

Local Talk Back

NOVEMBER 2022

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

ISSUE 532



Lest We Forget

Photograph: Chris Farrell, Acton Turville



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

EDITORIAL NOVEMBER 2022

We've been to North Wales. Possibly not the most exciting news, but every time I venture into the more remote parts of Wales I'm reminded how little of the country I've explored. I suspect a session on the psychiatrist's couch would quickly deduce that failure to explore that part of the United Kingdom stemmed from the introduction of the Severn Bridge Toll. You see, my father was outraged at the notion that drivers in general, and him in particular, should be expected to pay to use any part of this nation's network of roads. He paid his road tax every year to use the roads, so what was so special about the Severn Bridge that meant he had to pay twice for it? He had a point. He also had a way around it: on the rare occasions when a visit to South Wales was unavoidable, we must have been the only family who would go via Gloucester, just so we didn't have to pay the toll on the bridge. As a result, I have more memories of family trips to Scotland, the Lake District, Cornwall, even Norfolk, than I do of Wales.

It's only comparatively recently that I've begun to appreciate what I've been missing out on. The latest visit was to Portmeirion, a small village on the North Wales coast which found fame when it was used in the late sixties as the location for cult TV series *The Prisoner*, starring Patrick McGoohan. The term "cult" is often used to describe something that is slightly surreal or abstract, and that's definitely the case with *The Prisoner*. In the series, our man McGoohan is held captive by sinister characters who want to find out why he quit his job as a top-ranking member of the British secret service. He is taken to a very attractive coastal village designed in the Italianate style, where his "cell" is an exact reproduction of the flat he previously occupied in London. Inmates wear a standard outfit consisting of coloured blazers, multicoloured capes and striped sweaters. Headwear is encouraged, straw boaters are prominent. Escape is futile, and those who attempt it are chased down by huge white balloons which smother their victims. If you're expecting a cross between Prisoner Cell Block H and *Porridge*, you'll be disappointed.

Amongst all the strange goings on it is perhaps the setting that is the most surreal, a village full of brightly coloured buildings built around a piazza, where apparently random architectural styles collide to create something slightly disturbing yet quite unique. A typical film set then, no doubt constructed of plywood and packed away as soon as filming finished. Well, no. The village is real, and it was designed and built by an architect called Clough Williams-Ellis over a period of 50 years between 1925 and 1975. When Williams-Ellis bought the land on which Portmeirion now stands, the most significant building was an imposing villa which stood on the water's edge which was quickly converted into an hotel to generate an income for the project. Almost immediately, Williams-Ellis began setting out his plans to build his one-of-a-kind coastal village.

Much of his inspiration came from the fishing villages he had visited on the Italian Riviera which is reflected in the style of many of the buildings he designed. However, something else that influenced his designs was a desire to use architectural salvage from the huge number of classical buildings which were being demolished at that time. As a founding member of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, Williams-Ellis must have taken solace in the knowledge that he had saved at least some small parts of these buildings, but at the same time he showed considerable skill in the way he incorporated them into his designs. Standing in the central piazza, I found myself admiring one such building, a very decorative colonnade which, according to the inscription, dated from 1760. Reading on, it turns out it originally stood in Arnos Court in Bristol, from where it was transported stone-by-numbered stone to be reassembled in North Wales. I used to live just around the corner from Arnos Court. It's a small world.

I can heartily recommend a trip to Portmeirion, it was like no other place I've ever visited. It also sits on the edge of the Snowdonia National Park with its breath-taking scenery and charming narrow-gauge railways. Don't underestimate how long it takes to get there though, it's a long old drive. Naturally we took the Severn Bridge. Both ways. We're really discovering the joys of Wales now the bridge tolls have been abandoned.

Tan y tro nesaf

IAN CARTER

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 DECEMBER EDITION OF LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15TH NOVEMBER

THANK YOU.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

November

Fri 4th	Firework Display, Lordswood Farm, Sherston 7pm
Sat 5th	Firework Display, Didmarton Village Hall 6pm
Sat 5th	Bonfire & Fireworks, Playing Field, Luckington 6.30pm
Wed 9th	Luncheon Club, Fox & Hounds
Fri 11th	Didmarton Rural Cinema – Top Gun: Maverick
Sat 19th	Trinity Christmas Fair, Trinity School, Acton Turville 11am-3pm
Fri 25th & Sat 26th	Snow White & the Magnificent 7 Dwarves, Hawkesbury Upton
Sat 26th	Acton Turville Social Christmas Market, Fox & Hounds, 4-8pm

*****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.



ACTON TURVILLE TENNIS CLUB

The Acton Turville Tennis Club is holding its Annual General Meeting on **TUESDAY 8th NOVEMBER at 7:30pm.** Any members who wish to attend should contact the club secretary at actonturvilletennisclub@gmail.com



St Mary's Church, Acton Turville

The internment of the ashes of Lt Cdr Conrad Jones - churchwarden until his death earlier this year - will take place after Evensong in St Mary's, Acton Turville, on 6th November 2022. The service will begin at 3.00pm and the internment will commence at 3.45pm.

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

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

Jackie Crook

Acton Turville Parish Council

In addition, £110 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*

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

100 Club

WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

Laura Griffin
Kate Seymour Smith
Richard Hartley

Congratulations!

Local Talk Back is printed by

SPRINT PRINT, 22 STATION ROAD, YATE, BS37 4PS

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

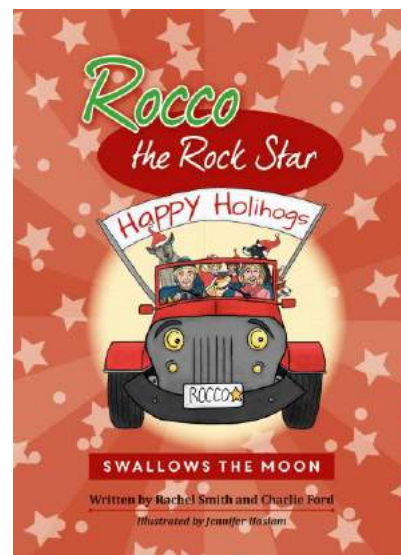
Rocco the Rock Star – in Badminton!

Finding that special present at Christmas is always a challenge. Books are normally a safe bet, but where do you start when there are so many to choose from? Well, if you're in the market for an enchanting Christmas bedtime story book for kids, we might be able to help. No, it's not the Local Talk Back Christmas annual (now there's a thought...), but it does have local connections. Interested? Then read on.

The book in question is called 'Rocco the Rock Star Swallows the Moon' and features the latest exploits of Rocco the rescue dog and his pawsome pals. What makes the book extra-special is that the story begins locally, in Badminton no less, and is written by dog-mad friends Rachel Smith and Charlie Ford who themselves hail from the Cotswolds.

The inspiration for Rocco has its roots much further afield. The real-life Rocco was actually rescued from a rubbish tip in Romania by a stranger who stopped in the dead of night and pouring rain and took the handsome hound to a shelter owned by a lady called Maria. It was through Maria that Rachel and Rocco found each other. Inspired by the stranger's act of kindness, Rachel and Charlie then decided to share Rocco's story to spread the messages of kindness, patience and courage.

This heart-warming Christmas kids' book is available now from Badminton Post Office (and Amazon, just in case Wayne sells out). It makes a wonderful Christmas stocking filler that is suitable for kids up to about 9 years old and dog lovers of any age. To find out more about Rocco, visit www.roccotherockstar.com



BADMINTON ESTATE

CHRISTMAS WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOPS

THE FLOWER HUT IN TETBURY IS RUNNING A SERIES OF WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOPS IN THE OLD KITCHEN AT BADMINTON ESTATE. THE SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO CREATE YOUR OWN WREATH TO TAKE HOME AND DECORATE YOUR DOOR THIS CHRISTMAS. MULLED WINE, HOT CHOCOLATES AND MINCE PIES WILL BE SERVED.

DATES ARE:

SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER ***SOLD OUT***

TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

TIME: 6PM-8PM

See <https://www.badmintonestate.com/events/> for full details

Thank You!

Acton Turville Parish Council would like to thank everyone who turned out for their latest litter picking event on the 15th October. As well as liberating large amounts of litter from the verges and pathways around the village, the enthusiastic band of volunteers put their clippers, trowels, strimmers and brooms to good use as they set to work tidying up the various planted areas and generally making the village look its best. It was particularly good to see some new faces joining in the fun. Here's to the next one in Spring 2023!!

FIREWORKS 2022

Friday 4th November at 7pm

Lordswood Farm, Sherston 7pm

Family £20, Adults £10

Barbeque & Bar

Saturday 5th November at 6pm

Didmorton Village Hall

Adults £5.50, Children £1.50

Barbeque, Bar & Refreshments

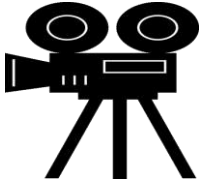
Saturday 5th November at 6.30pm

Playing Field, Luckington

Free entry!

Bar & hot dogs

WHAT'S ON



DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Didmarton Village Hall, Friday 11th November 2022

TOP GUN: MAVERICK

(2022, Cert 12A) – Drama

Starring: Tom Cruise, Miles Teller

Director: Joseph Kosinski

After more than thirty years of service as one of the Navy's top aviators, Pete "Maverick" Mitchell (Tom Cruise) is where he belongs, pushing the envelope as a courageous test pilot and dodging the advancement in rank that would ground him. When he finds himself training a detachment of Top Gun graduates for a specialized mission the likes of which no living pilot has ever seen, Maverick encounters Lt. Bradley Bradshaw (Miles Teller), call sign: "Rooster," the son of Maverick's late friend and Radar Intercept Officer Lt. Nick Bradshaw, aka "Goose". Facing an uncertain future and confronting the ghosts of his past, Maverick is drawn into a confrontation with his own deepest fears, culminating in a mission that demands the ultimate sacrifice from those who will be chosen to fly it.

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 ensure that sufficient seating is available

jennybody@btconnect.com

Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club



Wednesday 9th November

Tea/Coffee on arrival

Two Course Lunch (main course + dessert)

Coffee to finish

£12.00 per head

Everyone welcome!

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



REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2022



The Badminton and Hawkesbury Branch of the Royal British Legion and Trinity School are holding a Remembrance Parade at St Marys Church, Acton Turville, on Friday the 11th November at 1045hrs.

Refreshments will kindly be provided afterwards by Craig and Aira Heeley at Hollybush Farm, Acton Turville. Everyone is welcome to attend for tea and cake. All proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal.

A Service of Remembrance will be held at Badminton Church on Sunday the 13th November at 1050hrs. All are welcome.

STOP PRESS!!



There are still a limited number of stalls available for the Acton Turville Social Christmas Market which takes place on Saturday 26th November at the Fox & Hounds Car Park

*To book a stall please contact
actonturvillesocial@gmail.com*

See back page for full details

A LOOK BACK 10 YEARS TO 2012

This is a snapshot of 2012 taken from the Local Talk Back editorials of that year and recorded at the time by the Three Country Girls.

Sally, Sandra and Yvonne would often visit cafes and other venues to write the editorials and then share their experience of what they found, which often encouraged others to go and see the places for themselves. In Beechfield House in Beanacre they were given a tour of the groundfloor before being seated by a welcoming fire to enjoy a delicious cream tea. A trip to Tetbury on a mild bright day was to visit Prince Charles' Highgrove Store before having a cream tea in the Close Hotel, which was not up to the standard of the previous hotel. For something very different for the April issue they went to the Wiltshire Wood Recycling at Upper Castle Combe, 'on one of the most glorious sunny days we could remember, which you will see later could possibly have been the best day of the year. The not-for-profit company diverts wood away from landfill, much of it from building sites and industrial premises. As well as selling the old wood there is a workshop where a mix of workers and volunteers make up items such as planters, garden furniture, bird tables and nesting boxes, all for sale. *(The business seems to be still advertising)*

Other local news was recorded in the editorials. In February came the news of a most unusual event, that the Little Badminton Phone Box had been blown up one night. The explosion was heard inside of some of the houses. According to the police a large firework had caused it. Parts of the kiosk covered the road and metal part were found in a garden on the other side of the road. The cast iron door was laying in pieces on the grass and debris strewn across the road. And only 9.30 in the evening. Someone could have been seriously hurt. A mini bus was seen driving rapidly through the debris even though being flagged down, and had disappeared before two police cars came to close the road.

In April the news that, sadly, Badminton now didn't have a cricket team after very many years of the tradition. There were just not enough players to support a team.

We were told in May that the Badminton Horse Trials was cancelled three days before the start as heavy rain over the previous week caused the park to be waterlogged. A month earlier there was sunny hot weather with the country becoming short of water and some places on a hosepipe ban.

The June edition celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with many articles of memories, photos and news cuttings about the Queen's Coronation and previous Jubilees. The Badminton celebration was organised in only a few days and was very well attended and enjoyed by everyone. Acton Turville also had a day of fun, food and games. The lighting of the Beacon at Starveall was well attended and many enjoyed picnics before the Beacon was lit by the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort.

Badminton Village Club had reached its Centenary in January but the Club put on a spectacular event as a Celebration in the summer. Stalls and traditional games lined the High Street where a procession of school children and several steam engines including the horse-drawn Badminton fire engine which was used in the village 100 years earlier. The entertainment continued all evening in the Club.

It was noted that the 2012 Olympic Torch Relay passed through Bristol, Bath and Chippenham. Because the Olympics were in London nearly everyone had watched hours and hours of the sports, and many admitted to shedding an emotional tear or two.

Locally there seemed to be an invasion of goat-keeping in the area because of a higher demand for their meat. (What happened to them all?)

The weather was big news through the year because of the rain. A weather report just after mid-summer said "but it feels like mid-winter – cold, wet and windy". After weeks of rain summer arrived -for one week! Suddenly more bees were around and the harvest began. Many events were cancelled through the summer because of the wet weather. Hawkesbury Show took place but the weather changed with torrential rain. By November there had been problems on the land of growing crops, harvesting crops and re-planting crops. Badminton High Street had a river of water down the High Street in the night causing Badminton Club, Stewards House and the Doctors surgery to be flooded by six inches or more of water, and between the Club and the House gates was a lake. Everyone looked forward to 2013.

MEET THE ADVERTISER

The Cotswold Stylist

Not sure what to wear this Autumn/Winter? Would you like some advice about your existing wardrobe and help with updating it? Well Local Talk Back's newest advertiser, The Cotswold Stylist, may just be what you're looking for. Established by fashion model Amanda Chalmers, who lives nearby in the village of Horsley, The Cotswold Stylist offer a friendly service tailor-made to help women of all shapes and sizes feel more confident about what to wear, whatever the occasion. To find out more, we recently caught up with Amanda to hear more about her career in modelling and this exciting new venture.

Thanks for taking the time to talk to us Amanda, before we hear about the services provided by The Cotswold Stylist, would you be able to tell our readers a bit about yourself?

Of course. I was born in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) and grew up in a country where dressing elegantly for the numerous formal Government House parties was essential. I remember one very special occasion in particular. My Grandfather had been awarded the CBE and an event was to be held in his honour. I accompanied my Grandmother to the event, and can still vividly recall how special I felt as we walked in wearing our sparkly evening gowns and long gloves. Later on, as a teenager, I attended a professional modelling course following which my career as a fashion and catwalk model was born."

When did you make the move to the UK?

I moved to the UK in 1983, where my career as a model was put on hold whilst I brought up my son. But my passion for fashion was too strong for it to remain dormant for long, and soon I was modelling again. To this day I am in great demand as a "mature model", and I share my modelling time equally with my business The Cotswold Stylist.

What led you to set up The Cotswold Stylist?

Some years ago, it occurred to me that there are many women who may not feel as confident as they might about what to wear and when. Perhaps some have had a career move, or their children have "flown the nest", or maybe they simply feel uncomfortable about their change in body shape. I realised that, with my background, knowledge and experience, I was perfectly placed to help so I set up The Cotswold Stylist. We offer a friendly service which helps people manage their wardrobes, and advise them how best to update their range of clothes. I believe being able to choose an outfit with confidence is perhaps the most important aspect of looking the part in today's modern society.

That sounds intriguing. Can you tell us more about the services that you offer?

From the budget-priced "bronze" (solely advisory) service at about £150 to the prestigious "gold" package which includes accompanied buying trips to London and costs about £1000, The Cotswold Stylist provides all the professional help you need to make the choice of the right outfit from your improved wardrobe to suit you and your lifestyle.

It's been great talking to you Amanda, thank you for your time. In one sentence, how would you summarise what you do as The Cotswold Stylist?

I just love helping people choose clothes for their wardrobe, we all feel so much more confident when we're well dressed.

Well we can't argue with that. We're sure there are lots of people who will be interested in the services on offer from The Cotswold Stylist. What's the best way for them to get in touch with you?

Anyone wanting more information can call me on 07970 391702, email me at amanda@cotswoldstylist.com, or visit our website which is www.cotswoldstylist.com.

Thank you Amanda, it's been great speaking to you. We wish you continuing success with your exciting venture.



J J's GARDENING BLOG



This is just the moment to plant tulips. If you remembered to order some ages ago, just feel the bulbs. They should be firm. Anything which doesn't feel wholesome, discard. Otherwise, rush out now and purchase some from the local nursery. Next, put a 'lid' of chicken wire over the flower pot to stop squirrels digging them up. If yours are growing in a flower bed or grassy spot they will have to take their chances. To be sure of success, plant new bulbs each year.

Some Planting Ideas to Consider

Instead of box for a low hedge, plant Ilex Crenata. It is evergreen and very similar to box and without the die back etc. etc. If you already have this plant, this is the last time this year to clip it.

Two shrubs which give a real bit of colour just now are ceratostigma and choisya aurea, blue flowers on the first and yellow foliage with white, scented flowers on the second. Ceratostigma also has good autumn-coloured foliage. It is the time of year with this soft sunshine to don outdoor clothes and take a walk to enjoy the colourful field maples, beeches, oaks, or if in a garden, azaleas. Particularly if there is a blue cedar nearby for contrast.

Some ideas for winter tubs; pansies or violas, cyclamen, crocus, 'Tete a Tete' small daffodils, heucheras, ferns. If you are looking for something to flower now, chrysanthemums maybe just the thing. Available in pots, and can go into a bed now or when finished flowering.

Plant onion sets now.

Compost Now

Plan on composting the beds - it will warm your hands and the plants! If you are leaving the dahlias or herbaceous plants in the ground, cut them back short and protect them with several handfuls of old compost (not new) as any fertiliser in the new will be washed away during winter months. All this covering with compost means you are improving the soil all the while. Dispose of coffee grounds around acid loving plants.

Some More Jobs for the Garden

If you want to reposition a large plant, do so, but bear in mind that it may take a year or two to be happy in its new place. Just like us. And don't be mean with the watering can, particularly when growth starts next spring.

Remember to shorten and tie in any climbers now to stop windrock loosening the roots. Roses are typical candidates.

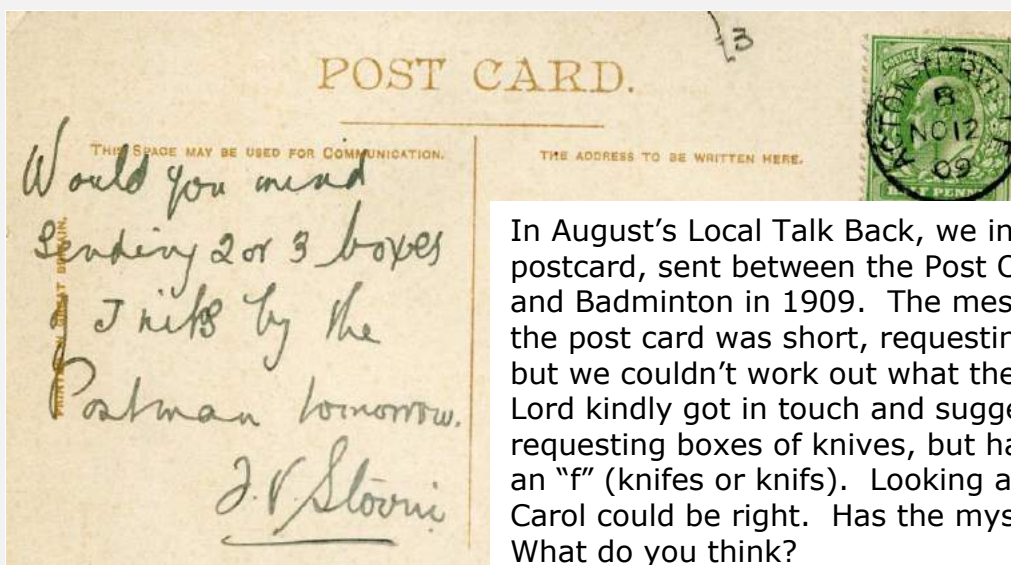
Bring under cover anything not hardy into a coldframe, greenhouse or whatever shelter you have.

Sometimes, plants will be just warm enough against a wall and dry beneath the guttering.

And Finally

Hide the trampoline. You need a man and digger to sink it to ground level. Much safer and not an eyesore to yourself or your neighbours.

From The Archives Update



In August's Local Talk Back, we included a picture of a postcard, sent between the Post Offices in Acton Turville and Badminton in 1909. The message on the back of the post card was short, requesting "2 or 3 boxes of...", but we couldn't work out what the next word was. Carol Lord kindly got in touch and suggested the postcard was requesting boxes of knives, but had spelt the word with an "f" (knifes or knifs). Looking at it again we think Carol could be right. Has the mystery been solved? What do you think?

Cupcake Fashion Tea Rooms



The three of us recently visited this tea room hidden away behind the Ridgewood Community Centre in Chipping Sodbury.

We were there for lunch and managed to get the last available table. The menu offered a choice of sandwiches, paninis and omelettes as well as soup, classic salads, quiches, Lasagne, and jacket potatoes. They were also serving cream teas and lot of cakes.

Between three of us we ordered two different quiches and an omelette, all with a lovely salad, and chips available if required.

The food was delicious and prices reasonable. We were amazed when we find out the tea rooms had been there for five years and yet we didn't know about them. It is well worth a visit if only to see the collection of teapots and china set out on various dressers.

It is run by mother and daughter Karen and Alice Clark.

At busy times you may need to book so call them on 07881 738523 just in case. They can also be found on Facebook.



Sally, Yvonne and Simonne

WHAT'S THAT COMING OVER THE BEACH? IS IT A MONSTER?

Well, sort of. Highlight of an excursion to Weston-Super-Mare back in the summer was the sight of a huge crane lifting an even larger structure onto the beach. It turned out to be The See Monster, a decommissioned North Sea offshore gas platform that was set to become one of the UK's largest ever public art installations. Funding came from the government's somewhat controversial Unboxed initiative, and the aim of See Monster was to "start conversations around reuse": not only did it make good use of renewable energy sources, it was also claimed that, once removed from Weston, 98-100% of it would be recycled.

It definitely looked impressive as it was lifted onto the beach, and the artists impressions of the finished product were tantalising, showing plants cascading from the various decks like the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. We had to wait until it opened on the 24th September to see whether it lived up to the hype, so Gill and I joined the queue that snaked along the seafront to await our turn.

It wasn't until we were standing beneath the rig that we realised how huge it was. At sea, much of the structure would be submerged, but standing on dry land it towered over us. As we climbed the stairs and walkways, the views across the Bristol Channel were terrific, and from the uppermost platform you could see for miles in all directions.

If you want to see those views for yourself though, you'll have to be quick, as the attraction closes to the public on the 5th November after welcoming visitors for just six weeks. We both came away feeling rather underwhelmed, and couldn't help wondering whether the See Monster really delivered on its promises. It has a very serious message and as an educational resource it fulfills a most important purpose, but as a "visitor experience" we thought it fell short.

Apparently the selection of plants that were scattered around the decks will now find new homes in the parks around Weston, and the rest of the rig will soon be on its way to be cut up and recycled.

I wonder when the huge crane will be back to winch it off the beach?

Ian & Gill

STAGE COACHES THROUGH THE COTSWOLDS



If you were out and about on the morning of the 15th October, you might just have been fortunate enough to catch sight of these two magnificent horse-drawn stage coaches as they made their majestic way towards Badminton House on the final leg of a 60-mile charity drive. The journey, which started four days earlier in Burford, passed through Lechlade, Kempsford, Cricklade, Minety, Malmesbury and Shipton Moyne before embarking on its final leg between Sherston and Badminton.

The two 19th-century style coaches, both privately owned, were undertaking a journey through the Cotswolds to raise money for the Prostate Cancer UK and Breast Cancer UK charities. Just as they did in the old days, they stopped overnight at hotels that could provide facilities for the horses as well as the weary travellers.

The coaches were laden with passengers, and as they passed through the towns and villages there were bucket collections to raise funds for the two Cancer charities. As you might imagine, the sight of two horse-drawn stage coaches caused quite a stir on the local roads!

Thank you to our photographers. The picture at the top of the page was taken by Simonne Watts from Hawkesbury. All other pictures are courtesy of Chris Tarling, Yellow Hound Photography. To see more of Chris' pictures, visit www.yellowhound.co.uk



STAGE COACHES THROUGH THE COTSWOLDS



The cream coach is called "NIMROD" and is owned by John Brown. It was drawn by four powerful Gelderlanders, two brown and two black.

The blue coach, called "MONARCH", is owned by Rod and Barbara Stockton, was drawn by a team of high-stepping black Hackneys. These are an unusual sight as the Hackney is now on the endangered list of rare breeds.

In England, the correct term for a stage coach running on a scheduled service and carrying fare-paying passengers is "road coach". The name first came into use during the 1860's at the time of the so-called "coaching revival".



Church Matters

November 2022 Letter from the Vicar

Dear Friends,

In her book, *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit*, Jeanette Winterson writes of her principal character who has lost the gift of faith:

'But where was God now, with heaven full of astronauts, and the Lord not on His throne? I miss God. I miss the company of someone utterly loyal. I still don't think of God as my betrayer. The servants of God, yes, but servants by their very nature betray. I miss God who was my friend. I don't even know if God exists, but I do know that if God is your emotional role model, very few human relationships will match up to it.'

This season of Remembrance, I am very aware that whilst we all share the common experience of losing people we love, not all of us have the gift of faith with which to deal with the difficult reality of death. Death often robs us of a person we love and feel we need. That is unless a person is in great pain, or has lived their life and is ready for death. But even then, it can be impossible to understand.

Faith gives us a language with which to talk about death and a place where we can remember those we love. The Christian idea of Heaven is not a great utopia in the sky or a denial of the pain of death. It is something else. It is a language that can help us to face death and meet it. It is a picture that can reside in our hearts to help us through the grief. It is a faith that no matter what, God has it... not that it is meant to be - necessarily, nor that it is all OK, but that God has it. It can be faced up to. The awfulness. It is alright, God holds it in his hands.

Like the character in the novel, it is a terrible thing to lose faith. I pray that all of us may find the faith and belief that God really is present with us, as he is with those we have lost, that He is 'always and everywhere', as the hymn says. And not only find comfort in that, but a light with which to see clearly into the midst of our darkest moments.

With my best wishes.

Rev 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 November 2022

Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
6 th November	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Lay led
	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Parish Communion CW	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Didmarton	Remembrance Matins	Rev R Thomson
	3.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Sopworth	Evening Prayer	Lay Led
13 th November	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
	10.50am	Great Badminton	Remembrance Sunday Service	Rev R Thomson
	11.00am	Hawkesbury	Service by the War Memorial	Ecumenical
	11.00am	Sopworth	Short Service by War Memorial	Lay led
20 th November	8.30am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	Rev R Thomson
	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Family Service Advent Theme	Methodist Lay Preacher
	11.15am	Great Badminton	El Gubi Service RGH	Rev R Thomson
	3.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
27 th November	9.30am	Lasborough	HC CW	Rev R Thomson
	11.00am	Leighterton	Patronal Matins	Lay Led
	11.15am	Sopworth	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Advent Service	Rev R Thomson

All readings and updates of services on website badmintonbenefice.com

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.

Your co-operation is appreciated. Thank you.

OCTOBER 2022 REPORT

Items discussed at October meeting included:

Playing Field Maintenance - If you are interested in joining our team of 'mowers & trimmers' please contact a Councillor or the Clerk. The mowing season is short and it would be good to get additional volunteers to assist our current team. Training will be given.

Geoff Shortall - Councillors felt it would be a nice gesture to have a Plaque in memory of Geoff on the seat where he liked to sit in the playing field. We have asked Geoff's family what phrase they would like.

Village signs - several signs have still not been replaced. We are chasing these with South Glos Streetcare and copied in District Councillor Pat Trull.

Community Speed Watch - More volunteers needed.

Autumn Village Tidy - Thank to all the volunteers who turned up on Saturday 15th October for this year's Autumn Tidy and litter pick. Much appreciated.

Planning - no update on the Badminton Estate Development at present.

Parish Councillors:

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

*Next Meeting: Monday 14 November 2022 @ 7 pm Venue: St Mary's Church, Acton Turville.
Details on Parish Notice Board/Website*

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675

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

Sudoku

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

'Easy'

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

Answers to
October's
Puzzles

NOT SO EASY !!

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

'Not so Easy'

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

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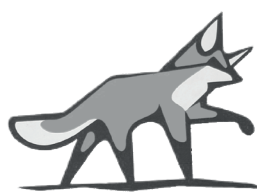
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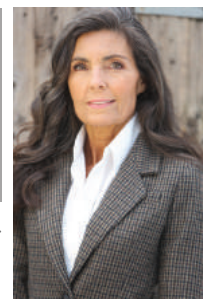
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