



**FOCUS**  
 on  
**IRON ACTON**

*The Parish Meadow*

A. CHAPMAN '85

FOCUS is a little later than planned due to holidays of our excellent part-time unpaid volunteers together with involvement in various functions in connection with A.M.S.A.

Although we have no problem in finding enough material to fill the publication we would like to extend its scope and interest and any ideas, articles, etc., would be more than welcome - we do not want to get into a rut. DONT be BASHFUL contact Godfrey Cook (Rangeworthy 202), Charles Wilkins (Rangeworthy 254) or Mike Wheeler (Rangeworthy 544).

We would like more news and/or articles from the North Road area as we particularly want to keep "FOCUS" as a Parish and not a Village paper.

#### OFF TO A FINE START - A.M.S.A.

A.M.S.A. - The Acton Micro-Surgery Appeal was formed last Spring aiming to raise £1,983 for teaching equipment for the Frenchay Micro-Surgery Unit.

Commencing with a Wine and Cheese Party at the Village Hall, the first major event was a JAZZ IN A BARN by courtesy of Chris and Diane Heal at Latteridge Farm raised over £400. Over 200 people attended and with two well known bands "The Blue Notes" and the "Titanic T-Room Quartet" - the rafters rang -altogether a very enjoyable evening for all.

The Donkey Derby on the 21st August featured a hot-air balloon, a fun castle and many other attractions for the children - tombola, skittles, ice cream, vintage car rides and donkey rides. The Fortishead Boys Brigade Band provided music. In spite of the unkind weather a further £500 was added to the fund and a great many families enjoyed a most entertaining afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Deane are giving a Marquee Lunch in their home this month and donating the proceeds. All tickets for this event were sold some two months before the event.

OCTOBER 17th brings a fashion show at Chipring Sodbury Town Hall organised by Dusty Taylor and a musical evening is planned in November. The final event will be a Mulled Wine and Seasonal Sweetmeats Evening in the Village Hall to announce the final total and to hand over the cheque. So - a varied and fun-packed programme with a bit of something for everyone. Do come along and continue to give us your support. You'll enjoy it and A.M.S.A. needs your help to equip the new Micro-Surgery Laboratory and enable Frenchay to maintain its international reputation in this field.

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Another tale of a child faced with the great mystery called 'Parents'. For years after seeing a photograph of the wedding of her mother and father with "PROOF" stamped across it she assumed it was the official evidence that they were, indeed married.

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Well, this year we actually did it!!! Avon's best kept large village. A beautiful sign has been delivered and erected to be kept for a year. We also won the Will's Trophy to keep for a year and Sir John Will's presented this at the Village Hall on September 7th.

We are very grateful to everyone for all the hard work they put in and for making the gardens look so attractive, also to the Children for their colourful and imaginative posters. Winners in the poster competition were:-

### Seven years and under

1st - Matthew Gould  
2nd - Simon Eastman

### Eight years to Eleven

1st - Joanna Jarrett  
2nd - Elaine Martin

The Garden Competition was judged in ~~January~~ by Mr. Gunnery of the C.P.R.E. and two friends of his - all of them live in Olveston and know no one in the Village. They were very impressed with the standard of the gardens and had great difficulty in deciding the winners. Eventually they gave £10 to add to the prize money and decided that a tie in the large and small garden classes would be the fairest way. The Prize money amounted to £40 and was donated as follows:-

Acton Aid £10  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins £10  
Mr. and Mrs. Cook £10  
Garden Judges £10.

So prizes of £8.25 we awarded to:-

### Large Gardens

Mr. and Mrs. Amesbury of  
24 Chilwood Close and  
Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins of Hillside.

### Small Gardens

Mrs. Smythe, 7 Chilwood Close and  
Mr. and Mrs. Hill of Wickham House

### Hanging Baskets

Mr. and Mrs. P. Wood, Fern Cottage £5.  
Mr. and Mrs. Cutts, Irondale. £2.

Mrs. Smythe very kindly returned her prize to buy a tree to be planted in the Village and this will be planted on the green in Chilwood Close later in the season.

Once again, thank you to you all for the hard work put in and please lets try and keep the village tidy all the year round.

B.M.J.

With apologies to Jack Warner

I'm a picker-up of litter in the High Street,  
I'm a litter picker-up, a volunteer.  
I pick up toffee papers, a -swirling round my feet  
And ends and tags that come off cans of beer.

I pick up chewing-gum wrappers, notes to milkmen,  
plastic bags,  
Crisp-bags, cans from Pepsi, papers torn from chocolate bars,  
Sticks from lollies, silver paper, cardboard packets  
from your fags,  
And even ashtray contents thrown out from your cars.

I really can't help wondering why people are so mucky,  
Why do they throw their rubbish on the ground?  
Surely they must realise we're all so very lucky  
To live in unspoilt Acton with the countryside around?

We've been voted Avon's best kept village this year,  
So I'm hoping folk will take a lot more care  
To uphold our reputation, so when visitors appear  
They can walk the streets and find no litter there.

So whenever I go walking down the High Street  
The sight of litter makes me feel so sick  
I have to bend and pick it up from all around my feet  
As I haven't got a spike fixed on a stick.

All this bending should be slimming to the waistline,  
But my old man says he wouldn't like me thin  
So please help keep my old familiar outline,  
Take your rubbish home and put it in the bin!

NO LONGER REQUIRED!!!!!!

It was a little sad to see that Bob Howes, now in his eighties, has at last placed a pram in his front garden with "For Sale" on it.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The W.I. has continued its activities and enjoyed a talk by P.C. Nigel Barrett, A Food Processor demonstration and a very enjoyable American Supper at Lodge Farm by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas. A successful coffee evening and a "Bring and Buy" Sale at Mrs. Hall's Greensward.

Mrs. Dusty Taylor organised refreshments at The Horse Show helped by members and a profit of £50 was made. Members also provided refreshments at the A.M.S.A. Barn Dance and the Donkey Derby.

Six members enjoyed an outing to Winchester on September 5th and eight members are looking forward to a trip to Normandy in November.

As promised in the first edition of "Focus" an excerpt from the minutes of the FIRST VILLAGE W.I. Committee held in 1919 when the subscription was 2/- a year, comprised:-

President	-	Mrs. Browne
Vice-President	-	Mrs. Fursman
Treasurer	-	Mrs. Huggins
Secretary	-	Mrs. Harrison
Committee	-	Mrs. Weaver
		Mrs. Waring
		Mrs. Short
		Mrs. Heaven
		Mrs. Golding
		Mrs. Fugill
		Mrs. Dust
		Mrs. Foreest
		Mrs. Blanchard
		Mrs. Amos

Some of these will ring a bell of recognition and many of them will have relatives living in the Village.

E.M.B.

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OVERHEARD at a recent party "To be successful in anything a woman has to be twice as good as a man - luckily this is not difficult.

## Moral Story

There was a boy who's name was Neil,  
Every day he would steal  
Rubbers, pencils and even money,  
He thought stealing was really funny.  
He put his hand into a pocket  
And pulled out a silver locket.  
He kept his stealings in a chest.  
He liked his red alarm clock best.

But one day - one hot summer's day,  
He saw a little girl at play.  
She was watching her clock work mice,  
Neil thought to himself, this looks nice.  
His eyes still fixed on the clock work toys,  
He crept up behind her without a noise.  
He grabbed the mice from the little girl,  
And into the bushes himself did hurl.  
The little girl screamed for mummy,  
So along came mum allin a flurry.  
"Oh, what's the matter, my darling Fae?"  
"A boy has stolen my mice away!"  
Mama gasped and said "Is that the lad?"  
"Yes," wailed Fae, "He's really mad."  
Neil ran fast by Abbot's Leigh,  
Head first he bashed into a tree.

The moral of this little tale,  
At first may seem a little stale.  
For if you really have to steal,  
And nothing for your victims feel,  
Then fleeing fast by foot or Boeing  
For goodness sake look where you're going!

Jessica Naish

## THE 4TH IRON ACTON FOLK FESTIVAL

This year's Festival again brought a weekend of colourful spectacle to the village with concerts, dances and many other events including dance displays in front of the Lamb Inn, all culminating in a grand procession to the village green on Sunday afternoon with more dance displays at the Maypole. Especially popular were the childrens' events, including a magician, and it was nice to see kids of all ages from Iron Acton attending so many of the events.

Thanks go to the whole village for their tolerance and co-operation once again in putting up with the influx of so many extra inhabitants for the weekend. We also now must have a reputation for guaranteeing at least three days of fine weather every summer - can it last??

If the success of this year's Festival has inspired an interest in folk music or dance, don't forget that THE LAMB INN FOLK CLUB is held every Friday at 8.15 p.m. in the clubroom of the Lamb, where some popular guests are appearing over the next few months, some new to the club, and some old faces. September 16th sees a visit from The Dead Sea Surfers, who are a four-piece harmony group with their own brand of comedy besides being very talented singers.

Our Harvest Supper is on 30th September, to which everybody is invited and this is followed on 14th October by Paul Metsers, a talented young man from New Zealand, rapidly making a name for himself in this country. On 28th October we have Bare Bones from Bristol performing mainly traditional material, while on 11th November we will see Bernie Parry. Bernie is a songwriter from the North of England whose songs are often performed by other people but whose own appearances are few and far between - a special night I am sure.

For further details contact:-

Organiser: Gerry Aitchison  
(Telephone Winterbourne 776356)

Booking Secretary: Keith Davis (Telephone Bristol 570323)

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It is noted that used car sales description "pre-owned" is creeping back but the estate agents still appear to be the real masters of advertising verbage. I see that an old semi-detached house is now on the market again as "one of a detached pair".

## ELIZABETHAN CLUB

Since the last edition of Focus the Elizabethan Club has continued to enjoy their weekly meetings with a very successful Spring Sale. In April we had a very enjoyable evening at Leyhill to see an extremely funny play.

Our first outing was to "Broadlands" the late Lord Mountbatten's Home, a well worthwhile trip. July 5th - The Club's birthday - was celebrated by a trip to Dartmouth and a motor boat trip up the River Dart. The weather was perfect and it all added up to a perfect day out.

Sunday, 10th July saw us on a trip to Exmouth - again blessed with good weather and another day at Weston took place on the 9th August and a Sunday Trip across Exmoor, ending at Lynton and Lynmouth took place early in September.

A Whist Drive in aid of the Village Hall Funds is to be held in the Hall sometime in October, the date to be announced later.

B.H.

Never a dull moment for members of this club - Ed.



AN ODE TO OUR VILLAGE

We are very lucky in all sorts of ways  
To be able to live in a village these days!  
When in this Country of ours, estates have been built  
To house many people of different types and ages  
But, this charming village has 'turned' so many of history's pages.  
Especially, as Walter Raleigh was reputed to have smoked his  
    first pipe on the Village Green  
What a famous sight that must have been!  
Some of our Kings' and Queens' have stayed here as well.  
Now all this to my children I am able to tell.

One's eyes behold meadows and fields so green  
And everything seems so calm and serene.  
The birds on the wing seem to endlessly sing.  
It is so nice to be able to hear church bells ring!  
One can live happily here whether they are young or old,  
To enjoy the beauty that surrounds  
The trees and wild flowers that abound.  
Even the weeds can hold their own!  
And there is an individuality about the red 'tinged' stone.

Not far away there is a Manor House and Mill.  
So if you decide to take a look!  
I believe they were mentioned in theDoomsday Book.  
Nearby to that, flows the River Frome  
An attractive place to ramble or roam!  
Tadpoles, Minnows and little creatures in plenty  
I do not think it will ever be empty!!!  
The children love it, you can bet  
On a warm Summer's day, you will often see them with their fishing net.  
Picnics are nice in a place like this  
And it really is something you should not miss.

After a visit to Town or City  
What a relief!!  
To get back and quietly relax  
In comparative tranquility  
Where one can ponder and think things out!  
I am sure allyou folk will agree  
All in all,  
THIS IS A VERY NICE PLACE TO BE.

ANON.

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From a Policeman's Report (not local).

"The body was found cut in two, but it had not  
been interfered with."

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Seen on a Methodist Church Notice Board:-

"Basses and Tenors required for Crucifixion".

Scrawled underneath were the words, "They can have my Robert any time."

## ALBERT THOMAS OF THE GREEN

Albert Thomas of The Green was pensioned off this last Winter and his links with British Telecom and the Post Office were cut. He was the Post Office roundsman in the village all his life until he retired in 1970.

He started delivering letters after his mother gave it up and took home just 15/- per week.

He wrote a poem to British Telecom when they told him the job was to go. Post Office Superintendent Mr. Ian Foulmer wrote back and this is what they said:-

### THE POEM

"ALAS and alack, I've been given the sack;  
And I'm on the Thatcher scrap heap.

For 40 odd years the Post Office I served;  
With my duster and brush I would sweep,  
A little box called a phone kee-ox  
When it first settled down in our street.

Now along comes a bird with a name so absurd  
And it's contracts, not people they seek.

Folks say 'You poor soul, you're now on the dole  
It's the Job Centre for you each week,'  
So farewell Telecom, as I'm near eighty-one,  
I suppose it's time I put up my feet."

### THE REPLY

"The RECEIPT of your note brought a lump to my throat  
Which made me feel wretched and humble.

By the word that you write and the skill of your note  
I'm sure you're not Thatcherite jumble.  
For nigh forty-five years, in your joy and through  
tears,  
Were your duster and brush used with might,  
So that villagers near, in the box should they peer  
Would discover it shipshape and bright.

For your working so long, it seems callous and wrong  
That we must say goodbye in this way.  
But old Busby's last song, Mr. T says so long  
Our great debt we can never repay."

## IRON ACTON A.F.C.

### HOPES AND AMBITIONS

A successful 1982-83 Season, both on and off the field, has provided a solid foundation on which Iron Acton Football Club can now build to bring about the realisation of County League aspirations.

After gaining promotion the 1st X1 became a force to be reckoned within the premier division of the Avon Combination, and finished a very creditable fifth. The very strong reserve side won promotion from Division 1 of the Bristol and District League, as well as reaching the Berkeley Hospital Cup Final, where they lost an even contest against Henbury O.B. reserves.

However, it is obvious that in order to achieve County League status the playing area must be made larger and the dressing rooms dramatically improved.

Significant inroads have been made on both these counts. The hedges have been ripped out in order to provide the room necessary for pitch widening. New boundary fences will be installed and the new ground extremities landscaped with conifers.

New dressing rooms have also been purchased and will be installed. A Portakabin has been purchased from Frenchay Hospital and arrangements are in hand to ensure that the building arrives at the Rose and Crown field during September/October. Work will then commence immediately to link this building with the necessary services, such as water, electricity and mains drainage. Completion of this work will signal the start of the modifications necessary to bring this accommodation up to the standard that is necessary for Gloucestershire County League Football.

The administration of the club is basically the same for the new season with one or two minor exceptions. M. Lovell has been appointed Reserve Team Manager, following the cessation of his successful playing career, and P. Mainstone has been appointed commercial manager.

The commercial aspects of the club have, over the past 12 months, developed rapidly. The formation of the Social Committee which operates under the guidance of the commercial manager, have been made responsible for all fund raising activities, and any avenue on the commercial side. Last season they did a marvellous job and were responsible for arranging many social activities which kept the morale of the club at a high level, and subsequently raised much needed money.

Iron Acton Football Club became the talk of the league, by producing a 'newsy' programme for every home match. The programme was very professionally produced, and contained many interesting and stimulating articles by officials, players and supporters.

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IRON ACTON A.F.C. (Cont'd.)

With both the commercial side and playing side pulling together from the same end of the rope, this village soccer outfit are organised to achieve the pot of gold that is county league football, which lies at the end of the rainbow.

REPORT FROM YOUR "HOME GROWN" DRAMA GROUP

As a relative newcomer to the Actonians, I am still wondering, as I flit from costume to costume and line to line, from where these steadfast persons obtain their resourcefulness. Now, finding myself cajoled, urged and - wait for it - even volunteered for tasks hitherto unknown to my dormant brain, I ask myself if I have at last arrived.

In the year that Iron Acton became Best Kept Village in Avon it is with great pride I report that the Actonians are too basking in the glory of awards. They achieved equal second place in the Bristol Evening Post Rose Bowl Awards for 'Under Milk Wood', their Autumn 1982 production; and an award for costumes in their one act festival play.

So there is no excuse for villagers to miss future productions. And as by now you must all be eagerly awaiting details of same I can announce that on 20, 21, 22 October 1983 the Village Hall will resound to 'The Sleeping Prince' an occasional fairy tale by Terence Rattigan, guaranteed to raise a few laughs, not eyebrows.

Meanwhile, the Junior Actonians are putting the finishing touches to their next production, 'Adam in Eden' - a charming musical to be staged on 17, 18, September - also in the Village Hall. Tickets may be obtained from Marily Wright or Penny Percy. Who knows, we could be nurturing a future RADA candidate.

Membership of the Juniors has increased recently - congratulations to Jenny and Tim Pratt on the birth of their second daughter Rosemary. Tim produced both our award winning productions.

On June 26th last, with Henry-the-Eighth's a-plenty and wimpoles flying, a cricket match was held on the Village Green against the Court Players, Medieval costume being the theme. Yours truly must confess to not being present but I understand a merry time was had by all, with mead flowing freely. The Court Players obviously enjoyed themselves as we have been invited for a return match at a future date.

If you give us enough support (and looking far ahead into the future) you may be blessed - if that is the correct word - with a Pantomime in the Autumn of 1984. We hope also to darken your doorstep with our traditional Evening of Entertainment around the end of February with, of course, a Spring production in May.

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"Home Grown" Drama Group (Cont'd.)

Remember, we always have vacancies for budding Liz Taylors and Robert Redfords, and if acting is not your forte, hammer wielding and floor mopping are adequate qualifications to get you on the road to stardom. Having answered 'yes' to all ten questions in our section of a previous FOCUS, I am wondering why I am not a star. But alas I remain ANON.

JUNIOR ACTONIANS

Our next production will be a musical entertainment 'Adam in Eden' directed by Marilyn Wright on 17, 18 September at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Admission by programme available from Mrs. Hubbard, The Homestead from mid-August.

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The horse and cow live thirty years,  
and nothing know of wines and beers.  
The goat and sheep at twenty die,  
and never taste of Scotch or rye.  
The cow drinks water by the ton,  
and at eighteen is nearly done.  
The dog at fifteen cashes in,  
without the aid of rum or gin.  
The cat in milk and water soaks,  
and then at twelve short years it croaks.

The modest sober, bone-dry hen,  
lays eggs for years and dies at ten.  
All animals are strictly dry,  
They sinless live and swiftly die;  
But sinful, ginful, rum-soaked men,  
survive for three score years and ten.  
And some of us, the mighty few,  
stay pickled till we're ninety two.

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# ***ATTENTION***

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TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FROM  
MEMBERS OF THE A.M.S.A. COMMITTEE

## **Fashion Show**

**Chipping Sodbury Town Hall**

**Monday 17th October 1983**

**Admission by Ticket only**

**£2.50 (including Cheese and Wine Supper)**

**Doors open 7.30pm**

**Show starts 7.45pm**

**All proceeds to the Acton Micro-Surgery Appeal**

**ARRANGED BY HOMECRAFTS AND THE**

**BRISTOL POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE.**

## 1ST IRON ACTON GUIDES

The Guide Unit now has 12 enrolled members and we are expecting 3 Brownies to "fly up" in September.

Most of this term has been devoted to preparation for Camp. Eleven of our members were able to go with Westerleigh Guides to the Summer Camp at Parkend near Lydney in the Forest of Dean.

On Sunday 31st July we set off from Yate at 9.45 a.m. and after a very swift journey we were able to start setting up camp at 11.00 a.m. All the Patrol tents were pitched and bedding and other equipment stowed in them by 12.30 p.m. At this time we had our first shower of rain. However, after eating our packed lunch the rain stopped and we were able to get the rest of the camp pitched. At 6.00 p.m. we set off in another shower to go to Evensong and by the time we came out of Church we were in the middle of a full scale thunderstorm. This continued throughout the night and after a couple of showers on Monday the weather began to improve and got better and better throughout the week.

On Tuesday we visited the local stream and did various Camp activities. On Wednesday morning the whole camp set out to walk to Clearwell Caves, a distance of about 5 miles. After lunch we had a conducted tour of the Iron Mines which was made very enjoyable by the anecdotes related by our Guide. On Thursday we had a competition based on the Television programme "Now get out of That" which involves making a rope bridge to cross a crocodile infested river! Building a machine to fire arrows at a target, as well as preparing a meal on an open fire, having first broken the code to find the tinopener!!

Friday was spent doing challenges, making Patrol Dens and 'It's a knockout' games, followed in the evening by a Camp Fire. Saturday dawned dry and clear and we were able to strike camp and get everything packed away by 11.30 a.m.

This year, thanks to the generous support given us by Acton Aid and our own Brownie and Guide Supporters Group, we were able to go to Camp fully equipped except for Patrol Tents which were provided by Westerleigh District Guides.

With the increased numbers in the Unit we really do need a permanent helper. This would entail coming to meetings on Wednesdays from 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. and Church Parade on the first Sunday of the month from 9.15 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. We are looking for somebody who has already made the Guide promise or who would be willing to do this. No previous experience of running Guide meetings is required as you would soon pick up a lot of knowledge! Now would be an ideal time for a new helper to start as there is to be a change of structure in the Guide programme and we could all learn together.

Guides starts again after the Summer Holiday on Wednesday, 28th September and anyone who would like to join or help will be very welcome on that night.

Diana Cater,  
Guide Guider

## WANTED

Does anyone have any old style Biscuit tins they could let the Guides have? We are looking for the sort that were cube shaped and used to be seen in Grocers shops. Also a couple of metal rods about 18" long - all to make a Camp Oven. Any offers please to Diana Cater on Winterbourne 775845 or any of Iron Acton Guides.

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## HISTORY AND GUIDE TO THE CHURCH

Have you ever been embarrassed when visitors have asked you questions about the Church? When it was built? Which is the oldest part? What do the windows depict, etc.,? Now we have a New Guide to the Church, written by our Church Architect, Mr. T. Moody, which will solve all your problems. Copies are available in Church or at the Rectory at any time.

## FORTHCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

September is going to be a busy month socially as well as all the usual Services. The barbecue at HillHouse on September 2nd will probably be over before you read this, but the next major event will be the Rector's Silver Jubilee of his Ordination to the Priesthood. He will be celebrating and thanking God with a Eucharist at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday 17th September. Members of his family and friends from all parishes and other places will be coming to join with the people of Iron Acton on this day. A lunch is being arranged for guests in the Village Hall after the Service.

Again we hope that everyone in the Parish right to its furthest corners will help us to keep our Harvest Thanksgiving as a truly joyful and thankful festival. There will be the first Service, a Sung Eucharist, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 23rd. The Harvest Supper will be at 7.45 p.m. on Saturday 24th September in the New Village Hall. The Sunday Services will be Holy Communion at 8.00 a.m., Family Eucharist at 9.30 a.m. and Evensong at 6.30 p.m. Everyone can join in at Harvest time so do come along to all the events, and don't forget the Harvest Sale as almost everyone did last year when the money raised by the handful of people present was given to the Lebanon Appeal. This year in the hope of attracting more people we are holding the Sale on Monday 26th at 7.45 p.m. in the Lamb Inn Club Room, and the money will be donated to the Trinity Appeal to Poland.

In October we hope to have a Car Boot Sale on the 8th, so if anyone would like to make a bit of money for themselves and help the Church at the same time do please see the Rector about it.

On November 26th we shall hold the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall, and please don't forget that November 13th is Remembrance Sunday.

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## FORTHCOMING CHURCH EVENTS (Cont'd.)

All details of these events and all Services will be found in the Church Magazine - if you don't already have a copy monthly please see the Rector or anyone who goes to Church, who will pass on the message.

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SEEN IN THE WINDOW OF A SECOND-HAND SHOP - "This saxophone for sale for the man who likes to make music. Next to the instrument lay an antique gun labelled "For the man who lives next door".

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## PARISH COUNCIL

Everyone has been enjoying this wonderful summer, but it meant we had to abandon the footpath walk which had been arranged for a Sunday afternoon in July - it was just too hot. So another date will be fixed in the autumn.

At the moment we are waiting for a reply from Northavon Planning Office concerning the installation of swings in the Meadows for the young children and an all purpose playing surface. If the answer is favourable the swings will be ordered immediately, but the hard surface will need some more thought as it is a very costly item.

The grass seed sown on the mound germinated poorly due to the dry weather and may need to be sown again. It seems the weather is never as we want it.

B.M.C.

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A large store in Lagos, Nigeria, put out Christmas Cards for sale, bearing the words "A Happy Christmas to my Adored Wife" ..... The cards were boxed in packets of 12!!

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## FLOWER SHOW

Quite a success show in spite of the appalling weather which blew up the day before - some very good exhibits, though perhaps fewer in number than usual.

What has happened to the competitive spirit in the allotment class - only one entry again this year - it is no satisfaction to win a cup if you are the only entrant - come on you gardeners make a contest of it.

/Cont'd....

FLOWER SHOW (Cont'd.)

It does not have to be up to Championship standard, just a variety of clean well staged vegetables is all that is required - show the results of your hard work. You don't even have to leave them for the auction in the evening if you prefer to take them home.

PLEASE HELP TO KEEP THE VILLAGE SHOW ALIVE WITH SOME HEALTHY COMPETITION.

Cup-winners this year were as follows:-

General Section

Committee Rose Bowl )	Albert Davis (with a record
St. James-the-Less Cup )	number of points
Gordon Powell Cup	G. Underdown

Homecraft Section

Acton Aid Cup	tied	Miss M. Thomson & Mrs. J. Voss
2nd Prize		Mrs. J. Waker
<u>Allotment Cup</u>		Norman Carter
<u>George Brown Cup for</u>		Mrs. P. Burgess
<u>Asters</u>		
<u>Rudman Cup</u>		Louise Millward
<u>Guide Shield</u>		Elizabeth Aplin
<u>Flower Arranging Rose Bowl</u>		Miss A. Derrick

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From Russell Hiller, Aged 5, Prospect Cottage, High Street.

"I like Iron Acton Woods because I like climbing the rocks and I like the cave.

Our Church is beautiful. Inside is knight like Ivanhoe".

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## HISTORICAL NOTES

The extract from Canon Brownes History of the Parish, which we included last time, ended with the succession of Sir John Poyntz whose mother was the last of the Acton family, who had taken their name from the village. Canon Browne continues:-

"Sir John Poyntz was Sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1363, and died in 1376 and was buried in the Church. From the style of the armour and from other indications, it is probable that his name is to be associated with the recumbent figure of the mail clad knight which lies in the choir of the Church at the South side of the Sanctuary. Of the Poyntz Chapel for many generations the last earthy resting place of the family, I shall write more particularly when I treat of the Parish Church which was built for their munificence. It is interesting to reflect that the sacred building, where they worshipped for three centuries and where so many of the family lie buried, still exists the same in all essential details as they say it - a monument alike of their own piety and of the artistic spirit of the age in which they lived".

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A VERY SINCERE WELCOME TO BRIAN BURGESS WHO HAS BEEN SO HELPFUL TO US IN THE PAST AND HAS NOW OFFICIALLY JOINED THE "STAFF".

DIARY OF EVENTS IN THE PARISH

In the Village Hall:-

Every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.	The Elizabethan Club
6.00 p.m.	The Brownies
7.30 p.m.	The Guides

September

17 Parochial church council Reception and Lunch preceded at 11.30 a.m. by Service of Thanksgiving in the Church to celebrate the Rector's SILVER JUBILEE OF PRIESTHOOD.

17 - 18 Junior Actonians' present "ADAM IN EDEN".  
7.30 p.m. Admission by programme 75p.

24 Harvest Supper at 7.45 p.m.

October

6 Elizabethan Club WHIST DRIVE in aid of the Village Hall.

14 MUSICAL EVENING by Acton Aid for Old Age Pensioners.

20,21,22 The Actonians present their Autumn Production

29 AUCTION SALE in aid of Village Hall Funds.

November

11 MUSICAL EVENING in aid of A.M.S.A.

26 Church CHRISTMAS FAYRE at 3.00 p.m.

December

3 A.M.S.A. SOCIAL EVENING and Christmas Fayre.

The Womens' Institute meet at 7.15 p.m. on:-

September 12th	"Work of the W.R.V.S."
October 10th	"Samplers".
November 14th	"Paper Flower Making"
December 12th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Rose and Crown:-

Every first Thursday	Acton Aid at 8.00 p.m.
Every Tuesday	Darts Club.

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DIARY OF EVENTS (Cont'd.)

At the Lamb Inn:-

Every Friday  
September 26th

The Folk Club at 8.15 p.m.  
Church HARVEST SALE

• At Chipping Sodbury Town Hall:-

• October 17th

FASHION SHOW in aid of A.M.S.A.

ONCE AGAIN OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO

BRIAN BURGESS, MRS DIANA DAVIS AND MRS JEAN

BLACKMORE FOR THEIR GREAT HELP IN PRODUCING

THIS EDITION.