

Local Talk Back

MAY 2024

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

ISSUE 548



Friendly Natives. Highland Cattle at Kilcot. Picture by Yvonne Nettles, Little Badminton



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

EDITORIAL MAY 2024

Do you enjoy travel? I've just been reading a couple of books. One was about the development of the jet airliner. It was written in the sixties, the Golden Age of air travel, a time when transport links between the four corners of the globe were being opened up in a manner unimagined a decade earlier. Long-haul flights were rapidly making ocean liners redundant, and transits to America and Australia could now be expressed in terms of hours, not days and weeks. That was just the start of it though. The book had artists impressions of aircraft which were under development by the major manufacturers that would transport us at unimaginable speeds in absolute comfort. At the same time, airports would form part of an integrated transport network where flying would become as convenient as catching a bus or train. The world would shrink around us, all of us, not just the privileged few.

Looking back at the intervening 50 years, some of what was described in the book has been delivered. Flying is routine, and reaching your destination safely is no longer a novelty that deserves to be celebrated. On a sunny day, the skies are criss-crossed with the vapour trails left by a multitude of aircraft taking people on their holidays or travelling for business, and flying to some parts of the UK can actually be cheaper than taking the train. On the other hand, the hypersonic aircraft which would catapult us to Australia in four hours never materialised, and even the days of supersonic flight appear to be over since Concorde was withdrawn from service. What also failed to materialise was the concept of hopping on a plane and nipping over the channel for lunch. When I go on my holidays later in the year, I suspect I'll spend far longer travelling to Bristol Airport or waiting around in the departure lounge than I do airborne, and as much of that is down to security protocols, I can't see it changing anytime soon.

The other book I read was about a chap who, in 1959, decided to travel from Buenos Aires to New York. In those days, flying such a route was fraught with danger, especially when passing over the highest mountains where changes in air pressure could cause planes to drop out of the sky like stones. That wasn't an issue for the book's author as he intended to make the journey in a 1925 Austin 7 motor car. Quite why he thought it was a good idea to travel so far in a car that was patently unsuited to the journey is unclear, although he was undoubtedly inspired by an adventurer who had made the same journey on horseback some decades before. The book is a series of increasingly-unlikely adventures which see him cross deserts, suffer from altitude sickness when reaching heights of 18,000 feet driving over the Andes (for comparison, the highest peak in the British Isles is Ben Nevis at 4,400 feet), flee from bandits and wild animals in the jungles of Ecuador and experience earthquakes in Peru. His idea of safety was keeping the door open when climbing the most precarious passes so he could leap out if the car toppled off the mountain! The majority of the journey was over unpaved roads which took their toll on the little Austin, but as each challenge was overcome, he'd pull over and reward himself with a hearty round of sandwiches (well, he was English after all).

Such tales of derring-do are much harder to come by these days (although we did enjoy hearing about our friend Peter Moss's drive from Kuwait to the UK which was serialised in Talk Back a few years back). Is that because there are far fewer challenges left to overcome, or because officialdom makes them more difficult (I can't imagine someone driving a vintage car into a country like Nicaragua would receive such a warm welcome today as our hero apparently did in 1959)? Maybe it's because there are far fewer places around the globe which are truly remote and undeveloped. Or perhaps it's because if we really want to go somewhere, we can invariably get there safely in a nice comfortable aeroplane. If you want a good book to read on your next flight, look for Coleman's Drive by John Coleman. And if it inspires you to drive the length of South America, make sure you write up your adventures for Local Talk Back.

Closer to home, Talk Back's diary is filling up with some exciting events to look forward to over the next few months. Of course, the highlight for many will be the Badminton Horse Trials which this year is celebrating its 75th Anniversary. The organising team must have been looking nervously at the weather over the past few months, but thankfully the rains have subsided and the temperatures increased just in time to give the ground a chance to firm up. Also hoping for some nice weather is an event to mark the 80th Anniversary of D-Day being organised by the British Legion, a fundraiser for Ukraine and the Acton Turville Summer Party.

Let's hope the sun shines for everyone. Apart from anything else, I can't afford to keep the heating on much longer.

Until the next time

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 JUNE EDITION OF LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15TH MAY 2024.

THANK YOU.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

May 2024

Thurs 2 nd	D-Day Remembrance Event Organising Committee Meeting, Fox & Hands
Fri 3 rd	Acton Turville Social Coffee Morning, Fox & Hounds
Wed 8 th	Luncheon Club, Fox & Hounds
Wed 8 th	Badminton Horse Trials
Sun 12 th	Car Boot Sale, Castle Combe Circuit
Sun 12 th	Acton Turville Parish Council Meeting, St Mary's, 6.30pm
Mon 13 th	Didmarton Rural Cinema, Miracle Club (12A)
Fri 17 th	Dawn Chorus Walk, Badminton Estate, 5.30AM
Fri 17 th	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate
Tues 21 st	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate
Tues 28 th	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate

June 2024

Tues 4 th	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate
Fri 7 th	Acton Turville Social Coffee Morning, Fox & Hounds
Fri 7 th	D-Day Remembrance Event
Sat 8 th – Sun 9 th	Middlewick House Open Garden
Sun 9 th	Car Boot Sale, Castle Combe Circuit
Mon 10 th	Acton Turville Parish Council Meeting, 6.30pm, venue TBC
Tues 11 th	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate
Wed 12 th	Luncheon Club, Fox & Hounds
Sun 16 th	Badminton House Open Gardens
Tues 18 th	Gentlemen's Cooking Club, Badminton Estate
Sat 22 nd	Acton Turville Social Summer Party
Sun 23 rd	Whisky Tasting, Badminton Estate
Sat 29 th	Music For Ukraine Fundraising Event

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.

Middlewick House Open Garden

8-9 June 2024

11am to 4:30pm

In aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance and The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

By kind permission of Nick and Annette Mason Wander around the beautiful gardens and menagerie of animals, as well as seeing a selection of Pink Floyd drummer Nick Mason's classic and high performance cars. The family-friendly weekend includes plenty of stalls to browse, with lots of items for sale, including jewellery, plants, candles and art.

<https://middlewickhouseopengarden.com/>

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

We have received donations this month from or which we are most grateful:

Gloria Gibson

Stephen Gregson

Many thanks to you both.

In addition, £12 was very generously donated in the local shop boxes.

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 APRIL 2024

Clive Candy

Jake Hope

Theo Griffin

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

WHAT'S ON



DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Didmarton Village Hall, Friday 17th May 2024

THE MIRACLE CLUB

(2023, Cert 12A) - Comedy, Drama

Starring: Kathy Bates, Laura Linney, Maggie Smith

Director: Thaddeus O'Sullivan

Three close friends who have never left the outskirts of Dublin (much less Ireland) get the journey of a lifetime — a visit to Lourdes, the picturesque French town and place of miracles.

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

jenny.body1@gmail.com



Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club

Wednesday 8th May

Tea/Coffee on arrival

Two Course Lunch (main course + dessert)

£12.00 per head

Everyone welcome!

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



SAVE THE DATE!

ACTON TURVILLE SUMMER PARTY

22nd JUNE 2024

See next month's Local Talk Back for full details!!

Don't Shoot The Messenger!

After telling you all to head over to the Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club last month to see "all-round entertainer and general good-guy" Micky John Bull, we were distraught to hear that he'd cancelled! We wouldn't like to comment on rumours that he'd been lured away after receiving an offer he couldn't refuse from another world-famous venue, but we hope anyone who went along specially to see him at the luncheon club wasn't too disappointed. Sally Smith is hoping he might be able to entertain the Luncheon Club later in the year so watch this space.

You might want to bring your own chair!

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN
WINTERBOURNE WIND BAND AS THEY PLAY

IN AID OF
UKRAINE

SAT 29 JUNE
2-5PM

Ukrainian
craft stall

Donations
welcome for
a cake sale

THE HELPING HAND



FOR UKRAINE
A DIVISION OF CCLL

Reg Charity 204794 10000000

PORTCULLIS LODGE,
ACTON TURVILLE, GL9 1HD
(OR IF WET, IN BADMINTON
VILLAGE HALL, GL9 1DD)

Please join us, and bring a friend!

Badminton Horse Trials 2024 Update

By Jayne Tuckwell, Event Director

What a difference a few days of sun and wind make. All those working in the Park have had an incredibly difficult time but now the harrows and rollers are out and all is beginning to blossom. The grandstands are all but completed and the tentage is going up in earnest.

Eric Winter's cross-country course is in place with just the finishing touches to be made.

We had a great pre-view evening last week, which has set the scene for the coming weeks.

As you may or may not know we are celebrating 75 years of the Horse Trials this time and in recognition there will be a pop-up museum in the tradestand area (not far from the scoreboard). The museum will take visitors along a journey, via photos and artefacts, which will cover the years.

Some of you may not know but the 10th Duke of Beaufort started the Horse Trials in 1949, having witnessed the British team do so badly in the 1948 Olympics, in order to help them prepare for future Games. It is therefore very befitting that in this, our 75th anniversary, we are supporting the British Equestrian Fund, who are fundraising to help send the equestrian teams to Paris later in the summer. Stevenson Brothers have donated a rocking horse, which depicts Lordships Graffalo (last year's winner). The rocking horse, which includes the same oak as was used for the base of the Trophy, will be on display at the BEF stand (on Beaufort Way), where raffle tickets will be available to buy. Let's all get behind the fundraising effort and give the teams a good send off!

We have a great entry, with many of the well-known names amongst them, alongside some riders who are competing at Badminton for the first time.

Please remember any tickets have to be purchased in advance and admission tickets will not be available at the gates. On the Saturday (Cross-Country day), I would urge anyone travelling in by car, to arrive in good time, to avoid the worst of the traffic.

Let's hope the weather is kind and the sun shines during early May!

I look forward to you joining us.

Jane Tuckwell
Event Director



BADMINTON ESTATE

DAWN CHORUS WALK

FRIDAY 17TH MAY, 5.30AM – 7.30AM

JOIN LOCAL CONSERVATIONIST, STEVE ENGLAND FOR AN ENCHANTING DAWN CHORUS WALK.

THE GENTLEMEN'S COOKING CLUB

TUESDAY 21ST MAY - 18TH JUNE, 10AM-1PM

A SERIES OF SHORT, PRACTICAL COOKERY SESSIONS LED BY THE EXPERIENCED CHEF NANCY LAWSON FROM OVERTOWN MANOR, DESIGNED TO ELEVATE YOUR KITCHEN SKILLS AND IGNITE A PASSION FOR COOKING.

BADMINTON HOUSE OPEN GARDENS

SUNDAY 16TH JUNE, 10AM-4PM

EXPLORE THE GARDENS OF THE HISTORIC BADMINTON HOUSE, HOME OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BEAUFORT.

FATHER'S DAY: WHISKY TASTING

SUNDAY 23RD JUNE, 3PM-5PM

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

ALFRED ERNEST IND VC

1872-1916

In December 1901, the British Empire was at war. Since October 1899 it had been fighting the combined forces of the South African Republic and Orange Free State, who were seeking to bring an end to the Empire's influence in Southern Africa and push the out the British settlers, many of whom had been lured to the region in the hope of making their fortunes from the Witwatersrand Goldrush. This was the Boer War, and it would continue until the end of May 1902.

To begin with the Boers went on the offensive, and their strategy to capture British-held territory by besieging the garrisons where the British military forces were based resulted in some notable successes. The British responded by sending in reinforcements to retake the territories that had been lost to the Boers, but the antiquated tactics of the British troops were often ineffective against an agile adversary who adopted unconventional means to overcome their better-trained counterparts. While the Boer forces might not have been made up of full-time soldiers, they were highly-skilled hunters who had often spent most of their working lives in the saddle. They understood the importance of making the first shot count, which the British discovered to their cost.

It was clear that the British had underestimated the capability of the Boers and, with the sieges continuing, it needed to re-think its approach. The result was formidable, and by January 1900 it had dispatched over 180,000 troops to the region, representing the largest force it had ever sent overseas. Slowly the tide turned and the British press were soon reporting victories, but the Boers were not defeated. Instead, they adopted a new strategy: guerrilla warfare. Their orders were simple, to strike fast and strike hard causing as much damage to the enemy as possible, and then to withdraw and vanish before enemy reinforcements could arrive. In such a vast area, it was incredibly difficult for the British forces to defend against these tactics, and during these skirmishes the Boers scored some notable successes, capturing territory and equipment as well as inflicting serious losses on the frequently-outnumbered enemy.



Shoeling Smith AE Ind, proudly wearing the Victoria Cross awarded to him by HM King Edward VII in 1902.



A 37mm 1-pounder "pom-pom" gun of the type used by British forces during the Boer war in South Africa

One such skirmish occurred on the 20th December 1901, on a hillside near Tafelkop, Orange River Colony, where members of the Royal Horse Artillery were stationed. The group were manning a "Pom Pom" gun (so-called because of the noise it made when fired), when they found themselves under attack by a Boer commando unit. Greatly outnumbered and subjected to withering fire, the 91 British soldiers suffered major losses as they attempted to protect their position. Eventually, with the rest of the gun crew either killed or gravely wounded, only 29-year-old Alfred Ernest Ind remained to man the weapon. Despite the overwhelming odds he continued to engage the advancing Boers until the very last moment, and it is reported that only the intervention of the Boer general prevented him being shot on the spot, perhaps in recognition of his incredible act of bravery. For his actions, Alfred Ernest Ind was awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to British and Commonwealth forces.

Cont'd over

ALFRED ERNEST IND VC (CONT'D)

If the family name Ind sounds familiar, that might be because Mike Ind, a relative of Alfred Ernest Ind, lives in Little Badminton. In 2005, The Victoria Cross Research Group were conducting research into Alfred Ind as part of the 150th Anniversary of the first Victoria Cross being awarded in 1856. The group was keen to find out more about Alfred and, knowing he was from Gloucestershire, had sent letters to people with the same surname who lived in the area. One of those letters was received by Mike's cousin who in turn contacted Mike. They have both been gathering information ever since.

It has been established the Alfred Ind was born at Highfield Farm in Tetbury on the 16th September 1872, the son of George and Mary Ind. By the time of the 1881 census the family was still living in the town, but were now at Chipping Hill. Alfred served in the Royal Horse Artillery as a Shoeing Smith, working with the farriers to maintain the hooves of the regiment's horses. Upon his discharge from the Army in 1911, he was employed by His Grace the 2nd Duke of Westminster at Eaton Hall near Chester. He died on the 29th November 1916 aged 44 and is buried in the churchyard of St Mary's in Eccleston in Cheshire, his grave just a few yards from the Westminster family plot.

Tetbury held a celebration dinner for Alfred when he returned from the Boer war in November 1902. Shortly afterwards, on the 26th November, he travelled to Buckingham Palace where he received his Victoria Cross from HM King Edward VII. His medal was subsequently sold at auction in September 1986 for £7000, and since June 2000 has formed part of a private collection, believed to be in America.

Locally, you can find a fitting tribute to Alfred Ernest Ind in St Mary's church in Tetbury. There is also a plaque dedicated to him in St Mary's Primary School in Tetbury.



The grave of Alfred Ernest Ind VC who is buried in St Mary's church, Eccleston, Cheshire

Corps.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
Royal Horse Artillery, X 1 Section Pompoms	Shoeing-Smith A. E. Ind	During the action near Tafelkop, Orange River Colony, on 20th December, 1901, Shoeing-Smith A. E. Ind, X 1 Section Pompoms, stuck to his gun under a very heavy fire, when the whole of the remainder of the Pompom team had been shot down, and continued to fire into the advancing Boers till the last possible moment. Captain Jeffcoat, who was mortally wounded on this occasion, requested that Shoeing-Smith Ind's gallant conduct in this and in every other action since he joined the Pompom section should be brought to notice.

Alfred Ind's Victoria Cross is formally announced in the London Gazette in August 1902

Mike Ind is rightfully proud of his ancestor and his courageous actions which won him the Victoria Cross, and continues to work with his cousin to find more information about him. We are very grateful that he has shared what they have discovered to date with Local Talk Back.

Out & About.



These Alpacas were snapped at the Sodbury Yarn Over Festival by Yvonne Nettles. The festival included displays and demonstrations of anything yarn-related, from knitting and weaving to caring for your sheep – and Alpacas. They were being displayed by Garry & Andrea Naish from Oak View Alpacas in Wickwar, who explained how the very fine and light fleece from these sociable animals could be used for a wide range of purposes. Yvonne was clearly very taken by the Alpacas, I wonder if we'll soon see a herd appear in Little Badminton?



The pictures below are of a very inquisitive and very photogenic herd of Highland Cattle which graze the fields near Kilcot. Not sure if I'd fancy chancing my arm shearing one of those...





PLANS TO CELEBRATE D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY IN BADMINTON AND ACTON TURVILLE UNDERWAY

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day, when allied forces launched their operations to push the German occupying forces out of Northern Europe. To mark the occasion, a series of events are planned for Friday 7th June. Organised by the Badminton & Acton Turville Branch of the Royal British Legion, with support from Trinity School and the Acton Turville Parish Council, the events will begin with a talk on D-Day and service of remembrance at St Mary's church. The focus then moves to the Fox & Hounds, where there will be a D-Day themed meal, music and a display of military equipment and vehicles.

TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN, THE ORGANISERS NEED YOUR HELP!

On the 2nd May at 7.30pm, there's a meeting at the Fox & Hounds to discuss arrangements for the day. If you can help in any way, whether that's with the organisation of the event or on the day itself, please come along.

The organisers are also looking for sponsors and donations for the raffle. And lastly, it's vitally important to know how many people are expect to attend the event. If you plan to be there, **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LISTS IN THE STORES IN BADMINTON AND ACTON TURVILLE, AND THE FOX & HOUNDS BY THE 19th MAY.**

For full details, see the event posters that are displayed around the villages.

D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY

The Royal British Legion, Acton Turville Parish Council and Trinity School are planning to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day on Friday, 7th June 2024 with an event to honour and pay tribute to all those who selflessly served their countries in order to protect our freedom and values.

The event will start at St Mary's Church, Acton Turville, at 10.45hrs with a talk on D-Day, followed by a Service of Remembrance at 11.00hrs.

At 1.00hrs the event will move to the Fox & Hounds, where there will be a D-Day-themed lunch, a display of military equipment and vehicles, a quiz raffle and a Vera Lynn sing-along.

Proceedings will draw to a close at 4.00hrs.

If you are interested in attending, please call your name to the lists available in the Acton Turville Stores, Badminton Stores and the Fox & Hounds by Sunday 19th May.

The organisers are also looking for sponsorship and raffle prizes. There are boxes where you can leave raffle prizes at the stores in both Acton Turville and Badminton. If you can help with sponsorship, please get in touch.

We are holding a meeting at the Fox & Hounds on Thursday 2nd May at 7.30hrs. If you think you can help in any way to make this event a success, please come along.

If you have any enquiries or questions, please contact Azzal on 012834 or 0175 285770

We Will Remember Them



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 !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the April quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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

SALISBURY

The first place to visit in Salisbury must be the Cathedral, with its many 'claims to fame'. It has Britain's tallest spire at 404ft/123m, it holds the World's oldest mechanical clock, the best-preserved original Magna Carta and the largest Cathedral Close and Cloisters. What it doesn't have is a bell tower, one of only three English Cathedrals to not have a ring of bells as the narrow tower and spire makes it not suitable.

It seems we were lucky to see the Cathedral without scaffolding as we were told it has only just finished about 30 years of renovations.

It was many years ago when they were renewing tiles that we paid a donation for a tile which we could sign on the back. So somewhere on that roof is a tile with our names on.

Inside there is so much information about "the Cathedral that moved" - the original one was at Old Sarum along with the castle. This one was built in only 38 years on an area of water meadow with a foundation of very hard gravel only a few feet below the surface. The model on display gives an idea of the processes and tools used to build the 13th century building.



The picture on the left shows the world's oldest surviving working clock, made with hand-crafted wrought iron and thought to date from 1386. It is separated into two sections each driven by falling weights. The clock has no face and was designed to only strike the hours.

At the bottom of the page are two pictures of the large, unusually-shaped font which fascinates everyone because of the way the still, clear, water reflects the Cathedral's stained-glass windows, beautiful arches and ceiling - but of course you see them upside down.



SALISBURY cont.



1215 Magna Carta, Salisbury Cathedral



Left, the Magna Carta and above, the oak gall for ink and swan feathers as used for the writing of the document

One of the four surviving original Magna Cartas is on display in Salisbury Cathedral in the Chapter House inside a darkened tent. On the back of the tent was a full translation from Latin into English. Two others are kept in the British Library and the other in Lincoln Castle. The Salisbury Magna Carta is the best preserved of the

four. It was written on parchment, this one is sheepskin. The writing was done with oak gall ink and swan's feathers and written very small because parchment was very expensive. There was a copy of the original in the Chapter House and that was allowed to be photographed

The following day we went back to the Cathedral Close to visit the National Trust's Mompesson House (left), an 18th century town house with a tranquil walled garden where there is tea room and 2nd hand bookshop. The house was acquired empty so the Trust has brought in many collections including one of beautiful 18th century porcelain and a collection of 18th century drinking glasses of great importance.



Very nearby is The Rifles Berkshire and Wiltshire Museum, a grade two listed building known as The Wardrobe. It tells the story of the infantryman from the Seven Years War to the present day. The collection has over 65,000 fascinating objects, recorded on a database and very many digitally photographed so that they are able to be viewed via the website. Search for ancestors is available through the 'Soldier Search' facility.

There is a very peaceful garden including a Remembrance Garden, and a seating area alongside the River Avon, with views of the water meadows. A big Copper Beech tree in the garden that has a plaque stating that:

"This Copper Beech tree was planted in 1815 to commemorate victory at The Battle of Waterloo. 95th Rifles, the fore-runner Rifles formation, were participants in the battle".



The centre of Salisbury has a lot to offer and is 'walkable'. There is a busy shopping centre, the main square surrounded by bars, restaurants and shops and many old buildings. There are very interesting old pubs, some dating from the 1300's and very quirky, a wide range of restaurants – we ate Italian, Chinese, French, Greek and Turkish.

Yvonne Nettles

Church Matters

May 2024 Letter from the Vicar

Dear friends

We had a wonderful Easter, with egg hunts, full Churches and much happiness. The story of the risen Christ at Easter is something which fills many of us with deep joy. It is difficult to explain, but Easter reaches deep inside us with its message of hope.

Horse Trials are almost upon us, and the office are very kindly letting the church have the use of a small marquee Wednesday to Friday to provide tea and coffee to travel-weary visitors and a friendly welcome. This little marquee becomes (ironically) the lost peoples tent on the Saturday!

And then we have our main Benefice service on Sunday in Great Badminton Church at 10 o'clock. With the Dean of Gloucester preaching and the Master of the Horse reading the lesson. To which you are all invited, of course.

With my best wishes for a happy May,

Richard

Priest in charge, Badminton Benefice website: www.badmintonbenefice.com

Email: revrichardthomson@gmail.com Home: 01454 606854 / Mob: 07717791858

Church Services for May 2024

Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
5 th May Easter 5	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Churchwarden Led
	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Parish Communion CW	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Didmarton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
12 th May Horse Trials	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
	10.00am	Great Badminton	Horse Trials Service	Rev R Thomson Preacher: The Dean of Gloucester
19 th May Pentecost	9.00am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	Rev R Thomson
	10.00am	Hawkesbury	Family Service	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Sopworth	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
26 th May Trinity Sunday	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion CW	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Little Badminton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	Rev R Thomson

All readings and updates of services on website badmintonbenefice.com

ACTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

MAY 2024 REPORT

D-Day 80th Anniversary Event – the Parish Council are supporting the local branch of the Royal British Legion and their plans to organise events to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Proposals include a Service of Remembrance in St Mary's Church and a D-Day-themed display of military vehicles and equipment in the car park of the Fox & Hounds. More details can be found on the News page, but the organisers are keen to stress that support from villagers is vital if these events are to be a success.

Bus Stops – the lack of bus stop signs within the village has been brought to the attention of our District Councillors, and the Parish Council is exploring options to make the stops more visible.

Parish Councillors:

Chair: Sybil Haddrell 218772, Vice Chair: Ian Carter 07789 057168, Sally Smith 218510,
Claire Broomsgrove 218433, Mark Studden 07885 791314

*Next Meeting: Monday 13th May 2024 @ 6.30pm. Venue: St Mary's Church, Acton Turville.
Details on Parish Notice Board/Website*

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 01249 650052

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



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J J's GARDENING BLOG



The young new leaves are unfurling with that lovely bright green. It makes one want to dash out and add new plants but be calm, be calm, they will do much better if you can resist this temptation. Seedlings and young plants, including perennials, will catch up and be much stronger plants.

Give it some beans

Use up your energy by doing a hand weed followed by a top dressing of whatever organic matter you have to hand. Always leave a gap around stems of existing plants. Lastly, dig a trench for growing beans about two feet deep, loosen the bottom of the trench with a garden fork and mix in some organic matter. Erect your bean poles, either in lines, or for a smaller family, a wigwam-style would be suitable. Give this trench a couple of weeks to settle, then plant away.

It's potato time

Plant some early potatoes, burying them just under the compost, then as the shoots grow cover with more compost. If cold weather is forecast, cover the young plants with garden fleece. You should have a delicious crop to harvest by early July. Sow some tomato plants so that they can be ready to go outside once it is warm enough. Remember crop rotation to keep soil healthy.

And finally

Feed roses, they'll thank you for it later in the year.

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Picture Gallery



Now that the snowdrops and have disappeared, the countryside seems to be alive with bluebells all of a sudden. But we've got something a bit different here – wild garlic, which is sprouting up all over the place, such as here at Alderley. You can normally detect the distinctive aroma of the plant long before you see it, which is why it's so good to cook with. Why not try making wild garlic pesto or hummus, they're both delicious dishes.

Thanks go to Yvonne Nettles for the pics.



ACTON TURVILLE TENNIS CLUB UPDATE

The tennis court at Acton Turville was a hive of activity over the Easter holidays thanks to another very successful series of coaching sessions put on by the Acton Turville Tennis Club. Once again it was resident coach Chris Butcher providing the tuition with classes for both KS3 and KS4 age groups. Thankfully the weather was fully on-side for all the well-attended 2-hour sessions.

Chris worked on technique and game play, and there was plenty of opportunity for service practice. The sessions were deemed a great success, with Chris complimenting the players on their enthusiastic approach, fantastic attitude and polite manners.

Acton Turville Tennis Club is planning to put on further coaching sessions in the summer. As soon as the dates are confirmed, we'll post more information about them on our website, where you can also book the court and apply to join the club. Our website address is:

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

