

# Local Talk Back

OCTOBER 2023

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

ISSUE 542



Hazy Shades of Autumn.

*Picture by Simon Long, Acton Turville*



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

# EDITORIAL OCTOBER 2023

The levelling up agenda has been receiving much media coverage recently. In a nutshell, the concern is Britain has become very London-centric and more needs to be done to spread the nation's economic wealth and opportunities across all regions. The most tangible manifestation of the agenda is the HS2 rail project which is currently carving its way across great swathes of the landscape between London and Birmingham before heading North West to Manchester, but money is also being spent on a plethora of smaller projects across the country. Did you know Weston-Super-Mare is getting £20m for "new visitor attractions at heritage sites", Morecambe is the chosen location for the £50m North of England Eden Project, and £47.8m will be spent on a new entrance and footbridge for Peterborough train station which will apparently create "a new gateway to unlock the vibrant city centre for local people, commuters and visitors". Sounds like the designers are taking inspiration from Narnia.

It's perhaps easy to scoff at some of these projects, but a summer trip to visit friends in the North West was a bit of an eye-opener for me. Back in the 1980s I spent several months working in Barrow-in-Furness in Cumbria. Barrow has always been an industrial town, built initially on the production of steel which was mined locally before being exported around the world. Workers flooded in to work at the steel works and the population of the town ballooned from 5000 in 1850 to 50000 by 1880. To house all of these people, a whole new town was built, providing low-cost housing on a vast scale. By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, another industry had surpassed the steelworks as the largest employer in Barrow – shipbuilding. The shipyards in Barrow specialised in the construction of warships for the Royal Navy, and in the 1980s, when I was there, more than 15000 people were working on the ships and boats. As far as I could see, most of them were also living in the houses built when the town was first developed 100 years earlier, but the place was vibrant with a busy shopping centre, a lively nightlife and a good selection of working men's clubs. It was honest and friendly, just like the people. Next time I visited, things had changed. The end of the Cold War in the early nineties meant the Royal Navy could manage with far fewer warships and the work at Barrow was drying up. Workers were laid off, jobs were hard to come by and the jobless total quickly hit 10%. Help was just around the corner though, from central government and the EU, who both poured in money from a range of regeneration funds. New business parks were built, as was a large new shopping centre, both offering inducements such as discounted rents and start-up loans. There was even a swanky new heritage park – Barrow was after the tourist trade and adopted a new tag-line: "The Gateway to the Lake District". Things were looking up, the town was being gentrified and it was no longer reliant on heavy industry as its sole employer. There were coffee shops, there were new houses being built, and even the beach was being promoted as a holiday destination (neatly ignoring the nuclear power station at Sellafield which was just up the coast – there's a reason why the shops having signs telling customers their fish is not locally caught...).

It was therefore a shock to return to Barrow this year and see what had happened to the town. "To Let" signs peppered the industrial estate, many of the units in the new shopping centre were empty, and some streets appeared to have more houses boarded up with sheets of plywood than occupied. The heritage centre was still open, but the car park was empty – evidently the visitors had found an alternative gateway to the lakes. Speaking to the colleague who I was visiting, it seems the decline set in when the government and EU grants dried up. Suddenly, the prospect of paying full price for rent and rates made businesses less viable, and many either closed down or moved away. The town was a shell of its former self. Many of the traditional family-run shops and pubs, as well as the network of working men's clubs, had been forced to close as the town "gentrified". With the subsequent loss of the new businesses, there was a massive void. The town had lost its soul and its community spirit was ebbing away. It was most depressing to see.

I hope the levelling up agenda won't have a similar impact and prove to be nothing more than a sticking plaster applied to more serious problems. Towns like Barrow deserve more.

Until the next time

*IAN CARTER*

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To advertise in Local Talk Back, please email Pauline on: [LocalTalkBackAds@gmail.com](mailto:LocalTalkBackAds@gmail.com)

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NOVEMBER EDITION OF LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.

THANK YOU.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### October

Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> (morning)	Acton Turville Social Coffee Morning
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> (evening)	Acton Turville Social Quiz Night – Fox & Hounds
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Acton Turville Parish Council Meeting
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Didmarton Rural Cinema – Empire of Light (Cert 15)
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	Acton Turville Autumn Tidy-Up
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	Wine Tasting, Badminton House

#### November

Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Acton Turville Social Coffee Morning
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	Arm Knitting Workshop, Badminton Estate
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Acton Turville Parish Council Meeting
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> /Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	Cocktail Making Classes, Badminton Estate

*Please check with venues before setting off*

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

### DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

*We have received one very kind donation this month from Mr & Mrs Radford-Hancock for which we are most grateful:*

*In addition, generous donations totalling £96.13 were received via the collecting boxes in the Badminton and Acton Turville stores.*

*Thanks to you all.*

*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*



BADMINTON ESTATE

#### WINE TASTING WITH JOANNA SIMON SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER, 5PM-7PM

Indulge in a captivating wine tasting with renowned wine journalist and founding Editor of Waitrose Drinks magazine, Joanna Simon.

Joanna will lead you through an array of meticulously selected white, rosé, and red wines, offering details on the craftsmanship of both the winemakers and the land from which they originate. All wines will also be available to purchase.

#### ARM KNITTING WORKSHOP SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER, 11AM

Join The Chunky Needle for a morning of chunky arm knitting on the 12th November. Make your very own 30" x 50" chunky knit blanket using your arms alone.

Absolutely no experience is required and is suitable age 10+. Select your own colour of wool from either 30 merino shades or 18 gorgeous, acrylics.

For more information, see

<https://www.badmintonestate.com/events/>

### ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

#### 100 Club

WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Sally Smith  
Richard & Elaine Collin  
Clive Candy

**Congratulations!**

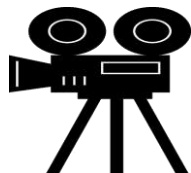
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# WHAT'S ON



## DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Didmarton Village Hall, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### EMPIRE OF LIGHT

(2022, Cert 15) – Drama

Starring: Olivia Coleman, Colin Firth

Director: Sam Mendes

Set in an English seaside town in the early 1980s, 'Empire Of Light' is a powerful and poignant story about human connection and the magic of cinema from Academy Award winning director Sam Mendes.

**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](mailto:jenny.body1@gmail.com)



## Fox & Hounds Luncheon Club

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month.*



## ACTON TURVILLE SOCIAL UPDATES

### *Dates for the Diary*

**6th October 2023**

*Village Quiz Night. Look out for flyers around the village and on our Facebook page.*

**6th October 2023**

*Acton Turville Social continues with its first-Friday-of-the-month coffee morning in the Fox & Hounds.*

*Everyone welcome, as are your cakes and a few £ in the collection box!*

*On average we are around 20 people catching up and having a giggle.*

**1st December 2023**

*Acton Turville Fireside carols. Details tbc*

*All money raised during any of our events and through donations will be put towards  
a second Village Party for all.*

*Lots to look out for next year with a few old favourites and some exciting new ideas. You may be  
contacted by our talented village photographer!*

*Karen, Mel and Caroline ATS*

*Paul Jones,  
Village Agent Update*

*Providing help, support, and advice for residents of the Cotswold Edge area, which embraces the villages of Acton Turville, Badminton, Little Badminton, Hawkesbury Upton, Wickwar, Horton and Little Sodbury.*



**W**ell, three months into my role as a Village Agent and things are beginning to make sense to me! After talking to people over a cup of tea (or something stronger!), I realise that my role can be neatly defined in three little words: help, support, and advice is a simple way of describing what I am here to do, although that doesn't extend to doing the ironing as I was recently asked! Building trust locally by supporting community events and joining in is important so that's what I've been concentrating on. I've also been exploring social media on some of the Village forums as this is how I hope to share information about the opportunities and support available over the coming months. I mentioned my aspiration to help develop local solutions to common issues last time in LTB. Some of the issues raised with me over the last couple of months have included:

- Encouraging Volunteering and befriending.
- Activity - setting up a walking or cycling group.
- Support for carers.
- Financial health check and advice on benefits.
- Computing and technology workshop.

I would be very interested to hear your views on these subjects – do you think these are the areas where I should be concentrating? How else would you like to see me providing help, support, and advice?

As a practical example of the support that I can offer, through the Village Agent Network, I have access to a small number of free Vodafone SIM cards for anybody with no means of communication or those who cannot afford to add credit to their mobile phones. The SIMs are free and provide unlimited calls, texts and 20GB of data every 30 days for 6 months. After 6 months there is no obligation to continue using the SIM. On contacting Vodafone with the details of the SIM the user is then granted access to discounted rates. Providing someone who would otherwise have no access to internet or phone services with one of these SIMS could make a huge difference to their lives. If you or anyone you know could benefit from one, please contact me.

Village Agents can make a real difference to their communities by working with local people and support agencies. Your help to promote and develop the service would be greatly appreciated.

More information on the project can be found here: [www.wern.org.uk/village-agents](http://www.wern.org.uk/village-agents)

Or contact me on:

T: 07795442272

E: [paul@wern.org.uk](mailto:paul@wern.org.uk)

Paul Jones



Registered Charity 1146165. Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No 7956732.

### **So Long Jimmy Deane**

After years as one of the iconic stalls/shops in Yate Shopping Centre, Jimmy Deane's Fruit and Veg has said goodbye. They've packed up their famous one-pound fruit and veg bowls and driven off into the sunset...

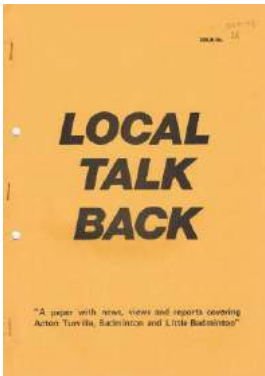
However all is not lost, they still have their stall in Bath AND have started a Home Delivery service throughout our area. What's more, they have confirmed they will deliver to Acton Turville, Badminton, and Tormarton.

To find out more visit their website [www.jimmydeanes.co.uk](http://www.jimmydeanes.co.uk).

They are setting up an online ordering facility and will also take orders by phone on 07939 474610

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

45 Years Ago - October 1978



This time last month we suddenly realised that the Local Talk Back archive for 1978 only went as far as September, resulting in several members of the editorial team making frantic trips to their lofts and garages to see if they could unearth a copy. We can thank Yvonne Nettles for saving the day. We're glad she did as there was a lot happening in October 1978, albeit tinged with sorrow at a very sad loss.

We start though with a follow-up to a story that appeared last month. You may recall that Colonel & Mrs Hope hosted a fundraising event for the church in their lovely gardens which raised the very impressive sum of £280. We've been contacted by our good friend Mrs Jean Earl whose name often appears in these trips down memory lane having spent many years as Brown Owl with the local Brownie Pack. It would appear that the final sum collected at the church fete was subject to a last-minute recount! We'll let Jean take up the story:

"On seeing the report in last month's Talk Back, I remember some years ago hearing that Mrs Hope was short of help at her church fete so I agreed to man the tombola stall (which went really well). I also remember it was a very, very windy day, so to avoid any paper money blowing away, I put it down the inside of my bra. At the end of the day I handed in the takings then went home. Everything was fine until I got undressed and all the notes fell out! Of course I could do nothing about it as it was rather late, so I left it until the following morning. Mrs Hope and I had a good laugh about it and I think she was rather pleased that the final total had increased by quite a considerable amount!"

Thanks Jean, that did make us laugh.

The sad news back in October 1978 was that little Greta Jones had passed away peacefully in her sleep. Greta, who was only 12, was a pupil at Gaunts School in Chipping Sodbury, a member of the Badminton Church Choir and a Badminton Girl Guide. There were a number of tributes to Greta, and Talk Back offered its sympathy to her parents, Mr & Mrs Teddy Jones.

Moving on to happier stories, Wilf Childerley, one of the three postmen based in Badminton, was hanging up his postbag for the last time and retiring after 31 years serving the local community. That sounds even more impressive when you realise that meant he started in January 1947! At least he'd be able to dedicate more time to his duties as secretary of the Badminton Village Club.

On the subject of clubs, the activities of the Badminton Parachute Club continued to be enthusiastically reported upon. This time we had a young lady called Janet Johnson making her first jump from an aircraft. Like many of her fellow parachutists, Janet was raising money for charity, in her case to buy new equipment for the Bristol Eye Hospital.

Someone else having fun was Emmie Greening who back in 1978 was training with the Acton Turville Brownies to become a "Young Leader". Part of the training involved spending a weekend under canvas at the Woodhouse Scout Park, near Almondsbury. The initial impression is that the outdoor life did not particularly suit Emmie:

"Saturday morning we were awakened at 7.15am by the sound of a handbell. I felt I could not face Keep Fit classes because of a stiff back through sleeping on the ground, so opted out and prepared breakfast instead."

After recovering from a spot of post-breakfast canoeing, Emmie and the other Brownies were off again:

"We returned to camp for a rest before further activities, this time riding, in a party of 23 girls. My animal, named "Lizzy", which I was told was a horse, for some unknown reason refused to move, so whilst the others trotted merrily around, we stood still. Suddenly "Lizzy" felt the need for movement and headed straight for the nearest jump. I closed my eyes, hoped for survival, and held on. After this I felt the need for a change of steed and changed to Bess."

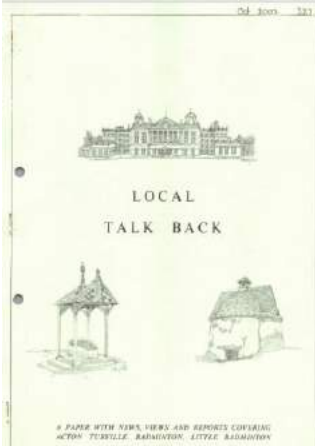
The "full and exciting weekend" culminated in a tug-of-war contest, before Emmie headed back to Acton Turville to recover.

Finally Talk Back had been speaking to a lady called Mrs Gladys Perks who at the time lived in Badminton. Back in April 1927 she was working at Widden Hill House, near Horton, when the building was destroyed by a devastating fire. Mrs Perks lost all her possessions in the fire, but 12 months later, she would move to work for the Dowager Duchess of Beaufort at The Cottage. Whilst there, she married Gilbert, the gardener at Badminton House, and they would move to Pear Tree Cottage at Little Badminton where they found much happiness tending to the pear tree that gave the cottage its name. It just goes to show, every cloud has a silver lining.

*Cont'd over*

*From the Archives (cont'd)*

*20 Years Ago - October 2003*



In 2003, lack of resources meant that Talk Back was only being published roughly every other month, but it was out in October which would be the second issue edited by the Three Country Girls who took over after the very sad passing of Kath Gentry. Their editorial goes into raptures about the fantastic summer of 2003 which was only just drawing to an end, describing how nice it had been to enjoy a bit of al fresco dining thanks to the long balmy nights. Maybe next year...

The editorial also marks the closure of Acton Turville Garage on The Street, which had been run by the Richardson family for 34 years. There's a copy of a listing for the garage (described as 'Garage, Cycle Shop and Excellent Gardens') from 1921 when the property was sold by the estate of the Duke of Beaufort via an auction held at the Fox & Hounds. It's not known who bought it then, but for many years it was owned by Ray and Ruby Coles. According to the editorial, the garage maintained many cars including "the cars and hound boxes belonging to the Duke of Beaufort."

The business was subsequently sold to Percy Pick from Old Sodbury before the Richardsons took it on in 1969. As well as running the garage, the Richardsons also established the Badminton Horse Box side of the business which of course still operates from Acton Turville today.

Back in July we reported on the fire which had seriously damaged the village hall at Badminton. The impact was, not surprisingly, still being felt. One example was the Valentine Club's Senior Citizen's Christmas Party which was being transferred to Hawkesbury Village Hall. Transport would be available though, and to help pay for it, an ever-popular evening of pig racing was being held at the Badminton Village Club. No doubt Terry Tripp was responsible for making sure the pigs were race ready.

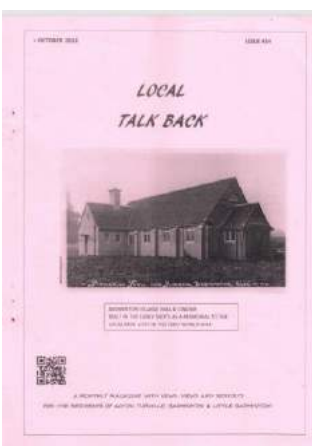
Other events remained unaffected, particularly those organised to raise funds for the church, it would appear. There was the Harvest Festival at Little Badminton Church on the 5<sup>th</sup> October, followed by the auction of produce at the (much-missed) Village Club. Then on the 25<sup>th</sup> November at Badminton House, by kind permission of The Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, there was the annual coffee morning and "bring and buy sale". Do people still have bring and buy sales? They seem to have been consigned to the annals of history, along with jumble sales and Ceefax.

Meanwhile, over in Acton Turville, Peter & Prue Moss were holding a Church Fayre in aid of St Mary's on the 6<sup>th</sup> December which promised coffee, biscuits and stalls selling Christmas gifts. Even Father Christmas was pencilled in to make an appearance.

On the subject of the church, this month's Vicar's Letter would be the last one penned by the very popular Reverend Phillip Berrow, who was moving on after a recent illness. He was a much-loved vicar who served his congregation well, which was borne out by the large number who attended his farewell service at Great Badminton on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Finally, the monthly report by the Acton Turville Parish Council provided an update on the planned pavement extension in the vicinity of Well Corner. You don't have to read the whole update to tell things are not going too brilliantly. It starts "we are at a loss to understand why work has not yet started on the new pavement" and gets ever more exasperated as it goes on to describe the current situation. Hopefully next month's update will be more positive.

*10 Years Ago - October 2013*



By October 2013, Talk Back was up to Issue 434 and The Three Country Girls had settled into the groove of undertaking editorial duties. For the cover they'd chosen a picture of the Badminton Memorial Hall which opened in 1920 to commemorate the 18 men from Badminton who lost their lives in the First World War. You probably can't make it out but the writing on the picture describes it as the "Memorial Hall and Kinema (Cinema)". The cinema equipment was an opportunistic purchase from the Australian Soldiers Camp at Sutton Veney near Warminster, which also included the electric lighting system which would be installed in the hall shortly after the official opening on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> May. The total cost of the hall was £2170, of which £399 went on the cinema and lighting. Nearly half of the overall cost was generously met by the Duchess of Beaufort in memory of her son Captain Maurice de Tuyll who was killed in action in 1915, aged 26, fighting in the battle of Ypres.

*Cont'd over*



*From the Archives (cont'd)*

October's editorial mentions the Badminton village website set up by Wayne Rees from Drewett's Stores that we talked about in last month's review. The following comment in particular caught our eye:

"It is amazing how many films and TV programmes have been filmed in Badminton and it is good to be able to watch video clips of films such as Skywest & Crooked with Hayley Mills and Ian McShane filmed at Little Badminton in the 60's."

The filming of Pearl Harbour, Skywest & Crooked and Miss Marple have all been well documented in Talk Back over the years, and it's always nice to look out for the familiar landmarks when watching the latter two on the television. It's therefore interesting to hear that the Badminton village website gathered together some other clips taken from films and TV programmes which included local content. Wouldn't it be great to see those clips again?

We always enjoy reading about the exploits of the Luncheon Club in old copies of Talk Back, particularly the excursions they had. This time it's a report on the coach trip made by 33 members to Weymouth: it sounds like a re-run of the Only Fools & Horses episode involving the Jolly Boys' Outing to Margate. Food features prominently, which might be expected of a luncheon club event, with sweets and biscuits being passed round the moment the coach departed from the Fox & Hounds car park. First stop was the Fleet Air Arm museum in Yeovilton, where the highlight was not the superb collection of historically-significant aircraft but the "very good café". Back on the road again and the sweets and biscuits once again made an appearance, but things clearly degenerated when it was time to draw the raffle. There were six prizes, of which four were books of stamps! Sounds like someone forgot to get the prizes so dashed into the Post Office at the last minute!! Next prize was a Calendar Girls-style calendar featuring the Chipping Sodbury players, followed by the "mystery prize" (as if books of stamps weren't mysterious enough).

"The winners were frightened to take the mystery prize and it was left for the last winner – Mrs B. It was a blow-up zimmer frame which caused a lot of hilarity and jokes as it was being blown up by the youngest person on the coach who was the only one with enough breath. The winner declined to try it out. The coach driver must have wondered what was happening, expecting a peaceful drive with a lot of pensioners but the noise, laughter and jokes was what would usually be experienced when a coach party is on its way home after a night out with plenty of alcohol flowing."

Thankfully everyone made it to Weymouth in time for fish and chips and to stock up on sweets and biscuits for the journey home.

In our look back at 2003, we mentioned an evening of pig racing that was taking place at the Badminton Village Club courtesy of Terry Tripp and his team of athletic porkers. Well Terry must have been taking exceptional care of those pigs as they were still racing in 2013, this time at the Fox & Hounds where they were raising money for the church fund. Way to go Terry!!

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On the subject of raising funds for the church, we have received the following from Chris Farrell.....

### Acton Turville Church Fund-Raising Calendar 2024

The launch of the fund-raising calendar took place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October with a huge parade through the village! Well, OK, maybe it didn't happen quite like that, but the reception so far has been tremendous with copies being pre-ordered. Some are even being sent to Australia, and North and South America. There is still time to catch the overseas Christmas post!

A big thank you to everyone who has already supported this effort. As all the materials and production were donated, *EVERY PENNY FROM SALES GOES TO SUPPORT OUR VILLAGE CHURCH.*

If you haven't done so already, in addition to a copy for your home and/or workplace, why not consider buying a copy for friends or relatives outside the village and save yourself the problem of tracking down a Christmas Present?

Copies are available to purchase from the Village Stores or St Mary's Church and every home in Acton Turville has received an order form which has more details. We will dispatch to any address in the UK on request. Orders can be handed in at The Village Stores and we are grateful to Tim and Iris for their assistance.

For more information, please contact the Church Treasurer, Chris Farrell at

[actonturvillechurchtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:actonturvillechurchtreasurer@gmail.com).



# J J'S GARDENING BLOG



This is a good time of year to plant a tree - or a hedge- the soil is still warm and damp and it gives them a good chance to settle in. Notice trees with eye catching bark like acer griseum, with cinnamon coloured peeling bark, snake bark acer. Sorbus commixta for berries and autumn colour: cercidiphyllum boyd's dwarf which is scented like candy floss or gleditsia sunburst which has fresh yellow ferny foliage, which in sunlight gives a golden light.

## Jobs for This Month

Harvest your fruit trees and make pies and crumbles. Wonderful to get out of the freezer and have on a cold winter day with custard or cream.

Containers: gather them all together, and scrub them out with soapy water with a stiff brush.

Collect fallen leaves from roses, and bin them to stop black spot.

Cut asparagus down to ground level and put on the compost heap.

Plant herbaceous perennials.

## Choose your colour palette.

Here are some plants to consider: skimmia, maroon coloured tulips with euphoria characcia, white tulips with euphorbia myrsinites, cyclamen, heuchera, camellia, ornamental kale. If your mind goes blank, ask the nursery for suggestions.

## More Seasonal Tips

Dahlias left in flowerbeds will need a good double handful of something over them to take them unscathed through the winter. Old potting compost is suitable. Mark their positions with a cane. Ditto salvias. You may lose one, but think of it as an opportunity to try something new!

Finish pruning the roses and anything which is getting out of hand.

For a dark red border: sambucus black beauty, physocarpus diablo, crocosmia lucifer, heuchera plum pudding and bergnia Eric Smith.

If planting daffodils in flowerbeds, put them towards the back, so that as they die down and look messy, something grows in front of them.

## And Finally

Do a thorough weed.

## October Sudoku

October'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 !!

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

### NOT SO EASY !!

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

## Answers to the September quizzes:

### 'Easy'

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

### 'Not so Easy'

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



## DAYS OUT - BADMINTON HOUSE OPEN GARDENS



On Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Badminton House opened its gardens to the public for the third and final time in 2023. The weather gods have certainly smiled on Badminton this year, and yet again the open gardens were blessed with some welcome sunshine. At one stage that looked most unlikely for September's event, but after weeks and weeks of wet weather, the clouds miraculously lifted and the gardens looked lush, green and immaculate. The plants had clearly responded well to the damp summer and the flower beds were a sea of colour, as were the pots of agapanthus. The secret? Lots of watering and lots of feeding (apparently). Once again there were stalls selling everything from garden tools and plants to locally-produced honey and some fantastic cakes, but it was at the Marshfield Ice Cream van where the longest queues could be found!

As always, the Badminton gardening team deserve praise for putting on such a fine display. Here's to next year!!





## DAYS OUT – SEZINCOTE HOUSE & GARDENS



Heading up through Cirencester and onto the Fosse Way, the traditional Cotswold towns and villages come thick and fast. There's the tourist hot-spot of Bourton-on-the-Water, and the bustling market towns of Moreton-on-Marsh and Stow-on-the-Wold. Explore any of these places and it's the characteristic Cotswold architecture which dominates, but there is one place which defiantly bucks the trend and instead brings a beguiling taste of India to the Cotswold landscape. Sezincote House, near Moreton-in-Marsh, was built at the start of the 19<sup>th</sup> century on land bought by Colonel John Cockerell, who made his fortune working for the East India Company. When he died in 1798, his son inherited the estate and began building the house in what is described as the "Indian manner", complete with a large green-copper onion dome of the type seen adorning the Royal Pavilion at Brighton. The house and gardens are an intriguing combination of Indian influences and traditional British design, particularly in the gardens where statues of Buddhas and Surya, the sun god, contrast with the neatly laid-out and planted landscapes. Why not have a look for yourself? We don't think you'll be disappointed.

*Pics by Gill Love, Acton Turville*





# Church Matters

## October 2023 Letter from the Vicar

Dear all,

Harvest season is upon us. A time to give thanks for our sustenance and those who work to provide food for us. The gospel reading this year is about the rich man who kept on building bigger and bigger stores for his produce, and unwisely decided to sit back and relax with the ample supplies he had built. He said to his soul: "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry".

On the surface, most of us might say that there is not much wrong with this attitude. Had he not worked hard all his life, built up a material pension, and did he not now deserve to relax and enjoy life? Something that we are all encouraged to do. Do we not all imagine building up a pension, and then sitting back and relaxing?

But is there not something slightly selfish about this fellow? Might he not have decided that now he needn't work for his daily needs he could at least devote some of his time to something a bit more philanthropic. The key for me, is in his failure is to understand what true freedom is. From God's perspective, how narrow and shallow to simply sit back and do nothing. There is always so much more life to be enjoyed.

I expect he died that night of boredom! He had no interests, no hobbies, no community. No real relationship with the Almighty.

The Scriptures say: 'In returning and rest you shall be saved'. That is real freedom. Resting in God. Prayer and devotion is in my view the deepest relaxation and freedom we can enjoy. Oh, don't get me wrong, lying in the sun is nice, as is sipping a gin and tonic, or a nice pint of ale. But real relaxation is doing what the catechism teaches us is our main purpose in life. And that is to worship God.

When people retire, it is an opportunity to spend time with God in prayer or to work for the local community or church. Retirement is often the springboard to a very active life. Maybe there is less rushing around but there is still a whole lot of life to be enjoyed when the barns are full.

With my best wishes this Harvest season.

Richard

Priest in charge, Badminton Benefice

website: [www.badmintonbenefice.com](http://www.badmintonbenefice.com)

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

01454 219236

## Church Services for October 2023

Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
1 <sup>st</sup> October Trinity 17	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Churchwarden
	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Parish Communion (Common Worship)	Rev J Wilson
	11.15am	Didmarton	Harvest Matins	Rev J Wilson
	6.00pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev M Maslen
8 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 18	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
	9.30am	Leighterton	Holy Communion BCP	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Little Badminton	Harvest Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Harvest Evensong	Rev R Thomson
15 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 19	8.30am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	Rev R Thomson
	10.00am	Hawkesbury	Harvest Family Service	Rev R Thomson
	11.15am	Sopworth	Harvest Matins	Rev R Thomson
	3.00pm	Acton Turville	Harvest Family Service	Rev R Thomson
22 <sup>nd</sup> October Trinity 20	11.00am	Little Badminton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Lasborough	Harvest Evensong	Rev R Thomson
	6.00pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	Rev L Maydew
29 <sup>th</sup> October All Saints Day	11.15am	Sopworth	All Saints Benefice Service (Matins with HC)	Rev R Thomson

All readings and updates of services on website [badmintonbenefice.com](http://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 2023 REPORT

Items discussed at September's meeting included:

Playing Field Maintenance – The mowing team continues to grow! Many thanks to Tony Mullin who is the latest to help with the task of keeping the playing field looking neat and tidy, and ensuring the area provides a safe environment for all users. Thanks also to Mike Smith who has kindly repainted the sprung animals in the children's play area. The Parish Council is most grateful for the excellent work of the team this year. Anyone wishing to use the playing field for an event is reminded of the need to contact the Parish Clerk for a permission form. This is now a standard requirement to comply with our insurers.

Community Speed Watch – After a short break, the Community Speed Watch Team will soon be once again monitoring the speed of traffic in the village. As always, they would welcome new members. Please contact the Parish Council if you can help.

Pot Holes – The Parish Council continues to push the relevant authorities to address the poor state of some local roads such as the area around The Well and on the Burton Road.

Full-Fibre Broadband – Open Reach are now well progressed with installing a full-fibre broadband network around our local villages, and those properties who signed up to the scheme are beginning to have their services connected. The improved reliability and performance of the service will be welcomed by all users, particularly local businesses and home workers who have long been frustrated at the inability of the old system to cope with many modern computer-based tools.

Road Closure – The Parish Council has been informed by Bristol Water that a section of The Street around Street Farmhouse will be closed to all traffic for a period of up to three days beginning TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER as part of their programme to replace those parts of the water main which still use lead piping. Further details are available on the Parish Council website.

Village Tidy-Up – The date for the next Acton Turville Autumn Tidy-Up will be Saturday 14th October. See below for details. Everyone welcome.

### Parish Councillors:

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

*Next Meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 @ 7 pm. 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](mailto:actonturvillepc@aol.com) Website: [www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org](http://www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org)

## THE ACTON TURVILLE AUTUMN TIDY-UP

The Annual Acton Turville Autumn Tidy-Up will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Can you help keep our lovely village looking green, clean and tidy?

If you can, join us at the Fox & Hounds car park between 10 and 11am.

Bags, gloves and pickers will be provided to help with litter clearing, or bring your gardening tools if you fancy getting stuck into something more horticultural. Everyone welcome!

*Any questions?*

Contact [actonturvillepc@aol.com](mailto:actonturvillepc@aol.com)



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## MEET THE ADVERTISER FLOURISH FLOWERS & GARDENS

With winter fast approaching, now is the perfect time to get outside for some fresh air and exercise, and to set your garden up for a bountiful harvest and abundant blooms next summer. But what if you're unsure where to start? What if you're worried about the effect your well-intentioned flurry with the pruners will have on a much-loved tree or shrub? Or perhaps you need some help to get the most from your borders but don't know who to turn to? Well, that's where Badminton-based Flourish Flowers & Gardens, one of Local Talk Back's newest advertisers, might just be able to help. We spoke to Tracey Hancock from Flourish to find out more.



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*Hi Tracey, thanks for taking the time to speak with Local Talk Back. You're clearly very passionate about creating and maintaining beautiful gardens, but you also value the opportunity to share your knowledge and experience with others. How would you describe your gardening philosophy?*

Rather than offering the commonplace garden maintenance services of mowing, strimming and hedge trimming, Flourish Flowers & Gardens is a unique gardening service that focuses on both creating and maintaining beautiful and productive gardens as well as building the skills and confidence that allow our clients get the best out of their gardens.

I have gardened for most of my life and am still awestruck by the miracle of growing from seed. It was this love of growing and sharing both the fruits (& veg!) of my labours, my enthusiasm and my knowledge and experience with others that led me to set up Flourish. Whilst I am happy to work as a sole gardener or part of a team to develop and maintain existing flower borders and vegetable gardens for clients, my preference is always to work alongside them in an informal, collaborative and companionable way. Whilst we garden, I can assess skill and confidence levels, tailoring my approach to suit client needs whilst demonstrating techniques, imparting knowledge and sharing ideas as we work together. I garden in a nature-friendly and sustainable way, following organic principles and can recommend techniques and help implement changes that will encourage more wildlife into your garden.

*Can you give us an example of the sort of areas where you think people could make a real difference if only they had more knowledge and confidence?*

Yes, pruning is a very good example. Pruning is not just necessary for aesthetic reasons, although the overall look of your garden will no doubt benefit from a timely haircut! Removing dead and diseased or damaged parts of a tree or shrub will greatly improve its health and vigour. Taking out any displaced growth will increase airflow which will prevent against fungal disease and minimizes the potential for pest damage to vulnerable branches which may be crossing and rubbing - a particular issue with roses. Roses, fruit trees, such as apples and pears, soft fruit bushes (raspberries and blackcurrants) and established climbers such as wisteria, all benefit from a hard prune during the dormant winter months. This can be quite a daunting prospect, but help is at hand. Flourish can carry out any pruning required as part of your ongoing garden maintenance, or as a seasonal one-off job, but if you are feeling brave, then why not take one of my pruning masterclasses, where I will demonstrate various pruning techniques and share a few tricks of the trade – you'll be wielding your secateurs with pride and in no time!

*I like the thought of wielding my secateurs with confidence! How would you sum up the services offered by Flourish?*

We really can help anyone improve their garden. Maybe you are a complete novice who is considering growing your own veg but are unsure where to start, or perhaps you weren't completely happy with your garden this summer and feel your borders could do with a bit more "oomph". Alternatively, you might be a more experienced gardener but lack the confidence to tackle that out-of-control rambling rose, or would like to fill your house with beautifully scented and fragile blooms that you've grown yourself, rather than picked up at supermarket till.

Maybe you've had a gardener for years but would like to get a bit more "stuck in" yourself. Or perhaps you (or a relative) were once a keen gardener, but lack the confidence to get out into the garden alone due to ill health/mobility issues? If you prefer to let someone else do the work, then I can assist you in planning, creating, developing and/or maintaining new or existing herbaceous borders, kitchen gardens and small orchards. However big or small your gardening aspirations I can help your garden flourish.

*We really enjoyed our time chatting to Tracey and hearing about the unique services offered by Flourish Flowers & Gardens, and especially liked the way their services are designed to meet the needs to any garden and any gardener. We also liked the fact that they're a local company based in Badminton. Why not give them a call and see what they could do for you? Make sure you tell them Local Talk Back sent you.*