

1944—2024
80th Anniversary of the
Normandy Landings



the **DYDDI** digest

Junr—583



RUBBISH DATES

All Bins – 6th & 20th June

Food Waste— 13th & 27th June

2024 Calendar now on line

www.didmartonvillagehall.co.uk/#Dyddi

DIARY DATES

4th—National Cheese Day

6th—D Day, 80th Anniversary

12th—WOW at The King's Arms

14th—World Blood Donor Day

14th—Rural Cinema

16th Father's Day

21st—Summer Solstice

21st—International Yoga Day

23rd—Women in Engineering Day

26th—WOW at the King's Arms



LOCAL PLACES TO STAY

Didmarton - Self-contained 1 bedroom annex with parking for one car.

Contact Emma 07702 693100 (Photos <https://abnb.me/ZmWzKKHPIBb> please call to book).

Didmarton - The Kings Arms, 01454 238245 <https://butcombe.com/the-kings-arms-gloucestershire/>

To include your property email details to - editor@dyddi.co.uk

A small contribution for inclusion is appreciated.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Phoenix, Tetbury Surgery – 01666 502303
Police – to report incidents – 101
Tolsey Surgery, Sherston – 01666 840270
Tetbury Hospital – 01666 502336
Oldbury Garage – 01454 537016
Dyddi Editor – 07833 433337 / editor@dyddi.co.uk
Parish Council, John Hammond – 01454 238373
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS –
didhallbookings@gmail.com



BABYSITTING CONTACTS

Elizabeth Darbyshire – 07702 693100
Henry Yandell - 07719 304445
Francesca Goodwill - 07483 839082/07972783679
Esmé Kay 07850 247096

A FREE VISIT TO

WORCESTER LODGE

BY KIND PERMISSION OF BADMINTON ESTATE.

Didmarton and surrounding villagers are invited to visit Worcester Lodge and enjoy its interior and exterior views for just a few hours on

SUNDAY 14th JULY 2024—2pm—5pm

Historian and Badminton House Guide Matthew Butler will conduct two short talks at 2.30pm and 3.30pm outlining some of the history of the property.

Cream Teas will be available at just £5.00

Please come and join us.

D-DAY 80

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings (and associated airborne operations) on 6th June 1944, by the Allied Forces, known as Operation Overlord. The seaborne invasion, Codenamed Operation Neptune, remains the largest seaborne invasion in history.

The term D-Day is used by the Armed Forces to refer to the beginning of an operation. The 'D' stands for 'Day', meaning it's actually short for 'Day-Day'

On page 5 you will see how Didmarton is commemorating the bravery and sacrifice that lead to a successful operation and ultimately the liberation of Europe.

Running from 6pm—7pm and the organisers have done a superb job in creating a fabulous family event and I am sure much fun will be had be all.

All contributions should be sent before the 15th of each month—anyone can offer a contribution, go on, express your inner writer even more on online:-

www.didmartonvillagehall.co.uk/#Dyddi

ROXZANNE FOX-ROBERTS / editor@dyddi.co.uk

Taken from what is thought to be the 7th century origin of Didmarton's name Dyddimaertun, believed to mean the boundary (maere) farm (tun) of a Mr Dyddi



Dear Residents of Didmarton,

Thank you for coming out to support Imogen's Plant and Cake sale in aid of Shelter. We have totalled up all the donations and sent £299.58 to Shelter. Imogen worked hard for the sale and we were overwhelmed by the support from the village. It really is a very special community.

Many thanks,

The Neilson's

D DAY 80 - Thursday June 6th

Didmarton Village Hall & Playing Fields from 6pm

Plans are progressing for this village celebration to commemorate the beginning of the liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation 80 years ago.

National **FISH AND CHIP DAY** has been moved forward to this day in recognition of its role on the day of the invasion. The significance was that invading soldiers penetrating inland, on spotting soldiers ahead of them (or behind bushes) would shout 'FISH' and if the response was not 'CHIPS' they would possibly be the enemy!

We have arranged for **POPPY & BOO**, outside caterers, to provide Fish and Chips from 18.30. To gauge numbers for food sales on the evening, food and drink tickets are now on sale at £10 for adults, £5 for ages 6 to 12 with 5 and under getting fish fingers 'n chips for free. The ticket covers the cost of the food and one drink (glass of wine/pint of beer or soft drink) – so they are quite a bargain. Listen out for a knock on the door from ticket sellers! Or..... Private Message Alan Townsend, Emma Kay, or Helen Russell on the Dyddi chat Whatsapp

You can just turn up and buy food or drinks on the evening, but we do encourage people to get their ticket if they want to guarantee a fish supper.

The Cricket Club are arranging a friendly/local match for the evening starting at 18.00. Please come along – you may get a chance to join in!

There will be games for young and old to enjoy – whether it be taking part or cheering on.

A BOUNCY CASTLE arrives late afternoon to keep the energetic younger element occupied well into the evening.

At the bar will be wines, ales, ciders and lagers as well as soft drinks of various sorts.

In the hall we hope to be showing video footage from the era or maybe live streaming what is happening at other events around the country.

Music from the 1940's will be playing – if you can Jive or Lindy Hop then feel free to give us a demonstration.

BONFIRE/BEACON IS BEING LIT AT 21.30p.m. just after darkness falls.

Come & join us—THIS EVENT CAN NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN



Churches of Gloucestershire

A talk based on her book by

Nicola Coldstream

Wednesday 12th June, 7pm (doors open 6.30pm)

Didmarton Village Hall

in aid of repairs to the bell and clock at St Lawrence's Church



Tickets £10

Cash/card bar

Some tickets available on the door, or please use our QR code to book.

LEST WE FORGET—A POIGNANT COINCIDENCE

My Mum was a volunteer in Oxfam until she was 90. In her late eighties, whilst serving in the shop, she was chatting to her Italian friend, Olga about the war and how she had lost her first fiancée, Frank. Olga said that she had also lost her first fiancée, Pedro. My father decided to do some research and wrote to the Historical branch of the Ministry of Defence. This is the letter that he received in reply.

Dear Mr Ross,

HM S/M Thorn sailed on her last patrol from Haifa 21 July 1942 to operate off Tobruk. She signalled from that area, 29th July after which nothing more was heard from her. Post war records show that she sank the Italian ship, Monviso off Tobruk, 3rd August, and then, presumably moved towards her second patrol area off Cape Matapan. Italian reports indicate she was attacked on the night of 5th August 1942 about 30 miles SW of Gavdo Island (off Crete) by Italian Torpedo boat Papa and sunk with no survivors.

Two old ladies all those years later who were the best of friends, doesn't it just prove how senseless war is.

Anonymous



The May 100 Club draw took place on May 9th at Toddler group held in the Village Hall. The prize winners were:-

1st Prize £20 Judy Ryan

2nd Prize £15 Carole Flewellyn

3rd Prize £10 Chris Barski

4th Prize £10 Anwen Whitham

Sue and Sue

This was the first draw of our 100 Club 'year'

Thank you to everyone who has joined us for another year and welcome to those who have joined for the first time. We, along with the DVHCC, value your support a great deal as the money raised goes towards a range of projects in the village. As a result of that support we have been able to increase the prize money by £5 a month. We now have two £15 prizes making a monthly total of £60 prize money.

The June draw will take place on June 6th at the D Day 80 celebrations and to mark the occasion we will add an extra prize of £20 making the prize money up to £80 for that month.

Here's to a successful winning year ahead for many of you.

Sue & Sue

D-DAY Snippet

It was impossible to hide the coming attack from the German intelligence. The allies therefore ran operations to confuse them on when, and where, it would take place.

They leaked fake plans, set up fake camps and sent fake coded radio messages. On the morning of the 6 June, the Allied forces bombed Calais to give the illusion they were readying for an attack.

SPEEDWATCH w/c 29th April SUMMARY

Our last speed watch week took place between April 29th and May 2nd.

We were able to do all 8 of our planned sessions. Once again the numbers recorded remain low but those that were caught speeding were well over the limit doing 40+ and the highest being 52.

It is interesting to see that the highest number speeding was in the early evening session. Less traffic but higher speeds!

During the summer months we will continue to do some later evening sessions to show that there is never a safe time to speed through our village.

We were again supported by the mobile speed camera van on Friday May 3rd which was by St. Lawrence's during the morning and afternoon. There was also a large police presence in the village on the morning of May 6th.

Sue and the Speedwatch Team

Date	Site	Total Pos ID's	Highest Speed & Time	Comments	Total Vehicles
29/4 am 8:30 - 9:00	Church	2	38mph @ 8:45		146
29/4 pm 17:00-17:30	Village Hall	4	52mph @17:26	also 2 @ 41mph	109
30/4 am 10:30-11:00	Church	4	38mph @10:38		143
30/4 pm 17:45-18:15	Village Hall	3	38mph @18:13		187
1/5 am 8:30 - 9:00	Village Hall	5	47mph @ 8:53	also 1 @ 40mph	205
1/5 pm 18:30-19:00	Village Hall	9	46mph @18:39	also 2@45mph and 1@41mph	69
2/5 am 8:00-8:30	Village Hall	5	47mph @8:25	also 1@40mph and 2@41mph	227
2/5 pm 17:00-17:30	Church	4	45mph @17:05		74
Totals		36	Highest 52	14 @ 40+ mph	1160



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

CDC: This round of parish and CDC meetings have mostly been of the Annual General (AGM) variety, and therefore largely procedural – choosing/ confirming officials and confirming policies etc. This has meant that I haven't been able to ask my planned questions relating to Publica at full council, but instead I have written to the Chief Executive to chase the promised programme information (especially costs) for the transition back to CDC. There is also a full council briefing on the subject later this month, so hopefully I will have more detail in my next report. I also asked why there was so much colour printing of internal documents at CDC – there are large savings to be made for B/W prints and reducing print generally.

Overview & Scrutiny reviewed actions relating to the 'Ecological Emergency update' (see also below), and adoption of the 'Asset Management Strategy'. Both were noted.

Value for money? A resident contacted me recently, and as part of a wider discussion asked if I considered the services he received gave value for money for his council tax. He lives in a rural area, as most people in my ward do, and to put his question into context his tax bill is £300 a month which is a third of his state pension. However, what does he get; no mains sewage; no mains gas; no public transport; green bin collections at an additional (premium) price; and a dangerous road with constant, enormous commercial traffic running through it too fast on a road that's much too narrow. He could have added: pothole riddled roads; limited adult social care; a squeezed police force who may not respond to 'minor' crimes; poorly funded education; and little prospect of being looked after when you are old! Like most taxes, everyone shares the cost burden of services, even if they don't directly use them, for example education; the planning department isn't fully covered by planning application fees; there is a legal team, a call centre for service queries, an admin requirement to cover general processing, and of course a management overhead.

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The real question is are these teams run as efficiently as possible and are they working effectively?

Having been in my District Councillor role for a year now, I have come into contact with many CDC officers, all of whom have struck me as very knowledgeable, dedicated, and hard working. However, I don't know if they are working effectively. Judging by the number of emails I receive covering information on 'training', conferences, recognition awards, and other non-essential subjects, I suspect the situation is as it is across most public bodies, and is that they aren't.

The situation isn't helped by the administration who have been in control for 5 years, in which time they have declared: A climate emergency; a housing emergency and an ecological emergency to name but three. I'm not debating if these things are appropriate for a district council to fix, but when everything is deemed an emergency, it is impossible to prioritise. The result is resources are stretched too thinly, and as evidenced by quarterly performance figures many of the workstreams are not achieving success. Just this week in O&S we were asked to support a request to prioritise additional resource for the Ecological Emergency work – but is this to be ranked ahead of the Housing, or Climate Emergency work?? It puts the Cabinet and officers in an impossible situation, so is it best to focus limited resource and do one thing well, or be spread too thinly and fail to achieve anything tangible?

Roads continue to form a large section in my inbox. The public are correctly addressing concerns directly to GCC (they operate the road infrastructure) but are copying me to support my drive to get improvements. In my own small claims case the court offered an arbitration service which I accepted, but GCC wish to go to court to defend themselves, notwithstanding the additional cost burden. I guess they are worried about the implications if they lose the case, where their only defence is the Highways Act inspection requirement. The case will probably go quiet for a while, while we await a court date.

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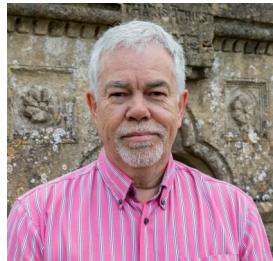
River pollution: I am meeting with the area manager of Severn Trent at the end of May to discuss the Avoning sewage issues. Locals may have noticed many tankers attending the site for a few weeks in early May – this was due to a failure of one of the processing units, which then required the waste to be taken away to avoid it going into the stream.

Councillor Tony Slater

Cotswold District Council,

Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avoning

email: Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk Tel: 07793669930



DIDMARTON VILLAGE HALL & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

("the DVHCC")

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting of the DVHCC will be held at Didmarton Village Hall on:
Tuesday 18 June 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

Meeting open to all residents of Didmarton aged over 18.

AGM AGENDA

- To approve the Accounts for the y/e 31.03.24
- Approval of minutes of 2023 AGM
- Election of Officers
 - Re-election of Chair
 - Appointment of new Treasurer
 - Appointment of new Secretary
- AOB

Please note:

Members of the DVHCC are representatives from active clubs or groups within the village and nominated co-optees. The first meeting of the new DVHCC will take place immediately following the AGM.



DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Friday 14th June

Doors open at 6.30pm for cash bar

Film starts at 7.30pm

£5 entry

Wicked Little Letters (2023) - Comedy, Mystery, History, Thriller

Cert: 15 – Run time: 1 hr 42 min.

Rotten Tomatoes audience rating: 91%

Starring: Jessie Buckley, Olivia Colman, Malachi Kirby, Timothy Spall, Jason Watkins

Director: Thea Sharrock

A 1920s English seaside town bears witness to a farcical and occasionally sinister scandal in this riotous mystery comedy. Based on a stranger than fiction true story, **WICKED LITTLE LETTERS** follows two neighbors: deeply conservative local Edith Swan (Olivia Colman) and rowdy Irish migrant Rose Gooding (Jessie Buckley). When Edith and fellow residents begin to receive wicked letters full of unintentionally hilarious profanities, foul-mouthed Rose is charged with the crime. The anonymous letters prompt a national uproar, and a trial ensues. However, as the town's women -- led by Police Officer Gladys Moss (Anjana Vasan) -- begin to investigate the crime themselves, they suspect that something is amiss, and Rose may not be the culprit after all.

Please make contact if planning to attend to ensure enough seats put out!

(email or text) jenny.body1@gmail.com 07875 406637

HARD WATER? EASY FIX!



Hard water creates problems with your plumbing systems due to the build up of limescale in pipes. It can also reduce the efficiency of your boiler and domestic appliances, eg kettles, washing machines, dishwashers. Unfortunately, our area of the country suffers from hard water because it contains high amounts of minerals, specifically calcium and magnesium.

Why does it matter to me? Considering the average household in the UK accumulates approximately 70kg of limescale annually, hard water can be quite a big deal. Whilst limescale is visible in some of your appliances you can't see the build up within the pipes around your home. The damage it can cause to those more costly appliances have an impact on your finances as well as general inconvenience.

What can be done about it? Thankfully there is a solution! By installing a water softener this removes the harmful minerals as the water comes into your home (or business) from the source. Softened water extends the lifespan and efficiency of household appliances and is gentler on the skin and hair.

If you're interested in installing a water softener (or some form of water treatment in your home), please contact us at IND Plumbing & Heating Ltd. We'd love you to check out our new, dedicated website for more information www.indwatersofteners.co.uk where you can fill out an enquiry form or request a free water testing kit. Alternatively give us a call on 01666 503632 to chat to one of the team.



LEIGHTERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



ANZAC Day 2024

On Sunday 28th April, we remembered the ANZACs - the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps - who were based at Leighterton during World War One, in a service at Leighterton Cemetery. Children from Leighterton Primary School joined the Royal British Legion, Air Cadets, Badminton Benefice, Nailsworth Brass Band, villagers and special guests to call the roll and lay sprigs on rosemary on the graves of the airmen who died. Sprigs of rosemary are used as rosemary is synonymous with remembrance and commemoration. Its association with remembrance has carried through to modern times; in literature and folklore it is an emblem of remembrance as, in ancient times, the plant was supposed to strengthen memory.

Twenty seven men, from Australia and New Zealand, were sent to Leighterton in 1917 and they were based at Bowldown Farm. In the First World War, the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) had four training squadrons based in Gloucestershire, Numbers 5 and 6 Training Squadrons AFC at Minchinhampton and Numbers 7 and 8 Training Squadrons AFC at Leighterton. Those four AFC squadrons formed the 1st Training Wing AFC with its headquarters and AFC hospital in Tetbury. The men were given just six weeks basic training and passed a written exam in aeronautics, Morse code and the theory of artillery. After this, they would fly just 12 times with an instructor, before going solo. The planes they flew were Sopwith Pups and Sopwith Camels.

Sadly, all twenty seven service men were killed and twenty six of them are buried in the cemetery in Leighterton. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission looks after the graves and the children of Leighterton are very proud to be part of the service to remember the sacrifices they made for us.

The children in Haymead and Ozleworth classes learn about the ANZACs in their local history study and many of them come along to the annual service.

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We do have some spaces in some of our year groups and if you would like to find out more, please have a look at our website at: www.leighterton.com or contact Claire, in our school office (01666 890273), to arrange a conven-



The New Zealand flag was placed in front of the wreaths.

Crabapple Collecting for a Great Cause!

Every autumn friends and family of Sherston CE Primary and the wider community don their wellies, grab a basket and collect crabapples for a great cause! Planet-friendly condiment makers, Tracklements, then transform the community's spare crabapples into their delicious English Crabapple Jelly, donating 50p for every kg of crabapples collected to Sherston Primary and local youth groups, and a further 25p from the sale of every jar sold nationwide.

In April the team from Tracklements presented a cheque for £947 to Sherston school and local youth groups for the funds raised from the autumn crabapple collection and last year's jar sales. On behalf of everyone at Sherston Primary, a huge thank you to Tracklements for this generous donation, the Friends of Sherston School for coordinating the collection and everyone in the community who collected crabapples!



YOUR MIND & BODY MATTERS

This month I thought I would sell the benefits of a Fitbit or an Apple Watch or another brand for that matter as long as it tells you your heart rate (pulse) and your blood pressure, along with your BMR (your Basal Metabolic Rate) which is the number of calories you burn as your body performs life-sustaining function.

I was never bothered about "devices" and was bought a Fitbit but gave it away. Then a close friend in the village (most of you would know her) realised her pulse was dropping to 32 far too often, if she was an extreme athlete then this would be fine but she isn't. She does a lot of gardening, decorating and walks the dog daily, isn't overweight and eats a really good diet. We never see her sitting down so we were all surprised when she was told they thought she had a heart attack last year without knowing. Without her Apple Watch showing her pulse dropping and her blood pressure, that was usually on the low side, was now too high, it may have been too late. She is a proud wearer of a pacemaker and we can all breath a sigh of relief.

This tale is to encourage us to again take responsibility for our own health, keep a check on our own blood pressure, pulse also how quickly our pulse returns to a resting pulse after exercise which is really important as well as our cholesterol. We owe it to ourselves and our families.

I'm off to buy mine and no I'm not on commission.

Dementia Fundraising Afternoon

I'd like to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the Dementia afternoon on the 2nd May, my usual suspects baked yummy cakes so a big thank you to all of you.

Lots of you came and had an afternoon catching up over tea and cake and some who couldn't make it still donated, thank you so much.

We made the grand total of **£575** which is truly amazing.

June 2004 AS 'TWAS 20 YEARS AGO

Didmarton as it is recorded in the 'DYDDI digest'

(This magazine has been published every month since No. 1 in October 1975.)

By June of 2004 the Dd was spreading its wings and included 'Socially Sopworth' and, as an insert, 'Leighterton News'. The former told us of a garden party to be held in Badminton, with Her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort in attendance, and requested donations for the Sopworth cake stall which would be there. Leighterton parish was providing a Tombola stall, but was not to include bottles! Pupils from the school had been filmed by Harlech TV at the launch of the 'Numeracy Trail' in Westonbirt Arboretum. Elsewhere in the area 'Tea Dancing' was available at the Dolphins Hall, Tetbury, Sherston's U13 footballers were seeking new players, a charity 'Race Night' was to be held at the Holford Arms, a fund-raising night for the 'Children's Hospice South West' was on 12th June in Leighterton and, as part of the 60th anniversary of D-Day, a special Service of Remembrance and Celebration was to be held in Sherston.

In Didmarton there was much evidence that the Kings Arms was a thriving centre of community life: A letter from Cyrille Portier and family thanked everyone who had attended their leaving party after four years at the KA; the Rook Supper was planned for 4th June and there would be a 'Wine Maker Gourmet Supper'. A note from further back in time: "The Kings Arms is an 18th century coaching inn, the licence for which dates back to 1745. It was originally leased from the Beaufort family for 100 years at a rent of six pence per year (2½p)." The KA Ladies Darts Team had had a very successful season with two trophies coming back for display. Quiz nights at the KA were, however, coming to an end after many fun-filled nights and extraordinary raffle prizes gathered by Jean Glew.

Jean was busy also with the MAD Club who held a Cypriot delicacies feast, were about to have a talk about home and personal security from the Constabulary, and had been asked to contribute to a recording of memories of World War II. The Club had a fully booked trip to Clarence House organised. The lively Didmarton Playgroup was to hold a car boot sale on the playing field in July, and had been nature walking to Worcester Lodge in search of 'mini beasts'.



Next Meeting
Tuesday 4th June
Speaker is Andrew Jeanes
'Growing Clematis'

Cuttings

There isn't a lot that Andrew Tolman doesn't know about stumperies, and we all knew a lot more ourselves by the end of the May meeting. Andrew illustrated his talk with slides of stumperies and shady gardens he has created, accompanied by a cornucopia of favourite ferns, snowdrops and shade-loving perennials. In response to blank looks when more unusual gardens or plants were mentioned, he exhorted us to "get out more"! An entertaining and well-informed speaker.

On 4th June, we shall be welcoming our guest speaker, clematis expert, Andrew Jeanes. As Sales & Marketing Manager with Guernsey Clematis, Andrew is ideally placed to answer any questions you may have on clematis in particular and climbers in general. Just the ticket for a time of year when early summer colour is starting to pop in our gardens (well, we hope so anyway!).



Results are out for our Spring Bulb Competition. Thanks to Liz Cooper for galvanizing us into submitting over 20 online entries which were shown at the meeting. Alliums by Chris Frost and Tulips by Jane Milne were voted first and second respectively by a country mile. Jane can also take credit for achieving third place too!

Clippings

Club meetings will remain throughout 2024 on the first Tuesday of each month at the British School Room, Cliff Road, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start.

Plant ID, plant sales, raffle, gardeners' question time, jobs in the garden for the month and friendly chat over homemade refreshments.

New members from Sherston and surrounding villages are always welcome.

The cost remains the same as last year: £15 single, £25 joint, U18's free.

For membership form and full programme contact our Secretary:

sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com Also, please don't forget to rejoin if you haven't already done so. Rachael will be on hand at the next meeting to collect payments (in a friendly, non-threatening manner....).

Sherston Gardening Club now has a web presence on the sherston.net website and can be found in the drop down menu. It will be updated with the monthly newsletter, programme and information about meetings and visits. Don't forget to check in with our Facebook page as well.

Community

By now, our two Blooming Sherston troughs will be displaying soft, early summer colours, building up to a crescendo later in the year. (If this doesn't happen, sack the gardeners!).

SGC is also running the Plant Sale on Boules Day so contributions (help as well as plants) will be warmly welcomed. Just let us know at the next meeting.

If you feel there are parts of the village that would benefit from an injection of colour, drop us a line.

Calendar 2024

22nd May -Horticultural tour of Lackham Campus, Wiltshire College (tbc)

4th June—'Growing Clematis and other Climbers' with Andrew Jeanes

Late June tbc—Summer Social Evening at The Village Hall Field

August—No Meeting but possibly a garden visit tbc

3rd September—'Garden Design for Nature and Wellbeing' with Rachel Emous-Austin

1st October—'Growing a Cut Flower Garden' with Rachel Golding Barrett

3rd December—'The Victorian Gardener' (with Christmas theme) with Francis Burroughes

J.J'S GARDENING BLOG

Time to prune back early flowering shrubs -except Daphnes- to new growth. Create an open centre and remove any crossing branches. Deadhead tulips, by snapping off the seed head and allow the leaves and stems to die down putting energy back into the bulbs. They may not flower again, so for a guaranteed display replant next season with new bulbs. The Appledorn family do repeat flower.

If you haven't already put in supports for your sweetpeas do so now. I prefer hazel to bamboo, I think it blends in better, but it needs replacing after a season or two as it rots.

Buy some sunflower seeds for the children to grow. Make it into a fun competition for them.

Attend to the compost bin. Lay some plastic sheet out near the container and fork the compost from the container onto it. Give it a good mix up and then return it back to the container.

Sew courgettes and pumpkins in a sunny position in rich soil, they are hungry feeders, so feed and water them very regularly. Buy small plants of broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower, and plant out when warm in late June or July. Buy a pot of parsley from the supermarket it will contain about thirty plants. Divide the pot into four just by gently pulling apart and plant one group by the kitchen, one in the vegetable area and two more as gifts. An absolute bargain.

As the temperature and light levels increase now, start to feed houseplants and increase watering once the soil is dry. Don't overwater always check first and possibly choose one day a week to do that and preferably put the water in a saucer.

Any chance of a cold snap, rush out and cover your tender young bedding plants and vegetables with a horticultural fleece and remove it as soon as possible.

Be on slug patrol with whatever system works for you. Frogs take lots of slugs and slugs and snails stay away from many grey leaved plants, such as nepeta, salvia, and others hellebore, hardy geranium, astrantia, penstemon, heuchera, sedums. There is a big choice of plants that slugs leave alone. They also don't like dry soil, so water first thing.

If you are given a young tree choose one that is not going to end up the size of an oak or beech: a cherry, a pear, a Japanese maple a Rowan would be good. The newly discovered woolumi pine, which was thought extinct, is not suitable for a domestic garden, it is a forest tree.

SUMMER SOLSTICE

The Science. The summer solstice occurs at the moment the earth's tilt toward the sun is at a maximum. Therefore, on the day of the summer solstice, the sun appears at its highest elevation with a noontime position that changes very little for several days before and after the summer solstice. Plus the days start getting shorter.

Beliefs. Midsummer has been observed for thousands of years. Many people believe that a 'time between times' marks a thinning of the gateway between the physical and spiritual realms. Dusk and dawn represent a time between times as the day has not ended nor has it begun, the ebb and flow of the tides are also considered as such.

The Summer Solstice marks one of the 'thinnest' veils of these time between times, when rites and rituals are at their most powerful. To many Pagans it marks the marriage of God and Goddess and sees their union as the force to create the fruits of the harvest. It is a reminder for us all to turn inward to find the nourishment and strength to grow and evolve.

Many midsummer traditions focus on reconnecting with nature. So, it is no surprise that trees feature heavily in both ancient and modern festivities.

The oak tree is at the centre of midsummer celebrations. The Celtic word for oak, duir, means doorway, and oak, as the King of the Forest, is seen as a doorway to both the mystical realms and the new, darker cycle of the year that is about to begin. Mistletoe, long believed to have healing and fertility powers, is thought to harness the soul of the tree and be at its strongest when it grows on oaks at midsummer.

The beech tree, brightening the forest with its fresh lime green leaves, is seen as the Queen of the Forest and consort to the oak king. To the druids, it symbolised ancient wisdom and it was the sacred wood of the summer solstice. In folklore, it is believed that if you write a wish on a beech twig, then bury it, your wish will come true as the twig decays.

So fill the house with flowers, light a bonfire (OK a BBQ) feast, dance and laugh while the sun is shining (poetic licence) and food (and drink) is plentiful.

THE DYDDI DIGEST TEASER NO.3

The Dd Brain Teaser No.4

Given the initials and number of letters,
what do they stand for?

WATCHES

W 5

O T N 2 3 5

R O 5 6

D 3

S 5

RULERS

Q E 5 9

S 6

Y 9

H C M 2 3 4

M 5

KEYS

F D 5 4

C 3

W 5

M 5

I 5

TRADITIONAL FOODS

BAJ 5 3 3

R B 5 4

P P 5 7

P C 5 8

B P 8 7

IN THE KITCHEN

S 5

C B 8 5

H 5

P O S 5 2 4

O G 4 6

Answers to DdBT No.3 May24

L Candle Beacon Twilight Footlights

Aurora Borealis G Spectacles Sherry

Plate Double Glazing Mirrored C

Dustbin Jewelry Box Egg Carton Car

Boot

Vacuum Flask C Calculator Lap Top

Human Brain Enigma Deep Blue T

Card Times Table Mountain Periodic

Kitchen

(Compiled by David Michel)

SUDOKU by Neil Fozard

For the uninitiated

Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9

EASY !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the May quizzes:

‘Easy’

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

‘Not so Easy’

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

WINE-ING ON

The Secret-ish Sommelier is taking a moment of light reflection with a cuppa, but will be back next month. **May Answers** 1. Riesling 2. Rhone 3. A Valpolicella made from on mats in the sun grapes dried and shrivelled in the sun 4. Lake Garda 5. Gruner Veltliner 6. Sauvignon Blanc 7. 5 Years 8. Retsina 9. The influence a plot of land has on the wine it produces.

VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It is unlikely that you will have been unaware of the signs popping up around the villages with the demand: 'Stop Lime Down'.

Last Sunday in church, we were reflecting on the words from St John's Gospel, 'I call you friends'. And one of the most important aspects of friendship, is the avoidance of judgement. Friends give advice, and say what they think, but they do not condemn.

The prospect of a solar panel farm covering quite a large area of countryside near us, has understandably raised emotions. It also has the potential to create divisions.

As a community, it behoves us to listen to each other and to try and understand the reasons people have for making decisions.

I love the countryside, and know how it restores my inner being, and I believe that all human activity should be sympathetic to the spiritual character of the land.

But, there are reasons that people have, for supporting a solar park. Arguments about how best to be custodians of the land in a mixed economy.

I leave you with a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins which reminds us that this debate is nothing new:

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;

It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil

Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?

Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;

And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;

And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil

Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went

Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—

Because the Holy Ghost over the bent

World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

Have a lovely June,

Richard

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

revrichardthomson@gmail.com

SUNDAY SERVICES

Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
2nd June	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	lay led
Trinity 1	9.30am	Hawkesbury	Parish Communion	Rev R Thomson
	1115am	Didmarton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Sopworth	Evening Prayer	LAY LED
	6pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
9th June	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion Prayer book	P Cheeseman
Trinity 2	9.30am	Leighton	Holy Communion Prayer book	Rev J Wilson
	1115am	Little Badminton	Matins	Rev J Wilson
	6pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	Lay led
16th June	8.30am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	Rev R Thomson
Trinity 3	1000 am	Hawkesbury School	Family service	Rev R Thomson
Father's Day	1115am	Sopworth	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Acton Turville	Evening Prayer	Lay led
23th June	9.30am	Lasborough	HC and Baptism	Rev R Thomson
Birth of John the Baptist	1115am	Little Badminton	Matins with HC	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Hawkesbury	FOSM Evensong	Preacher Rev P Settafield
30th June Peter and Paul	1115	St Arild's, Oldbury	Matins	Rev R Thomson

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted:
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

The first four stanzas of "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon. It was first published in *The Times* in September 1914. It was also published in Binyon's book "The Winnowing Fan". Although written for WWI it is now claimed as a tribute to all casualties of war, regardless of state and the fourth especially is often referred to as 'Ode to Remembrance'





Our Great God

He is working out his purpose for the world including us. ISA 45 v12 says "Thus says the lord that created the Heavens; God Himself that formed the Earth and made it... to be inherited, I am the Lord; and there is none else".

So we rightly sing:- He made the stars to shine, he made the rolling seas, he made the mountains high and he made me.

How do you envisage God? What is your concept of the true God who in Jesus died and now lives today for you? Have you really stopped to consider him or have you replaced him with worthless idols such as money, sport etc., that will ultimately fail you?

Our great and awesome God who created and sustains the universe and us has revealed his true nature! He speaks to us in his words, the bible and through his son the Lord Jesus Crist and by his Holy Spirit to believers. He has not spoken in secret but says, "Look to me and be saved"

Our great God is the saviour God who has:-

1. Made us for Himself. He says "You shall have no other Gods Beside Me". I am the beginning God said "Let us make man in our own image" and so he made man to be like him and so enjoy unity and fellowship with him; However, through our sin our relationship has been broken.
2. He now draws us to Himself. Because he loves us and desires a renewal of our relationship, he came to seek and save us by Jesus, giving us eyes to behold the beauty of the Lord in him and holds out his hand to draw us back into fellowship with himself
3. He besses us by giving himself. To those who come to him by faith in Jesus, he imparts his mercy, grace and every spiritual blessing as well as his abiding presence
4. He will consummate all things to Himself. He will exercise his sovereign power over all creation showing his abhorance of evil in judgement and establishing a new heaven and Earth in which righteousness dwells and believers will reign with him

The great day of the lord is coming soon! Will you be ready when our Lord Jesus returns for his own? The only way is to repent of our sin and receive the gift of his grace and mercy by faith in Jesus who died for you! Will you come humbly and sincerely saying to him "Forsaking all I trust Him". May you know the joy and peace of fellowship with God today.

...The Royston Pick

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