



April 2021

Volume 18 Issue 2

#### Looking forward .....

Hi Everyone,

Spring is definitely in the air – and it is lovely to see and hear the children going to school each morning again! They all seem happy!

You know, I really did not expect us to still be in a place of restrictions and guidelines for a second Easter time. So much has happened in the past months – much has been good and of course that means some not so!

One of the good things I have been able to do is to go through my books and I've found some 'classics'. I don't mean Homer – and nor do I mean theological tomes. Things like "100 things to do with a dull church"; "100 things to do in a dull sermon" – so I can give you some tips if you need them!! ....and of course I've had time to delve into the joke books as well – watch this space when we are able to worship in church without masks and able to sing again...I will definitely feel the need to try and make you all smile and laugh.

However, there is the serious in this, because I realised that much in these books were for a time that has past, and so are mostly irrelevant for today. We have moved on in these months — changed! This should in itself excite us — what does the future hold for us. What does it hold for us as individuals within our own circle of family, of friends? What does it hold for us as local community within villages, our neighbourhood, our locality? What does it hold for us as a church family within our villages?

I so love to think of what God is going to do with us all — what will He make of us as we go forward. Will we let Him take us and change us and use us? If I have a fear in all this, it is that I will want to hold onto that which has now gone - that I will not embrace the new that is waiting for me. If we're honest, it is always so easy to rehearse good things of the past and to so look back that we cannot see that which is so exciting and promising and hopeful just in front of us. I recall a talk I heard years ago based on "The mill will never grind with the water that passed" — a good example for us today. We cannot turn back the clock. We can only move forward and enjoy and make the most of every moment we have.

Easter is a time when we think of new beginnings, of new hope, because of the time of year we are in with colour in the garden and the expectation of summer sun to come. For Christians we see this new beginning, new hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ – the empty tomb. God so loves us that He gives us this new start and He is SO creative.



Enjoy this Easter – it will be different from past holiday times – but enjoy it nevertheless. Look to a positive, exciting future – and embrace it all!

Have a blessed and peaceful Eastertime.

Rev Sue

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

#### Here we are again!

Does anyone remember this song?

Here we are again, Happy as can be, All good pals and Jolly good company! Strollin' round the town, Happy on a spree, All good pals and Jolly good company!

Never mind the weather, Never mind the rain, Long as we're together, Whoops, we go again! Whoops, we go again! ........



JOLLY GOOD COMPANY (Raymond Wallace)

It was recorded by Lesley Sarony in 1931, so I doubt that many of us are likely to recall the original, but there is another song of more recent vintage with a similar theme but rather different imagery:

Here we are again
Here where the darkness ends
I close my eyes and then
I see things as they were back when

We had our own
Closed off universe
Closed time like curves
Fly east around the world .....

"HERE WE ARE AGAIN" (Bruce Hornsby)

There are more songs based on this theme of meeting up again and no doubt many of us could compose a few of our own but whether we're looking forward to being happy on a spree or the end of a time of darkness, let's be grateful that it's Spring and new life is all around us.

#### **Tytherington Village Store**

By the time this edition of 5-Alive is published work should have started on the redevelopment of the Village store located on the Tytherington Village Hall site.

The Parish Council has recognised that this store will be a great asset to the Village in years to come.

Storage is used for Pre-School outdoor equipment, Trestle Tables and outdoor seating for May Day, Fun Days, Table-top sales and Farm suppers etc. Storage is also needed for ropes and stakes for Dog show events and the Skittle Alley.

The new building will also be able to house the Village Marquee and Trailer allowing them to be stored undercover instead of being out in all weathers as at present.

In view of the several housing developments taking place in Tytherington, there will be new residents joining the village for whom the Village Hall and the Village store will be of interest. Any new people will be welcome to join the Hall Committee and if interested they should contact any committee member.

John Lewis – Village Hall Secretary

#### **Cromhall St Andrew's 100 Club**

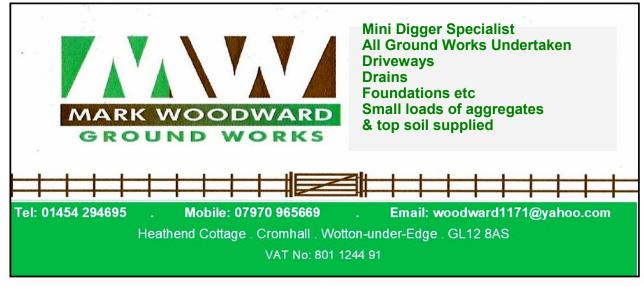


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#### View 5 Alive online

Remember that 5 Alive is available online at www.falfield.org.uk and https://cromhall.com/cromhall/st-andrewschurch





Mon to Fri 10.00 - 14.00

Thank you to Anon of Charfield and **Cromhall Chapel for their kind donations** to our costs.

Each 20-page edition costs £360 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
- or write to him at The Barn, Townwell, Cromhall, Wotton-Under-Edge, GL12 8AQ.

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

## HOLY WEEK and EASTER SERVICES 2021

#### **ZOOM SERVICES:**

Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday: Compline 7pm

Maundy Thursday: 7pm

GOOD FRIDAY: 2pm - 3pm Time by the Cross

EASTER DAY: 10:30am

PLEASE CONTACT Rev Sue either by email <a href="mailto:revsue@crftt.org.uk">revsue@crftt.org.uk</a> or 01454600674 then we can send the link out to you.

#### **RECORDED SERVICES**

Will be sent out to the Pew Sheet list and anyone else who would like them.

- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Vigil Service



#### IN PERSON:

Easter Day: 7am Early morning service in Tytherington Churchyard ......

...... with SOCIAL DISTANCING and T&T will be in place.







BENEFICE PHONE: 01454 260096 E-MAIL ADDRESS: office@croftt.org.uk

**CHAPLAINS:** 

Rev Sue: 01454 600674 or revsue@croftt.org.uk Rev. Frances: 01453 519099 revfrances@croftt.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

#### **Cromhall Parish Council**

Cromhall parish council has a new website <a href="https://cromhallpc.org.uk">https://cromhallpc.org.uk</a> This easy to navigate site offers a range of information under useful drop-down menus. We will continue to add information and photographs so do let us know what you think.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, legislation was passed so that parish councils could continue to meet remotely. Cromhall parish council now holds its monthly meeting using Zoom and members of the public are welcomed to attend. All details are displayed on the council website together with the agenda and key papers. The next parish council meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

A warm welcome to two new parish councillors, Paul Daly and Andy New who join Daren Jeffery, Mike Line, Steve Aston, David White and Mark Daniel. Councillor contact details are on the website and displayed on the notice board at Townend play area.

You may have noticed work at Bibstone village green. The parish council commissioned repairs to the damaged driveway and to the wall. Fresh soil has been added for new turf and reseeding. This work has been costly, and we would ask everyone to please respect the village green. In other news, the parish council is hoping to instal some additional litter bins and is pressing South Gloucestershire Council to clear overgrowth from many of the pavements in the village as this is making them difficult to use especially if you are a wheelchair user or have children in a pushchair.

Finally, a date for your diaries. The **annual parish assembly** (not a parish council meeting) is a meeting of and for parishioners to talk about all things related to Cromhall and will be held on **Thursday 15**<sup>th</sup> **April 2021 at 7pm via Zoom**. The log in details will be posted to the Cromhall parish council website.

Mike Line

Chairman Cromhall Parish Council





We are very fortunate to have churchyards which are all still open and cared for by our church councils. It is always a pleasure to spend time in these places of quiet, peace and calm.

**Thank you** to all those who care for family graves and ensure they are well looked after. Please may I make a plea to everyone to continue to help us by keeping to the regulations about artificial flowers and other items that do occasionally creep onto graves. These are not allowed, and if some people use them it is really hard and unfair on other families who do support the rules. The guidelines are available on the diocesan website and displayed in our churches.

Thank you again for your help. Rev Sue

## 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.

Alzheimer's Society

They offer support face to face, over the phone or in writing. The service is for people with Dementia and their carers, family and friends.

Call our support line for more information:

Tel: 0333 150 3456

foodbank

Monday to Wednesday 9am – 8pm, Thursday and Friday 9am – 5pm Saturday and Sunday 10am – 4pm

or see our website: www.alzheimers.org.uk

## How to contact the 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 - 4pm**.

For more information, please call 0117 9791399 or email info@northbristol.foodbank.org.uk or visit northbristol.foodbank.org.uk

If you feel able to contribute to the Foodbank stocks, here is our current shopping list: Long life fruit juice, Sponge puddings, Jelly (cubes please), Tinned Fruit, Angel delight, Tinned vegetables, Sweets/snacks/crisps, Shower gel, Shampoo, Male and female deodorant, Shaving foam, Razors, Long-life milk

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.



#### CROMHALL SHOP & POST OFFICE



What a year 2020 turned out to be, certainly one to remember for all the wrong reasons, but does that apply to everybody?

It may be remembered as the year that you started baking your own sourdough bread or growing your own vegetables or you may have volunteered in the Village Shop to help us remain open during the pandemic.

We were very fortunate that a number of local residents answered the call to help us and, together withour loyal band of regular volunteers, we have continued to serve the community during this challenging time.

Your local shop has proved its worth in being there for the village during this crisis; please continue to support us – we really enjoyed being busy! I would like to take this belated opportunity to thank all our customers who have supported us and all the volunteers who have enabled us to remain open.

We hope that in a few weeks we could be back to some semblance of normality and I'm looking forward to Corona just being a beer and a tier something you only put on a cake.

Staffing problems are still a major concern, so there will be no change to the opening hours for the foreseeable future – volunteers are always welcome.

We have increased our range of Frocester Fayre quality meat and are happy to take orders. We can order Hobbs House bread

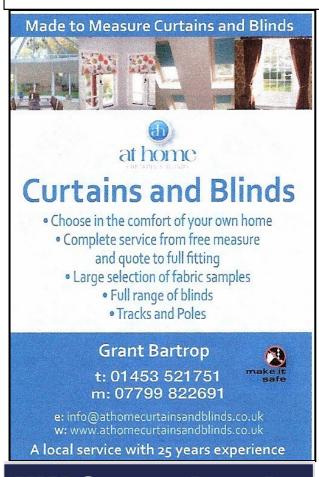
and Beau's Bakehouse cakes for the week-end – why drive if you don't have to?

Thank you all, once again.



<sup>\*</sup>Please note: Alzheimer's Society has temporarily suspended all of our face-to-face and group services.

**ADVERTISEMENTS:** To advertise in this publication please contact Kay Rea, The Bungalow, Moorslade, Falfield. Tel:01454 260364 Email kay.rea@btinternet.com







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\*subject to eligibility

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#### Falfield W.I.

It's been a year since we last INSPIRING WOMEN met in Falfield Village Hall, meet-

ing friends and enjoying lots of chatter. What will it be like when we can meet again?

The Committee have tried to keep us all in touch and it has been good to talk to you during this time.

Thanks to modern technology and snail mail we have been able to send you the monthly Avon News, with its opportunities to Zoom meetings and speakers. I shall be attending the Avon Federation Spring meeting via Zoom at the end of March.

Thanks to Judy and Mary we are now receiving a newsletter which includes items from you.

We were planning three picnic meetings, May, June and July, but abiding by government rules it now looks like it may be July before we can meet for a picnic.

Don't forget that Ann has a Covid scrapbook waiting to receive your experiences or poems etc. during this pandemic.

I hope you have had your jab.....some may have had two by now, so keep safe and well we're looking forward to seeing you all before too long.

Guilda.Ludwell

#### **Thornbury Volunteer Centre**



With the way out of lockdown emerging Thornbury Volunteer Centre is being contacted by many organisations who are looking for volunteers to join their team. If you have an hour or two to spare, they would love to hear from you.

We have recently received requests for help for the following opportunities:

- Treasurer no experience necessary. Duties will include paying bills and expenses.
- Listening Ear Supporter -looking for people who have lived experience of dementia or bereavement and are able to offer a listening ear and share their own stories with people who are experiencing loss associated with dementia.
- Digital Friends –are needed to help vulnerable, isolated digitally excluded clients learn to access the internet using a tablet in order to access essential health, wellbeing, social activities and services.
- Zoom Social Activity Leader (one off session) Virtual can you lead a Zoom Socials based on a skill or a hobby that you have? You will have an open audience who are keen to get involved in different activities, and others who are happy to sit back and watch.
- Refreshment Server -can you help out for a morning or afternoon once a week or fortnight, serving teas and coffees and chatting to customers of local tearoom?

These are just a very small sample of the opportunities we have available. For further information and for details on how to apply please contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre at mail@volunteerthornbury.co.uk

Thornbury Volunteer Centre are also appealing for help with storage space. If you have a secure space which would be suitable for storing donated goods prior to a Pop-up shop being held later in the year then they would love to hear from you. Please email Kim at mail@volunteer -thornbury.co.uk to discuss further.



# CARNIVAL'S COMMITTEE CONFIRMS THE EVENT WILL GO AHEAD THIS YEAR

Thornbury Carnival's committee has confirmed the event scheduled for Saturday 3rd July will go ahead, although attendees should expect changes to the event's format.

Liam Williams, Chair of the committee said: "Although we appreciate the event is due to take place within weeks of social distancing restrictions being lifted, the rapid roll-out of vaccines and the fact this is an outdoor event delivered in a large space, has given us the confidence to push ahead. This has been an incredibly difficult year, for some people more than others, but we feel strongly that people will want to come together as a community as soon as it is safe to do so."

He explained that the committee is working closely with colleagues from Thornbury Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council's Safety Advisory Group to ensure the event takes place safely. He cautioned that some changes will need to be made to the Carnival's format, for example, visitor access to the Mundy Playing Fields from the High Street may not be viable.

Liam also explained that the committee has taken the difficult decision to remove the carnival parade from the schedule this year: "We know lots of people enjoy the parade and even though we anticipate that social distancing restrictions will be fully lifted in time for the event, we realise some people may still feel slightly anxious about being in a crowd. We believe it is sensible, therefore, to avoid creating concentrated crowds where people will find it difficult to maintain personal space or, the significant queues caused by people moving from the parade into the Mundy Playing Fields.

We are focusing our energies on ensuring that the event we run is as inclusive as possible but it will be a more concentrated event with a real focus on the stage acts. We are expecting to have two outdoor stages; acts have been booked for the main stage and we are working hard on securing acts for the second one. We may even have an extra surprise to share!

As the rules become clearer and the infection rate continues to decline, we will work with other partners who have supported the carnival in previous years to identify how they would like to engage with us this year."

Thornbury Carnival is run by a small group of volunteers and is totally dependent on community support to ensure that it remains viable.

"We will need people to be patient with us as we work on this over the coming months and we really hope our commitment to run the event is supported by the community. We will be in touch with organisations that committed to support us last year to confirm what we are doing this year and would appreciate you waiting on us contacting you over the coming weeks."

Liam highlighted that, in recent years, ensuring financial viability of the carnival has proven challenging and has asked for businesses or organisations that might be able to support the event to come forward: "If you are involved in a business that might be able to support us with sponsorship, grants or volunteers, we would be really appreciative. We will ensure we give plenty of opportunities to promote your business across the event and of course, ensure you have a VIP experience on the day!"

The committee is continuing with its planning and will release further information as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, people are encouraged to keep up-to-date by following the Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/thornburycarnival/">https://www.facebook.com/thornburycarnival/</a> or visiting the website: <a href="https://www.thornburycarnival.co.uk">www.thornburycarnival.co.uk</a>

#### Remembering the Imjin ...

In 1950 the United Nations sent a force to deal with the communist threat posed by the North Korean invasion of South Korea and by 1951 had successfully repelled the Soviet-supported North Korean army, led by Kim Il-Sung, from the southern part of the peninsula, pushing the dividing line to north of the 38th parallel. Alarmed, the Chinese entered the conflict on the side of communists.

The British 29<sup>th</sup> Independent Infantry Brigade was part of the UN force and included men of the Gloucestershire Regiment, some of whom were National Servicemen doing their obligatory two years' conscription, little knowing what their futures would be as once again it was optimistically thought that it would be over by Christmas. By April 1951, the Chinese Spring Offensive was underway seeking to cross at the Imjin River, the historical key to capturing Seoul.

This year marks seventy years since the Battle of the Imjin River, which took place from 22nd – 25<sup>th</sup> April 1951 when around 750 men of the Gloucestershire Regiment and Troop C.170th Independent Mortar Battery, Royal Artillery, fought a force of over 10,000 Chinese regular troops in one of the major battles of the Korean War.

Towards the end of the battle, the Glosters were completely surrounded and running out of ammunition. Some men were reduced to fighting with bayonets and fists. Against overwhelming odds, the Glosters held the line against the Chinese for four days.

When they were finally given the order to break out only forty men managed to reach safety. The Chinese captured or killed the rest.

The Glosters' actions in delaying the Chinese allowed the rest of the United Nations forces time to regroup and block the advance of the enemy towards the South Korean capital Seoul.



About 450 Glosters were captured by the Chinese who forced them to march over 300 miles northwards, carrying their wounded. A number of them died en route and it was some months before their families knew of their fate. (The book, 'In Spite of Dungeons' by Rev. S.J Davies, tells of the hardships endured during their two-and-a-half years of captivity under the Chinese Communist regime.)

For their heroic stand the Glosters were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the highest American award for collective gallantry in battle.

Last year, in response to the need for PPE, the city of Paju in the north of South Korea, donated 1,000 sets of personal protective equipment for key workers in Gloucestershire fighting the coro-

navirus. It was a token of the friendship between the two countries and its strong link with the county.

The memorial erected by the people of Paju, South Korea to the Glosters and C Troop Mortar Battery RA. It is located in Gloster Hill Memorial Park not far from the site where the battle of the Imjin river took place.



#### **TORTWORTH PARISH MATTERS**

The Annual General Meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March by Zoom. The Chair Neil Hampson presented his Annual Report. There had been no parish meetings since last March although parishioners had been kept in touch and all day to day matters were all dealt with. The main thrust of work continues to be strategic planning and transport, Leyhill Prison and policing matters together with Covid and the consequent increase in recreational visitors to Tortworth.

Neil was elected Chairman with Vice- Chairman, Sally Moreton, A Planning Sub- Committee was also appointed. Following Robert Killen's retirement Roland Brown was appointed Clerk. The Chair thanked the outgoing Clerk for his work within the Parish and community.

The main meeting discussed the following:

- Parishioners were encouraged to do some litter picking, if possible.
- There were verbal updates from the Avon and Somerset Police, Tortworth School, and Tiddleypeeps Forest School.
- Leyhill Prison had sent an update which covered the ongoing building works and an update on absconders. Councillor O'Neill reported that there was a possibility of a planning application for further living accommodation for inmates.

#### **Planning**

- a) The status of the planning application for the extension to Wickwar Quarry was noted.
- b) A retrospective application for various matters at the Tortworth Business Park was discussed. The parish agreed to comment on highways access, signage and the retrospective nature of the application.
- c) Councillor O'Neill gave the usual update on planning matters locally.
- d) The parish agreed to make representations to the South Gloucestershire Local Plan Consultation particularly on highways, transport including junction 14, drainage and lighting.
- e) There were updates on the Falfield Heneage Farm development, the park and share and the likely closure of the lay by at Junction 14 except for short term parking.
- f) Updates on the status of the Stroud District Council Local Plan.
- g) Updates on the status of two planning applications in Charfield (CEG and Bloor Homes) which are with South Gloucestershire Council but it is understood will not move forward at present.
- h) Charfield Station Councillor O'Neill reported that this is going through the last stages of review by British Rail which will be completed in June, after which there will be a public consultation with a planning application being submitted later in the year. If all goes to plan the station might open in 2024.
- There was discussion on poor Broadband. The Chair agreed to take this forward.
- Concerns were raised regarding roadside trees in the ownership of South Gloucestershire.

The forthcoming census was noted. The Clerk was available to help with any queries.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June** hopefully at The Tortworth Estate Office at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome and are able to participate in the meeting. Elections for a West of England Mayor and Police Crime Commissioner are due on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

Roland Brown's contact details are: <u>roland.brown@tortworthestate.com</u> or Telephone 01454260268.

#### The 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ellacombe's invention

By Fen Marshall



Tortworth Church. New Year's Eve 2021

One or two events have fallen a bit flat over the past 12 months. I thought it would be a shame if New Year's Eve went the same way so. after a Zoom supper with the other ringers, I strolled across the fields to Tortworth Church. Beautiful night: "Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone". Full moon so I didn't need a torch. I know the route fairly well-I've been doing it over 40 years.

When I got there I "donged" the tenor and then rang the carillon. It's not strictly a carillon, it's an Ellacombe Apparatus. A hammer strikes each bell controlled by ropes pulled by one person in the ringing chamber. The bell hangs "dead" rather than rotating, so the sound does not travel so far as when they are rung the normal way, full circle. However, this year, it was so cold and still, on New Year's Eve. that apparently the bells could be heard over the whole of Tortworth. Several people commented on how atmospheric it sounded.

During Lockdown smaller towers have been unable to maintain a social distance so bells have re-

mained silent. Luckily the few services we have held have meant that we have at least managed to ring the carillon. It is hard work and 10 minutes is quite enough. We call it "milking the cow!"

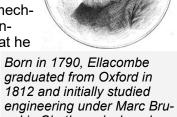
Revd. Henry Thomas Ellacombe from Bitton, near Bristol, devised the mechanism so that all the bells could be rung by one trusted person without involving a band of unruly and perhaps drunken ringers! It is rumoured that he

was a curmudgeonly old chap who had fallen out with his team of ringers and had barred them from the tower. There remains a number of these systems around the Wotton area although they are not all still ringable.

On 26th June this year, there will be a worldwide celebration of the 200 year anniversary of Ellacombe's invention of the apparatus. Bells throughout the world will be ringing, starting in New Zealand. It is

planned for them to be heard in each of the major time zones, played (this is a carillon; not proper ringing) at noon local time in each location. They will make their way to the UK, and then across the Americas, finishing in Vancouver, Canada, 17 hours after they first started.

I don't know how many local towers will take part but it would be nice to have a bit of a celebration; I've had enough of a flat year.



graduated from Oxford in 1812 and initially studied engineering under Marc Brunel in Chatham dockyard before being ordained as a priest.



#### The Leprosy Mission's Unconditional Appeal

Already one of the poorest countries in the world. Mozambique has been devastated by cyclones, floods, insurgency and disease ove the past few years. In these extreme conditions, it is often people affected by leprosy who suffer the most. Despite the difficulties brought about by Covid-19, TLM's team has continued to work tirelessly to bring healing to people affected by leprosy.

Until 24th April 2021, donations to TLM's Unconditional Appeal will be matched by the UK government. This will help to build Hubs of Hope in rural villages – community centres from which people with leprosy will be diagnosed and cured.

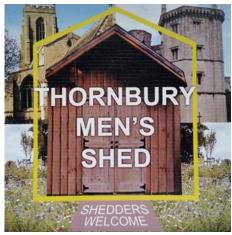
Like so many charities during this pandemic, The Leprosy Mission has been unable to hold the events which it relies on for funding its work around the world, so this offer of matched funding from the government can make a vast difference.

For further details, or to donate, go to: www.leprosymission.org.uk Address: Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5GZ

Registered Charity Number: 1050327



#### THORNBURY MEN'S SHED



With lockdown and the projected increases in unemployment, the need for Men's Sheds has never been more important. Red Cross research, 'Life after Lockdown and Loneliness' showed 41% of people polled said they were lonelier because of lockdown with 33% stating they had not had a meaningful conversation in the last week. Recent evidence shows loneliness and isolation can be as hazardous to our health as obesity and excessive smoking. Surveys from mental health charities are finding that millions of people report feeling lonely on a daily basis. Men typically find it more difficult to build social connections than women. It is not the case for all men, but for some, when retirement comes, it can feel like personal identity and purpose is lost. Men's Sheds can change all of that.

#### What are Men's Shed?

A Men's Shed is a larger version of the typical man's shed in the garden - a place where he

feels at home and pursues practical interests with a high degree of autonomy. Men's Sheds offers this to a group of such men where members share the tools and resources they need to work on projects of their own choosing at their own pace and in a safe, friendly and inclusive venue. They are places of skill-sharing and informal learning, of individual pursuits and community projects, of purpose, achievement and social interaction.

Our Men's Shed activities may involve carpentry, metalworking, bike repair, gardening equipment repair, electronics, tool renovation, model engineering and vehicle restoration. Reclamation, reuse and restoration

will feature strongly then some say that is true of the men too!



HORNBURY MEN'S SHED

Whatever activities are pursued the essence of a Shed is not a building, but the network of relationships between the members.

Location: Thornbury Men's Shed, 6 Eastland Road, Thornbury, BS351DS

Tel: 01454 415857 Contact: info@thornburymensshed.com

Future events: 12<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April Workshop Viewing & Shop reopening; 18<sup>th</sup> May Resumption of normal Men's Shed activities



We look forward to meeting prospective members throughout the Open Days when the workshops will be on display. The Shed workshops are open for members on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 17:00. An increase in opening sessions is envisaged.

Thornbury Men's Shed, a not-for-profit local organisation, is financed by membership subscriptions and sales of repaired and recycled items.

**Men's Sheds in the U.K**. have in the past eight years grown from 30 to 600 Sheds with an additional 150 or more in planning. That's around 13,000 or more Shed-

ders, as we call them, benefiting from regular social interactions, new and improved skills, and active participation in activities they enjoy. <a href="https://menssheds.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Whatis-a-Mens-Shed.mp4">https://menssheds.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Whatis-a-Mens-Shed.mp4</a>



## From Councillor John O'Neill .....

Covid-19 numbers continue to decrease in South Gloucestershire and nationally, with the vaccination programme rolling out it is hoped that we will return to some semblance of normality soon, the discovery of the Brazilian variant in

South Gloucestershire was the result of two persons from the same household returning on a Swissair flight from Sao Paulo to Zurich that transited via Heathrow on 10<sup>th</sup> February who then isolated at home.

Following the discovery surge testing was carried out at five postcodes with over 4000 asymptomatic tests completed, 20 positive covid-19 cases revealed.

Development continues as normal with the Henage Farm development at Falfield underway, with some houses completed it is expected that new residents will start to occupy properties on this site at the end of March.

Moorslade Lane at Falfield has been in a poor state of repair for some time, we have now agreed with the Council a programme of works in the 2021/22 budget to complete substantial drainage and resurfacing work on the lane we will try and keep residents updated with timings.

Developments outside the Five Alive area that are having an impact are those at Charfield with two live speculative planning applications that would deliver 800 homes, the current status of these applications is that Highways England has requested that any decision be deferred for six months so that they can assess the mitigation strategy that the developers wish to put in place for the strategic road network, namely junction 14.

With the junction at capacity the developers have designed a scheme of 4 lanes across the motorway bridge, the original scheme when the JSP was live was to add a further bridge and roundabout, obviously the developers' scheme is at a reduced cost (£10m to £12m)

Other news at Charfield is that the Network Rail feasibility study for a reopened station will be completed in June when it will be forwarded to the West of England Combined Authority for assessment; this will also include the station design. Following assessment this will proceed to public consultation and a planning application at the end of the year, with the station projected to open in March 2024.

With the pandemic lockdown many issues and schemes have been put on hold, we are now trying to get the Council to resume many of these particularly the speed reduction schemes on the B4058 western approach to Cromhall and on the A38 at Falfield.

John O'Neill. Councillor

0-0-0	FALFIELD WEATHER RECORDS JANUARY 2021			
	High	Low	Average	
Temp	13.0 <sup>0</sup> C	-4.0 °C	5.2 <sup>0</sup> C	
Dew Point	12.7 <sup>0</sup> C	-7.1 °C	3.4 °C	
Humidity	99.0 %	48 %	90 %	
Precipitation	103.89 mm			
Wettest Day	21.21 mm on 20th. YTD 103.89 mm			
Wind Speed	42.5 km/h		3.2 km/ h	
Wind Gust	48.3 km/h			
Wind direction	SSE			
Pressure	1035.90 hPa	975.62 hP a		
Go to <a href="www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163">www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163</a> for live weather information from the Falfield weather station				

#### You are what you eat .....

A Mum decided to try out a new soup recipe on her family.

"What's this?" her son enquired.

"It's bean soup," she replied.

"I don't care what it's been," he answered, "I just wondered what it is now!"

#### **Falfield Parish Council Report**

The Parish Council have continued to meet online on a monthly basis during 2021 and at their January meeting Councillors welcomed Mike Wheeler following his co-option as Parish Councillor.

A major task for Councillors at their meetings in 2021 has been to respond to South Gloucestershire's consultation on Phase 1 of the 2020 Local Plan which has now been submitted to South Gloucestershire. Copies of the Parish Council's responses can be found on the Parish Council's website. South Gloucestershire Council as part of the Local Plan. have now also published the Call for Sites document. The purpose of the 'Call for Sites' is to provide an opportunity for people to identify sites they think may have the potential for development (for housing and economic purposes) through the Local Plan. For anyone interested on which sites have been identified in Falfield South Gloucestershire Council have an interactive map where these sites are identified.

The next Council meeting will be held via Zoom on 20<sup>th</sup> April. On 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the temporary legislation to allow Councils to meet remotely comes to an end and from this date all meetings must be undertaken physically and in Falfield's case these will be held in the Village Hall. However, due to the current programme for easing the lockdown measures it is unclear whether the Annual Assembly meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting planned for 18<sup>th</sup> May will be possible. Hopefully by the time the Council meets in April guidance will have been received from central government to allow Councillors to decide whether this date stands or has to be brought forward ahead of the expiration of the legislation which allows virtual meetings to take place. Information will be provided nearer the time on the Parish notice boards and on the Parish Council's website.

Finally, the Parish Council have also been advised that major work to the road surface in Moorslade Lane is expected to commence in April. While this work is being undertaken the road is expected to be closed for a period of up to ten days with diversions in place.

J. Carpenter, Clerk & RFO,

<u>parish.clerk@falfieldparishcouncil.org.uk</u> <u>www.falfieldparishcouncil.org.uk</u>

#### **Tytherington Village Shop**



We are very pleased to report that our little shop continues to flourish. We have been able to provide a much needed service which many of you have used and appreciated, throughout

the pandemic.

It has been good to welcome quite a few new volunteers to help in the running of the shop. This is great news because looking ahead, we want to open again in the afternoons for at least a couple of hours on weekdays, probably from sometime in May. As the weather warms up, it would be great to be able to offer tea and cake, cold drinks and ice creams to people enjoying walks around Tytherington, to families using the play area in the Jubilee field, to cyclists or villagers wanting to meet up for a chat outside, once the guidelines allow it.

We also look forward to welcoming back some of our old friends and helpers who have had to shield during the past year, when you feel ready to return – maybe after second jabs. Do let us know how you're doing – we have missed you all – but hopefully not for too much longer!

#### TYTHERINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor - Brian Allen (01179 793104)



FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF ANY OF OUR SERVICES/ACTIVITIES,
PLEASE CONTACT
Brian on: 0117 9 793104

or e-mail: allenbroncksea@blueyonder.co.uk

#### Meet the New Chairman - Royal British Legion, Thornbury & District



Larry Cauchi

Following the recent AGM, the Thornbury and District Branch of the Royal British Legion has a new Chairman, Larry Cauchi. He comes from a family with a military background and joined the RAF following his membership of the Air Training Corps and a long-term love of aircraft.

Having trained as an aircraft engineer, he served for twenty-six years in Germany, the Middle East and USA as well as in UK. Sport, travel and adventure were some of the perks he also enjoyed as part of service life, one of the highlights of which was attendance at a Royal Garden Party.

After leaving the RAF, Larry moved to Rolls Royce Defence in Bristol and managed the operations desk providing technical support to Air Forces around the world. In an attempt to maintain the sense of comradeship and belonging to the military family, he joined the Royal British Legion, seeing this also as a chance to and to help those in need both locally and in the wider RBL community.

As the new Chairman of the Thornbury branch, Larry hopes to increase and build membership, pointing out that you do not have to be serving or a veteran of the Armed Forces; anyone who shares its aims and values can join the RBL and will be very welcome.

He would also like to build on the successful welfare support the organisation provides for its members, which has been particularly welcome during lockdown. Volunteers have helped with shopping, prescriptions etc, as well as making calls to check on members' health and well-being and offer some social interaction.

The Thornbury RBL branch normally meets at 12 noon on the last Sunday of the month in the Black Horse at Gillingstool, and while this isn't possible at present, Larry looks forward to the meetings resuming along with the opportunity to welcome new members.

#### *SWEEPSAFE*

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#### CROMHALL CHAPEL

www.cromhallchapel.org www.cromhall.com

#### A year on Zoom!

Who would have thought that on March 15<sup>th</sup>, as a chapel, we had gathered together in person for the last time for over a year?

Through the wonder of technology, we have still been able to meet as a chapel family these past twelve months via Zoom and phone. We have gathered together each Sunday morning for worship, prayer, singing and fellowship and also we have met midweek for dedicated prayer and Bible study times.

We are looking forward to when we can safely open our doors again and welcome people into our church family building, with singing, rejoicing and thanksgiving to our wonderful God. We look forward to resuming our Tots group, crafters, breakfasts and other activities and meetings.

In the meantime, if you would like to join us via Zoom, please contact davidnsue@gmail.com



#### **FALFIELD WEATHER RECORDS** FEBRUARY 2021

	High	Low	Average
Temp	15.8 <sup>0</sup> C	-4.1 °C	6.3 °C
Dew Point	11.3 °C	-16.9 °C	0.9 °C
Humidity	99.0 %	27.0 %	72.0 %
Precipitation	66.30 mm		
Wettest Day	9.91 mm on 3rd. YTD 170.19 mm		
Wind Speed	42.2 km/h		5.4 km /h
Wind Gust	52.1 km/h		
Wind direc- tion	SE		
Pressure	1041.31 hPa	993.57 hPa	

Go to www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/ dashboard?ID=IENGLAND1163 for live weather information from the Falfield weather station

# Wishing everyone a Healthy and Peaceful Easter



# HANDYMAN SERVICES

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#### Lambing in Lockdown

As we all hope the end of the nationwide lockdown is near, I have been enjoying my annual 'lockdown' to which I have been accustomed for many years – at lambing time. This year, unlike other years, I have been unable to share the event with visitors, and particularly the grandchildren who usually come to stay for a few days to help.

I have always looked forward to lambing time as, for me, it is a real harbinger of Spring. As we start feeding the ewes with extra rations and then, nearer to the due date, bring them into the sheds at night; the weather is wintry and cold. However, as the weeks progress, the days lengthen and the signs of Spring bring me great joy.

We have shunned setting up cameras in the barn, to watch the ewes from the house, as our many trips up and down to check them can bring great rewards, as well as keep us fit!

In February the full moon, apparently called the 'Snow Moon' (or the 'Hungry Moon' by Indian tribes nearing the end of winter food stocks) shone brightly in clear starry skies. No need for a torch as I walked in moonlight down to the shed.

I stand quietly in the corner as the ewes that have lambed lie cuddled up to their new offspring, and those still expectant lie, sometimes flat out, snoring loudly! It is soon apparent if a ewe is lambing.

We have enjoyed so many days of dry weather it was a change to see the rain this week. On the first wet evening my torch picked out one, and then more big fat toads tempted out by the rain to make their journey to the pond.

In the early morning the first sounds of morning chorus greet me, and I listen out for the same

birds in their particular bushes along the way; the wren, the great tit, blue tit and robin and in the fields the drumming of the green woodpecker.

As I write this, the stormy gusts and rain have passed and we have just turned out the first lambs into the field. They are like the children returning to school, as they delight in freedom from parental control and race up and down the field together, and leap high in the air.

We know that we are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful spot,

and we welcome all the walkers who have recently walked the footpaths. We hope that this heightened awareness of the local countryside will encourage everyone to support the farmers and protect the landscape from too much building or solar panels.

Ruth Dixon

#### **Tytherington Parish Council**

How lovely to get Five Alive back again. A big thank you to all in the back room who have made this possible. Tytherington Parish Council would also like to thank everyone who has helped in any way to make this long lockdown more bearable for residents, especially the Village Shop and The Swan, who have done an amazing job.

Thank you also to those residents who sent back their CIL Consultation forms, the response was disappointing, only 137 out of the 600 forms sent out were returned but both the Village Store and Solar Panels were the most requested items, closely followed by the swallow tower. As stated on the CIL documentation the results are on the Parish Council web site, <a href="www.tytheringtonpc.org.uk">www.tytheringtonpc.org.uk</a>. The Village Store was started fairly promptly as the builder was keeping his 2020 prices on hold until the end of January 2021. The Village Store will house equipment from organisations in the Village and for the first time the Village marquee will be stored in the dry as it has been out in all weathers for the past three years.

A lot of comments on the CIL Consultation form requested traffic calming measures, these require surveys and consultations through South Gloucestershire Council before they can be progressed. The first stage, a speed monitoring exercise has been booked with South Gloucestershire Council. This has been held in abeyance at the present time, due to the fact that present traffic conditions would not give a true reflection on the number of cars and speed, whilst we go through lockdown conditions. Another suggestion was to look at a VAR (a vehicle speed detector), which a number of councils have bought recently. If it is decided to purchase a VAR this would probably be run in conjunction with Speedwatch, and the Parish Council again appeal for volunteers to join this group, as at present the group is very small. It would not take a great deal of time to volunteer and hopefully a larger group would improve the speed monitoring through the village. Please contact Colin Winkworth at cjwinkworth@btinternet.com.

This year the Parish Council are going to run the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April. This will be a remote meeting using zoom and details will be available at the end of the month.

The Parish Council have also been awarded S106 money to be spent on children's play equipment and sport. To this end the PC are at present consulting with various companies for ideas on the best way to spend the money and enhance the play and sports equipment available to villagers. The PC are looking at a possible MUGA (multi-use sports area), outdoor Gym Equipment, trim trail and more swings on the Hardwicke Field and the replacement of some old equipment plus more swings in the Jubilee Field. There will be a consultation later on in the year but if any resident has any ideas they would like to share with the Parish Council please send them to clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk.

Unfortunately many of the ash trees on Tytherington's green spaces have been affected by ash dieback and to fell these trees will cost the Parish a great deal of money. This year we are absorbing the cost, because of the savings that were made on the green spaces in 2020, as no labour costs were incurred, but next year the precept may have to be increased to absorb these costs.

Finally to avoid 'fake news' if anyone has any queries or complaints, please either come to a Parish Council meeting to put your views to the Councillors or write to the clerk at <a href="mailto:clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk">clerk@tytheringtonpc.org.uk</a>. The clerk only works for 8 hours per week for the Parish Council but will endeavour to answer your queries/complaints as soon as possible.

G. Brooks, Clerk

#### **Rockhampton Parish Council Report**

An online meeting was arranged between a South Gloucestershire Council representative and Falfield and Rockhampton Parish Councils in early January for both Councils to ask questions regarding the consultation for the proposed pedestrianisation of Thornbury High Street before the Parish Council met later in the month to formulate their response to the consultation which can be now viewed on the Parish Council website.

The Parish Council met again in February for their normal routine quarterly meeting where they were joined by Severn Ward Cllr Keith Burchill in the absence of Severn Ward Cllr Matthew Riddle who had sent in his written report ahead of the meeting.

Councillors noted that the marker stone on the Hill road had now been repositioned and thanked the Internal Drainage Board for their help in this matter. Councillors raised several highways issues in relation to potholes and in particular subsidence on a section of the Hill Road which the Clerk was instructed to bring to South Gloucestershire Council's attention. The issue of litter in the Parish was discussed and the possibility of installing a small litter bin in the Village Hall car park was put forward. Councillors noted that it would not be possible to arrange the normal Spring Clean due to the current COVID-19 restrictions but hoped that Parishioners when out walking in the Parish could pick up any litter where it was safe to do SO.

Cllr England had produced a draft response to the South Gloucestershire Council 2020 Local Plan – Phase 1 which Councillors approved at the meeting. Details of this response can be viewed on the Parish Council website. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting preceded by the Annual Assembly which will take place in May (please refer to Notice Boards and website towards the end of April for actual date and time)

James Carpenter, Clerk & RFO, rockhamptonpc@gmail.com, www.rockhamptonparishcouncil.co.uk

#### **Tortworth Farewells**

During recent months several of those who had an affinity with Tortworth have been lost to us. Covid restrictions have made funerals impossible for many of us to attend to say our farewells but we do not want former friends and neighbours to be forgotten.

Sadly we have to record the deaths of Margaret Randall, (nee Smith), a local girl, who lived at Woodend Farm after marrying Ted Randall before moving to the strawberry farm in Ebrington, near Chipping Campden. Her Mum remarried Arthur (Cory) Panes. Margaret was very fond of St. Leonard's, regularly attending the recent Cream Teas afternoons.

Grace Hutchins and her husband, Alan were regular worshippers at St. Leonard's where they played key roles. Grace was a keen flower arranger and could regularly be found helping to mow the churchyard in her younger days.

We send our condolences to their families.

Dave Thorne was a well-known inhabitant of Tortworth for many years, where he worked as a plumber on the Estate and latterly lived in the Estate Yard near the church.

Born in Oldbury, he grew up at Horton, initially working for Lewington's builders at Chipping Sodbury before moving to Tortworth.

Dave had a deep interest in local history and was a keen metal detectorist; known for his kindness and willingness to help others, he will be sorely missed.

We offer our sympathy to his wife, June, and the family.



#### 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 Wottonunder-Edge, Glos, GL12 8DJ. Tel. 01454 260364 Email: kay.rea@btinternet.com

Charges per issue are as follows:

	<b>Business Rates</b>	Rates for businesses within the benefice
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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).

