

Broughton Gifford

April 2020



Village Magazine



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Editorial

This month's magazine comes to you at a time when our community and the wider world are facing huge challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. By the time you read this, schools will have closed, village events will have been cancelled, and many of us will be adjusting to new ways of working or worrying about whether we can work at all. In the midst of all this turmoil, we have also seen extraordinary acts of kindness and our village is no exception. You will have received through your door a leaflet (also printed in the magazine) from the BG Coronavirus Support Team, a group of volunteers established to offer practical help over the coming months. We are all extremely grateful to those who have set up this initiative, who are acting as Area Contacts, and who are volunteering in other ways. As someone remarked to me recently, we might be witnessing 'geographical distancing' but not 'social distancing' as we rally round to help each other.

Our village social calendar is, inevitably, looking a little light and so next month we will not have our usual reports of what our organisations have been up to. If you would like to contribute your thoughts to the magazine, we would be delighted to hear from you. Whether you are a young budding journalist or village veteran, please do get in touch as this is your magazine. You can contact us on bgvillagemagazine@gmail.com or call the Editor of the Month on the number listed in the Village Organisations section at the end of this issue.

Please welcome our new Newleaze Park neighbours—Lucy and family at number 24 and Amy, Justin, Bo and George at 26. We hope that you will be very happy here. Congratulations to those Curtis Orchard residents who won the Postcode Lottery. That must have been a very pleasant surprise!

Following the PM's announcement on 23 March, our editorial team has taken the decision to cancel printing the magazine for now as our volunteers will be unable to distribute hard copies. We are making online copies available through the Parish Council website and other channels and have contacted our village organisations to let them know. We are conscious that there are some villagers who are not online and will not be able to read this month's issue. It is not a decision we have taken lightly. We hope that you will understand, however, that the health of our villagers has to be the primary consideration.

From all of us on the editorial team, we wish you good health. Please stay safe and look after each other.

Roseanne Russell- Editor for this issue

HELLO!

We are aware that there are uncertain times ahead and for some this will cause some practical problems. We are a group who can help those who are isolating because they have the virus or because they need to avoid the virus. We can offer practical help for free (except the cost of shopping).

Stay Safe

The Broughton Gifford Coronavirus Support Team

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 and have no family or friends locally, we can help with:

- Picking up Shopping
- Posting Mail
- A friendly phone call
- Urgent Supplies
- Collecting Prescriptions

Please call or text your Area Contact in the first instance who can then either help you directly or put you in contact with a village volunteer. If your local contact isn't available, please call the next nearest.

Coronavirus is contagious, please take every precaution to ensure you are only spreading kindness. Avoid physical contact (2-meter distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

Area Contacts	
The Common	Henry Lumley 07720558982
The Street Top (Corner of Mill Lane up to the common)	Claire Johnson 07900994848
The Street Bottom (Corner of Mill Lane to Holt junction)	Kathryn Hogg 07883020884
Newleaze Park	Claire Francis 07971636414
Curtis Orchard	Suzi Shingler 07540192651
Mill Lane	Sarah Chandler 07761747961
Norrington Common	Paul Johnson 07798 625342

PETE ENNEW

It is with great sadness that we heard of the death of Pete in March of this year.

Pete, together with his wife Pam, moved from a flat in Bristol to, the then new, Newleaze Park in 1967 where they lived for 35 years before moving back to Portishead in the Spring of 2002. Although Pete liked to be referred to as a “Bristle Boy” (to use the vernacular), he was particularly fond of the countryside, especially Broughton Gifford; and was frequently seen walking his dog along most, if not all, of the Village rights-of-ways.

He will be remembered, not only by those (probably now in their 40s or 50s) who attended the BG Youth Club which he helped to run throughout the 1980s and early 90s, but also by the great many friends who shared his enjoyment of a pint of “Real Ale” in one of the two village pubs. He played in the local cribbage league, relished the chance of participating in the Country & Western evenings on Friday music nights at The Fox, led the carol singing on Christmas Eve at The Bell, made several excursions to the rivers of Southern Ireland with a group of his fishing mates, revelled in The Bell’s annual rugby pilgrimage to Twickenham in support of Bathand many more!

For his Friday night domino playing friends, he will be particularly remembered for his knowledge and love of current affairs and politics, which he discussed with great intensity; and has been known (prior to the smoking ban) to mete out an occasional poke in the ribs with briar full of Old Holborn. His claim to fame was a brief appearance on a BBC Question Time recorded at Bristol, when he was chosen to submit a question from the public. He would have loved that.

We have lost a true gentleman.

Brian Meredith



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Broughton Gifford Friendship Club

March 2020



Hugs and kisses were avoided between members due to the corona virus as our group met for our monthly meeting in the village hall.

Our speaker Joan Harrington represented a charity called **Medical Detection Dogs**, and though she was unable to bring one of the dogs to demonstrate their work she did give an interesting talk supported by slides and video which gave us an insight into the two arms of the charity which are:

Medical Detection Dogs: uses the amazing power of the dog's nose to detect human diseases. Their research is based on the dog's ability to detect minute odour traces created by diseases. It is at the forefront of the research into the fight against cancer and helping people with life-threatening diseases. Their dogs are currently working for people with:

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Severe nut allergies

Bio Detection Dogs: are trained to detect the minute odour of diseases, such as cancer, in samples such as urine, breath and swabs. The dogs are trained to detect minute changes in an individual's personal odour triggered by their disease and alert them to an impending medical event. There has been success in detecting Parkinson's disease, malaria, and other bacteria in their many research projects.

This charity, which was founded by Dr Claire Guest in 2008 and became a registered charity in 2018, has no government funding for the work they do and relies entirely on the generosity of donations from trusts and the public.

Thanks to the generosity of our Friendship Club with a club donation, some individual donations and sales from the merchandise table, £99.00 was given to this worthy charity.

For more information go to: www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk

All future meetings of the Friendship Club have been postponed until further notice

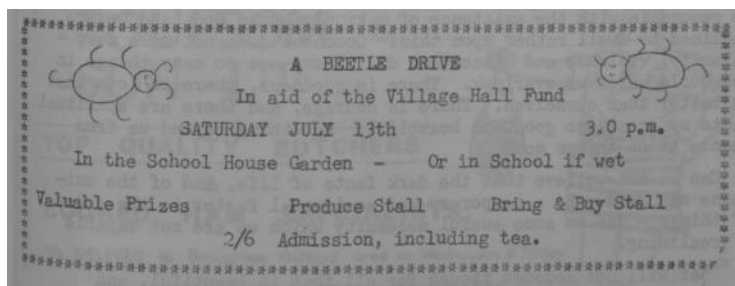
Chris Pitura

From the Village Magazine archives: *the Village Hall, only 25 years in the making...*

In the very first issue of the Village Magazine, in August 1967, there was mention of the Village Hall, or rather its impending arrival, as Admiral & Mrs. Mills (of the Old Manor) were thanked for their departing gift to the village, namely a full-sized table-tennis table and equipment. Admiral Mills was a vice-president of the Village Hall Fund Committee, which had been very active in raising funds. Examples of the sorts of events being held to raise funds are shown below:



Bazaar, Oct. 1967



Beetle Drive, Jul. 1968

While such fund raising was important, grant aid from the then Dept. of Education & Science [DES] would cover half the cost of the build, and a further 25% was to be given by Wilts C.C.

In December 1967, it was announced that the plans were being revised in favour of a larger and "better designed" Hall with a car park, to be built "in the paddock behind the Fox & Hounds". Phase I would comprise a main assembly room [54' x 30'] including

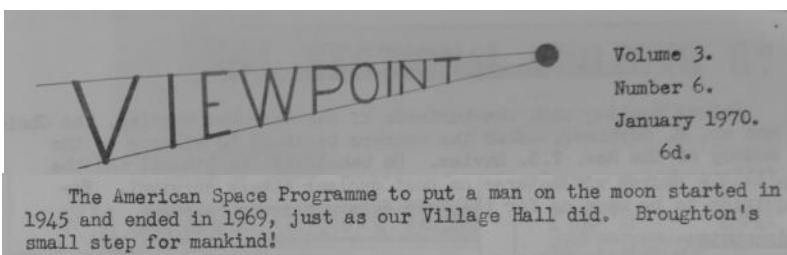
a skittle alley with a small store room and toilets. Phase II was planned to include a stage, dressing rooms, additional toilets and a lounge / club room. By May 1968 the project was ready to go with, among other things, the lease having been approved with the landowner [Ushers Brewery Ltd.]. The Committee was just waiting for final confirmation from the DES for further grant aid approval before commencing the build, but had the necessary funds to complete the project without it. It was later noted that the village had raised more than £2,800 **over 25 years** for the Village Hall, with nearly 1/2 being raised since October 1964.

While minor lease and planning approval matters were holding up the project in October 1968, work started soon after, and excellent progress was made by February 1969: the foundations and drains were almost finished, the car park was complete, and the main structure was being built at Midsomer Norton. By March 1969, however, further funds were urgently requested from villagers, by way of a general appeal, in order to fund the cost of the access and to fence the site.

The opening ceremony for the Hall took place on 21 Jun 1969 at 3pm, and it was officially opened by the Deputy Chairman of Wilts. C.C.: Teas, a Variety Show, and a Dance all followed.

At this stage, the Village Hall Committee was trying to balance fairly the cost of running the Hall and the income to be raised from users. Total costs were estimated at £10 a week and a tariff of charges was drawn up: these ranged from 10/- [50p] per session for village societies and clubs to £12 for non-local wedding receptions. The Committee recognised that these charges would fall short of income requirements, and anticipated further general fund-raising efforts to address any deficit.

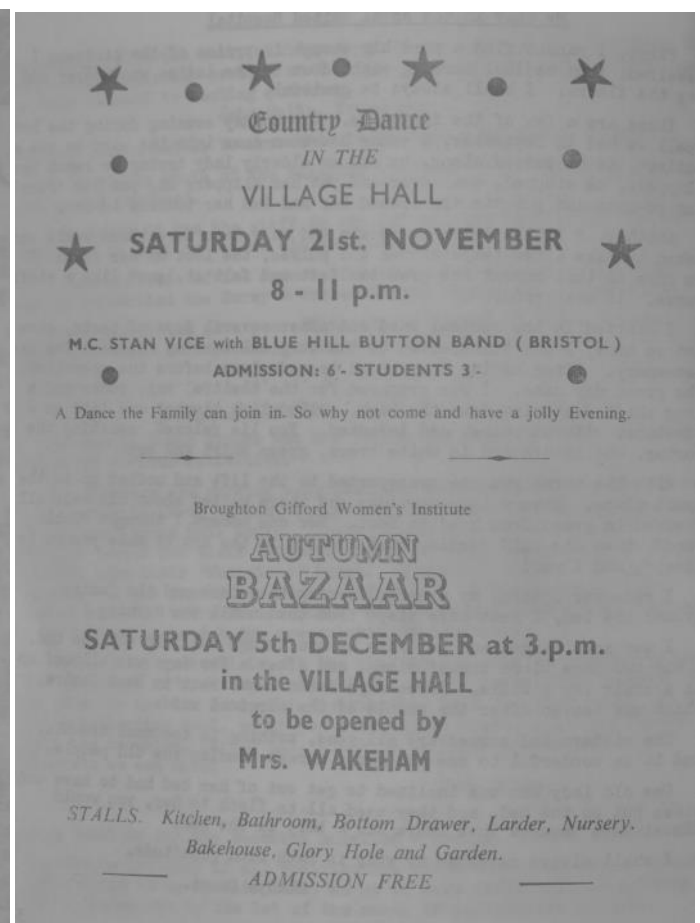
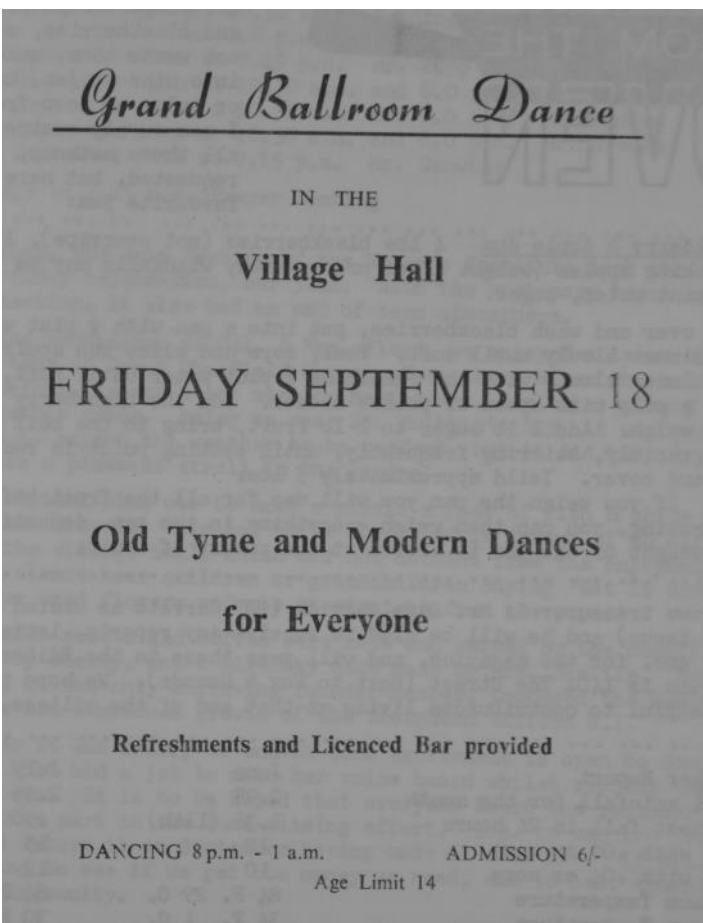
The first AGM was held in September 1969. It was reported that some of the planned Phase I activities were outstanding [and awaiting sufficient funds for their purchase]: these were fencing, games equipment, and additional furniture. The December issue of the magazine published a letter from Jack Rudman who was moved to say that he, Eric Barrett, and others attended the very first Committee Meeting regarding a proposed village hall at Broughton House - this was in 1944! In January 1970, the Village Magazine had its own take on the matter:



In July 1970, a sponsored walk for Hall funds was held. Eight hardy walkers assembled at The Bell at 10.30 am on the 11th, making their way to the far side of the common, then on to the Longs Arms at South Wraxall, and thence to

Batheaston and Bath Abbey [where they arrived at 2 pm]. Nearly £53 was raised!

Events held later that year in the hall included the following:



Nearly two years after the opening of the Hall, in April 1971, the Committee - as a means of thanking villagers for making the Hall a success - announced a free afternoon party for all the children in the village, aged between 4 and 11, comprising tea, games and "*an entertainment*". Also announced, to be held on the 30th, was a "Discotheque Dance" [between 9 pm and 1 am], featuring music from "*The Sound Trek Discotheque*". There was also an Anniversary Dance in June, which was judged to be so successful that another dance was to be held in October, with music from "*The Three of Clubs*".

Note must also be made of the use being made of the Hall in its early years: as an example, in January 1975, the Hall was booked nearly every day, Sundays excluded, with the following roster of events and activities: bingo [Wednesdays], men's skittles [Thursdays], ladies' skittles [Mondays, fortnightly], youth disco [alternate Saturdays], youth club [Mondays], film show, Mother's Union, W.I., Young Wives, PCC, 200 Club social, Parish Council, Clinic [Tuesday 28th] and a handful of private bookings.

Events at Christmas proved to be particularly popular. For example, in December 1976 there were: Whist Drive & Grand Draw; Christmas Dance [Friday, 17th] - with dancing to "*Neon Rainbeaux*" [described as a four piece band from Bristol playing "*only 'good' pop music*" from the early sixties to music "*from today's charts*"; New Year's Eve Dance - with Dancing to "*Gypsy*" formerly "*The Hoedowners*" who, apparently, specialised in Country & Western with numbers by "The Seekers" and "The Carpenters" thrown in, and, in addition to the usual Youth Disco in early December, a Christmas Youth Disco, with "*Elastic Band*".

The Village Hall Fundraising Committee was constantly active: for example, there was the successful Donkey Derby on the common in 1972, and, in March 1978, a "March Hare Dance" featuring "*Rufus Discotainment*" who recreated the "*era of the great dance bands...but also including the fresh sounds of the 70's*" [but presumably not including Punk Music!]. This was followed, in March 1979, by a "Spring Dance & Cabaret" again featuring "*Rufus Discotainment*" who were described this time as "*the best in not only Disco, but ALL dance music*", and also on the bill was Ken Harris the "*professional, country-style comic*".

Finally, in July 1979, the Committee organised a "Summer Scene" with all sorts of entertainment: plate smashing, wellie boot throwing, treasure hunts, a beer tent [provided by Watneys], Devizes Boys Brigade marching band, and a Disco! To give an idea of the scale of the operation, on the Tuesday before the event the Marquees were delivered and were put up on Wednesday, the Beer Tent arrived on Thursday, and on Friday, the eve of the event itself: "*a dozen or so trestle tables, sundry small tables, 60 chairs, the complete bowling alley and the whole stage were all moved out of the hall to the common by tractor and trailer*".

I get the distinct impression that the 1970s was a good, and lively, decade for those living in Broughton Gifford!

More next time...

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Broughton Gifford Gardening Society March 2020 Meeting



Our March meeting on Monday 2nd was yet another departure from the usual talk and slides event. I'd booked Jenny Tidman, a consultant at the Malmesbury Garden Centre, on the strength of her website page and the wealth of experience she had. What the website didn't tell me was her height and at about four foot ten I almost missed her coming in! What's more I'm not sure how many of the seated members saw much of her.

Nevertheless, throughout her talk, entitled "Royal Parks Apprenticeship – RHS to Kew", Jenny entertained us with tales of her experiences – some hilarious and some that could make one's blood boil. Apparently she didn't care for the way that apprentices (including herself) were sometimes treated and fought for - and won – fairer conditions.

It seems that the Royal Parks were staffed by some "interesting" characters who considered apprentices to be a godsend as they would do all the work, leaving the qualified staff to pursue other lines of interest.

Despite or perhaps because of all this, Jenny gained great respect within the horticultural sphere, preparing the plants used to dress the Royal Hall for international royalty, achieving distinction in garden and landscape design and lecturing at Kew on plant identification, amongst other things.

She kept us entertained and informed for over an hour before looking at me and asking "How long did you want me to talk?" Regrettably, as I could already hear dry throats behind me I had to call a halt to the talk. And we never got to Kew!

Never mind, that's for next time.

Tony Cooper – Chairman



Broughton Gifford Gardening Society Cancellation of Events



In line with current government advice, the Committee has decided to cancel the following events:

Monday 6th April	Spring Show
Saturday 16th May	Plant Sale
Saturday 6th June	Coach Trip to RHS Wisley

For the time being, we hope you enjoy good health and your garden and you can dream of all the first prizes you would have won at the Spring Show.

Tony Cooper – Chairman

Message from B-O-A Museum Research Group: Can you help?

Bradford on Avon Museum Research Group is creating an interactive database of the Bradford Hundred for the museum, which includes Broughton Gifford.

This involves collating every historical aspect of the area and we wondered if you might have any articles/know of a local history group/people via the Broughton Gifford Magazine, who may have information which would be valuable to us? Many historical facts are already online, and we will be using these, but there may be other bits of information local people know - anything from prehistoric onwards!

Jane Mann: janemann54@btinternet.com

[I'm sure that there are lots of villagers with plenty of information that would be of interest to the Group. For those not on email, please contact Roseanne on 782722 and she will put you in touch with Jane—Ed]



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ATWORTH CAMERA CLUB FEBRUARY MEETING

Clive Greenland explained how he Planned, Photographed, Processed and Printed a single image in our meeting on Monday 24th February. He had been an official photographer at the Wiltshire Armed Forces & Veterans Celebrations (WAFVC) 1914 -1918 World War 1 held in Trowbridge in 2019 and



his presentation centred on an image of the Red Arrows display team flying over the War Memorial and which needed careful preparation to capture the moment. Clive had worked out the angle from which the aircraft would approach and just where he needed to stand in order to capture the planes at the right moment. This involved working out the best aperture, speed, and focal point to ensure both the aircraft and the statue were in focus. The display team turned up almost two minutes early, but Clive quickly responded and managed to capture the image required. Afterwards he cropped the photo to include only those elements needed for the final image, converted it to mono, and slightly tweaked the lighting to ensure all the details were clearly visible. Clive then explained his choice of paper that would give the final printed image the required impact. He went on to show a number of other images he had captured at the event, including a World War I tank, and

people in various contemporary uniforms.

After the break Rex Haythornthwaite showed a couple of pictures of a sparrowhawk he had taken in his garden, asking for member's help on how to improve images taken through windows. Alan Lee completed the evening by showing a personal selection of pictures that illustrated colour, shape and texture, plus some old vehicles, sunsets, fireworks and some problem pictures.

The club has reluctantly decided to postpone all future meetings until the present crisis has passed.

Alan Lee

alanwlee@btinternet.com

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Here and There.

The Australians have a word for it: crook. I woke up feeling real crook and I was sure that I had a virus. The fact that I had lunched a few days earlier with someone who had recently flown in from the Far East, probably helped me in this decision. However, on checking them, my symptoms certainly were not those of Covid-9. Nevertheless, I decided to self-isolate. It was a good time to do this. It was raining outside, the rugby internationals were on the television and I had a good book.

It is difficult to see where Coronavirus is leading us. President Trump has decided that selective self-isolation is the answer for the United States; selective, that is, for everyone but him. It seems that even he has come to accept that it might not be 'fake news'. The Cheltenham Festival has been allowed to take place, but since then it appears that every sporting event, including Mouse Racing in the Village Hall has come to a standstill. Will the Olympics take place in Tokyo this summer? What will happen to the BG Games in July? In the village the first actual victim appears to have been one of the church quizzes that was due to take place in the Village Hall, which was cancelled. This was closely followed by the Monday morning Open the Book session for the children in the school. Just in a matter of days, what appeared as no more than a distant threat is now affecting all of us.

This is a village with many elderly people, many of whom are lonely. How are the over-seventies going to react to self-isolation for three months? How will they manage with their shopping? I gather that there is a move afoot on Facebook to create a support team.

It is sad to learn of the death from cancer of Richard Hall, who for a number of years served Broughton Gifford as a Parish Councillor. I think he would not be unhappy to be described as having been a faithful supporter of the hospitality industry in the village.

One reason I am happy to be a man here is that there is no chance of my being seduced into joining the Saturday morning Ladies' Boot Camp. The very words fill me with fear. I hear that they have been on the march from the Scout Hut to the Village Hall. This seems to suggest that there is increasing demand for their punishing regime. I think that I, if I had to make the choice, would prefer to attend the t'ai chi classes.

The current fashion for naming storms confuses me. I thought that it was the Irish who held the naming rights and that they were alternatively masculine and feminine. We suffered from Ciara and Dennis, who were then followed swiftly and wetly by Jorge. Where did he come from? Whatever happened to Eithne, Fergus, Gael, Harry and Imogen? Were they highjacked by a Spanish takeover?



We Will Remember Them - revisited

Robert James Ellery



Last month we learnt about Private Ellery's service career to the time he died in Baku, Azerbaijan on 6 May 1919. We will now look at how he died and the outcome of investigations. Next month we will consider his burial and memorials and ask why he isn't remembered in the village.

Private Robert Ellery belonged to a party of North Staffordshires who had been brought in from Balakham by rail to join a demobilisation train at Baku, Azerbaijan. The train's departure was delayed in Baku by a strike and as a result the party was kept in the trucks that brought them in. At 0700hrs on the 6 May Sgt A H Cooper, of the 7th N. Staffs. Regt. tried to wake Pte Ellery but found he was dead.

By 1030hrs Pte Ellery's body had arrived at the 25th Casualty Clearing Station where a post mortem was carried out by Capt F E Reynolds. Amongst his observations he noted 'smell characteristic of alcohol been taken'. The cause of death was recorded as 'Death due to suffocation'.



On the 7 May 1919 a court of enquiry was convened at the headquarters of 7th Gloucestershire Regt for '*Enquiring into and reporting upon the circumstances under which Private Ellery met his death*'. There were five witnesses.

The first witness was Sgt A H Cooper. He stated that on the 5 May at approximately 1600hrs he had seen Pte Ellery sitting on his kit in the railway truck, drinking from a bottle of wine. He did not appear to be under the influence of liquor at this time. At 2100hrs, Sgt Cooper returned to the railway truck to turn in. Pte Ellery was lying in a huddled position with his head on another man's kit and Sgt Cooper lay down with his head at Pte Ellery's feet. At 0700hrs the next morning he found Pte Ellery laying in the same position as he was overnight, quite dead. Sgt Cooper further explained that there were 21 men in the railway truck with full kit and equipment and there was not room for all men to lie down to sleep at the same time. He said there was no ragging, everybody was quiet and down to it by 2100hrs.

The remaining witnesses provided similar evidence, saying the truck was over-crowded, and they had seen Pte Ellery sitting in the railway truck smoking a pipe and he seemed cheerful and sober.

After listening to the evidence, the findings of the court was as follows: '*The evidence is very meagre and unsatisfying. We are of the opinion that the carriage was over-crowded, but it is difficult to determine how Pte Ellery met his death by suffocation.*'

The findings and post mortem report were forwarded to Brigadier-General Shuttleworth, Commanding Officer 39th Infantry Brigade. After reviewing all the evidence he decided that the cause of death '*... was due to suffocation caused by alcoholic excess*'.

A letter dated 24 May from Major-General Cory, Commanding 27th Division concurred with the decision but added, '*I do not consider that there was sufficient overcrowding in the truck to have caused suffocation.*' By today's standards this could be considered a controversial outcome, especially as the witnesses stated that Pte Ellery appeared quite sober. Next month we will consider his burial and memorial.

Kay Cumming 783484

Your views on Community Transport

This is an idea that I posted on Facebook Broughton Gifford Village events. Clearly not everyone in the village sees Facebook so I was asked to share my thoughts with the wider village via the magazine.

The idea was about sorting out some form of community transport in the Village. It has become apparent to me of late that the public transport systems in Broughton Gifford are not great - the buses run infrequently and end early and there is no alternative other than, what can be for many, expensive taxis to get anywhere. Some argue that the buses are not used but, to be fair, the times they run are not great and they may get you somewhere but they are unlikely to get you back at a later hour.

I had it in mind to start up a Facebook group for Broughton Gifford only where people could just informally ask/post if someone was going somewhere on a particular day or time. This is something I have seen done often in general posting on Social Media, but I think it's a little bit more complicated than that and would need a bit of thinking about. Obviously you would need to know the person offering you a lift and there are other questions - would you be held accountable if there was an accident, would the person administrating such a group be accountable etc...etc...can it really be as simple as having a notice board? There are more formal ways to move forward such as 'Community First' but, again, if this is a potential service people would use who would kick-start its organisation?

It would be good to hear what people think about the idea and if could be taken forward. In an age where we are encouraged to car share and cut down emissions it would all be a good thing.

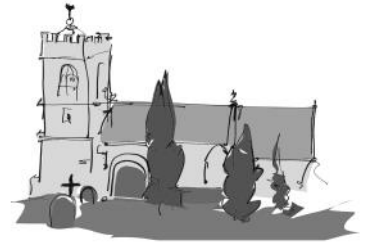
Perhaps it's something that the Parish Council can set their mind to. In any event let's discuss the pros and cons. It may be that you have no access to Social Media so you can forward your ideas to the magazine who might publish them.

Steve Meggs

[This sounds like a great idea Steve—thank you! If anyone is interested in how we can make this work, please do get in touch via email or the number at the back of the magazine—Ed]



Notice from St Mary's



You may have heard that all churches have been asked to cancel Sunday services. This means there are no services in St Mary's for at least the next few weeks. Regular events like Saved by the Bell are also on hold. We are posting worship and prayer resources online, and plan to video and stream some services online. If you would like to have a link to a range of previous and current talks, or to the resources we are sharing, then please email: united.benefice@outlook.com and we can add you to the mailing list. And do get in touch if you would like prayer or just someone to talk to if you are worried or concerned.

Every blessing from the team at St Mary's

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Andrew writes.....

How Is God Calling Us To React In The Coronavirus Crisis?

There is no doubt that we live in challenging times. We are called to make wise decisions based on the best information available each day.

We are called to live by faith and not by fear. Some people in our communities will be paralysed by fear. We can ask God to give us his peace. In John 14:27, Jesus tells us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" and he goes on to add, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." The peace that Jesus gives us is powerful and has supernatural strength that is beyond our understanding. Try asking God to give you his peace. We can offer others this peace.

We may see others living by fear, but we are called not to panic but to live with our full trust placed in God. He is a good father and we need to keep our minds focussed on his goodness and trust Him. Talking to God in prayer is a real help here.

Sickness comes from the devil and not from God. The world is currently being shaken by this virus, and we are called to model something different from fear. We are called to pray and we can usefully pray for the release of vaccines, and for our medical community. Fear can give way to faith, as we pray. Those of us who are able, can look out for the most vulnerable. We can get the right information and help out where we can.

Loneliness can increase fear, and we were not created to be alone. Staying in touch with those who are vulnerable will be a lifeline. Can you keep in touch by phone with those you know are isolated?

2 Corinthians 5:7 tells us' "We live by faith and not by sight". This is a great gift to us. The world is facing an unseen threat, and it's like we are finding ourselves living for real in an episode of Dr Who. Many people will react to the circumstances by panic buying and in desperation. We have the opportunity to live differently. We have the opportunity to model generosity. We are called to be sacrificial and not selfish.

How can we pull together as a community? When we are facing adversity, it is better to face it together. As the church, we want to be there for all and especially for those who find that they are struggling with anxiety. You may or may not want a visit at present, but we can offer to talk and pray with you over the phone. We are also here to chat and keep in contact with you, and offer practical help for those who are self-isolating. Call the office on 782717 and we will get back to you.

With Every Blessing

Canon Andrew Evans

MINUTES of a Council Meeting of Broughton Gifford Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at Broughton Gifford Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Hooper (Chairman), and Cllrs Andrews, Freeman, Griffiths, Haslewood, Johnson, Lumley, Monk, Turner, Webb, and Wright

Apologies: None

In attendance: Georgina Berry, Parish Clerk

Also present: Phil Alford, councillor for Melksham Without North

1920/107 **Preliminaries:**

- a. **Apologies:** None received
- b. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Freeman declared an interest in agenda point 1920/108 i. and took no part in the discussion or decision making.

Standing orders were suspended to allow a period of public participation

1920/108 **Public Participation and Police Report:**

- a. **Public Participation:** Phil Alford updated the council on Melksham Without North matters. There is to be a consultation on the bypass which will go on the Beanacre side of Melksham. The government have pledged £135million for the work but first Wiltshire council must put forward a detailed proposal; the government has given £1.5million for this to be completed.

Phil also spoke about the Public Open Spaces fund, there is a £10,000 pot which community groups can apply for to improve their public open spaces. £4,000 of this will be given in the form of large capital items, groups can request the purchase of large pieces of equipment but it will all be stored centrally and will be available for all groups to use. The remaining £6,000 will be for small grants of up to £500.

Phil also noted that there are now detached Youth Workers working at the skate park. Phil will also forward on information on self-isolation and the coronavirus. **Resolved:** *The Clerk to publish the guidance on BGPC website and notice boards, where possible.*

- i. **Top Road Association** – The council noted the further advice received from the NALC legal team **Resolved:** *The Clerk to adjust the official statement and send to TCRRRA in due course.*
- b. **Police report:** There was no crime reported in Broughton Gifford for the period. *The council reconvened.*

1920/109 **Finance:**

- a. **Receipts:** **Resolved:** *The following receipts were noted:*

	Description	£
	Interest	2.84

- b. **Payments:** **Resolved:**

1. The council noted that the following accounts had been paid since the last meeting

Authority	Description	£
LGA 1972 s 112(2)	Clerk Salary	680.18
LGA 1972 s.111	Purchase of 'The Clerks Manual 2019'	52.30

LGA 1972 s.111	WALC – Preparing for Year End Course	42.00
LG(MP)A 1976 s.19(3)	Kennet Sign & Display – new playground sign	168.00
LGA 1894 s.8(1)(i)	SSE – The Stone Barn	50.76
LGPSR 2013 (SI 2013/2356)	Nest Pension Costs	12.27

2. The following accounts were checked and approved for payment:

Authority	Description	£
PHA 1936 s.125	Wessex Water – Annual bill for cemetery	177.00
RTRA 1984 s.72	CATG contribution for Mill Lane signage	928.90
LGPSR 2013 (SI 2013/2356)	Nest – Pension payment	29.77
LGA 1972 s 112(2)	HMRC – NI Contributions	79.44
LGA 1972 s.214(2)	Outside In – Tidy up of cemetery	80.00
LGA 1972 s 150(2)	Melksham News – APM advert	55.68

c. **Current Bank Balances: Resolved:** The following balances as at 29th February 2020 were noted:

Current (Treasurer's Account)	10,132.44
Deposit (Instant Access)	<u>64,683.30</u>
TOTAL	74,815.74

- d. Cemetery charges: the clerk reported that the cemetery grant received from Wiltshire council doesn't cover the cost of the work that needs to be done to maintain the cemetery. The clerk also reported that the cemetery fees hadn't been increased since 2017. **Resolved:** The cemetery fees to increase in line with Wiltshire Council 2019/20 fees for non-residents. The fees for residents would also increase but by just 10%.
- e. Internal Audit: The Clerk asked the current internal auditor to provide a comparative quote but also to quote for the role of Internal Controller. The auditor thanked the council for the opportunity but decided to step down from the role **Resolved:** 1. the clerk to engage the specialist internal audit company 2. Cllr Lumley will take on the role of internal controller
- f. Calor gas have a Rural Community Fund that is open for applications from local groups. **Resolved:** The clerk will disseminate the information as appropriate
- g. APM Advert: The council approved the payment of £46.40+VAT but asked the clerk to investigate whether it was a legal requirement to advertise in the local paper. If not, BGPC would not give authority to pay it. **Resolved:** The clerk to investigate

1920/110 **Planning:**

- a. 20/01966/TCA, 1 Cannings Close, SN12 8FQ, Tree felling in residential garden
Resolved: No objections

1920/111 **Previous Council Meeting:**

- a. Minutes of the February 12th 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting **Resolved:** The minutes of these meetings be formally approved by the council and signed by the chairman as a correct record.

- 1920/112 **Footpath, highway, and footway issues:**
- a. The council had been approached by a resident. They have to drive over a patch of common land to reach their driveway. This patch of land is very muddy and can be difficult to traverse. They wish to lay a permanent drive way over common land. The council discussed the issue and was sympathetic to the issue. **Resolved:** *The council decided that anything permanent was not acceptable but gravel would be permitted. It was felt that it would set a precedent and that the council must protect any and all common land. Cllr Hooper will discuss with the residents.*
 - b. The council discussed the detailed speed management plans received from Wiltshire Council. All was agreed except for Site 3; the trees and tree boxes on the common. **Resolved:** *The council will source their own trees and tree boxes.*
 - c. The council noted the Proposed Traffic Regulation order for consultation. It is proposed that speed limit on B3107 Bradford Road and C212 Melksham Lane, C211 East Lane and B3107 Melksham Road is reduced to 50mph. **Resolved:** *BGPC has no objections*
- 1920/113 **Parish Maintenance:**
- a. The council noted the village caretakers report **Resolved:** *The clerk to liaise with him directly*
 - b. Yearly Grazing Rights Holder Meeting **Resolved:** *it was deemed unnecessary this year*
 - c. Thistle and weed treatment on the common **Resolved:** *it wasn't felt necessary to treat the common for weeds and thistles but all councillors to keep an eye on the nettles and they will be treated as and when necessary*
 - d. Willow tree quotations **resolved:** *to seek quotes again in September when the trimmed branches can be placed on the bonfire*
 - e. The council discussed the idea of wild flower planting while the idea itself was well received it was decided that the verge wasn't the best place to put them. **Resolved:** *the clerk to discuss with the tree planting committee*
- 1920/114 **General Correspondence:** *The council noted the following correspondence:*
- a. NALC – Job Vacancy, Yarm Town Council
 - b. NALC – Chief executive's bulletin 07/02/2020
 - c. Wiltshire Council – Briefing note 20-09 – 'Changes to recycling collections'
 - d. SLCC Wiltshire – Training Day Programme 2020
 - e. NALC – Job Vacancy, Crewe Town Council
 - f. WALC – WALC News, February 2020
 - g. NALC – NALC Newsletter 12/02/2020
 - h. NALC – Spring Conference 2020
 - i. NALC – Chief executive's bulletin 14/02/2020
 - j. NALC – NALC Study Tour 2020/21
 - k. SLCC Wiltshire – Job Vacancy, Potterne Parish Council
 - l. SLCC Membership – News Bulletin 21/02/2020
 - m. NALC – Chief executive's bulletin 21/02/2020
 - n. Wiltshire Council – Briefing note 20-10 'A summary of the governments £220m "better deal for bus users"
 - o. Wiltshire Council – Briefing note 20-11 'Working in partnership with town and Parish Councils'
 - p. PSMA – PSMA News, February 2020

- q. NALC – Chief executive’s bulletin 28/02/2020
- r. Wiltshire Council – Strom response, Grass Cutting, Great British Spring Clean, Fly Tipping, Parking charges
- s. NALC – Help NALC in its ground-breaking research on dementia
- t. Wiltshire Council – Our Community Matters Conference – Melksham
- u. NALC – Job vacancy, Ivers Parish Council
- v. Wiltshire Council – Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Local stakeholder information – Wiltshire
- w. SLCC – The Real Clerking Challenge Event plus an appeal for help!
- x. SLCC Membership – News bulletin – 06/03/2020

1920/115 **Clerk’s Report:**

- a. The Clerk presented the draft APM agenda **Resolved:** *APM agenda approved*

1920/116 **Date of next meeting:**

- a. Wednesday 8th April 2020 – Ordinary Council Meeting

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10 pm

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Broughton Gifford Parish Council	Clerk - Georgina Berry Chairman - Martin Hooper	782423
St Mary's Church	Rector - Rev Andrew Evans Rev Ann Fielden	782289 782509
Broughton Gifford Gardening Society	Chairman - Tony Cooper	782711
Village Hall	Bookings - Vince & Sylvia Davis	783332
Women's Institute	President - Lesley Holdway Secretary - Sheila Cleverley	782092 704849
St Mary's Primary School	Head Teacher—Pauline Orchard	782223
Broughton Gifford Pre-School	Play Leader—Bev Grylls	782638
Broughton Gifford Toddler Group (0-4yrs) Village Hall (Thurs 9.30-11.30) Term Time	Rebecca Findley	07702 214005
1st Broughton Gifford & Holt Scout Group	Group Scout Leader - Anne Cranham	704638
Broughton Gifford Bowls Club	Secretary - Suzanne Holmes	519303
Broughton Gifford Cricket Club	Tom Gerrish	07450 994355
Piecemakers	Vicki Dory	07734 320548
The Friendship Club	Chris Pitura	782179
Broughton Gifford Village Magazine	Editorial contact in April - Charlotte Godsiffe Distribution / Delivery - Sian Hamilton	07927 016916 783561

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Wiltshire Police - Non Emergency Number	101
Environment Agency (Free) - Incident Hotline (24 hours)	0800 807 060
Environment Agency (Local) - Floodline (24 hours)	0845 9881188
Wessex Water (Free) - Leakstoppers (24 hours)	0800 692 0692
Wiltshire Council - Switchboard & General Enquiries	0300 456 0100
Wiltshire Council regarding problems with Recycling and waste collections	0300 456 0102
roads / drains / streetlights / highway / flooding	0300 456 0105

VILLAGE CALENDAR

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Tues 7th	Mobile Library, o/s Rusty Stag, 10.30 am to 11.00 am
Tues 7th	Quiet Garden, Great Chalfield, Speaker: Rev. Tracey Lewis, 09.00 am-3.00 pm
Wed 8th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm

**M
A
Y**

Wed 13th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
Wed 20th	W.I. Meeting, Village Hall, 2.30 pm

Stop Press!

In light of the rapidly developing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, please check with organisers whether any of these events are going ahead. At the time of going to press, these were the only village events in the calendar but even these may be cancelled/postponed by the time you receive your magazine. Thank you!

The deadline for next month's issue is 19th of this month. Articles and one-line entries for this calendar should be emailed to: bgvillagemagazine@gmail.com

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