

the **DYDDI** digest

September—586



Learn more about Worcester Lodge's last resident
**Didmarton's local magazine incorporating
Leighterton, Boxwell and Sopworth**



RUBBISH DATES

All Bins – 13th & 27th September

Food Waste— 6th & 20th September

2024 Calendar now on line

www.didmartonvillagehall.co.uk/#Dyddi

DIARY DATES

2nd— Coconut Day

6th— Read a Book Day

10th—Suicide Prevention Day

13th—Roald Dahl Day (handy)

13th—Rural Cinema

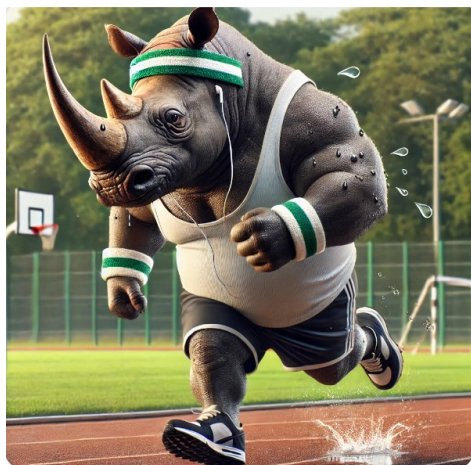
15th—Wife Appreciation Day

22nd— Autumnal Equinox (1.43pm)

22nd—World Rhino Day

26th—World Maritime Day

30th—World Maritime Day



RHINO FACT:

Speedy Sprinters: Despite their large size, rhinos can run at speeds of up to 30-40 miles per hour (48-64 km/h) in short bursts. This speed allows them to quickly charge at threats, despite their bulk.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Phoenix, Tetbury Surgery – 01666 502303

Police – to report incidents – 101

Tolsey Surgery, Sherston – 01666 840270

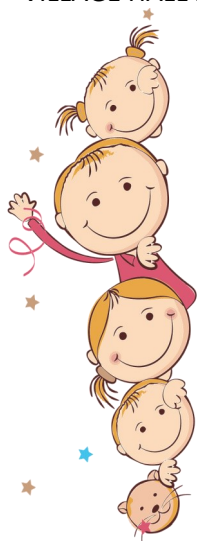
Tetbury Hospital – 01666 502336

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

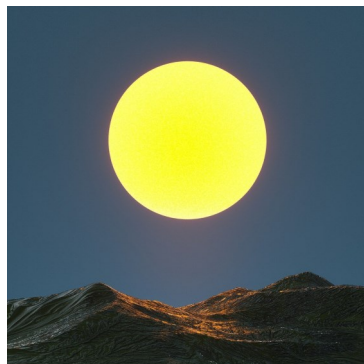
Francesca Goodwill - 07483 839082/07972783679

Esmé Kay 07850 247096

Chloe Wallace 07984 922717

SEPTEMBER'S FULL MOON

If you missed the last Blue Moon you will be pleased to know that the full moon in September 2024 will be on Tuesday, September 18 at 2:34 AM and will be known as the Harvest Moon. It will also be a supermoon, the second of four in a row.



SEPTEMBER

So, you are probably wondering why I have gone spooky earlier than normal, basically, it's Carole's fault! Our fabulous former editor has only gone and written a book about the former Worcester Lodge resident Hilary Peters and her 'Church Crawl'. Carole is telling the story of what she discovered about Hilary and how the Athelstan Pilgrim Way came about from a conversation between two friends. Whether you knew Hilary, or would like to find out who she was, she is remembered for "an extraordinary life well lived".

Badminton Benefice are presenting Carole's talk at Didmarton Village Hall on Saturday 12th October, where she will also be signing copies her book *Past, Present, Presence*. See page 10 & 11 for more details.

September the 10th is National Suicide Prevention Day. Suicide is the biggest killer of people under the age of 35 and the biggest killer of men under the age of 50 (NHS). There is a piece lifted from ISAP's website on page 19, *Changing the Narrative*. A recent poll found that only 45% of people feel comfortable talking to family and friends about suicidal thoughts, compared to 74% who said they feel comfortable talking about mental health.

In the words of the Samaritans—We need to change this. By talking more openly about suicide, removing the stigma, we can give people the chance to express how they feel and get the support they need. It could even save a life. It's worth starting the conversation.

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



The August 100 Club draw took place on August 7th at WOW held at The King's Arms. The prize winners were:-

1st Prize £20 Jim Hudson

2nd Prize £15 Bea Barr

3rd Prize £10 Davis Russell

4th Prize £10 Sarah Budd

Sue and Sue

CONGRATULATIONS

"Mike and I would like to share with you that our niece Hayley has been awarded the MBE in the Kings honours, for her long support in charity work. Her dedication to the people in the work force, during her career in HR. Some of you may remember Hayley when she lived at the Saltbox with her parents, Dave and Hilary and younger sister Claire. She attended Leighton primary school, followed by Saul CofE, finishing her education at Stroud high. She began a career in management at Tesco, completing a business study course at Swindon college. Achieving a honours degree. Following their move to Amersham she attended London university and gained her Masters. In this time with the help from her amazing husband Nick, she worked full time, raised two children and kept a home running smoothly. In 2019; she received a Doctorate from Leeds university. Three months ago she had the honour of accepting the Disability, Confident Mental Health and wellbeing in the workplace award. Of all her long list of achievements she is most proud of her family and her original roots in Gloucestershire."

Barb & Mike Smith



SPEEDWATCH REPORT—JULY 2024

We were able to complete 7 out of the 8 planned sessions with one cancelled due to rain. On the whole, apart from Friday afternoon, the top speeds seem to be lower than in previous months.

Date & Time	Site	Pos IDs	Highest Speed & Time	Comments	Total Vehicles
Mon 15 th 08 to 08:30	VH	3	38 @ 8:30am		176
Mon 15 th 16:00 to 16:30	SL			Washed out	
Tue 16 th 08:30 to 09:00	SL	2	39 @ 8:54am		117
Tue 16 th 16:30 to 17:00	VH	9	43 @ 16:45pm	Also 2x40mph at 16:51pm & at 17:00pm	189
Wed 17 th 08:30 to 09:00	VH	6	46 @ 08:52am		139
Wed 17 th 18:30 to 19:00	SL	7	40 @ 18:50pm		101
Thu 18 th 08:15 to 08:45	SL	3	38 @ 18:35pm		103
Thu 18th pm				No Session	
Fri 19th				No Session	
Fri 19 th 17:00 to 17:30	VH	5	53 @ 17:22pm	Also 42mph at 17:21pm	103
Totals		35	Highest – 53mph @ 17:22pm	Total of 7 vehicles greater than 40mph	928

Our Speed watch Team consists of 15 Volunteers from the village.

They are Chris Barski, Ruth Carnaby, John Earley, Sue Hammond, Pam & Jim Hudson, Sean White, Lynda Copsey, Frances Barr, Sarah Bugg, Sue Enright, Helen & David Russell, Sally Townsend and Susie Jones.

Our sessions take place approximately every 6 weeks with each session lasting 30 minutes. New members of the team are always welcome. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to one of the members or contact me directly on 238373 for more information.

Sue Hammond



Please come along to a Clothes Swap event on

Wednesday 18th September, 7pm

at

Old Manor Farmhouse, Didmarton.

We will be raising money for both the Village Hall and the ongoing effort to raise funds to repair the church bell.

Obviously, a clothes swap needs some clothes! We are asking for donations of good quality ladies' clothes and accessories. If you have a rummage through your wardrobe, might you find something that could be donated? Please have a look and bring any donations down to Old Manor Farmhouse between 11th and 13th of September so that we can sort and price them ahead of the sale. On the night, payments can be made by card or cash.

We would love to see you on 18th and hopefully you will find something that you would love to wear!

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT - AUGUST

CDC: At both the **Overview & Scrutiny** meeting and the full Council I asked the leader directly 'how much is the Publica* transfer project costing'? The response was a deafening silence! Nothing other than an original £500k (increased from a ridiculous £150k) has ever been acknowledged, and nothing that I have seen counters my original 'fag packet' estimate of £2-3m! What I have found out from the Chief Financial Officer and from published documents is that the cost of additional pension contributions will be £1.4m over the first 3 years, and there will be no savings as a result of the transition – in fact current estimates show an INCREASED cumulative cost of some £1.1m by 2027/28, contributing to a budget deficit forecast of almost £4m. That's a shortfall of FOUR MILLION POUNDS! The Leader's only response to this self-inflicted financial catastrophe is his repeated mantra that 'difficult decisions will need to be made'. As a council tax payer I am outraged by this 'do it at any cost' profligacy with our money when there is no need to do so.

Do check out the article in the Wilts & Glos Standard for more details.

*Publica is a shared service company owned by three local councils providing many of the operational functions to the councils.

Bins: The new bin collection schedule has been running for several weeks, and hopefully you haven't experienced too many issues. In Grumbolds Ash the missed collections rate is around 6-7%, but in other areas it is up to 19%! If you experience a missed collection, you can report it after 4:00pm and it should be rectified the next day. If you have repeated issues there is a complaints process on the CDC website – please also let me know and I'll notify Cllr Mike Evemy, who is the cabinet member responsible for the implementation. He has already apologised for the somewhat chaotic roll out of the new routes.

Planning Enforcement: This team has suffered with significant staff shortages in recent years and as a result some planning cases have slipped through this important safety net. At the CDC meeting I raised concerns about this and what plans were in place to rectify the issue, and also asked for performance stats to be provided against their published targets. I suggested they approach the Veterans charity as a potential source of officers as their skills have a good overlap with those needed in the role – the cabinet member will look into this.

Crime: There have been several thefts from churches in our area, so please look out for anything suspicious and check your security is as good as it can be.

Unsung Heroes: you may recall that a new award scheme was planned to recognise local heroes in the community. This has now been officially launched, with full details and nomination forms available on the CDC website. The first award will be made at the September CDC meeting.

Roads: It's fairly quiet on the roads in our area but do keep reporting potholes as you come across them.

My own case against GCC/Highways for tyre damage has been transferred to the local magistrates court. They wanted to 'strike it off' due to lack of evidence, but hopefully this was because there was no facility on the system to enter it. I have now sent additional details in, and we'll see if it's enough to get into court.

Customer Service hours: In September 2023, the Council began trialling new opening hours for its customer services call centre, operating from 9am to 2pm instead of 9am to 5pm. It reduced the opening hours on quiet afternoons and increased operators on the phones during busy lunchtimes. At the same time the Council invested more in its online services and maintained its 9am to 5pm in person service at the council offices, in Cirencester and Moreton-in-Marsh. The change is estimated to save £125,000 per annum. CDC will now permanently change its call centre opening hours having seen a significant increase in the use of online services and improvements in customer satisfaction.

Additional updates available online at

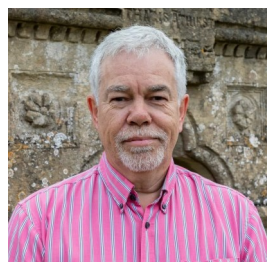
www.didmartonvillagehall.co.uk/#Dyddi

Councillor Tony Slater

Cotswold District Council,

Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avening

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



**Badminton Benefice
is presenting a Local Author Talk**



**The Athelstan Pilgrim Way: Inspired by Hilary Peters
former resident of Worcester Lodge**



**Carole Britton speaks at 4pm
in Didmarton Village Hall GL9 1DS
on Saturday 12th October 2024
about her new book, Past, Present, Presence
a journey through the life, legacy and words of Hilary.**

**Admission £8 (includes refreshments) or 2 for £15
Signed books on sale**

Please book tickets in advance – call/text 07990 576514

LOCAL AUTHOR TALK - MY BOOK ABOUT HILARY PETERS OF WORCESTER LODGE, AND THE ATHELSTAN PILGRIM WAY

Many of you will have known or heard of Hilary. She called herself a part-time hermit and lived for the last 15 years of her life in Worcester Lodge, Didmarton, the gatehouse for the Badminton Estate visible to us from many different places in our beautiful countryside around here.

As caretaker and gatekeeper, no-one could have asked for more. Hilary would share her home with any stranger who wished to drop in, and impart her extensive knowledge of the Lodge and estate along with provision of her home-made refreshments. For us who knew her, she was the warmest and most truly sincere person we have probably met. The late Duke wished her to live in Worcester Lodge as "she was the right person".

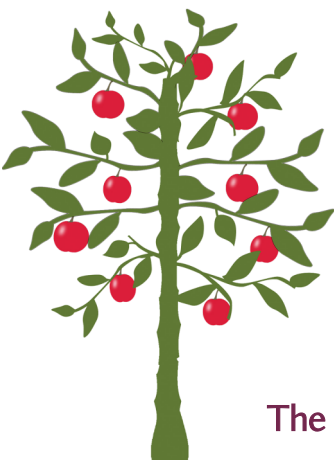
Unbeknown to almost everyone, Hilary had been on a "church crawl" – her words – around the churches of the North Wiltshire deanery, with a few of her close friends. She had mentioned to Catherine Price, who works for Malmesbury Abbey, about creating some sort of pilgrim way or passport, between these churches.

And then Hilary suddenly died. And by chance, I met Catherine.

My book, 'Past, Present, Presence' is an account of Hilary, her life, achievements, and how she is the inspiration for the newly created Athelstan Pilgrim Way, linking over 30 churches that she visited and wrote brief notes about. My book that is the Companion Guide to the Athelstan Pilgrim Way, and I talk about each of the churches, taking Hilary's thoughts, and discovering for myself the history, people, villages, communities, and of course, the churches, involved.

I am telling the story of what I discovered about Hilary and how the Athelstan Pilgrim Way came about from a conversation between two friends. Whether you knew Hilary, or would like to find out who she was, she is remembered for "an extraordinary life well lived".

Badminton Benefice are presenting my talk at Didmarton Village Hall, GL9 1DS on Saturday 12th October, where I will also be signing copies of Past, Present, Presence. Tickets (including refreshments) are £8/£15 for two. Advance reservations can be made by calling or texting 07990 576514. Please see the poster for more details.



DIDMARTON RURAL CINEMA

Friday 13th September

Doors open at 6.30pm for cash bar

Film starts at 7.30pm

£5 entry

The Fall Guy (2024) - Action, Adventure, Comedy



Cert: 12A – **Run time:** 2hr 6min.

Rotten Tomatoes audience rating: 86%

Starring: Emily Blunt, Ryan Gosling, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Hannah Waddingham

Director: David Leitch

He's a stuntman, and like everyone in the stunt community, he gets blown up, shot, crashed, thrown through windows and dropped from the highest of heights, all for our entertainment. And now, fresh off an almost career-ending accident, this working-class hero has to track down a missing movie star, solve a conspiracy and try to win back the love of his life while still doing his day job. What could possibly go right?

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

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

07875 406637

TETBURY GOODS SHED

A R T S C E N T R E

GOODS SHED HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER



- Sept 1** **Off The Rails:** Our annual family festival of music and entertainment returns from 11. With outstanding music, magic show, lots of food and drink – including a beer tent! Tickets in advance £8.50, under 18s free.
- Sept 8** **Melvyn Tan:** This brilliant pianist returns as part of our classical series with music from Beethoven, Brahms and Clara Schuman. Tickets in advance £24, £15 under 18s. 6pm.
- Sept 13-15** **Tetbury Book Festival:** In conjunction with The Yellow Lighted Bookshop we are offering talks, workshops, poetry and live music. Full details on our website.
- Sept 18** **The Last Baguette:** Fun, gentle introduction to theatre, expect to play, watch and laugh with play acting, craft and music. For 2-6 year olds and their grown-ups. Tickets Children/Adults £5. Under 12 months free. 10am
- Sept 20** **Autumn Comedy Club:** This month features the mirth making talents of Matt Price, James Ellis and headlined by Jon Pearson! Tickets £13.50 in advance £10 under 25s. 8pm
- Sept 21** **Music for Miniatures:** Our baby-friendly concerts where there's no need to sit still, dancing is encouraged, and everyone is welcome. Tickets children £4, adults £6, Family of 4 £14. 10.30
- Sept 22** **Sunday Folk with Miranda Rutter, Rob Harbron and Detta Kenzie.** Join them for an informal afternoon of folk. Tickets £10 and £2 under 16. 3pm

For more details of our other events including film, talks, exhibitions, and afternoon tea concerts and to book tickets visit our website:

www.tetburygoodshed.co.uk

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES—WESTONBIRT

Do you love the outdoors? Is Westonbirt your 'go to' tree destination or have you yet to discover it?

Westonbirt Arboretum is a special place at any time of the year. Those of us who work or volunteer here are united in that sentiment. Our band of over 300 volunteers are incredibly passionate about Westonbirt and what they do here. They work across a variety of roles and are invaluable to help maintain the arboretum and engage people with this beautiful and important plant collection. Our volunteer community is welcoming and friendly and what they do is extremely rewarding, and it's not a bad place to work either...! Keep an eye on our volunteering web pages as we are currently recruiting for various volunteer roles, click on the role links to find out more details and how to apply. Full induction, training and uniform provided, plus a variety of volunteer benefits including regular social events. (image Alison Whaley)

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/volunteering>

If you would like to know a little more, please feel free to get in touch at volunteer.westonbirt@forestryengland.uk



THE ROBIN—YOUR BOOKABLE BUS

The Robin is your local, friendly bookable bus service. Here are the three easy ways to book your journey:

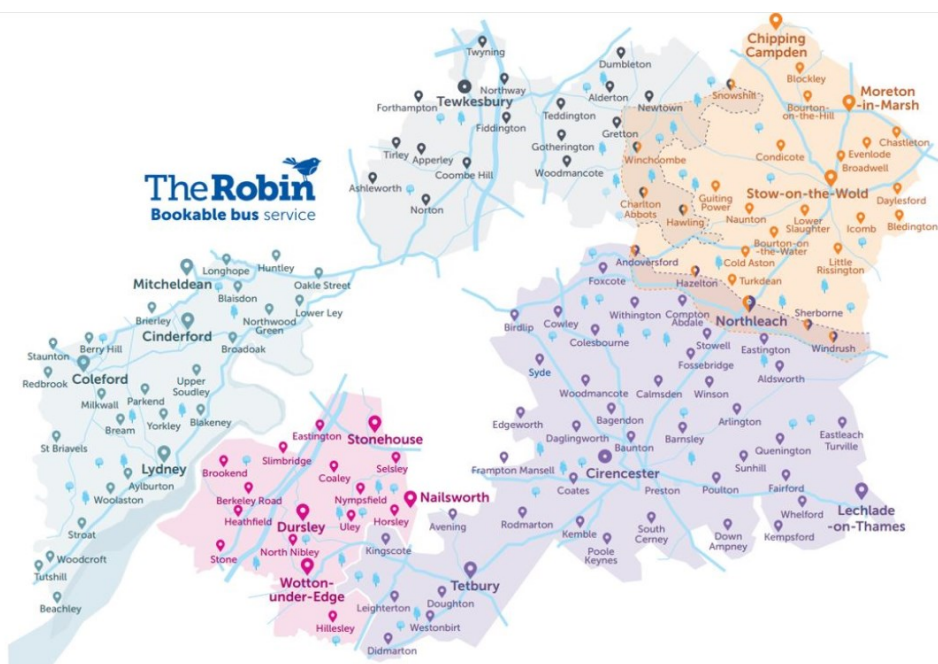
[Book via the website](#) - pay via the website or choose to pay the driver

Book via the phone app (FREE download on [Apple](#) or [Android](#)) - pay via the app or choose to pay the driver

Book over the phone - call The Robin call centre on 0345 263 8139 - pay the driver (cash or contactless). The call centre is open 8am – 4pm Monday to Friday.

Visit our [contact page](#) for details of how to get in touch and how you can stay up to date with The Robin news.

You search for your ideal journey, and book the option that suits you. It's local and offers affordable fares, connecting places in rural locations.



September 1984 AS 'T WAS 40 YEARS AGO

Didmarton as it is recorded in the 'DYDDI digest'

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

"THANKS Nancy Large thanks the many friends and neighbours for the cards and good wishes during her stay in hospital; their kindness was much appreciated. Janice (nee Walker) and Ernie Paterson would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes on the occasion of their recent marriage.

Ivy and Frank Indge would like to thank all friends and Gardening Club members for the lovely cards, flowers and gifts received on their Golden Wedding Day. A very special 'thank you' to Lord and Lady Westmorland for the super lunch party they gave us. It was a wonderful day - we will always remember it.

"THIS AND THAT We hear that the surgeons at French Hospital are 'grafting' away on Fred Teagle's other leg. We send our best wishes to him for a speedy and complete recovery.

They kept it quiet but we have no such inhibitions! Congratulations to Edna and Ron Salt on their Silver Wedding anniversary on 29th August.

Amanda Braine is away to Baltimore USA for a year prior to going to college - lots of good luck! Father we hear has mixed feelings over the trip. He loses a daughter but gains a car!

A new entry into our Birthday Book for 1st August is bouncing Benjamin Gosling. Welcome to him and congratulations to proud parents Kelly and Kevin.

Bicycles are in demand - Castle Combe Fever? This time a ladies cycle is wanted suitable for a 15 year old. Must be in reasonable condition. Details please to Did 306.

Dd acknowledges with grateful thanks a contribution of £2 from a well-wisher and £15 from the Parish Council, grateful for our help in keeping it and villagers in touch.

We learn that Vera Rich is home again after a brief spell in hospital. Do hope that you will soon be 100% fit."

('Castle Combe Fever' - a sponsored cycle ride had taken place in August.)

-The above 'digest' of a previous edition is taken from the Village Archive of Dd-



SHERSTON GARDENING CLUB

Next Meeting
Tuesday 3rd Septmeber
Speaker is Rachael Emous-Austin

Cuttings

We took gardening leave in August and our first meeting of autumn will be a fascinating delve into nature and wellbeing; specifically, an illustrated talk by the Stroud-based landscape architecture firm, Austin Design Works. Co-owner, Rachael Emous-Austin will share slides of the beautiful spaces they have created for their clients.

"The process of designing a landscape is a journey, undertaken in collaboration with our clients. We take a holistic approach that incorporates the unique history of your land and property with a deep understanding of the needs and identities of the people who use the space today." Is how the company describes their approach.



Part of the Museum in the Park project at Stratford Park, Stroud. Austin Design Works have reclaimed a garden which, for fifty years, was allowed to fall derelict.

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 are always welcome. Cost is £15 single, £25 joint, U18's free. We communicate with members via a monthly newsletter, on the sherston.net website and on our SGC Facebook page. Our Secretary can be contacted at sherstongardeningclub@gmail.com

Community

Mixed Narcissi and Tulip bulbs are on order for the new gates on the main roads into the village. We'll get a working party organised for planting up these spaces and anyone interested in joining us will be very welcome indeed. Let's make entry into Sherston as colourful and welcoming as possible.

Thank you to everybody who visited – and donated plants to - the Gardening Club stall on Sherston Boules Day in July. Hope people's gardens will be nice and colourful as a result of their purchases!

Calendar for rest of 2024

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

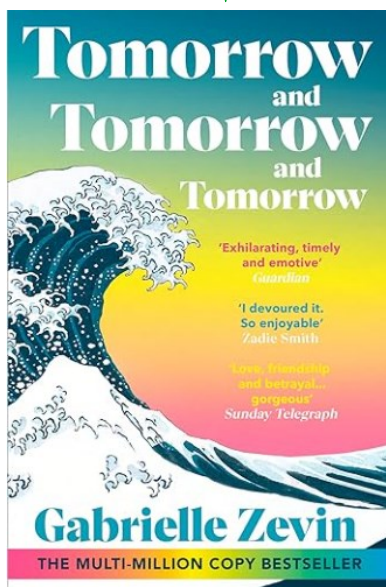
13th September - Coach trip to Waterperry Gardens near Oxford. A few tickets are still be available

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

5th November - 'Winning on my Allotment' with Sally Oates

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

RECENTLY READ



This is the story of Sam and Sadie. It's not a romance, but it is about love.

When Sam catches sight of Sadie at a crowded train station one morning he is catapulted straight back to childhood, and the hours they spent immersed in playing games.

Their spark is instantly reignited and sets off a creative collaboration that will make them superstars. It is the 90s, and anything is possible.

What comes next is a decades-long tale of friendship and rivalry, fame and art, betrayal and tragedy, perfect worlds and imperfect ones. And, above all, our need to connect: to be loved and to love.

Absolutely loved this book.

CHANGING THE NARRATIVE ON SUICIDE



Suicide remains a critical global issue, affecting individuals and communities worldwide. In an effort to address this issue and encourage positive change, IASP is pleased to announce the new theme for World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) 2024-2026 as **“Changing the Narrative on Suicide”**.

World Suicide Prevention Day is observed every year on the 10th of September to draw attention to this important public health issue globally and to disseminate the message that suicides are preventable. Established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention in conjunction with the [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#), the day aims to focus attention on the issue, reduce stigma and raise awareness amongst organisations, government, and the public, giving the singular message that suicides are preventable.

The aim of the theme is to raise awareness about the importance of changing the narrative surrounding suicide and transforming how we perceive this complex issue. Changing the narrative requires systemic change. It's about shifting from a culture of silence and stigma to one of openness, understanding, and support. It means advocating for policies and legislation that prioritize mental health, increase access to care, and provide support for those in need. It means investing in research to better understand the complexities of suicide and develop evidence-based interventions.

As part of the campaign for WSPD 2024-2026, IASP is issuing a call to action: **“Start the Conversation.”** This call encourages individuals, communities, organizations, and governments to engage in open, honest discussions about mental health and suicide. By starting conversations, we can break down barriers and raise awareness, check in with a friend or loved one, share personal stories and advocate for mental health resources and support services. Every conversation, no matter how small, contributes to a more supportive and understanding society.

By addressing these areas and working collaboratively across sectors, we can create a more supportive and compassionate society where suicide is preventable, and everyone feels valued and understood.

International Association for Suicide Prevention

www.samaritans.org/support-us/campaign/world-suicide-prevention-day/

BEING HUMAN

Here we are, here we go, one, two, three
Maybe this s**t is addicted to me
Can you hear me in there?
Is there anyone there?
Keep your dyslexia next to your imaginary friends
They're all talking about the shape I'm in
Yeah, they really don't care
They're breathing rarified air

So pack your bags and leave a note
And thank the ones that kept you afloat
And gather all your hopes and dreams
They can keep you company

And go on and be your dysfunctional self
Life's too short to play someone else
because being 'normal' is just a trap
But you're never so gone that you can't turn back
So go on and be unpredictable
Shatter the glass when it's half full
The audience has waited all this time
You're well-rehearsed and you know your lines
So introduce them to
The wonderful dysfunctional you

B.S. Smith

THE AUTUMN EQUINOX.

The autumn equinox, is the moment when the Sun crosses the celestial equator, moving from the Northern Hemisphere to the Southern Hemisphere, marking the official start of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere and spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

During the equinox, day and night are nearly equal in length, each lasting about 12 hours. This happens because the Earth's axis is tilted neither toward nor away from the Sun, resulting in nearly equal amounts of daylight and darkness across the globe.

The autumn equinox typically occurs around September 22 or 23 each year. It is one of two equinoxes that occur annually, the other being the vernal (spring) equinox around March 20 or 21. After the autumn equinox, days become shorter and nights longer in the Northern Hemisphere, leading up to the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year.

In Pagan traditions, the autumn equinox is celebrated as a time of balance, reflection, and gratitude. It is often referred to as Mabon, one of the eight High Days in the Wheel of the Year, which is a cycle of seasonal festivals observed in many modern Pagan traditions, including Wicca.

Mabon is seen as a harvest festival, marking the second of three harvest celebrations (the first being Lammastide/Lughnasadh and the third being Samhain). It is a time to give thanks for the bounty of the earth and to prepare for the coming winter. The balance of light and dark during the equinox symbolizes the need for balance in life, as well as the transition from the warmth and light of summer to the colder, darker days of winter.

Overall, the autumn equinox in Pagan belief is a time to honor the earth's cycles, give thanks for the abundance of the harvest. It is a time of gratitude and reflection and prepares us for the introspective period of winter.



TECH-DIMEANER

Like it or not, most of us live in a tech-driven world, from smart TVs, our phones, Alexa, our cars or my annoying fridge, there is no escape! So here are a few tech-demeaners ..

WhatsApp—Having a one on one conversation on a group chat— just click on their photo and start a direct conversation— errr!

Phoning without texting first —Seriously, not going to answer, 24 hours notice required to prepare for actual conversation!

Spell Check—The inappropriate word you only spot once you have hit send.....

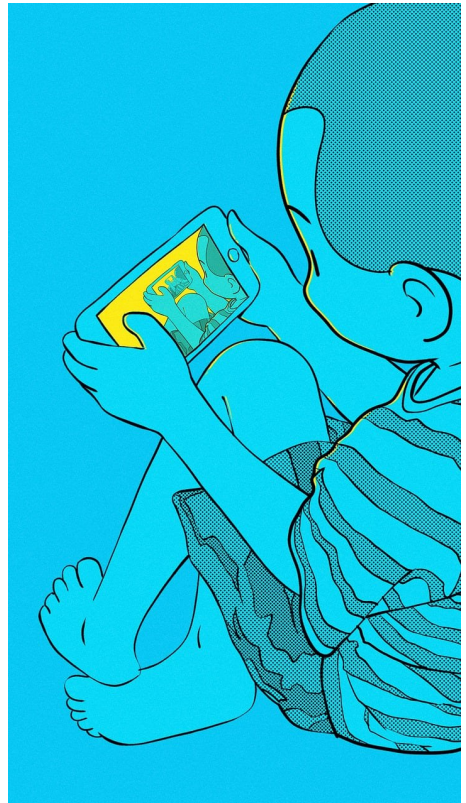
Cars 1 —ABS / Traction Control warning light on, neither system works and it's taken out the power steering. Report from Garage, needs new sensors, the systems are only disabled because the sensors died, if it didn't have sensors all systems would have worked perfectly.....

Cars 2 —(Happened to a friend) Drive to the supermarket, turn car engine off, keys are still at home....

Texts—Sending to the wrong person, possibly an inappropriate message or simply forgetting who you are texting and adding an inappropriate 'x' to the end.

General—Yep you tried to contact me, didn't answer straight away. Just because it is technically possible to be instantly available during every waking moment doesn't mean you have to be.

Spending more time documenting the event than enjoying it. Sure take a few snaps, then—put—the—phone—away. Listen to the music, absorb the atmosphere, smell the sea, listen to the waves—with your biological senses!



THE SURPRISING MR DAHL

Roald Dahl, the beloved British author known for his imaginative children's books, had a life full of interesting quirks and unexpected tales. Here are some funny and surprising facts about him:

Candy Tester for Cadbury: As a schoolboy, Dahl was one of the lucky students selected by Cadbury to test new chocolate bars. This experience is said to have inspired his famous book, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

He Invented Words: Dahl loved playing with language and invented many whimsical words for his books. Some of these "gobblefunk" words include "Oompa-Loompa," "Scrumdiddlyumptious," and "Splendiferous." He even wrote a whole dictionary of his invented words called *The Gobblefunk Dictionary*.

He Was a Fighter Pilot: During World War II, Dahl served as a fighter pilot in the Royal Air Force. He had several close brushes with death, including a crash in the Libyan desert that left him with serious injuries. Despite these experiences, he later wrote humorous stories about his wartime adventures.

Wrote in a Shed: Dahl did much of his writing in a small, cramped shed at the bottom of his garden, which he called his "writing hut." The hut was filled with quirky objects, including a model of his own spine and a ball made from all the silver paper wrappings of chocolate bars he had eaten.

A Love for Pranks: Dahl had a mischievous streak and loved playing practical jokes. As a child, he once put a dead mouse in a jar of gobstoppers at his local sweet shop, an incident that partially inspired *The Twits*.

He Hated Beards: Dahl had a peculiar dislike for beards and often portrayed bearded characters negatively in his books. Mr. Twit, one of the main characters in *The Twits*, has a filthy beard full of food scraps, which Dahl described in great, disgusting detail.

A Secret to Writing: Dahl believed in writing with a particular kind of yellow pencil—Dixon Ticonderoga No. 2—and he would sharpen several of them before starting work. He also always wrote on yellow paper.

His Books Were Often Banned: Despite being loved by children, some of Dahl's books were banned in various places for being too dark or controversial. *James and the Giant Peach* and *The Witches* were particularly criticized for their content, but Dahl took it all in stride, believing that children could handle more than adults often thought.

Dedicated to Naughty Children: In the dedication for *The BFG*, Dahl included a cheeky note to his readers, saying, "To every good child in the world. Or at least that's what I thought when I wrote it. But now, I'm not so sure."

He Had a Pet Goat: Dahl once had a pet goat named Alma, which he kept at his countryside home in Great Missenden. The goat had a habit of eating visitors' clothing, much to Dahl's amusement.

Roald Dahl's life was as colorful and imaginative as his stories, filled with humor, mischief, and a love for the unexpected.

THE DYDDI DIGEST TEASER NO.7

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

RUSSIANS

5 P

9 K

8 C

9 7 A N

5 3 U J

RIOTS

2 5 S P

8 P

5 6 C S

5 4 P R

10 4 B F

SCREWS

11 C

6 4 R H

7 M

5 T

6 8 P O

BATTERIES

5 T

4 4 L A

8 3 E C

3 H

9 4 L C

THE BEATLES

4 6 J L

6 6 G M

3 9 T Q

6 7 S B

7 7 R S

Answers to DdBT No.6 August 2024

B Carrier Cycle Handbag Clutch

Under The Eyes B Hair Violin Rain Archery

The Sharp End M Beer Door Judo Cork

Mouse S Harrods Tool Pawnbroker

Workshop Associated Dairies S Perfume

Shower Flykiller

Crop Flower

SUDOKU by Neil Fozard

For the uninitiated

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

EASY !!

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

NOT SO EASY !!

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

Answers to the August quizzes:

'Easy'

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

'Not so Easy'

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

VICAR'S LETTER - September

Dear Friends,

As schools start and uniforms get taken out of the trunks and drawers where they have lain for the last month or so, and new shirts, jackets and sports equipment purchased, parents gear themselves up for another year of supporting their children's education, driving them up and down certain roads, plotting the diary for the months ahead and in some cases paying school fees.

We all do the best we can for our children, that is part of the package of being a parent and we place a great deal of trust in the schools which look after them and do such a huge amount to give them the grounding and culture in which they can thrive and grow.

Most of us can remember our teachers, and one or two with particular affection. I looked up the name of a favourite teacher of mine only to discover that sadly he had passed away over forty years ago. It led me to think that maybe I should have made more of an effort to keep in touch with those who helped me on my way as a child and made sure that they knew how much they were appreciated.

Thankfully, I do not believe that this world is all there is, and I will one day we will have an opportunity to say thank you in person. In the meantime, I believe that God knows our thankfulness as we also thank Him, and God will pass on our thanks to those He now cares for, in heaven. But for those of you with less time since your school years, how about letting those special teachers know, while they are still with us, how grateful you are.

With my best wishes

Richard
Priest in charge, Badminton Benefice website: www.badmintonbenefice.com
revrichardthomson@gmail.com
01454 606854

Sep-24 Sunday Parish church services:

Date	Time	Parish	Service	Minister
1st Sept	9.30am	Lasborough	Matins	Churchwarden led
Tinity 14	11am	Hawkesbury	Songs of Praise, in the Showground tent	Lay led
	1115am	Didmarton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
8th Sept	9.30am	Lasborough	Holy Communion BCP	P Cheeseman
Tinity 15	9.30am	Leighterton	Holy Communion 1928	Rev R Thomson
	1115am	L Badminton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
15th Sept	9.00am	Didmarton	Holy Communion BCP	tbc
Tinity 16	10.00am	Hawkesbury	Family service with Baptism	Rev R Thomson
	1115am	Sopworth	Matins	tbc
	6pm	Acton Turville	Evensong	Rev M Butler
22nd Sept	9.30am	Lasborough	HC CW	Rev R Thomson
Trinity 17	1115am	Little Badminton	Matins	Rev R Thomson
	6pm	Hawkesbury	Evensong	Rev R Thomson
29th Sept		1115 Benefice Service	Matins with guest preacher, Rt Rev Christopher Hill	Rev R Thomson
Michael and				
All Angels				
Readings:		www.badmintonbenefice.com		





DIVINE OWNERSHIP

The Lord reminds us in his word the Bible , that “The Earth is the lord’s and all its’ fullness, the world and those who dwell therein”. When God made the world he gave us the duty of care for it, but as we look around the world we see how little man appreciates the wonder of God’s creation by the appalling mess sinful man has made of what God has provided.

Our God has spoken to us his instructions in his written word, the Bible and even come down and spoken to us through his living word the Lord Jesus Christ; but, what notice have we taken? Sadly, we personally and our nations leaders have chosen to commit the great insult to our God by ignoring his will and go our own sinful ways and so suffer the consequences of the evil we experience taking place around the world now. We await the worse punishment which is God will bring, of which he warns us in the book of Revelation, at the last of days of this world’s history.

However, man may have abandoned God, but God has not abandoned man, for he has kept his promise that “seedtime and harvest would not fail” and the more science has discovered about God’s creation the greater our appreciation of him should be. We are told that just a spoonful of earth contains more microbes than the population of the world. What amazing provision God has made to sustain our lives in this world; but ever greater is the provision he has made to sustain our lives in the one to come by giving his son the Lord Jesus to make us new people fit for his heavenly kingdom.

God so loves us that he gave his son the Lord Jesus that whoever believes in him should not perish but come to salvation and eternal life. What is your response to God who owns you and does not desire that any should perish? Do you ignore him or will you acknowledge your need of his forgiveness and in repentance for the way you have ignored him, turn in believing faith to Jesus who paid the price to deliver us from sins penalty and provide a new God filled life of obedience and love to his divine ownership and instructions for us?

May it be so!

Royston Pick

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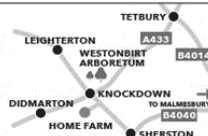
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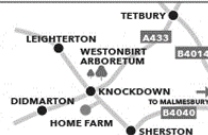
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