

# The Villager

## Minsterworth News



Bethannie and Sophie, winners  
of the children's Jubilee Drawing  
Competition

## September 2022

Edition 238

## Dear readers,

This month flags the start of another season for many, such as Minsterworth Photographic Club, see p3. Try another wine tasting p5 and celebrate Harvest on p8.

Reading group's August book review (see p28), *The Devil in the Marshalsea* was an interesting education in how debtors were treated in the eighteenth century (they were sent to goal & represented over 50% of the prison population!).

We will have the total of the donations made at Peter and Barbara Arkells' celebration (p6) for the October edition, unfortunately it is not yet available.

We're very lucky to have a local farmer's view on harvest time p15 at this busy time of year, thank you David.

Don't miss Minsterworth Island Discs p22 by Paul McHale.

Oh, & apologies for all the penguin jokes, they felt suitably corny. Anyone who can share similar short jokes for page fillers in a future issue would be very welcome. Suggestions please as usual e-mail [thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com](mailto:thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com).

**Paula**

### KERBSIDE RECYCLING SEPTEMBER 2022

GREEN & BROWN bin & caddy (landfill) (garden)		BLUE bin & caddy (recycling)	
Tuesday	13	Tuesday	6
Tuesday	27	Tuesday	20

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

Small electrical items now collected alongside your blue bin in a standard carrier bag (**not** a bag for life)

All items for consideration to: -

Paula Ruffley, Editor The Villager

Tel: 07905 694612

E-mail:

[thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com](mailto:thevillagerminsterworth@gmail.com)

Deadline is ALWAYS 10<sup>th</sup> of the month before the magazine is published, so for October, 10<sup>th</sup> September.

# Minsterworth Photographic Club



Following a somewhat warm summer, where some of our outings were postponed or cancelled due to the heat, we are now returning to the cooler environment of the Village Hall!

If you would like to come and view the efforts of our members; have an interest in anything photographic, or just fancy dusting off that camera and taking up a new hobby, we'd be delighted to see you. We focus on digital photography and will be delving into what is known as "post-production" this coming year. This involves making adjustments to the images you have taken to make a more pleasing result.

While this may not be to everyone's needs, we will continue to focus on improving your skills and knowledge of how your camera works, how to compose an image to add that "WOW factor", understand how to light a subject, and improve your confidence, through a better understanding of photography for those all-important family or holiday images!

We meet on the 3rd and 4th Monday of each month from 7.30pm. As an incentive – we will give you your first two evenings free, to come and see if we can interest you in this artform. You will be very welcome!

Our first evening back in the Hall is on the 17th October, so put it in your diary and we'll see you there!

Bob Holder

Chair

Minsterworth Photographic Club

Please visit our website: [www.minsterworthphotoclub.co.uk](http://www.minsterworthphotoclub.co.uk)

## Minsterworth Village Hall news

Sadly, we have taken the decision to postpone the Comedy Night scheduled for Friday 9th September. Live events rely heavily on advance sales to cover artists' costs. Ticket sales have been slow, and it seems unlikely we will sell enough in the time remaining before the event to cover the charges from the comedy agency. We have taken the decision at this point to give both the comedy agency and the Bespoke Brewery notice to allow them to take on alternative bookings.

We will look to re-schedule the event in Spring 2023.

Tickets are on sale for the Wine Tasting Evening with Simon and Vic on Friday 21st October. Tickets from Simon on 07847 560629 or Sarah on 07900 984281.

And planning ahead; another diary date. Do **keep Saturday 3rd December** free for our second 'Made in Minsterworth' Christmas Fayre. A chance to stock up on Christmas gifts and have coffee and cake with friends and neighbours.

# Ripe for Picking

Paula Ruffley

Eating with the seasons means making the most of your carefully nurtured fruit and veg, enjoying them at their peak. September is a time when lots of familiar vegetables and fruits are at their best and you might even be experiencing a glut of some things. This inevitably means looking into new ways to cook and to preserve the fruits of your labours.

Like many other people in our village I 'grow my own', not to save money, but to be able to enjoy plentiful high-quality fruit and veg when they are at their best from our garden for our tea. I also enjoy growing things we like eating and take a perverse pleasure in having veg much fresher than anything you could buy from a supermarket.



## **Make health a priority**

Gardening gives you one important nutrient before you even take one bite of your produce: vitamin D. Working in the garden for only 30 minutes a day can promote better sleep and positive energy. Just remember the sunscreen.

## **Live the 'fresh is best' lifestyle**

Nothing beats the flavour-and-nutrient-packed power of freshly picked fruits and vegetables. Once harvested produce begins to lose moisture and

nutrients. Although the freshness of shop-bought vegetables is out of your control, when you've grown your own you can know exactly when they've been picked and how fresh they are.

## **Make gardening a family hobby**

Gardening is a fun, family-friendly activity that allows kids to get their hands dirty and learn where their food comes from. From planting seedlings to building salads together, starting a vegetable garden is a great way to get your family off the couch and onto their feet.

## **Control your crops**

Growing your own produce lets you control what ends up on your family's table. You decide what fertilizer, water and pest control to use, as well as whether to grow organic.

## **Increase healthy fruit and vegetable consumption**

Households who grow fruit and veg consume 40% more fruits and vegetables per day than those who do not; those who grow their own are 3.5 times more likely to consume the recommended five portions a day of fruit and vegetables – or more.

## **Cut down on your food bills**

Growing your own food can save you money. The price of a pack of seeds is almost equivalent to what you would pay for a single vegetable or fruit at the shops and a single packet can last several years. Plus, you can grow organic vegetables for a fraction of the cost of those you buy. So why not give it a go, there's always a neighbour you can ask – or Uncle Google!



## Village Wine Tasting No.3

By Simon Ruffley and Vic Martindale

Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at 7:00pm

in

Minsterworth Village Hall

Ever wondered if it's worth paying up to £20 for a bottle of wine then why not come and join an informative and entertaining evening tasting 4-pairs of wine where we will see...

### Is it worth it?

Tickets (purchase in advance) cost £15 each.

To book go to [www.minsterworthvillagehall.org/events-coming-soon](http://www.minsterworthvillagehall.org/events-coming-soon) or alternatively contact Simon Ruffley on 07847 560629 or Sarah McHale on 07900 984281.

Bring some spare cash too as there will be a raffle for a nice bottle of bubbles!



### 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

# Barbara and Peter Arkell

**Would like to thank everyone who came along to join in the celebration of our lives in the Legion Room at Minsterworth Village Hall. And we'd also like to thank Rev. Sarah Hobbs who held a lovely service for us, Elizabeth Savage played the organ, Jo Stait and Cathy Thomas got everything ready at the Church and we enjoyed afternoon tea on the lovely new patio at the village hall after. I hope that lots of donations were made towards St. Peter's Church, but I don't know a total.**

**Sarah Fleming**





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**[www.woodvets.co.uk](http://www.woodvets.co.uk)**



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Longlevens  
Gloucester  
GL2 0LZ**

## Riverside Songs of Praise

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual Songs of Praise on 31 July. It was a well-attended event with wonderful music from Members of Gloucestershire Salvation Army Corps. Plus excellent singing from those present. Unfortunately, a late storm meant the event was held in the Church rather than outside, however that did not lessen enjoyment.

A special thank you to all who helped make it successful and in providing as usual a high standard of refreshments.

Donations of £200 were collected for the Salvation Army.

## Harvest Service at St Peter's Church

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 - time to be confirmed

### Harvest Supper

7:30pm, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022

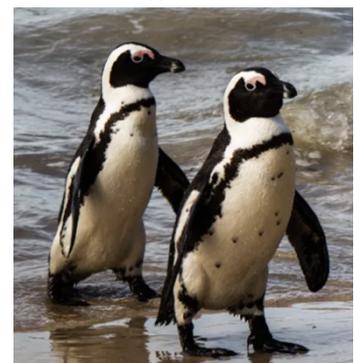
in Minsterworth Village Hall

Ploughman's Supper, BYOD

Contact - Jo Stait 01452 750709 for Tickets, £10



What do penguins eat for lunch?  
Answer on p30



# Gardening by the River Severn

Sharon Ingham

This month we are featuring Wynn and Sue's small and very modern garden. It has a homely feel with scented roses and lavender. The Koi carp pond is mesmerising.

## How big is your growing area?

The garden to the rear of the house is approximately 20 meters x 20 meters and a further 3 borders to the front.

## When did your love of gardening start?

It all started with our first house (43 years ago) we had a blank canvas of a small garden which started us off.

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

We have made a lot of changes, from laying new paths, retaining walls, excavating a

large pond to house our Koi carp which moved with us. We have also redesigned the main garden with new borders and planting.

During "lockdown" we purchased a small greenhouse to start seedlings and grow tomatoes and other veg. We also set aside a small patch to enable us to grow some broad beans, lettuce and experiment with different vegetables.

## Is there a significant person / gardener that has influenced your ideas in the garden?

We don't have a specific person who has influenced what we have done but we visit lots of gardens and watch programs like Gardener's World etc. Good old Monty Don!

## You grow a variety of things. How do you decide what to grow?

We very much see plants that we like and try them out in different areas - some work, some don't! We have lavender path edging and a number of different roses for their long flowering season. The local garden centre looks forward to seeing us!!



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

We do like our roses, for their perfume, variety of colours and long flowering.

## Do you have a favourite part or area in your garden?

The large pond provides lots of pleasure and the flowing water gives interest and a calming ambiance to the garden.

Continued from p9

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

Locally, we would say Highnam Court is well worth repeated visits at different times of the year.

Thank you, Sue and Wyn for telling us about your garden which you have clearly worked very hard on landscaping and planting.

## IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY – BIN STICKERS

Parish Council

The Parish Council are making slow but steady progress on the A48 Road Safety proposals. As a result of feedback from the Road Safety Questionnaires people kindly completed, we now have 100 bin stickers available for residents to collect FOC, initially at one per household. There are 5 different stickers available, each 18” high by 12” wide, with a variety of messages like ‘Check your Speed’, or ‘20 is plenty’, the latter being especially suitable for Church Lane and the lower roads. It will be up to you to choose which you think is most suitable for you.

The bin stickers will be available for collection from the Harvey Centre on Wednesdays during September, from 10am to 12noon. For anyone unable to pick one up during the day, text 07768-451071 and we will make alternative arrangements.

## Hills of Gloucestershire

Y	C	B	C	H	B	B	A	E	O	D	O	N	N
A	N	W	U	S	L	D	P	E	O	R	E	O	N
O	B	O	E	N	A	E	T	O	N	O	N	T	C
Y	R	R	E	B	K	P	W	D	N	P	E	P	S
N	U	Y	Y	W	E	S	W	N	E	I	N	M	E
N	U	A	I	W	N	N	A	U	E	L	C	A	K
B	R	M	D	I	E	V	K	T	H	D	L	H	S
E	N	N	B	C	Y	B	C	E	S	R	E	K	I
L	E	O	A	C	H	O	S	E	N	I	E	C	L
R	R	I	N	B	K	P	C	B	K	B	V	E	P
C	R	I	C	K	L	E	Y	C	K	E	E	L	B
K	I	C	C	C	C	R	U	A	R	D	E	A	N
A	U	Y	N	P	A	I	N	S	W	I	C	K	A
R	E	A	L	L	D	O	I	R	Y	I	P	P	W

RUARDEAN  
BERRY  
BLAKENEY  
MAY  
PAINSWICK  
ROBINSWOOD  
CHOSEN  
CLEEVE  
NUT  
CRICKLEY  
LECKHAMPTON  
BIRDLIP

Try this word search by  
Katie Panting

# Recipe for sausage rolls

Katie Holder

## **Ingredients**

- olive oil
- 1 red onion, peeled and finely sliced
- 1 sprig fresh sage, leaves picked
- 6 higher-welfare pork sausages
- 1 handful breadcrumbs
- fresh nutmeg, for grating
- 250g ready-made puff pastry
- 1 free-range egg
- a little milk



## **Method**

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/350°F/gas 4. Heat the olive oil in a saucepan and add the onions. Cook gently for about 20 minutes until soft and golden brown. Add the sage leaves, cook for a couple of minutes more and then spread out on a plate to cool.
2. With a sharp knife, slit the skins of the sausages and pop the meat out. Put it in a mixing bowl with the cooled sage and onion mix and the breadcrumbs. Add a good grating of nutmeg, then scrunch well with your clean hands to mix together.
3. On a floured work surface, roll the pastry out into a big rectangle as thick as a pound coin and cut it lengthways into two long, even rectangles. Roll the mixture into sausage shapes with your hands and lay along the centre of each rectangle.
4. Mix the egg and milk and brush the edges of the pastry with the mixture, then fold one side of the pastry over, wrapping the filling inside. Press down with your fingers or the edge of a spoon to seal the join.
5. Cut the long rolls into the sizes you want and space them out on a baking tray. Brush the top with the rest of the egg wash and bake in the preheated oven for 25 minutes or until puffed, golden and cooked through. Serve with piccalilli and a cress salad.
6. Tip: Lamb or beef sausages work just as well in this recipe if you don't fancy or can't eat pork.

*“Failure is another stepping-stone to greatness.”  
– Oprah Winfrey, media mogul and North America's first black multi-billionaire and a woman.*

## Historic September

- 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666 Great Fire of London started in Pudding Lane and raged for 5 days, but killed only 9 people
- 5<sup>th</sup> September 1800 The end of the Siege of Malta, as Napoleon's forces surrender to the British following a two year long naval blockade
- 11<sup>th</sup> September 1915 Britain's 1<sup>st</sup> Womens Institute opens in Wales
- 11<sup>th</sup> September 2001 9/11 Attacks On World Trade Center and Pentagon
- 17<sup>th</sup> September 1960 Chubby Checker has a number 1 record with The Twist
- 15<sup>th</sup> September 1975 Inflation Hits 26% in the UK
- 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1862 President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, ending slavery
- 24<sup>th</sup> September 1908 First factory-built Ford Model T completed

## September's jokes

How does a cucumber become a pickle?  
It goes through a jarring experience

What washes up on small shores?  
Micro-waves!



What's made of leather & sounds like a sneeze?  
A shoe

What does a house wear?  
Address!



What happens when an ice cream gets angry?  
It has a meltdown

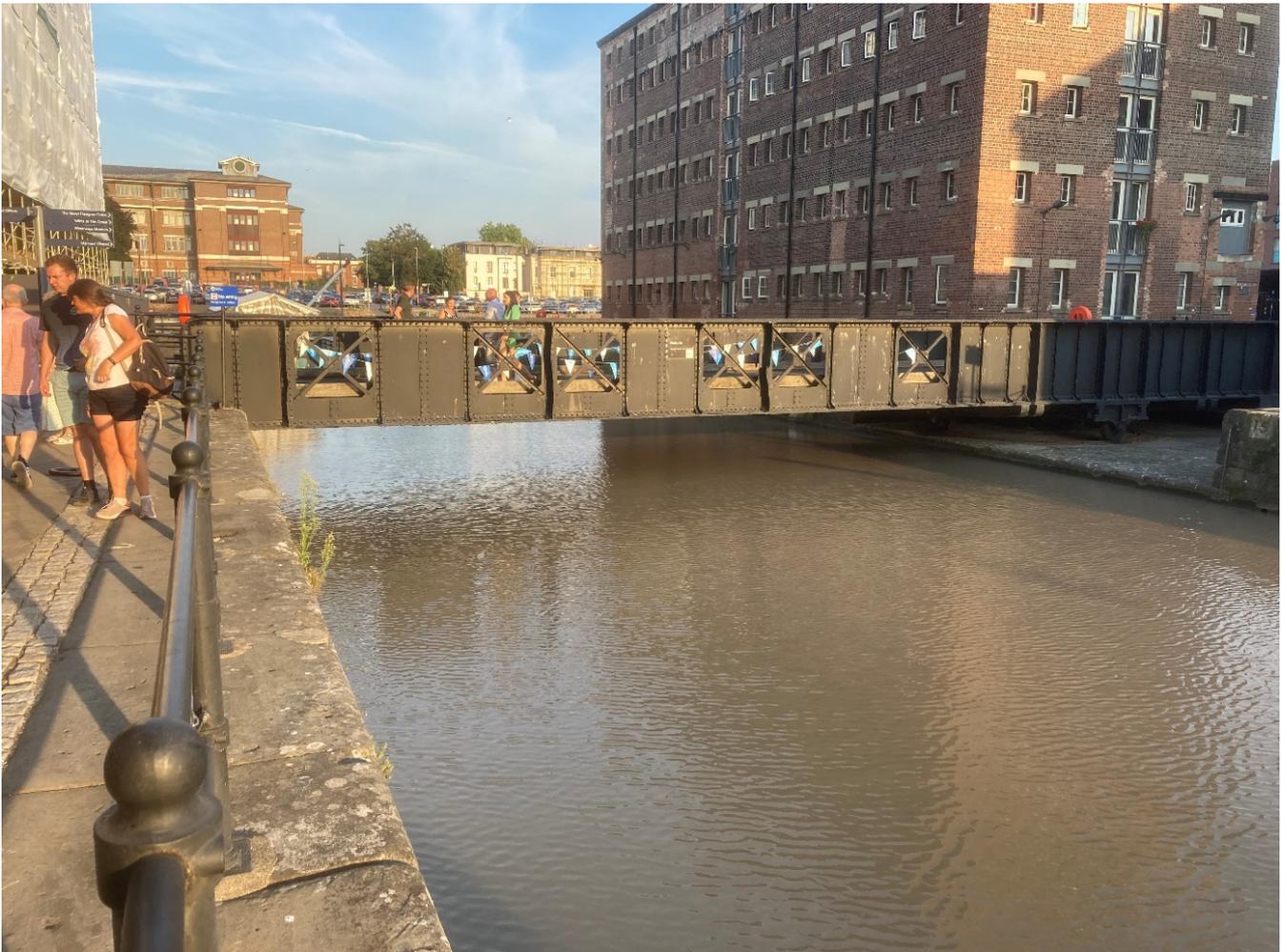


# An unusual effect of the heatwave!

Roger Blowey

On Saturday 13th August Norma and I went for an evening walk around the docks. A long boat was trying to access the Victoria Basin, but the swing bridge was stuck half open, jamming against the docks wall. Being all metal we wondered if it was simply the effects of the heat expanding the metal bridge – and we were correct! A lager shandy, gin and tonic, pizza and glass of white wine later, we watched people drop buckets into the docks, and pour the water over the metal bridge. It eventually reduced to a reasonable size and opened to allow the long boat entry.

A bizarre effect of global warming!



Where do penguins  
keep their money?

**Answer on p30**

What kind of fish do  
Penguins catch at  
night?

**Answer on p30**

# The Crawley-Boevey Family of Flaxley Abbey

## 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Beginning at 7.30pm

### Flaxley Schoolroom

£5.00 on the door; £8.00 for two

#### **Free raffle ticket and light refreshments available**

The Friends of Flaxley Church are delighted to welcome Mark Yonge, historian, whose own family intersects with the Crawley-Boeveys, to give a talk about the fascinating story of the Crawley-Boeveys living at Flaxley Abbey.

The Crawley-Boevey family lived there from 1648 to 1960, so within some of our living memories.

**Please indicate your intention to attend by 9<sup>th</sup> September by sending a text, WhatsApp or calling:**

**0785 068 1865**

The proceeds of the talk will contribute to the upkeep of the fabric of St Mary the Virgin, Flaxley Church.

The Boeveys came to Flaxley Abbey in 1647 in the middle of the English Civil War; James and William Boevey (London merchants and lawyers) purchasing the estate. Inheritor Catherina Boevey (James' widowed daughter-in-law) became the Abbey's most famous resident until her death in 1727.

The Crawley-Boeveys who succeeded Catherina were active in local life for over 300 years. During that time, six members of this family were elected as Verderers of the Forest of Dean. The Crawley-Boevey era at Flaxley involved a fascinating network of families' interests and inheritances, each with its own story. During this time, the house was substantially rebuilt through the designs of architect Anthony Keck.



Flaxley Abbey courtesy of Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism Authority

In 1684, aged 15, Catherina married William Boevey (1667–1692), who in the previous year (1683) had inherited Flaxley Abbey from his first cousin Abraham Clark (1622–1683) who had died without surviving issue.

Although William lived only to the age of 25, he was given to "excesses, both in debauch and ill-humour," becoming a poor companion to Catherina. According to a contemporary report, she supported it all "like a martyr, cheerful under her very sufferings".

Continued from p14

In 1692, when Mrs. Boevey was only twenty-two, her husband died, leaving her mistress of the estate of Flaxley. The short marriage was childless, and Catherina remained a widow for the rest of her life. She was also the sole heiress of her wealthy father, and immediately became the centre of a crowd of admirers.

By about 1686, aged 17, she had formed a strong friendship with Mrs. Mary Pope, daughter of John Pope, a Bristol merchant. Catherina associated Mrs. Pope with her philanthropic activities. Catherina Boevey distributed to the poor, assisted prisoners, and taught the children of her estate workers in a school within the Abbey buildings.

Her gifts, which included the purchase and donation of an estate to augment the income of Flaxley Church, a legacy to Bermuda, and bequests to two schools at Westminster, are all listed on her monument in Flaxley Church.

Neil Morley      Note: Neil contacted the editor to share this extraordinary story and advertise its telling on 10<sup>th</sup> September

## Harvest Time on an Arable Farm

David Smart

Harvest time is the busiest time of year on an arable farm. It is when the fruits of all the effort and investment in establishing and looking after crops over the preceding year are realised. It is a very rewarding and somewhat anxious time as even with modern machinery the weather gods need to be favourable to allow harvest to take place. Crops can only be cut when they are dry otherwise, they block the combine. Grain needs to be below a specific moisture content to be able to store. Sometimes the sun will do this work, but invariably a certain amount of grain will need to be dried in grain dryers. These are expensive pieces of equipment to install and run as well as taking up a lot of valuable man hours. As I write this, our barley and oilseed rape harvest are finished, the wheat is 70% complete, but the spring sown wheat and beans are still a couple of weeks from being ripe. 2022 is possibly the driest year since 1976, this has meant that harvest is 2 to 3 weeks earlier than normal. The dry weather has had a negative impact on yields but not as much as we were expecting.

All our arable crops are used to feed our chickens, wheat is approximately 60% of the ration but we dilute this with barley as it is less expensive. The oilseed rape and beans provide fat and protein respectively and we use these to reduce our reliance on imported soya. Imported soya is mainly grown in Argentina and Brazil



where huge areas of rainforest have been destroyed to fulfil the worldwide demand. These

Continued on p16

Continued from p15



areas have a hundred times more biodiversity than anywhere in the UK but we have a moral responsibility to reduce our reliance on these imported crops.

Farmers have faced massive increases in cost over the last 12 months; fertiliser has

risen from £250 per tonne last summer to close to £1,000 per tonne during the spring, diesel fuel increased from 50p/lit to £1.50/lit at one stage. These 2 items alone have increased the annual cost on our farm by £250,000. It is of little surprise that the consumer is seeing an increase in food costs in the shops. Although we are fortunate that more than 50% of the nutrient requirements for our crops comes from organic manures.

When harvest is completed, and the fields are cleared of straw there is a mad rush to cultivate fields in preparation for planting next year's crops. We try to avoid ploughing as much as possible; exposing buried soil to the air leads to oxidisation of organic matter which has 2 negative outcomes: a loss of organic matter and a large release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. We try our best to avoid both.

We are very lucky to have a wonderful team that puts in massive hours during this time of year to ensure that everything is done on time and to a very high standard.



David Smart

Why did the penguin cross the road?  
Answer on p21



## Memory Café - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

The Memory Café aims to provide a fun, friendly, safe and supportive space for people living with dementia or memory loss, their partners, families and carers.

Supported by Artspace, Cinderford as part of the Mindscape Project, people can expect to enjoy a variety of craft and activities.

### Itinerary:

- ◇ 11.00am arrival and enjoy a cuppa and a piece of cake
- ◇ 11.30am activities provided by Mindscape tutors
- ◇ 12.30pm – 1.15 Soup and rolls served. Finish

Further dates for the café are as follows:

**October 25<sup>th</sup>, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

There is no charge for attending this event so why not pop along and join us? A warm welcome awaits. For further information :

Call: 07926 986 247

Email: [Theharveycentre@gmail.com](mailto:Theharveycentre@gmail.com)

**The Harvey Centre, Main Road, Minsterworth,  
Gloucester, GL2 8JH  
Charity Number 311648**

## The Harvey Centre Calendar – September 2022

<b>MON</b>	<p><b>Tan House Choir 7.00pm to 9.00pm</b> Telephone 01452 750128 to find out more...</p>
<b>TUES</b>	<p><b>Memory Café:</b> <b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 11.00am – 1.30pm</b> Safe space for Dementia patients, their partners, families or carers to enjoy coffee, crafts and lunch. <b>Call 07926 986 247</b></p>
<b>WED</b>	<p><b>Community Cafe including Book/DVD/ Audio Book exchange. Weekly from 10.00am to 12.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Main Hall: Strength, balance and mobility class 10.00am to 11.00am</b> Telephone 01452 234005 or email info@farrphysio.co.uk leave mobile number/email address. A member of the team will then contact you to arrange.</p> <p><b>Book/DVD/ Audio Book exchange 9.30am to 12 noon</b></p>
<b>THUR</b>	
<b>FRI</b>	<p><b>Art for Wellbeing 10.00am to 12.30pm</b> Please pop along or call 07926 986 247</p> <p><b>Book/DVD/ Audio Book exchange 9.30am to 12 noon</b></p>

- **Coming Soon! The Autumn Programme of events**

**Food Bank: Donations of tinned and dried goods always welcome.**

These can be dropped off at the centre during café or opening hours above. Donations are collected weekly and transported to The Gloucester Food Bank.

What do penguins sing at their birthday parties?

Answer on p21

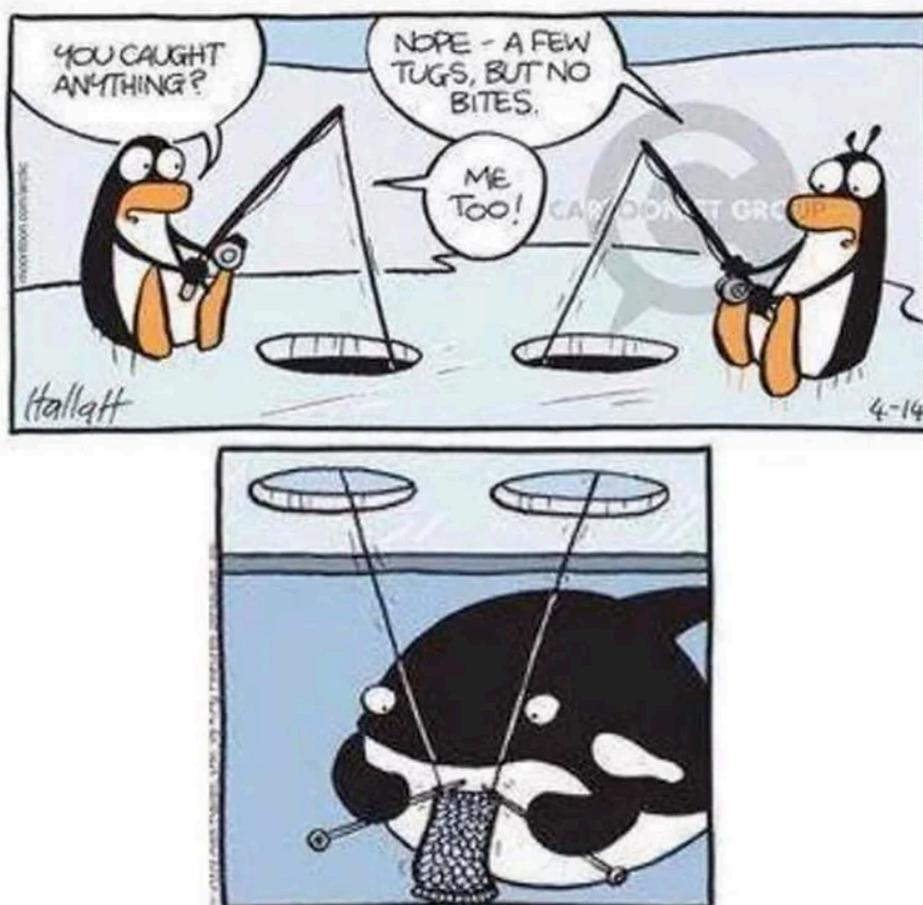
## Art for Wellbeing - an art class for all Weekly on Fridays - 10am to 12.30pm.

Yes! An art 'class' in that guidance, tuition and encouragement will be on hand but more importantly it will be a creative group where people can come together and make art in a non-judgemental and friendly environment. Everything to be supplied to start you off.

- ◇ ALL abilities are welcome.
- ◇ Some previous experience of painting is great ...no experience of painting is equally great!
- ◇ No sign up or booking required – just pop along
- ◇ £10 per session or £27.50 for 5 sessions.
- ◇ Tutor: Jackie Cox [Website: sindencox-art.co.uk](http://sindencox-art.co.uk)

**Need to know more? Call: Arlette Lane on 07926 986 247**

The Harvey Centre, Main Road Minsterworth, Gloucester, GL2 8JH





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

A variety of items from local makers including;

*The Forest of Dean Candle Company, Witherwood Designs, JKS Photography, Handmade by Helen.*

All super gift ideas or a treat for yourself.

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

 **01452 760511**

Answer to penguin joke on p16  
**To go with the floe**

Answer to penguin  
joke on p18  
**Freeze a jolly  
good fellow**

We realise the importance of our voices only when  
we are silenced – Malala Yousafzai



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good advice on plants, garden design and all aspects  
of your garden



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menus, or relax with fresh  
coffee, loose leaf teas and a  
delicious cake**

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GL2 8AR tel: 01452 750436**

# Minsterworth Island Discs

Paul McHale

It's been a while since we visited one of our villager's musical tastes. This month we've invited Paul McHale to share his eight discs. Restricting the selection to just eight songs was always going to be a challenge to someone who started his vinyl collection while in infant school (yes, really) and includes live music as his all-consuming favourite pastime. Along with going to gigs, Paul loves taking photographs and reminisces fondly of the days when the security at The City Hall, Newcastle would beckon him down to take close-up shots. We hope you enjoy Paul's selection.

## 1. Blackbird – The Beatles (1968)

The Beatles were important to me from as early as the age of 6 or 7 and have continued to be throughout my life. Even at that young age my parents used to buy me every new Beatles release for birthdays or Christmas presents. I could happily choose any one of 50 or 60 of their songs but I've gone for Paul McCartney's Blackbird because it's the song I used to sing to Aimee when I was tucking her up in bed. She's 31 now but I can still hear her saying "sing Blackbird Daddy" as she drifted off to sleep.



McCartney, May 2015,  
Birmingham N.I.A.

## 2. Starship Trooper – Yes (1971)



I've been a huge fan of Yes since my early teenage years seeing them live well over 20 times.

Their music introduced me to 'Prog Rock' which remains my key musical inspiration and focus to this day. This track, in 3 passages, is one of their shorter pieces clocking in at around 9 minutes.

Yes, May 2014 Colston Hall, Bristol

## 3. I Saw The Light, Todd Rundgren (1972)

Just a perfect pop song from a great, but much underrated, American singer / songwriter / producer. My Desert Island Disc selection would change from one month to the next, but this track would always have to be included.

## 4. Whiskey in The Jar – Thin Lizzy (1972)

A traditional Irish folk song believed to have originated from the late 1600's. It was a signature song for the Irish Folk band The Dubliners, then subsequently recorded by the Irish rock band Thin Lizzy in 1972. This brings back memories of gigs in the 70's, one of which in Sunderland

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Continued from p22

that Sarah and I subsequently discovered we were both at before we actually knew each other.

The Thin Lizzy lead singer and songwriter Phil Lynott tragically died in 1986 aged just 36. Another ever-present in my Desert Island Disc selection.

### **5. Life on Mars – David Bowie (1971)**

Selecting just one track by David Bowie to take to the Desert Island from his hugely diverse catalogue is a virtually impossible task. I've chosen this track because it features beautiful piano accompaniment from another of my favourite musicians of all time, Rick Wakeman. Bowie is another phenomenal talent taken from us far too early in 2016, aged 69.



**Wakeman, March 2017, Birmingham Symphony Hall**

### **6. Stardust – Nat King Cole (1957)**

A song originally composed by Hoagy Carmichael in 1927 and recorded by many singers over the years. The Nat King Cole version was one of my Mam's favourite songs and we played it at her funeral last year. It will always bring back many wonderful memories.

### **7. Pariah – Steven Wilson (2017)**



Looking at the release dates of my Desert Island selections made me realise that I'm certainly living in the past. In fact, I still follow and am inspired by new music, so I thought I should at least choose one track from this century.

Steven Wilson is a hugely respected musician / singer / songwriter in progressive rock circles. This song was the highlight of a great live performance I enjoyed back in **2017 at Birmingham Symphony Hall**.

### **8. Thunder Road – Bruce Springsteen (1975)**

Sarah and I have been to hundreds of concerts together over the years, but the highlight has undoubtedly been the 5 or 6 times we've seen Bruce Springsteen. For me, Thunder Road is always the peak of his live set.

We're looking forward to experiencing 'The Boss' again at Villa Park, Birmingham in June 2023.



**Springsteen – June 2016, Coventry Ricoh Arena**

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### Luxury

Having spent all of my life as a music appreciator, I'd like to make use of my time on the island trying to become a music player.

I'd like to take a guitar and a range of tuition books (from beginner onwards) with the aim of achieving Jimi Hendrix standard before I'm rescued.

### Book

I love books. I love owning them. However, I never seem to get around to reading them. My collection of largely music-related biographies and autobiographies is extensive. Therefore, it's a great shame that I can't take a selection of them with me to the desert island.

If I were to choose just one it would be; The Beatles Anthology. I've owned it since 2000 when it was released but, true to form, I haven't read it. It's a hefty tome consisting of interviews and quotes from all 4 Beatles plus George Martin (their legendary producer - 'the 5<sup>th</sup> Beatle') taken from throughout their career. Referring to all of their best songs it will be as good as having the tracks with me on the island, I know the music so well.

Spotify link to the list;

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4JH45A0qO9zaranIaSUwFR?si=96103a6ba533451c>



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# NEW! Village Hall Accessible Parking

Simon Ruffley

Those passing the Village Hall at the end of July may have seen, heard and even smelt some goings on in the car park. This was work being carried out to create 2 new parking bays, giving improved and safer access to the hall via the accessible ramp.

This work has been generously supported by local funding. Tewkesbury Borough Council awarded a Disabled Facilities Grant and Minsterworth's own Joseph Winkle Parochial Charity provided a grant towards the cost of the line painting. Minsterworth Village Hall committee would like to offer their sincere thanks to both organisations to make this excellent improvement to the hall achievable. In addition, our thanks go to Malcolm Ball for helping out with the ground preparation and gate re-hanging plus Nick Powell for the line painting.

BEFORE:



DURING:



AFTER:



It is very fitting that a local Minsterworth Parochial charity, set-up to provide support to villager and village needs was able to assist. The funds from the Winkle charity can provide financial assistance towards items such as wheelchairs, personal alarms, stair lifts, bathroom aids and taxis for hospital visits.

There is a second parochial charity, the John Hiett Charity, that can provide younger members of the community financial assistance towards items such as books, equipment or travel.

The establishment of the parochial charities was an act of kindness from many years ago. Funds from both charities are limited to hundreds rather than thousands of pounds. If you have a need that could be supported, then please apply to [rogerblowey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rogerblowey@hotmail.co.uk). All applications will be dealt with in confidence, and awards only discussed if (as in the current instance) it is requested by the recipient.

*How does a penguin build its house?  
Answer on p30*



## Minsterworth & District Royal British Legion

The R.B.L. National Chair is Jason Coward. Jason previously served on the Membership Council. A visit to the National Memorial Arboretum is an absolute must, something not to be missed. The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Falklands conflict was remembered in June 2022.

Our next quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in the Legion room at 7pm. Please come and join us.

### MILITARY HISTORY

1943	Sept 9 <sup>th</sup>	Invasion of Italian mainland at Salerno
1759	Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Capture of Quebec
1976	Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	WREN officer training moves to Dartmouth
1758	Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Admiral Nelson born

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup> 2022.  
Please come and join us.

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



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# Cheltenham Paint Festival

Paula Ruffley

The annual Cheltenham Paint Festival brings high-quality artwork from leading national and international street artists to Cheltenham every year. One of the many great things about the Cheltenham Paint Festival is that it can be enjoyed year-round. All of the large scale / full wall street art murals are permanent and therefore available to appreciate long after the artists have left town. Take a walk around beautiful Regency Cheltenham and enjoy these wonderful works of art.



Cheltenham Paint Festival is the latest in Cheltenham's festival calendar and has been embraced by inhabitants and businesses offering their walls as 'canvasses'.

Download the map from [www.cheltenhampaintfestival.co.uk](http://www.cheltenhampaintfestival.co.uk) and walk through sites like the university, the Honeybourne Line or North Street car park for a feel of the festival, all for free.

We had great fun wandering round town watching the artists at work, sometimes with cherrypickers, with a few times when we had to take urgent shelter from the rain! Seems improbable now, I know!

There is even chance to sign up for lessons with some of the artists and get you and/or your kids involved – an art lesson like no other and lots of fun. Something really interesting for next year perhaps...





## Minsterworth Reading Group

Minsterworth Reading Group meets the first Wednesday of each month.

### Ruth Thomas

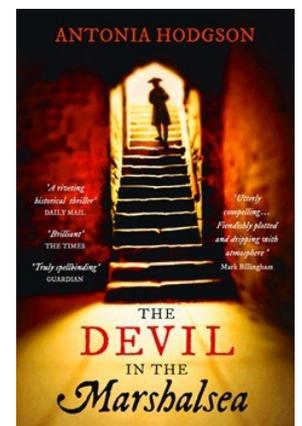
Making the most of the nice weather, the reading group sat outside in August to review *The Devil in the Marshalsea* by Antonia Hodgson.

The book is set almost entirely within the confines of an eighteenth-century debtors' prison. The narrator, Tom Hawkins, has given up his intended career and instead has been enjoying himself in London, spending all his money on drinking and gambling. Suddenly unable to pay his debts he is taken to the notorious Marshalsea Prison where he is horrified to discover that the last occupant of his cell, Captain Roberts, was murdered, and the killer has never been caught. Tom realises he must find the killer before he is killed himself.

Through the twists and turns of the plot – of which there were many – the book provided an insightful look at the harsh conditions the inhabitants had to endure as a result of not being able to pay their debts. The Marshalsea was a savage world of its own, with simple rules: those with family or friends who could lend them a little money could survive in relative comfort, enjoying large meals and regular bowls of punch. Those with none starved in squalor and disease. And those who tried to escape suffered a gruesome fate at the hands of the gaol's ruthless governor. A number of people admitted to skipping over some of the ghastlier descriptions of punishment endured by the prisoners!

The book is filled with larger than life characters and we were interested to read the notes at the end of the book which explained that many of the characters were based on people who really existed and were mentioned in the diary of John Grano, a debtor who spent a year in the prison from 1728-1729. On the whole a well-received book, with some people hoping to seek out the other books in this 4-book series.

In September, the Reading Group will be reviewing *My Brilliant Friend* by Elena Ferrante and in October we'll be discussing *The Editor's Wife* by Clare Chambers.



Be a first-rate version of yourself instead of a second-rate version of somebody else – Judy Garland

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Answer to penguin joke on p25

**Igloos it together**

Answer to penguin joke on p13

**In a snow bank**

Answer to penguin joke on p13

**A starfish!**

Answer to penguin joke on p8

**Ice-burgers**

## Minsterworth 200 Club

The result of the August draw was as follows:-

£50 No. 027 Margaret Lawtey

£20 No. 190 Anne Pearson

£10 No. 048 Liz Duff

## Whist Drive

Thank you to all who helped and attended the August whist drive. The result was £75 for church funds. The next whist drive is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at Minsterworth Village Hall. You are most welcome to come and try your hand.

## Church service times and flower rota

Date	Time	Service	Flowers
4 <sup>th</sup> September	11am	Family Service	Kate Oxley
4 <sup>th</sup> September	5pm	Evening Worship	Kate Oxley
11 <sup>th</sup> September	11am	Holy Communion	Kate Oxley
18 <sup>th</sup> September	11am	Morning Prayer	Beverley Robinson
25 <sup>th</sup> September	10am	Five Churches Together - Holy Communion*	Alison Raeburn

The induction service of Revd Heather de Gruyther is at Highnam Church at 7.30pm on 21st September.

\*The Five Churches Together service is at Minsterworth led by Reverend Heather de Gruyther

### **HELPFUL COMMUNITY LINKS**

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

Parish Council – agenda, minutes, Councillors etc

[www.minsterworthparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.minsterworthparishcouncil.org.uk)

[www.minsterworthvillagehall.org](http://www.minsterworthvillagehall.org) – booking, recent events

Minsterworthmatters Facebook website – news, local produce etc

[www.facebook.com/MinsterworthGlos/](http://www.facebook.com/MinsterworthGlos/)

St. Peter's Church – [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14101/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14101/) services, events

Minsterworth Matters App – join by texting Roger Ingham on 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)

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Tel: 01452 750492