

The Timsbury Letter



Photo credit David Wiles

**PUBLISHED BY TIMSBURY
PARISH COUNCIL**

NO: 502 June 2021

timsbury.org.uk

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By Amanda

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Welcome to the June Timsbury Letter

Features this Month

Timsbury Brownies - page 7

Parish Council Annual Review – page 12

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Royal British Legion 100th Anniversary service – page 29

July Letter Deadline: Thursday 10th June

Please send articles and adverts EARLY to:

Madeleine Potts, newsletter@timsbury.org.uk 07834 859291

47 Southlands Drive. Images & adverts in JPG format.

Village News

New Parish Councillor and Vacancy

Mark Foster was co-opted as a Parish Councillor at the May meeting. His seven years of experience on Newton St. Loe Parish Council will be very much welcomed. The Parish Council still has a vacancy by co-option. If you are interested in making an extra difference

to helping the village with the many and diverse roles of the Parish Council see the website for how to apply www.timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil and phone the Clerk for more information, clerks details opposite, and see page 24.

Parish Council Meetings Back to Normal

The Parish Council will be returning to in-person meetings from Tuesday 8th June as remote internetworking is no longer legally allowed by the Government. As a result the June meeting will be in the main hall with

Covid Safe rules and later meetings will be back in its old room, now renamed the Jeff Sluggett Room, in the Conygre Hall. The public will be able to attend as usual. To speak please ask in advance.

Planning Applications

Comments by the Parish Council can be seen on the B&NES planning website, in the Parish Council Minutes at: timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil/meetings and on noticeboards in the Conygre Hall and outside Our Plaice chip shop.

Application decided by B&NES Council
21/01037/FUL Crockbarton East, Rectory Lane, Timsbury BA2 0JY
Erection of a timber framed garden room attached to front of Grade 1 Listed house. REFUSED

20/04969/FUL Shop Unit (old McColls) Rono Place, North Road, Timsbury, BA2 0JJ. Part Change of Use from A1 to sui Generis Takeaway with provision for extractor flue to side elevation (Resubmission). REFUSED re Flue

Applications to be Considered by Timsbury Parish Council
21/02161/FUL Greenhill Cottage, South Road, Timsbury, BA2 0ER
Erection of two-storey and single storey rear extension with remodelling.

DISCLAIMER:

Views and opinions expressed in the Timsbury Letter are those of each individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Parish Council.

Next Parish Council Meeting

**Tuesday 8th June 7.30pm
in the Conygre Hall with
Covid safety rules**

See timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil

Chris Gittins

*Clerk to Timsbury
Parish Council*



01761 470 516

timsbury.parish.clerk@gmail.com

[www.timsbury.org.uk/
parishcouncil](http://www.timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil)

News from the Conygre Trust

The Conygre Hall is now open for all activities which are permitted from Covid unlocking Step 3 which came into force on 17th May. This means that most meetings and classes, including adult dance and exercise, are permitted and we hope that village groups and casual hirers will feel able to return to the hall. Covid-secure measures, including social distancing and the requirement for face-coverings, will still apply.

Volunteer needed

As use of the hall increases, so does the workload for its staff. Our caretaker Jacqui Grainger is currently unable to be at the hall on weekday mornings, so these have been covered by Trustees on the small number of occasions when there has been a morning booking.

The Trust would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in volunteering to be at the hall for a few hours a week to open for hirers as required on weekday mornings and some Saturdays and Sundays. The commitment is likely to vary from week to week and would be for a short term, probably until the end of July. Please contact Peter Buchanan for more information.

Play Equipment Improvements

In the play area, new safety surfacing has been installed under the SpiroGyro rotating seesaw and in the main pedestrian entrance gate. This was

funded by the Parish Council and will make a big difference to these two areas which used to get very muddy and slippery in wet weather.

To make a hall booking, please contact Malcolm Tucker on **01761 470261** or email **tucker.m3@sky.com**; for general information about the Trust, the Conygre Hall and the Recreation Field, contact Peter Buchanan on: **01761 471818** or by email at **peter49buchanan@btinternet.com**

DEADLINE

July Issue Deadline:

Thursday 10th June

Please send articles and adverts **EARLY**
to:

Madeleine Potts

newsletter@timsbury.org.uk

07834859291

47 Southland Drive

Please send images and
adverts in JPG format.

Youth Work in Timsbury

By Jane Van-Haaps



In Person Youth Sessions Restarted

It has been great to restart with Friday Night Youth Sessions by the tennis court at the Conygre Hall. These are 7.00pm-8.00pm and are aimed at 11-14 year olds (school years 6-9). They are relaxed sessions with unihoc, football, cricket and tennis available as well as quieter activities and hot chocolate. There is no charge.

We have enjoyed welcoming back old regulars as well as new members; and they have been so happy to have the chance to meet with friends - a simple activity which became so difficult in the last year.

We hope to restart indoor sessions at the YMCA in September and we will let

you know about these in due course. In the past we ran a Friday Night Youth Club as well as a smaller group on a Wednesday and an after-school club. The small group sessions are flexible and could encompass different activities: eg craft, eco-action, table tennis, video games. Ideally it would be 4-6 young people, in School Years 6-9 who want to help plan and organise the sessions for around 6 weeks before swapping over. So do let me know if you know of such a small group who would be interested in this, or indeed if you have a skill to share or you would like to find out about volunteering.

**Jane van Haaps 07483156995,
jane@bathyfc.co.uk**



Timsbury Brownies



Hello, my name is Amber, and I am the new leader at Timsbury Brownies.

I was a Brownie myself from the ages of 7-10 before moving up to Guides and then to Rangers and now I'm a leader! I love really listening to young people and getting to know them. I like to think I've supported them in some way and had a positive impact on their life. I know that being a Brownie had a hugely positive impact on my life, and I am really proud to be a Brownie leader.

This month at Brownies

At the first meeting back after the lockdown, the girls came up with lots of ideas about what they would like to do at Brownies. These included going to the zoo, arts and crafts, baking,



scavenger hunts, woodwork, truth or dare, and camping.

At another meeting we did some survival skills, including making slings for our teddies!



We also did some space themed evenings, playing space themed games and doing space themed arts and crafts. This included making constellation viewers of our star sign constellation.

Timsbury Brownies offers lots of fun activities and learning experiences for girls aged 7-10. We meet every Tuesday evening; come along and make new friends! If you're interested and would like more information, please email arjnolan1@gmail.com or text **07580191611**.

In addition, we are always looking for adult volunteers to join the team. These contact details can be used to enquire about this too.

Village Church Services

St Mary's Church, Timsbury

Sunday 6th June 11.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 13th June 11.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 20th June 11.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 27rd June 11.00am Holy Communion

Return of the Great Timsbury Scarecrow Trail! Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th July.
See page 10 for details!

During the continuing Covid 19 pandemic, the church is open for Sunday worship at the above times. Seating is socially distanced at 2 metres and hand sanitising is provided. There is no singing as part of the worship. All above dates and times are subject to possible change in the light of Government restrictions.

Every Wednesday, weekly 9.30am Holy Communion Service.

The Church is available for funerals, under the above conditions and limited numbers.

Revd Martin Blewett

Benefice of Timsbury with Priston, Camerton & Dunkerton

The Rectory, South Road, Timsbury, Bath, BA2 0EJ

Tel: (01761) 472448. Mobile: 07854 273489

Email: martinblewett@gmail.com

Benefice Safeguarding Officer. Mrs Elaine Martin. (01761) 479506

Methodist Church South Road

We are pleased to say we are now open for services. All Covid-19 practices have been put in place to ensure we worship in a safe and happy church. All are welcome

Sunday 6th June 10.30am Mr Mike Evans

Sunday 13th June 10.30am Rev David Winstanley Holy Communion

Sunday 20th June 10.30am Local Arrangement

Sunday 27th June 10.30am Mrs Dorothy Robinson

Revd David Winstanley

40 North Medows, Peasedown St John, Bath, BA2 8PS

01761 439934

dwin64@hotmail.com

Secretary Frances Nicholson 01761 470841

Tabor Free Methodist Church

In June Tabor will continue to hold fortnightly services . On **6th June** Jean Auckland will be the preacher and Margaret West will be leading worship on **20th June**. Both services beginning at **11.00am**.

At the end of last year Tabor had two large monitors fitted at the front of the church to enhance worship. We can now stream hymns direct into the building via the internet projecting them on the monitors.

The monitors have enriched and enhanced our worship experience by being able to see people singing and the words displayed on the screen. Looking up can also be a benefit because one can appreciate the sound of hundreds of voices coming together to sing praises, and when people have their eyes and chins up reading from the screens, their voices project much better than they do facing down at a piece of paper

Using this system allows for a wider range of hymns and songs to be introduced. It also provides a means of illustrating and explaining the concepts and ceremonies of worship.

On sadder occasions such as funerals it is also helpful as we are able to show projected photos that are meaningful to the family

Having this equipment opens up a number of possibilities as we will be able to show short films to illustrate points in a service. In the long term it is hoped to be able to have film evenings, but that is something for the future.

Pastoral Matters

Eric Barge 01761 420234

Secretary

Geoff Shute 01761 568524

www.taborfreemethodist.org

Congregational Church North Road (with full wheelchair access)

Secretary: Maureen Cox 01761 479656

The Great Timsbury Scarecrow Trail

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th July.



For more details and to Register a Scarecrow contact
martinblewett@gmail.com or ring 01761 472448

Organised by St Mary's Church, Timsbury

Prize for Best Overall Scarecrow

Prize for Best Family Scarecrow (with children's input!)

Prize for Best 'Made Me Laugh' Scarecrow

Trail Maps available St Mary's Church, Timsbury

on Saturday & Sunday 3rd & 4th July

Time for a Think and to Say Thank You

By Josie Pownall



At long last there seems to be a light at the end of the Covid tunnel with rates of infection dropping, vaccines getting rolled out, schools back and lockdown easing. It's been a very hard period for a lot of people, some more so than others, but also business as usual for some.

Although we are fed up with the restrictions it has also been good to see the way that people have pulled together to help us get through it.

I have been thinking about the last year and the difference acts of kindness and consideration have made to the community as a whole, so on behalf of the village I would like to say:

- Thank You to Rev Martin and Rosanna Blewitt and the volunteers who quickly organised themselves to help those

isolating with shopping needs in the early days.

- Thank you to Michelle Sharp, Stacey Pottinger and the many volunteers for setting up and running the village Pantry.

On a personal note, I say:

Thank you Phillida Russell – for letting me order shopping on your home delivery order;

Thank you James Hall – for bits of shopping to tide me over (wine and chocolate included!);

Thank you Lyn Bowditch - for the 'library' box of books to borrow, return, and add to. Used by quite a few in the neighbourhood;

Seemingly small, but they made my life better and feeling not so on my own.

So what about you? - who has made your day, made your life a bit easier, helped a little or a lot, but made a difference?

Share them with us, through the newsletter, to make us a different sort of 'Thankful' Village.

Take care and keep on keeping safe.

Parish Council Annual Review April 2020 to March 21

by Cllr. Josie Pownall, Chairman at the Annual Parish Meeting

Last year's meeting had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, so this meeting will briefly cover 2019/20 as well as 2020/21. Fortunately, the Parish Council had managed to continue to meet remotely and keep its services going during the pandemic period. These are the main areas that have been worked on.

Community Library Hub

It was set up and is still developing, with groups meeting from story time for little ones to history chats about the area and people, as well as IT buster sessions.

The library service has been open most of the time, at least for click and collect as B&NES have allowed, and thanks to Liz Casson and the volunteers for keeping it open. There has been a surge in members and demand for books has steadily grown and there are now over 3000 books to choose from.

Green Action Group

This was established, but actions curtailed, and hoping to start again in the near future. The Parish Council has joined several others in the area to declare a climate emergency.

Green Spaces

Les Robbins continues to keep the

streets as clear as possible of litter, leaves and weeds and has carried on regardless.

Mary-Anne Ansell and her team have kept up the open spaces, also helped recently by two young men for the volunteering part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The work carried out by the Community Pay Back team stopped. Some local contractors have been used for cutting back and replacing some trees and hedges.

Ash die back has arrived in the area and we also had to fell an elm along the Ha-ha path along with two hornbeams that were dead. Hedge trimming and edge clearing were undertaken to keep the Ha-ha easily available for access to all, especially important for 'get out of the house' exercise.

The allotments have been open throughout the period and their management committee are to be thanked for doing a great job in managing them on behalf of the Parish Council.

Conygre Field and Play Area

The Parish Council pay for the upkeep and repairs. We lost some trees on the field in the high winds, which also took out a neighbouring fence that had to be replaced.

Young People

We have two schemes for younger people. Bath Youth for Christ which caters mainly for up to 14 year-olds in the youth club, cooking, classes etc. Youth Connect South West runs the youth bus that parks up in the Conygre Hall for the older young people.

Both have supported the youngsters through lockdown with phone calls, skype meetings and door-step visits, where appropriate, as well as carrying on by 'detached' work - walking round the village to meet up and keep contact going.

Victoria Ansell and Stacey Pottinger of the Young People's Working Group set up a survey of the young in the village to find out what facilities are needed. Representatives from the school, youth worker team and some interested residents met to discuss the outcome. Some ideas will hopefully be acted on when possible. The need to continue funding these services has been confirmed and it is a big commitment.

Speedwatch

A Community Speedwatch team of volunteers was set up after a lot of concerns were raised about speeding in the village. Up to March the team have carried out 27 hours of monitoring, over 31 sessions and measured just over 4000 cars of which 58% exceeded the speed limit after the allowed tolerances. Results can be taken into account by B&NES for safer road decisions.

Street and Pedestrian Safety

after the works on North Road were completed there were reports of traffic mounting the widened pavement to avoid the small chicane near Chapel Walk, with several near misses for pedestrians. Our request led to B&NES installing bollards. We have also had discussions with B&NES on other areas of the village, particularly the South Road/Church Hill junction, which is now on the priority list for remedial work.

The Avenue pavement is to be widened as part of the housing development, but this does not include the 'bend'. The Parish Council is in discussion with the owner of the property to try and find a way to improve this.

Several other areas of concern have been raised with B&NES in particular the Square, Rectory Lane and in South Road at the North Road end.

Planning & Building Developments

The Upper Conygre housing works at the crossroads has started. Originally with 27 new houses and office space. Recently the developers have applied to convert the office space into four 2bedroom units, which was supported by the Parish Council.

There have been many plans approved for house extensions and a couple of new single house builds.

The WECA Spatial Plan was rejected. Also, B&NES are reviewing their Local Plan which will be consulted on soon.

Sleight Farm and lands have been for sale, though some not confirmed yet.

We lost McColls but the new leaseholder plans to run a Post Office service in the new Premier shop opening soon.

Grants

The Parish Council has given grants to the Cam Valley Arts Trail, MSN dial-a-ride, Timsbury Together, Timsbury junior football team for floodlights on the school field and to the Village Pantry project.

The Timsbury Letter

Only one edition was missed so well done to Madeline Potts for keeping it going.

Others

The Timsbury 'Walks' books are still popular with nearly 2000 copies sold, encouraging many people to get out and about.

We have a councillor on the Parish Council Airports Association against airport expansion. Another has been involved with the group to try to protect the bus service throughout the area.

Two Parish Councillors had resigned; Mike Horler and Stan Martin who were thanked for their efforts support over a number of years. As a result, there were two vacancies for co-option on the Parish Council which is being publicised.

As the Covid-19 eases it may be a good

time to reflect on people we owe thanks to – not just the NHS, and key workers but the small things that people have done to make life easier with pieces in the Newsletter.

Parish Council Finance April 2020 to March 2021

Expenditure Inc VAT	
Clerk's Pay Costs	20,322
Office Costs	300
Travel	34
Equipment	0
Supplies, Copying, Software	551
Postage	22
Training	110
Insurance	623
Bank Charges & Audit Fees	582
Fees/subscriptions	1,001
Room Hire	129
Reception/hospitality	0
Website/Communications	0
Newsletter	7,359
Cemetery Maintenance	3,040
Roadsweeping	5,597
Public Lighting	994
Allotments	728
Conygre Trust Field	7,073
Play & Recreation Areas	1,989
Amenities	83
Planting & Spaces	493
Footpaths/HaHa	1,675
Community Initiatives & Transport	155
Youth & Children Support	12,438
Youth Facilities	750
Library Hub	11,814
Road Safety Works Fund	0
Walks Books	1,843
Election Costs	0
Petty Cash	0
Total £	79,704
Income	
Precept	69,000
Community Infrastructure Levy	2,058
Advertising	5,440
Allotment rents	1,277
Hub Sales	0
Banks Interest / Refunds	183
VAT Refund	0
Donations/Refunds/Other	159
Walks Books Sales	1,631
Total £	79,747
Balance	
Income - Expenditure	43.12
ACCOUNT BALANCES	
	Year Closing
Current Account	16,097.01
NS&I Investment Account	25,495.93
TOTAL	41,592.94



Timsbury Community Library

Timsbury Library has just had 100 Reading Well Books - relevant for Children and Adults delivered. They can be borrowed as part of the Library system. We are open Mondays and Thursdays 2-4 and Saturdays 10-12.



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Timsbury Gardening Club

By Graham Nicholls



The Gardening Club held their first meeting with a speaker via Zoom at the beginning of May, and what a speaker to start off the new season. Mary Payne M.B.E. gave a talk, open to non members as well as members, entitled 'Minimum Effort for the Maximum Effect'. Mary is well known for designing gardens and contributions to gardening questions on Radio Bristol on the occasional Sunday morning.

We first saw her very small garden packed with colour and then a large garden, badly designed with narrow paths and bridges, that neither a small trailer nor a wheelbarrow were able to negotiate easily. This was to illustrate that whatever size garden you have, design it to make life easier.

If you plant trees or shrubs don't plant

them in grass or allow grass to grow up to the trunk. Mowing or strimming grass around it will be difficult so leave a clear area of about 3 foot across at the base. She showed that having a mowing strip, paving etc alongside the flower border makes mowing grass easier. Don't design flower beds with lots of wiggly borders it makes maintenance difficult.

Mary touched on vegetable growing suggesting that growing in a series of raised beds 12' x 4' makes life that much easier, reaching across and walk around areas plus no digging. How many of us also grow too much veg especially salad crops and have to give it away. Grow just what is needed and follow up with repeat sowings is Mary's advice.

Regarding weeds, the saying '1 year seed is 7 years weed' is true with annual weeds. A mulch at least 2" deep preventing light getting to the annual weeds was good advice. A strong weedkiller such as Roundup is best to get rid of perennial weeds.

For getting rid of slugs use a killer marked as containing Ferric Phosphate which isn't harmful to pets or wildlife.

Try not to use canes for supporting tall plants but if you do, make sure to use cane toppers. More eyes are lost when

canes are used in the garden than anywhere else.

Try not to make your garden too labour intensive. Lots of bedding plants, hanging baskets and loads of plants in pots means a lot of work. However if you are happy with this, that's OK.

Gravel gardens are in vogue at present, using Mediterranean plants and very little work apart from a bit of weeding. However if you do want a mixed border to bring masses of colour into your garden mulch around the plants as soon as you plant them.

Mary finished by showing us a photo of

her small garden again and said she had previously dug it all up and laid it out in a Mediterranean style giving her very little work to do.

As I think back 38 years, maybe we could have designed our fifth of an acre garden a bit better at the time so that it would suit us now but who thinks that far into the future with a brand new garden?



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News from Greenhill House

By Tracey Herridge

Residents here at Greenhill aren't afraid to get a little messy and this is mainly what has been happening this month.

As well as all the flowers that are involved in the garden display there is a fair amount of prop building involved.

Residents have been helping to design and build various 'under the sea' related creatures which involves huge amounts of paper, glue, and chicken wire for the sculptures.



The creatures being created include a jellyfish, octopus, and sea turtle. We have also made a clam shell using one of Harvey's pom poms as the pearl.



The other recent edition to the garden is a sculpture, a wooden panel with a stained glass insert. It's been positioned to enable to residents to see the colours when the sun shines through it.



The activity team hope to develop more sculptures for the garden in the future.

Lastly following the planting of monkey puzzle seeds in early February we are beginning to see some small plants beginning to grow, very exciting.



St Mary's Primary School

By Chris Daniels

News from around the classrooms

Our EYFS Ducklings have been looking after their class caterpillars and observing how much they have been growing. They can't wait for them to turn into beautiful butterflies!



Our Year 1 Rabbits have been learning about different parts of plants and how they grow. They have enjoyed exploring our outdoor area and have found lots of different wild flowers and trees. They have been learning the difference between deciduous trees and evergreen trees. They have also been labelling parts of the plants and finding out what they do to help the flower grow.

Our Year 2 Badgers have been spending lots of time learning outside. In Maths, they have been learning how to measure accurately and conducted an experiment to see how far they could run in a certain amount of time. They then measured their distances and

recorded the results. It turns out that our pupils can certainly run a good distance! In Science they have been thinking about the different food groups and have enjoyed quizzing each other on which are their favourite foods as well as thinking about how we can have a healthy and balanced diet.

Our Year 3 Bees have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians. The children have enjoyed finding out about the British archaeologist Howard Carter and his discovery of the tomb of King Tutankhamun in 1922.

Inside the tomb were more than four hundred shabti which are little statues that were buried in the tombs of important members of Egyptian society. They were made holding little tools so they would look like mini servants and agricultural workers. This is because the Ancient Egyptians believed that the statues would come to life in the afterworld and do all the work that was needed. The children are looking forward to making their own shabti statues out of clay next week.

Our Year 4 Otters have been working on stories that involve suspense and creating a scary atmosphere through setting descriptions. The children have loved doing their writing and have produced some fantastic work. Here is an example of one setting description:

'The sun rested itself behind a storm cloud, cloaking the earth with chilly black darkness. Then the moon took its place, like a leaf on a tree and the land was bright again. Suddenly, the moonlight flashed out of control whipping the land with strips of light. Then all was fine again. The grass swayed in the gentle breeze. Two fingers knelt down beside a campfire warming their hands.'

Our Year 5 Lions have created a chant to remember the parts of a flower.

And finally, our Year 6 Eagles have recently had the privilege of being able to do Samba outside. We expect that our Lansdown View neighbours (sorry!) have heard (and hopefully enjoyed!) the tamborims playing a rhythm and the surdos that keep the pulse going. The children all watch Mrs Munro and follow the hand signals she gives which tell them when to play and when to stop. It is so enjoyable and everyone loves making rhythms. It's hard to keep the pulse but once they get going our samba band never wants to stop!

In other news

Cross-Curricular Orienteering Ltd came to the school recently to set up an orienteering course in the school grounds. The accompanying scheme of work enables our outdoor adventurous activities curriculum to be taught through orienteering and there are several courses available which are linked to different curriculum areas. The benefits include our pupils mastering map reading, developing teamwork and tactical skills whilst also increasing their fitness levels. Our pupils have really enjoyed tackling the courses during our PE lessons, using their geographical skills to locate the stations and then working out the answers to the English and Maths challenges on the cards.



Year 6 Samba

The Green Pages

By Bridget Newbery

Going pesticide free



Pesticides, as we all know, are a bit of a disaster because they don't just kill the weeds, they can also damage other plants and animals, wreak devastation on wildlife and end up in the food chain. Many have been linked to diseases in humans, and some weed killers like glyphosate are so pervasive they are even present in breast milk. (Yes really.)

So, what's the alternative? Well, a bit of extra work maybe, but there are lots of options.

- Be dogged with your cutting back and digging out.
- Encourage frogs, toads and hedgehogs to visit to help keep on top of the slugs.
- Use a thick mulch (we've been experimenting with straw and

cardboard) to keep the weeds down.

- Use home made garlic sprays for the bugs and set the kids loose.
- Natural weed killers

One (grown up) recipe for 'natural' weed killer combines white vinegar with salt and a drop of liquid soap (castile soap if possible). Keep it on the weed and off the soil so as not to put off your other plants (they won't like salt and vinegar much either).

Another suggestion is to pour vodka (neat or diluted) into a spray bottle and use it on the offending plant or pest.

Cornmeal, apparently, can be used as a 'pre emergent' weed killer. Sprinkled on the ground (ideally in spring before seeds germinate) it has an oily coating which prevents roots from forming. Obviously not the thing to use where you have just sown your favourite flowers but one to bear in mind.

Killing a bramble by driving a rusty nail into the stem turns out to be a myth. As is, by the way, the idea that adding rusty nails to your soil will help your plants in any way.

So, I'm keeping on digging out and covering up, and will be ditching the rusty nail technique in favour of a home made pest-potion.

Ruminations of Radford Mill

By Richard Fox

The big news this month is whether the lockdown restrictions will be lifted, so we can all get back to “normal” activities with other people. Our farm has been hit rather hard this last year and a half, as we depend on hosting weddings during the summer, and we have always had many volunteers and other visitors stay at the Farm.

We supply food products to the public, so we take hygiene seriously, and we have had to stop all the wedding events and every newcomer arriving has isolated for fourteen days. But now we are looking forward to all last year’s weddings going ahead for the next three months, and we’ve booked new workers to stay at the farm from the end of this month. Hooray! Let us hope it all happens and we can get back to fully opening the farm.

Oak trees encourage a huge range of biodiversity, as well as sequestering significant amounts of carbon. But our efforts here are dwarfed by the national practice of importing saplings from other countries. Many of those “free” fruit trees that various agencies have passed out in the last couple of years have been grown outside this country and imported. This trade highlights at least three serious problems that need to be looked at: disease, the

degradation of British industry, and environmental costs at the source.

Ash die-back disease was identified in Europe during the 1990’s, and 85% infection rates were observed in several countries. The fungus cannot travel across 20 miles of open water, so the disease was brought here by the practice of buying ash saplings from countries known to have extremely high infection rates.

Environment concerns are pushing all of us to reduce our use of plastic, so the new watchword is “green”. One can now buy “green” plastic items that are made from maize starch and sugar cane. How green are those products, since they require vast acreages of agricultural land in warmer countries, and huge increases in environmental costs to produce them. Before the “green” plastics industry got big all that land in Brazil, Indonesia and elsewhere was ... growing trees.

However, we have more financial services instead of home-grown industries. And we have cheaper food and flowers all year round, even if not quite as tasty or interesting as they used to be. And we all feel much better because our bin bag and doggie-poo bag is “green”. All is for the best in this best of all possible worlds.



Want to become a Parish Councillor?

Timsbury Parish Council represents the interests of the whole community and is responsible for a wide range of facilities and activities. Most Timsbury residents can become a Councillor. *Are you interested in things like:*

The Library and Hub

Planning applications and the B&NES Local Plan

Street safety and Transport

Supporting young people – we fund 2 projects

Plantings and open spaces

Social activities, health & wellbeing

Events and the Timsbury Letter

There is a Parish Councillor vacancy which can be filled by co-option on 8th June or later to join the other 12 councillors.

Meetings are usually held in the evening on the first Monday of the month – join in and have a look.

If you want to be involved, get things done and make a difference in the village, then become a parish councillor - it is a good practical opportunity. The Parish Council is not linked with a church.

To find out more look at timsbury.org.uk/parishcouncil or phone the Clerk for a chat on 01761 470 516



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St Mary's Surgery

By Jackie Yates

After 27 years at the practice Dr Barton is retiring on 1st June. Another Lady Doctor, Dr Katy Snook, will be taking over Dr Barton's patient list from September.

Dr Snook is an experienced GP who has worked for numerous years in Swindon. In the interim we will have another GP who will join us in mid June.

We are compiling a keep sake book to

give to Dr Barton. If any patients wish to send any messages to be included, please either email them to **BSWCCG.Timsbury@nhs.net** or if you do not have email access you can telephone the secretaries who will be happy to take your message.

We wish Dr Barton a very happy retirement!

Gadget Busters / IT Surgery at the Hub



Do you feel fairly confident that you could give others a hand with their basic technology queries?

We are setting up a new support group and are looking to find a couple of other

Volunteer's to help someone we currently have, to make this happen.

Please email Liz at the Hub on **hub@timsbury.org.uk** if you maybe able to help?



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Reading-Anything-And-Talking Group

By Robert Hull

A new group is coming to Timsbury on Thursday evenings 7.00pm to 9.00pm, at the Conygre Hall. The meetings will hopefully start from 10th June, but possibly later, depending on Covid restrictions for room availability.

The idea of the group is for members to bring a short piece of published text that they would like to share, about two or three minutes' worth, say, to read aloud.

The text would come from any published source: newspaper, magazine, novel, short story, poetry collection, work of non-fiction, on history, travel, biography, autobiography, or scholarly stuff from psychology, anthropology, and so on. Anything, in short.

The text that's read aloud (copies would help a lot) will hopefully generate interesting talk and discussion. How much time there would be for that would depend on the size of the group – which would need to have a maximum of about 10.

I will be leading the group and I am an experienced leader of adult groups, though this venture is somewhat novel and experimental.

It will cost about £2 or £3 each to cover the cost of the room.

To register an interest or ask for more information, please contact me at **hull.robort@bopenworld.com**, or by phone on **01761 471 599** or **07812 938 746**.

Project Linus

By Linda McGregor

Coordinator for Bath, Wells and surrounding areas

At long last our Linus group can meet up again in the Conygre Hall at Timsbury. The June meeting of Project Linus will be **Friday 25th June 10.00am-2.00pm** in the main hall which is straight through the front door. We will have use of the kitchen and toilets and the hall is big enough to safely accommodate us all.

I am sure there is lots of news to catch up on, most deliveries of quilts and blankets have been made during lockdown, so stocks are low.

I look forward to seeing you all there. Please contact me on 01761 752337 for more information.

Timsbury branch Royal British Legion 100th Anniversary service

By Chris Fiddes



At 0900hrs on Saturday, 15th May the Timsbury Branch of the Royal British Legion held a service at the village War Memorial to mark the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the Legion. A small crowd from the village attended the service on a cold showery morning, much similar to the weather on the day of the original service held at the Cenotaph in London, 100 years before.

A short service was conducted by the Reverend Martin Blewett, giving thanks to the Royal British Legion for their support for the welfare of all service men and women, from the formation in 1921 to the present day. Barry Sewell, Chairman of Timsbury Branch presented

a brief history of the Legion, whilst Chris Fiddes paraded the Branch Standard. Also in attendance were Bernie Davis, Branch President, Mark Ricketts, Vice-Chairman and Committee member Alan Wright. At the end of the service a special 100th Anniversary wreath was laid by Barry Sewell.

The formation of the British Legion, at 0900on 15th May 1921 was marked by the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph in London and brought together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen, which had been established after the end of the First World War. The amalgamation of these diverse bodies can be attributed largely to two men: Field Marshal Earl Haig and

Tom Lister of The Federation of Discharged and Demobilized Sailors and Soldiers.

Lord Haig served as the President of The British Legion until his death on 29th January 1928 and Tom Lister was Chairman. Lance Bombardier Tom Lister a Lancastrian was moved by the situation, and decided that if the government was unable or unwilling to do anything to improve the lives of ex-Service men, he would do something about it himself. This led to the formation of the British Legion.

The Legion was established to care for those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War and has been helping the Armed Forces

community and their families ever since. By 1921, the tradition of a two minute silence had been established. The first ever Poppy Appeal was also held that year. The poppies sold out almost immediately and raised over £106,000 - a considerable amount at the time. This money was used to help WW1 veterans with employment and housing.

The Royal British Legion is honoured to have Her Majesty the Queen as its Patron. While having Royal patronage from its founding in 1921, on 29th May 1971 to mark its golden anniversary and by the authority of Queen Elizabeth II, the British Legion received its "Royal" appellation.



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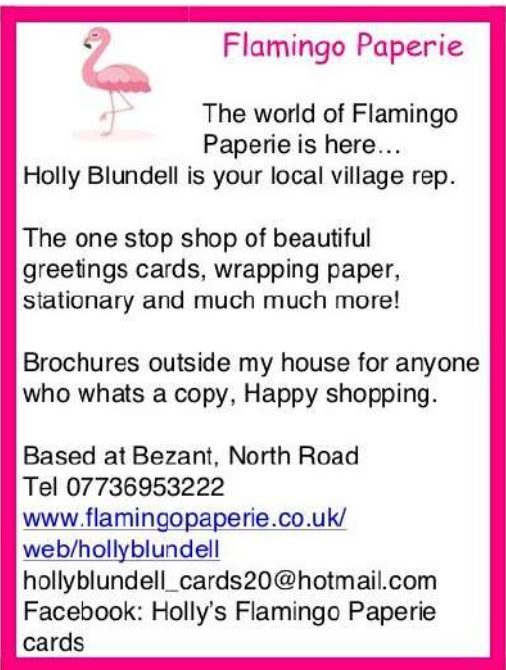
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Balance Gym take on 24 hour workout to raise money for charities

By Vicky Rees-Davies



On Saturday the 15th May, Sue Jackson, founder of Balance The Countryside Gym, Vicky Rees-Davies and Julie Saunders all exercised for a gruelling 24 hours in to order to raise money for two charities close to their hearts, Parkinson's Care & Support UK & M2M.

People from all across the country joined in with the huge array of fitness classes taking place from midday on Saturday to midday on Sunday. From kettlebells with ex-England rugby professional Olly Berkley to a Netball Training session with ex Team Bath player Lois Jackson, there was something on offer for everyone.

They were helped along the way with generous donations of delicious brownies from The Connies and the finest tea from local tea supplier Cup Of Tea.

Having recently been diagnosed with Early Onset Parkinson's, Vicky is determined to raise awareness and hope for those living day to day with Parkinson's. "I take inspiration from Ed Jackson who, despite facing huge adversity in his life, has still managed to live a positive & fulfilled life & established the most amazing charity M2M to help & inspire others to do the same".

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Denis Sage

The Family of Dennis Sage would like to thank all friends, neighbours and extended family for all the cards, letters and good wishes received following his passing on 20th March this year.

We would also like to thank the team at St Mary's Surgery, the Virgin Care nurses and Enablement Team, Curo and social services for their excellent service.

To everyone who turned out on a cold morning to see him off, it was much appreciated.

Thanks also to Chris Hare and Malcolm Tucker for making the service so special and Rev Martin Blewett for the service at the cemetery.

The family have been amazed by the generosity of the donations received for the British Legion and Lizzie's Soup Run for the homeless, who will both receive in excess of £800 in his memory.

Thank you!

Slimming World returns to Timsbury

By Katrina Booker

Hello, my name is Trina and I run a Slimming World group on Wednesday evenings in Timsbury . If you are interested in finding out some more information or are interested in joining our group please contact www.slimmingworld.co.uk or call me on **07538 309708** or email trinabookerSW@hotmail.com.

**My final gift to Dad was to lose weight
- and I did!**

Throughout my whole life I had been shy, struggled to make friends and was always sitting on my own in the corner at parties. I realise that I had become

isolated and because of this I was comfort eating and it was getting out of control! Stress added to my eating and then followed the 'wine'. my weight spiraled out of control, I felt hideous looked frumpy and the more depressed I got the more I ate and drank!

The turning point for me was when my Dad was diagnosed with terminal cancer and my son shared with me how concerned Dad was about me and my weight -I knew I had to do something as my final gift to my Dad!

Walking into a Slimming World group with my daughter 2 days later I felt

nervous, ashamed and the anxiety kicked in. However, I didn't need to worry! I couldn't believe how supportive the group was with lots of recipe sharing and I also couldn't believe I could so much food and family favourites such as Lasagne, Chinese takeaway and of course chips!

Sadly, on Saturday 12th August I got the call she had been dreading. I went to see my Dad immediately and was so proud to be able to let him know that in just a few short months that I had lost 1st 61/2lbs and that I wasn't going to stop until I got to target. The next day we lost my Dad, but it made me more determined than ever before, this was my final gift to him.



I had a call to say I had been nominated for the Woman of the year competition in group and the very next day wearing my Angel wing necklace and holding it

for strength to my utter amazement I won! Losing weight had given me confidence and friends!

I lost 3stone 9 ½ lbs by my first anniversary, dropped 3-4 dress sizes and could even wear a bikini, something I had never done before! got to her target weight in 2 years and for the first time ever felt so proud and knew her Dad would be too!"

Local Area Manager Paul Smith had got in touch to let me know about Slimming World consultant Vacancies that were available in the local area. I went along to one of the local opportunity events to find out more and the rest is history. Being a consultant is not like work! I'm helping to change people's lives like my consultant Sarah James-Denning and Slimming World did for me. What greater job satisfaction is there?

We have local Slimming World consultant vacancies available please email

michelle.reade@slimmingworld.co.uk
for more information.

Live Well B&NES

A new information and signposting resource for adults living in Bath and North East Somerset

We are proud to announce the launch of a brand-new web-based resource providing information, signposting and support to adults needing care or support to live independently. Live Well B&NES adults (which replaces Wellbeing Options) is now live!

The resource is brand new, with information, services and groups being added all the time. If you work with, support, provide services or run groups for adults needing care or support (including older people, adults with physical disabilities and/or sensory impairments, people recovering from mental ill health), and haven't already registered - make sure you're included! It's free and takes five minutes to register

A calendar of activities, groups and events is being developed and will be available shortly: watch this space.

Coming soon!

- The new SEND Local Offer (Rainbow Resource), providing a wealth of targeted information, support, and resources for families with a child or young person with additional needs
- The new family information

resource, providing all the information a family in B&NES needs, including all local Ofsted registered childcare

If you'd like to know more, have any questions about Live Well B&NES adults or would like to be involved in the review of the new SEND Local Offer or family information parts of Live Well B&NES; the Live Well B&NES team would love to hear from you.

Gemma, Beckie and Mel
Live Well B&NES
livewell.bathnes.gov.uk

Contact:
P_C_Comms@BATHNES.GOV.UK
Melanie_Hodgson@bathnes.gov.uk

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Online 1.30 - 3.30 pm 4th June and 18th June

We will be holding phone sessions on the first and third Fridays of each month until it is safe to resume face to face sessions.

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E-mail your query and your phone number by midday on Friday 4th June or Friday 18th June.

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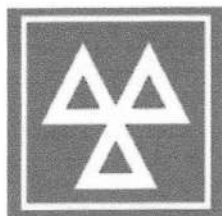
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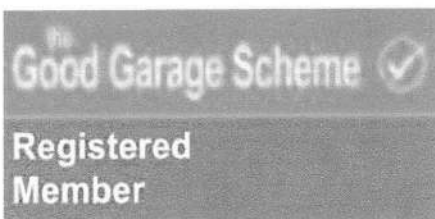


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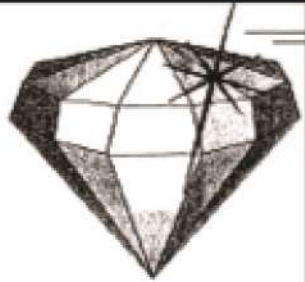


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