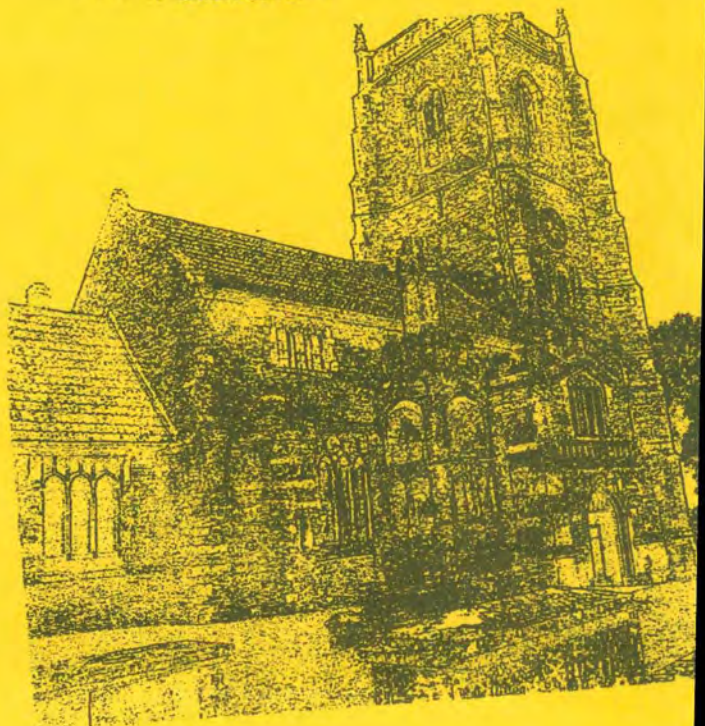
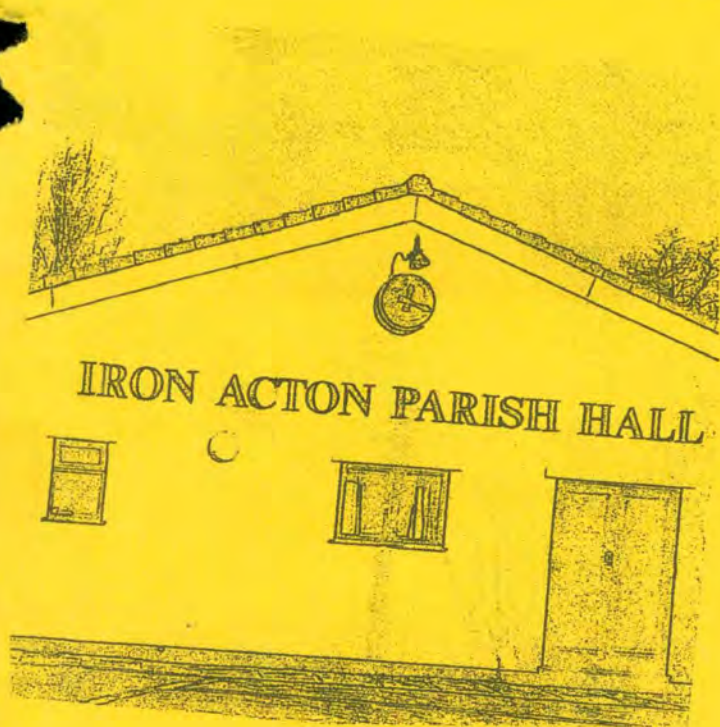


# FOCAL POINTS

SUMMER EDITION : 2013



4 Parish focal points

Issue No. 91

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**USE US OR LOSE US** .....This is the slogan being used by local shop keepers in the Thornbury Town Centre it could well be a slogan for Focal Poyntz.

We are having to struggle harder and harder each issue to prise out material to publish even from the organisations within the Parish. For this issue less than half the contributions were in by the deadline date. Several of the remainder needed a reminder of one sort or another and several did not bother to reply at all !!!!!

As far as contributions from other sources you will see these are sparse. We hear of events of varying sizes being held which well warrant a mention in Focal Poyntz but nothing is forthcoming even after direct personal approaches are made.

We are not professional journalists we have neither the time or skills to go out and find and report these events, we must rely on the material being given to us. Many things could be included such as personal achievements, congratulations, anniversaries, births, deaths etc but we need to be told.

Perhaps after 90 issues it is time for a change of format and editorial team Perhaps as has been suggested only publishing three times a year means that news is always old. Perhaps with the new more professional monthly free magazine we have been eclipsed.

In this issue (on Page 7) you will find a Survey to collate your views.

We will publish a winter Focal Poyntz when the results of the Survey and the response we receive will be included.

On a more positive note CONGRAULTATIONS to the May Day Team for a very successful day, to Acton Aid for a Super Musical Weekend, to the Garden Trail and to the Ladies who completed the Three Peaks Challenge - WELL DONE TO ALL and a Special WELL DONE to Rob Pardoe for forming the IRON ACTON COMMUNITY CHOIR. Which is thoroughly enjoyed by all.

## **FOCAL POYNTZ INFORMATION**

Your Focal Poyntz Team is:

Maureen Blake

Roy Hubbard  
228356

Stella Taylor  
228417

Barrie Wright  
228247

Rona Wright  
228247

### **Deliveries are ably carried out by:**

Sheila Alsop  
Lynne Blanchard  
The Bradley Family  
Carole Dickson  
Elizabeth Edwards  
John Griffin  
Chris Heal  
Roy Hubbard  
Iron Acton School

Jill Johnson  
Sharon Kellett  
Ashley Mee  
Catherine Neck  
Amanda Scott  
The Smith Family  
Stella Taylor  
Laura Walters  
Mike Wheeler

### **ARTICLES**

If you've got any news or articles that you think we'd like to receive please contact any of the people on the numbers given above. We would love to hear from you!

### **ADVERTISING**

If you would like to place an advert in future issues please contact Barrie Wright - our advertising "whiz" (£20 for a full page and £10 for a half page - invoices can be provided).

### **ARTWORK**

We are very grateful to Maureen Blake for her very special drawings to complement the articles.

### **PRINTING**

As always, our printing has been undertaken by Oldbury Deckers Youth Club and we say a big "thank you" to them.

### **COVER**

Our beautiful cover was drawn by Maureen Blake

### **NEXT ISSUE**

**AUTUMN 2013**

Contribution Deadline 13 October 2013

Distribution

End of November/early December

## Dogtastic Fundraising at Iron Acton K9 Club

Iron Acton K9 Club recently organised a sponsored "Downathon" to help raise funds for Rangeworthy Village Hall – the venue for our Monday obedience classes. Our members were brilliant at persuading friends to pledge money for each minute their dog would lie down up to a maximum of 5 minutes and the dogs all behaved dogtastically well on the night to raise over £430 towards the hall's renovation fund. Tummy rubs and bottom scratches all round.

Our doggy Easter bonnet party was a brilliant night with some beautiful hats worn by both handlers and dogs. Meryl Cook and Remy won the prize for the best dressed partnership whilst Trevor Carpenter's Bryn won the prize for the best dressed dog. Lots of fun games were played – including dogs racing to retrieve hard boiled eggs – without breaking them. Karen Carnovale's Shya picked up first prize for returning in the quickest time with a complete egg. The "Guess the Bones" competition and raffle together raised £100 for Bath Dogs and Cats Home.

We have continued to enjoy classes at Rangeworthy every Monday with some lovely puppies passing their Kennel Club Puppy Foundations course – Noodles with handler Simon Stowell, Red with Helen Smith. Finley with Carole Gane and most recently Albert with Natalie Adams.

Bronze successes were Poppy with Alice Gadsby, Rufus with Steve Chubb and Rain with Gill Chapman. Now we have lighter nights we can do some outside training ready for Silver and Gold awards so look out for more tests and awards.

The agility section of the club meets in Iron Acton on Wednesday evenings during the summer when we have fun putting the dogs and handlers round agility courses, picking up dummies, retrieving dummies over a scurry (hay bales) and Flyball.

Our next social event will be a Dog Show, Obedience tests and Activities plus BBQ on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August from 2pm. Anyone in the village who would like to join us and enter either the Novelty Show or Obedience Tests plus BBQ would be very welcome. Look out for flyers with more details about the various classes closer to the date.

If you enjoy working with your dog and would like to join us please give us a call. We meet on Monday evenings for obedience training at Rangeworthy Hall and Wednesday evenings or Sunday afternoons in Iron Acton for agility work.

Sue 01454 228803

Karen 01454 228891

Trevor 01454 775501

Louise 01454 227224



## North Road Community Primary School

WE ARE A GOOD SCHOOL! Eventually we had a visit from OFSTED which was overdue. We were desperate for them to come and see all the improvements since our last inspection, January 2010. We are really pleased and proud of the outcome and that all the hard work has been recognised. A copy of the report can be found on our school website or via the OFSTED website.

You may have read previously that we now have a parents' forum which gives parents a chance to let us know what they would like to see happen at our school. Through this we have taken on two new projects. It was suggested that we could do more music in school and we now have a professional musician, Dan Budd, come and take 45-minute weekly music lessons with Neptune and Jupiter classes. They use instruments as well as modern technology, iPads and laptops to create music. Mr Budd also takes our singing assemblies. Already an improvement has been seen and the children are starting to enjoy and appreciate music of all genres. Guitar and keyboard lessons will also be offered to our KS2 children as of September as well.

Miss Hind from Brimsham Green languages department has also been to visit KS2 pupils. Again our parents wanted children to learn more languages so we arranged for the children to experience a German and French languages hour. This was a huge success with the children picking up the languages quickly. We are hoping to keep this link going in the future.

Through our links with Yate United we are now part of the FA and their role in promoting sport in schools. Pluto and Mars now have a weekly ball skills session with a FA coach as part of their PE lessons. Who knows the next Wayne Rooney could be amongst us!

Back in March we celebrated World Book Day which was a huge success. The hall was turned into a desert island thanks to Mrs Johnson and Mrs Stillie and the children all enjoyed a big read of their desert island books before our school book - 'No Room for Napoleon.' The children had to walk the plank to get their tuck and lunch was served on the desert island by the staff pirates! Pictures can be seen on the school website.

With our continued focus on healthy eating, Warbutons have worked with Neptune class on a sandwich-making workshop. The children could choose from a variety of bread and fillings. They also took home lots of freebies.

This term Mars class's topic is 'The Seaside'. To start off their topic the children had a traditional fish and chips lunch. (Not healthy but we all need a treat sometimes!) We would like to thank Pisces fish and chip shop on Station Road (as seen on Alex Polizzi, The Fixer programme) who donated the containers and forks to make the experience more realistic.

Last year we were pleased to announce that we been awarded the coveted Bristol Standard Award for Quality and Effectiveness of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Provision. Mrs Trickey, Mrs Wybrow, Kate Clarke, Sue Porter and Becky Walker-Cox (Governors and parents) have worked together again this year to ensure targets set from last year have been achieved and that we have maintained this high standard. A new folder of evidence had to be submitted and I am delighted to say we have passed again with very positive feedback! Well done to everyone involved, especially Mrs Trickey. It is really well deserved.

As I write this we still have plenty more fun planned for the rest of this academic year and next, 2013-2014. To keep up to date please see our school website

We are hosting our annual Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, everyone is invited to come along for a cup of tea/coffee and some cake. Old log books and photos of the school will also be on display.

We are already planning our Christmas Fair, November 29<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm, and are looking for people who would like to have a stall. They are £10 each and if you are interested please call the office on 01454 867788).

Have a good summer- fingers crossed for some lovely, sunny days!

Jo Williams  
Head Teacher  
North Road Community Primary

## Iron Acton Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting:- The 2013 Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Attendance at the meeting was a little higher than 2012 with some 27 parishioners in attendance. The Parish Council had invited all organizations/groups within the parish to attend the meeting in order to give an insight into their activities over the previous year. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting have been posted in draft format on the Parish Council web site.

The new line-up of Iron Acton Parish Councillors is as follows:-

<b>East Ward</b>	<b>Iron Acton Ward</b>
Bob Sheppard	Peter Bellis (Chairman)
Bob Lomas	Lynne Blanchard
Howard Gawler	Chris Heal (Vice Chairman)
Andy Tillotson	Dave Taylor
	Peter Huish

**Latteridge** – The Parish Council was approached at the end of May by a company called AEE who were proposing to develop approximately 14-15 hectares of farm land in the Latteridge area for a 13mw solar park. The Solar Farm would generate enough electricity for 780 standard homes, and AEE wished to hold a public exhibition and do a short presentation to the Parish Council prior to their official planning application. The short initial presentation took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> June with questions raised and answered by members of both the council and public. AEE advised that once further information and plans had been drawn up they would again contact the parish council to arrange a further presentation for both the parish council and parishioners giving the chance to raise and ask questions and queries.

**Parish Meadow** – The Parish Council has undertaken some extensive clearance works in the Meadow over the past couple of months. The tennis courts have been swept and weeded and the bushes behind the courts have been cut back. The stream has also been cleared of debris and one of the tall Alder trees has been dead-wooded.

**Footpaths** – Numerous footpaths criss-cross the parish, and are frequently walked by parishioners. Should anyone walking a public footpath come across any problems with things such as obstructions, overgrown weeds or brambles, please contact the Clerk. Alternatively you can also speak to the South Gloucestershire Council Public Rights of Way team on 01454 863646, or email [rightsofway@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:rightsofway@southglos.gov.uk).

**Allotments** – Following a recent review of the allotments in both Nibley Lane and Station Road and the formation of an allotment association. The allotments have been cleared up and are now pleasing to the eye. The allotments are now being managed very well and tenants fulfilling their agreements ensuring the allotments are maintained and making them a pleasant place to be. The Parish Council holds a waiting list for the allotments if anyone is interested in taking on an allotment please inform the clerk and your name will be added to the waiting list.

**Web Site** -The Parish Council web site ([www.ironactonparishcouncil.com](http://www.ironactonparishcouncil.com)) provides general information on matters relating to the Parish. The agenda for the forthcoming meeting and approved minutes of previous meetings are posted to the site in PDF format. The web site is a complimentary tool to the activities of the Parish Council and as always all official documents relating to the Parish Council can be viewed by any member of the Parish upon request. I would point out that the only officially legal documents are those held by the Clerk. The web site is updated as frequently as is practically possible.

**Dog Fouling**– Unfortunately there has been several case of dog fouling within the Parish it is an offence to allow your dog to foul in a public place. Although most dog owners are aware they have to clear up after their dogs, others are risking fines of up to £1,000. Dog faeces can cause numerous problems and nobody likes it left outside their front gate! It can also carry numerous diseases of which the main one is Toxocariasis, which can lead to serious illness, including blindness. **Legislation and enforcement** Under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act of 1996, anybody who lets their dog foul land open to public access and does not clear up afterwards can be given a fixed penalty notice. If you get such a notice, you have to pay a £50 fine within 14 days. Otherwise, you could be prosecuted and might be fined up to £1000.

**Parish Meadows**- In 2012 a sub-committee within the Parish Council was formed, named the Parish Meadows Committee. This committee comprises, Chairman, Cllr Heal, Vice Chairman, Cllr Huish, Members, Cllrs Blanchard, Tillotson and Sheppard and Mrs Jo Wright.

Since its formation the committee has met regularly to discuss the management and development of the Meadows and we have, with the help of volunteers, repaired and painted the play equipment in the children's area, replaced the failing chestnut tree which had been planted in memory of Mel and replaced the notice board. We have started on a programme of regeneration, ie spraying off areas of nettles and brambles to be replaced with planting of wild flowers. We have resurfaced either side of the bridge with a substantial surface enabling vehicles to cross when necessary without causing too much damage.

The next project is to remove dead or unsuitable trees within the Meadows in preparation for a future replanting scheme.

Members of Acton Aid have recently created a new trail around the perimeter of the play area and created an "adventure tunnel" for children to enjoy.

The committee meets monthly welcoming any parishioners to bring any ideas or relevant comments to the public participation. Dates of the meetings are available from The Clerk.

The Parish Meadows are for the enjoyment of all parishioners and we welcome any comments or help with the management and development.

As always, if you have any issues relating to Parish matters, please contact either your Councillor, or the Clerk.

Donna Beal  
Clerk - Iron Acton Parish Council  
01454 501134                      Email: [ironactonparishcouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:ironactonparishcouncil@hotmail.com)



## Focal Poyntz And Thoughts On Its Future

Many of you by now would have received and read a new monthly magazine called the "fromealleyvoice" that was recently delivered in the Parish. It is obviously a professionally produced document by a professional, in full colour and absolutely free to its readers. Its area of coverage is much more extensive than ours, which may make it more attractive to its audience and particularly to its advertising sponsors.

This has now got the Focal Poyntz team wondering, in conjunction with the observations listed below, if it may be time to pass on the baton. This of course would depend on whether the new editor would be willing to incorporate all that our magazine contains.

As a consequence of several articles for the current edition of Focal Poyntz, either having been received at the final hour, greatly reduce in content or even not at all, the Committee was wondering if after nearly 30 years you consider that the magazine has passed its sell by date.

Over the years there has been little or no reaction to the hundreds of articles which have been painstakingly composed by numerous contributors, leaving the Committee wondering whether the magazine is actually read at all.

There has been a lot of hard work involved in fundraising, chasing advertising revenue (for which Focal Poyntz has been eternally grateful), assimilating the articles, proof reading, getting sketches drawn up, taking drafts to the printers, collecting the final prints and then distributing over ~~530~~ magazines throughout the Parish. This has been achieved by a handful of dedicated volunteers who have given a lot of time and thought into its production.

As a reader you are now being given the opportunity to have your say in the continuation of the magazine. You will find an email address below which you can use to make your point and the findings of the survey will be published either in the next edition or by some other means.

Please take time out to complete the questions listed below.

### Survey

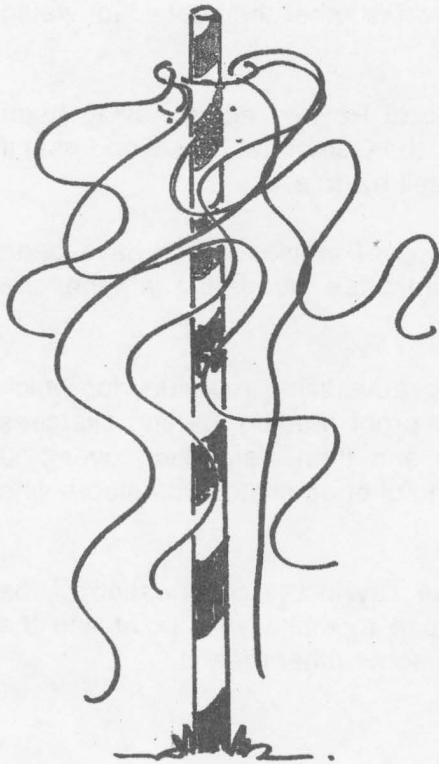
- A Do you always read all the articles in Focal Poyntz?
- B Do you think the magazine should continue in its current format?
- C If so would you consider becoming a member of a new editorial team?
- D Would you consider becoming a member of the distribution team?
- E Would you like us to explore the possibility of a merger?

Answers to the above questions can be sent to: [hubbardroy@gmail.com](mailto:hubbardroy@gmail.com) or to any member of the editorial team who are listed at the beginning of each edition.

## Iron Acton Friends of School

As you read this lets hope this wonderful sunny weather is still with us!

As a 'new parent' to Iron Acton Friends of School may I say what a welcoming bunch they are! Its been a great way of meeting parents throughout the school and feeling very much part of the school.



Its been a busy couple of terms for the The Friends of School. The annual AGM was held in March, a time to say goodbye to Caroline Haselhan who has stepped down as Secretary. She has done a sterling job and will be very much missed. A big thank you to Donna Thomas who has agreed to stay on as Chair, Amanda Scott Vice Chair and Sarah Ridler Treasurer. It was lovely to see several of the new Reception parents join the committee.

Story telling evening was in April, the Friends of School served hot chocolate and biscuits to the children once they had all listened to a selection of stories read to them by parents and staff from the school. It was a lovely evening enjoyed by both the children and parents.

May brought us May Day and what a glorious day that was. At last we had a May Day that was warm and sunny! The children performed dancing around the May Pole to a very high standard! This was down to Annie King and Sarah Ridler who spent many weeks after school teaching the children the dances. We look forward to a repeat performance next year. Amy McIvor was a splendid Queen with Elvis Webster by her side as King. They were attended by Ellie Ridler, Ella Drew and Katie Aries who all looked beautiful in their dresses along with Imogen Mirfin from North Road School.

We did our usual Bags to School collection in May. This is a great way to have a clear out of clothing, shoes, bedding and soft toys whilst raising funds for the school. We will doing another collection in November so if you would like a bag to fill please do contact me on 01454 227419.

We held our Summer Fair on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June and despite the rather dismal weather we had a good turn out! Well done to Mrs Kemp who won the top cash prize in the raffle. We had a visit from a fire engine from Yate Station, the children loved it! Thank you to Richard and Billy who did a sterling job of 'Beat the goalie'.

Our end of term Summer Prom takes place on the 20<sup>th</sup> July in the Parish Hall. Its a great way for the whole school, children, staff and parents to have a social get together to celebrate the end of another school year. We will be saying farewell to our current year six children who will be going off to pastures new as they start the next phase in their school life at secondary school.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the village school at our events and we very much look forward to another successful fund raising year starting in September.

Enjoy the Summer and long may this lovely weather continue!

Heather Tillotson  
Secretary

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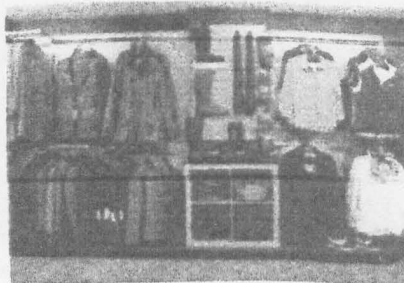
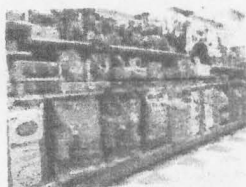
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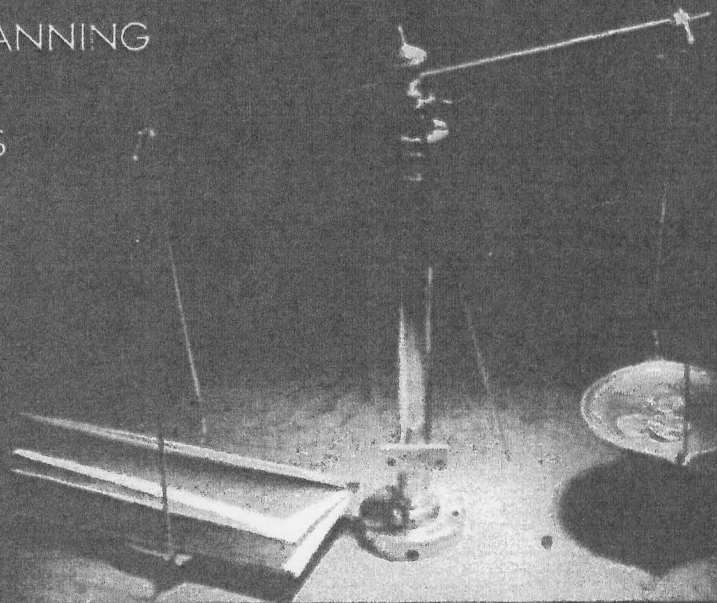
**Mark Curtis Dip FA**

M. 07917 390943

Poplar Farm, Yate Road, Iron Acton, Bristol, BS37 9XY

[Mark.Curtis@thinkpositive.co.uk](mailto:Mark.Curtis@thinkpositive.co.uk)

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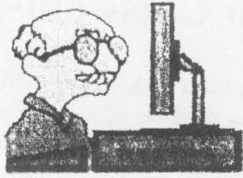
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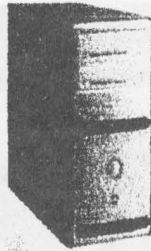
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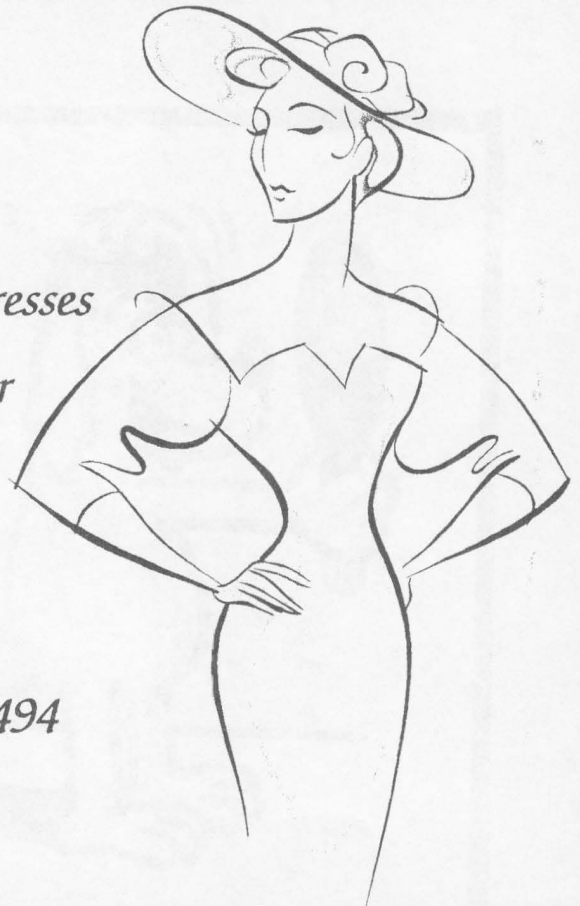
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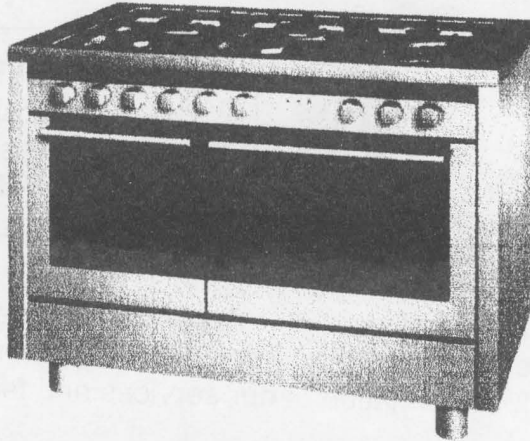
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## **Iron Acton Women's Institute**

Our speaker in April was John Gingell, who worked at the Cadbury factory for forty years, latterly as a Commissioning Manager. He gave an extremely well informed talk about the making of chocolate from the bean to the bar. He traced the history of chocolate from the Olmec Indians of Mexico who first grew cacao as a domestic crop through to Europe in the 1500s and to 1728 when Walter Churchman started a chocolate business in Bristol preceding Joseph Fry by a few years. We tasted 100% chocolate which most of us found very bitter and a more palatable example once treated by adding other ingredients such as cocoa butter and milk. John also exhibited his large collection of memorabilia saved from the Somerdale Factory including a box containing the last six bars of chocolate manufactured at the factory in 2011.

To inspire us in our gardens this summer, Annette Baber from Roberts Brothers family gardening/produce business gave a demonstration on how to fill a variety of baskets and containers to get a spectacular effect and explained that even by using inexpensive plants and a simple colour scheme, some beautiful results could be achieved. She had taken along a selection of bedding plants which many members took the opportunity to purchase and as at the time of writing summer seems to have arrived with much longed for warm and dry weather, hopefully there will be some lovely displays in evidence around the village.

This year's national WI Resolution is the 'decline of our high street and town centres' and calls upon every member of the WI to support their local shops. This was discussed and voted upon with the motion being backed by the majority of members.

May Day was blessed with such glorious weather where we held a very successful bric-a-brac stall at the celebrations on The Green. The sun shone all day and people were loathe to leave the carnival atmosphere which was reflected in the increased takings this year.

One of our members, Jenny Collett, has raised £430 for cancer research by organising a Cream Tea in her garden.

The visit to Oakham Treasures at Portbury evoked a trip down memory lane. There were a series of themed shops stocked with items from days gone by and many exclamations of "I remember that" and "My Gran had one of those" could be heard as members and their companions made their way around the exhibition. An interesting evening was completed with tea and delicious homemade cakes in the café.

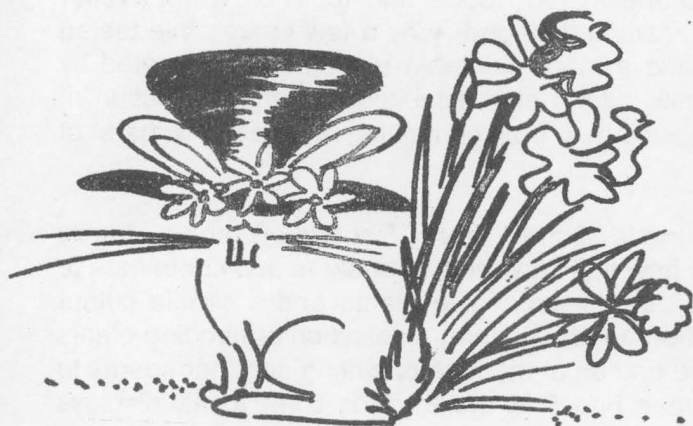
A visit to the Bristol Blue factory is planned just before our summer break then in September we're back in the Parish Hall for cup cake decorating and a speaker on glass work. This will inevitably lead on to our birthday and Christmas parties but at this time of year, let's not go there!

Our Secretary, Stella Taylor, can be contacted on 01454 228417 for more information on our activities and our meetings which are held in the Parish Hall on the second Monday of the month.

## **St James The Less Toddler Group**

Well, we can't quite believe that it will be four years in September since we first joined the Toddler Group with our boys Oliver and Daniel. We love being a part of it and have made some great friends, as have the boys! It's sad that they will be leaving the Toddler Group but exciting that they will be starting school with all the children they have formed firm friendships with. So we would like to say good bye and good luck to Abigail, Daniel, Flynn, Henry, Iris, Rosie and Oliver. We will miss you all!

We will greatly miss the mums that will be leaving us too (especially Lisa's singing!) and hope that you all pop back in for a cuppa when you can! Also, make sure you still join us for quiz night at the Lamb on the first Monday of every month! We haven't won yet but it is a good laugh!



Don't forget that we will be having a Summer Party on the 5<sup>th</sup> August at Organic Blooms.....thank you Jo Wright!

We have had a lovely summer term at The Toddler Group. The children have been playing in the garden most weeks but the highlight has most definitely been our wonderful day trip to Puxton Park. The coach picked us up in the morning for a day of fun including a tractor ride and animal petting! The weather was beautiful and great fun was had by all! We were able to arrange this trip due to the profit received from the May Day Fayre and so we would like to say a big thank you to all the mums that helped out on the day.

Sarah from Jazzy Jamboree will be joining us this Friday which will be a lovely way to finish the term.

We wish everyone a good summer holiday and look forward to seeing you in September, if not at Toddlers then at the school gates!

If you are interested in joining this friendly Toddler Group please contact Katie Curtis (228997) or Ann Mora (228994). We meet every Friday from 10.30am until 12pm in the Marshall Room.

Katie and Ann

## **North Road Ladies Club**

Since our last report in the Focal Poyntz Spring edition, North Road Ladies Club have had very enjoyable meetings.

For our March meeting Rudi Clark gave a jewellery demonstration. We sat around tables ready to be instructed on how to make a pair of ear-rings and we finished with a variety of designs and colours which we were very proud to wear.

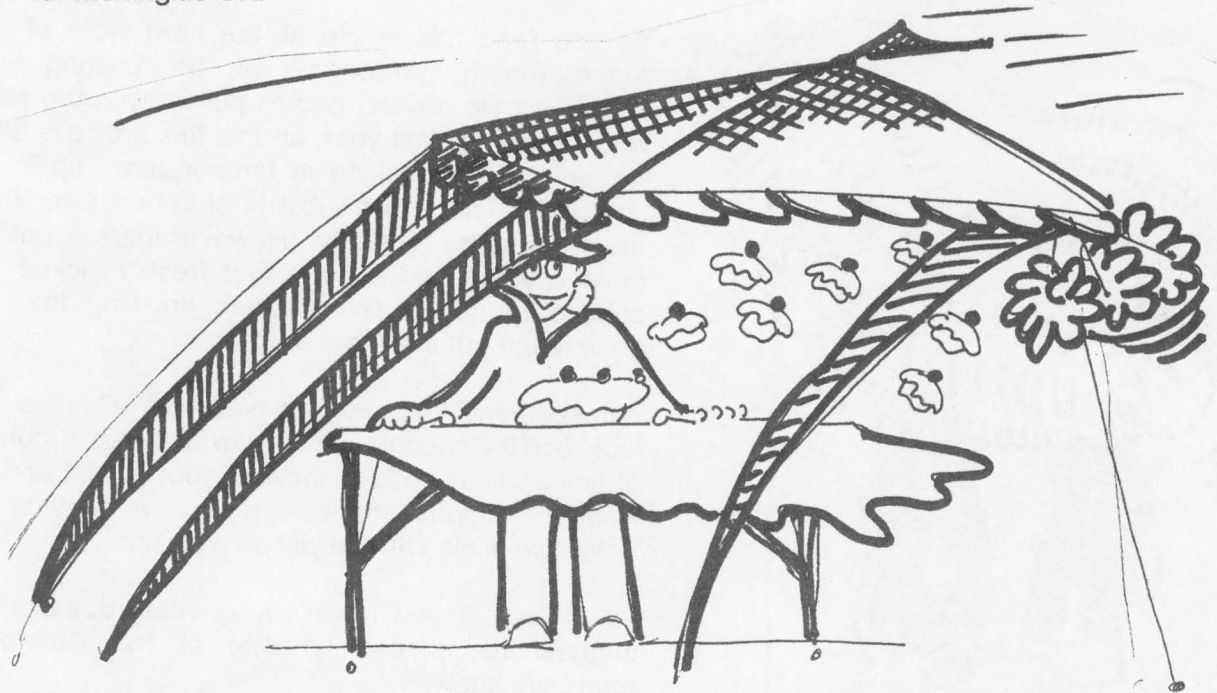
In April our speaker was Rodney Veazey who gave a fascinating talk, with slides, on "Whales". He explained the difference between whales with teeth and whales without teeth and their eating habits. He spoke about the various types of whales, his favourite being the Sperm Whale. We were shown pictures of the skeletons of whales which gave us an understanding of how they move in the water, their breathing and how long they can stay under water. Also the sounds they make, which can be heard from far off.

In June Larry Bhang gave an illustrated talk on "Women on the Home Front" and explained how during the First World War women were able to secure employment beyond domestic service.

As mentioned in the Spring Focal Poyntz our chosen charity for 2013 was Meningitis UK and we are extremely pleased to report that our two fundraising events have been a great success.



On 13 May we held a Charity Skittles Evening in the British Legion Hall, Coalpit Heath, which raised £267 for Meningitis UK.



Saturday afternoon 15 June was our Garden Party kindly hosted by Mr and Mrs Merrick in their garden in North Road. We were all hoping for nice weather and, despite the very heavy downpour at midday, the rain had cleared in time for our Garden Party. The weather did not deter people from coming along to give their support and there was a very happy atmosphere. The Garden Party raised the magnificent sum of £1000 for Meningitis UK.

Cheques for these two amounts have been donated to Meningitis UK.

Monday, 1 July was our club's annual evening outing and this year a party of 40 took a 2hr trip around the Bristol Docks on "The Matthew" with a stop half way for a fish and chip supper. Once again the weather was very kind to us. The wind dropped, the sun came out and the water was very calm for sailing, plus the fish and chips were delicious. We could not have asked for more!

Our meetings until the end of the year are as follows:

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Monday, 2 September 2013 | TV Tales with Time Hooper   |
| Monday, 7 October 2013   | Poetry by Paul Evans  |
| Monday, 4 November 2013  | Our Club celebrates its 46 <sup>th</sup> Birthday with a meal at The White Hart Inn, Iron Acton |
| Monday, 2 December 2013  | AGM, American Supper. Also Peggy Scott will be entertaining us                                  |

Our meetings are held in Iron Acton Parish Hall, commencing at 7.30pm. If anyone is interested in joining North Road Ladies Club, please just come along to one of our meetings and you will be made most welcome.

June Rycroft  
Club Secretary

## Horticultural Show - Saturday 7 September 2013



As you read this article all the hard work of Iron Acton Parish gardeners will be bearing fruit! Thankfully we haven't had to put up with the same wet weather as last year, and as this article is being written we are basking in temperatures up in the late 20°C. The only trouble is of course everything needs watering regularly! However there is nothing quite like the taste of the first freshly picked and cooked runner or broad bean, knowing that you grew it and put in all that hard work.

As usual, enclosed with this edition of FP is the 'new look' 2013 Schedule which now includes a number of tips and hints about showing your exhibit and just what the judges are looking for. A copy of this Schedule is also on the village web site.

As always, if you have any queries, questions or suggestions, please let one of the Committee members know.

Finally, could we please have the trophies back by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013, duly polished and buffed!

Iron Acton Horticultural Show

## Iron Acton Community Choir

So, the inaugural performance of the Iron Acton Community Choir has been and gone...the day (Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>) dawned bright and sunny. The Proms in the Meadow (the 10th anniversary year) would start at 18.00 that evening.

We were due on at about 8.40, just after the interval...and at about 8.15 you could see blue T-shirts popping up all around the meadows as eager and slightly trepidatious members of the choir started gathering near the stage. By 9.00 it was over, but what a glorious "15 minutes of fame" we had! We shared our 5 song repertoire (Swing Low, Sweet Chariot; Consider Yourself/Who Will Buy; On My Own (from Les Mis); Down by the Riverside; The Rose) with an eager audience and were received with considerable appreciation. Perfection is a rare event in performance terms and we do not claim it for our performance on the night: there was a slight loss of rhythm in Down by the Riverside, our diction could have been slightly crisper (particularly in the quieter passages)...but for a first performance (and for some members, their first public performance since school days) it was a damn fine thing! The Orchestra conductor whispered in my ear afterwards that we must sing in the finale of the evening next year (Jerusalem and Rule Britannia); Charlotte Newstead, the soprano, suggested that for a debut performance it was of a very high quality.

As the choir master of this new venture, I can only offer my deepest appreciation for the hard work and commitment shown by all the members. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to take up the baton with them, and I look forward hugely to developing our repertoire, helping to extend skills

and abilities and providing opportunities to make a glorious sound and to build a sense of team work and community. That is the pay off for me for getting involved in the choir and I am thrilled that I have that opportunity here in this lovely village where so much good work goes on. To that end, we are also grateful to Acton Aid for supporting us to get off the ground and in subsidising some of the early costs of the group. I believe Iron Acton is hugely fortunate to have such an organisation doing quiet work behind the scenes to support positive initiatives that both for me and many I know, enhance village life.

Where do we go from here?

Well, we are now having a well-earned break over the summer and then will reconvene on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, and continue to meet on a Tuesday evening in the Committee Room of The Parish Hall. We will hopefully look to sing some Christmas music around the village, and we look forward to finding more opportunities to sing for various village events or festival occasions. We have 49 members (although we are losing a couple to the demands of Higher Education!) and the space in which we rehearse cannot cope with more than that number. Therefore, whilst I have had a few inquiries from people keen to join and it would be particularly good to have a couple more guys to join the tenors and basses, there really is very little room for manoeuvre. However, if you want to make inquiries or join a waiting list then do feel free to contact me on [robpardoe@gmail.com](mailto:robpardoe@gmail.com) ...and if spaces become available we can take it from there.

Robert Pardoe  
Conductor: Iron Acton Community Choir

## **Excerpts from How I Started My National Service 1960-1962**

### **Part 4**

Day Five - On the drill square, apart from my trousers falling down, another perpetual hazard was my beret coming off. Today, this happened twice within a few minutes, which earned me extra fatigues that night. After drill we were marched to the billet to shrink our berets (a bit late for me). This entailed immersion in very hot water, then cold water and drying them on our heads!

Housekeeping included setting out the contents of our lockers to a military format. Any deviation in the laid-down system resulted in the locker being thrown over to spill the contents, a not infrequent occurrence for most of us at morning inspections. After tea we were commanded to sew the RAOC flashes on to the BD jacket, finally inserting the lanyard. This latter action was a big blow for me since I could no longer use it to help hold up my trousers.

My extra fatigues included the most degrading thing I have ever had to do in my life. I had to remove the yellow, stinking occlusions from the urinals with a razor blade. This entailed getting on hands and knees and scraping the china surface until it was pure white and gleaming. To ensure how demeaning was the task, Cpl Hughes stood alongside me with his boots about 3 inches from my nose. (I recently discovered that Brian Sewell, the art critic, was also given this fatigue.

Day Six - On the Company muster parade at 0800 I was put on a charge for having a shirt button undone. This was classified as 'idle on parade'. Six of us were also adjudged to have 'manky' belts; these were removed and Sgt Burns, our platoon Sgt, threw them across the square, which did not do the brasses or blacoing a lot of good.

In the afternoon we had our first session of PE under a very keen, commando-type NCO.

We were then marched to the camp cinema for a lecture by the Medical Officer (MO) on keeping fit; I and many others promptly fell asleep.

Day Seven - At 0730 there was a room inspection by a trio of the NCO hierarchy and an officer, heralded by the Cpl yelling "Stand by your beds!" This was to become a regular occurrence in the lead-up to the passing-out parade. Lieutenant (Lt) Handley, the Platoon commander, was gentlemanly and made no fuss. Sgt Burns bristled and barked at everyone and tipped my bed block on the floor and instructed me to make it again for inspection. Cpl Hughes picked up my mug, dropped it like a hot potato and yelled "Don't go near it, soldier! It's heaving!" When they had gone I found the merest tea stain in one corner of the mug. At that moment, he returned, raving about what a shambles the room and its contents were and picked on each individual to carry out a remedial task. I was made to tie a piece of string to the mug handle and lead it like a dog around the billet on the concrete and stone floor. I was hustled by Cpl Hughes but managed to get back to my bedspace with the mug intact.

Day Eight - One of the problems in cleaning the cap badge is a tendency to leave Brasso in the crevices and only to polish the planar surface. Stiff brushing should remove the verdigris, but often in the rush to get all the kit ready, the operation is skimped. This morning on the muster parade, Cpl Hughes removed my badge and roared "This is the mankiest badge I've ever seen" and threw it across the square. Having retrieved it later, I found there was the merest trace of green in a corner; it cost me extra fatigues that night.

In the afternoon we had our first meeting with the Personnel Office. This was to establish which 'trade' should be earmarked for us after the square-basing was completed. He gave us a series of arithmetical and English tests, almost identical to the one at the civilian medical.

The highlight of the day was our first pay parade. The squad was lined up and we marched in turn into the Paymaster's Office, halting and saluting, having reached the desk. We accepted the pay and shouted "Pay and Payment correct, Sir" although we obviously had no idea whether it was or not. After an about-turn, we marched out. Five shillings had already been deducted to go to my wife's service pension, leaving me with ten shillings and six pence. This was the format for collection of pay every week of my time in the Army.

To be continued

Geoff Dickes

## **Iron Acton C of E VC Primary School**

I know I say it every year ... but I can't believe this year has flown by so quickly Year 6 pupils have all visited their new schools. Within school all the pupils have visited their new classrooms and/or met their new teachers. The new Reception children and parents have come for an Induction meeting and a sea side picnic. All around school Prom outfits are being organised and end of term events planned.

Each class has been out on a school trip to support their class topic. Class 1 went to Weston Super Mare to find out about Seaside now and in the past. Class 2 visited the Corinium Museum at Cirencester to support their roman topic and took part in workshops looking at Roman mosaics, games clothes and food. Class 3 have really gone to town and have spent three days following

the journey of the river Avon from its source to Avonmouth and Bristol Docks. It has been a fascinating study and the class have visited local places they did not even know existed!

Our outdoor areas are looking a picture. The wild flower areas and hanging baskets are a riot of colour, tomatoes and cucumber are growing in the greenhouse, rows of sunflowers are shooting up and the raised beds are full of fruit, vegetables and flowers. Our spiral garden is now well established and we are so proud of it we invited the community to come and see it as part of the church Open Garden Trail. We are lucky to have such a large and varied outdoor area but it does take a lot of work to maintain it. Most of this work is done by different working parties and individual parents. Thank you everyone.

Different aged teams have been competing at South Gloucestershire sports events this term. Year 1 entered a football tournament, Year 5 entered a hand ball tournament and Year 3 and 4 entered a Hockey Festival. All three teams played with excellent team spirit and attitude winning two Fair Play Awards. Tomorrow is sports day and this year the teams are named after endangered species. Each team is made up of pupils from each age group with the oldest pupils responsible for organising their team into the correct races and making a team banner. Last year sports day was cancelled due to torrential rain and this year we are trying to locate gazebos to provide everyone with shelter from the blazing sun - you can always rely on the British weather to add a challenge to the event.

Luckily the weather stayed fine for the May Day festivities. The May King, Queen and attendants looked wonderful and the Maypole dancers were able to demonstrate their impressive dancing skills. I always think of May Day as a local village celebration so I am always amazed to talk to people and hear they come a long way to enjoy the festivities.

We enjoy meeting up with other small schools. In June we hosted an Orienteering morning for Year 5 pupils from the small school cluster. Two weeks later, Class 2 performed their "Jonah Jive" at an afternoon of dance at Tortworth School.

Since our church inspection we have been busy working on our church identity and exploring our Christian values. We are currently creating display boards celebrating the themes of compassion, trust, friendship, truth, justice and hope. Year 6 spent a very enjoyable day at Bristol Cathedral with pupils from other church schools from the Bristol Diocese. They spent the "Moving on" day working on the theme "making a difference" with workshops on art, music, environmental awareness and sport.



I would like to thank everyone in the village who has helped the school during the year through supporting our fundraisers, joining in our special events, donating vouchers, sending in plants or indeed helped in any other way. A special thank you to members of the church who have freely given their time to run a weekly "Open the Book" service for our youngest children. As a small school we are always thankful for the support we get from the village.

Jill Bendeaux

## The Actonians

By the time this issue goes to press the Actonians will have produced two shows since the last issue : Out of Order by Ray Cooney and our Summer Show.

As reported in the last issue we presented a farce called 'Out of Order' at the end of May and judging from the feedback we've had from both our audiences and the adjudicator it was enjoyed almost as much by them as it was by the cast! Here is a quote from our adjudication:

*"Overall, this was an excellent production, a top-quality and well-executed farce. Congratulations to all involved, and for generating such a wonderful, warm atmosphere for your audience, who clearly have great respect for your dedication and hard work, but also were encouraged to just have a bloody good laugh!!"*

Our Summer Show was presented on the last weekend in July and consisted of two one-act plays and a "ploughman's" before the interval. Our Junior group put on a full production of 'No Entry' by Jan Carew; this was a natural progression of the rehearsed reading they did of this play in front of an audience in February, the main difference being that this time they didn't have their scripts on stage!

After your meal the Seniors put on a production of 'Little Grimley Presents Strictly Sex Factor (On Ice)' by David Tristram, a comedy whose synopsis is:

"The Little Grimley Amateur Society are faced with yet another threat to their very existence. Reality TV shows have ravaged their Saturday night audiences, which in their hey-day used to occasionally reach double figures. Never one to take these things lying down, Chairman Gordon has devised a cunning plan to compete head-on - their very own live Saturday night blockbuster, combining the best of all the other formats. All they need now is an audience, some contestants, four judges, a mirror ball... oh, yes, and some ice."

At time of writing this production has yet to take place so I can't tell you how it fared!

Another "first" for us has been that since the last issue we have become a member of N.O.D.A. (The National Operatic and Dramatic Association) which provides us with benefits such as a national presence, technical advice, Health & Safety advice, adjudications and annual awards to name but a few!

Our plan is that the Junior group will be entering a play into the 'Avon Heat' of the annual 'All England Theatre Festival' in Spring 2014, they haven't chosen the play they're going to do yet, but I'm sure they will do an excellent job and learn a lot from participating in the first round (and possibly more if they do well) of a national competition!

The Senior Group will be presenting 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare in November 2013, 'Canterbury Tales Made Modern' by Phil Wood in May 2014 and 'Bazaar and Rummage' by Sue Townsend in November 2014. The 'Summer Show' for 2014 is yet to be decided.

The Actonians are a friendly group whose priorities are a) to have fun and b) to entertain our audiences. We draw our membership from North Bristol and South Gloucestershire and are always ready to welcome new members, experienced or not: whether they wish to be involved onstage, backstage or front of house. We meet most Wednesday evenings in the Parish Hall (from 7:30 or 8:00) and on some Sunday afternoons whilst we are rehearsing. You can contact us by coming along to a meeting, ringing the Secretary (me) on 01454 228760 or via our website at [www.actonians.co.uk](http://www.actonians.co.uk)

Mike Schofield

## St James the Less Church

Many of you will know that at St James the Less we have been without a minister for some time. Plans are afoot to remedy this and in time St James will become part of a group of churches known as a benefice. At the head will be a Rector with a team of clergy who will share the task of administering services between them.

Currently the group we are joining is known as The Fromside Benefice, however the name may change by the time the Act of Parliament ratifies its legal status which is a lengthy process. Therefore steps are currently being taken to lay the foundations of how the new organisation will work and everyone is invited to share in this process.

In essence the work of the PCC will remain largely unchanged except for some common aspects thought best managed centrally for cost efficiency. The main purpose of the PCC is to promote in the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Our aim is to be inclusive and to celebrate the diverse gifts of all members of the body of Christ.

The PCC consists of one member of the clergy, a secretary, treasurer and a number of members. Regular meetings are held which are attended by the Church Wardens who work together with PCC members to ensure the smooth running and maintenance of the church. The PCC also help to select Governors for the village school and oversee the running of the Marshal Rooms.

**Your feedback** is vital to us so that we may serve our community more effectively so please let us know how we can achieve this as your views are important.

Please send any comments to [denise.smith63@hotmail.com](mailto:denise.smith63@hotmail.com) or write a note to post in the box at the back of the church.

## Date For Your Diary

**SATURDAY, 12 OCTOBER, 2013**

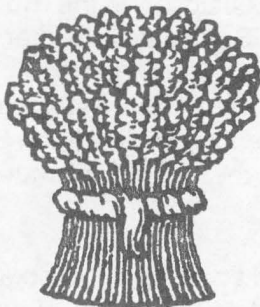
**TRADITIONAL HARVEST SUPPER**

**Bangers and Mash**

**and by popular demand**

**Julie Thursday**

**will be entertaining**

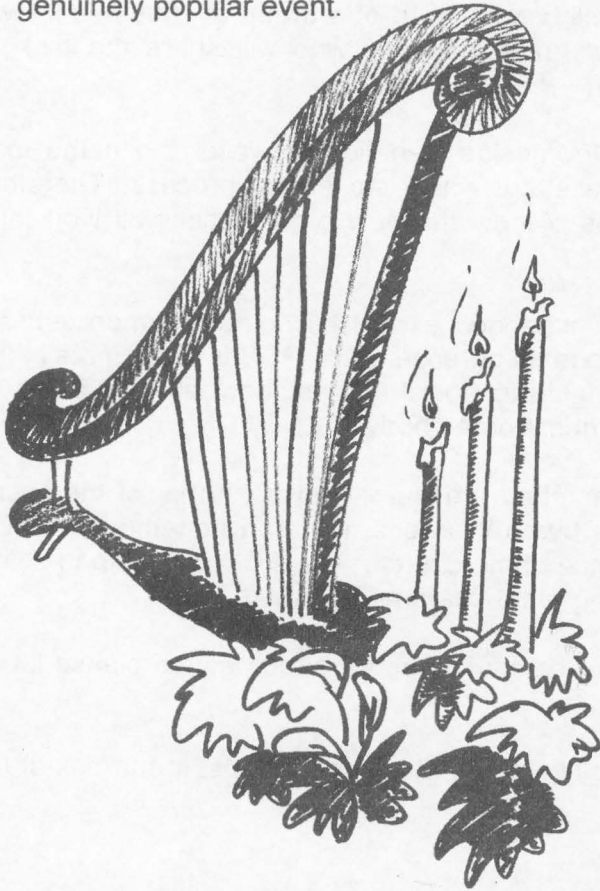


## Acton Aid

It's been a busy few months for Acton Aid. Shortly after the last edition we manned the barbeques on a glorious May Day. Trade was great and we sold out all our fare well before the end of the day's celebrations.

At the time of reading, our main summer events of Mash and Proms in the Meadows have just been held – this year in brilliant sunshine! The inaugural Mash event was a great success; a good-sized crowd enjoyed a fabulous evening of live music. Lee McCrory, Flash Harry and Lizzie Deane

entertained with a great mix of folk, rock and blues. It was good to get extra use out of the stage and provide something new and different, especially with such talented musicians and established performers. Based on the really positive feedback and number of people dancing we think it was genuinely popular event.



Our more established Proms in the Meadow the next evening was another fantastic event and a fabulous way for Acton Aid to celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A spectacular sunny evening of patriotic flag-waving fervour that mixed up some old favourites as well as new local talent, including the first performance of Iron Acton's Community Choir. Again, we've had fantastic feedback and we really love putting on this event for the benefit and pleasure it provides for audience and performers alike.

At both event we held collections for the Wallace & Gromit appeal and thank readers for their generosity.

Members have also been involved in various voluntary work, both in and outside the Parish. In March, members joined a maintenance working party at Iron Acton Primary School and in June, intrepid members scaled ladders to wash down the church walls. In May, Acton Aid helped the Wallace & Gromit Appeal by providing a party of marshals at the Bristol 10k.

Additionally, two members raised £365 for the appeal by running the race dressed as Wallace & Gromit. Also in June we laid a new path and installed a tube in the children's play area in the Parish Meadows.

Looking ahead, members are busy putting in place arrangements for Iron Acton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Beer Festival and the annual Bonfire Night party. The Beer Festival will again be held after the Horticultural Show in the Parish Hall gardens. Please come along from 4pm on Saturday 7 September and enjoy family games and live music. This year's festival theme is a 'British Lions homage'. Not only will there be the usual fine selection of cider, wine and local beers from Gloucestershire's craft brewers, but a guest beer from each of the Lion's nations. Save a place in your diary on Saturday, 2 November for the annual Bonfire Night party. As usual we will run the event on a not for profit basis and children (with an accompanied adult) go free.

Membership continues to be healthy and we welcomed Bob Sheppard back as a member in June. Any Parishioner who wants to find out more about Acton Aid is invited to contact one of the officers or call in and join us at The Lamb Inn at 8pm on the first Thursday of each month. Meetings are informal and fund raising events and the distribution of resources are discussed and planned over a few pints.

Finally, if any reader is aware of a Parishioner who would benefit from the support of Acton Aid they are welcome to contact the Chairman, Jason Haselhan on 228791 or the Secretary Jon Aries on 228037, in confidence.

Jon Aries  
Secretary, Acton Aid



## Iron Acton Community Cinema

The Iron Acton Community Cinema (IACC) enjoyed a successful first season last winter and we have now formed a steering group to develop the idea into the future.

We have booked the Parish Hall for 5 dates for next winter's screenings and we are currently tackling the thorny issue of which films to show!

So that you may put the dates on your calendar for next season, these are:

Saturday, 9 November 2013

Saturday, 14 December 2013

Saturday, 15 January 2014

Saturday, 15 February 2014

Saturday, 8 March 2014

Our plan is to follow the pattern of last winter and show a film for a family audience in the afternoon, with the main feature in the evening.

We will run a bar for the evening shows and sell sweets etc in the afternoon.

We intend to show fairly recent "mainstream" pictures which we hope will appeal to most tastes but we may introduce a few lesser known films in the future

If you are registered on our e-mail list, we will circulate a list of the films once they have been selected, probably in the early autumn, and we will also display the programme on the noticeboard in the Parish Hall.

If you would like to be involved in guiding the future of this worthwhile community initiative, which also gives you a say in choosing the films we show, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail. Our meetings so far have been very informal, and commitment is very small, although we will need several more pairs of hands around the days of the screenings.

Simon Cross  
01454 228291  
[simon@laburnumhouse.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:simon@laburnumhouse.fsnet.co.uk)

## 3 PEAKS OR BUST!

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July a small group from Iron Acton set out on a **BIG** adventure.

For some months now a team of ladies from the Parish of Iron Acton have been training and preparing to undertake the infamous 3 Peaks Challenge. The challenge is to climb the 3 highest mountains in mainland UK – Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon – in under 24 hours. This means walking 27 miles, climbing 10,000 feet and, between the 3 mountains, driving 500 miles.

From the very beginning the aim was to raise sponsorship and our chosen charity was BUST – the Breast cancer Unit Support Trust based at Southmead Hospital.

Early on we realised that we would need to be much fitter and that we would need additional team members to drive and support us. The support team was quickly organised by volunteering two of our husbands! The fitness side of things was obviously going to take a little longer....

Climbing any one of these mountains requires a reasonable level of fitness but climbing all of them, one after another, meant a whole new level of fitness for most of us! We trained over several months, walking whenever we could; near to home around Wotton under Edge and further afield on the Malvern Hills, Pen y Fan in the Brecons and in Snowdonia. For two memorable and extremely wet days in June we climbed Snowdon by various routes – testing both ourselves, and our kit, to the limit.

By the 5<sup>th</sup> July we were as ready as we could be and it was time to set off for Fort William. The day dawned gloriously sunny and the forecast was for great weather all weekend. We stopped en route to collect one member of the team from Penrith railway station and then it was back on the road. We drove through the spectacular Glencoe – disappointingly shrouded in low cloud - and on to Fort William where our comfortable and accommodating B&B awaited.

By 5:50am on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July we were parked outside the Youth Hostel in Glen Nevis nervously awaiting our 6am start. A digital clock was prepared with a 24 hour countdown and as 6am arrived we pressed the start button and crossed the footbridge to begin our challenge. It was cool and cloudy but 20 minutes into the climb we had all warmed up and we were into our stride. At 8:37am we arrived, in thick cloud, on the summit and we had only been overtaken once – by a young lady fell-runner practising for the Ben Nevis run (and you thought we were mad!) Jubilant at the speed of our ascent we set off down the mountain. It is said that pride comes before a fall. But it wasn't so much a fall that halted our progress so much as a dislocated finger. Kate, passing a group of walkers coming up the mountain, balanced herself by holding on to a rock and dislocated her left ring finger. Instinctively she grasped the finger and miraculously restored it to its original position. However, it was clear that her rings on the already swollen finger would need to be removed. Prepared for all eventualities one of the team had some oily spray that enabled us to "ease" Kate's rings off her finger. Improvising quickly we then bound her ring finger to the middle finger with a piece of cling film (leftover from some flapjack consumed at the summit) and without further ado we continued our descent. We arrived back at the minibus at 10:50am to find the field kitchen in full swing with a choice of home-made veggie chilli or spaghetti bolognese (complete with appropriate garnish).

After a rather leisurely turn-around we were on the road by 11:30am. This time the magnificent Glencoe was in full view and we drove into the Lake District on a beautiful afternoon. However, it became clear to the team that the back-seat-driver-wives would need to be relegated to the rear seats of the minibus. The narrow, winding Lakeland roads are not conducive to getting places fast and back-seat-driver-wives tend to get a bit nervous! Nevertheless, despite the various wifely remonstrations, the drivers managed to deliver us to the foot of Scafell Pike at Wasdale Head for a 5pm start.

The setting was stunning. It was the sort of day that every hill walker dreams of. Not a cloud in the sky and the tops of the fells clear and inviting. But half an hour into the relentless slog up Scafell Pike any one of us would have turned back for a cold drink at the Wasdale Head Inn (unsurprisingly that's exactly what our drivers were doing at that very moment!) Hot, and slightly less elated than on Ben Nevis, we arrived at the top at 7pm. As is usual on these occasions we asked someone on the summit to take our photograph.

It was at this point that someone else called out "Smile Ladies!" A friend who lives in Cumbria and who knew about our challenge, with only a vague idea of our timings, had taken the trouble to climb the highest peak in England to meet us at the summit. It was a lovely surprise and a real boost to morale. Chris accompanied us down the steep descent and we arrived at the minibus without further incident at 8:40pm. The field kitchen operatives/drivers had dragged themselves away from the pub and prepared thermos mugs of home-made tomato soup for us to drink in the minibus. By 9pm we had left Scafell Pike, and Chris, behind us.

The drive out of Wasdale Head was as exhilarating as the drive in. Fortunately the thermos mugs came with lids, otherwise we would have been wearing our soup rather than drinking it. Finally, darkness fell and in the back of the minibus the walkers did their best to sleep whilst the drivers drove and navigated our way south to Snowdonia.

To our astonishment we found ourselves stepping out of the minibus at Pen-y-Pass car park just after 1am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July – well ahead of schedule. We realised that we had the incredible luxury of 5 hours to climb Snowdon and the challenge looked "in the bag". Perhaps we were a bit nonchalant after our speedy climbs on Ben Nevis and Scafell Pike. Or perhaps we had convinced ourselves that with only 2500 feet of climbing Snowdon would be the "easiest" of the 3 Peaks. Or maybe we were just punch-drunk on little sleep and lots of walking. But, whatever the reason, we strolled around getting rucksacks and head torches ready until finally we headed off up the Miners Track just before 1:30am.

As a veteran of many walks on Snowdon this was a first for me - walking, in starlight, on a balmy summer's night into the heart of Snowdon. As our eyes adjusted to the feeble light from our torches, the almost invisible bulk of the mountains around us became more apparent and we realised that scattered above and below us on the mountain were tiny points of lights – groups of other 3 Peakers out there in the dark. The climb was slow and, at times, difficult as we tried to pick our way up boulders and rocks with only our torch light to find the way. But finally, tired and still in the dark, we reached the summit of Snowdon at 3:45am. Far below us the lights of North Wales twinkled and to the east there was the faintest hint of the beautiful day to come. But there was no time to stop and admire our stunning surroundings or even to congratulate ourselves on our 3<sup>rd</sup> summit. Within minutes we were moving again and beginning the long descent. What had seemed like plenty of time was rapidly running out. We were all much slower than on the previous mountains and before we knew it 4am became 5am. By now it was fully daylight but still we were descending the long and winding Miners Track. Finally we glimpsed the car park and our drivers. They were waiting for us with the digital clock we had started the previous day. We gathered around and ceremoniously stopped the clock with exactly 16 minutes to go. 23 hours and 44 minutes. We had done it! And in the process we had raised over £3500 for BUST.

There are many people who have been instrumental in this achievement and in true Hollywood oscar-style I would like to say a huge thank you to the following people:

To JON ARIES and JASON HASELHAN our drivers/supporters/field kitchen cooks/playlist providers – you made it possible.

To everyone who has sponsored us and supported our various fund-raising events over the past months – you have donated an amazing amount of money to a very worthy cause.

To our friends and families who supported, texted, face-booked, phoned and sang to us and who always believed in us.

To Lesley Mathias our Sports Therapist who eased our aches and pains for so many months.

To Nikki and Jinx Johnson who supported us from start to finish.

To Kate who bravely "took one for the team" without any fuss at all.

To Chris Tuckey who climbed a mountain for us (and who lives in Cumbria so will never read this).

And finally, but by no means least, to the team:

**SALLY ARIES**

**KATE CLARKE**

**ANNA WEBSTER**

**HAYLEY WHITTLE**

**CAROLINE HASELHAN**

## Did you know there's a new bus route serving Iron Acton?

The **222** service runs from Longwell Green / Kingswood to Chipping Sodbury via Yate, Frampton Cotterell, Coalpit Heath, Emersons Green and Kingswood. Residents in Iron Acton can request that the bus picks them up from the village.

If you would like to travel on the 222 you need to ring 01454 868368 at least 2 hours before you wish to travel.

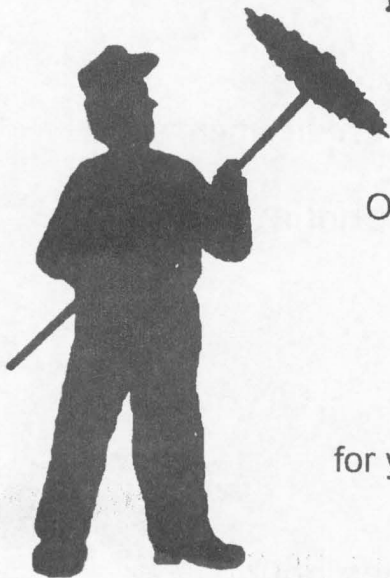
The bus is run by Severnside Transport Ltd with funding from South Gloucestershire Council and is currently in a trial period to see if there is enough demand.

STL is the commercial arm of the charity Four Towns and Vale Link with all profits going back into the charity to support travel for the elderly, disabled or otherwise transport disadvantaged in the community. Visit [www.severnsidetransport.co.uk](http://www.severnsidetransport.co.uk) or [www.4tt.org.uk](http://www.4tt.org.uk)



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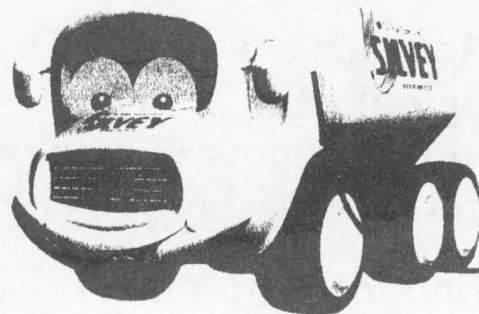
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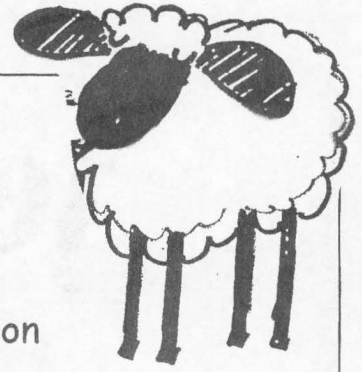
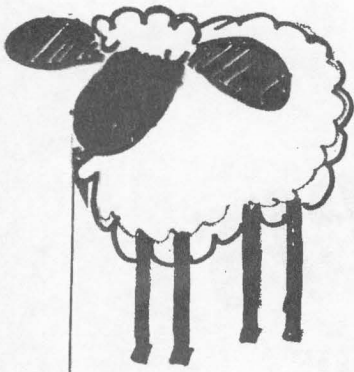


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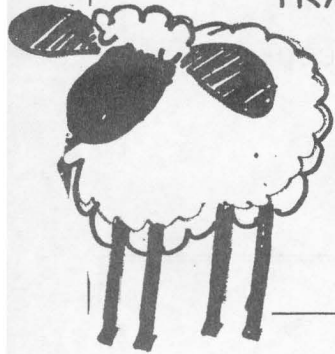
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