

# 5 Villages Alive

Volume 18 Issue 8



October 2021

## Facing the challenge .....

In my youth I was an amateur athlete with a few minor successes. That experience has made me acutely aware of the efforts, training, and dedication that is manifest in the Olympics. Just getting there is such a huge achievement, I take my hat off to every one of them, successful or not. I don't expect every participant to win a medal, just three are given out for every event. But I do expect them to return a personal best, better known as a PB. Not an unreasonable expectation given the level of competition.



But after the games we were exposed to the Paralympics. Now my admiration was matched by my astonishment. To see what these athletes could accomplish, despite their many challenges, is truly amazing. Some with one or more limbs missing or mental or psychological problems. To see a swimmer with no arms, from the shoulder competing in, say, backstroke, and winning gold medals is truly astonishing.

There are so many heart-warming memories to take away; the armless archer using his foot to hold the bow, the blind runners sprinting whilst attached to a sighted guide, wheelchair rugby – also known as murderball for the forceful way the players use their chairs to dislodge the ball, the many 'blade runners' sprinting like gazelles. I could go on but there were so many wonderful moments.

But I also wondered how Zhang Tao, an armless gold medal swimmer coped with life outside the games. How was he fed, dressed, and helped with the toilet. He must have had a wonderful support group to help him to live as normal a life as possible, given his physical restrictions. The same question can be asked about many of the severely disadvantaged athletes.

Notwithstanding all the difficulties faced, when interviewed all athletes exhibited an enthusiasm for just being in the Olympics and competing at that level. None expressed anger or frustration at the hand they had been dealt, no mention was made of the restrictions their injuries had caused. That brought home how even the biggest hurdles will not bring down some people, the human condition is boundless in its desire and ability to rise and cope with anything thrown at them. It puts the many relatively minor physical problems we encounter into some perspective.

*Damon Arber*

**Being a champion  
is not just being  
a frontrunner  
and being  
ahead, but it's  
facing adversity.**

Andre Ward

There's always  
a reason to  
smile .... find it

## Tytherington Local History Group

An inaugural meeting to re-establish the group  
will be held on



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**in the Chapel School-  
room at 7.30pm**

**Meg Wise** will give a talk  
on

**The Railway from Thornbury to Yate**

For further details ring Roger Howell on 01454  
415035 or Valerie Niblett on 01454 417982

*Everyone is welcome.*

## ROCKHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

### VILLAGE AUTUMN CLEAN UP EVENT

**SAT 2nd OCTOBER 2021  
10AM – 12 NOON**



**STARTING AT THE OLD  
CRICKET CLUB ON  
THE COMMON**

**BAGS, GLOVES AND  
LITTER- PICKERS WILL BE PROVIDED**

To volunteer please contact  
Cllr Tina Mitchell Skinner or the Parish Clerk at  
[rockhamptonpc@gmail.com](mailto:rockhamptonpc@gmail.com)  
[www.rockhamptonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.rockhamptonparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Dementia Support South Gloucestershire



Dementia support workers offer information and practical guidance to help people understand dementia, cope with day-to-day challenges and prepare for the future. The service is for people with Dementia and their carers, family and friends.  
**Call our support line for more information: Tel: 0333 150 3456**

**Monday to Wednesday 9am – 8pm,  
Thursday and Friday 9am – 5pm  
Saturday and Sunday 10am – 4pm**  
or see our website: [www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk)

**The Thornbury Memory Café** is run by local people, and supports those in Thornbury and the surrounding area with some form of memory loss.

**The café meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 10.15am in the Methodist Church Hall.** Anyone with a memory problem, together with a carer or friend is welcome. There is time for chatter and meeting with others.

Please contact Sue Rowley 01454 412941.

## A Rockhampton Village Hall Social Evening

### Class Act Quartet

*“Tuneful easy listening Jazz classics played  
with a new twist”*



**Rockhampton Village  
Hall**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Tickets: £7.50 (to include complimentary  
snacks) available from

[bookings@rockhamptonvillagehall.org](mailto:bookings@rockhamptonvillagehall.org)  
or call 01454 269745

Bar available.

Seating layout compliant with current covid regulations

## An unusual service at St Mary's Church, Thornbury

On Sunday October 24th there will be a very special and unique Choral Evensong at St Mary's Church, Thornbury.

All the music has been written by members of the choir as well as the words of the anthem and the hymns.

It is an idea which has come from Mark Hoskins, a member of the choir, who says he has been thinking about a 'home-grown Evensong' for quite a long time.

The service will begin at 6pm so come along to St Mary's and enjoy this unusual service.

You will be most welcome.



## Churchyard Tidy-up

**St Leonard's, Tortworth**  
**Saturday 9th October  
at 10am**

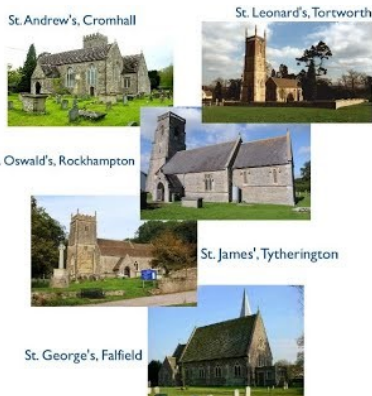
Refreshments provided.

**Please bring your own tools.**

Everyone welcome



'To see Christ in all and to show Christ to the World.'



- Oct 3rd** Tortworth
- Oct 10th** Joint Cromhall and Tortworth  
**Harvest Service (at Cromhall)**
- Oct 10th** Falfield **Harvest** Service
- Oct 17th** Tytherington **Harvest** Service
- Oct 24th** Rockhampton
- Oct 31st** Tytherington

- Compline has moved to Wednesdays at 7pm on Zoom.



**An "In Memory" service will be held on  
Monday November 1st  
at 7pm in Tortworth Church**

**BENEFICE PHONE: 01454 260096**  
**E-MAIL ADDRESS: office@crofft.org.uk**  
**ASSOCIATE PRIEST:**  
 Rev Sue: 01454 600674 or revsue@crofft.org.uk  
**CHAPLAIN:**  
 Rev. Frances: 01453 519099  
 revfrances@crofft.org.uk  
**Churchwardens:**  
 Cromhall: Ann Greenhalgh 01454 294200  
 Rockhampton: Liz Cullimore 01454 412208  
 Falfield: Headley Pain 01454 269017  
 Tortworth: Hilary Legg 01454 413234  
 Tytherington: John Williams 01454 412515 or  
 Phil Coward 01454 281444

## Over 60s Tea Room Open



We are very pleased to say that the Over 60s Tea Room in Thornbury High Street will now be able to welcome our customers 5 days a week, Monday to Friday, from 10am to 3pm.

Thanks to the lovely people who have generously offered to bake for us, we are also able to sell delicious homemade cake at 50p a slice to go with your cup of tea or coffee.

If you have never called in to see us before, why not pop into our attractive little tea room at the side entrance of the Town Hall in the High Street to meet your friends or to make new ones. If you want to bring your lunch with you, you are very welcome to do so.

If you can spare three hours a month and you like to meet people, why not volunteer to help us at the tea room? If you would like to know more about what is involved phone Sandra on 01454 418690 and I'd be happy to tell you all about it.



**A sponsored event  
for the Historic  
Churches Trust.**

**50% of the money raised goes to our local church.**

Thank you if you sponsored me for the ride on 11th September. In the end it was about 46 miles but I didn't seem to suffer too much. Actually it was very enjoyable.

John Humphries and Neil Hampson came along as well. There was only one shower and the wind wasn't too strong. The sun shone for most of the afternoon. We went up to Slimbridge, then back in a wavy line to Rangeworthy and Wickwar. We also called in at all the benefice churches. I raised over £320 so it was very worthwhile.

If anyone still wants to sponsor me, the Just-Giving page is still up. Just search "Fen Marshall" on the JustGiving website or use the link

**<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Fen-Marshall2>**

*Thanks, Fen*



## TYTHERINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR - BRIAN ALLEN  
{0117 9 793104}

3rd	Joint Service at St James'	Val & Brian
10th	"The Living Word" [Hebrews Chapter 4, vv 12 – 16] <sup>†</sup>	Brian
17th	"The High Priest" [Hebrews Chapter 5 vv 1 - 10]	Brian
24th	"The Everlasting Priest" [Hebrews Chapter 7, verses 23 – 29]	Brian
31st	"Sacred Testimonies" [John Chapter 5, verses 31 – 47]	Brian

<sup>†</sup> SERVICE WILL INCLUDE HOLY COMMUNION

N.B. ALL SERVICES COMMENCE AT **10:30 A.M.** UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF ANY OF OUR SERVICES/ACTIVITIES, PLEASE CONTACT**

**Brian ON: 0117 9 793104** or e-mail: [allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk)

## TYTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Wessex Water

The Parish Council would like to advise residents that Wessex Water are carrying out essential sewerage works in Tytherington starting 4th October 2021 for approximately 8 weeks.

Wessex Water will be installing a new sewerage system from the new residential development situated to the rear of The Orchards, to a connection point in the South Eastern corner of the Jubilee Field on Stowell Hill Road. Jubilee Field will remain open, however Wessex will need to close a section of the park off to undertake the works.

Wessex will also be required to close the private track off Stowell Hill Road, directly North of the park, during working hours of 0730 – 1730, Monday to Friday.

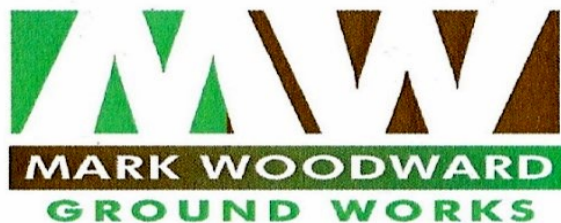
You can continue to use your sewerage services as normal. Any problems please contact the [clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk)

### Speedwatch

The Parish Council would like to thank our Speedwatch Co-ordinators who have worked continuously during the last 5 years to try and keep the speeding down Stowell Hill Road to a minimum. They have been thwarted by the lack of support from the Police and therefore at the present time Tytherington does not have a Speedwatch team.

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee

If any organisation in Tytherington would like to be included in a possible celebration in June please let the clerk know on [clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk)



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### View 5 Alive online

Remember that 5 Alive is available online at  
[www.falfield.org.uk](http://www.falfield.org.uk) and <https://cromhall.com/cromhall/st-andrews-church>

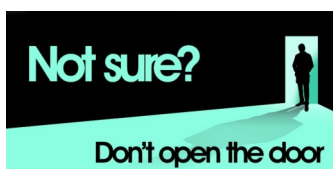


**South Glos**  
**Citizens Advice Bureau**  
**Telephone Advice Service:**

For advice contact us on 0808 278 7947

We offer free confidential, impartial and independent advice and information on a wide range of subjects.

### Rogue Traders



Anyone suspecting that rogue traders are operating in their area is advised to contact Trading Standards on 0808 223 1133.



Thank you to Mrs Ann Greenhalgh, Mrs Joy Cullimore, Mrs C King and Mr & Mrs N Dixon

and Anon for their kind donations to our costs.

Each 20-page edition costs £425 to print, so we are always grateful for donations as our funding depends on advertising and the generosity of our readers.

Regular donations may be made by standing order; we also accept payments by BACS. For further details please contact our Treasurer, Mr Geoff Crosthwaite

- telephone on 01454 294140
- Email: [geoffrey.crosthwaite@outlook.com](mailto:geoffrey.crosthwaite@outlook.com)
- or write to him at The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8AQ.

Cheques, payable to **Benefice Newsletter**, may also be sent to our treasurer, Geoff Crosthwaite, The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, W-U-E, GL12 8AQ or the editor.

### Cromhall 100 Club August 2021 winners:

- 1st (£30) - Alan Bennett
- 2nd (£20) - Zena Whitefield
- 3rd (£10) - Neil Mounty



**There will be a service of celebration for the life of Grace Hutchins at St Leonard's, Tortworth, on Tuesday 26th October at 11am.**

Her sons, Andrew and John, would be pleased to welcome anyone who remember their Mum, and her many years in Tortworth.



## ASHWORTHY CATTERY

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For all enquires please contact Nicola on 07799805996

## FALFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September during which Councillors discussed their response to the Greener Spaces – Green Infrastructure Strategy Consultation. Having reviewed the 212-page document in their response to this Consultation, the Councillors noted a number of errors and inaccuracies within the document, but the main objection was the proposed removal of parts of the green infrastructure designation from within the parish. Councillors felt that it was very important to protect the landscape within these areas as they provide attractive rural vistas and that there were important wildlife corridors worthy of protection.

As well as the usual matters of the meeting Councillors agreed to accept an offer from The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire of two English Oak trees which would be planted in 2022 as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Councillors also discussed the draft policy and criteria for the distribution of money received from the Community Infrastructure Levy and agreed that from the recommendations put forward at the meeting by Councillors this would be discussed again at their October meeting with a view to approve the policy.

Councillors also agreed to apply to register the Village Green under the Commons Act 2006 which, if successful, would mean that once registered as a green, local people will enjoy the right of recreation there, and the space would be protected forever from development.

[Parish.clerk@falfieldparishcouncilorg.uk](mailto:Parish.clerk@falfieldparishcouncilorg.uk)

[www.falfieldparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.falfieldparishcouncil.org.uk)



### CROMHALL CHAPEL

Registered Charity No: 1179269

**Welcomes You!**

Telephone: Simon Carey (Pastor – Elder) 07824 804305

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



#### Sunday Worship Services for October in the Chapel

Join us as we worship the Lord each Sunday, followed by refreshments.

3 <sup>rd</sup> (10.30am) Damon Ujvarosy	(6.30pm) Simon Carey
10 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Peter Cresswell
17 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Jonathan Brain	(6.30pm) Damon Ujvarosy
24 <sup>th</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) David Frampton
31 <sup>st</sup> (10.30am) Simon Carey	(6.30pm) Martin Erwin

#### Wednesdays at 7.30pm

- 6<sup>th</sup> Home Groups
- 13<sup>th</sup> Gavin Cox from Creation Ministries speaking on *Adam: Man? Myth? or Monkey?*
- 20<sup>th</sup> Bible Study and Prayer in the chapel hall
- 27<sup>th</sup> Church Members' Meeting

#### Tuesday half hour of prayer (on zoom)

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am
- 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

#### Harvest Supper – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6.00pm in the hall

This is a 'bring and share' supper with a sign-up sheet.

Melanie Griffiths from Transform Europe Network (TEN) will be sharing about *Harvest for the Hungry*

#### Harvest Thanksgiving Service – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.30am with Damon Ujvarosy

#### Ladies Breakfast - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> at 9.15am – All welcome!

*Desert Island Discs* with Elizabeth Clark and Penny Thomas

All our sermons are available on the website: [WWW.CROMHALLCHAPEL.ORG](http://WWW.CROMHALLCHAPEL.ORG)

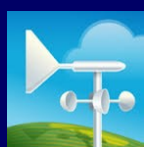
**Cromhall Chapel Ladies Breakfast**



**Desert Island Discs**

**Saturday October 30th**  
 9:15-11:00am  
 Delicious breakfast followed by talk  
 Host Penny Thomas  
 and guest castaway Elizabeth Clark

For details:  
 Sue 01454 269178

 **FALFIELD WEATHER RECORDS  
AUGUST 2021**

	High	Low	Average
<b>Temp</b>	25.4 °C	8.1 °C	16.9 °C
<b>Dew Point</b>	18.5 °C	-0.1 °C	9.5 °C
<b>Humidity</b>	99.0 %	21 %	66 %
<b>Precipitation</b>	73.15 mm		
<b>Wettest Day</b>	21.84 on the 2nd Aug YTD 491.97 mm		
<b>Wind direction</b>	SSW		
<b>Pressure</b>	1034.88 hPa	996.88 hPa	

Go to [www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163](http://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163) for live weather information from the Falfield weather station

**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup>** For information and advice on Parkinson's, or for emotional support, call the Parkinson's UK helpline on **0808 800 0303**  
**CHANGE ATTITUDES.**  
**FIND A CURE.**  
**JOIN US.**

**Our Thornbury support group meets at the Chantry Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HB on the last Friday of every month, 10am-12noon.**

We offer a friendly welcome and the chance to chat with people with Parkinson's and their family carers in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

We have quite a spread of group knowledge with varying levels of experience of the disease and the local support available from the NHS and Parkinson's UK. So if you fancy a chat with people in a similar position to you, come and have a coffee and meet us.

**For more information call Sally Derham on 01454 632910 or email [sally.derham@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.derham@btinternet.com)**

**FALFIELD VILLAGE WEBSITE**

**SPONSOR REQUIRED**

Falfield website is looking for a sponsor to cover the domain, hosting and software costs.


If no sponsorship is found by the end of 2021, then the website will shut down.

Anyone individual or business who would like to know more information should contact James Carpenter on 07484 102588 or email [webmaster@falfield.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@falfield.org.uk)

**North Bristol Foodbank**

The Thornbury outlet of the North Bristol Foodbank is based at Thornbury Baptist Church, Gillingstool, Thornbury, BS35 2EG, and is open **every Friday afternoon from 2 - 4 pm.**

**For more information, please call 0117 9791399 or email [info@northbristol.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@northbristol.foodbank.org.uk) or visit [northbristol.foodbank.org.uk](http://northbristol.foodbank.org.uk)**

 **If you feel able to contribute to the Foodbank stocks, here is our current shopping list.**

**URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:**  
 LONG LIFE / UHT MILK, TINNED POTATOES, TINNED FRUIT, SPONGE PUDDINGS, WASHING-UP LIQUID, DEODORANT, CRISPS & OTHER SAVOURY SNACKS, SWEET TREATS

**WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF:** BAKED BEANS, TINNED SOUP, PASTA, TINNED TOMATOES

**Thank you for your on-going support. Donations can be placed in the Thornbury basket in Tesco or left on the church steps on Fridays between 10.30am and 4pm.**

We always welcome donations and promise to use them to provide help to people in crisis. Occasionally we send food to other nearby foodbanks to support their work particularly if they experience shortages. This ensures your donations go to help people wherever in the UK they are.

Please contact us if you have any questions about donating food.

## Cotswold Homes proposal for 23 houses on land known as 'The Glebe', Falfield

Falfield Parish Council were made aware of this proposal on 15<sup>th</sup> September by Cotswold Homes who advised Falfield Parish Council that they would be launching a virtual public consultation via [www.CHfalfield.co.uk](http://www.CHfalfield.co.uk) regarding this; a leaflet would also be posted to 650 residents. They advised that this consultation would close on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

At the request of Falfield Parish Council Cotswold Homes have now agreed to extend the period of this consultation to **11<sup>th</sup> October**. Cotswold Homes also indicated that they would be happy to attend the next meeting of Falfield Parish Council where they would present the results of the consultation to Falfield Parish Council and residents. Therefore, **Falfield Parish Council have accepted Cotswold Homes offer to attend their meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2021.**

## Almondsbury Horse Show - 77 Years and still standing !!

The 77<sup>th</sup> Almondsbury Horse Show took place despite the occasional "monsoon" conditions. Unfortunately, the dog show and dressage/showing classes did not take place but large numbers of competitors, spectators and supporters enjoyed a day of equestrian competition and entertainment in the fabulous grounds of Washingpool Farm.

The agility/orienteering group, "Wessex Le Trec", provided demonstrations and free "have a go" sessions throughout the day; this created a lot of interest and enjoyment. We are very grateful to them for stepping in at the last minute and look forward to them being involved next year.

This year's sponsorship and support by NFU will enable the show to continue for years to come and we are indebted to them as well as Almondsbury Community Shop and NCJ Farrier Service for their wonderful generosity. Other local businesses offered support by sponsoring classes, advertising in the programme or donating raffle and silent auction prizes for which we are similarly grateful.

Not only does this support enable the committee to keep this traditional event alive, but also raises large sums for Great Western Air Ambulance and St Peter's Hospice, both of which are truly deserving charities. GWAA and St Peter's Hospice advertised the work they through their stands and we look forward to them being joined next year by Avon RDA (Riding for the Disabled) working with the show to create an RDA class in the main ring.

Seeing people out and about once again, having fun and catching up with friends and family in a friendly environment proved a boost for all concerned and the committee are delighted to have raised around £4,000 for the charities.

**Put next year's date in your diary now and look forward to an even bigger and better event! Sunday July 3rd 2022.**



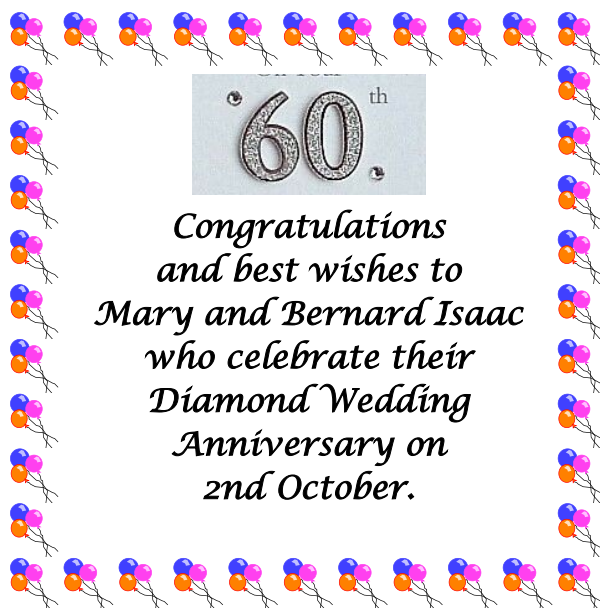
## THORNBURY AND DISTRICT

U3A is very pleased to announce that their Groups will be starting their face-to-face meetings.

Our numbers have greatly reduced due to the Covid-19 pandemic and to this end would like to invite anyone who is interested in what we are about to come along to our next Welcome Meeting on **Monday, 25 October 2021 in St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Road, Thornbury, BS35 1DR from 3:30p.m.**

Our Groups mainly meet during the day and interests range from Archaeology to Walking. Some meet weekly, others less often and they include physical activities, crafts, board and card games, language lessons, organised visits to gardens and churches, concerts and theatre as well as purely "educational" topics.

Details of all our groups can be found on our website – [www.thornburyu3a.org.uk](http://www.thornburyu3a.org.uk). Please come along; we would love to meet you. For further information visit our website or phone our Membership Secretary, Jackie Gitsham on 858438 or our Chairman, Norman Taylor on 418396.





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\*subject to eligibility



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## Another Cool Reception

I was interested to read Rev Sue's account of her experience in a church where 'WELCOME' was definitely not included in their policy. (September's issue of 5 Alive.) It transported my mind back some sixty years to something I had tucked away in my 'memory box'.

Only just five years old, I started my school life at Tortworth School. On the first day there, having completely enjoyed this new experience I decided that I wanted to be a schoolteacher and, unbelievably, that remained with me. It set my goal for life. Thankfully I was fortunate enough to succeed in realising my 'dream'.

Having worked hard through three primary schools (Tortworth, then St Martha's Kindergarten at Falfield, then Thornbury Council School (now called Gillingstool), I passed the eleven plus and went to Thornbury Grammar School.

Those were seven glorious years spent there; arguably the best grammar school in Gloucestershire. With over six hundred pupils and serving a radius of over fifteen miles, (Berkeley to Horfield, Compton Greenfield to Charfield and much more). The sixth form was the 'icing on the cake' and it was now time to be seeking acceptance at a Teachers' Training College.

I was fortunate enough to find myself offered a place at Weymouth Training college for Women.



The training course in those days was for two years including three teaching practice sessions. Again, it was a wonderfully enjoyable time, with the bonus of being beside the sea! We were encouraged to make the most of the surroundings and there were no afternoon lectures. From lunch time until 4.30pm we were free. Then there were evening lectures leading towards dinner at 7.00pm. I was very happy in my new environment. New people to meet, new surroundings and just a few yards along the road towards the sea was St John's Church.

Having been in the church choir at St George's, Falfield for five or six years and a Sunday School teacher there for four years, I decided that I would rise early and attend the church service. I wore my college scarf (a very necessary piece of 'gear' in those days!) as I thought it would indicate my situation as a new student.

However, like Rev Sue, I was completely ignored by the reasonably-sized congregation. No-one smiled or nodded, let alone spoke. I glanced around expectantly with no reaction whatsoever. I was disappointed, as may be imagined.

As our unwritten family motto appears to be, 'Always do your best and don't give up', I repeated the church visit on two more occasions with the same result each time! Fortunately, the experience did not put paid to my churchgoing, but it did give a blow to my confidence.

I felt that I had done my best and it was their loss. Perhaps it was a negative experience that helped to strengthen my own notion that: A smile and a word (if only 'Hello') costs nothing to the donor and could possibly brighten the day of the recipient, regardless of age or situation.

If we all did this, surely the world could be a happier place!



*Ann Riddiford*

### **CROMHALL VILLAGE SHOP AGM**

**to be held on Thursday 14th October**

**in Cromhall Village Hall starting at 7.00pm**

Do come and hear how our shop has been managing over these difficult covid times whilst enjoying cheese and wine supplied by the shop. (It would be much appreciated if you are able to bring your own glass.)

The shop continues to be much more than just a place to buy eggs and is still run by the community for the community with the support of the community. Truly our shop!

Hope to see you on the 14th.

## ROCKHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Council held its first face to face meeting since February 2020 on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021. The main item for the meeting was the ongoing highways issues. Cllr Riddle reported that further vehicle average speed checks on the Lower Stone Road had been completed in June which recorded an average speed of 38 mph. However, 15% of vehicles recorded were doing more than 44 mph and that this had been flagged up with the Police. Cllr Riddle went on to confirm that issues in the parish with potholes were being reported to StreetCare on an ongoing basis and it was noted that temporary repairs to the Hill Road had been completed with the intention of major repairs to be completed during 2022/2023 financial year.

Under planning two applications received were noted namely, the construction of new access and track from Sewerage Treatment Works compound on to Church View and the conversion of existing storage shed to form annexe ancillary to main dwelling at Vine Cottage.

Cllrs were informed that an inspection of the Council's assets had been undertaken between Cllr England and the Clerk and that from this inspection it was noted that action was required to some assets. Cllrs agreed discuss this at their next meeting.

The Parish Council along with other Parish Councils had received an offer of two Oak Trees from The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and Cllrs agreed to take up this offer. Cllr Mitchell Skinner proposed that Cllrs should give further thought to how the Parish could commemorate/celebrate this event and proposed that they should discuss this in more detail at their next meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.

*Rockhampton Parish Council*

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

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

**Thornbury Macular and Low Vision Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month, 10.30am - 12 noon at Thornbury Methodist Church.**

**Ring John Paton on 01454 885301 for details.**

## Armstrong Hall Action Alliance

It has been full steam ahead for the Armstrong Hall Action Alliance (AHAA) in recent months, with its aim of restoring the Armstrong Hall complex to compliant use. With a wealth of support and expertise offered from the local community, AHAA is a busy and active group and continues to be optimistic about the possibility of resurrecting this vital arts and community venue to Thornbury.

Earlier in the summer, AHAA set out a plan for what it sees as the potential long-term future of the Armstrong Hall Complex. The first step of this plan is to assess if the group's aims are viable in the 'real world'. As such, the AHAA is undertaking a viability study to test the appetite of the local community for such a venue in Thornbury, as well as to scrutinise the financial and operational needs and implications of the project. AHAA is delighted that the Armstrong Hall Trust have agreed to support this



viability study, which is expected to be complete by the end of October this year.

With work underway to assess the practicalities of reopening the Armstrong Hall Complex, AHAA is now seeking feedback from residents of Thornbury and the surrounding area for their thoughts on restoring the venue to use. Will it be popular and well-supported? Will people volunteer to help, or be willing to contribute via donations or subscriptions for services if the project were to go ahead? Do the community still feel there is a need for the Armstrong Hall?

You can have your say on the reopening of the Armstrong Hall Complex via AHAA's questionnaire which can be completed at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XYCWTCP>, and is open until 30 September 2021. Alternatively, paper copies are available: please phone 01454 413850.

To get involved or keep up to date with the progress of AHAA, please email [info@ahaathornbury.co.uk](mailto:info@ahaathornbury.co.uk) or search Armstrong Hall Action Alliance on Facebook. The group is still keen to receive your memories of the Armstrong Hall and what it means to you, so please get in touch if you have something to share.



## Have your say and make a difference to the things that matter in your local area

Have you ever considered joining your local Community Engagement Forum?

Community Engagement Forums (CEFs) in South Gloucestershire give residents an opportunity to come together and make changes to improve their community.

CEFs are formed by local people working in partnership with local organisations: South Gloucestershire Council, Avon and Somerset Police, Avon Fire and Rescue Service, Town and Parish Councils and Voluntary and Community Organisations.

Joining your local CEF is a great way to stay informed and find out what is happening in your local area.

Each CEF has an elected Chair, who manages the meetings. We asked them about the achievements of their CEF and the impact it has had in their local community.

- "We've given an opportunity for local residents to get their voices heard and effect change in their neighbourhoods."
- "We've been able to quickly resolve little issues, almost overnight, things like litter and overgrown vegetation."
- "We've been able to have road markings altered and renewed."
- "We've been able to work closely with the community, especially with youth clubs and local housing associations."

In the words of one CEF Chair, "If you are a proud member of your community and you care about how things are run and by whom, come along!"

If you are interested in coming along to your local CEF or want to find out more you can email: [CommunityEngagement@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityEngagement@southglos.gov.uk) or visit the South Gloucestershire <https://www.southglos.gov.uk/cef>



## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Awards 2022

Next year, Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking her 70 years of service to the country from 1952 to 2022.

An extended bank holiday weekend will provide an opportunity for neighbours and the wider community to come together to celebrate this historic milestone. The four days of celebrations, from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June, will include public events and community activities, as well as national moments of reflection on The Queen's reign.

South Gloucestershire Council is pleased to announce that £50,000 has been allocated in grant funding to support community organisations and town and parish councils wishing to organise commemorative events and activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The grants range from £100 to £3000, depending on demand and budget, for organisations hosting events such as parades, carnivals, tea dances, history displays or even a big jubilee lunch to share friendship, food and fun with neighbours.

The closing date for applications is 12 November 2021.

Contact South Gloucestershire Council's Grants Team on 01454 865865 or email [grants@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:grants@southglos.gov.uk) to make an enquiry or to request an application form and further guidance. For more information, please visit [www.southglos.gov.uk/queensjubilee2022](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/queensjubilee2022)

## HANDYMAN SERVICES

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01454 260372

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## Enjoy the Autumn at Tortworth Arboretum

It's been a busy Summer at Tortworth Forest Centre. Volunteers have been working hard to improve the site for visitors, keeping paths clear and scything huge areas. The team has installed 50 shiny new tree labels to help people learn about the trees, and we have created brand new visitor maps with coloured walking routes around the site. A key task has been to prepare areas for the planting of new trees and shrubs over the autumn and winter months. In addition, visitors, volunteers and staff have now uploaded more than 125 observations to the iNaturalist citizen science app, starting to build a picture of the wildlife on the site.

Autumn is a wonderful time to visit the woods and what better opportunity than at our Autumn



Open Day and Community Tree Planting event on Saturday 16th October 10.30am - 4pm.

Join us for a relaxed day in the woods, when we'll open our gates and welcome you to explore this unique arboretum and celebrate the beautiful season.

Everyone is invited to this free drop-in event, made possible thanks to generous grants from the

National Lottery Heritage Fund and Wessex Water Foundation, via Quartet Community Foundation.

Activities confirmed so far include tree planting, live music, forest school, guided tree walks, a children's treasure hunt and axe-throwing!

Tortworth Forest Centre CIC is working to restore The Dell, part of the wider Tortworth Arboretum, as a community woodland. We run volunteering and wellbeing programmes, workshops and events. Other opportunities to visit will be our Visitor Days on Saturday 20th November and Saturday 18th December. The site is also available to hire for private events.

Amy Stone, Project Manager, Tortworth Forest Centre CIC

## ***SWEEPSAFE***

***Chimney Sweeping from £50***

***Stove installations and repairs***

*Traditional chimney sweeping, power sweeps*

*CCTV checks, smoke escape tests*

*Replacement fire bricks, rope seals and glass*

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**The Bristol Ensemble is back  
in Thornbury on  
Saturday 16th October!**

*Sponsored by the Joan Hawkins fund at  
Quartet Community Foundation.*

The Armstrong Arts Group is pleased to present a treat for Thornbury and beyond. The concert by members of the Bristol Ensemble, Bristol's professional chamber orchestra led by violinist Roger Huckle, with guest oboe player Imogen Triner, will once again visit Thornbury with a concert of popular classical music.



**Thornbury's United Reformed Church  
October 16th at 7.30pm.**

Tickets cost £18 (to include wine or juice)  
Available by contacting [armstrongartsgroup-thornbury@gmail.com](mailto:armstrongartsgroup-thornbury@gmail.com) or phone 01454 850933

Programme includes:-

- Marcello – an oboe concerto, the most beautiful Adagios of the Baroque period.
- Piazzolla Oblivion – Astor Piazzolla is the world's foremost composer of Tango music. This hauntingly atmospheric piece was written in 1982.
- Bach Concerto for two violins –
- Piazzolla's Autumn
- Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Autumn

*Save November 27th too, when Michael Lunts will perform his musical "Christmas Crackers" show at the Methodist Church Hall.*

## **TORTWORTH PARISH MATTERS**

The latest Parish Meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> September at the Tortworth Estate Office.

The main topics of discussion were as follows:-

**Leyhill Prison** – HMP Leyhill Governor, Steve Hodson, attended the meeting to provide an update on what is happening at the prison. They have recently been dealing with a coronavirus outbreak but cases were starting to fall. The Governor also provided more information on the proposed additional residential units at the prison and listened to concerns about any impact that the expansion could have on the local community.

**Churchwood Quarry Liaison** – Members noted that planning consent would be granted on the proposed quarry extension shortly and that there will be a temporary road closure when the link is made between the two quarries. Timescales were unknown.

**Local Planning Matters** – Cllr John O'Neill provided an update on developments at Falfield, Charfield and the proposed Charfield Railway Station.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021** at The Tortworth Estate Office at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome to the meeting.

*Roland Brown, Clerk*

[roland.brown@tortworthestate.com](mailto:roland.brown@tortworthestate.com) Tel: 01454 260268

## **Falfield WI**



Gilda Ludwell, our President, welcomed the members to the first meeting in the Village Hall since March 2020. Although we could not sing, Jenny Pain played Jerusalem.

After the business side of the meeting Gilda introduced the Speaker, Pete Chaplain, whose talk was entitled "A Job with Bite".

Pete Chaplain spent 20 years as a Police Dog Handler. He gave a very animated talk on his work and the various dogs he had worked with ranging from a very nervous "Dena", who had to be cajoled into doing her job, to an aggressive "Major" who would have a go at anything or anyone, and sniffer dogs to seek out bombs.

The members were enthralled with his many descriptions of the jobs and his sound effects (growling and snarling)

The meeting ended with everyone having a cup of tea and catching up with friends.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Please come along and meet us.

## The Hut

For most of those travelling through Falfield towards Bristol, the sight of a clump of bushes just south of the graveyard of the former chapel at Mount Pleasant is just another clump of greenery at the side of the road; what many may not know is that this is the site of 'The Hut' – a former centre of village life. The hut was a corrugated iron building erected in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century on land donated by the Earl of Ducie, whose estate covered most on the eastern side of what is now the A38.

Along with the field in which it stands, it was used for village events, shows, races, fairs and other recreational purposes. The building was erected as a YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) room where the local youths could meet together and socialise. It was well used in its time through the 1930s, 1940s and into the 1950s.



Such buildings were originally constructed during the First World War by the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) to offer canteen facilities to troops as well as facilities for rest and recreation. Their wartime mission was signified by the Red Triangle emblem showing that their aim was to nourish a man's mind, body and spirit. Many were constructed near base camps, on the front lines or at railway stations – wherever large numbers of troops were likely to congregate. (There was one at Charfield, near the former station, which served as their village hall for many years.) Although Falfield may not have been adjacent to an army base or training camp, it is very likely that many troops passed through the village in WW1 just as they did later in WW2.

After the Great War, young men met there, reportedly several nights a week for darts, table tennis, a chat, a sing-song and general companionship. Joyce Rosser, who grew up in Whitfield in the 1930s, remembered her brother, Ray, and his friends Derek Sansum and Bernard Fuller forming a little band, which practised at The Hut on club nights and were even called upon to provide the music for dances when outside bands were not available.



The Hut, beloved venue of many social activities.

Whist-drives, socials, pantomimes and plays were held there as well as dances. In the summer, an annual village fair was held in the field behind The Hut. Joyce recalls there being dodgems, swing-boats and Noah's Ark (roundabout of 'galloping' animals) amongst the amusements available. Candy floss and toffee apples could be purchased, which were special treats.

Of all the pastimes, Joyce's favourite was dancing. The 'hops' at the Hut were considerably enlivened by the arrival of the American GIs at the Red Cross Hospital in Tortworth Park (now the site of Leyhill Prison). Besides bringing chewing gum and nylon stockings to our locality, they brought with them the dance called

'The Jitterbug' which was the precursor of Rock and Roll. Joyce enjoyed this greatly. Sometimes she sang with the band who might have come from as far away as Bristol.

During WW2, The Hut served as a First Aid Post in connection with Air Raid Precaution as well as being the venue for concerts presented by the Falfield Dramatic and Operatic Society (an amateur group which existed mainly to lift spirits for the duration of the War). It was still the venue for village parties and social activities and apparently had an excellent dance floor but by the start of the 1950s, the increase in traffic on the A38 made it less attractive as the road became dangerous and there was no area for parking. The village school had long closed and the 'schoolroom' was used mainly for activities connected with the church but it provided a more suitable venue than its predecessor, so the 'village hall' moved to the centre of the village and The Hut fell into disuse.

## Your magazine: How to send copy or adverts for inclusion in '5 Alive':

### NEWS COPY:

#### Where?

- News items should be sent to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, GL12 8DJ Tel. 01454 260364 Email: kay.rea@btinternet.com

#### When?

- Copy date is **strictly before midnight on the 19th of each month** (but the earlier we receive material the better).

#### In what form?

- Please submit all copy by e-mail (attachments should be in **Word or Publisher** format, **not** PDF). (We reserve the right of the editor to edit, and you may find that small changes are made for the sake of space etc)
- If you want to submit an advertising poster or similar, black and white is preferable as it reproduces more clearly.
- Charities wishing to publicise events should quote their charity number.**

### ADVERTISING:

- The deadline for inclusion of advertising in 5 Alive is the 12th of the month preceding publication.**
- Enquiries about advertising should be directed to Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield, Nr Wotton-under-Edge, Glos, GL12 8DJ. Tel. 01454 260364 Email: kay.rea@btinternet.com

Charges per issue are as follows:

	Business Rates	Rates for businesses within the benefice
Full page:	£56	£40
Half page:	£28	£20
Quarter page:	£18	£15
Eighth of page:	£10	£8

**There is a 10% discount for advertisers paying for a year's advertising in advance and 5% for those paying for 6 months' advertising in advance**

Cheques should be made out to '**Benefice Newsletter**' and sent to Kay Rea (as above).



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The advertisement features a colorful illustration of various animals including a rooster, a blue chicken, a white rabbit, a black cat, a brown dog, and a brown horse, set against a background of green hills, trees, and a bright sun.