



FOCUS on

# IRON ACTON



# S. J. A. Builders

*Extensions, Garages,  
Porches, Renovations,  
Stonework, etc.*

*All trades covered*

Simon Atherton,



## Rangeworthy 8115



Gallop down to the

## Rose & Crown

and try a traditional ale served by Allan & Gail



LARGE ATTRACTIVE GARDENS



IN THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE OF IRON ACTON

TEL: 423

FUNCTION ROOM WITH BAR AVAILABLE FOR HIRE .... PARTIES, MEETINGS, CLUBS, ETC.





# No. 18                      SUMMER '88

## EDITORIAL

First of all, a line to all those stalwarts who contribute to FOCUS: Thank you very much. This edition has more pages than ever because of the number of contributions we have received. Two items, from Mr Strange and Penny Percy, we look forward to seeing in our next issue. To those of you who always wanted to write (or draw for that matter) but were too shy to send something in, we'd love to hear from you.

Thanks again to those who contribute money: your donations are what keep the magazine afloat. As always, the goodwill and interest are much appreciated.

We say goodbye to this FOCUS to the O'Neill family who, after 30 years in Iron Acton are returning to Ireland. Your friends are sad and wish you well, Carmel, Tom, Sharon and Ged. Hey Sharon, whatever happened to the piece you were going to write for FOCUS?

This issue's striking cover is by Pete Redman.

Charles Wilkins	Jo Voss	Lynne Blanchard	John Percy	Betty Cook
Hillside	Dean Ldge	Rose Cott.	Primrose Cott.	Neksdore
School Rd.	High St.	Latteridge Rd.	High St.	High St.
Tel: 254	Tel: 674	Tel. 566	Tel: 339	Tel: 202

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Although we managed to get to the semi-final, that was our limit this year. Later we shall hear the judges comments and will know what our weak points are.

The Children's posters were even better than usual and the 4 prizewinners have been sent in to the competition for the whole of Northavon.

Gardens were judged on 20 July and the winners were:

- Most Colourful Garden - Mr and Mrs Colquhoun, Post Office  
Best Container - Mr and Mrs Dyer, 22 Nibley Lane  
Best Hanging Basket - Mr and Mrs J Cook, Dean Lodge West \*\*

\*\* No it wasn't a fiddle!!

Several other people were specially mentioned, notably Albert Davis (Hanging Basket) and Mr Woodward (Container) but as they have won before could not be winners. The display at the Rose and Crown was also very much admired.

Judging gardens was most difficult. The judge thought very many gardens were well planted and cared for, but in the end she thought the front plot at the Post Office, though tiny, was a mass of colour.

Perhaps next year we can think up a new competition - any ideas anyone???

Betty Cook

## IRON ACTON WI

Our trip to the Stuart Crystal Works at Chepstow in March proved very successful. The potter's demonstration was most interesting and we were able to buy some of the pottery he had produced as well as, of course, Stuart Crystal.

The April meeting was very different but nevertheless very enjoyable. On entering the Village Hall we were met with a variety of plants of all shapes and sizes, all colours, some scented, some not. After looking very carefully at these we were given a talk on the uses of herbs in medicine, in cooking or purely as decorative flowers for our gardens. At the end of the talk all of the herbs were for sale and I am now sure that the WI can cope with any plague which might hit the village!

In May we received a visit from a policewoman based at Staple Hill Police Station. She gave us an insight into child abuse from the police's angle - how they have to deal and cope with some very difficult and emotional situations.

The June meeting, which I missed due to holidays, I am told was most informative on various aspects of kitchen culture and was enjoyed by everyone.

In July we went on our annual outing, this time to the rock making factory at Cheddar (the edible form not the geological one!) and we then munched our way to a local hostelry for supper and a "bevy" before making our weary way home.

August is our holiday or rest month but on 12 September at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall we start our new year with a talk, slides and music on "Our Wonderful World" and any lady in the village who would like to join us would be most welcome.

In closing we would like to offer our heartiest congratulations to Dorothy and Charles Wilkins on the occasion of their Golden Wedding.

Rona Wright  
Press Officer

## IRON ACTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1987-1988

During the year the hall has been extensively used for a variety of activities to the benefit of the villagers. Local groups include the Actonians, Guides and Brownies, Elizabethans, Women's Institute, Youth Club, Parish Council and Parochial Church Council. Two other clubs from outside the village, the Fencing Club and a Knitters Group are also regular users. In addition, an increasing number of private parties have been held.

The committee endeavours to balance the charges to users with the ever increasing cost of maintenance, while organising fund raising efforts to meet other costs. During the year these have included the Soiree, annual Auction Sale, Horticultural Show and the sale of teas at Algars Manor on the occasions when the garden is open to the public. We are grateful to John and Barbara Naish for allowing this opportunity. In addition, Don Elson has provided most welcome contributions from the Whist Drives he organises and the Parish Council from a sponsored walk.

As a result of careful housekeeping and attention to costs by previous committees it has been possible to make some improvements. The first task was the renewal of the flat roof and the replacement of some fascias with plastic ones. Avon Community Council gave a grant of £300, which was matched by the Parish Council, and a further grant of £850 was received from Northavon District Council towards the cost of the work. Existing lighting has been improved and fluorescent tubes installed. The exterior of the hall has been painted, the colour changed and some older fascias replaced. The hall interior is in the process of being decorated by the Community Services. We hope to extend their work. We are grateful to Mrs Betty Hall for the gift of night storage heaters. The appearance of the hall has been improved by the painting; the planting of trees, donated by the WI in memory of Pat Howes and Marjory Turner; by regular grass cutting and the planting of Escallonia bushes at the side of the hall on the private road. For the future we hope to replace the emergency lighting with a more modern system and to provide an electric urn for the kitchen.

A users manual with conditions of hire is being prepared. These conditions will be signed by individual hirers for certain occasions, and in the case of regular users a signature of the committee would be required for the year.

Attendance at meetings has been good and new members have proved generous with their time and their work.

In conclusion, we extend our thanks to everyone in the village who has supported our fund raising events. On a personal note, I should like to thank the officers and members of the committee for their work, their support and their encouragement. Without such a team effort, nothing would be achieved.

Margaret Woodman

### ELIZABETHAN CLUB

A new treasurer was elected at the AGM and we wish Mrs Margaret Cutts well in her post. We have had a very fruitful year and hope to continue in the future.

Forthcoming outings are to Bournemouth and Torquay (the coach to Bournemouth being already fully booked).

Mr and Mrs Howes and Miss Fletcher have been made honorary members of the Club.

Don Elson  
Secretary

## RANGEWORTHY PLAYGROUP

With the help of the good weather the summer term has been very exciting at Playgroup.

Mary and Sandra, our playgroup leaders, organised a 'Teddy Bears Picnic'. All of the children brought their own teddies, and armed with teddy shaped biscuits (that the children had helped to make), sandwiches and bottles of milk, we set off, not to the woods but to the playground opposite! It was a glorious summers day and the children and mums thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

For our next visit we were kindly invited to take the children to Caroline Winter-Alsoop's farm at Rangeworthy. The children had a lovely time chasing the ducks and kittens and seeing all of the farm animals.

Early in July we arranged for a photographer to visit the Playgroup and take the children's pictures and to also take a group photograph.

On 15 July we shall be going by coach to Weston Super Mare for our annual summer outing, let's hope for a sunny day.

Our plans for the autumn term include a fancy dress parade and a sponsored bike ride around the hall.

In between our visits and outings the children do have time to enjoy painting, dressing up, making paper rabbits, sunflowers, etc, and playing with all of the toys at our regular Monday, Wednesday and Friday Playgroup sessions.

Our numbers at the moment are healthy but we shall have a number of places available in September when some of the children will be leaving to start school.

If you have any children, or have friends with children, of playgroup age and would like more details please ring Mary on Rangeworthy 259 or Sandra on Rangeworthy 610. We also hold a waiting list for little ones who are not yet 3 years old but who would like to join us when they are.

Jan Averis  
Secretary to Rangeworthy Playgroup

## FRIENDS OF ST JAMES

Since the last edition of Focus the Friends' have organised a barbeque at Hill House and we would like to say a huge "thank-you" to Dr and Mrs Hughes for allowing us to run riot in their garden. We would also like to thank everyone who ventured out on what wasn't a very warm night (I'm quite good at understatement!) and those who helped in any other way. As a result, the sum of £187.76 was raised.

The next event will be a repeat performance of the Mulled Wine and Mince Pie Evening. This will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 10 December - I hope you've all got the date in your diaries. We haven't sorted out the cost of the tickets, but you know us, nothing astronomic - final details in the next edition.

Lynne Blanchard  
Secretary

## HEADWAY

Headway (the Head Injuries Association) is a national organisation with 70 groups spread around the UK. It exists to help the head injured and their relatives at this difficult time. Frenchay Health Authority has now let Headway have a bungalow in the grounds of Frenchay Hospital to use as a day unit for rehabilitation and social purposes.

It's a sad fact that in Avon alone there are 3000 serious injuries every year and often patients are sent home to families who try to cope with brain damage which takes many forms: loss of speech, hearing, inability to walk, epilepsy, lack of memory, very little concentration, aggression and frustration.

Surgeons are rarely able to forecast either the extent or the rate of recovery and relatives are faced with an intense worry and uncertainty: you can check limbs to view how they are recovering but you cannot physically examine the brain which controls everything we do and what we are.

HEADWAY provides help for relatives during and after the patient's recovery, the help often being more readily acceptable than from another relative. Good advice, often not absorbed at the early stages, due to the shock relatives are feeling, can be more easily taken in at a later stage.

HEADWAY helps patients after discharge by having contact with new skills and technology which may have been developed since the injuries were sustained and which could have a beneficial effect on their quality of life.

To all those who consider that an accident of this kind will never happen to them, let me personally tell you that it can happen to us all. To give examples:

Head injury is something Valerie and Tony know a lot about. Their daughter Sara suffered brain damage after a serious fall from her pony and they had been told that she might not live. Now, 8 years later, Sara is attending Technical College, learning to drive and able to live a normal life at home, although still with quite a few problems.

Doreen was a housewife with a young teenage daughter when her husband Mike received a head injury while driving his lorry. Mike too suffered brain damage and seemed like a child when he came out of his coma. Now, 4 years later, Mike is not the man he was before the accident but he lives at home, unable to walk but well able to take part in family life.

Jane was 23 months old when a car mounted the pavement and knocked her high in the air, to land on her head. She remained in a coma for a long time. She is now almost 6 years old, slightly disabled but able to attend a normal school and, it is felt, by the time she is 10 it will be difficult to know she was so badly damaged.

All these are success stories but, of course, there are those not so successful, young people who are unable to walk or talk, although they bring great joy to their families as they overcome their disabilities.

### FOOTNOTE

HEADWAY would like to thank Iron Acton Whist Drive organisers for their generous gifts to the charity. If anyone would like to help this charity, at the moment we are in need of volunteers to help at Headway House on a regular basis, ie, one morning or afternoon a week. No special skills are required but we need kind, understanding people to help push wheelchairs, make coffee, play games, read or listen to the young people who come to Headway House at Frenchay. If you wish to help please contact Eileen Hughes, Hill House, Iron Acton. Tel 439.

## FRIENDS OF IRON ACTON SCHOOL

July 9th, the day of our Summer Fayre, dawned with heavy skies, and decisions had to be made whether to chance the weather and have our stalls outside, or to retreat into the school building. We chose the former and got a little wet! However, our loyal supporters turned out despite the weather and the record amount of over £570 was made. The cake and grocery stalls did very well but the raffle was extremely well supported, raising over £200 and gave our total a very good boost before the stalls even opened. We also had some new game stalls to persuade people to part with their money and the Bouncy Castle proved a big hit with the children.

The Village Day, on the 18th June, was quite the opposite in weather - a hot summer's day! We had Iron Acton mugs and tea towels for sale, with scenes of Iron Acton depicted on them. We have sold all 144 of the mugs and the demand for the tea towels was so high that another order was placed with the suppliers and 200 have now been sold. There can't be many houses in the village which hasn't got either a mug or a tea towel! Many thanks for your support. On our Village Day stall we also had 'Win a Teddy' and sold microwave cookware supplied to us at cost price by a parent. Our stall on the day took £206.

So what are we doing with all this money? We do not keep it in our bank account for long as the school equipment needs up-dating and books, etc, are also purchased. Our next big purchase is a new piano for the school. The present one is rather cumbersome and rather old and decrepit. Originally we had hoped that the Education Department would pay a large slice of the replacement cost, but we have been asked for a £500 donation towards the new piano. So our bank account will soon be nearly empty again! We have also assisted in the coach fare for the School Trip and in the purchase of leaving presents for this year's school leavers. It is thought that it would be a nice memento of the children's period at school and usually the gift is in the form of a book.

We are now looking forward to our next fund raiser - the refreshment tent at the Horse and Dog Show on September 18th. Last year we had many donations of home made cakes to sell in the refreshment tent and these were all enthusiastically purchased by the visitors. Any cakes this year would be most gratefully received and if you are at the Horse and Dog Show do pop in to our tent and purchase some of our goodies.

Lastly, the Friends would like to thank all of our supporters over the last school year. Without your consistent generous support the Friends would be unable to help the school to purchase new items and to buy the little extras for the children. A big thank you to you all.

Jill Bradshaw

## FOCUS FUNDS

As I like growing things from seeds and cuttings I always seem to have many more plants than I need. When we had the garden open this was fine because a good plant stall always does well on these occasions. Now I often wonder what to do with all of the spare plants ... this year I found a solution. I had a stall on Village Day and made £20 towards this issue of Focus.

So next year, if all goes well, I shall have a stall in my garden (probably at the beginning of June) and I shall expect all readers to come and buy a plant in support of their favourite (!) magazine. You have been warned!!!

Betty Cook



## IRON ACTON SCHOOL

The Summer Term began with Age Concern marking all of the children's bicycles (and major pieces of school equipment) with the Iron Acton post code.

The girls again did well in the Small Schools Netball Tournament in May, winning 4 of their 6 matches. The Iron Acton boys teamed up with Yate CP to produce a joint team, lost a couple of matches by the odd goal and gained a creditable draw against Kingswood.

During the week of 16-20 May, Class 1, together with Mr Dowding and Mrs Hatt, stayed at Ilfracombe Youth Hostel. We shared the hostel and transport with Wendy's school from Tortworth (a group of 31 children altogether). We were certainly very fortunate with the weather and visited a number of interesting places, among them the Quince Honey Farm, Ilfracombe Lifeboats, Braunton Burrows Nature Reserve, Lee Bay, Bodstone Barton Farm, Ilfracombe Swimming Pool and Exmoor Bird Gardens.

While these events were going on, Maureen Bradshaw was training the Iron Acton School Maypole Dancers in readiness for Village Day. We borrowed a practice (indoor) maypole and used it at school, then the children had to get used to the full sized maypole in the last week. Nevertheless, despite a few trembling legs when they realised what a large crowd would be watching, the maypole team performed admirably on the day with no tangles or hitches - much to everyone's relief!

The school sports were held on 16 June and it was nice to see Algar's House triumph this year to equalise Poynz House's success last year. That took us on to the Inter-School Sports (Iron Acton, Yate CP, Cromhall and Oldbury on Severn) at the end of June and held on the Iron Acton field. The next day we journeyed into Bristol for the Science in Action exhibition/workshop in the Watershed area.

The School Concert this year came in 2 parts: Sea Songs and Hamelin Town. Lots of little rats were seen scurrying around Iron Acton on 19 July but, despite glueing her hat to her hair, Eleanor Spare charmed them away. The costumes, prepared by Jean Blackmore and Janet Hatt, were absolutely splendid.

By this time Mr Dowding was listening to every weather forecast he could, ready for our school day trip on the last Thursday. Dire storms, wind and rain were predicted, but come the day and we chugged on the steam train from Bishops Lydeard to Blue Anchor without a raindrop in sight ... Until we reached Blue Anchor when it poured! Plans B and C were hurriedly concocted when .... the rain stopped and the sun came out. The children needed no second bidding, off to the beach they hurtled and took part in a long, and in many cases, intricate sand sculpture competition. Then it was back on the West Somerset Railway, coach and home!

On the last day we said farewell to the fourth year juniors Amanda Kitching, Amanda Holliman, Amanda Hillier, Katy Gale and Nina Sutton, all of whom transfer to the Ridings High School, and Eleanor Spare who has won a place at Red Maids.

Throughout the term we have had visits from Bishop Jerome of West Ankole (Uganda), Florence (a French student) and Dave Powell (who spent his teaching practice time in Class 2).

A reminder that the Autumn Term starts on Friday, 2 September; half term is Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October and we break up for Christmas on Friday 16 December. School meals will go up to 85p from next term.

In the elections for parent governors, Jane Spare polled 42 votes, Chris Harding 35 votes and Sue Pullen 12 votes. Jane and Chris will serve for one year until new elections in September 1989.

Ron Dowding

## LIMERICKS!!!

During the Summer Term, the children of Iron Acton School tried their hands at Limericks.

There was a young girl called Anne  
Who was born in a frying pan  
She had eggs for her eyes  
And she had such a surprise  
Because her dad was Desperate Dan

Sadie Pitman      Aged 6

There was a young man called Ben  
Who knew all his tables to ten  
He wrote them so fast  
When he finished, at last,  
Sparks! came from the end of his pen!

Ben Harding      Aged 8

There once was a fourteen hand horse  
Who was ridden to a jumping course  
He tried to buck  
But had no luck  
And his rider said "jump or divorce"

Nina Sutton      Aged 11

There once was a bee who loved nectar  
Who always wanted to lecture  
He ate a fat leech  
And taught himself to preach  
And ended up being the Rector!

Helen Giles      Aged 10

There was a young girl called Lynne  
Who always drank plenty of gin  
She got so drunk  
Thought she was a punk  
Then she gave a safety-pin grin!

Amanda Holliman      Aged 11

There was a young girl called Pam  
Who liked to sit in the jam  
She jumped out the pot  
And said, "ow! it's hot!"  
That silly young girl called Pam

Alex Cole      Aged 7

There once was a young girl called Shelley  
Who one day ate up her welly  
But she found it so smelly  
She passed out on her belly  
And that was the end of poor Shelley

Michelle Davis & Sarah Thorne  
Aged 10

## A FAIRY STORY

Once upon a time, a man decided to build a house in a quarry beside a village green. He worked very hard, and made the house so tall that it grew up above the quarry and peeped out over the village with its dormer windows looking like three large bulging eyes.

He was so pleased with the house that he asked another man who wanted to live in it to give him 150,000 pennies.

Then, the builder made an extraordinary discovery. He found that water ran downhill! He told his friends that he had never seen anything like it; after a rainstorm the lower parts of the house were quite full of water.

He decided, after all, not to give the house to the man who had offered 150,000 pennies, but to proclaim that the house would now cost 190,000 pennies as it had running water. We don't yet know who lived happily ever after.

## ARE WE HAVING A GOOD TIME YET?

I love a nice long sea crossing, the 4 or 5 hour sort when you can get good big gulps of what there is left of the ozone layer and browse in a leisurely way over bottles in the Duty Free that you would never dream of bothering about at home, with or without a pound off. This one started so beautifully. We watch from the deck as a sturdy party of French teenagers board, waved goodbye to by tearful French Mums and Dads. Strange thing that, I thought there was only one thing better than waving goodbye to an English teenager, and that's waving goodbye to a French teenager. Chains rattle, we leave the quayside right on time. Down to the cabin we go, get out the books, the playing cards, the bottle of red wine. The friend I am with suggests going to find some rolls to complete the scene and he still looks in charge when he comes back, laden with goodies on a tray, but for someone whose been basking by the sea for 2 weeks, is he a fraction pale? He takes a couple of bites, goes quiet for a bit, then:

"I'm going out for a while." At the door he says "and I may be sometime." I was surprised. I didn't think it was snowing and we had plenty of food. Suddenly there's a lurch and a few shrill screams from the French party somewhere up the corridor, the bottle of red wine slides across the table and a ham roll dives into the waste bin. I struggle on womanfully with my lunch, remembering Girl Guide things about seasickness being better if you have some food inside you, but I'm getting worried about George so I go out and search. It's very quiet out there ..... clusters of tense, grey British faces staring determinedly into lager that's suddenly lost its attraction. The French teenagers seem to have responded as if to a national emergency. They are all lying flat on the floor of the main reception area. French mouths lashed onto paper bags and Frenchlegs spread in all directions making an interesting obstacle course. I lurch round the whole ship twice. I've had straighter walks after the third party at an Iron Acton New Year. At last I find him, huddled in a biting wind between the life boat and the gents.

"Wouldn't you be better downstairs? I've heard it makes things worse if you watch the ship going up and down on the waves." He stares towards the ship's rail, goes green and grits his teeth. My advice is doing nothing for our relationship so I leave. My knees are a bit wobbly and I skid on something I wish I hadn't. The kind of Mum that always remembers the Kwells is marching her 2 tots up the deck. "Isn't this fun," she says. "When the going gets tough, the tough get going, darlings!" One of the darlings doesn't look too sure and eyes the slot full of paper bags longingly. I'm beginning to know how he feels but I'm not going to give in.

I didn't come all this way to forgo the benefits of the Duty Free Shop and for the first time ever in my experience there's no queue. A tight band seems to have welded itself to my forehead as the ship heaves and a bottle of something pink, fizzy and putrid crashes off the shelf. A neat little stewardess tut tuts in French and leaps for the mop. How come they never get sea sick? I grab my gin bottle and make for the checkout realising that for me time is running out. The lady with the Kwells and the tots is ahead of me though, calmly debating whether to pay for about 2,000 cigarettes with francs, pounds or a Barclay card. Of course she settles for the Barclay card. Never in my life have I so much loathed smokers and Barclay's Bank. Tot number one is now a green tot and suddenly deposits his lunch on his mother's foot. (Why is it always carrots?) I hurl down all the francs I have and make a dash for the cabin.

Feeling like a piece of chewed string I lie on the bunk. George comes in, suddenly pink and healthy looking.

"Nothing like a breath of fresh air," he says. "Be careful not to look out of the porthole though. It may churn things up." That does it.

When the going gets tough, the tough stick their heads down the loo pan.

## POP!

### PREFACE

Try to imagine a life that started before the telephone, and now we can contact someone in their car, in a desert, on the other side of the world; imagine seeing the first few frail hops of attempting to fly, and then to see Concorde, manned flights to and from the moon, as well as making several flights to Australia yourself on a Jumbo; or the magic and mystery of wireless (soon called radio), being able to listen and speak with just about every country in the world even when out walking; where only the very, very rich were able to own a motor car and where every journey was an adventure into danger but where now most of us are on the road at the age of 17 - even if we only own 10% of the vehicle and the finance company the other 90%. That is the world my father Fred lived through.

MY DAD - BORN 1908 ..... LIVED ON FOREVER - 1988

Several months ago my Father died at the age of 79. A bit of a shame really as he had promised us all a right rave up in August when he would have celebrated 80 years of living on this earth.

It was only when I was sitting out in the garden one balmy evening last week that I got to thinking about his life, how much he had enjoyed it, how much he had made of it and how much it had all changed during his life span.

Born at Battersea in South London into a family of 11 other children (it would have been more but a few had died either before, during or just after birth, as was quite regular at the time).

By our standards, my Father was born into a life of poverty - rarely enough food in the house, clothes that were hand me down and had been mended many, many times, and a trip to the pawn brokers once every week to pop something for a few coppers (in the summer a winter overcoat and in the winter a pair of thin trousers).

A true story is that the same parcel was popped so often that in the finish my lovely Grandmother, Milly, didn't even bother to put anything inside but paid the loan on the empty parcel every week.

To make a few pennies the children would go out on the streets to run errands, collect horse manure off the streets and sell it, or even beg on street corners by laying out a collection of bottle tops, bits of tin, coloured glass and paper to make up what was called a collage.

Strange really, they didn't feel poor because everyone else they knew were the same as themselves, without radio, television and even a popular press. They had no idea about the world outside of Battersea, a sort of ignorance is bliss.

School was the 3 r's until the age of 14, unless a job was found earlier, in which case school was skipped forever and the school board man was constantly dodged.

The Hovis Flour Mill employed nearly everyone in the area, that was when there was work which wasn't always. When work was plentiful the men were in the pub every night and when the work ran out they were in the pub all day. Hard work for a lad of 14, summer and winter it was a 10 hour day, 5 days a week, humping sacks of flour on and off barges by the River Thames and trying to pick the weevils off your skin so that you didn't take too many home.

The Great War, as it was called, lasted from 1914-1918 with nothing at all great about it except the great number of men that never returned and the great number of men who were gassed and maimed and did return to shattered lives. For those at home, according to Dad, it was a time of less and lies - less of every commodity (it's needed for the war was always the reason) and lies that were printed in the papers to stop any outcry at the horror and waste.

Getting back to normal after the war took a few years, by which time they were then hit by the depression and it hit everyone; whole families were found dead. They had committed suicide as they couldn't cope with having nothing. To my Dad and his lot it was about normal with less than never enough they had to cope.

Few things ever got through to my Father except some idiot saying "in the good old days". That really got up his nose.

To cheer themselves up the families would get together for musical evenings. Although skint, nearly every house had a Joanna (piano), mouth organs were cheap and popular and even cheaper were 2 dessert spoons held between the fingers of one hand and rattled and strummed against the other hand or, after many hours of practice, rattled against other parts of the body (the mind boggles!). My Father was the best spoons player that anyone had ever seen, as he would put it, he had played in front of the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Kent and hundreds of other pubs! He really was great and if you're wondering what happened to his spoons, they have been plated mounted on a base and are in Australia with my sister. One day Australians will realise they can be used to eat with.

Radio had arrived and was transforming peoples lives. They came to the realisation that if they went out of Battersea they wouldn't fall off the edge of the world! Popular music came with big bands and big names (all of which Dad knew, and none of which I can remember) and plays held a whole family spellbound for an hour.

Trams suddenly appeared, dirty great electric double decker trains driving down the middle of the street, with 'U' shaped tracks that were just the right size to trap the front wheel of a bicycle and give the rider a sudden low flying lesson.

My father became a tram driver in 1937 and with only wooden brakes to hold and stop about 30 tons he had a few hairy moments when put on a new route and finding a 1 in 5 hill just after a bend.

War came again in 1939. Being a tram driver he was in a reserved occupation, ie, no go to war but instead be put in the Home Guard (now better known as Dad's Army). According to my Father the truth was even pottier than the TV series, with a quick muster and roll call and then a quick dodge to the pub. Just before the end of the war my Father became a London taxi driver, which meant being out of work for a full year to learn "The Knowledge". In other words, London - not just the roads, streets and back doubles but all the police stations, hospitals (and their specialities), hotels, clubs, train and underground stations, embassies, consulates and even the places that were not meant to be known about (nudge, nudge, wink, wink!).

Early on he met Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers and the rest of the Goon Show and in a way became their driver, even appearing on stage with a few jokes and a burst on his spoons to help out. Band leader Edmundo Ross became a real buddy, with Dad taking him back from his club and joining Edmundo and his wife for a cup of coffee. Many big names became regulars and friends of Dad.

A couple of times he was close to murders and robberies, Dad reckoned the best way of avoiding trouble was to get a black belt in running. In 42 years of mushing (driving a cap) he was pulled by the police twice: first time for exceeding the speed limit on Waterloo Bridge on a full moon lit night (the war time limit was 20 MPH) and the other time, for of all things, going too slow along Oxford Street - only a London cab could get that one thrown at them.

Taking a fare (passenger) to a studio one evening Dad was asked if he would pose for a photographic session, he would be paid and it would take about 2 hours. Several days later he went for the session. He was asked to put on a boiler suit, hold a walking stick and then stand on a small brilliantly lit turntable; push out his chin and hunch his shoulders and with that he was revolved on the turntable with cameras clicking and sketches and dimensions being taken. Two hours later it was all over, he was paid, and that was that - until the statue of Sir Winston Churchill was placed in Parliament Square. Then came the realisation that he had been the life model for the statue.

Churchill, when alive, was never in favour of a statue of himself and would do nothing to assist with anyone's efforts to produce one. Churchill's aversion was on the grounds that no pigeon was going to put dirty great droppings all over him or perch on his head. In fact, the centre of the statue is an electrode which carries just enough of a jolt to stop any pigeon that is looking for somewhere to park. So, in Parliament Square, is a statue that looks to me more like my Dad than it ever does of Sir Winston Churchill - and my Dad loved pigeons!

Gracie Fields had a bit of a shock, living in Capri for the peace and quiet, she walked across to talk to some Brits on holiday and was told by my Dad every theatre she had played in London and every address and hotel she had lived in the City, and she loved it. All the memories and the journeys she had been taken on by my Dad in his cab.

The words above are just the tip of the iceberg, what a life of experience to get through!

Bryan Taylor

### PARISH COUNCIL

Much time has been taken up recently with the quarry application at Mudgetown, but we are over the first hurdle, as the District Council has objected most strongly. Now we need as many people as possible to come along and protest at the Avon County planning meeting. This will either be on Friday, 26 August or Friday, 23 September. As soon as we are sure we will be asking for supporters.

After several years of asking for footpath repairs, these were at last provided. Now we are always seeing cars parked on the pavements and ponies being ridden along them! The roads are narrow in many places, but pavements are meant for the safety of walkers so please try to keep cars and horses on the road.

We must also ask people to be more careful with their garden refuse. Perhaps it is not generally known that horses can die from eating lawn mowings - in fact a pony was killed by this in a North Road field this year - so please take more care, don't throw your mowings over the hedge, make a compost heap instead!

Fouling by dogs is still a problem. Northavon Council are holding a meeting with representatives from Parish Councils to try and find a solution and possibly bring in a by-law.

We plan to have another sponsored footpath walk, probably on 2 October. Last year there was insufficient publicity so we will have to do better this time, but put the date in your diary and hope for good weather.

Don't forget the tennis courts in the Parish Meadow are there for the use of all parishioners. If you want to book at a certain time contact Norman Carter at 9 Chillwood Close. The charge is 35p per person but children use them free. We also have equipment for netball and 5-a-side football, but these games need to be organised by adults. We recently heard that older children are hogging the courts and refusing to let the younger ones on. We can only appeal to their sense of fair play, but if this happens to your youngsters why not go down and help them to get their game?

We had a very pleasant few minutes at the last Parish Council meeting when we received a delightful little book of sketches and thank-you notes from North Road School. Thank you children, for brightening the evening.

Betty Cook

## ACTON AID

To our relief a new venue for the Horse and Dog Show has been arranged at Mudgetown Farm on Sunday, 18 September 1988.

It will include dressage and gymkhana. The schedule has been revised this year with a view to extending the events. Schedules can be obtained (with an SAE please) from Patrick Murphy, The Cottage, The Green, Iron Acton, BS17 1TQ. Please also pass this information on to anyone you think will be interested. Posters can be obtained from Ron Dowding or Patrick Murphy.

Acton Aid is very grateful to Maureen Chapman who has agreed to be the organiser and mainspring of this year's show. She has a sub-committee looking after sponsorship, publicity, advertising, site management, communications, etc, but we will be looking to all members - and anyone else - to help with the host of jobs which go to make up our main fund raising event.

Mike Sutton is looking for 240 wooden stakes to rope out the rings, can anyone help? (Ed - didn't know we had that many vampires in good old IA!!)

Hazel Dron has agreed to organise the Dog Show and entrants can contact either Hazel or Eileen Hughes.

Lionel Alsop has arranged a day trip for the older members of our community for Thursday, 25 August to Porthcawl. The coaches are due to leave the White Hart at 1.00 pm, The Lamb at 1.15 pm and the Codrington Arms at 1.30 pm. Tea will be taken at the Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl at 3.30 pm and after a stop-over at Chepstow Castle the Coaches should return about 9.00 pm.

Future social events include:

20 August	Steak and Kebab Barbeque at Barry Wright's
18 September	Horse and Dog Show - also an open house, venue yet to be decided
October	Gerry Millward is hoping to arrange an Oktober-Fest with Oompah Band - further details later

At the July meeting Derek Parry tendered his resignation because of his impending move to Axbridge in Somerset. I am sure all members will wish Derek, Judith and their family the very best of happiness in their new home.

Mike Sutton has agreed to take on the reins of Chairman for the remainder of the year.

Don't forget, monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday at the Rose and Crown at 8.00 pm.

Ron Dowding

## VILLAGE DAY

Many thanks are due to Lynne Blanchard and members of the Folk Club for organising such a splendid day on 18 June. Even the weather was perfect! The local school-children and the other dancers gave a very colourful display, and there was entertainment for everyone. Local groups had the chance to raise useful amounts for their funds, and all who came enjoyed themselves. All-in-all a very pleasant occasion - a big "Thank You" to all concerned.

## ACTON COURT EXCAVATIONS

The third and final season of excavations at Acton Court has just come to an end. We now know an enormous amount, not just about the Tudor mansion, part of which is still standing, but also about its medieval predecessor. We have been amazed at how much has survived just below the surface of what was, until 1984, a working farmyard.

The earliest buildings on the site appear to be 12th/13th century weaving sheds, probably belonging to a manor house immediately to the north of the present house. In the 14th century the fairly flimsy sheds were replaced with a substantial, though irregularly planned, manor house. Part of it is underneath the existing building, and has not been excavated, but we have discovered the whole of the gate house, which was the formal entrance on the south side, as well as the hall and the chapel. We have also found the full extent of the moat, which surrounded the house.

The medieval house went through various alterations and must have been very impressive by 1486 when Henry VIII dined there.

The earliest portion of the building still in existence (the east range) seems to have been built by Sir Nicholas Poyntz specifically for the visit of Henry VIII in 1535, since some of the original oak beams have been dated by tree-ring analysis to 1534. This is a remarkable survival, all the more so because it appears to have been put up in a hurry and was jerry-built. Architecturally it was way ahead of its time, with classical decoration on the walls which would have done credit to a royal palace, and stucco work, which must have been designed by foreign craftsmen, and is almost the earliest known in England. This was found in the moat, which was filled in during the 1540's. Within ten years of the construction of the east range, the north and west wings and part of the south range were added. Most of the medieval house was pulled down, but its core, including the gate-house, was retained, possibly as an indication of the antiquity of the Poyntz family in contrast to some of their neighbours, who were Tudor "yuppies".

The main house, in its prime, was very extensive, but in addition, to the east of it, there was also a secondary range to accommodate servants and horses, and there may have been other ranges which we have not found. In Mr Thomas' field, to the north and west of the house, we have discovered traces of a formal Tudor garden, including a pond, which is still visible from Latteridge Road. This may be contemporary with the sun-dial, dated 1520, which is the most important individual find from Acton Court. Further away, were two deer parks, one of which contained a 16th century hunting stand, now incorporated in Lodge Farm.

The house was dramatically reduced in size in the early 18th century, after it had been purchased by the Long family of South Wraxhall in Wiltshire, who already owned a large mansion. They were responsible for converting Acton Court into a farmhouse.

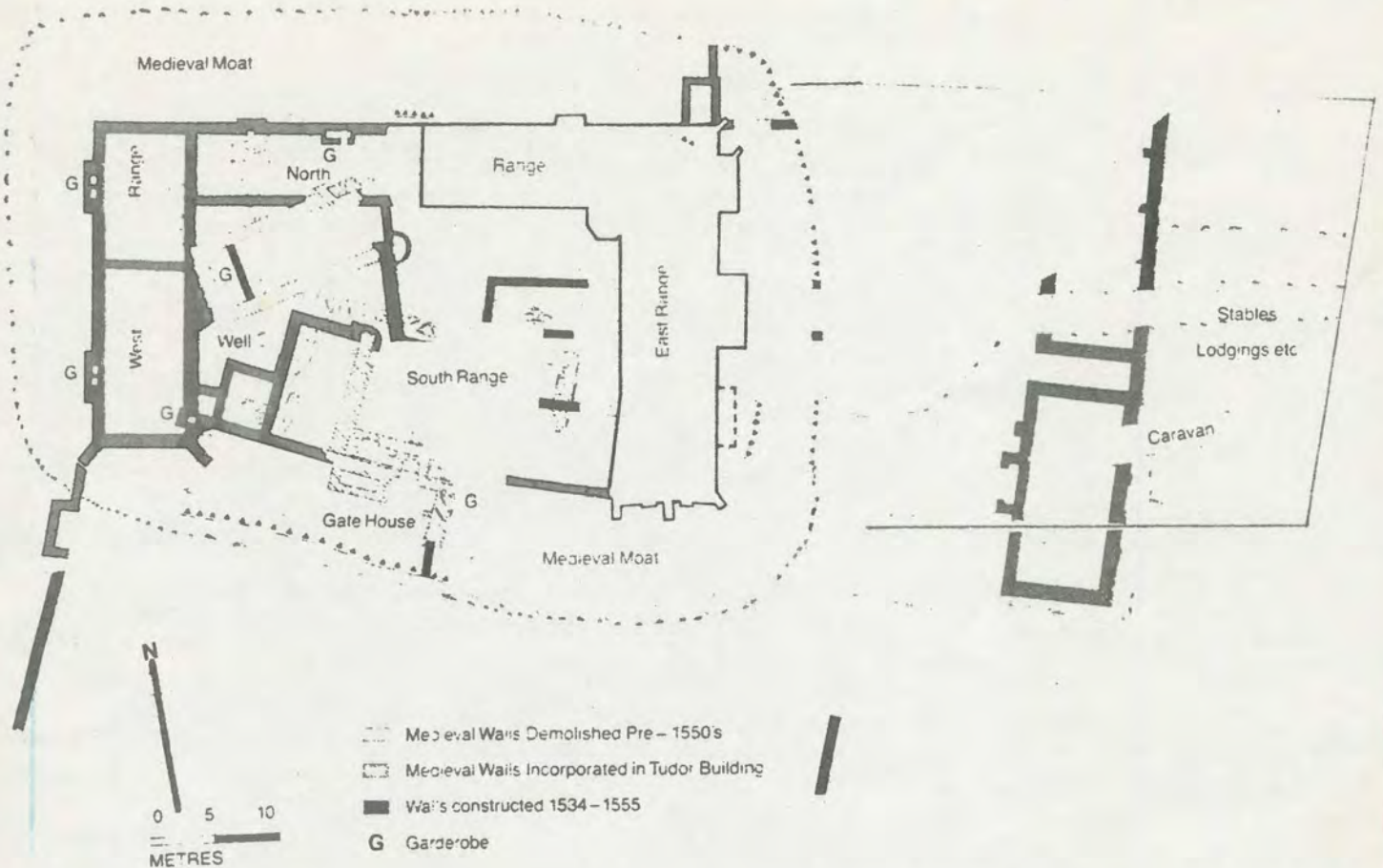
We have been very excited by the discoveries we have made about the history of the house, and the finds give a wonderful insight into the life-style of an aristocratic 16th century family.

We have been delighted that so many local people have shown an interest in the site by visiting it on open days (even though the weather was appalling this year). For those who knew the house before 1984 it must be hard to imagine Henry VIII, accompanied by his courtiers and retainers, enjoying a luxurious weekend with Sir Nicolas Poyntz at Acton Court 450 years ago.

The House will be restored during the next two years, and we hope that as many people as possible will visit it after the work is completed.

Robert Bell  
Bath Archeological Trust  
Rangeworthy 224





GUIDE AND BROWNIE SUPPORTERS GROUP

In July we had a fun and games evening for guides and brownies on the School Playing Field. The races were organised by Mr Dowding and we are all very grateful to him for giving up his time in such a busy term. All participants were rewarded with a sweet and the winning team had two each!! Then back to the Hall for hot-dogs and a much needed drink.

We have bought a new shield for the guide class at the Horticultural Show and also found a new cup for a new class for the Brownies. (for details see the schedules, out now in shops and pubs)

Our usual Jumble Sale will be on 24 September in the Village Hall so please remember us when you turn out your cupboards and wardrobes.

MORE WEATHER LORE

The one verse I forgot in the last issue was:

"If the Oak is out before the Ash  
We will only have a splash  
If the Ash is out before the Oak  
We shall surely have a soak"

Just received:---  
"Ice in November to bear  
a duck,  
In February slush and  
muck!"

- No guesses for which one was out first this year!

The only other little rhyme I have been told is:

"As many mists in March, as many frosts in May."

Does anyone know any more?

## FRENCHAY OBSERVED FROM ON HIGH

One of the signs of spring in the Bristol area is the sudden appearance on bright, clear mornings, of multicoloured hot air balloons silently gliding above the landscape. I am usually alerted to this phenomenon by one of my dogs who always feel obliged to object in the loudest possible terms to the strange objects in the sky.

I have always been fascinated by the idea of balloon travel and in August last year achieved a long cherished ambition when I was able to experience my first flight. This took place during the annual Bristol Balloon Fiesta held at Ashton Court last summer.

The balloon fraternity must be popular with the gods for the weekend of the fiesta was probably the only one of uninterrupted sunshine in what can only be described as a summer best forgotten for its weather.

My flight was scheduled for Saturday evening so I had plenty of opportunity to observe the experiences of those who flew earlier and to note the prevailing weather conditions and their effect.

On the Friday evening and Saturday morning the wind had taken the balloons in a brightly coloured wave, first over Bedminster and South Bristol and then, as the wind changed, over Bitton and Lansdown. Whilst a flight over the lovely countryside of Wansdyke would have been enjoyable, I was secretly hoping to observe the part of the area more familiar to me.

Imagine my delight when, after a perfect launch into the balmy evening air, the wind changed and wafted us gently in an easterly direction over the city and on towards Frenchay.

The crew of three - the pilot, another passenger and myself, were tightly packed into a wicker basket with four gas cylinders. In a balloon it is standing room only so there was a certain amount of jostling for position while trying to capture familiar landmarks on film.

Ballooning bears no comparison to flying in a modern aircraft. Apart from the lack of noise except when the burners are operating, none of the accepted passenger rules of flight apply. There are no restraints or protective clothing, and the only structural protection is a simple wicker basket about one meter high. Leaning too far over the side to get a better photograph could prove to be the ultimate disaster!

As we made our graceful progress across the Avon Gorge, past the "Great Britain" and the Anglican Cathedral, we were monitored by our ground crew who kept contact by walkie talkie. It was reassuring, from time to time, to catch sight of the orange van which was our link with the ground.

All around us were other crews who had taken off at the same time, initially with a great deal of jostling as we rose into the air and then spacing out and taking up position at varying altitudes. On that clear summer evening it was a beautiful picture with the bright colours of the balloons set against the lush, green landscape.

I was amazed to see how green the city of Bristol is. Even in the most heavily populated areas there is still a great deal of open grassy space and many trees.

As we left the city I realised that thanks to the wind direction our flight path would be towards Northavon. Unfortunately we did not travel as far as Iron Acton but we passed over Frenchay where I once lived and the area in which I have worked for many years, so I had a special interest in picking out buildings and locations which I knew well.

Perhaps balloons have a special appeal for many people or perhaps it was the well-being produced by the lovely sunny evening, but the response to our passage above the houses and gardens of Frenchay was amazing. It was a little like a royal progress with people waving and calling up to us. Interestingly it is very easy to hear conversation on the ground when flying above and the balloonist certainly has a bird's eye view of all the interesting activities taking place in sunny summer gardens - beware sunbathers! The local dog population was not so welcoming and I am sure many of their number had sore throats the next day.

Our flight lasted about 45 minutes and all too soon my fellow passenger and I were receiving our instructions for landing - probably the only active part of the flight for the passengers. Because balloon baskets almost always tip on landing it is important that no appendages are outside the basket as it touches down! As it is also impossible to predict which way it will tip, it is definitely not an advantage to be on the underside as it falls, as the other crew have no choice but to land on top of that person - as I learned painfully. The other vital instruction is to avoid the temptation of leaping out before the canopy is deflated - a reduction of 50 kgm can result in becoming airborne again and that can be no joke if you don't happen to be the pilot.

Our landing in Page Park was quite a gentle one and we were immediately surrounded by a group of youngsters, intrigued by the mechanics of this old fashioned form of travel.

The entire experience is one I shall never forget. I think that the overwhelming impression was the contrast between ballooning and any other form of travel, the leisurely, hardly perceptible movement and the sense of time standing still is so different from the usual frenetic activity of everyday life and the peace and quiet has to be experienced to be believed.

I hope that I shall have the opportunity to fly again one day and shall certainly follow the progress of this year's Fiesta with special interest.

Hazel Dron

### IRON ACTON VILLAGE DAY

I waffled on for long enough last time, this time I'll try to be more concise!

I think it's true to say that everyone had an enjoyable time. It really was lovely to see so many villagers out and about and supporting us. Thank you for being around. We were lucky to have good support from everyone we approached, everybody had such a positive approach and it made life so much easier. The Police, Avon Highways Dept, Fire Service, Whitbreads, all local organisations and Allan and Gail at the Rose and Crown were wonderful - even the weather came out on our side! We hope you enjoyed the dancing and weren't disturbed by the noise from the Barn Dance or the Concert in the Marquee.

I can't give you a final outcome moneywise as, at the time of writing (26 July), we are still awaiting "donations" from some of the organisations who had stalls (that's a heavy hint to those who haven't yet dipped their hands into their coffers!).

We got a general feeling that people would like something next year. We haven't really had a proper meeting since the Village Day and so we can't say what will happen. Perhaps by the next issue we will be able to give a definite answer.

Lynne Blanchard

## HAPPY SEMI-RETIREMENT - DENNIS KING

The following is a poem composed by one of Dennis King's driving pupils on his semi-retirement.

Whenever it's my lesson  
I expect you say your prayers  
Have you got your crash helmet  
To cover your grey hairs?  
Hang on tight to your seat  
As I take the corner  
And every time a hill start comes  
Another year you grow older  
Stop!!! The traffic lights are red  
You're in the wrong lane too  
And you mustn't forget to signal  
When a turning approaches you  
And at the mini-roundabout  
Give priority to the right  
There is no need to wait until  
There is no car in sight  
A 3-point turn is not so bad  
Unless it's on a hill  
At which I know that you may start  
To feel a little ill  
The best has still to come though  
Three guesses what's in store  
A reverse around a corner  
Taking the lamp post and garden wall  
You really are so patient  
Of that I am quite sure  
The time to start to worry  
Is when I come back without the door!!

(we don't have a surname for the poetess, we only know her name is Elaine)

## LADIES TENNIS EVENING

This is on Wednesday evenings at 7.00 pm until 9.00 pm.

Why not go along and have a friendly game and meet a few new people???

For any further information contact Di Heal, on Rangeworthy 498.

## WHIST DRIVES

May I once again thank the people who support the Whist Drives.

£49.30 has been given to the Village Hall Committee, we have also given to "Focus on Iron Acton" and we shall be having a Whist Drive for Acton Aid on 8 August.

Please keep coming .... these Whist Drives are all for a good cause ....

Come on Acton people .... let's see a few more of you there .....

Don Elson

## SOME MORE LITTLE BITS AND PIECES

### MATTHEW TAYLOR - A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK!!

I really enjoyed the piece about Bryan's Dad. Pop was such a lovely human being - as kind as they come and with a dry sense of humour (something you know I appreciate!) so it wasn't really surprising, I suppose, to hear about his Grandson's latest endeavour.

Matthew, as soon as this awful weather changes, is doing a sponsored parachute jump for Dr Barnardo's. He saw an advert in the paper asking if anyone wanted to have a go, decided to take up the offer, and has currently raised somewhere in the region of £160 to £200. It was all his own idea and he's sorted it all out himself too.

It's nice to be able to write about something like this - I only hope he does get his "Just Desserts".

### JAZZ NIGHT AT LATTERIDGE GREEN FARM

A highly successful Jazz Dance was held on Saturday, 9 July with the proceeds being divided between St Peter's Hospice and the Skin Cancer Research Project at Frenchay Hospital. The evening raised the wonderful amount of £4,280.00 and everyone involved should be justifiably proud of their efforts, with special thanks to Chris, Di, Annalisa and Catherine Heal for providing such a suitable venue.

### KNITTING CIRCLE

I was intrigued to see, in the Village Hall Chairman's Report, that a new knitting group had started to hire the Hall. So I put on my deerstalker and made some enquiries! The group meet on the third Thursday of each month, from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm, and it's for machine knitting. However, PLACES ARE LIMITED so before turning up at the Hall please ring Mrs Pope on Chipping Sodbury 319688 to see if there are any vacancies.

### HORSE AND DOG SHOW

It's good to see that Acton Aid have managed to find an alternative venue for their Show. This year the event takes place on Saturday, 18 September at Mudgetdown Farm on the Wotton Road. As the event raises money for local charities I hope you've got the date in your diaries and will give it your support.

### FOLKING AROUND

It was nice to see so many "locals" enjoying the evening concert during the Village Day. During the weekend of 12/13/14 August the Holford Arms Festival is taking place. It's only a short drive away, camping is available, and the atmosphere will be just as good. If you're interested, give me a ring and I'll explain more. No obligation involved!!!

On the same theme, why not chance an evening at the Folk Club at the Rose and Crown?? Things "get going" between 8.00-8.15 pm. 2 guests who will be well worth hearing are Jim Reynolds on 2 September (a good guitarist with a lovely voice who sings blues, his own compositions and contemporary songs equally brilliantly and on 16 September Hugh and Tony Williams appear (between them they play double bass, guitar, mandolin, as well as singing a wide mix of songs and having a Jasper Carrott style sense of humour) admission is £1.25 on each night, you don't have to be there at the start (although it's advisable if you want a seat!), just turn up when you're ready!

### WARNING

I've heard of another 2 burglaries, both took place in broad daylight, one mid-week and one on a Saturday. We still need to keep a nosy, neighbourly lookout.

### A PLEA!!

The Horticultural Show happens on Saturday, 10 September. Please try to exhibit something (but only items listed in the schedule!) or, if not, help us out by coming to the auction at 7.30 pm in the evening. I'd love this year's show to be a success, especially with the effort that goes into it, but we can only do this with YOUR help.

Lynne Blanchard

## IRON ACTON HORTICULTURAL SHOW

Okay folks, the date of this year's Show is Saturday, 10 September. So now you have plenty of warning to either be away from the village on the day or incur my wrath because you didn't put an entry in the Show!!

Seriously though, the number of entries last year was drastically down on that of preceding years' and it would be nice for the Judges to be faced with a more challenging array of items this time.

Schedules and posters should be available, by the time you are reading this, in the Post Offices in North Road and Iron Acton and in the pubs of Iron Acton.

However, listed below are the classes available. Please glance through and if there is a class you can enter, take courage (or Whitbread!) in both hands and bring along your exhibit on the day.

### GENERAL SECTION

1	Collection of Vegetables	24	6 Tomatoes
2	Collection of Salads	25	3 Parsnips
3	Collection of Fruit	26	3 Beetroot
4	4 Potatoes (Any 1 Variety)	27	3 Pot Leeks
5	7 lbs Potatoes (Any 1 Variety)	28	3 Blanch Leeks
6	3 Carrots (Long)	29	2 Sticks Celery
7	3 Carrots (Short)	30	4 Apples (Dessert)
8	2 Cobs Sweet Corn	31	4 Apples (Culinary)
9	3 Onions (From Seed, Trimmed)	32	4 Pears (Dessert)
10	3 Onions (From Sets, Trimmed)	33	4 Plums (Dessert)
11	6 Shallots	34	4 Plums (Culinary)
12	6 Runner Beans	35	6 Roses
13	The Longest Runner Bean	36	1 Specimen Rose (Named)
14	2 Peppers	37	Vase of Flowers (Quality)
15	2 Stems of Calabrese	38	3 Chrysanthemums
16	2 Cabbages (Any 1 Variety)	39	6 Pom-Pom Dahlias (Not Over 2½")
17	2 Cauliflowers	40	3 Cactus Dahlias
18	2 Marrows	41	3 Decorative Dahlias
19	The Heaviest marrow	42	3 Spikes Gladioli
20	3 Courgettes	43	9 Sweet Peas
21	2 Lettuce (Cabbage)	44	Best Pot Plant (Foliage)
22	2 Cucumbers (Frame or Greenhouse)	45	Best Pot Plant (Flowering)
23	2 Cucumbers (Ridge)	46	Tallest Sunflower

### HEMECRAFT SECTION

47	6 Eggs (Brown)	58	A Loaf of Bread
48	6 Eggs (Any Other Variety)	59	A Shortbread Round
49	A Pot of Honey	60	An Apple Tart
50	A Pot of Jam	61	A Dish of Fudge
51	A Pot of jelly	62	A Bottle of Red Wine
52	A Pot of Marmalade	63	A Bottle of White Wine
53	A Jar of Chutney	64	A Hand Knitted Article
54	A Decorated Victoria Sandwich	65	An Embroidered Article
55	A Savoury Flan	66	A Machine Sewn Article
56	A Rich Fruit Cake	67	A Handicraft Article
57	6 Scones (Any Variety)		

### FLOWER ARRANGING

68	An Arrangement of Roses for a Dinner Table
69	An Arrangement of Autumn Plant Material
70	A Decorated Greetings Card

### PHOTOGRAPHY

71	In the Garden
72	My Favourite Animal

GUIDE CLASS

73 A Decorated Flower Pot

BROWNIE CLASS

74 A Flower Arrangement in an Egg Cup

CHILDREN'S SECTION

Under 7 Years

75 A Picture of My House

7-11 Years

76 A Picture from a Reading Book (the book to be named)

The remaining classes are open to everyone up to 16 years. Age is to be clearly marked on the item where it can be seen by the Judge (but not the name!)

77 A Miniature Garden

78 A Decorated Orange

79 6 Decorated Cup Cakes

80 A Painting of Flowers

81 An Embroidered Cushion

82 Any Craft Article made within the last 12 months

83 A Model of a Spaceman

Please see the Schedule for entry times, etc!

Suppose, just suppose, you look through the list and find there's absolutely nothing for you. What then? Why not make an effort to attend the auction of the produce which begins in the Hall at 7.30 pm. We'd love to see you .... and your money!

For further information please contact me on Rangeworthy 566 or Betty Cook on Rangeworthy 202.

Lynne Blanchard

TRAFFIC WARDEN - ITALIAN STYLE!!

One of our readers, driving his car on holiday in Italy, parked for a while in Rome. On returning to his car he found the following placed under his windscreen. It's an Italian parking ticket and was printed in English, Spanish, French and German but not in Italian - we wonder what they do to their natives!!

Dear Sir

Rome, the most cherished goal of international tourism, is happy to welcome you among the visitors to the city.

It often happens that even the most careful driver infringes, without meaning to, the rules of the highway code.

In this particular instance you have failed to observe the rule contained in Article XXlvii(b).

The Communal Authorities are quite convinced that this infringement was unintentional and wish you a very happy stay in Rome

THE MAYOR

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

At the Village Hall

Every Tuesday	Brownies	6.00 p.m.
	Guides	7.30 p.m.
Every Wednesday	Elizabethans	2.00 p.m.
	Fencing Club	7.30 p.m.
Every Thursday	Youth Club	7.30 p.m.
1st Monday in month	Whist Drive	7.30 p.m.
2nd do. do.	Women's Institute	7.30 p.m.
3rd do. do.	Parish Council	7.30 p.m.
3rd Thursday do.	Chipping Sodbury Knitting Group	3.00 p.m.
September 10th.	HORTICULTURAL SHOW	
September 24th.	Guides & Brownies Jumble Sale	
October 14th.	Vintage Film Show	
November 18th.	Slide Show of Acton Court	
November 26th.	Church Christmass Fayre	

At the Rose and Crown

Every 1st Thursday	Acton Aid	8.00 p.m.
Every Friday	Folk Club	
Alternate Mondays	Ladies Darts Club	

At Rangeworthy Hall

Mon, Wed, & Fri. Play Group (during term time) mornings

At the Parish Church

September 25th HARVEST FESTIVAL

Lastly, but not least.....

At Mudgetown Farm.....

September 18th IRON ACTON HORSE AND DOG SHOW  
GYMKHANA DRESSAGE  
For information:  
Horses Patrick Murphy The Green.  
Dogs Eileen Hughes Hill House.

---

OVERHEARD AT ACTON PARTIES . . . . .

"How on earth do you put up with your husband?"

"Well .... He goes out a lot."

+++++

"The only time when my wife listens to me is when I'm talking to another woman."

+++++

"Doesn't our new Manager dress well?"

".....Yes and so quickly!!"



Winter Warmth  
With Real Laughing Fires  
From British Solid Fuels

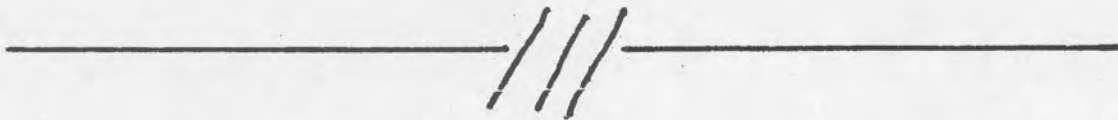
Supplied by your Local Coal Merchants

GALE & EAVES

At Competitive Prices

Rangeworthy 291  
Winterbourne 776100

(Imported Fuels Available)



THINKING OF BUYING A NEW CARPET THIS AUTUMN?

PERHAPS THE ANSWER IS TO BUY AN 80% WOOL 20% NYLON TWIST PILE CARPET  
MADE BY:



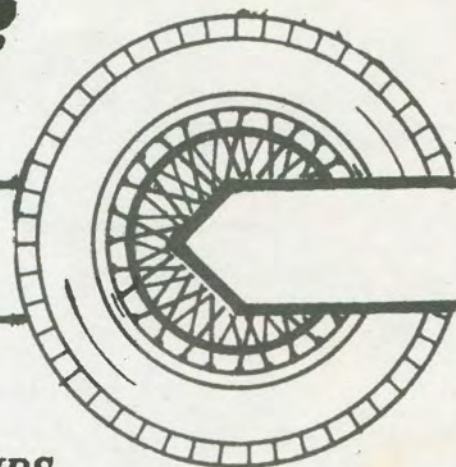
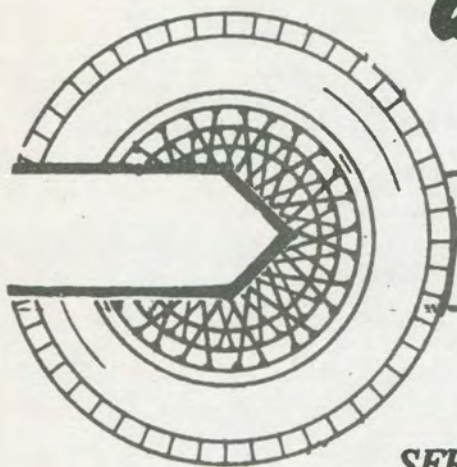
**Penthouse  
Carpets Ltd.**

SUPERB QUALITY COMBINED WITH 38 BEAUTIFUL COLOUR SHADES, ALL MADE IN 12'  
and 15' WIDE, AND TWO PILE WEIGHTS. YOU'LL BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY  
THE COST!

YOUR LOCAL SUPPLIERS ARE:

Arboretum Carpets 34 St Mary's St. Thornbury.  
Grange Carpets 7 St Mary's Way Thornbury.  
Furnitureland Retail 2000 Cribbs Causeway.  
Crisco Carpets Waverley Road The Beeches Yate.  
Fishponds Carpets 2 Frome Valley Road Frenchay  
Kinsmond Carpets 13/19 Badminton Road Downend.

# roger's autocare



*Mobile  
Vehicle Maintenance*

**M.O.T. PREPARATION**

**SERVICING & GENERAL REPAIRS**

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

**Roger Marsh, 127, Cherington, Yate, Avon. TEL: (0454) 321631**

+++++



IRON ACTON BIRD FARM  
CAGE AND AVIARY BIRDS  
BREEDING ACCESSORIES      BULK SEED  
DWARF RABBITS



OPEN TUES & WED 12.30 to 9pm  
THURS & FRIDAY 9.30 to 9pm  
SAT & SUNDAY 9am to 7pm

Tel: RANGEWORTHY 560

+++++

# DYER BROS.

(VICTORIA GARAGE) (EST 60 YRS)



**MOT'S** while-u-wait



- SERVICING & REPAIRS
- TUNING & WELDING
- FREE DELIVERY & COLLECTION

IRON ACTON BY-PASS, NR. YATE

Tel: RANGEWORTHY 207

*The home of the  
wood burning clay oven*

*Iron Acton,  
near Bristol  
Telephone  
Rangeworthy  
228*



YOUR OLD FAVOURITES STILL AVAILABLE  
PLUS NEW DISHES WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY

# Cherry Lodge Veterinary Clinic

MRS. F. HUGGINS, B.V.M. & S., M.R.C.V.S.

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE- TELEPHONE RANGEWORTHY 784.

BRISTOL ROAD,  
IRON ACTON,  
BRISTOL,  
AVON, BS17 1TG

Tel. Rangeworthy (STD 045422) 784

## SURGERY TIMES, ALL CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT ONLY:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 2.15 to 3.30pm and 4.30 to 6.30pm.

Wednesday, 9.30am to 10.30am only.

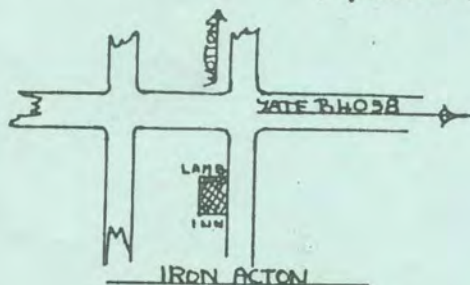
Saturday, 9.30am to 11.00am.

THE NEW PREMISES ARE NOW FULLY OPERATIONAL. PLEASE TELEPHONE OR CALL TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT.

PRESCRIPTIONS CAN BE COLLECTED BETWEEN 9.00am AND 1.00 MORNINGS, AND 2.00pm AND 6.45pm EVENINGS EVERY WEEKDAY EXCEPT WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS/EVENINGS. SATURDAYS THE SURGERY IS OPEN FOR PRESCRIPTION COLLECTIONS BETWEEN 9.00am AND 12noon.

CHERRY LODGE VETERINARY CLINIC OFFERS YOU AND YOUR PETS A PERSONAL SERVICE IN YOUR LOCALITY, WITH EXCELLENT PARKING FACILITIES BY THE SURGERY.

## + THE LAMB INN + + PHONE RANGEWORTHY 265 +



+ FLOWERS ORIGINAL BITTER +

+ SAMPLE OUR SUPERB RANGE OF  
HOME BAKED FOODS +

+ LARGE NATURAL SECLUDED  
GARDEN +

+ OLDE WORLDE FRIENDLY  
ATMOSPHERE +

+ THE LAMB +  
+ 1690 +

