

# **The Villager**

**Minsterworth News**



Ball of flowers Dunedin New Zealand  
Bob Holder

**July 2021**

**Edition 224**

**Dear readers,**

Lots of good things coming up in July so get out there, now that we're better able to with all the vulnerable vaccinated, so many of us double-vaccinated and summer weather here. All that Vitamin D!

Do join us on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July for the Minsterworth Village Walk (see p9 of the June edition) and again on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July for the Village Picnic (see p16).

As ever contributions from villagers are very welcome.

All items for consideration to:-

Paula Ruffley, Editor The Villager

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**E-mail: [thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com](mailto:thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com)**

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

### **KERBSIDE RECYCLING JULY 2021**

**GREEN & BROWN bin & caddy**  
(landfill) (garden)

Tuesday 6

Tuesday 20

**BLUE bin & caddy**  
(recycling)

Tuesday 13

Tuesday 27

Please put your recycling bin & caddy out by 7am.

# Lydney Harbour

Paula Ruffley

Pictures Dawn Ricketts

From the A48 Gloucester to Chepstow road follow signs for Lydney station, drive past it and keep going as far as you can. Lots of parking alongside the road & you end up at Lydney Harbour on the River Severn. Not exotic you might say but this is an important piece of the Forest of Dean's heritage.

The ships that sailed against the Armada were built from wood harvested from trees grown in the Forest of Dean. Lydney was Bullo Pill's main rival as port to the Forest of Dean. That wood left England's shores on boats loaded at Lydney, bound for Portishead.

The dock was also where coal mined in the Forest of Dean was shipped from and at the former Pine End works on the dock where technical aircraft and marine grade plywood was used for building Mosquito fighter-bombers and Horsa assault gliders used in the D Day landings, flown mainly by women – top secret, of course. It was known as a 'shadow factory', built in secrecy to continue manufacturing goods for the war effort. Huge African logs were shipped to Lydney on barges from Avonmouth Docks.



This was a brave place to build a dock, on a river with a massive tidal range and tides with huge force. The dock is now clogged with silt, preventing the boats moored beyond the gates from ever using the lock to get into the river again. It is a monument to industrial heritage that has unfortunately ceased to function! Vital at the time and right on your doorstep.

It is however a great starting point to walk along the Severn, with views across to Berkeley and Oldbury nuclear power stations and the Severn Bridge beyond.



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Once beside the River Severn there are several miles of easy walking, made use of by many on a fine sunny day.

I particularly like to watch the swirling of the currents.

Everyone is aware of Cheltenham's links to espionage but who would have thought that Lydney Harbour was so critical to the war effort.

Pine End works was also instrumental in the construction of nuclear shielding for those nuclear power plants across the Severn, with "Hydroboard", a chemically impregnated densified and compressed plywood.

Plans to redevelop the site after the refurbishment of the docks in 2005 failed after lottery funding was turned down, perhaps another go? Who knows what may come next. It is a place not well known but much loved by those who do.

## **DARREN FISHER**

Darren first worked at Orchard End in Minsterworth where he gained valuable experience in his chosen field of nursing. After a few years Darren decided that he needed formal training and applied to Plymouth University where he obtained his degree, a First with Honours in Mental Health Nursing. Darren returned to Minsterworth and successfully applied for a job at Wotton Lawn Hospital in Gloucester.

At the time of his death Darren was a Charge Nurse on Kingsholm Ward, a dedicated and caring nurse who loved his chosen profession. It was therefore fitting that when he died, we chose MIND to receive donations in lieu of flowers. To date, £4,553 (£5,220.50 with Gift Aid) has been donated in Darren's memory.

We would like to thank everyone for their donations and for the wonderful comments they have made about Darren as a person and as a nurse. He is missed by many but has left us with so many memories. With our grateful thanks

Bruce, Julie, Ian, and Stacey

## HISTORICAL SNIPPETS AROUND MINSTERWORTH

It may come as a surprise to many of you that in St Peter's church here in Minsterworth is an artistic treasure with what can only be described as having an intriguing history of survival from pre-Reformation times. I'm speaking of course of the richly embroidered panel on display in the church in a glass-fronted display case near the southwest corner of the nave. The panel,



measuring overall around 180cm by 150cm, is a rare example of medieval needlework known as 'opus anglicanum' (English work). It consists of a panel of red silk velvet decorated with highly stylised motifs typical of the Tudor period using polychrome silk floss and metal-wrapped threads, and an 'orphrey' strip running down the centre from top to bottom richly embroidered with biblical figures each set inside a Gothic niche.

Research has shown that it is actually made up from a pre-Reformation liturgical vestment, probably originally a priest's chasuble gown. Opened out flat we are looking at a large part of the front of the vestment and a small part of back; the shoulder area is a quarter way down the panel and the broad strip running down the centre is the original vestment's 'orphrey' strip.

On a level with the shoulder area and in the centre is where the neck hole would have been but it has been filled in with an embroidered patch from a different piece of religious embroidery.

Expert opinion is that the silk velvet is of continental manufacture (probably French) and that the decorative work on it dates from the first half of the 16th - century, i.e. before the Reformation of the Church in England. The central panel of orphreys, however, looks to be English work from an even earlier, probably 15th - century, vestment. The fabric of the border around three of the edges is identified as being of continental (probably French) manufacture, dating to the first half of the 17th - century.

To understand how the priest's chasuble came to end up as we see it today, one has to recall that after Henry VIII's break from the church of Rome there was in England a wholesale destruction of shrines, images and the decorative trappings of the old church, including vestments.

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Orders were issued that services should no longer be celebrated by a priest wearing traditional vestments such as the cope and chasuble. By the time of Elizabeth I, it was probable that many of the treasured pre-Reformation church objects not destroyed would have been sold off, or even perhaps hidden away to await a return of the old order. Many vestments are known to have been cut up and incorporated into new items of adornment such as altar cloths, but instances have been recorded of such articles being employed as a decorative hanging on the pulpit.

A close study of the Minsterworth embroidered panel, its dimensions and locations of worn patches has led to the conclusion that the panel may very likely have been deliberately made up at some time to be a hanging fixed to the front of the church's pulpit, which itself is known to be of early 17th century date.

There is nothing in the annals of Minsterworth church to reflect the existence of the embroidery for almost the next three hundred years or so, not until the late 1800s and early 1900s when there are references to it in church documents. Later, in a St Peter's parish magazine of August 1939, the newly-arrived incumbent, Rev Brockwell, recorded that the then churchwarden Mr A Phelps had taken charge of the embroidery (which the vicar described as "perhaps our greatest art treasure"). Around 1930 it was sent to the Royal College of Needlework for repairs but just a few years ago it underwent a complete restoration by a professional restorer. However expert the restoration, it cannot of course return the embroidery to its original glory, but what we see today still shows us what radiance the original must have had.

T.M-S

- There are three types of people: those who can count and those who can't.
- I had a dream I was eating a giant marshmallow and when I woke up my pillow was gone.
- If a child refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?
- I wanted to be a doctor but I didn't have the patients.
- One bird can't make a pun. But toucan.

The first **outdoor yoga at Severnbank, Minsterworth** was held on Friday 7th May. Helena, our teacher, was delighted to see a good turnout. It was great to be able to hear the birds, feel the sun and flex our bodies.

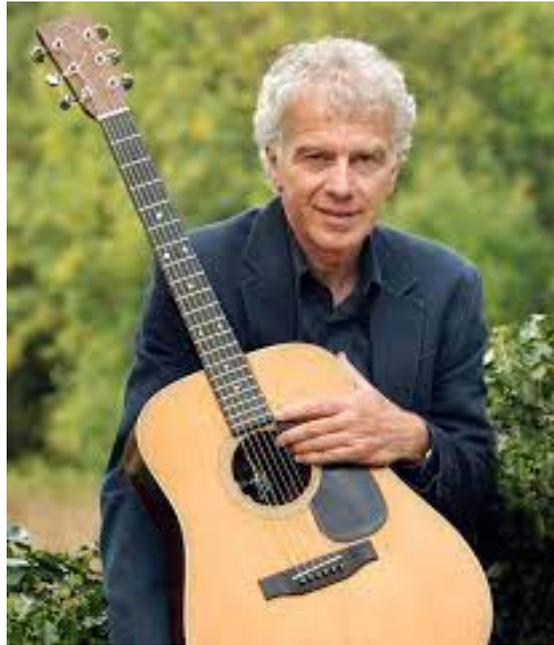
This is planned to be a weekly event. **Friday mornings at 10:30 am.**

For more details contact Helena on 07976 055146 or Dawn R on 07577 287005



Life is like a camera  
Just focus on what's important  
Capture the good times  
Develop from the negatives  
And if things don't turn out  
Take another shot

# GOOD NEWS!



We are delighted to announce another visit to Minsterworth  
by the accomplished Gloucestershire folk  
musician Johnny Coppin on SATURDAY OCTOBER 23RD 2021  
at the Village Hall.

**KEEP THIS DATE FREE FOR A GREAT EVENING'S  
ENTERTAINMENT !**

*“One of the land's finest singer-songwriters.... his music is as natural  
as the sun on the hills or the fresh waters of the streams”*

**Tickets will go on sale from 1st July. Price £15 (to incl. refreshments). For  
more information contact Terry on 01452 750160  
or Joanna on 01452 750709.**

**(This event is being organised jointly by the church and village hall)**

- *What did the pirate say on his eightieth birthday? "Aye Matey!"*
- What did the daddy buffalo say to his son when he left for work? Bison
- What do you call a blind dinosaur? A Doyouthinkhesaurus!

Forest and Rivers Open Studios

# Art Trail

3-11 July 2021



Visit 55 artists and makers from the Forest of Dean,  
and along the Wye and Severn Valleys  
+ three exhibitions



Explore artists and venues at  
[www.farOpen.co.uk](http://www.farOpen.co.uk)

Includes several  
artists in and  
around  
Minsterworth.

Congratulations to Evie from Murcott farm who has recently graduated in Veterinary Medicine and Science from the University of Nottingham. It hasn't been without effort. Evie initially did not achieve high enough grades to get into vet college, so she spent another year at school and retook her A levels, getting 'A/A\*' grades and acceptance into Nottingham University. Then of course COVID disrupted the past two years of the five year degree course. Evie starts work in Plymouth in mid-August, so Paul and Cathy are looking forward to family visits to the West Country!

## Minsterworth Creatives: Aimee McHale

Sarah McHale

While not residing in the village at the moment, Aimee has lived here on and off since 2003. Working in Marketing, she retains a love of painting that began in school and always has something 'on the go'. Currently it's a commissioned double portrait. And yes, she is my daughter! My mother along with a fabulous Art teacher inspired my love for Art; it's wonderful to see Aimee continuing a family interest and passion, the apple hasn't fallen far from the tree! Aimee attended the school where I taught, but I was always able to manipulate the timetable so I never had to teach her. Not sure who was the most relieved about that!

Aimee discovered a love of portraiture during her A Level Art course, particularly her examination question entitled 'Folds'. She interpreted this as a study of faces, exploring the expressions in her grandparents' faces. Following an Art Foundation course at the University of Gloucestershire, she decided to study Fashion Marketing, but recently confessed to regretting changing from her first choice of Fine Art. Note to any youngsters out there (with my previous sixth form careers and HE guidance hat on) – university is the only opportunity you'll have to spend three years totally immersed in your favourite subject, so go for it, and think of a career/job/employment later. It'll work out.

Over the past few years, Aimee has taught herself to work in oil paint, a not inconsiderable challenge. She loves the versatility of the medium. She has a pretty unique exploration of colour and many portraits move away from expected flesh tones to playing with mauves and blue tones. Her method of application is extremely considered, layers of paint are applied often with small brushes to build rich surfaces. I'm always fascinated to watch her work, especially as she often seems to watch a movie at the same time! You may recognise a well-known Minsterworth resident in one of her works.

Spending time back in the village during the first lockdown saw us working together in a shared studio space (actually the garage). Aimee at her table with her oils, myself at the other sloshing acrylic round. I loved it! My Mum would have been proud too, having been told aged 16 to do a secretarial course rather than consider Art School, she'd have loved seeing the diverse work under production.

Aimee is available for commissions; her work can be viewed on Instagram at [aimeemchalepaintings](https://www.instagram.com/aimeemchalepaintings).

**RDA**  
Carriage Driving



**VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!**

Riding for the disabled, carriage driving

**Tuesday and Thursday mornings at  
Chaxhill House, Westbury-on-Severn**

No experience required, extremely rewarding

Contact Liz for more information:

01452 760824

07799420645



**07976896255**

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- Digger Work
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## ROASTED SWEETCORN

A very simple summer lunch for all the family and one that goes down well with children too. You can use either feta cheese as in the recipe, or a different cheese if your family prefer. Cheddar is my second favourite.

This is a really easy simple tray bake recipe in the main oven that takes just five minutes to prepare and thirty minutes to cook.

Preheat your oven to 180 c or gas 6. Prepare an oven tray by lining it with silver foil large enough for your sweet corn. It does not take any longer if you are cooking 4 or 8 corns as long as there is a slight gap between each corn.

### Ingredients

6 peeled sweetcorns	1 large pinch of salt
3 tbs olive oil	1 juiced lime (using juice only)
2 tsp paprika	5 chopped spring onions
100g feta or cheese of your choice	(Napkins for sticky fingers afterwards)

### Method

Place the sweetcorn in a roasting tin and drizzle generously with the olive oil.

Scatter over the paprika and salt and rub this evenly around the corns.

Place in the oven and roast for 30 minutes.

Whilst cooking;

Chop up the spring onions – white and green parts

Juice the lime.

Crumble cheese, grate if using a harder cheese.

Once the sweetcorn is cooked;

Scatter the spring onions, lime juice and cheese over the top and serve immediately, whilst still warm. This is a finger food and great if you are sitting near enough the tray to dip your corn back into the tasty juices.

“Enjoy” - Sharon Ingham

## Minsterworth Reading Group



**September** by Rosamunde Pilcher.

I chose this book as a pleasant reminder of how life was lived in the time after the war in Scotland in September, the end of the “Season”, great celebrations were held – grouse shooting, picnics on the moors, luncheons and parties.

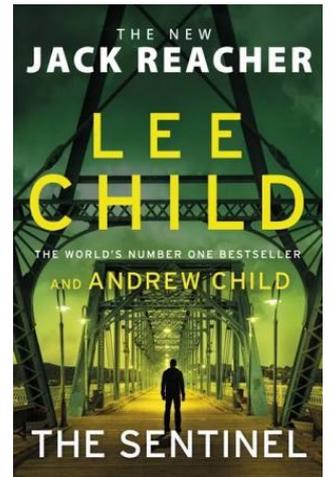
Rosamund Pilcher’s book ‘September’ tells us of a family living in the Highlands and the complexities of family life. Entertaining and a good read.

Pat Haisell-Neves

Our next book is **The Sentinel**, by Lee Child.

See the list below of future books and review dates. Should you wish to join the Book Group and join our monthly Zoom reviews please email [vicki.hewlett@googlemail.com](mailto:vicki.hewlett@googlemail.com). On 7<sup>th</sup> July we will meet in person, rules permitting!

**Always the first Wednesday of the month at 7.45pm. Newcomers are welcome.**



Read	Review	Book	Author
June	7 <sup>th</sup> July	The Sentinel	by Lee Child
July	4 <sup>th</sup> August	The Glass House	by Eve Chase

My mother always used to say this:

Little blobs of powder  
Little blobs of paint  
Makes a little lady  
Really what she ain't

Pat Haisell-Neves

## Riddle:

What eight letter word can have a letter taken away and still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left. What is the word?

answer p31

## Gardening by the Severn

Marie-Clare Mawle

I am starting a new series this month, interviewing villagers from Minsterworth about their gardens. The first villager is my neighbour Liz Duff who lives at Mermaid Cottage. Liz and I have spent hours sat in her idyllic garden talking about gardening, literature and art. If Liz is not in the garden you will find her in her studio painting. Liz's use of colour and placement of paint on the canvas translates to her garden. Liz plants her flower beds with the eye and finesse of a true artist.

### **When did your love of gardening start?**

I think by the time I retired and we had moved to Mermaid Cottage. I was able to enjoy the possibilities and could plan long-term changes, which would make the garden ours! Such an idyllic setting requires careful thought and planning.

### **What significant changes have you made to the garden since you bought the property?**

Probably more than I realise! Many of the trees and shrubs we inherited are still here. Building the garden room and extending the kitchen garden were significant steps. Then we got to the stage of adding the pond and creating our 'Wild Garden'.



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**Is there a person that has influenced your ideas in the garden?**

I was so lucky to find Brenda Jones who gardened on May Hill. She trained at Waterperry and started monthly gardening days which were a joy. I learnt about pruning, taking cuttings, assembling a long border and how to nourish the soil. It was a great learning curve, listening to how she gardened and created rhythm with her planting.

**Do you think your painter's eye has helped with your gardens design?**

I like to think so! One of my delights when painting in my studio is to look across the garden, see things from a slightly different angle and be truly amazed at the wonderful colours of nature. I can also see where I have made mistakes and how certain shrubs require more vigorous pruning.



**Which plant/flower could you not live without and why?**

I have so many 'favourites' but I nearly always opt for scent and structure, so I probably have 'seasonal' favourites. My winter box has such a powerful fragrance, is evergreen and so undemanding. I also love the Banksia rose and how it rambles.

**Which garden open to the public would you recommend everyone should visit?**

Great Dixter stole my heart. I was lucky enough to meet Christopher Lloyd who was so generous with time and advice.

**Do you have a favourite view in your garden?**

When I sit in my summer house I have a lovely view of the garden. As I am there when it is warm and sunny, I think it looks rather special – light and shade makes things more defined.

**Minsterworth Village Picnic**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

**Village Hall**

**12-4pm**

**Please bring your own picnic,  
and picnic rug or chairs.  
No food will be served by the hall.  
We will follow all Covid guidance as  
stipulated by law on  
the given date.  
Please be aware if weather is  
inclement we may need to  
cancel with late notice'**

# HOPI CANDLES

Nicki Milligan

Legend has it that these candles have historical roots among the peoples of Asia, Siberia and Northern & Southern American Indians.



Ancient rock paintings show ear candles being used at initiation rights and medical ceremonies. The oldest Pueblo peoples, known as Hopi were very knowledgeable medically and botanically.

**Early Hopi image in the Grand Canyon area.**

I was trained to use the candles by a highly qualified Nurse and as advised by her I continue to use Biosun candles which are handcrafted and use high quality ingredients... pesticide free organic cotton with beeswax, honey extract and traditional herbs such as sage and camomile... and you can smell honey inside your head for a long time afterwards.

One end of the candle is lit and the opposite end slots into the outer part of the ear and a very slight and gentle suction action is created which can draw out wax and a filter is in the ear end to prevent any residue from tracking back down the ear canal. My Tutor told me that the action drew out a chunk of coloured crayon that her client had jammed down his ear as a child, 20 years previously and had caused problems but no one realised the cause until out it popped!

The practise can help free up nasal breathing, blocked sinuses and improves the sense of smell and is mega useful after a long haul flight. It's also very relaxing, so much so that I do swaps with a colleague because we don't see why our customers should have all the benefits.

My youngest client was an 18 months old girl and her parents were adamant that they wanted a treatment to help clear nasal problems. They asked their doctor who thought it was an odd idea but signed their consent form. She was an angel and Mum held her on my couch, while Dad made faces and sang to her and they felt that it helped her enormously.



There is not an age limit but I checked with my Tutor and Insurers to make ensure that I was OK to carry on.

One of my ladies remembered her father, a welsh miner, saving up enough money to " have the candles " once or twice a year...back in the 1920s. Another of my customers was a builder and he came along when he had done a particularly dusty job - to "de snot" as he put it.

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Each candle takes about 10-12 minutes to burn and I always treat both ears with individual candles. I opted to learn to look down into ears and the varieties of wax are interesting but sadly the colour and consistency did put me off eating toffee!!

## **JULY FISH & CHIPS**

**For July, we have had to change to FRIDAY, so  
it's**

**FRIDAY 9th JULY 2021**

**at the Village Hall**

**Serving from 5pm to 8pm**

For menu etc see [www.madewithoutgluten.co.uk](http://www.madewithoutgluten.co.uk)

Fish and chips will continue every second Thursday of the month until further notice



### **The Fairview Gardener**

**A centre for gardeners not a garden centre**

**This is the destination for all your gardening needs.  
We pride ourselves on giving excellent customer  
service and have the necessary knowledge to give  
good advice on plants, garden design and all aspects  
of your garden**



**The tea room is open daily  
10an to 4pm  
Try our breakfast or lunch  
menus, or relax with fresh  
coffee, loose leaf teas and a  
delicious cake**

**The Fairview Gardener & Tea Room Chapel Lane, Birdwood, Glos.**

**GL2 8AR tel: 01452 750436**



## Parish of St Peter, Minsterworth

### THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2020

will be held in St Peter's Church, Minsterworth on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7pm.

Signed

Anne Cowdey,

Church Warden on behalf of Jo Stait, Church Warden, and the Parochial Church Council,  
Benefice of Westbury-on-Severn

### THE VESTRY MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of 2020 meeting to be approved.
3. Election/Appointment of Churchwardens.

### THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2020 meeting to be approved.
3. For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows:
  - To the Parochial Church Council;
  - To the Deanery Synod – one representative;
  - For the appointment of Sidespersons;
  - For the appointment of the Independent Examiner.
4. For the consideration of:
  - A Report on changes in the electoral roll since the 2020 Annual parochial Church Meeting;
  - An Annual Report of the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the parish generally;
  - The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on the 31st December;
  - A Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church;
  - A Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod and other matters of general Church interest.

## **What on Earth is an Interim Minister?**

It's a real privilege to be writing these few short words. My name is Ali Mepham and I am the Senior Interim Minister for the Diocese of Gloucester. As part of my role I am joining the benefice Churches as Interim Minister.

Interim Ministry takes on all sorts of forms and I work with parishes and benefices during interregnum and other times of significant transition. My hope is that we can work together to explore where God is leading us as a Benefice and as part of that, who God might be calling to be your priest in the future. I'm passionate about parish ministry and believe that the local Church is the hope of the world.

I'm married to Kat who is the Priest-in-Charge over in the Leadon Vale benefice and we have 5 children. We're both quite new to the Diocese having ministered previously in Wiltshire, rural Dorset and my last post in suburban Hampshire, but we have fallen in love with this part of the world and we're really looking forward to exploring more when some of our current restrictions are lifted.

An interim priest is not a replacement or a filler – so I won't be with you all the time as I have other parishes I am involved with as well. My primary role is to help facilitate discussion as we listen for God's voice for the next steps for the wonderful parishes that make up the Church together in the Benefice of Westbury-on-Severn including Minsterworth, as well as to journey through life with you in some of the ways a parish priest might.

In these strange times I am hoping to connect with as many of you as possible to hear your story and the story of the church and looking forward to meeting people in person when we're allowed to do so.

With every blessing

Ali Mepham.

### **Village Hall car park clean up**

Hopefully COVID restrictions will end soon, and the Village Hall will once again be available to Minsterworth residents.

Thanks to those who gave up their Saturday morning to remove the major weeds from the car park.



Tel 01452 760511

Open Weekdays 8:30am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Closed Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays

We are located on the A48, travel from Minsterworth through Westbury on Severn, down the hill, left hand side before the garage.

**Special Offers** - 40L & 60L compost, topsoil, farmyard manure, ericaceous compost and seasonal plants.

Food, bedding and health care products for farm animals, horses, pets and birds (garden and ornamental).

**Nature's Menu** frozen and ambient temperature pet food.

Calor gas, logs, kindling, coal, briquettes, firelighters and paraffin.

Stockists for **Cherry Tree** jams, curds and chutneys.

Local eggs, honey and potatoes.

**Coming Soon** - Hand poured, fragranced candles from the **Forest of Dean Candle Company**.

**From brooms and buckets to wheelbarrows, wellies and waterproofs, we are here to help so please do call in and see what we do.**

COVID -19 Restriction are in place. Only two customers in store at any time. We ask that you wear a mask/face covering (unless exempt). Use the hand sanitizer provided at entrance. Orders can be placed over the telephone for collection.

**YOUR LOCAL, FRIENDLY, HELPFUL STORE WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF  
MINSTERWORTH, PLENTY OF PARKING FOR ALL**

## **Minsterworth 200 Club**

The result of the June draw was as follows:-

£50 No. 114 Clare Pearce

£20 No. 042 Harry Dowding

£10 No. 059 David Clifton

Whilst there were some vacancies to fill at the beginning of the 200 Club year, we now have a full complement of members, and a cheque for £1200 has been given to St Peter's Church. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thanks are due too for Ann Mogg, Beverley Robinson, Jo Lee, and Mary Cooper for helping in the collection of the subscriptions.

## **Flower Rota**

4th & 11th July Liz Duff

18th & 25th July Kate Oxley

1st & 8th August Jo Stait

## **Ash Dieback Project at the Harvey Centre, Minsterworth**

Sharon Ingham

Earlier in the year the Ash Dieback Project provided donations of both whips and trees to help with the development of the Harvey Centre grounds. We have been so lucky with the damp weather that all the whips and trees are now taking root and starting to flourish.

The flowering Cherry Trees walk is already taking shape and in years to come will be a spring delight to look forward to. In between the trees on the curves of the pathway there will be spring bulbs, summer perennials and autumn prairie flowers with potential to attract wildlife, including bees and butterflies.

Beech whips were planted as hedging dividing the higher and lower ground by an enthusiastic team of villagers. Nine people turned out with spades to make short work out of what seemed like a daunting project. We may need a few more to fill in gaps where they are not growing evenly, but in a few years' time we will be trimming them into a healthy hedge. Hopefully, birds will be using them for shelter, resting and nesting.

The hawthorn whips are placed around the perimeter. Some have been added to existing hedging making it thicker and others creating a new line of hedging near the open farm land.

Further work, this coming autumn, will be carried out. This will include the placing of oak and maple trees on the lower part of the grounds and will be the start of a small grove or copses of trees. At present these have been temporarily planted in large containers ready to be positioned. We have had five Rowan trees donated to add to those donated by the Ash Dieback Project.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Sara Noons, Ash Dieback Officer, Highways Gloucestershire County Council for all her support in this community venture and to all the villagers who came along to help with the planting.

## Village Hall update

Work on the Hall continues with the support of several grants (thanks to Roger Blowey for making the applications) and we have decided to remain closed 'til the end of June when we have our first wedding booking (hurrah!) to carry this out safely and efficiently.

The grants have allowed us to make significant repairs to the external fabric of the building and then to paint the walls. We are now in a position to be able to decorate the interior of the Hall, so when we do reopen (and hopefully gather for our Village Picnic on Saturday 24th July) you will see a significant difference. Thanks to the expertise of our 'AV Crew' - Bob Holder, Wyn Parry and Simon Ruffley, we have been able to install an electronic projector screen, digital projector and speakers. Roll on the next 'Fish and Chips' evening! The walls and woodwork are being painted, and we want to restore the fireplace shield and generally make this focal point of the Hall more attractive.

All this work makes the Hall a fabulous venue, whether for wedding bookings, parties or conferences, but, just as importantly, a building we can all take pride in. Covid 19 has hit us all hard, but if there is any semblance of a silver lining to the virus cloud, forcing us to close, and providing the opportunity to apply for grants has enabled us to restore Minsterworth Village Hall to its former glory. And 2021 is an auspicious year as it was in 1921 that fund-raising first began to build what was then Minsterworth Memorial Hall dedicated to the men of the village who had fought and lost their lives in World War 1. So it is somewhat fitting that a century later we are able to reopen our doors and look forward to seeing a whole host of events planned.

In the meantime, save that date for July 24th!

K T G A J C Y K E I Y N Z A T S V A G C  
N S U S Z A Y S C L O X R L K A Y E N D  
F Q A I Y C N E C S K P J N R N I S I Q  
E B A B P A C J K I G W M X S D S E K J  
V X U L G R D E C Q N H E L J C Y H C S  
I I G F E S P I R T H C A E B A Y T I U  
H D P A Q D S T L S B V I A Q S E N P N  
X B M N W C K I V O I F A P Y T D I Y Z  
S E R I F N O B C T H L O P F L L G R V  
S O W F G N M Q S P G L U W Z E C N R Z  
L U A C Z R Q E Y T Y W O L G S P I E W  
U U N C L B F K D L V L B O Y N V M B H  
Q C J S B G G A E Y O Y L D H M T M W H  
F O A G H F E R H N J U V M C C T I A A  
C R B N A I R H G E I I Z B N H S W R Y  
N P M E F U N D N S I B M Q L Q J S T K  
K H R J W H A E C S R N C P M A V X S Z  
F A M I L Y H O L I D A Y S F Q L B X J  
X G A U S T C Z Y J E O K X Y D H L N Q  
H N A F Y O X C I X G E I Z U K Z Z H D

## Summer Time word search

By Katie Panting

These are the words to look for:

Ice cream

Beach trips

School holidays

Swimming in the sea

BBQ

Family holidays

Sunshine

Sandcastles

Long days

Bonfires

Picnics

Strawberry picking

Festivals



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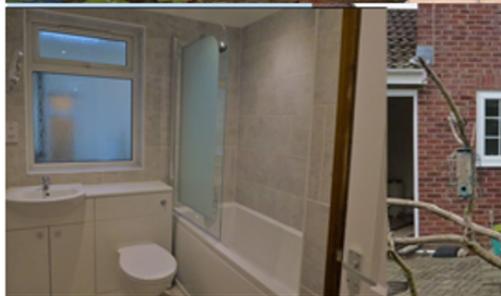
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**We have recently finished the repairs and decoration of the exterior of Minsterworth Village Hall**





If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?  
Why do croutons come in airtight packages?  
Aren't they just stale bread to begin with?



# Minsterworth & District Royal British Legion

In early September 1921 Anna Guérin, a 43-year-old French lady went to the door of the Legion's headquarters in Pimlico London to see the General Secretary Colonel Edward Heath. The subject being the poppy.

She had been promoting the poppy as a symbol of remembrance in the United States since the end of the First World War. The rest is history. The poppy being always remembered.

We held our long-awaited meeting in June in the Legion room at Minsterworth Village Hall. If you are not a member of the Legion you are welcome to join us any time to discuss our remembering of the 100 years of the R.B.L.

## Military History

July 1 <sup>st</sup>	1974	Princess Anne becomes Chief Commandant W.R.N.S.
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1950	First Strike by R.N. Carriers in Korea
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	1943	Invasion of Sicily
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	1588	Battle of Gravelines
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	1949	H.M.S. Amethyst forces her way out of Yangtse
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	1970	Last tot of rum issued by R.N.

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

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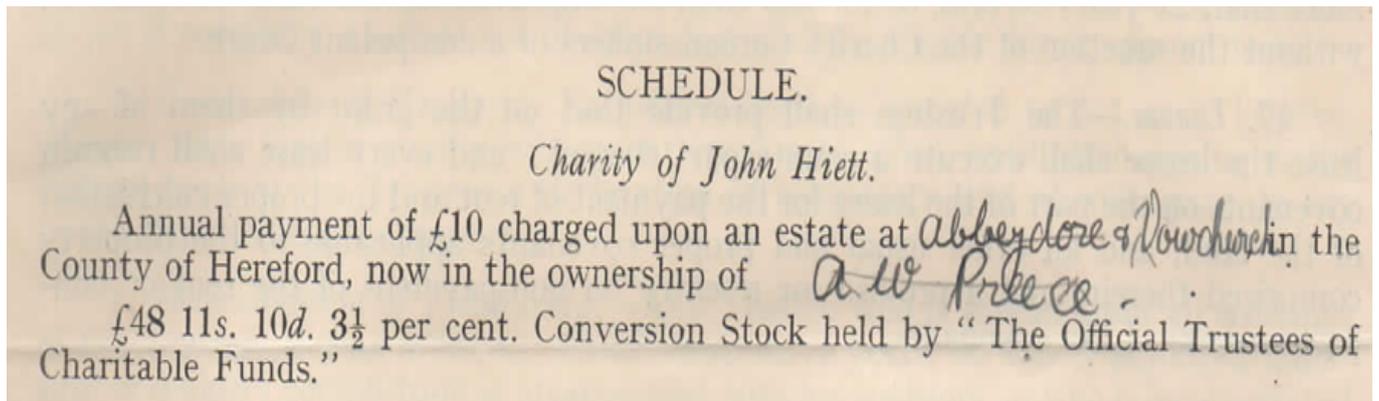
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## Minsterworth Parochial Charities – John Hiett

In the June Villager, we gave some background to the Joseph Winkle Charity. This month it's the John Hiett Charity. The 1940's charity commission document states that the charity was founded in a legacy from a Will by John Hiett of Minsterworth on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1719. The 1940's document states that the annual income for the Charity comes from two sources, the first being an **'annual payment of £10 charged upon an estate at Abbeydore and Dowchurch in the County of Hereford now in the ownership of A W Preece'** and the second source being the income from **'£48 11s 10d of 3 ½ % Conversion Stock held by the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds'**



As with the Joseph Winkle Charity, the capital sums are now held by an Investment Management Company, about which Google says *'CCLA is one of the UK's largest charity fund managers according to the latest Charity Finance Survey. Managing investments for charities, religious organisations and the public sector is all we do. Based in the City of London, with an office in Edinburgh, we are largely owned by our clients' funds'*. (see <https://www.ccla.co.uk/about-ccla> )

In relation to the distribution of the charitable income, the 1940's charity commission states 'the income of the Charity shall be applied by the Trustees primarily in apprenticing to some trade or calling poor boys in the Ancient Parish of Minsterworth, and in so far as the income of the charity cannot in the opinion of the Trustees be usefully applied for the purpose aforesaid, the said income may be applied in the assistance of boys, qualified as aforesaid, who are under the age of 21 years, and who are preparing for, entering on, or engaged in, any trade, occupation, or service, by outfits, payment of fees for instruction, payment of travelling expenses, or such other means for their advancement in life or to enable them to earn their own living, as the Trustees think fit'.

*To be continued in the August edition...*

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**07812 077367**

- What did the shark say when he ate the clownfish?  
That tastes a bit funny
- Why couldn't the pony sing a lullaby?  
She was a little horse



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Answer to riddle on p14

The word is starting! starting, staring, string, sting, sing, sin, in, I.  
Cool, huh?

## HELPFUL COMMUNITY LINKS

Minsterworth Neighbourhood Watch - join by emailing [64lettie@gmail.com](mailto:64lettie@gmail.com)



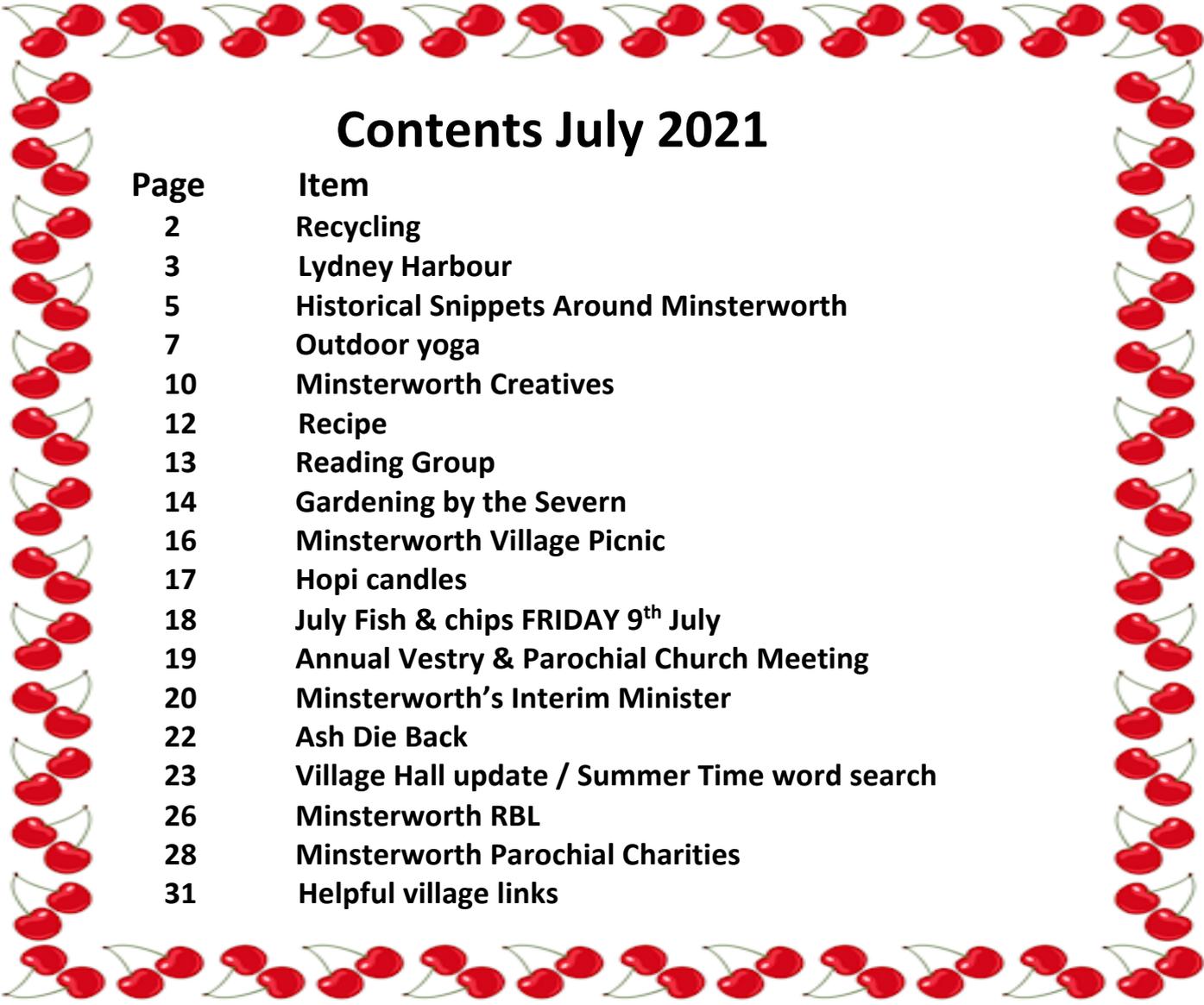
The Parish Council website - agenda, minutes, councillors etc  
<https://minsterworthparishcouncil.org.uk/>

The Village Hall website - [www.minsterworthvillagehall.org](http://www.minsterworthvillagehall.org) bookings, recent events

Minsterworthmatters Face Book website – news, local produce etc  
<https://www.facebook.com/MinsterworthGlos/>

St Peter's Church - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14101/> services, events

Minsterworth Matters App - join by texting Roger Ingham, 07525330364 immediate village interests



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## 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](http://www.minsterworthvillagehall.org)  
e-mail [minsterworthvh@gmail.com](mailto:minsterworthvh@gmail.com)

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