

Local Talk Back

JULY 2020

ISSUE 506



Poppies. Picture by Christine Bennett, Acton Turville.



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



Badminton Village Club

High Street, Badminton, South Glos. GL9 1DD

PRESIDENT: His Grace The Duke of Beaufort

VICE PRESIDENT: The Marquis of Worcester

Badminton Village Club is pleased to announce that it is coming out of 'Lockdown' on SATURDAY 4TH JULY and welcomes customers old and new.

**Initial opening will be on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only.
From 4th July onward - Saturdays and Sundays 12 noon – 2pm & evenings
from 7pm**



From Friday 10th July open from 7pm every Friday

*Please adhere to Government
Guidelines and Social Distancing.*



ACTON TURVILLE TENNIS CLUB

Calling all tennis players!

The Government has relaxed the lockdown and our tennis court is witnessing some keen players brushing off the cobwebs.

Wimbledon eat your heart out !!!!

We have a fully licensed tennis coach available. He will be offering hourly lessons for both children and adults. Please contact Melanie Little 07771 565736 for details.

All levels welcome.

Courts and lessons to be booked and paid for in advance.

Our website and future booking system is under construction. Details to follow soon.

A bring your own picnic will hopefully be on the agenda this summer using the playing field with a chance to play tennis. Government guidelines will be strictly adhered to.

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PLEASE SEND IN ARTICLES FOR THE AUGUST LOCAL TALK BACK BY 15TH JULY

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

We are very grateful to those who have generously donated

£20.00 this month 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, Badminton Stores and Badminton Village Club.

To donate by cheque, please make payable to:

LOCAL TALK BACK and send to

*The Treasurer, Local Talk Back,
Church Farm House, The Street, Acton Turville, Badminton, S.Glos, GL9 1HL*

Spot The Horse!!

Can you spot the horse in this picture? It took us a while!

Many thanks to Bridget Hope for sending in this fun picture. All is revealed later in this issue of Local Talk Back.



EDITORIAL JULY 2020

Welcome to the July edition of Local Talk Back. We always welcome contributions and feedback from our readers, and this month we're particularly grateful to have received some fantastic pictures showing different aspects of the countryside around our villages. One of the most striking features this year has been the fields of poppies, providing a rich, vibrant blanket of colour stretching to the horizon. We hope you enjoy the selection we've included for you in this month's Talk Back. Passing through Didmarton the other weekend I noticed one such poppy field, and was amazed at the number of people there, all vying for position to get the best pictures. Most were using phones capable of capturing the sort of detail and providing levels of clarity that was beyond the capability of top-of-the-range cameras only ten years ago. The results are now accessible to millions: put "Didmarton Poppy Field" into Google and there they are, pages and pages of beautifully composed images which capture every facet of this short-lived natural display of colour in all its glory.

Contrast this with a recent reunion that I attended. 38 years ago I started work as an apprentice, one of a group of 30 who would share so many life-defining experiences over the next four years. We forged real friendships, the sort that last a lifetime. But clearly we didn't take many pictures. As the reunion drew closer, we put a call out for any pictures that had been taken back in the day. I've just counted them. Between us, we came up with 28. In the majority of cases, composition was probably best described as "spontaneous". Colours were grainy, images were blurred, but for the majority of us, that's the way photography was back in those days. You bought 110mm or 35mm film which provided you with 24 or 36 exposures. Once you'd rattled your way through that lot, it was down to Boots to have them developed. The excitement that had been building while you waited to collect your pictures soon dissipated when you saw the results. Like snooker and downhill skiing, you soon discovered it wasn't as easy as it looked on TV, and taking pictures of any merit required the sort of skill and patience that was evidently not typically found in your average apprentice.

It's great the way technology has moved forward, providing us with the ability to capture every moment, every sight, in glorious detail before sharing the results with a wide audience like never before. However, it's very easy to forget that this is a relatively recent phenomenon, and you don't need to look back very far to discover quite significant events which appear to have escaped the cameraman's lens completely. For instance, one member of the Talk Back team has been researching a visit made by a famous aviator to Badminton. This must have been a major occasion at the time, but so far not one photograph of the event has emerged. We're therefore very fortunate that several members of our local community have been actively collecting material which chronicles life in our villages, from the early days of photography up to modern times. We're equally fortunate that they are willing to share that material with us, this month's article by Ray Bird about the respite camps run at Hinnegar Woods being one such example. If you have any old photographs or stories that you'd be willing to share, please get in touch with us, we'd love to hear from you.

Until the next time
IAN CARTER

LOCAL TALK BACK ON-LINE

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

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

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

ESCAPING THE BOMBS

Hinnegar Wood in World War II

by Ray Bird, Acton Turville

The City of Bristol, with its busy harbour and aircraft manufacturing facilities, was a regular target for the German Luftwaffe throughout the Second World War, when the bombers would be guided to their targets by the moonlight reflecting off the River Avon. The repeated raids took a huge toll on the people of Bristol. To boost their morale, a series of respite camps were established in rural locations around the city. One such camp was at Hinnegar Wood. Ray Bird has been taking a look back at that fascinating period of the wood's history.

.....

Hinnegar Wood stands at the northern end of Badminton Park, near Worcester Lodge. It was here, in a clearing in the wood and around its sawmill building, that a "rest camp" was set up during World War II so that women and children from Bristol could have a two week break from the bombing by the German Luftwaffe on their city.

The camp was basically a number of encircled army tents for living accommodation with a larger one in the centre, which along with the sawmill building served as a canteen and washroom etc. Alice Thompson from Sopworth once told me the following: "Twice a week I would take fresh vegetables to the camp in a pony and trap for Frank Sparrow, then landlord of the George Inn at Sopworth. Being a keen gardener, and for the war effort, he had dug up what had been his large orchard, and replanting it with vegetables meant that he always had a good supply. Any leftover food from the camp I would take back with me, this was turned into swill for Frank's pigs".

As well as vegetables, fresh meat was also regularly delivered to the camp by Dick Viiner. As well as his local ARP duties, Dick worked for Ted Baker, a farmer/butcher from Chipping Sodbury, and he recalled the camp being among his round calls.



Hinnegar Wood in World War II (cont'd)



A regular visitor to the camp was Queen Mary who was staying at Badminton House during the war. It seems her visits not only lifted the spirits of the adults, but also the children, for she would take them chocolate and sweets.

Memories of the camp by those that stayed there abound. One Bristol lady wrote: "I heard they were sending people away for a holiday, the ones who had been through the bombing, so I applied for it and was accepted. First of all I didn't like it - I'd never slept under canvas before. To begin with they put me and my little daughter into this huge tent with big iron bedsteads with others, but then they moved us into a little tent on our own and I enjoyed that. There was probably about a hundred of us staying there. They had games for the children and the food was very good. You were allocated jobs - to do the cleaning up, to tidy your tent and to wash up. The worst job was washing the porridge pots, it

was porridge and bread and jam for breakfast, but when that was done you were free to please yourself what you did. We often walked through the Park with the deer, the quiet and solitude of it all was lovely. In the evenings, as long as your children were asleep, the camp helpers would keep an eye on them

if you wanted to go for a drink to the nearby Didmarton pub. For those that never went to the pub we would sit outside our tents and reminisce about what happened to us in the war, and about our husbands etc, and then we would have a sing-song. It was a jolly camp".



If you have any stories or pictures of days gone by, Local Talk Back would love to hear from you.

From the Archives

This month's *From the Archives* feature has football as its theme, with two pictures from Ray Bird showing our local teams proudly lined up for the annual squad photograph.



Acton Turville AFC 1927

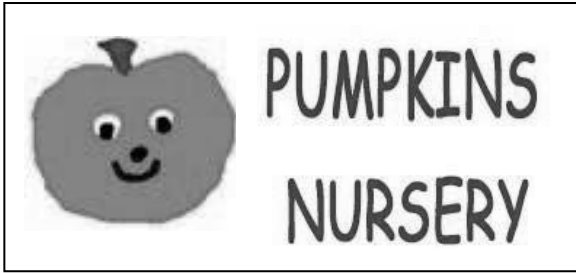
L-R Back Row - B.HUNTER, S.BROWN, J.BIRD, A.PAUL, R.GUMM, P.DEACON.
Centre Row - S.BIRD, C.SHERBOUNE, J.HAYES.
Front Row - S.KINGTON, V.HUNTER, H.JOBBINS, A.HOBBS, R.HAYES.



Badminton AFC 1947-8

L-R Back Row - T.TUCKER, B.SALT, E.EVANS, R.EDMUNDS, E.MAYHEAD,
F.CLARK, E.FOSTER, B.MARKLOVE.
Front Row - L.GARLAND, T.COUSINS, G.BIRD, R.FACETT, P.SALT.

MEET THE ADVERTISER



This month, Local Talk Back is delighted to catch up with Amanda Wallis, the owner of long-time advertiser Pumpkins Nursery. Pumpkins was founded in 2006, and grew from the childminding operation that Amanda ran from her house in Acton Turville, where she worked with her first two members of staff, Becky and Cheryl. A lot has changed since those days, and Pumpkins now offers full day care nurseries in

Badminton and Tormarton, as well as the Pumpkins pre-school in Sherston.

We began by asking Amanda how Pumpkins Nursery responded to the restrictions imposed during the current COVID-19 outbreak.

As the pandemic began, we started by amalgamating our three settings (Pumpkins Nursery in Badminton and Tormarton, and our Sherston Pre-School) to offer flexible childcare places to support parents who are classed as Key Workers. As rules and regulations begin to change, we have started to phase our reopening, with all three of our settings now up and running once again.

It must be nice to see more children returning to Pumpkins Nursery. Have you had to make many changes to keep everyone safe?

Oh yes, we are delighted to be welcoming our children back to Pumpkins, but a lot has changed! To meet social distancing requirements, we have introduced 'bubbles', where small groups of children stay together throughout their time at nursery to reduce the number of contacts. Our staff are maintaining high standards of safety and care to protect both themselves and the children. Whilst we are not quite at full capacity yet, we've been delighted to be able to safely welcome back more of our children in June thanks to these measures.

Bubbles sound fun! Can you tell us what kind of activities the children been doing in their bubbles?

We're very fortunate to have wonderful outside space at all our settings – and the outdoors provides the best opportunity for socially-distanced play. We've been able to keep up our regular outdoor activities, including our popular 'Forest School', where the children have rich opportunities to develop their confidence in the outdoor environment. For rainier days, we've still got plenty of indoor activities that the children and staff can do within their 'bubbles'. Safety and hygiene might have limited some of the activities and resources we can use at nursery – such as our favourite, messy play – but that won't stop us having fun! We're finding that our children are happy to embrace more imaginative and creative play, which can be incredibly rewarding.



How about those children who are not able to return to Pumpkins?

We mustn't forget that, for many Pumpkins children, returning to nursery isn't possible – or even necessary – just yet. The Pumpkins team have been working hard to provide the high-quality care and education we're known for, even to those families who can't join us at nursery right now.

MEET THE ADVERTISER cont'd

We're running weekly Storytime and Songtime sessions using Zoom, allowing all of our children to tune in (and join in!) for a few hours each week. It's been a great opportunity for everyone, parents and children alike, to say hello to their friends and stay connected. As well as this, we've been helping our leavers prepare to start school in the next academic year – with special resources and support for parents – and we've been updating our Facebook pages with lots of brilliant ideas and resources for activities to keep everyone busy. We hope to be able to increase our places and welcome more children back to Pumpkins over the next two months. Fingers crossed we'll be back to something more like normality by September!

In the meantime, families who are looking to join us over the coming months can find video tours of all three Pumpkins settings (Badminton, Tormarton and Sherston) on our website, www.pumpkinsnursery.co.uk, along with our prospectus.

Amanda Wallis (Nursery Owner)

If you'd like to get in touch with Amanda directly, please contact her by email at enquiries@pumpkinsnursery.co.uk



WHAT'S THE STORY?



Reader Steve Cox from Malmesbury contacted Local Talk Back recently to ask about a marker stone that stands alongside the Badminton road on the outskirts of Acton Turville. Measuring some 3-feet tall, the stone is unusual because someone has clearly gone to great lengths to remove whatever writing was originally chiselled into it. All that remains are the words "Acton Turville" which appear near its base. Do any of our readers know what was originally on the stone, and more intriguingly, why it was removed? If you do, please let us know and help us solve the mystery.

Summer Colour



The poppies have been particularly vibrant this year, making for some great photo opportunities. Thanks to everyone who took the time to send in pictures. The ones on this page come from Yvonne Nettles and Mike Bird. We hope you like them.



WASP INVASION!

A beautifully made wasp nest on a window at Badminton Village Club and a seat in Little Badminton that has been attacked by wasps. Could these wasps really be travelling that distance to gather the material for their nest? If you live in Badminton and have this kind of damage to your outdoor furniture, it could very well be making up part of this incredible nest!



A Scarlet Tiger Moth

The surprise was that this beautiful 'Butterfly' is actually a moth.



All pictures by Yvonne Nettles

ACTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

No physical meetings able to be held at present

*Please! No Dogs are allowed on the playing field or in the play area.
All gates must be kept shut. No vehicles are allowed in or on the playing field
except by permission of the Parish Council. Please put all litter in the bins provided.
Thank you.*

June 2020

Playing Field

The Playing Field is open subject to Government guidelines, and “social distancing rules of 2m continue to apply”. However, for the time being the Play Area must remain closed.

The Tennis Club is operational please visit <http://actonturville.info/tennis/> for more information.

Meetings

We are still not permitted to hold face-to-face public meetings and we await Government guidance on this. The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be via telephone conferencing on Monday 13 July 2020 at 7pm. Villagers wishing to listen to the meeting or submit any questions should contact the Clerk (via email/post) no later than 5 pm on Friday 10 July

Holding meetings in a safe environment is an on-going situation and we are aware things can change quite rapidly therefore, it is our intention to continue meetings by telephone conference for the time being, unless we receive instructions otherwise. We would ask you to please bear with us under the current circumstances.

Casual Vacancy

The Parish Council met via telephone conferencing on 8 June and agreed to co-opt Ian Carter onto the Council to fill this Vacancy.

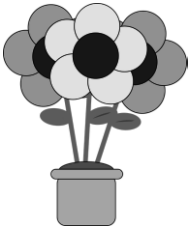
Sybil Haddrell (Acting Chair) 218772, Sally Smith 218510, Chris Bennett 218550,
Toby Evans 219116, Ian Carter 219129

Next meeting: Monday 13 July 2020 @ 7.00 pm

Parish Clerk: Sue Radford-Hancock Tel: 218675

Email: actonturvillepc@aol.com

Website: www.actonturvilleparishcouncil.org



Last month I was recommending a lovely plant that reminded me of warm sunny days and then somehow forgot to name it. It is the shrub called *Cistus purpureus* with deep pink tissue paper like flowers with a darker blotch in the centre.

Tip of the Month

Look at garden trees now while they are in full leaf, because you will be able to choose which ones are the right size for your garden. Some will be best in a very big garden. What type of shade will they give? Will they make a border beneath too dark? Are they in proportion with your house?

Jobs for this Month

Keep feeding plants. Feed those in pots once a week if using a liquid fertiliser and if using a granular slow acting feed, feed as per the instructions. The roses will need a feed to keep the flowering going. Cut off the Geum flowers and feed also. Tie in sweet peas before they all get tangled up.

Try to position plants with a long flowering season, dahlias, cosmos and anything that needs deadheading to keep going, somewhere that you can reach without walking on the soil and compacting it.

Because we couldn't get many of the plants until recently, things seem a bit behind. Make sure to keep watering and feeding and everything will catch up.

Nip the top of broad beans to stop black fly.

Choosing Plants for the Garden

I am so looking to being able to go garden visiting again. Take a garden notebook with you and make jottings about anything you have liked. I saw a charming very small bluish hosta called "mouse ears" which has gone into my notebook. Two others are verbena Bampton and euphorbia Melegris.

Did You Spot The Horse??



I must admit there was much head-scratching in the Local Talk Back office when we received Bridget's photo. Horse? What horse? But look closer, apply a bit of lateral thinking and there it is, standing large over Acton Turville. It reminds me of those Magic Eye pictures that were popular several years ago, where you stared at a seemingly totally random series of dots until, magically, a 3-D image of a herd of giraffes suddenly emerged – remember them?

Well done if you spotted it!!

Church Matters

Coronavirus Update

Please note that churches remain closed due to the current Coronavirus outbreak. However, a series of virtual services are available to view on YouTube. Just search for "Badminton Benefice" and you'll find Matins and Evensong at 10am and 6pm on Sundays.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON TURVILLE

100 Club

WINNERS FOR JUNE 2020

Tim Hope

Diana Silvey

Pam and Graham Bubb

Congratulations!

Sudoku

July's challenge set by Neil Fozard

To solve the puzzle, each row, column and 3x3 box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

EASY !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the June quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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

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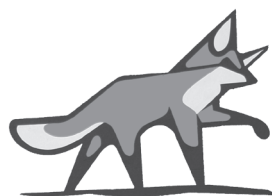
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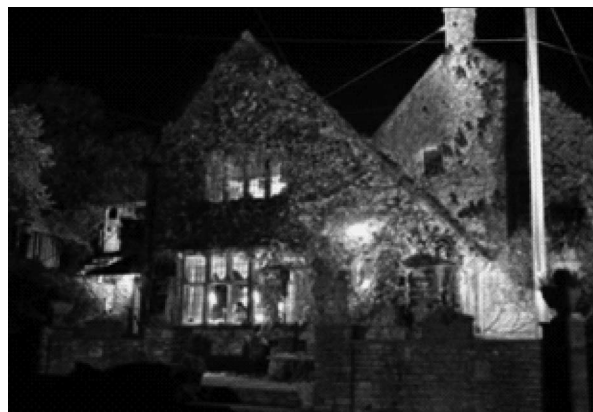


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Picture Gallery



Many thanks to Janice Walker for sending in this picture of a pair of Great Spotted Woodpeckers. We think the one on the left is a juvenile, identified by its red forehead, whereas the lack of red markings on the back of the neck suggest the one on the right is an adult female.

We've got Christine Bennett to thank for the pictures below. The first one looks like a pyramidal orchid, but how about the ones at the bottom of the page? Can anyone identify them?

