is so uncannily neat and accurate. It clearly requires a level of skill and attention to detail that my barber can only dream about (hope you're not reading this Vince...). As delightful as the floral displays undoubtedly were, the very fact that the events went ahead provided an indication that maybe, just maybe, things might be starting to return to normal. If you missed them in April, the Badminton House website has details of further Open Garden events which are due to take place in June and September.

This month's Talk Back also marks the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, who, as a very keen equestrian, visited Badminton on many occasions. Prince Philip was instrumental in returning the noble sport of polo to this country after playing it while stationed in Malta. He went on to form the Windsor Park team, and set up a polo field in Windsor Great Park. Around this time, which must have been the mid-fifties, a young chap called Bob Stephens lived about five miles away from Windsor, and used to play in the woods adjacent to the polo field with his friends. One day, the group of them came across an unlocked shed. When they looked inside they immediately spotted a pile of polo balls, and thought it might be an amusing prank to see what would happen if they hid them. That proved to be easier said than done as they were surprisingly heavy, but the group stuck to their task tenaciously and spirited the balls away without anyone seeing them. In those days it was easy to spectate, so Bob and his friends turned up early for the next match and watched, eager to see whether anyone had noticed that the balls were missing. They didn't have to wait long before a voice came over the megaphone, announcing the start of the match would be delayed. The voice also said a small reward might be forthcoming for the recovery of some balls. I'll let Bob take up the story: "Feeling brave, three of us went forward with just two balls each. We were greeted by the Duke who gave us a good telling off, but there was a hint of a smile as we were handed our reward on the understanding that we returned the rest of the balls and never tried it again. Our reward of a One Pound note was given to me, but simply returning those wooden balls took three small boys the whole afternoon". The intrepid gang were then faced with the task of laundering their ill-gotten gains: "We knew we could not use it in our normal sweet shop where spending thruppence each was considered a lot. Fortunately we knew the local dairy owner's son who had a motorbike and he gave us two half-crowns each meaning he made an easy 5 shillings". Bob's close encounter with the Duke of Edinburgh all those years ago taught him the error of his ways and he is now a pillar of the community living in Acton Turville!

Until the next time

*IAN CARTER*

Local Talk Back is printed by

SPRINT PRINT, 33 STATION ROAD, YATE, BS37 4PS

Tel: 01454 852255 or email: [info@sprint-print.co.uk](mailto:info@sprint-print.co.uk)

Items for Local Talk Back email to: [localtalkback1975@gmail.com](mailto:localtalkback1975@gmail.com) Tel: 01454 218267  
 To advertise in Local Talk Back, please email Pauline on: [LocalTalkBackAds@gmail.com](mailto:LocalTalkBackAds@gmail.com)

PLEASE SEND IN ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY

**LIST OF BUSINESSES ADVERTISING IN  
THIS TALK BACK**

**(if using these advertisers please tell them that you  
saw it here in the Local Talk Back)**

- 4 COUNTIES OIL TANKS
- BELGRAVE HOUSE DENTAL
- CHIMNEY SWEEP, FRENCHAY
- CHORLEY'S - Auction Valuations
- CLAPCOTE FORESTRY LIMITED - SAWMILL
- COACHSTYLE MOT TESTING STATION
- D. J. MAYHEAD ELECTRICAL SERVICES
- FARM SHOP AT HAWKESBURY
- FOOT HEALTH CARE
- THE FOX & HOUNDS INN, ACTON TURVILLE
- FOXLEY PLUMBING & HEATING
- HJ THERAPIES
- LB COMPUTER SERVICES
- LENDOLOGY CIC – Loans for homeowners
- MARDEN ROOFING
- MATTHEW BUTLER BOOKS
- M & M BUILDERS AND CARPENTRY
- PERRY BISHOP & CHAMBERS - Estate Agents
- PJD HOME IMPROVEMENTS
- PRIOR & COMPANY - Building, Renovations etc.
- PUMPKINS NURSERY
- VILLAGE LINK – Community transport

**DONATIONS**

*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 APRIL 2021

Peggy Sainsbury

Pam and Graham Bubb

H J Halford

*Congratulations!*

**David Owen**



A former resident of Badminton and avid reader of the Local Talk Back, David Owen passed away recently. He was the son of Rev Richard Owen and his wife, Lorna. Rev Owen was priest here from 1961 to 1971. David received the Talk Back each month from Dorothy Lane and he supplied us with many articles and information over the years. He enjoyed keeping up with the history and life in Badminton, a place he had very fond memories of. The colour photos of the filming of "Sky West & Crooked" printed in the Talk Back had been taken by his father. David is buried in Little Badminton church yard near his parents.

**Trevor Peters - thank you.**

June, Karen, Kevin and family would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all of the cards and kind words following the passing of Trevor Peters. It gave us all great comfort to know how highly thought of he was. We are especially grateful for the generous donations to Parkinson's UK in his memory.

Many thanks

*Kevin Peters*

## Random Ramblings

### *Acton Turville Spring Clean*

Acton Turville residents were out in force recently, giving their lovely village a thorough spring clean. Litter was picked, the green areas around the village were pruned, clipped, weeded and re-planted, even the road signs were cleaned and polished. It was great to see such a healthy turnout and to see so many people giving up their time for this good cause. Thank you to all those who got involved, either on the day or in the preceding weeks. Thanks must also go out to those who go litter picking on a more regular basis, it really makes a difference.



### *Happy Memories!*

In last month's Local Talk Back, we mentioned the events that used to take place locally such as the annual fun run between Acton Turville and Badminton and the village bonfire and firework displays. Several people got in touch to say how fondly they looked back on those days including Belinda Elford from Acton Turville. During the 1990s, Belinda remembers being a member of a very active Women's Institute. "Activities ranged from decorating Christmas cakes to flying in gliders. There was even a talk from an eminent Professor on the possible health hazards from microwave towers, when there was considerable concern locally. He assured us that all was fine." With help from husbands, the WI provided refreshments at the Bonfire Night celebrations and sang carols around the village at Christmas. Belinda also has happy memories of the Fun Run: "We entered teams for the Fun Run each year and won in 1995 and 1998." As well as Belinda, other members of the team included Judy Hallimond, June Gott, Jane Moss, Kate Seymour Smith, Joanne Garland, Margaret Greening, Carol Corbett and Heather Davidson. The picture on the left shows the medals won by June Gott. Sadly, some members of the team are no longer with us, but the treasured memories live on.

---

---

## In Memoriam

### Hilda Halford

30 June 1926 - 11 April 2021

Hilda was born at 1, Station Road, Badminton and lived there until the last 4 months of her life. She was the youngest of four girls, Nellie (Rich), Lily, Frances and Hilda.

She went to Badminton School and one of her stories of that time tells of Queen Mary (evacuated to Badminton House from London in war time) visiting a needlework class. Queen Mary commented on the knitting/needlework bag Hilda was making and indicated that she would like to have it. To this Hilda firmly told her it was for her mother- so no gift was made!

Later in the war, Hilda worked in the factory in Shop Lane. After that she worked in the Coal Office in Station Yard, Badminton which later moved into Mr. Pound's house. (now Willow House, Acton Turville) The next career move was into the Civil Service at Easton Grey, Yate and Avonmouth, from where she retired.

She was a keen and talented knitter and needlewoman and won prizes for her work at Didmarton Shows. Hilda also enjoyed gardening until age caused a halt to this activity.

In the middle of December, Hilda moved to an assisted living residence in Cambrian Green Court in Yate. Her health was failing and she considered this a necessary move. Unfortunately, her time there was short and she died in Southmead Hospital.

She leaves seven nieces and nephews, and also great and great great nieces and nephews.

I will miss her for many reasons and one of them is that I now have no family in Badminton to visit. However, memories are plentiful.

Jackie Crook

# *Badminton and Hawkesbury Upton Branch, Royal British Legion*

## *by Alastair Gilbert, Acton Turville*

2021 marks the centenary of the Royal British Legion. Initially called the British Legion before gaining Royal patronage in 1925, the organisation was formed in the aftermath of the First World War to fight the injustices faced by those returning home after service. Although perhaps best known these days for the yearly Poppy Appeal and Remembrance services, the Royal British Legion is a very active campaigning organisation that provides financial, social and emotional support to members and veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependants.

The Legion has approximately 2500 Branches across the UK and overseas, and it's generally accepted that the Badminton and District branch was formed in 1923. The then-Duchess had used her not inconsiderable influence and energy to oversee the construction of the Badminton Memorial Hall, and the building quickly became the centre point for not only memorials and Remembrance services but for all village activities. Sadly a fire destroyed the memorial curtain which contained information from the Royal British Legion from years gone by, but after a rebuild the branch was once again able to hold its monthly meetings in the hall. The branch has always had a very good membership throughout the years, and has held many dinners in the servants quarters in Badminton House.

The Badminton and Hawkesbury Upton branches decided to amalgamate in 2016, with the help of the late Roger Thomas, and since then the amalgamated branch has gone from strength to strength. It now boasts 49 members and is always looking for new members to join. Membership is open to everyone - no military service is required. The branch meets six times a year at either The Fox & Hounds in Acton Turville or the Beaufort Arms in Hawkesbury Upton on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. From time to time we have a talk from one of our members on their life experiences within the military or on a military history theme and these are always very interesting.

Within the past few years, group trips have been organised to The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire and to 9 Supply Regiment, RLC, when the late Colonel Hope inspected the soldiers. The annual Anzac Day parade in Leighterton, as well as the Festival of Remembrance parades in Badminton, Hawkesbury Upton, Didmarton, Sopworth and Acton Turville, are all supported. It had been hoped that the branch would be involved with the Badminton Horse Trials in 2020 but, of course, Covid caused the cancellation of the event. We always enjoy meeting up for a Christmas lunch in one of our local pubs too!

In more recent times, we have been holding our meetings on Zoom. However, as restrictions begin to relax, the branch is once again able to organise events for its members. Already confirmed is a Centenary Luncheon at The Old Royal Ship, Luckington at 12.30 on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August. The cost is £17 per person. In addition, plans are underway for a re-scheduled visit to RAF Brize Norton, together with trips to the Tank Museum in Bovington, the Concorde Museum in Bristol and the Maritime Museum and Observatory at Greenwich.

For information on how to join the Royal British Legion, or for details of any of the events including the Centenary Luncheon at The Old Royal Ship, please contact Alastair on 01454 218314.



# His Royal Highness Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh 1921-2021

It was sad to hear of the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. Prince Philip was always an active supporter of the Badminton Horse Trials and visited the event on numerous occasions. The picture on the right was taken at one of the early events and shows the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh seated with the 10th Duke and Duchess of Beaufort. The Queen was related to the Duchess of Beaufort, being the granddaughter of Queen Mary while the Duchess was her niece. It was taken by Peter Harding who was the Horse Trials' official photographer for many years and is used with the kind permission of his son, Mike.



Philip was an active equestrian throughout his life, becoming one of the country's top polo players before arthritis forced him to give up the sport in the 1970s. He then turned his attention to four-in-hand carriage driving, representing Britain at both European and World Championship level and competing until he was well into his eighties. Our second picture was taken by Ray Bird at Badminton in 1999 and very fittingly shows His Royal Highness leading a parade of past winners as part of the event's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Another of Prince Philip's passions was cricket, and Ray is sure he can recall him playing locally in a charity match when a Duke of Edinburgh XI took on a Duke of Beaufort XI back in the 1950's. We've looked in the Local Talk Back archives but can find no records or pictures to corroborate the story. Can anyone else remember that, or provide any more details? Contact Talk Back if you can.

On behalf of the residents of Acton Turville, Sybil Haddrell, acting chair of the Parish Council, laid a wreath at the well in the centre of the village to mark Prince Philip's passing. The simple ceremony was attended by villagers who respectfully observed a minute's silence.



# THE HISTORY OF THE GIANT'S CAVE

Story & Photos by Ray Bird, Acton Turville.

Located between Badminton and Luckington, close to what is now the Gloucestershire-Wiltshire border, Giants Cave (or Giants Grave as it's also called) is an ancient burial site that is said to be a chambered long barrow dating from the late Neolithic age (c3500-2000bc).

Documentation appears to be rather vague and mixed. One report claims that evidence of 20 burials was discovered in the long barrow, although I found records of only 14. It is said that the site was intact until the Norman period when the West-end chamber of it was opened. Whether anything of note was found on that excavation is not known.



The first known recorded excavation was in 1646 when the following was documented:

*Five or six caves were discovered. They were floored, lined and roofed with large stones, some of which were 10-11 feet long.*

*Chamber A contained an adult male and female and two 3-4 year old children, plus possibly a human cranium of an adult male that was burnt.*

*Chamber B contained one adult male and female, and an immature aged about 12-14 years old.*

*Chamber C is said to have contained a very mixed bag of mainly bones of both wild and domestic animals.*

Also recorded as being found in Chamber C were three adult females and three children aged about 4-5 years old (but given the animal bones are mentioned first I wonder if that was an error and they were actually from another chamber).

One of the adult males unearthed was said to have been a giant of a man with a massive jaw bone, shin-bones, arms and a very thick cranium - hence it is thought why the site was called Giants Cave/Grave.

A further two excavations are said to have been carried out in the 20th century, where other than fragments of pottery, little else of note appears to have been found. Finds from the last dig, in 1962-63, are now displayed in Devizes Museum.

With a stream running nearby, which would have been an essential requirement for both humans and their livestock, it seems likely that their encampment was in one of the nearby fields.

**Footnote** - If you have any further information on the site then please contact the Local Talk Back team.



## J J'S GARDENING BLOG



What typical spring weather we are having, lovely and sunny one minute and freezing winds the next, with very little rain: not the best conditions to plant much, unless you are cosied up in a greenhouse. All available window sills occupied. However there is a lovely plant which has been in flower (yellow and pea like) for two or three months called *Coronilla citrina*, which grows to about a metre tall. Camassias are another more unusual plant flowering now, with blue star-shaped flowers opening from the bottom of each stem upwards. Likes moist soil and partial shade. Another plant which likes similar conditions is *Corydalis elatus*, lovely ferny foliage and blue flowers. There is also a very nice cornflower with a maroon flower called 'Black Ball'.

### ***Care for your Roses***

If you have planted any new roses, one hates doing this but do prune them down to two or three buds from the ground, soak them in a bucket and put some bone meal mixed in with the soil in the planting soil first. Keep them well watered while they settle in, which could be daily during their first summer and thereafter in dry weather. Deadhead by pruning down to the next two sets of leaves and always at an angle in the direction you wish the rose to grow. Train ramblers and climbers as horizontally as possible to promote lots of flowers.

### ***Jobs for this month***

Divide snowdrops while still green, and plant in clumps elsewhere. Deadhead daffodils and hellebores. The effort that the plants puts into making seeds gets diverted into larger bulbs or stronger plants, also seedlings popping up all over the place becomes a no-no. Feed anything which has flowered, and if it needs it trim asap.

### ***Places to Visit***

If you are driving down to the West Country this year there are a couple of nurseries in that direction worth checking out, obviously see if they are open first. The first one is Bowdens at Sticklepath, Oakehampton, EX20 2NL, specialising in hostas, agapanthus and bamboos. The next nursery is Plant World Seeds & Garden near Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4SE.

### ***And Finally...***

Start putting in Supports for herbaceous perennials. It always seems too early to do this, but you will likely be treading on annuals or little delicacies if you don't!

Summer is on its way!!



## St Mary's Church, Acton Turville

### **Annual Parochial Council Meeting**

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. This gives you all plenty of time to mark it in your diaries. I will also provide a reminder in next month's magazine.

It would be great to break with tradition and see some new faces in the church. Church electoral roll forms will be available to new participants.

Refreshments of a most convivial type will be available to tempt those of you who may otherwise waver in your decision-making.

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. The latter two do not necessarily have to become PCC members. It will be a pleasure to welcome some – any – new volunteers. There are gaps in the flower and cleaning rotas too. Ask me for further details.

*Eileen Stephens*

Outgoing secretary to PCC



## FROM THE ARCHIVES – GLASTONBURY ABBEY

*The following has been taken from a Badminton Parish Magazine from October 1907 concerning the sale of Glastonbury Abbey. The Vicar, Frederick Tower, left quite a legacy as he started the magazine in September 1907 and wrote about everything in the village.*

\*\*\*

VICAR'S LETTER OCTOBER 1907 : 'This month I have two special appeals. The first comes from the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who has written to me as your clergyman, and asked me to do what I can to solicit from you help towards the GLASTONBURY ABBEY PURCHASE FUND.

Let me briefly explain why the Bishop wants the money to buy the Abbey. The other day the old Abbey, which is in ruins, with its grounds, was put up for sale. The Bishop acting as he believed in the interests of all Church people, if not all English Christians, bought it by the help of a generous friend who advanced him the money. The price given was £31,000, and although the Bishop has collected £20,000 he still needs £11,000 to secure the property.

The Bishop's letter explains why it seemed so desirable for him in the name of the Church to be the purchaser. "Glastonbury Abbey", he says, "May well draw out the reverence of all persons who care for the history of the Faith in England."

It is possibly the earliest Christian Settlement in our land, and besides being the resting place of many of our early Saints, and some of our Saxon Kings, it is as Professor Freeman wrote of it "The one great Religious Foundation which lived through the storm of the English Conquest, and in which Briton and Englishman have an equal share". I think many Church people throughout the country will gladly share in the burden of raising the money still required.

It is proposed to rest the title in the Bath and Wells Diocesan Trustees, who will be Incorporated for the purpose, and the management of the property will be placed under the control of certain Bishops and leading Laymen and the Church of England.

No attempt will be made to restore the ruins, but every care will be taken to preserve them from further decay, and to secure reverent guardianship of the site, whilst the public will have such access to the Abbey as they have hitherto enjoyed.

I do not feel able to help the Glastonbury fund through the offertory, but I propose on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of October to place a money box in the Church porch for any special contributions to the Glastonbury Abbey Fund. I hope that those who are interested in the matter will kindly put their offerings into the box, or else send them direct to me.

The ruins of Glastonbury Abbey in Somerset, for the purchase of which the Bishop of Bath and Wells is appealing for funds, stand upon the site of the first Christian Church that was ever built in England, so far as we know.

*Frederick Tower, Vicar*

### **History**

The ruins are a Grade I listed building and Scheduled Ancient Monument. The site is the property of the Church of England. From 1908 to 1921 the church appointed Frederick Bligh Bond to direct archaeological excavations during which the Abbey foundations, various artefacts and the grave of King Arthur were uncovered. The work continued after 1921.

**2021 – Coronavirus Pandemic:** The lack of visitors, normally 50% are international, and the lockdowns have had a big impact for Glastonbury Abbey. National Lottery Funding has now helped the Abbey as they successfully applied to the Heritage Emergency Fund and secured £217,500 to help it survive. This will support the site to re-open safely to visitors by covering costs such as portable toilets, PPE and safety screens.

# 60 years of photographing the Badminton Horse Trials

by Ray Bird, Acton Turville

It seems hard to believe that it's 60 years since I took my first photograph at the Horse Trials. With the event sadly cancelled again this year due to the Coronavirus, instead of the usual selection of 'after the event' photographs I have delved into my archives and come up with a varied selection of photos from those 60 years.



Clockwise from above left:

1961, and one of my first photos of the event, it was taken with a old Brownie 127 camera and B/W film. With the crowds that now swarm around the lake on X/C day it's hard to believe that this photo was also taken on X/C day. It shows 2 entries casually making their way to the start for their X/C rounds.

The Golden Girl of Badminton, 6 times winner of the event Lucinda Green, seen here in 1988.

The site office in 1990 - maybe funds were tight that year !!

Three times winner Ian Stark, seen here in 1990 at the Quarry Wall.

Jane Starkey after a fall at the staircase fence in 1991 - the photo was used in a caption competition in the 1992 Badminton programme to help raise funds to send our Eventing team to that years Olympic Games - the winning caption was - "I always thought the landing was at the top of the Staircase."



# 60 years of photographing the Badminton Horse Trials



Clockwise from above:

*HM The Queen and Peter Phillips, with the 10th Duke of Beaufort and the Duchess of Westminster in the background at the start of Phase A of the X/C in 1983. The Queen, and other members of the Royal Family attended the event regularly from the 1950s to the early 1980s.*

*Mike Tucker's presentation by The Duchess of Cornwall in 2017 after his retirement as long standing equestrian commentator for BBC TV.*

*Princess Anne on Goodwill in 1973.*

*Rolex Grand Slam winner Michael Jung with the Rolex Trophy in 2016 after completing the unique treble of winning Burghley, Kentucky & Badminton in succession.*

*Mary King on King William at the Lake fence in 1996.*

*The Whitbread Greys were part of the Badminton scene for around 30 years, seen here in 1991.*

*A touch of synchronised swimming by John Paul Sheffield in 1996 after a fall in the lake!!*



## **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.***

### **APRIL 2021 Update**

**Following the Death of HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh a wreath was laid at the Well in the centre of the village on Saturday 17 April followed by a minute's silence to show our gratitude for his long and devoted service to our Country.**

### **Playing Field:**

We have a few volunteers to mow the playing field but we need more!  
If you like working outdoors and can spare a couple of hours (and you are prepared to put up with a little rain now and then) - this is for you! You can also help us with strimming and keeping both the play area and the playing field tidy and up to its usual standard.  
Applicants should be 18+ Please contact the Clerk or a Councillor for more information.

### **Changes to Meetings:**

Due to the country being in a period of mourning the April Parish Council Meeting was re-scheduled and held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 @ 7 pm. Details and changes were placed on the Parish Notice Board and Website.

Following Government regulations regarding the protocol of returning to face-to-face meetings, the May meetings have been arranged to comply:

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting on Monday 24th May @ 7.00 pm**

**This will be followed by**

**The Annual Parish (Residents) Meeting commencing @ 7.45 pm**

**Meetings will take place in St Mary's Church, Acton Turville.**

**Please note: Social Distancing and the wearing of masks applies to all meetings**

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

---

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675

Email: [actonturvillepc@aol.com](mailto:actonturvillepc@aol.com) Website: [www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org](http://www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org)

# Church Matters

## April 2021 Letter from the Vicar

My Dear Friends,

Having last month bewailed our inability to come to church, it is great to be publishing a rota of 'real' services for May!

We will keep the virtual videos going for a while, as we think there may be people who might watch them who are unable to get to church. But time will tell whether there is a demand for them. Either way, we are all incredibly grateful to Ben Humphries the organist in five of our seven parishes, who has turned his talent to videography, for keeping our worship going on line, and in such an imaginative and beautiful way.

If you have not seen his work, then have a look at our website where there is the link to our videos.

As for our actual services, small is beautiful. As we have to keep two metres apart from people in other bubbles, many of our churches can only take around 15 'bubbles' of people. Only if we reach our Covid maximum, will we have to turn people away. That would be a new experience for the rural Church!

There has been some changes to the landscape in Badminton, with the resignation of the churchwardens, secretary, treasurer and a few members of the PCC. I know I speak on behalf of the community when I thank them for their service to the church and wish them well. Our Reader Chris Andrew has also moved on to other pastures and we wish him well and thank him for his ministry in these parishes.

It is a very sad that we have lost a national figure in Prince Philip, someone who would always be able to find something to laugh about in even the most adverse of situations. And who disdained falsity and was a tower of strength to Her Majesty. There is much to give thanks for in his life, and we all share a sense of gratitude for his diligence and strength over so many years. We keep the royal family very much in our prayers at this time.

With my best wishes for a happy Springtime,

**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](http://www.badmintonchurch.org.uk)

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

Tel. 01454 219236

Mobile 077 177 91858

### Badminton Benefice Rota for May 2021

Sunday	Date	Time	Parish	Service
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	9.30am 9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Lasborough Hawkesbury Didmarton Acton Turville	Matins Holy Communion CW Matins Evensong
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter	9 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Lasborough Leighterton Little Badminton Hawkesbury	Holy Communion BCP Holy Communion BCP Matins Evensong
Sunday after Ascension Day	16 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30am 9.30am 6.00pm	Didmarton Hawkesbury Acton Turville	Holy Communion BCP Morning Prayer Evensong
Pentecost	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Lasborough Little Badminton Hawkesbury	Holy Communion BCP Matins with HC Festal Eucharist BCP
Trinity Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am 11.15am	Leighterton Little Badminton	Holy Communion Matins
9.30am every Wednesday	Zoom Matins. To join, ask Vicar			
Saints Days				
9.30am 1 <sup>st</sup> May	St Philip and James			
9.30am 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension Day			
9.30am 14 <sup>th</sup> May	St Matthias Day			
			Zoom Matins. To join, ask Vicar	

# Sudoku

May'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 !!

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

## NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the April quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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



# 4 COUNTIES OIL TANKS

SUPPLIED & FITTED

Call: 01666 510510  
Mobile: 07966 690807



Have you got ear wax build up or pain from a blocked ear?

Are you struggling to hear?

Come and visit our Ear Care Clinic!



We offer a professional earwax removal service carried out by Liz, our qualified, registered nurse, using the latest safe and effective micro-suction technology.

Parking is available right outside our Clinic in Brimsham Park, Yate.

Home visits can be arranged.

A pain free and comfortable procedure, with most cases feeling instant relief.

For more information, prices, or to book an appointment, please visit our website or give us a call.

from £45

86 Longcroft, Yate, Bristol, BS37 7YW  
Tel 01454 314460 Mob 07846452000  
hayley@hjtherapies.co.uk / www.hjtherapies.co.uk

**HOME COMPUTER  
PLAYING UP?  
NEED SOME HELP?  
DON'T DESPAIR!**

For help with:

- Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 10 and Tablets
- The Internet, Wireless Router Setup
- Hardware Upgrades and Repairs
- PC's Custom Built to order

No problem too small or large!

Contact Lloyd Buckingham

Tel: 07940155064 or 01454 260504

Email: lb\_cs@hotmail.com

**LB Computer Services**

YOUR LOCAL, LOW COST,  
HOME COMPUTER REPAIRER



**The Farm Shop at  
Hawkesbury**

*"a proper farm shop"*



*Producers of prime  
Aberdeen Angus Beef, Pork & Lamb*

**Open Friday 2pm - 6pm  
Saturday 10am - 4pm**

Hawkesbury Upton GL9 1AN  
[www.ajmorganfarmproduce.com](http://www.ajmorganfarmproduce.com)  
[ajmorganfarmproduce@gmail.com](mailto:ajmorganfarmproduce@gmail.com)

**07929 947149**



**The FOX  
& HOUNDS INN**

Acton Turville, nr Badminton  
GL9 1HW

**01454 218224**

**NOW OPEN MONDAY-SUNDAY**

**OUTDOOR EATING/DRINKING ONLY - TABLE SERVICE**  
in accordance with current Covid guidelines

**TAKEAWAYS also available lunchtimes/evenings**

Good Home Cooked Food  
Binend Wines from £16.50 per bottle  
Covered Beer Garden  
Large Car Park



To advertise your business or club,  
please email:

**localtalkbackads@gmail.com**



## PUMPKINS NURSERY

Badminton & Tormarton

Nursery Care and Pre-school Education  
catering for children aged 1 year – 5 years  
Open all year 8am – 6pm

Pre-school sessions, mornings/afternoons/school days  
Nursery Education Grant funded sessions available  
Forest School sessions run at both settings  
For more information or to request a prospectus  
contact

**01454 219400 / 218747**

or email Amanda Wallis at

**enquiries@pumpkinsnursery.co.uk**

or visit our website **www.pumpkinsnursery.co.uk**

## MOT TESTING STATION

**COACHSTYLE** has an **MOT** station at its depot at **The Gibb** able to test Cars, Vans, Camper Vans and Mini Buses

We now do air-conditioning as well as service and repair on any vehicle

**TYRES** at competitive prices  
General Servicing and Repairs

**01249 783366**

Ask for Andrew



## MATTHEW BUTLER BOOKS

Old Garage House, Acton Turville

**butler.books@btinternet.com**

**01454 218036**

Good quality and antiquarian books valued, bought and sold. Specialities: Architectural History, Archaeology and Art History.

Browsing by appointment



- Corns
- Nail Trimming
- Verrucae
- Hard Skin
- Athletes Foot
- Ingrown Toenails
- Nail Infections
- Cracked Heels (fissures)

## foot health care

Clinic available at  
The Chippenham  
Natural Therapy Centre  
(above the Lodge Surgery)  
**Tel:(01249) 443390**

Home Visits:  
**Tel: 01666 838683**  
**Mob: 07593 324128**

The Oxford Practice  
5 Oxford Street  
Malmesbury  
**Tel: 01666 824560**  
[www.foot-health-care.co.uk](http://www.foot-health-care.co.uk)

**Sina Ohms**  
MCFHP MAFHP

Foot Health  
Practitioner



**Belgrave  
House**  
DENTAL

General Family Dentistry  
Crowns and Veneers  
Bridges and Dentures  
Six Months Smile (tooth  
straightening)  
Invisalign (clear braces)

Dental Implants  
Tooth Whitening  
Hygienist  
Nervous Patients Welcome  
Children under six seen free  
of charge

Belgrave House Dental is a state of the art dental practice in the centre of Tetbury.

We are currently welcoming new patients, so come and experience customer care from our highly qualified team offering a wide range of treatment in a stylish welcoming environment.

**Tel: 01666 503403**

Email: [reception@belgravehousedental.co.uk](mailto:reception@belgravehousedental.co.uk)

[www.belgravehousedental.co.uk](http://www.belgravehousedental.co.uk)

8 Market Place, Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8DA



# Perry Bishop



## Time to unlock the next chapter in your life?

"Spending so much time at home in recent months has shone a spotlight on our current living arrangements. Outside space and an office for homeworking now top the wish lists for many looking to move. More room for the kids, a move to be closer to extended family and an exodus out of the big cities have also resulted in a very busy property market, particularly in our part of the world.

If you're considering a move this year, I'm here to help. Enjoy the best of both worlds when you choose to sell with Perry Bishop – a very personal service, from valuation through to sale, with the backing of an established and award-winning brand."

Call me on **01249 470166** or **07971 244865**  
for your **FREE consultation** and property advice

Or email me **carolineferris@perrybishop.co.uk**



My charity of the year.  
Donation from every sale.



Wiltshire  
**Air Ambulance**  
funded by you, flying for you



Chippenham



Christian Malford



Foxham



Kington St. Michael



Studley



Sutton Benger



Wick Hill

“Wow. By far the best estate agent we have ever dealt with; fantastic service from the start to the very end. Very professional but personable. Communication is excellent and they go above and beyond in every stage of the selling process. We would not hesitate in recommending Perry Bishop to other buyers or sellers.”

Michelle H,  
December 2020



Perry Bishop  
and Chambers

**SOLD STC**

perrybishop.co.uk



**PJD Home Improvements**  
 All types of DIY, painting, decorating and garden maintenance  
 Check out my Facebook page 

---

**Paul J Davidson**  
 3 Corvus Cottages  
 Station Road  
 Badminton  
 GL9 1EP

Ring for a competitive quote  
**07766 680161**  
 paul.davidson123@btinternet.com

**M & M Builders And Carpentry**  
 GENERAL BUILDING AND LISTED PROPERTY

**Mike Brazier**

**M: 07779944773 T: 01454 218765**  
 mikebrazier50@gmail.com  
 www.mandmbuild.co.uk




**3 Tormarton Road, Acton Turville  
 Badminton, S.Glos, GL9 1HP**

**Foxley Plumbing & Heating**

Oil boiler installation, servicing & repairs  
 Oil tank replacement  
 Heating installation & repairs  
 Bathroom installations  
 Unvented cylinder systems  
 No job too small

**Tim Hibberd**  
 Malmesbury (01666) 822863  
 Mobile: 07966 462202  
 Email: foxleyph@btinternet.com



**D. J. Mayhead**

**ELECTRICAL SERVICES**  
 DOMESTIC • INDUSTRIAL • COMMERCIAL

- Wiring, Re-wiring & Upgrading of existing system
- Periodic Inspection, Testing & Certification
- Electric Boilers, Showers & Heating
- Consumer Unit Upgrades
- Internal & External Lighting
- Appliance Connections, T.V & B.T Points
- Fire & Security Alarms
- 3 Phase Installations
- CCTV & Entry Systems

We are fully insured and all work is guaranteed



Please contact us for a FREE no obligation quote...

D J Mayhead Electrical Services Ltd  
**M: 07971 684 524 E: info@djmayheadelectrical.co.uk**  
 www.djmayheadelectrical.co.uk

To advertise your business or club, please email:  
**localtalkbackads@gmail.com**



**PRIOR & COMPANY**  
*Building on a great reputation!*

Experts in all building works, renovations, conversions, decorating, kitchens and bathrooms for your home or business

**Tel 01249 782898**  
 enquiries@priorandcompany.com  
 The Courtyard, Bath Road, Shaw, Melksham SN12 5EP




**www.priorandcompany.com**



**MARDEN ROOFING**  
*Taking Service & Quality to new heights!*

Specialists in all roofing, Upvc fascias, soffits and guttering, leadwork, chimneys and sundry works for your home or business

**Tel 01249 814204**  
 enquiries@mardenroofing.co.uk  
 The Courtyard, Bath Road, Shaw, Melksham SN12 5EP




**www.mardenroofing.co.uk**

## FRENCHAY CHIMNEY SWEEP

All sweeps certificated  
for house insurance purposes  
and landlord  
Local, professional no mess service

Contact Paul on  
**07832 995391**

## Village Link

### Volunteers transporting the Community

Do you know anyone who might  
benefit from our services?  
or consider joining our volunteers?  
Please ask them to call one of our  
coordinators on

**07590 720836**



*Lending with Heart and Mind*

Your Somerset Councils fund a not-for-profit  
loan scheme for homeowners and landlords\*.

We understand the expense of maintaining your home  
and we work with you to take the stress out of funding  
repairs, improvements or adaptations.

We see you as an individual, not a credit score. Our  
knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through  
the process of applying for a home improvement loan.

For a no-obligation assessment  
or more information visit  
[www.lendology.org.uk](http://www.lendology.org.uk) or call **01823 461099**

Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

\*subject to eligibility



Free auction valuations  
Regular fine art & antiques sales  
Insurance & probate valuations

01452 344499  
enquiries@chorleys.com  
[www.chorleys.com](http://www.chorleys.com)

PRINKNASH ABBEY PARK  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL4 8EU

## CLAPCOTE FORESTRY LIMITED

Established 1981

### CLAPCOTE SAWMILL

Specialising in  
OAK, LARCH,  
DOUGLAS FIR and  
ALL NATIVE HARD  
& SOFT WOODS  
for beams, lintels  
planks (inc. air dried)  
& fencing materials



Suppliers of best quality  
hardwood logs, cut and  
split to your requirements

KINDLING

ENGLISH LUMPWOOD  
BARBECUE CHARCOAL

SWEET CHESTNUT  
FENCING STAKES

WOOD CHIP

Telephone : Norman and Diane Matthews  
YARD & OFFICE **01666 837230**  
or visit our yard between Grittleton and Hullavington  
to discuss your requirements



### Disclaimer

The articles in this magazine reflect the personal opinions of the writers and not those of the Editorial Team. Furthermore, the Editorial Team are not responsible for any errors of fact printed in the magazine. Advertising is accepted in good faith. The LTB cannot be held responsible for loss, damage or injury arising out of goods and services sold through any adverts in this magazine. The appearance of an advert in the magazine does not imply any endorsement by the Editorial Team of either the company or its services, nor does it constitute a recommendation.

All articles written and submitted should have a contact name and telephone or email information, please.  
No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior consent of the publisher.

## Picture Gallery



On the 18<sup>th</sup> April, Badminton House opened their gardens to the public for Tulip Day. It provided a very welcome opportunity to get out and about and to see just how beautiful the gardens are looking. This year, visitors were provided a rare chance to view the gardens at Well Cottage (left), where the Dowager Duchess has worked her magic to create something very special. Thanks to Chris and Christine Bennett, Gill Love and Yvonne Nettles for the pictures. Further open days are planned for later in the year - see the Badminton House website for details.

