

The Villager

Minsterworth News



Cherry Trees flowering at the Village Hall

Simon Ruffley

May 2024

Edition 257

Dear readers,

On Saturday April 13th Simon and I joined our friends from Somerset on the Forest of Dean Parkrun, at Mallard's Pike with me on my trike. Thoroughly recommended as a way to kick-start your weekend with a free lakeside 5k. Brilliantly organised & some pushing prams too.

Great to see comedy is well and truly back on in Minsterworth, see p24! At last the water is finally going down in the fields but the rain still keeps on trying.

And just look at how much time the Cuckoo spends migrating and how little time it spends in the UK – all that effort! p22.

Don't forget the Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 Monday 29th April at the Village Hall P6. Your chance to get involved.

All items for consideration to: -

Paula Ruffley, Editor The Villager E-mail:

Tel: 07905 694612

thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com

Deadline is ALWAYS 10th of the month before the magazine is published, so for June it's Friday 10th May or can be a few days later **by arrangement**.

Responsibility is not accepted for the accuracy of submitted items nor the content of advertisements.

KERBSIDE May 2024

GREEN & BROWN bin & caddy (landfill) (garden)		BLUE bin & caddy (recycling)	
Wednesday	8	Tuesday	14
Tuesday	21	Wednesday	29

Please put your recycling bin & caddy out the night before, where possible.



An unconventional way to open the May edition of The Villager perhaps but also a delicious one.



If you grow rhubarb May is a great month for you.

It's easy to grow and can be used for jams, puddings and drinks. It's important not to pick rhubarb if still in it's first year, as it will need more time to establish.

Be sure not to eat the poisonous leaves.



The recipe below is for simple rhubarb bars that should be kept in the fridge.

Step 1 the base In a bowl, combine 250g flour and 50g sugar. Rub in 125g butter until it resembles coarse crumbs.

Step 2 the filling In a bowl, combine 400g sugar and 7 tablespoons of flour. Whisk in 250g cream and 3 eggs. Stir in 800g to 1kg of chopped rhubarb. Pour over the baked base and bake for 40-45 minutes, at 350 degrees. Take out of the oven to cool.



Step 3 the topping In a bowl beat 150g cream cheese, 50g sugar then fold in 250g whipped cream. Spread over the filling and put in the fridge to chill, store ready to serve.

D DAY LANDING COMMEMORATION

With the 80th anniversary of the D Day landings due to be commemorated on 6th June, it is perhaps an apt opportunity to remind ourselves of the magnitude of the event, with 10,000 lives lost by the end of the first day. This is very well summarised on the D Day Commemoration website <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/d-day> which states

About D-Day

Unprecedented coordination between Allied nations, and the intensive planning of engineers, meteorologists, logisticians and countless more, led to a force from 13 countries approaching Normandy in a 5000-vessel armada.

In the early hours of D-Day, 24,000 paratroopers and glider-borne troops landed behind German lines to provide tactical support. Massive naval and aerial bombardments attempted to suppress the German defences and weaponry. Then a ground force of more than 130,000 troops came ashore on five beaches across a 50-mile stretch of Normandy coast, with the first waves often facing intact defences. By the end of D-Day there had been 10,000 allied casualties. Yet this was only the beginning. The ensuing Battle of Normandy was to last into August and cost tens of thousands of lives as it defeated and repulsed the occupying German forces eastwards. It was a decisive success for the Allies and paved the way for the liberation of much of north west Europe.

It is important that we remember what others have done for us, and this is so succinctly stated in 'the Kohima', which is recited on Remembrance Day each year

When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say, For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today

The City of Kohima, on the border of India and Burma (now Myanmar), was the point at which the 1944 Japanese invasion into India was halted during WW2. There was enormous loss of life on both sides, and the above wording is inscribed on a War Memorial at the site to commemorate the 1,420 Allied Servicemen lost in the conflict. The British Legion website states that the verse is attributed to John Maxwell Edmonds (1875-1958) and is thought to have been inspired by the epitaph written by Simonides of Ceos to honour the Greeks who fell at the Battle of Thermopylae in 480BC.



07976896255

adamshayletreeservices@outlook.com

adamshayletreeservices.co.uk



Fully Insured & Qualified



Minsterworth wine tasting

A good turnout for Simon and Vic's face-off between wines from France and New Zealand. The winner? France.



NEW FLOORING IN THE VILLAGE HALL LEGION ROOM

The Village Hall Committee are pleased to report that the flooring in the Legion Room has been replaced. We did give the floor a massive clean a few years ago, making it look brighter and cleaner, but it was still showing signs of age, so it's now been renewed with a more modern material.



The old



The new

We hope to continue making improvements to the hall, which remains available for hire by Village residents.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MONDAY 29TH APRIL 7-30PM AT MINSTERWORTH VILLAGE HALL

The **Annual Parish Meeting** is an opportunity for residents to be updated on activity and events in the Village which have been overseen by Minsterworth Parish Council. The Chair of Parish Council will present a summary of the year's activities, and there will be reports from the flood and snow warden and others. We have asked Rueben Croft, our newly appointed PCSO Officer if he is able to attend and await a response.

It is also an opportunity for residents to comment on what changes or improvements they would like to see in the following year. On this occasion, there is no '3-minute rule' in relation to what each resident can state.

Tea/coffee served from 7-15pm, so let's make it a social occasion



Newent and District Probis Club

Did you know that Rupert Brooke's immortal poem *The Soldier*, if not written there, was probably conceived locally in Dymock. Brooke was a member of an itinerant and loosely formed group who regularly met together there, becoming known as the Dymock Poets and then the War Poets just prior to and during the First World War.

Also did you know that as an independent charity, The Midlands Air Ambulance Charity (MAAC) receives no funding from Government, the NHS or the National Lottery. The annual budget for operating their fleet is currently £13 - £14 million, all of which must be raised through donations.

Club members learnt these and many other interesting facts from two of our recent speakers' talks. Talks planned for May and June include: *The man who revolutionised farming – Harry Ferguson*, *The City of London*, and *The Great Train Robbery*.

If you are a retired or semi-retired professional businessman looking for something new to do in 2024, then why not consider joining us at the Newent and District Probis Club to listen to one of these talks. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Village Hall, Gorsley, for tea & coffee, followed by a talk from a guest speaker. Being part of Probis fosters a sense of camaraderie amongst its members. It provides a supportive and inclusive environment where individuals can enjoy each other's company and share experiences. Our activities contribute to a well-rounded social experience for members.

We are a very friendly group, so if you would like to meet others in similar circumstances and with like interests, why not simply come along to one of our regular meetings and find out from our members what they enjoy about the Club. You will be made very welcome.

For more information:

Visit our website: newentprobis.com

or

Contact our Club Secretary: newentprobis23@gmail.com

*The best things in life are free.
The second best are **very** expensive
Coco Chanel*



Minsterworth & District Royal British Legion

As reported in the April Villager our meeting was held in the Legion Room on 10th April, attended by only 7 members.

Our main item and deep discussion was the Special General Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th June at 7pm regarding the future of the branch. Only active and paid up members who attend may participate in any voting.

MILITARY HISTORY

May 8 th 1945	VE Day
May 9 th 1941	German Enigma machine captured
May 20 th 1941	Invasion of Crete
May 21 st 1982	Landings in San Carlos
May 22 nd 1982	Landings at Ajax Bay
May 24 th 1943	Germans call off the Battle of the Atlantic
May 27 th 1941	Bismarck sunk
May 31 st 1916	Battle of Jutland

Terry Bourne – President
Minsterworth & District R.B.L.



One if the last coal-powered sheep.
Most are all electric now.

Terry Moore-Scott

I would have thought they were solar powered! Paula



Minsterworth Parish Council (MPC) April 2024

(This article is a summary of the Parish Council meeting and does not represent the minutes of the meeting)

Borough Cllr Jill Smith reported on activities of TBC. The National Flood Forum – a charity to support people at risk of flooding, have a mobile drop-in van at Minsterworth Village Hall on Thursday 25th April from 9.30am – 1 pm. It would be good if residents could support. The Transformation team at TBC has a new flood mapping system online going live next month. It encourages everyone who floods to contact the council so that they have the extent of the damage. TBC is administering a new Capital Grant Scheme from the Government to help enable energy efficiency measures in Community buildings. The grants are from £2,500 to £25,000 Applications must be submitted by 24th May 2024, so substantial awards are available.

County Cllr Paul McLain added that Glos County Council (GCC) will make interim payments towards flood damage, and then funds can be reclaimed from central government. GCC are looking for more electric vehicle charging point sites. Cllr McLain agreed to help reconvene a meeting with Highways and Mark Harper, so that some of the points discussed earlier in the year could at last be actioned, and to help the Parish Council extend the lease on the playground, as this would then allow us to bid for grants for improved play equipment.

Appointment of new Clerk. Following the resignation of Jo Badham, the PC were pleased to announce that they had received 22 applications for the post. A subcommittee had selected 4 candidates for interview, and the successful candidate, Kate Wilks, joined us as an observer at the meeting. Kate officially started in post later in April. We hope she enjoys her time with us.

Improving our Village Greens – a draft document was discussed, the outline of which is to keep a path regularly cut around the outside of both greens to encourage walkers, and to pay for cutting the main area twice a year. Refinements needed to the plan will be made and presented to PC in May.

Minsterworth Speed camera – as it's solar powered, it works better with increasing daylength. Ten speeding vehicles have been reported to the police in the past 2 weeks. Repeat offenders have so far only been identified as speeding twice, so perhaps receiving letters from the police does have an effect!

Miscellaneous – discussion on repair/replacement of the Parish noticeboard outside of the village hall; Kings portrait has been ordered and awaiting delivery.

Next Meetings

7-00pm Monday 29th April 2024 – Annual Parish Meeting see p6. This is where the Chair and others will report on events through the year and is an opportunity for residents to voice their concerns over what they would like to see changed or improved in our village.





7-00pm Monday 13th May 2024 – Parish Council Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council to elect a Chair etc for the year.

IMPROVING OUR VILLAGE

The Parish Council have been successful in applying for a grant for two park bench picnic tables. The first has been erected in the playground area in Church Lane, just below the Harvey Centre (thanks to Malcolm for help in fixing). The second is currently in storage awaiting a final decision for its siting. Should the weather eventually dry up, it would be good to see the Park being used again!



It would be nice to replace some of the play equipment for children, but unfortunately the Park is leased from Gloucester County Council on a short-term lease, and this means that we are not eligible for the majority of grants for play equipment. The lease is being looked into however, and we are hoping that a recent fresh approach to our County Councillor will produce results.

HARVEY CENTRE MAY 2024	
<p>MON</p> 	<p>1) Main Hall: Tan House Choir Weekly from 7.00 to 9.00pm Telephone 01452 750128 to join or find out more....</p>
<p>TUES</p> 	<p>1) Memory Café every 4 weeks on a Tuesday 11:00am – 1:30pm. No Charge Next Café, Tuesday 7th May, 2024 Safe space for dementia patients, their partners, families or carers to enjoy coffee, crafts and lunch. Spaces are currently available. For further info call 01452 750128</p> <p>2) Main Hall: Crafternoons Monthly, will restart in September, between 2-4.30pm, on a Tuesday We will advertise nearer the time here and on the village WhatsApp & Facebook</p> <p>3) Main Hall: Pilates for Wellbeing- Weekly, Two session between 5.30pm & 8pm Telephone 01452 234005 or email info@farrphysio.co.uk Leave telephone number / email address and a member of the team will then contact you to arrange.</p>
<p>WED</p> 	<p>1) Community Café @ The Harvey Centre Weekly, The drop-in community café open from 10:30 am to 12.00pm. Cake and hot drink £2.50</p> <p>2) Main Hall: Strength, Balance and Mobility Class- Weekly from 10:30 to 11.30am Telephone 01452 234005 or email info@farrphysio.co.uk Leave telephone number / email address and a member of the team will then contact you to arrange.</p> <p>3) FREE - Book/DVD/ Audio Books exchange available Twice weekly, 10:30am to 12:30pm Extensive range of novels</p>
<p>THUR</p> 	<p>1) Enamelling and Linocut Workshop One off session - 23rd May, 9.30am - 4.30pm Contact hello@katiesanderson.co.uk for details Kate Sanderson – Enamelling & Sarah Deahy – Linoprinting</p>
<p>FRI</p> 	<p>1) Main Hall: Art for Wellbeing Paul Fisher leading sessions. www.selway-fisher.com/paul_fisher_art.htm Weekly from 10.00 to 12 noon – Mixed media Spring Art sessions 12th April to 17th May (£60 for all session, £15.50 adhoc sessions) Summer Art sessions 24th May to 28th June (£60 for all session, £15.50 adhoc sessions) Please Telephone 07525 330364 to book a place</p> <p>2) FREE - Book/DVD/Audio Books exchange available Twice weekly 10:30am to 12:30pm Extensive range of novels</p>



WEDDINGS . BUFFETS . DINNER PARTIES . HOG ROASTS . WAKES . DINNER AND DANCES

Exquisite Food for Every Occasion

South West Catering is a local family run business based in Minsterworth with over 30 years' experience, creating exquisite food for every occasion. However big or small, relaxed or formal, we are here to help turn your vision in to reality.



www.southwestcatering.co.uk



07801597010



southwestcatering@btinternet.com

OVER FARM 1982

For more than four decades, Over Farm been serving the lovely people of Gloucestershire. During that time we've expanded our services and are proud to welcome visitors to our award-winning **Farm Shop, Café, family Farm Park, Venue Barn and Pick Your Own** experience. See you soon?



OVER FARM MARKET



COUNTRYSIDE ADVENTURE



OVER BARN



OVER FARM PYO

www.overfarm.co.uk

📍 Over Farm, Over, Gloucester, GL2 8DB



Minsterworth 200 Club

The result of the April draw was as follows:-

£50	191	Dave Robinson
£20	130	Kate Panting
£10	042	Harry Dowding

This month sees the end of another 200 club year and the annual subscriptions are now due. Should you like to become a member, or wish to have an additional number, please contact Liz Savage on 750401. There is an annual subscription of £12 and an annual prize of £100, plus the monthly prizes as shown above.

Whist Drive

The whist drive held on 1st April resulted in £70 for church funds. As it was Easter Monday we were a few players down due to holidays. The next whist drive also falls on a Bank Holiday 6th May, 7.30pm at Minsterworth Village Hall. Why not come and join in – you would be very welcome.

Church service times and flower rota

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
5 th May	5pm	Evening Worship	Sue Parry
12 th May	11am	The 11 o'clock	Donna Maynard
19 th May	11am	Holy Communion	Donna Maynard
26 th May	-	No service at Minsterworth	Beverley Robinson

*There is a Benefice Communion Service at Highnam Church 10am on 26th May.

AJM Plumbing & Heating Services Ltd

With over 30 years' experience and Fully Insured



Call ALEC
Mobile 07904-377667

Call Sue
Office 01452-830649

(Weekdays 9am - 2pm)
e mail office@ajmpandh.co.uk



- * Bathroom Installations
- * Kitchen Installations
- * Boiler Servicing
- * Gas, Oil, LPG and Solar
- * General Plumbing

- * Heating Installations
- * Hot Water Cylinders
- * LGSR's
- * Power Flushing
- * Small Building Work

Gas Safe Registered 213177 Oftec Registered C5320

Places to visit in Gloucestershire

JET AGE MUSEUM

Dawn Ricketts

Description - Celebrate Gloucestershire's rich aviation heritage from the early days of flight, through the birth of the Jet Age to the present day. Jet Age Museum is staffed only by volunteers, some of whom flew in the aircraft on display. Come and ask questions and learn about the history of aviation in Gloucestershire and beyond.

Address - Meteor Business Park, Cheltenham Road, Gloucester, GL2 9QL

Cost of Entry - No Admission Charge. All donations welcome.

Opening Times - Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 am - 4:00pm. Visit the on-site café and sample the delicious cakes and snacks. Café closes 3:45 pm.

Things To Do - A Hawker Sidley Trident Cockpit Experience - see more on web site. Quiz Trail, puzzles, videos to watch. E mail contact@jetagemuseum.org or visit web site www.jetagemuseum.org

NOTES - Step free access to all areas apart from aircraft cockpits.



The museum is looking for volunteers. Could you spare some time to help? We need volunteers across all skill areas. Help with administration and management of volunteers, general maintenance and development. Guides to show visitors around the museum. Volunteers with specific engineering skills and those with managerial and governance experience. Contact Volunteer Coordinator via contact@jetagemuseum.org

MINSTERWORTH 'D DAY' COMMEMORATION

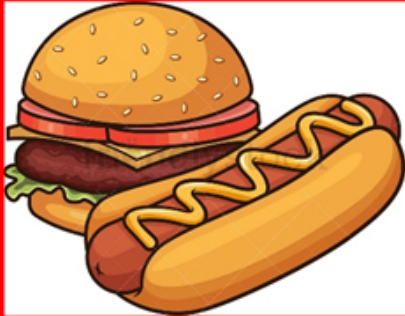
THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024, 6:00 TO 10:00 PM



Minsterworth Village Hall

BEACON LIGHTING 9:15 pm

Please join us for an evening commemorating the 80th Anniversary of D Day Landings. Beacons will be lit throughout the UK at 9:15



BBQ Burgers and Hotdogs

Tea/coffee, cake and ice cream for the children



BAR to be open with Pimms, beer, wine and soft drinks



**1940's music to be played during the event
1940's memorabilia on display in the hall**

Children's games and a fancy dress competition for the most original home produced costume, whether that be as an evacuee, a soldier, nurse, ship or tank. Every entry will receive an award.

Perhaps the adults could also come in costume, eg mechanics, land army girls, pilot or radio operator.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Let's hope it's another sunny evening



St Peter's Church News

May 19th - we have a combined Church Service at 11.00, bring your own picnic to follow afterwards – hopefully in the churchyard if weather permits and followed by a Pentecost walk along the riverbank for those who'd like to join in.

All welcome to join after the service if you wish.

Advanced notice - The Riverside Songs of Praise with the Salvation Army will be at 3pm on Sunday 7th July.

**"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow,
you gotta put up with the rain" – Dolly Parton**

**"Many of life's failures are people who did not
realize how close they were to success when
they gave up." – Thomas A. Edison**



WEDDINGS AT HATHERLEY MANOR

From the moment you arrive at Hatherley Manor Hotel & Spa, you will recognise that it is a very special wedding venue with an individual style and character of its own.

HATHERLEYMANOR.COM | WEDDINGS@HATHERLEYMANOR.COM | 01452 730217



Our highly qualified team offer veterinary and nursing care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for all companion animals including exotics

Long established farm animal service offering expert and professional service.

Fantastic facilities, Dental suite and onsite Laboratory
Contact us to discover more about our Pet Health Plan and Puppy Parties

Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 8am to 7pm
Saturday 9am to 1pm
Emergency Out of Hours 24/7

Contact Us

Tel: 01452 543990
woodvets.co.uk

24/7 Animal Hospital
125 Bristol Road
Quedgeley
Gloucester
GL2 4NB

Branch Practice
83 Windermere Road
Longlevens
Gloucester
GL2 0LZ



AWARD FOR LOCAL MINSTERWORTH BUILDING PROJECT

Congratulations to Spartan Luxury Homes, the Developer at Wildflower Orchard Minsterworth, who have been chosen as one of the winners of the ICW Showcase Awards for 2023 for their development at Wildflower Orchard (<https://www.constructionireland.ie/construction-news/305654/icw-group-announces-first-showcase-award-winners>).

ICW are one of the largest suppliers of new home warranties in the UK, with tens of thousands of projects on cover throughout the country. The award citation states *This prestigious award recognises your outstanding commitment to quality, which consistently goes above and beyond expectations.*



Some houses are lived in, but there are still vacancies, so contact the agents if you would like to look around yourself. The following CGI enhanced picture (for illustration purposes only) depicts how the area will appear when the lawns have greened up, and the fruit trees and wildflower area on the front communal lawns have become established





SERVICING, REPAIRS, MOT'S AND CAR SALES

Here at TL Automotive we are a friendly and trusted independent garage dedicated to providing sensational service to you and your vehicle.

Llanthony Industrial Estate,
Llanthony Road
Gloucester GL2 5HL

Tel: 01452-524234
info@2mautomotive.co.uk
www.tlautomotive.co.uk

Our special offer for The Villager

We will collect and then return your car for servicing and repairs free of charge

Minsterworth Reading Group

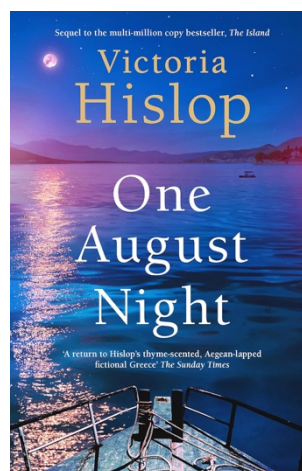
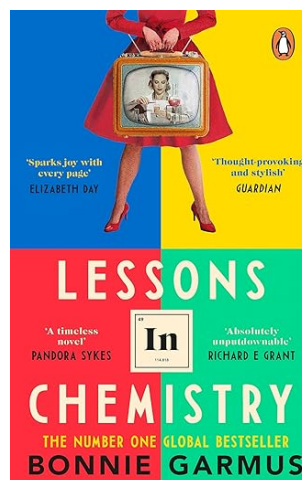
Pat Brooke

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus, a book definitely to read or reread, a popular book choice provoking a lot of discussion. Its position on the best seller hardback and paperback charts is no surprise.

The book is set in 1950/60s America. Elizabeth Zott and her great love and partner Calvin Evans are both chemists and both very much individuals who do not fit in with the characteristics expected by small town America. And they're not married! After Calvin's death Elizabeth needs to support their child and gets the opportunity to host a day-time TV cookery programme. She is incredibly good looking and instead of running a homely cook show she uses the principles of chemistry to explain why a recipe works, using the chemical names of all the ingredients. This gets audience's attention and it starts to empower all her mainly female audience to sit down and take stock of their own lives and dreams. What do they want to do now? To start thinking that everything is possible and not only what the then society thinks is possible. All very inspiring but one comment that reverberated in our group was why make Elizabeth an oddity?

The stars of the book are Elizabeth and Calvin's dog 6.30 with his immense vocabulary, their daughter Mad and Elizabeth's great friend and neighbour Harriet Stone.

Our next book is One August Night by Victoria Hislop which we will meet to discuss on Wednesday 1st May.



Pun & games

- A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering
- After hours waiting for the bowling alley to open, we finally got the ball rolling
- What do you call an alligator in a vest? An investigator
- Did you hear about that great new shovel? It's ground breaking
- Studies show cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them. It's a case of in one ear and out the udder
- Did you know that a raven has 17 rigid feathers called pinions, while a crow only has 16. So, the difference between a raven and a crow is just a matter of a pinion
- I told my contractor I didn't want carpeted steps. He gave me a blank stair
- What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up his own incision? Suture self

Boom Boom!

Courtesy of Roger Blowey & the internet

M.B

**HOLDER & SONS LTD
GLOUCESTER**

01452 521 905



**MINSTERWORTH GARAGE
MAIN ROAD GL2 8JG**

**SOLID FUEL
FIREWOOD & LOGS
RAILWAY SLEEPERS
ROAD HAULAGE & DISTRIBUTION
HAULAGE CONTRACTORS
LOGISTICS
LOCAL & NATIONAL SERVICE
24 HOUR SERVICE AVAILABLE**

TRANSPORT@MBHOLDER.CO.UK



**Gloucestershire
Constabulary**

Report police non-emergencies online

Did you know you can report police non-emergencies online?

Our website allows you to report:

- Crime
- Road traffic incidents (RTIs)
- Domestic Abuse
- Rural, Wildlife and Heritage Crime
- Possible terrorist activity
- Something you've seen or heard

www.gloucestershire.police.uk

You should only call 999 for police if:

- A crime is happening right now
- Someone is in immediate danger, or there is a risk of serious damage to property
- A suspect for a serious crime is nearby
- There is a traffic collision involving serious injury.

CUCKOO SONG IN MAY?

Norma Blowey

We didn't hear the cuckoo last year (probably too close to the A48!), but I know that others were lucky and heard the distinctive call while walking beside the river. I have always enjoyed the rhyme:

*The Cuckoo comes in April,
Sings her song in May,
Changes tune in the middle of June,
And then she flies away.*

I recently came across an article that I had kept from a newspaper in 2012. It reported the tracking of a cuckoo fitted with a radio transponder by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). The transponder was fitted in Norfolk in May 2011. The cuckoo left Norfolk in July and was recorded in Casablanca (Morocco) in August, in Mali in September, in Burkina Faso in October and eventually reached Congo in November 2011, where it is thought it spent the winter feeding. The next radio signal was received from Nigeria in March 2022, showing that the cuckoo had started its return journey home. By April it was in Algeria, and the final 600 miles were covered in two days to arrive back in Norfolk on May 1st.

It's fascinating that so much time and effort is put into the Cuckoos' migration – at just 4oz (110g), it has flown over 10,000 miles. That's a massive distance, so he certainly has something to shout about when he arrives back home!

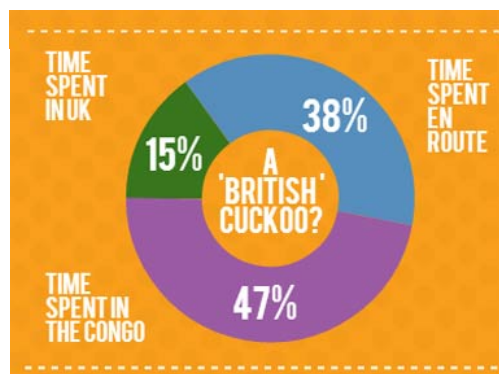
CUCKOO MIGRATION

Paula Ruffley

The BTO has been satellite-tracking Cuckoos since 2011 to find out why they are in decline. They have found that there is little problem with availability of their preferred host species so, surprisingly, it seems the issue may not be in the UK. The migration route the birds take is strongly correlated with their survival. Birds that travel through Italy have an average survival rate of 97% compared to 56% for those who take a western route through Spain. Increasingly Spain has had very dry summers, impacting availability of invertebrates, the Cuckoo's food. In 2015 none of the BTO tracked Cuckoos passing through Spain survived.

Cuckoos breeding in Scotland and Wales tend to follow the eastern route. The Welsh population is stable and the Scottish one is increasing. English breeding Cuckoos tend to take the Western route.

Each season a female will lay between 12 and 22 eggs, all in different nests. Congolese birds must be better at chucking them out to make the trip worth it!



Cuckoo

Reflections

Liz Duff



We all have stories to tell of the time and space between the coining of the words 'Brexit and COVID'. Language is the link to communication and these are important words for us all to consider.

What does language do for us? Who is speaking and who is listening? We all need help in the midst of loss, anxiety and division and human kindness and warmth is what holds us together. It is one of our most valuable assets.

Lockdown and isolation have revealed our strengths and also our weaknesses. A great learning curve.

And the days are not full enough
The evening still dark
And life slips by slowly
Like a field mouse
Not shaking the grass

By Liz Duff

"I'm not trying to do something different I'm trying to do the same thing but in a different way." – Vivienne Westwood

"If it doesn't matter, get rid of it. If you can't get rid of it, it matters."
– Banksy



Laughter filled the village hall on 10th February when comedy returned to Minsterworth. Local MC, Nik Hill, gave us a diverse range of comedians, closing with Sam Day who managed to persuade two villagers up on stage.

It was a sell out so make sure you get your tickets early for the next one....



SAVE THE DATE Comedy is back on...

Saturday 26th October 2024

NIK HILL WILL RETURN AS MC

Line Up:

Ashley Frieze

Demitris Deech

Kevin Daniel

Tickets will go on sale closer to the date.



Your local, friendly, family-run store. Easy access and plenty of parking.

Opening Hours:

Weekdays: 8:30a.m. - 5:00p.m.

Saturday: 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Closed Sunday & Bank Holidays

Special offers on seasonal plants, 40 & 60L compost, topsoil, farmyard manure, grow bags and ericaceous compost.

Patio, Propane & Butane gas.

A wide range of Nature's Menu frozen and ambient pet food as well as a super new range of dog chews & boredom breakers.

Food, bedding and healthcare products for farm animals, horses, pets and birds - *garden & ornamental.*

Local eggs, juices & honey. Stockist for the delightful 'Cherry Tree' jams, curds and chutneys.

From brooms & buckets to wheelbarrows, wellies & waterproofs, we're here to help.



We are on the A48 @ Elton Court, just outside Westbury-on-Severn.

 01452 760511



THE SILVER FOX CAFÉ

A48
Broadoak
Newnham-on-Severn
Glos. GL14 1JB



OPENING TIMES

9am to 5pm DAILY

Last orders for hot food 4 pm

SUNDAY CARVERY 12 -3 pm

Internal and external seating

TEL: 01452-877831

Comprehensive Menu

All Day Breakfast

Great Atmosphere

Attentive Staff

Homemade Cake



The Silver Fox Café

RESTING ON THE BANKS OF THE MIGHTY RIVER SEVERN

"I regret rubbing ketchup in my eyes, but that's Heinz sight." Nick Helm

I saw this man and woman wrapped in a barcode. I said: "Are you two an item?"

I cleaned the attic with the wife the other day. Now I can't get the cobwebs out of her hair.

I sent my girlfriend a huge pile of snow. I rang her up and said: "Did you get my drift?"

A jump lead walks into a bar. The barman says: "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

inews.co.uk



Garden Services

Lawn mowing

Strimming

Chainsawing

Hedge cutting & reduction

Tree pruning

General maintenance

For further information contact Ash:

07812 077367

OPEN 9am - 5pm



THE FAIRVIEW
GARDENER

*A centre for gardeners
not a garden centre.*

01452 750436



The destination for all your gardening needs. We pride ourselves on excellent customer service and knowledge.

Advice on plants, garden design and all aspects of your garden.

Our Tea Room is open daily 9.30am to 4.30pm. Try our breakfast or lunch menus or relax with fresh coffee, loose leaf tea and a delicious cake.

Chapel Lane, Birdwood, Churcham, Glos. GL2 8AR

www.thefairviewgardener.co.uk



HELPFUL COMMUNITY LINKS

Minsterworth Neighbourhood Watch – join by e-mailing 64lettie@gmail.com

www.minsterworthparishcouncil.org.uk

www.minsterworthvillagehall.org – booking, recent events

www.facebook.com/MinsterworthGlos/

St. Peter's church – www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14101/ services, etc

Minsterworth Matters WhatsApp – join by texting Roger Ingham on 07525330364 immediate village interests

Harvey Centre – www.minsterworthvillagehall.org/the-harvey-centre

Contents May 2024

Page Item

2	Recycling	
3	Recipe	
4	D Day Commemoration	6 June
5	Wine Tasting	
6	New flooring in VH Legion Room	
6	Annual Parish Meeting	29 Apr
7	Newent & District Probus club	
8	Minsterworth RBL	13 June
9	Minsterworth Parish Council	13 May
10	Improving our village	
11	Harvey Centre May calendar	
13	Church dates	
14	Places to visit in Gloucestershire	
15	Minsterworth D Day Commemoration	6 June
16	St. Peter's church news	
18	Wildflower Orchard wins award	
19	Minsterworth Reading Group	1 May
20	Pun and Games	
21	Report police non-emergencies online	
22	Cuckoo	
23	Reflections	
24	Comedy SAVE THE DATE	26 Oct
27	Helpful Community Links	



Welcome to Minsterworth Village Hall

Why not plan your next event with us?

The village of Minsterworth can be found on the A48 to the west of the city of Gloucester, on the north bank of the River Severn nestled between the Cotswold Hills and the Forest of Dean.

At the heart of the village is Minsterworth Village Hall.

This website is for Minsterworth Village Hall activities, clubs and events.

www.minsterworthvillagehall.org

e-mail minsterworthvh@gmail.com

Tel: 01452 750492