

SEPTEMBER 2020

The HILL & VALLEY

— P A R I S H M A G A Z I N E —



In this issue

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FoStA Update

Newsletter of the Parishes of Chedworth and District

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Readers and Contributors

The production of the Hill and Valley Magazine is made possible through a combination of the articles from our contributors, our advertisers, our printers, finance team and a group of coordinators creating the magazine 10 times each year.

In order to assist the magazine coordinators we ask that articles are submitted online (not by email). For more information please go online to

the Magazine Contributors area of www.hillandvalley.co.uk.

Business advertisers please contact Sue Robertson - 01285 720683 or via the Advertisers form on <https://hillandvalley.co.uk/advertisers/>

The magazine coordinators for September were Sue & Iain Robertson (01285 720683) and for October will be Julie Young (01285 720398).

Please submit all articles and adverts before midday on the 15th of the month using the online system.

The

HILL & VALLEY

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Sue & Iain Robertson
Coordinators for this edition



Stephen's Letter

Real Harvest

"Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink....but first seek his Kingdom and righteousness and all these things will be given to you" Matthew 6v25, 33

Although the Chedworth Horticultural Show cannot take place this year, people in Chedworth & District are currently preparing to submit photos of their fruit and vegetables to the Horticultural Society photo competition – and I am looking forward to viewing the “virtual” produce from local gardens this summer.

Of course, as the harvest season approaches, we are all too aware that we need real, not virtual, food to sustain us in our daily lives. So we should thank God for the food we really have now – especially this year, if we cast our minds back to the beginning of lockdown in March, when there was panic buying and supermarket shelves were empty.

Real food is important – and it is human nature for us to worry about where our daily bread comes from, and this will undoubtedly be the case over the next year or so, as the economic effects of COVID kick in, and sadly, there are likely to be job losses and economic hardships.

But, as Jesus teaches in one of the traditional harvest Bible readings (above), God will provide. He sustains

all creation and gives the birds of the air what they need to live – so he will certainly ensure we have the (real) food we need, even if it is not always the food we desire, accustomed as we are to an affluent and sophisticated society. In any case, the real harvest is our faith in God to provide for us – and, as Jesus says, if we seek the Kingdom of God first, he will look after us.

And so, as an uncertain spring and summer becomes an equally uncertain autumn and winter – I urge you to trust in God for all that you need. Join us for our Harvest Festival on September 27th.

With best wishes for the summer,

Stephen



Church Briefing

Church Calendar for September 2020

We are now holding weekly church services in our Benefice, but a limited number for the time being. At the time of writing, a decision about service provision in September and October has not yet been made. Look out on email and NextDoor for further details.

Here is the calendar of Sundays in the Christian year for September, with worship, prayer and service resources available for that day.

Looking Up is our worship resource, with Bible readings, prayers and reflection for each Sunday, released in PDF form each Friday. If you would like to receive this, please contact me at stephengoundreysmith@gmail.com or 720392

Sunday 6th September - Trinity 13

Looking Up, available from Friday 4th September; video address online after the Sunday morning service on Sunday 6th.

Sunday 13th September - Trinity 14

Looking Up, available from Friday 11th September; video address online after the Sunday morning service on Sunday 13th.

Sunday 20th September - Trinity 15

Looking Up, available from Friday 18th September; video address online after the Sunday morning service on Sunday 20th.

Sunday 27th September - Harvest Festival

Looking Up, available from Friday 25th September; video address online after the Sunday morning service on Sunday 27th.

Please look out on email/social media for any short-notice changes of arrangements following new Church of England guidance.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival this year will take place on Sunday 27th September. Further details to follow.

Benefice Administrator Wanted!

Following a review with the PCC's, it has been decided that it would be very helpful to appoint a **Benefice**

Church Briefing

Administrator to help me with the administration required for the running of the three parishes. I very much hope that someone will be willing to volunteer for this important role in our community. If you are interested please contact me and I will forward a brief outline of the tasks involved - Rev'd Stephen,
stephengoundreysmith@gmail.com, 720392.

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Annual Parochial Church Meetings have taken place now in Chedworth and the Valley. The Yanworth & Stowell APCM will take place in the near future. Congratulations to **Helen Oldham**, who has been elected as churchwarden at Chedworth; Helen brings many gifts and past experience in church leadership roles, and I look forward to working with her. Thanks to Sue Callard for her hard work as churchwarden over the last five years. As ever, I am grateful to those with whom I work most closely in leadership here.

The Passion Week of Jesus

Please note that we plan to run the three remaining sessions of our **Lent Course** on **Tuesdays in September (Tuesdays 8th, 15th and 22nd September)**.

This may not be quite as seasonal as during Lent - but any time is a good time to study the Bible, and as those of

you who have attended so far will know, Dan Button, from the Gloucestershire Theology School, is an excellent facilitator!

Prayer Requests

This is a turbulent time. If you have any prayer requests, or would value a confidential discussion of any concerns that you have, please get in touch with me at 720392 or
stephengoundreysmith@gmail.com.

Chedworth Community Land Charity

The Chedworth Community Land Charity is a charity whose objective is to provide assistance to people in Chedworth parish facing particular urgent health or welfare needs or financial hardship. The Trustees consist of the Rector and two Parish Council nominees.

The Chedworth Community Land Charity has helped various parishioners over the last few years and is able to respond rapidly to any urgent financial needs at this difficult time during the COVID-19 crisis. To find out more or to apply, please contact Rev'd Stephen Goundrey-Smith (720392) or Bryan Bowley (720369). All applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Church is Open!

We have been conducting a weekly service at St Andrew's Chedworth

through July and August. This is a limited interim service pattern, which has enabled us to meet again in person safely - and people have been glad to be able to worship in church again. At the time of writing, we are about to decide on our services for September and October.

Please pray that we would be able to continue in-person services into the autumn and winter. They are so important for spiritual health and, as you are aware, it is uncertain what the government's response will be to rising infection rates as the winter months draw on.

Furthermore, all our churches are now open again for private prayer. You are warmly welcome to spend some quiet time with God in our beautiful church buildings in our parishes.

Guidance on hygiene and social distancing applies. Please follow the instructions on the notice on or near the church door, and use the hand sanitiser provided. Try to maintain a distance of two metres from other church users, and be especially aware of elderly and vulnerable people.

I hope that you can find God's peace and strength from quiet times in church, and that he would give you guidance and discernment for your life in this turbulent world in which we live. If you

have any prayer requests for my personal prayers, do let me know.

Just a reminder that the Church of England's full COVID-19 guidance may be found here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches#na>.

As well as information on suspension of services, there are details of national online services of worship, prayer and worship apps for smart phones and devices, mental health resources and guidance on funerals, weddings and baptisms. Please watch out for further details, and contact Rev'd Stephen if you have further questions.

Chedworth's Got Talent?

Sadly, we have had to cancel Chedworth's Got Talent, which was scheduled for 26th September this year, due to the current restrictions on the use of indoor spaces. We hope to reschedule this in future - so you have more time to perfect your acts!

From the Registers

Baptism

"You are all children of the light and children of the day". 1 Thessalonians 5v5

Rory Phillips - St Andrew's Church,
Coln Rogers - 25th July

It's okay to let your mind go blank, but please turn off the sound.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Time	Event	Venue
1 to 4-Sep	17:30	Romeo and Juliet performed in the open air by Bonzo Productions - see www.shakespearemanor.com for more info	Field behind church - approach from Beeches Walk
05-Sep	15:30	Romeo and Juliet performed in the open air by Bonzo Productions - see www.shakespearemanor.com for more info	Field behind church - approach from Beeches Walk
09-Sep	19:15	WI meeting with speaker	Zoom meeting
14-Sep	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Zoom or Village Hall
19-Sep	14:00-16:00	WI Jumble Sale - CANCELLED	Village Hall
26-Sep		Chedworth's Got Talent- CANCELLED	Village Hall
07-Oct	14:00	Bridge with Afternoon Tea in aid of FoStA - CANCELLED	Village Hall
12-Oct	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Zoom or Village Hall
14-Oct	19:15	WI - "A Hotel with a Famous Guest List" talk	Zoom or Village Hall
17-Oct	10:00-12:00	HortSoc Compost Sale	Chedworth Farm Shop
09-Nov	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Zoom or Village Hall
11-Nov	19:15	WI - AGM & Party - TBC	Village Hall
09-Dec	19:15	WI - "Operation Drake; Papua New Guinea" talk - TBC	Village Hall
14-Dec	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Zoom or Village Hall

See www.hillandvalley.co.uk for more dates of events

Recycling Dates

Domestic Waste & Recycling

**Chedworth Area,
Fossebridge,
Yanworth**

**Coln St Dennis,
Coln Rogers**

September 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



October 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Turn your event into an occasion at

Chedworth Village Hall

Visit our website for full details including making
booking enquiries

chedworthvillagehall.co.uk



Thank you to everyone who has supported Pre-School through purchasing face masks, and an enormous thank you to Chedworth Farm Shop for stocking our face masks - from this we have raised £147 (correct in August!). We will endeavour to continue producing them for sale at the farm shop!

I am also delighted to say that we are welcoming 3 new families to Pre-School this term, along with the safe return of all of our other families and friends (a very healthy start to our year with 12 children on role!). It is just brilliant to be back together again and working as a full team once again!

We are running our Forest School sessions every Tuesday morning; we shall be having lots of fun exploring the nature and wildlife all around us through a wide variety of fun activities and games!

At Chedworth Pre-School, we take children from the age of 2 years - with no set intake times - up to school age. We accept both 15 and 30 hours funding along with 2 year old funding to those who are entitled. Flexible and with the hours to suit you and your needs. For further information please email or telephone us!

Sarah Smith

For more information please take a look at our website

www.chedworthpreschool.co.uk

Contact Sarah on 07840 370220 or email chedworthpreschool@gmail.com to arrange a visit!

What am I?

A teacher gave her young class a lesson on Zoom. It was about the magnet, and what it does. The next day in a short test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I am strong and attractive. I pick up lots of things. What am I?"

When the answers were sent in, the teacher was astonished to find that more than half her students had answered the question with the word: "Mother."

Chedworth Parish Council

Notes from our July & August meeting Council still keeping its distance

The Parish Council has now held three meetings via video using Zoom and we will take the decision nearer to the September meeting whether we should continue to meet via the internet or go back to a socially distanced meeting at the village hall. Keep an eye on NextDoor and Facebook, as well as the village noticeboards, where we will let everyone know what we have decided. If we do decide it's safer to continue with video meetings, they are open to members of the public in the same way as 'normal' meetings. In order to log in you will need to email me at ros.jess1@btinternet.com for the password.

Councillors

Ros Jess (Chairman)	01285 720248
David Broad (Vice-Chairman)	01285 720313
George Broad	01285 720313
Tony Kingsley	01285 720743
Alan McLellan	01285 720642
Ian Morgan	01285 720885

To contact the Council, email the clerk, Elizabeth Broad (chedworthpc@hotmail.co.uk), or call her on 720313, or get in touch with any of the councillors directly.

For more information check out our website <http://chedworthpc.org.uk>

Virus helps delay verge project

The parish council has been battling to set up an agreement with the county council which would allow us to take over cutting the verges in the parish. For the past couple of years, the council has employed its own contractor to undertake an extra cut at the end of the season when we have cut the full width of the verge (the county only does 1m) and all the cuttings have been collected and removed. The removal of the arisings is very important because if they are allowed to rot down on the verge they add to the nutrients in the soil which encourages vigorous plants, like nettles, which smother other plants. It also prevents a 'thatch' of dead vegetation and allows seeds more room to germinate. (If you would like to read more about verge management there is plenty of information on the Plantlife website (<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk>).

We decided to look into the possibility of taking over all the cutting many months ago but problems with getting accurate maps from Gloucestershire highways, a change in personnel and of course COVID-19, have meant that we have had to abandon plans for this year but hope to get everything signed and sealed in time for next year.

If we take over control we will receive an amount per metre from the county for doing the work.

Chedworth Parish Council

We still intend to carry out the full-width cut in October but county highways were due to carry out a cut in August - this is the cut which would normally be done in May/June.

New footpath map now on parish council website

The parish has many rights of way and sometimes it's not clear exactly what route they take.

Gloucestershire County Council has a map showing all paths in the county in detail which is a very useful resource but not easy to navigate. By far the easiest way to find a path on the county map is to search by path number and in order to make this as easy as possible I have put together a new map showing all the paths in the parish and their numbers.

The map is not detailed enough to be followed when out walking but gives a general idea of where the Rights of Way are and enables you to access the detailed county map more easily.

The new footpath map can be found on our website along with the link you will need to the county Rights of Way map.

Farmers and walkers must both play their part

Over the summer the parish council has contacted landowners to raise various issues which have been brought to our attention by walkers. The parish council does what it can to ensure that the network of Rights of Way is kept clear and safe to walk but it's also the responsibility of walkers and riders to ensure that they follow the Countryside Code.

You can download the full Countryside Code (link below), but the main headings include:

1. Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
2. Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available
3. Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
4. Keep dogs under effective control

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code>

Housing adjacent to Village Hall

One planning application which caused more discussion than normal over recent weeks was the approval of Planning in Principle (PiP) application



for up to three houses next to the village hall.

To update anyone who is unclear of what this means - a PiP application is a fairly new type of application which does not require any detail but if granted establishes that the site is suitable for a stated number of houses.

The application was approved without going before the planning committee by the planning officer who felt it complied with current planning regulations. Before any development can take place, a full application will have to be submitted when there will again be an opportunity to comment.

Withington Hill - a new promise

The parish council has received an undertaking from our new highways manager that Withington Hill - which we were told would be resurfaced early this year - will now be resurfaced early next year. We have been assured that the work is programmed for next year but cannot be done any sooner because there is no money in the budget. We were also told that the work had never been scheduled for this year.

Our county councillor Paul Hodgkinson has been fighting our corner with highways and both he and the parish council will be keeping a close eye on the county to try to ensure the work does not get delayed again.

Village Hall sign

A number of villagers contacted the parish council because they were unhappy about the new sign outside the village hall. People felt the design was inappropriate for the rural setting and of little use in its current location. We have passed on comments to the village hall committee.

Council is still one short

With all the upheaval caused by COVID-19 the fact that we are still one councillor short hasn't been at the forefront of our thoughts but we are still looking for someone to join us. If you think you could be that person please get in touch.

In Brief:

- Contractors working for the council have cut the verges on School Hill and Lower Chedworth - two areas where overhanging vegetation was making the road dangerous, particularly for pedestrians. We also arranged for the Tuns Hill triangle to be cut.
- In July we agreed to allow With the Ball coaching to use the playing field free of charge. We normally charge commercial users but felt with COVID-19 restrictions in place, imposing a charge would make the activity unviable. With the school closed for many children, councillors felt the activities would be a real bonus for local children.

Ros Jess

Blacksmiths & Farriers

When horses powered the economy, blacksmiths and farriers were integral to the economy, especially in rural areas and were regarded as the most important craftsmen in villages. One of the oldest evidences of blacksmithing in the Cotswolds was a Roman forge on the Fosseway near Bourton Bridge. There is an old Cotswold saying that if a village had a good smith and an honest miller it would "get by". For centuries, most villages had a blacksmiths' forge and as a child I can remember working forges in several North Cotswold villages and the thrill of seeing the red hot fire and iron being worked.

Sadly, nowadays a working forge is something of a rarity and the only evidence of their former presence in most villages are house names. For many years there were three smithies in Chedworth. The Old Forge at the west end of Church Row was a forge for over three hundred years. There were two smithies in Raybrook Lane on the Chedworth side of Fossebridge. The Old Forge was worked by the Morse family and nearer Fossebridge, The Forge, was worked by Earnest Crump from the 1930's to the 1970's. From the early 1900's to about 1950, Walter Cuss, a blacksmith from Rendcomb came to Chedworth on Tuesdays and used the barn at The Paddocks. For several years until 1985, Phillip Juggins shoed horse

in a barn now called Hylands Barn, on Fields Road.

Blacksmiths and horse are part of our heritage. When the belief in witchcraft was widespread, a horse shoe nailed to the door of house or stable was supposed to defeat witches, who worked their spells at night, the witch mistaking the horseshoe for a circle to prevent her from entering, would keep travelling from one end to the other until dawn came and would fly away on her broomstick.

It is difficult for us in 2020 to appreciate just how important horses were in times past and the huge number of horses used in agriculture, industry, commerce, the military and domestic use. In the 19th century, a 600 acre mixed farm required 24 shire horses to work the land as well as horse for riding. To work effectively the horses need to be shod regularly and blacksmiths were rarely short of work.

In the Cotswolds, one of the specialist jobs for the blacksmith was the making of hand shears and crooks for the shepherd and for making a special knife for cutting the stalks of teasels used in the teasing of cloth. Before large scale manufacturing, blacksmiths made hand tools and items for agricultural and domestic use such as scythes, sickles, forks, chains, hay knives, door hinges, latches, chains, pots, grates, fire dogs etc.

For centuries, the most important agricultural implement was the plough and village blacksmiths made ploughs to their own design reflecting local conditions, especially the soil which could range from brash on the hills to deeper soils in the valleys and vale. From the middle of the 18th Century ploughs were increasingly made by firms of agricultural engineers such as Ransomes of Ipswich. Blacksmiths helped develop the earliest forms of farm machinery and some became manufacturers of farm machinery. For many years, until farm machinery became very complicated, farmers would still call on their blacksmith to carry out machinery repairs and modifications. Until tractors became readily available, it was not unusual to see machinery such as hay rakes being towed by the farmer's car. It was usually the blacksmith who made the towing hitch.

Blacksmiths had their own names for the heats required. Snowball for white heat, cherry red, blood red, full light, slipper and sweating come next and then black heat, the one which gives the matt lustre to the forged metal such as seen on parts of a wagon and is used in springs when too great a heat would destroy their elasticity.

Blacksmiths turned their hand to many unusual projects and were sometimes clock-makers. In Ebrington Church near Chipping Campden, there is a face-less

clock between two and three hundred years old which still chimes the hours. Tradition has it that it was made by the village smith who lived beside the smithy. The churchwarden's accounts books in the middle of the eighteenth century show entries for a yearly sum paid to various Ebrington blacksmiths down the years for cleaning and overhauling the clock.

Whilst nowadays not every village has a blacksmith, the craft is very much alive and well. Michael Thomas who was born in Quenington has spent all his working life as a blacksmith in the Cotswolds. After an apprenticeship with Mill Engineers in Bibury, he bought the business and in 1973 he relocated to Barnsley where he had four staff/apprentices. After moving house to Eastington, he converted an old barn on the edge of the village into a forge and combined blacksmithing and farriery until 1998 when he concentrated on blacksmithing, which he continues to do in semi-retirement. In his early career, the winter was spent shoeing hunters and blacksmithing during the summer, carrying out a wide range of work including making and repairing seed harrows and drag harrows.

At one time Michael was responsible for shoeing over one hundred polo ponies at Westonbirt, an awful lot of work! In 1968, Michael made the horse shoes for the British Equestrian Team who won a gold medal at the Mexico Olympics.

Cotswold Crafts

Originally horseshoes and the nails were made and fitted in the blacksmith's forge but are now mass produced abroad and then tailored/fitted to the individual horse by the farrier using a mobile forge.

Although the basic equipment used by blacksmiths has remained unchanged over the centuries the introduction of electric fans to replace bellows has been a considerable advantage, as have power tools. The best steel is made in Sweden.

Much of Michael's work now is commissions for high quality wrought iron items such as garden gates, railings, rose arches, pergolas and weather vanes. Before making an item, he likes to visit the site and consider the design in the context of the garden/house to ensure that it is in keeping.



The transition from making and repairing farm machinery and tools reflects the changes in the countryside and rural population. Other projects undertaken by Michael have included making church handrails, including the handrail at Northleach Church at the

entrance from the market square and "The Tree of Life" for Northleach School. He has recently been commissioned by a private estate in Somerset where a Roman villa has been excavated, the estate are now going to



build a replica villa and Michael has been asked to make the door

and window fittings.

Over the years, Michael has trained and encouraged many apprentices and young blacksmiths; his first apprentice was the late Phillip Juggins from Chedworth. Blacksmithing is a heritage craft and Michael continues to help train apprentices at Jon Ward's forge at Donkeywell Forge Quenington. College courses in blacksmithing are now provided at several colleges, including the Hereford and Ludlow College's Rural Crafts Centre at Holme Lacey.

For centuries, blacksmiths have played an important part in the countryside and the rural economy. We are fortunate that their skills continue to be practised and that we can see so much of their work in the Cotswolds.

Robert Young

Chedworth Table Tennis Club

Chedworth Table Tennis club starts meetings again in the re-opened village hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 3rd September and regularly on Thursday evenings through the winter and spring.

We will maintain social distancing and enhanced hygiene measures will be observed.

Membership fees £15.00 for season plus £1.00 per attendance, reduced rate for juveniles. We look forward to greeting new and existing members.

Geoff Bailey



Finding out more about God in creative ways.

For 4-11 year olds

Every 4th Sunday of the month

10.15-11.30 am

In Parish Room at The Vicarage, Chedworth

Phone Sally on 720285 to book a place

sally.smith237@yahoo.co.uk

Zoom meetings for the members have been enjoyable with a chance to chat and exchange our news. Others who are without Zoom contact are sent our news and information of the talks. Birthday cards are delivered each month. Keeping in touch has been very important during 2020.

In July Veronica Isaac gave us a talk 'right from her heart', since as a child she helped Shelagh Lovett Turner with her wonderful costume collection. This collection contained amazing historical costumes, mostly given locally and from far and wide, people got to know her and would deliver costumes to her doorstep. These then would have to be catalogued and stored neatly in the farmhouse. Help was needed and several locals including Veronica were happy to spend many hours with the lovely costumes full of history.

WI members over the many years were involved in fashion parades and

Veronica showed many slides of familiar faces dressed beautifully in the wonderful costumes.

After Shelagh's death Veronica was asked by the family to log the historical collection and place them in the appropriate historical fashion museums.

It's a lovely story that the legacy from Shelagh Lovett Turner can be shared with everyone and I suspect from many overseas visitors.

Veronica's enthusiasm was very contagious and her talk was very entertaining. A large thank you was met with spontaneous applause.

Unfortunately our Picnic on August 12th had to be cancelled due to excessive heat and thunderstorms. The next meeting on the 12th September will be on Zoom at 7pm.

Carol Bailey



A New Hobby in 2020

Butterflies 2020

2020 with its sunny days have encouraged many butterflies and a few settle a few seconds and if you are lucky a minute or two for a photograph. There are many wildlife Apps including one called Seek, which was introduced to me a few weeks ago. After downloading the

app take a photo of the wildlife subject and Seek will identify it.

Below is a fairly common Butterfly, a Ringlet which was taken locally in early summer.

It has been a pleasure discovering a new hobby in 2020.

Carol Bailey



Sudoku Puzzle

8								
7		9	5			4	8	
	2		7				5	
				1	6			
2								9
			4	5				
	3				7		2	
	1	6			9	3		5
								6

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Medium

Solution on page 31

Some miscellaneous observations on modern life...

It's called 'take home' pay because you can't afford to go anywhere else with it.

Success is relative - the greater the success, the more relatives.

If at first you succeed, try to hide your astonishment.

People like criticism - just keep it positive and flattering.

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

Junk is something you throw away about three weeks before you need it.

Hospitality is making your guests feel at home, even if you wish they were.

Some people are like blisters. They don't show up until the work is done.

A sure way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

On dating app: 'Princess, having had sufficient experience with princes, seeks frog.'

School

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

Maggie's Poem

Another Day of Summer

Waking in the morning
Sun its on its way,
Will it last us all day long
Or gradually fade away,
What will this lovely new day bring
Many things that spring to mind,
Could go out and do the shopping
Or a job in the garden find,
A friendly face comes calling
For a chat and cup of tea,
What is waiting round the corner
Only the Good Lord here to see,
A bunch of lovely flowers
On the door step left for me,
All good things are sent from heaven above
Our thanks we all must say,
When spreading our gratitude and sincere love
Please God help us all way.

Maggie Scrivens

Your Gardening Tips for September

August has been as unsettled as last year with some scorching days and storms but at least our lawns will not suffer from a long period of dry weather and our water butts are full.

- Continue to deadhead plants such as Dahlia, Delphinium, Rosa and Penstemon to prolong the display and give plenty of colour to the end of the month.
- It is time for some gentle tidying up of the borders, leaving seed heads for the birds. Trim back lavender if not already done. Divide herbaceous perennials, and plant new perennials, towards the end of the month.
- This a good time to propagate evergreens such as choisyas, hebes, and heathers as well as herbs such as bay, rosemary and sage.
- If not already done, cut out old fruiting raspberry canes before they go brown and are hard to identify.

- Rake out the dead grass from lawns and treat with autumn feed.
- Start to add compost or rotted manure to the garden to reinvigorate the soil over the winter.
- Plant out winter lettuce, autumn onion sets, garlic and spring cabbage. Remove yellow leaves from over wintering brassicas.
- Dig up remaining potatoes to avoid slug damage.
- Garden vegetables that become over-ripe are an easy target for some pests. Remove them as soon as possible to avoid detection.
- Resist the temptation to leave the topmost flowers on tomatoes. Cut them off as no significant tomatoes will be harvested from them from now on.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs
- Cabbage White butterflies may no longer threaten your brassicas, but continue to protect them from pigeons.



- If you are not going to make soup from the water left from boiling vegetables, pour the liquid (once cooled!) onto your pot plants and they will respond with vigour! If you are clearing away nettles, before composting them, soak in water for a week and use the liquid as a good fertilizer.
- Use coffee grounds to feed ericaceous plants.
- If you manage to go abroad for a holiday, avoid the temptation to

bring plants back as the risk of introducing new diseases and pests is very high.

- Avoid using peat based compost.
- Do not forget that **Compost Day is Saturday 17 October at the Farm Shop 1000-1200.**

Simon Colbeck

Chairman Chedworth & District
HORTSOC

Back Row Club at the Village Hall

Dear Back Row Club members,

Although the Village Hall has measures in place for limited numbers socially distanced to attend film shows the uncertainties created by the Covid-19 virus, have persuaded us to delay showing films until October.

If the situation improves sufficiently during September we can always try and fit a showing in. The next film will be Judy as advertised in the April Hill & Valley Magazine.

Simon Colbeck and Iain Robertson



Manor Farm News

Rainfall, Soils and Wildlife

This year is proving to be a year where rainfall arrived just in time, with minimal amount of water in reserve. As a result pasture growth has been reasonably stable, but certainly not exceptional. Hopefully this will change as we go into the autumn, with the heat that is in the ground now, and some moisture, we could see an excellent end to the season.

I recently dug a hole, to look at soil structure, on the airfield. I actually managed to find a place where I could dig down 15 inches (40cm) before hitting rock! The soil in question is in the photograph - making me realise how much it has changed in the last 16years.

When I arrived at Manor Farm, only the corner of the farm bounded by the bridal path and fields road, around the cricket field was grazed by cows, along with the calf paddocks on the other side of the airfield. The rest was arable land.

Digging the same soil pit then, you would see 3inches (8cm) of light brown soil at the top, with light yellow limestone below. Now, after being in pasture for 12years, we see a dark brown colour down to full depth. This is caused by an increase in carbon content through carbon sequestration by the pasture under grazing management. This has made these soils much more resilient to weather extremes - now

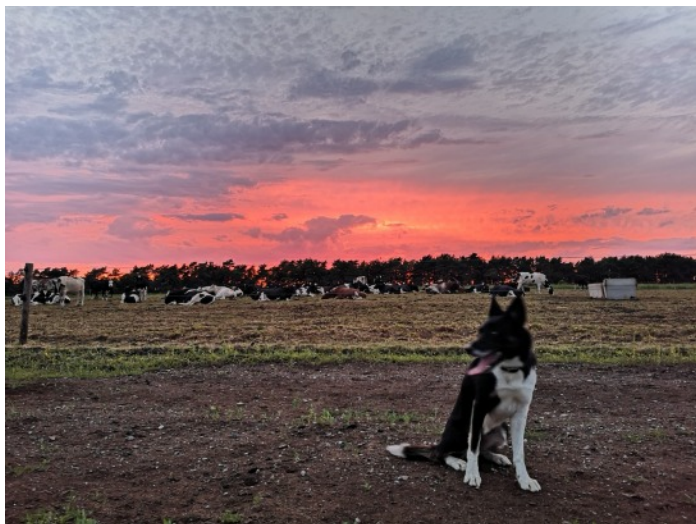
holding on much better in drought and remaining treadable wet weather- rather than burning off as soon as the sun came out.

These soils are now alive, with everything from bacteria and fungi up to spiders, beetles and worms. This all provides food for birds and small mammals, which in turn provide food for further up the food chain. This has resulted in a large increase in wildlife as ecosystems have been rebuilt. This has been achieved whilst producing quality, grass fed milk and meat - demonstrating that



farming and wildlife
can thrive together.

Over the last few years we have had a flock of wintering lapwings on the farm. This year they have already been here for a month, when we don't normally see them until late September- I'm not sure if they have nested early this year, or if their nests have failed.



Other birds seem to have had a good season - pheasant, partridge, ducks, and many little birds seem to have successfully reared broods this year -

probably helped by the dry weather, and an abundance of insects.

Rob Richmond



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Cotswold Friends



Press Release

COTSWOLD FRIENDS PROVIDES ONGOING SERVICE SUPPORT

DATE: 12TH AUGUST 2020

During the lockdown period, Cotswold Friends has supported over 1,000 people a week with shopping, medicine delivery, telephone befriending and transport for critical medical appointments. Cotswold Friends has also received over 30,000 phone calls, emails and social media contacts, many of which were asking for help.

As the Government lifts lockdown many people are feeling a little anxious about losing their Covid-19 support. Please don't worry. Cotswold Friends is available to continue taking your calls and providing support. We can provide a weekly visitor to call in and chat with you, and in some cases to accompany you as you start to get out and about.

Hospital and other appointments such as dentists are now being booked again. Cotswold Friends Community

Transport service is available to help and we are also taking people to post offices and banks. We will do our best to accommodate your hair appointments and family visits too! Some Covid-19 community groups are still providing ongoing support to their community and where these groups exist we will continue working together.

If you have any other worries please do get in touch; it often helps just to chat.

Contact us:

Main office - Tel: 01608 651415, email: info@cotswoldfriends.org

Community Transport Bookings - Tel: 01608 651115

Befriending and Carer Respite - Tel: 01608 652019

Now more than ever we need people to come forward and volunteer. We need drivers, befrienders, shopping supporters and people to provide carers with a much-needed break. Our Lunch Clubs, Men in Sheds and other groups



Community Transport Volunteer Driver

are slowly beginning to open and we need lead volunteers and escorts. You can donate as much or little time as you are able.

Please call or email George to have a chat about volunteering for Cotswold

Friends on Tel: 01608 697007 or email: georgina@cotswoldfriends.org. To everyone who has supported us over this unprecedented period THANK YOU SO MUCH. It is only with your support that we have been able to keep our services running.

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Soroptimist Club Charity Grants

The Soroptimist Club of Cirencester and District invites applications for small grants to its charity, The Dorothy Minnis trust (registered charity no: 281078), from local charities and individuals.

Application forms and further information are available on the club website:
www.sigbi.org/cirencester/dorothy-minnis-trust.

Applications may be made at any time however, the deadline for consideration at the next trustee meeting is 1st November 2020.



FoStA Update

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold the Bridge afternoon on the 4th October and an evening with the Magician, Bertie Pearce on 21st November, due to Covid-19 restrictions. We do hope to hold these events at a future date when government guidelines allow.

Heather Brown

Road Verges

In July this year, it was noticeable that the unmown road verges in the village contained many more wild flowers than in previous years when the verges were cut in the spring. This summer has seen many varieties of wild flowers in the verges including some unusual species such as goatsbeard, and wild onion. Allowing the flowers and grasses to grow encourages a wide range of insects, especially butterflies and moths.



Goatsbeard

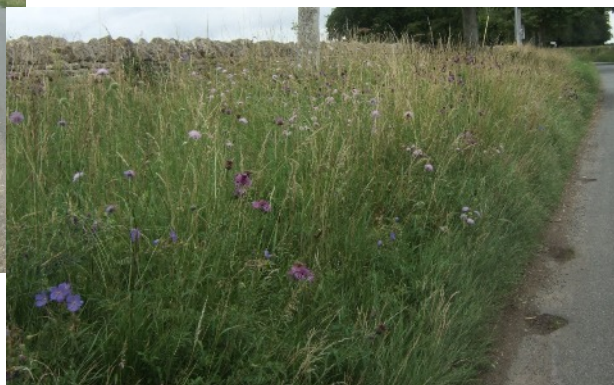
Chedworth Road verges in July

Cold Aston Parish Council in 2008 started trials to monitor the frequent mow approach with a once a year cut and wild flower enhancement approach. A trial plot was established in the village. The outcome was that by the simple act of a change to only cutting once a year after wildflowers had seeded (typically late August/September) and removing the cuttings increased wild flowers and insects. At peak the restored verge had nearly 38,000 flowers with 19 species in bloom compared with a peak of 99 in bloom with just 4 species under frequent mowing.

Armed with several years of data, the Parish Council in 2019 negotiated agreement with the County Council that 3 roadside verges be given Conservation Verge Status and that the Parish Council



Photos of Chedworth road verges in July



should directly manage all B road verges. This is funded by the County Council. A small downside is that under the conservation regime, verges look rather scruffy in July and August. However, this is a small price to pay for the ecological and landscape gains together with the environmental benefit of reduced fossil fuel emissions and cost savings. At road junctions, visibility splays are regularly cut.

The Cold Aston Parish Council's grass cutting contractor is a local farmer who ensures that the verges are cut in accordance with the Gloucestershire County Council's Conservation Guidance for road verges which is set out below:-

The general methods to conserve and enhance biodiversity on verges are:

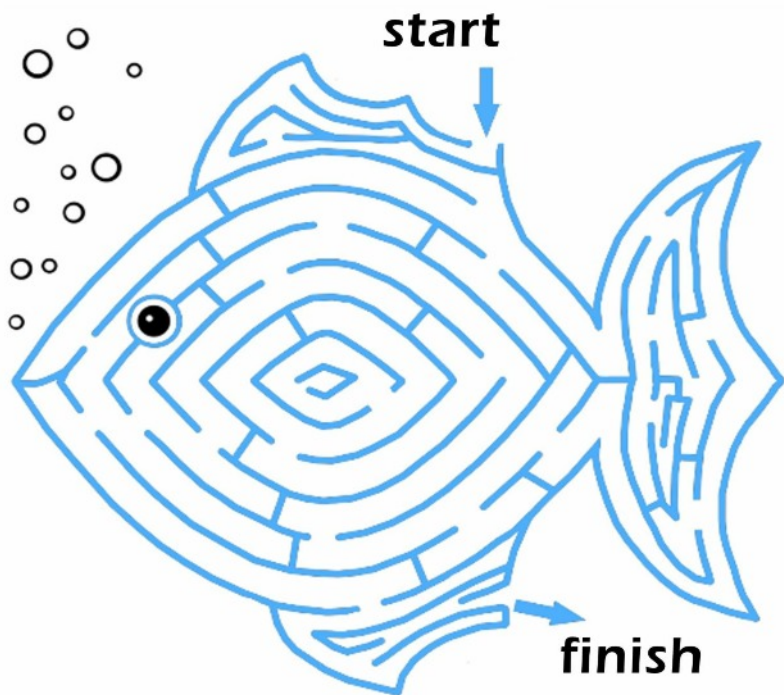
- Annual mowing ideally in August / September or autumn / winter if conditions acceptable.
- NO cutting between April and July except for safety cuts or to control coarse grasses for a time so as to eventually restore species diversity.
- Collect cuttings if possible and place in a sacrificial area or take away for green recycling including use as compost or if arrangements exist a biofuel.
- Vary cutting height and frequency to create different zones or sections to benefit a larger range of species including invertebrates.
- Keep a record of management and let others know, e.g. between the Parish/Town Council and the Local Highways Manager, and using media such as Twitter, local newsletters and website pages.

Robert Young

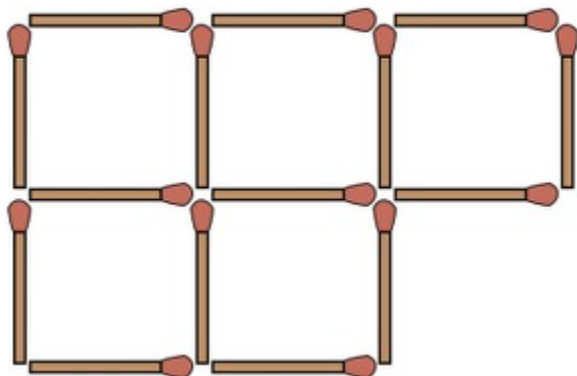


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Find the correct way from start to finish.



Remove 3 matches to leave 3 squares



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Medium

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1	2	4	7	9	8	6	5	3
3	8	5	9	1	6	2	4	7
2	4	1	8	7	3	5	6	9
6	9	7	4	5	2	1	3	8
5	3	8	1	6	7	9	2	4
4	1	6	2	8	9	3	7	5
9	7	2	3	4	5	8	1	6

Are politicians the oldest profession?

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos in the first place!"

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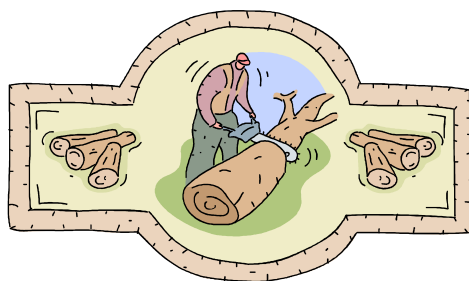
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