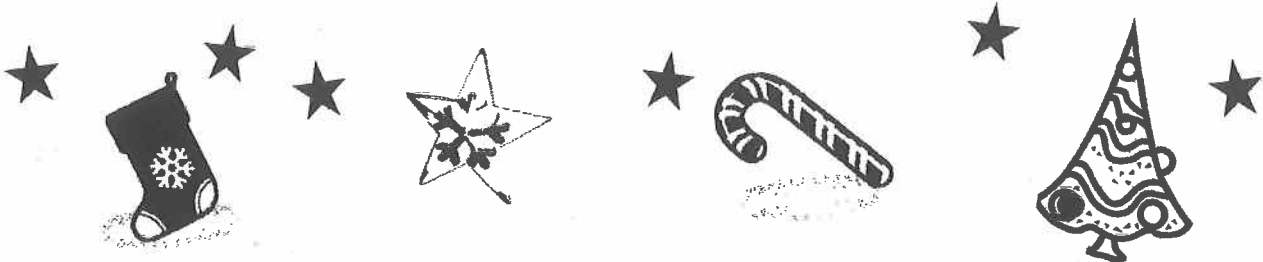


**Broughton
Gifford**

VILLAGE



**Pre School
Christmas Market**

Sunday 6th December 1.30 - 4.00pm



Broughton Gifford Village Hall. Adults £1 Children Free.

MAGAZINE

**November
2009**

NOVEMBER 2009

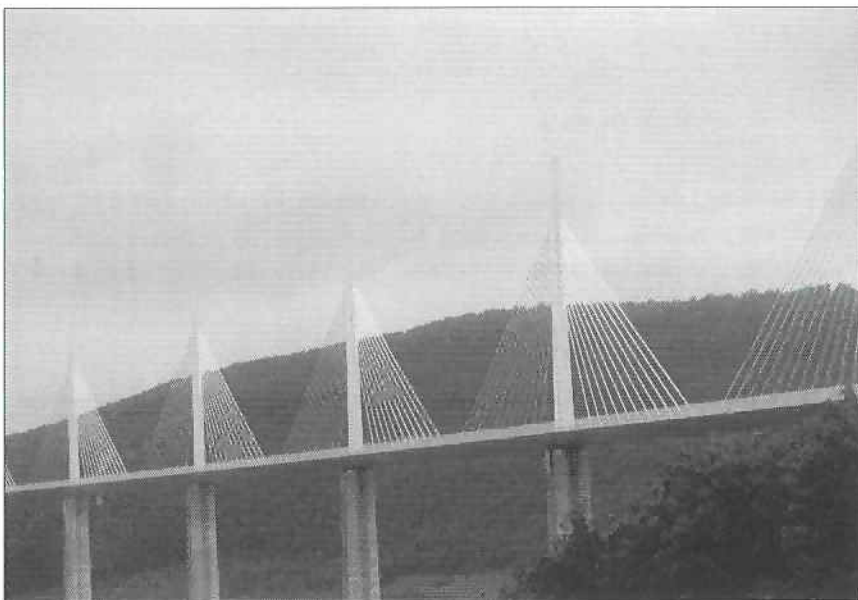
The wanderer returns ! It's good to have Hilary back from her travels - in her absence I have to rely on a network of spies to keep me abreast of village events. One of them tells me that Malcolm Arnold of The Street, well known to many of you as a leading athletics coach, has been inducted into the English Athletics Hall of Fame (together with such luminaries as David Hemery and Jonathon Edwards). Many congratulations Malcolm. Here's Hilary.....

Ponderings

It seems a very long time since I was in my pondering position, and I can hear you all chanting, 'serves you right for abandoning us and going away'. May be you are right, but we did have a lovely time, the weather was good, and we visited some fascinating places. You all had a sunny September anyway, so I cannot be held responsible for any foul weather. One of our goals was



to visit the Millau Viaduct in Southern France, and we actually got there. The road was designed to take traffic from the Massif Central, and to funnel it down to the South and beyond, without the necessity of using some very lovely but extremely impractical roads, and I think that



in this it has succeeded. The Viaduct was designed by Sir Norman Foster and built by a Swedish consortium, and I think they all made a jolly good job of it. It looks absolutely breathtaking. Full of enthusiasm, we booked a trip on an open, topped bus to travel to it from the town of Millau. When we woke up on the appointed morning, it was lashing with rain! Never mind, we donned full wet weather gear (we are not sailors for nothing) and set off to

find the bus. The thoughtful bus company provided us all with white plastic macs in a neat little pouch. Mine stayed in its pouch, and I have it still. It was a very impressive trip, despite the rain. and the thunder and lightning only added to the experience. We went back in the afternoon, when the rain had stopped, and re-visited all the places where the rain had made life particularly difficult. Incidentally, this was almost the only rain we had.

On our return, I found it very hard to come back to reality and to live normally again. In my absence the village seems to have said goodbye to some of its much valued citizens, and I am

worried by the possible effect this will have on my readership. I just won't be able to go away again, or we won't have anyone left.

For those of you who are still around, I hope you are all fit and well and raring to go. This is being a particularly beautiful autumn, and I hope it is having an upbeat effect on morale. I know the nights are drawing in, and the temperatures are dropping, but bright sunny days do help a lot. HM had a nasty touch of a flu-y bug, and I hope no-one else has suffered likewise. I am not aware of anyone else on the sick list apart from Ron Holdway, who is progressing nicely, and Ros Tyre, who is still rather under the weather. We send her all our best wishes.

While on the subject of physical wellbeing, could I enter a plea on behalf of all pedestrians, and direct this specifically to all car drivers. When it rains, as it very often does, our roads are not the most free-draining in the world, and large puddles gather, deliberately to trap the unwary. It would be much appreciated if car drivers could bear this in mind when they tear through the village, sending up large fountains of dirty water to soak innocent walkers from head to toe. It tends to sour the dispositions of those thus soaked. Your kind attention to this matter would be appreciated.

I gather that there has been a certain amount of musical chairs been played with houses recently, and when the music stops everyone has to dash into their new abode. I hope all your moves were satisfactory, and, after all the packing and unpacking, I think I have only got to welcome two newcomers to the village, Christopher and Ann Fielden. Welcome, Christopher and Ann.

The deadline for the next Magazine is 19th November, when I will remind you of the number of turkey-troubling days to Christmas. I am not geared up for Christmas yet. Who is?

Bob Bartos

It was very helpful to have so many friends in Church with us on Wednesday 16th September. Thank you all very much. I also seem to be living in a bower of flowers which is most cheering. As for cards and letters - so many and such kind words.

Chris

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REPORT OF BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 14TH OCTOBER 2009

Mr Pitts had sent his apologies as he had to look after his children. PC Dalton and Mr Mike Bailey were in attendance for part of the meeting. Wiltshire Councillor Mark Griffiths and Mr Gordon Jeffries stayed for the entire meeting.

MATTERS ARISING Mr Taylor confirmed he would contact the operator of the drain inspection equipment to find out if he had carried out the work in the Sawmills Industrial Estate and, if so what his findings were.

POLICE MATTERS PC Barry Dalton advised that crime remained low in the parish. One burglary from a dwelling in The Street had been reported, which showed similarities to others carried out recently in nearby communities. Evidence has been collected and inquiries are continuing. Minor anti-social behaviour during the school holidays had been reported, especially in and around the Village Hall car park and the area is regularly patrolled. Fly tipping is becoming an increasing problem and any suspicious activities by people and vehicles should be reported so that the Police can follow up on possible incidents. With Halloween and Bonfire Night just round the corner posters advising that properties will not welcome visitors linked with these occasions are now available to be displayed in homes and can also be downloaded from the Police website. Ball games continue to be a problem in the VH car park, with youths climbing poles to turn the relevant notices banning the activity away from view. It was reported that locals at the end of Newleaze Park are complaining about numerous cars and youths occupying the Sawmills Industrial Estate car park at night, playing music and being generally noisy for several hours, accompanied by various odours possibly involving drug use. PC Dalton would ensure both areas would be randomly patrolled to either catch possible offenders or deter this behaviour continuing. A freezer had once again been dumped in the entrance of a field in Mill Lane, which the Clerk would report to Wiltshire Council. Mr Gurney thanked PC Dalton for his report and he then left the meeting to return to his duties.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL MATTERS Mr Gurney welcomed Wiltshire Councillor Mark Griffiths to the meeting. Mr Griffiths advised that in a drive towards better health and safety practice, Wiltshire Council had budgets to repair pot holes and improve lighting provision throughout the County. As picked up at the recent Melksham Area Board meeting, the ongoing problem of speeding is a serious concern to many communities. In response to these concerns, Wiltshire Council may look into the purchase of speed indication devices, at least one per Area Board, together with relevant training on how to correctly operate the equipment. This would not involve enforcement but enable monitoring, with data being passed on to the Police to investigate and follow up as necessary. Mr Wiltshire had attended the Area Board meeting and spoke on the possibility of rural communities joining forces to purchase and operate equipment between them, after being particularly impressed with the local response received to a speed awareness sign recently deployed in Broughton Gifford. Mr Griffiths advised that application can be made to the Area Board for a grant for such purposes, with the aim of 'match funding' any monies provided by the applicant(s). It has also been suggested that the Police could be responsible for transporting and setting up each piece of speed indication equipment from Area to Area. Mr Wiltshire also reported to the meeting that a representative from Wiltshire Council Highways was present at the AB and he confirmed that, as part of a new national scheme, signs are currently on order and would be installed at both ends of Mill Lane to state that SATNAV systems should be ignored as this stretch of highway is totally unsuitable for HGV's. Mr Wiltshire reported that a member of the public was concerned about the proposed 'public' use of the facilities that will be available at the new school at Woolmore

Farm, Bowerhill. The site was not going to be an adequate replacement for Christie Miller Sports Centre since they will be used by the pupils during the day and only be available for public use after school has finished and at weekends. Mr Griffiths stated that the whole leisure and recreation topic was being reconsidered by the new Wiltshire Council, so the future of many sports facilities, including Christie Miller were currently up in the air until results from a new leisure study and relevant consultation were available. Mr Gurney thanked Mr Griffiths for his report, who opted to stay for the duration of the meeting.

BONFIRE NIGHT ON THE COMMON

Mr Bailey asked the permission of the Parish Council to hold the annual celebration on the Common on Saturday 7th November 2009, with the bonfire being lit at 6.30 pm and the fireworks starting at 7 pm. The Parish Council unanimously agreed. Mr Bailey presented insurance documents in relation to the Village Hall's policy, Flashpoint Fireworks Ltd and the operator of mechanical rides, Mr Denmark for the Parish Council's attention and records. Additional stewards would be in place across the top end of the roped off display area to stop people walking through the prepared 'firework' setup. The bonfire is likely to be started this coming weekend. Mr Gurney, on behalf of the Parish Council, wished the event every success and thanked Mr Bailey for coming. He then left the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Melksham Without Parish Council regarding Countrywide Farmers' recent planning application. The letter asked for the Parish Council's support for the application to relocate operations from its current outlet, by redeveloping the disused area occupied by grain silos to make way for the already permitted Asda store. This request follows reports in the press that Wiltshire Council planners are recommending refusal of the application, suggesting the local retailer relocates to another town. Mr Atkins did not think it appropriate for the Parish Council to respond on this matter, since it was not consulted about and did not comment on the application submitted by Asda. Mr Hooper stated that Countrywide Farmers had served the rural community very well for many years and presented no threat whatsoever to Melksham town centre shops, unlike Asda. The Parish Council will send a letter of support for Countrywide Farmers planning application, to redevelop and relocate its store, to the Western Area Planning Committee since the proposed retail outlet would sit on the border of this parish and so it has every right to submit its comments.

Details of current regulations in respect of weekend/evening working on the Sawmills Industrial Estate would be requested from Development Control at Wiltshire Council, following a query from a parishioner.

Wiltshire Council had advised that a list of grit bins recommended for removal would be supplied to parish and town councils by the end of November and that all requests for existing bins to be re-filled or new bins to be installed must come through the relevant council. The Parish Council would request all its existing bins be refilled and a new bin be installed at the Atworth end of the Common, where water frequently flows across the road and causes severe problems in icy weather.

Letters had been received from two parishioners residing on the Common complaining about excessive noise and disturbance caused in August by some scrambler bikes on land at Great Chalfield. This nuisance lasted several hours on a few occasions and caused extreme discomfort. Unfortunately this disturbance was being caused outside this Parish albeit during normal daylight hours and not late into the night. However, it sympathises with the parishioner's plight and copies of the letters would be passed onto Atworth Parish Council for reference.

PLANNING

Permission had been granted for the extension to steel portal framed agricultural building to compensate for the demolition of a pole barn at Willowbrook Farm. Permission had been granted on the outline application for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling with linked double garage/office and ancillary accommodation at Willowbrook Farm. An application had been received for a change of use to convert the redundant Methodist Church (The Street) into a dwelling. Mr Taylor declared an interest and did not participate in any discussion. The Parish Council viewed the relevant plans and had no objections. It supported the application as it did not change the outside of the building at all, fully retaining the character of the property and the immediate area. Development Control would be advised accordingly. An application to remove a redundant piggery building and the erection of new building (incorporating garage/stable/laundry and stores) at Mill Farm, Mill Lane had been received. The Parish Council had no objections. An application to crown reduce various trees within the grounds of Gifford Hall Farmhouse had been received. The Parish Council had no objections. An application to carry out various tree works at 20 The Street had been received. The Parish Council had no objections. An application had been received for tree works within the garden of 109 The Common and the Parish Council had no objections. It had been noted that a food outlet had recently appeared at Reeds Yard, Bradford Road (B3107) near the Countrywide roundabout. Numerous 'homemade' advertising signs of varying sizes had been erected on the B3107 in both directions. The Parish Council was not aware that planning permission had been given for this usage of the site and it would be reported to Development Control at Wiltshire Council, requesting the relevant enforcement action.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND HIGHWAYS

Mr Taylor stated that sinking the telephone wire in Curtis Orchard and removing the newest pole would cost several hundred pounds and BT would not commit to carry out this work. Wiltshire Council Highways had commented on various issues brought to its attention recently by the Parish Council: Stonar School equestrian events would no longer be signposted through the Village. Two new signs will be erected on the B3107 giving advance warning of the weight limit in Mill Lane. Deterioration of the road edges along Mill Lane have been highlighted for repair. Although the road surface in parts of Curtis Orchard is uneven there are no recognised defects but the area will continue to be monitored. The drain opposite the entrance to Frying Pan Farm will be jetted when the vehicle is next in the Village. Poor standard of repairs in Curtis Orchard and pavement near The Reading Rooms are only temporary and are on a list for future patching works to be carried out. The issues regarding the street name signs for Woodpecker Close have been passed onto Diane Ware. Representatives from the Parish Council would meet with Wiltshire Council Highways on site to discuss the highway issues regarding Curtis Orchard in the next few weeks.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A suggestion was made that, following the recent Stonar School equestrian event in held September, (during which people in Newleaze Park could hear the PA system over the whole weekend) the entire Village should have a 7.5 tonne weight limit, except for access to deter the massive horse boxes using the Village as a 'cut through'. The Parish Council would seek the views of WC Highways. The Parish Council had concerns about the safety of children playing in Woodpecker Close due to the speed of vehicles entering the development. A notice would be placed in the Village Magazine drawing attention to the dangers. Selwood Housing would be asked to erect warning signs.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 4th November 2009 starting at 7.30 pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

The Parish Council knows that many children play out in the streets near their homes such as Newleaze Park, Curtis Orchard and Woodpecker Close. It asks all drivers to be vigilant and cautious about the possible presence of young children in these areas by reducing their speed. This is especially important on entering these housing developments, as small children may initially be hidden from view. It also requests parents make their children aware of the dangers of playing in the street and to ensure they understand to react when hearing or seeing vehicles approaching, by quickly and safely moving out of the road.

THANK YOU

**Chris Smith
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The Friends of St Mary's Primary School

COFFEE MORNING

With a bring and buy produce stall

At The Fox

Saturday 28th November

Children very welcome

From 11.00



FANCY A FAMILY SEASON TICKET TO BOWOOD OR LUXURY FOOD HAMPER?

Then enter our Christmas draw, tickets are £2.50 each and are available at our coffee mornings, the Preschool Market and Maggie Chippendale, 22 The Street, tel: 01225 783233.

Don't miss out !

Look out for **BROUGHTON GIFFORD MUGS** – on sale from the beginning of November. Available at our coffee mornings, the Preschool market and venues around the village. Beautifully illustrated by Jan Symes, they are the perfect Christmas present!

WANTED

**WELL-FENCED PADDOCK OR FIELD
IN BROUGHTON GIFFORD TO RENT
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- Plenty of off-street parking.

Please contact Jo or Ros on 07817 968141 during opening hours to arrange a free taster session.

Broughton Gifford Village Hall News

Registered Charity 305477

200 Club

Prize Draw -Winning Numbers

Sept 2009	Dave Crease	£10
	Mrs Jones	£10
Oct 2009	Mrs G Williams	£10
	Mick Adams	£10

There are 2 numbers currently available, if anyone would like to join the 200 club please contact Sue Jeffries on 783438.

Update on Proposed Refurbishment of Toilets

The mandatory 5-year inspection of the hall's fixed wiring & switchgear took place in February this year. That inspection highlighted no less than 77 separate defects and some of those defects needed urgent attention. The hall's management committee therefore decided that remedial works to the electrics should be completed prior to embarking on the toilets' refurbishment project.

Therefore, despite being awarded grants from Grassroots (£5,000) and Community First (£5,000), our "flush fund" for the toilet's refurbishment has been somewhat depleted. We have now scheduled the work for August 2010, but we need to do some major fundraising before work can start.

If you are in a position to make a donation to this worthy cause, please send it to Sue Jeffries (Treasurer), 120 The Street (783438). Thank you.

Maintenance Volunteers Required

Have we any volunteers who might be happy to join a group of similarly minded people to help with the general maintenance of the Hall? Rob Giles has been doing this job for many years now, but work commitments mean he's finding it harder and harder to find the time required. Many hands make light work, so we're hoping that a small team of willing volunteers can be found to carry on Rob's excellent work. Please contact Rob on 782 798 if you're interested in helping. Thank you.

Andrew writes

If you had asked people in 1968 which nation would dominate the world in watchmaking during the 1990s and through into the 21st Century, there would have been no doubt in anyone's mind – Switzerland. The Swiss had dominated the watchmaking industry for the previous 60 years, they were highly efficient, their product was the best in the world, and they were continually refining their expertise. The Swiss had come forward with the minute hand and the second hand. They led the world in discovering better ways to manufacture the gears, mainspring and bearings. They had led the way in techniques for waterproofing watches, and they were developing self-winding mechanisms. In 1968 the Swiss made 65% of all the watches sold in the world, and they had their hands on 90% of the profit in the watchmaking industry.

How was it that by 1980, they only had 10% of the market, and they had laid off thousands of watchmakers? Between 1979 and 1981 out of 62,000 watchmakers, they had laid off 50,000!! The answer is that the Swiss had refused to consider a new development – the Quartz movement – which to add insult to injury had been invented by a Swiss! The Quartz movement had no mainspring or knob and so it was rejected. It was too much of a change in the way things were done for the Swiss industry to get their heads around. Some companies like Seiko accepted the new ideas and they rapidly became the leaders in the watch industry.

For the Swiss, the past was so secure, so profitable, so dominant, that it blinded them to what was happening right under their noses. They had come to think that everything would continue on forever as they had come to expect. They had reached a point where they were unable to rethink how they did business. Past success had blinded them to the importance of watching how the world was changing, and responding to those changes. They had to learn the lessons that have brought many organisations to their knees, that past accomplishment is no guarantee to future success.

The church has faced similar changes. At the beginning of the 20th Century, vicars each had several curates who were all out doing the pastoral visits. Sunday attendance was good. The church was so used to everyone coming to it, that it failed to remember that it had the task of spreading the faith. To add to this, as the world trundled through two world wars, the church failed to spot that people were starting to think differently. Furthermore the church stuck to the old ways of doing the services. The sense of tradition was very strong, and change seemed like a dirty word. Churches forgot that they had the treasure of good news and that they had a duty to make that good news relevant and accessible to each generation. Some churches have still to face up to those challenges. At St Mary's the main emphasis of what we do is about making the good news of Jesus relevant for today's people and we offer different styles of services and ways to access the Christian faith.

If you are someone who has lost touch with church and possibly with God also, because of the past failings of the church, why not think about joining the small but growing community that is St Mary's.

One thing we believe is that God never gives up on the business of loving all sorts of people into a relationship with Him, and that he blesses those churches who are prepared to work alongside Him in that task.

With Every Blessing

Andrew

Diary

November

- 2nd 7.30 pm Alpha Course at Holt Village Hall.
 3rd 9.30 am - 3 pm Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield. Short period of silence before the service and meditation at 1 pm led by Anthony Matthew. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee available. All welcome.
 8th Remembrance Sunday, 10.45 am Parade Service at St Mary's, Broughton Gifford. All welcome.
 9th 7.30 pm Alpha Course at Holt Village Hall.
 11th 7.30 pm St Mary's PCC meeting at Jasmine Cottage.
 12th All Saints' PCC meeting.
 13th Reg Meuross at St Katharine's, Holt.
 14th 10 am - 12 noon St Mary's Coffee Morning at Broughton Gifford Village Hall. All welcome.
 16th 7.30 pm Alpha Course at Holt Village Hall.
 23rd 7.30 pm Alpha Course at Holt Village Hall.
 28th 7.30 pm Jazz for Juba, Holt Village Hall.
 29th 6.00 pm Advent Service of Light at St Katharine's Church, Holt. No services at St Mary's or All Saints', please join the service at St Katharine's, Holt.

December

- 1st 9.30 am - 3 pm Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield. Short period of silence before the service and meditation at 1 pm led by a member of the team. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee available. All welcome.
 7th 6.30 pm Christingle Service at St Mary's Church, Broughton Gifford. All welcome.
 19th 7.30 pm Tre Luci concert at St Katharine's Church, Holt.

Sunday Services

	Holt St Katharine	Broughton Gifford St Mary	Great Chalfield All Saints
<u>November</u>			
1 st	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am PC	6.00 pm Patronal E
8 th <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	10.00 am Joint Parade Service, URC, Holt	10.45 am Parade Service	9.00 am HC 6.00 pm Immanuel Service
15 th	10.30 am MW 6.00 pm PP	10.00 am PC	11.00 am M
22 nd	10.30 am MW 6.00 pm CE Patronal	10.00 am MS	9.00 am HC
29 th	6.00 pm Advent Service Of Light	No Services at St Mary's and All Saints', please join the service at St. Katharine's.	
<u>December</u>			
6 th	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am PC	6.00 pm E
7 th		6.30 pm Christingle	
13 th	10.30 am MW	10.00 am SS	6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight

KEY TO TYPES OF SERVICE

HC	Holy Communion	PC	Parish Communion, Common Worship	MW	Morning Worship
SKT	St. Katharine's Together	E	Evening Prayer	MS	Morning Service
ChE	Choral Evensong	SS	Second Sundays Family Service	M	Matins
FC	Family Communion	PP	Praise and Preach		

Have you visited the website yet?
Keep in touch at www.stmarysbg.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH
invites you to a
Coffee Morning
Saturday 14th November
10 am - 12 midday
at
Broughton Gifford Village Hall
Bring and Buy, Cakes, Raffle.
All welcome

Shine a light in the darkness for children this Christingle

**St Mary's Church, Broughton
Gifford**
on Monday 7th December
at 6.30 pm

**We will be holding a special
Christingle celebration of light,
in aid of The Children's Society
and its work for disadvantaged
children. We hope you will join
us for this joyful and moving
service.**



Christingle originated in the Moravian Church in 1747

All proceeds go to The Children's Society
Charity registration number 221124



**The
Children's
Society**



JAZZ FOR JUBA

...is Holt's way of raising money for deserving causes in the Sudan, while having a stomping good evening at the same time.

On SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, the well known ROB WALKER JAZZ BAND will be returning to the village, by popular demand. Like last year, they'll be strutting their stuff in the VILLAGE HALL, joining forces with St Katharine's Church and Holt School to collect funds for Juba in southern Sudan.

The audience will not only be tapping their feet, but enjoying a jive and a bop. There'll be bangers and mash, and delicious home-made onion gravy, all washed down with beer and wine from the bar. Come along and let your hair down!

Tickets cost just £10 each (£5 for children under 14) and must be purchased in advance from Holt Superstore or by post from Fiona Drysdale (tel 01225 782095 for address)

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

October 2009 The meeting started with the usual business and notifications of future events of which included the Carol Concert in St Mary's Broughton Gifford on Monday 14 December 2009 at 2.30 pm. There were also a Christmas shopping trip, a visit to the factory in Richmond making poppies, a carol service in Salisbury Cathedral among others. The Christmas meeting was also mentioned as we need food to be provided by our members.

The talk by Geraldine Marchand was on fashion during World War II and a slide show ensued showing how women's clothing changed with uniforms and rationing. It moved from just before the war and on to the end with Dior's New Look. I think Geraldine also managed to learn a little from one or two of our more senior members who could remember the clothes and one lady actually had a dress that was identical to one on the slide. Mrs S Cleverley gave a vote of thanks.

We finished with our normal chat and tea. Refreshments were provided by Mrs R Mortimer and Mrs B Pullen whilst Mrs M Mortimer helped serve.

Future events include a Coffee Morning on Friday 6 November 2009 at 10 am at 9 Newleaze Park and not only will coffee and biscuits be provided but a chance to buy some new and used CDs. Our November meeting on Tuesday 10 November in the Village Hall is a Pampered Chef party so if anyone out there needs any new equipment for the kitchen this could be the place to buy something.

WI GROUP MEETING HELD IN BROUGHTON GIFFORD VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2009

After a pitiful and painful rendering of the mighty hymn Jerusalem we were reminded about the WI Carol Service in St Marys Church on 14 December at which we hope for a more vigorous vocal outpouring!

Mary Walden came to tell us about the Great Bustard which has been re-instated on Porton Down on Salisbury Plain. When we saw the slides we could understand at once why this creature has been hounded almost to extinction – he has obviously had many a fine dinner in the past and would do so now if their resettlement area were not within the confines of a national no go area.

The male is a very fine fellow strutting around pompously to impress his mate. With his tan and black fanned tail feathers held erect in a fan shape like those special ice cream wafers, his carefully drooped wings and a fine set of whiskers he fancies himself as quite irresistible to the females. His lady is much smaller and quite demure - well you couldn't have more than one of him in the family. For all their size they only rear one chick even though their two eggs may hatch. I suppose this reflects the difficulty in past generations of finding enough food for such large birds, often in inhospitable habitats.

Our speaker had just returned from Russia which is one of the places where the great bustard still exists. There is an arrangement with Russia which allows us to have some eggs or chicks to rear to keep the species going. We were shown slides of the terrain where eggs are collected - a vast brown field which takes one and half hours to cross in a truck! Somewhere out there one might find a bustard's scrape with two eggs. The eggs are hatched in an

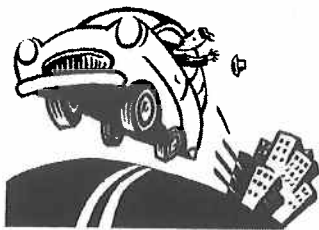
incubator and are transferred to a rearing unit. A person who maybe called, perhaps, a bustard mummy is dressed in a brown backed and white fronted costume, with eyes completely hidden, and ministers to the chicks' every need. Fed by a cunning glove puppet fashioned as a great bustard's head, the young dine on chicken pellets, local worms and such like gravitating to cheese, water bird pellets, chopped lettuce and spinach with cottage cheese on top and tastefully decorated with a few dead mice. Masterchef presentation couldn't do it better.

Eventually the young birds are released in a particular area of the Plain, into a protected compound. They are fed on oil seed rape, lucerne and all manner of goodies which they can find themselves.

A good sign is that small flocks of great bustards are now made up of both sexes which shows that the birds are now more confident, as the tendency has previously been for the two sexes to form separate groups.

It was good to learn about the great bustard as the bird figures on Wiltshire's county emblem and on numerous badges and insignia in rather plain garb but showing all those splendid whiskers. I must admit that in one of the slides showing the male in full display there was a flurry of feathers and whiskers I could not see whether he was coming or going, but no doubt he knew.

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Clerk to the School Governors

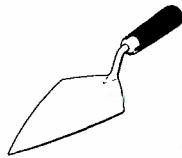


St. Mary's
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A Church of England
VC Primary School

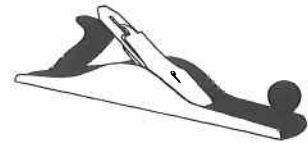
St Mary's Broughton Gifford Primary School is looking for a new clerk to the school governors. This role involves:

- planning and minute taking at 6 to 8 meetings each year
- liaising with governors and the Local Authority
- recruiting of new governors

For more information please contact Nicky Meredith, Chair of Governors on (01225) 782573



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Broughton Gifford

The Friendship Club

Our group welcomed Diana Scott as our guest speaker who gave an interesting talk on Tortoises, Turtles and Terrapins. Diana is a staunch member of the Chelonia Society and is often called upon to rehome these creatures who may have been brought into the country without the necessary documentation. Her obvious passion for the species shone through in a very clear presentation, and finally we were introduced to some of her own collection.

Our art group continues to flourish and is now meeting at regular fortnightly intervals. I can almost imagine an art show emerging.

Our next meeting is our AGM followed by a presentation by Wiltshire Farm Foods. This will include some tasting sessions of their main meals and desserts possibly with a Christmas theme. All attendees will then receive a £5 Wiltshire Farm Foods voucher.

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Memories

Mushrooms in May

While excavating for a new garage the other day, and transporting the earth by wheelbarrow to a neighbour's garden along the road, I saw my other half return with a pleased grin on his face. "Here, what d'you think of this?" he said, indicating the wheelbarrow. I looked in, and there reposing in an expanse of empty barrow were two beautiful mushrooms!

I gazed in astonishment. "Mushrooms in May?" I said. "Impossible! Where did you find them?" "In the hedge," he answered.

Curiouser and curiouser, as Alice would say. I stretched out a tentative finger to them. "What! Really growing in the hedge?" And into my mind flashed a picture of our neighbour buying them in some Supermarket, and giving him a couple. (I have had my leg pulled many times before!)

Other half began to look pained. "Growing? Of course they were growing! Look at the earth on them." I picked them up. Could they possibly be real? I smelt them, and remembered misty September mornings, rising at six, and wading through the fields, feet becoming soaked with dew. A glimpse of white in the distance. Is it a mushroom, or just a piece of paper, or even a stone? Carrying a large white handkerchief by its four corners, and carefully placing the mushrooms inside.

I thought of all the annual rituals we had, as children. In the spring we went primrosing, cowsliping, bluebelling, and bird nesting. Then in the early autumn, blackberrying and mushrooming. Besides the hundred and one other pastimes carried out each year without fail. Paddling in the brook, collecting frog spawn in a jamjar, hunting for marsh-marigolds, climbing the willow trees, and finding new places to make a den.

For a few seconds I was transported back in time just by smelling a mushroom! Back to reality, and the mushroom still in my hand. Dare we eat them? They looked alright, but I remembered tales of food poisoning caused by treacherous toadstools looking like innocent mushrooms! "If they peel easily we'll eat them," I said. Or in other words, heads or tails.

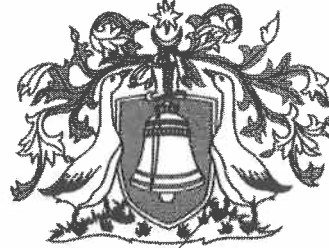
Well, they did peel easily, and we did eat them, and we thoroughly enjoyed them with no after effects. But I still cannot understand the strange phenomenon of two gorgeous mushrooms growing in the middle of a hedge, in the month of May.

Oh, this wonderful countryside of ours!

Pam Gooding
May 1970

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WHAT'S ON AT THE BELL
IN NOVEMBER 2009



GAME NIGHT

Consomme and Smoked Salmon

Game Pie with a Suet Crust
Pheasant Crumble
Venison Casserole

with Roast Potatoes, Roasted Root Vegetables & Red Cabbage

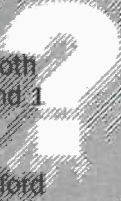
Apple Pie, Apricot Fool & Sherry Trifle

£16.00

TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER

SUNDAY QUIZ LEAGUE

- 1st Nov - A v The Grapes of Froth
- 8th Nov - KNOCKOUT CUP Round 1
- 15th Nov - H v Canal Tavern
- 22nd Nov - A v The Dandy Lion
- 29th Nov - H v The Crown, Bathford



Wednesday 11th November

LIVE MUSIC
IN THE BAR

ROUGH
STREET
JUG BAND



B.O.A. DARTS LEAGUE
FIXTURES

- 3rd Nov - Away v The West End
- 10th Nov - Home v The Avon, B.O.A.
- 17th Nov - Home v Trowbridge CC
- 24th Nov - Home v The Unicorn
- 1st Dec - Away v The Twelves Bells



B.G. Autumn Fayre present
CHRISTMAS DANCE
SAT 19th DECEMBER @ VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL BONFIRE
&
FIREWORK DISPLAY

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER

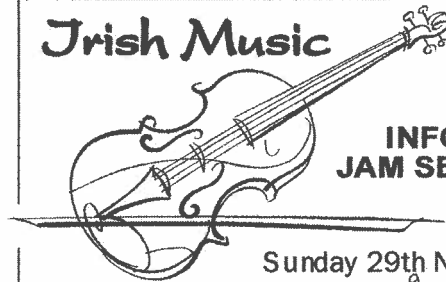


MONDAY QUIZ NIGHTS

- 2nd Nov - Bonfire Night Quiz
- 9th Nov - B.G. School
- 16th Nov - Poppy Day Appeal
- 23rd Nov - B.G. Pre School
- 30th Nov - Youth Club



Irish Music



INFORMAL
JAM SESSION

Sunday 29th November

THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER
B.G. BOWLS CLUB A.G.M.

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Broughton Gifford Parish Council	Clerk - Mrs Dawn Cuthbertson	702158
	Chairman - Mr Gus Gurney	782032
St Mary's Church	Priest in Charge - Rev Andrew Evans	782289
Broughton Gifford Gardening Society	Chairman - Mrs Madelyn Arnold	782817
	Secretary - Miss E Flatt	782344
Village Hall	Bookings - Mrs Dorothy Stanley	782790
		07504 514922
Broughton Gifford Pre-School	Supervisor - Mrs Ros Tyre	782065
Broughton Gifford Youth Club	Leader - Chris Freeman	07776 491076
Women's Institute	President - Ethel Flatt	782344
	Secretary - Sheila Cleverley	704849
1st Broughton Gifford & Holt Scout Group	Scout Leader - Graham Jamieson	705624
Broughton Gifford 0-3 Club (Thursday 10 - 12 noon in the Village Hall)	Alice Barden	783750
	Claire Francis	782303
B G Autumn Fayre Committee	Rob Tyre	782065
Broughton Gifford PTA	Chairperson - Richard Francis	782303
	Treasurer - Sonia Earle	782464
Friends of St Mary's School	Chairman - Maggie Chippendale	783233
Broughton Gifford Cricket Club	Giles Collins	01380 728664
	Tony Stanley	782309
The Friendship Club	Chris Pitura	782179

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Wiltshire Council	0300 456 0100
Melksham Police Station (local)(including complaints about mud on road)	0845 4087000
Environment Agency (free) - Emergency - all incidents	0800 807060
Environment Agency (local) - Floodline	0845 9881188
CLARENCE (free) - problems with streetlights, drains and roads	0800 232323
Wessex Water (free) - Leakstoppers	0800 692 0692
Hills Helpline (problems with black box collections)	0845 603 2085

VILLAGE CALENDAR

One line entries for this calendar should be passed in writing or by phone to Peter Atkins on 702819.

NOVEMBER

2	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC AGM & talk by Jenny Witham "Plants for Pots, 7.30 pm
2	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Bonfire Night Fund, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
3	Tue	QUIET GARDEN, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm, Great Chalfield
3	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
4	Wed	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Committee Room
7	Sat	BONFIRE, 6.30 pm, FIREWORKS, 7 pm
8	Sun	REMEMBRANCE SERVICE, 10.45 am, St Mary's Church
9	Mon	FRIENDSHIP CLUB, 2.30 pm, Village Hall
9	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of BG School, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
10	Tue	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
14	Sat	ST MARY'S COFFEE MORNING, 10 am - midday, Village Hall
16	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Poppy Day Appeal, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
17	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
19	Thu	VILLAGE MAGAZINE DEADLINE
23	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of BG Pre School, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
24	Tue	POLICE DROP-IN SURGERY, 11 am - 12 noon, The Bell on the Common
30	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Youth Club, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common

DECEMBER

1	Tue	QUIET GARDEN, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm, Great Chalfield
1	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
2	Wed	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Committee Room
6	Sun	PRE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS MARKET, 1.30 - 4 pm, Village Hall
7	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC, Social Evening with refreshments, 7.30 pm
7	Mon	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE, 6.30 pm, St Mary's Church
8	Tue	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
14	Mon	FRIENDSHIP CLUB, 2.30 pm, Village Hall
15	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
19	Sat	NO VILLAGE MAGAZINE IN JANUARY
22	Tue	POLICE DROP-IN SURGERY, 11 am - 12 noon, The Bell on the Common
29	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox

BACK ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINE ARE AVAILABLE ON www.bgvh.co.uk