

The Villager

Minsterworth News



Remembrance poppies by Severnside Stitches

December 2018

Price 30p
Free to residents

Edition 194

Dear Readers,

Merry Christmas to everyone. Another year over & lots already to come in 2019 so bring it on.

I'm sure you'll agree that this year's 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 inspired a great deal of poppy creativity to support the Royal British Legion.

I was sent lots of poppy (and other) photos but unfortunately was not able to use them because they were too dark.

Paula

Closing copy date for the January edition is Saturday 15th December 2018
but earlier is even better!

All items for consideration to:-
Paula Ruffley, Editor The Villager
Tel: 01452 751226.

E-mail: thevillager@minsterworth.org

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

KERBSIDE

BLUE bin & caddy
(recycling)
Tuesday 4
Wednesday 18

RECYCLING - DECEMBER

GREEN & BROWN bin & caddy
(landfill) (garden)
Tuesday 11
Thursday 27

Mobile library

Friday 14th December

10.00 – 10.30

outside school



**MAKE YOUR OWN
CHRISTMAS WREATH
OR TABLE ARRANGEMENT**

**WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER
AT 7.00 P.M. IN
MINSTERWORTH VILLAGE HALL**

**IN AID OF MINSTERWORTH VILLAGE HALL
AND ST PETERS CHURCH**

BRING YOUR OWN FOLIAGE, SCISSORS AND DECORATIONS
(A SUGGESTED LIST OF ITEMS TO BRING WILL BE PROVIDED
UPON BOOKING YOUR PLACE)

**HELP/GUIDANCE WILL BE GIVEN
THROUGHOUT THE EVENING**

**AND YOU WILL TAKE HOME A LOVELY
WREATH/DECORATION**

£7 TO INCLUDE WREATH BASE AND A HOT DRINK/MINCE PIES

**TO BOOK CONTACT:
JULIE FISHER 01452 750562
CATHY THOMAS 01452 750701**



Coffee Morning thanks

What a success the Village Hall coffee morning was on Saturday 27th October. Lots of you came - including some of our newest residents from Ellis Bank. You are very welcome & we can't wait for you to start to organise your own events in your closest venue, Minsterworth Village Hall.

The Annual Donkey Walk

This year our, now Annual, Donkey Walk will start at 6pm on Saturday 22nd December.

We will start from outside Highcross House & Red roofs and walk (or ride on the trailer) to St Peter's Church singing Christmas Carols and Christmas songs, by torch light.

Those wishing to 'drop off' family / friends at the start can park in the Church car park & catch the tractor & trailer up to the start. The trailer will leave the Church car park at 5.45pm sharp.

Arriving at the Church we can all get warm and enjoy mince pies and warm mulled 'wine' (non-alcoholic) and perhaps a carrot / apple for Sparky & Poppy the donkeys!

Everyone is very welcome to join us, please come along – its free 😊

Any queries, please contact Cathy on: 750701 (after 6pm)

2018 Remembrance Service



The Remembrance service held this year at Minsterworth church was really well attended and as a result the collection amounted to the grand sum of £389.55.

As always the monies are equally divided between Minsterworth and Westbury-on-Severn Royal British Legions.

This year of, course, was a very special year, commemorating the end of the 1914 – 1918 1st World War 100 years ago. Adding to my report in the November edition of The Villager I have received very generous donations to go towards our trip to the Imperial War Museum, bringing the grand total for our trip to £580.

Our next meeting will be held in January 2019 on Wednesday 9th. Please come along and join us.

Military History

Dec 8 th 1914	Battle of the Falklands
Dec 10 th 1941	HMS Prince of Wales
Dec 12 th 1962	The raid on Limbang
Dec 13 th 1939	Battle of the River Plate
Dec 26 th 1943	Scharnhorst sunk

Terry Bourne, Chairman
Minsterworth and District R.B.L.

Adding the finishing touches to the overflow car park

Tarmac very kindly donated two loads of road planings from the A48 and these have now been spread over the overflow car park at the Village Hall by the generous help of Bob Hyslop and green tractor.



The result is just superb. With various well attended events coming up, we will be making good use of the extra parking that this provides.

The next step is then the top coat tarmac for Ellis Bank and the Village Hall entrance. Unfortunately this was held up by problems in the drains on the A48, such that surface rainwater could not escape - and hence the traffic lights on the A48 on 15th + 16th November. Once the drains have been sorted we hope that the top coat will be applied well before Christmas.

Minsterworth Reading Group 2018

What we've been reading in 2018...

January	A Boy Made of Blocks	Keith Stuart
February	All The Light We Cannot See	Anthony Doerr
March	Two Brothers	Ben Elton
April	The Woman Who Walked into Doors	Roddy Doyle
May	American Wife	Curtis Sittenfeld
June	Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine	Gail Honeyman
July	A Rose For Winter	Laurie Lee
August	The Elephant Keeper	Christopher Nicholson
September	Long Road From Jarrow: A Journey Through Britain Then and Now	Stuart Maconie
October	The Chilbury Ladies Choir	Jennifer Ryan
November	Ladder of Years	Anne Tyler
December	Fools and Mortals	Bernard_Cornwell

Minsterworth Reading Group



We will review 'Fools and Mortals' by Bernard Cornwell on Wednesday 5th December.

Ring Vicki on 07515 255685 for further information.

A Kiwi was hoping to emigrate to Australia. Upon arriving in Australia, he was questioned by a customs officer, "What is your business in Australia?"

"I wish to immigrate," was the Kiwi's reply.

The customs officer then asked, "Do you have a conviction record?"

Confused, the Kiwi then replied, "I didn't think you still needed one."

Allcleanhumour.com

Minsterworth Footpaths

We are extremely fortunate to have a wealth of lovely footpaths in our village. These can be seen on:

https://gis.gloucestershire.gov.uk/LocalViewPub/Sites/PROW_EXT/

Foot paths should be a two way agreement however. Although we are permitted a legal right to walk on the footpath, we also have a legal obligation to respect the rights of the land owner, his crops and livestock. This came into focus recently when unfortunately a dog was reported to be chasing cattle. Please remember that if the dog cannot be controlled in such instances, then the livestock owner has the right to shoot the dog to protect his livestock. This has happened at least once in the past in Minsterworth when dogs were attacking sheep.

Please keep to the footpath and keep your dog under control at all times, but especially in fields with livestock. Please also clean up after your dog. Dogs carry parasites that can cause blindness in children (Toxocara), an incurable brain disease in sheep and cattle (gid = tapeworm cysts) and abortion in cattle (Neospora) The risk of Toxocara and tapeworm (C ovis) can be reduced by regular worming, and although not a legal requirement, we would ask that all dog walkers PLEASE ensure that their dogs are regularly and suitably wormed.

If you find that the footpath is poorly marked, then please report this to PROW using the above web site, as further signs can be erected.

And at the end of all that, and equally as important, please enjoy your walks!

WESTBURY COURT Day Centre



Join us for an enjoyable
day of relaxation and fun.

Our day centre services are available for older people – as a one off or on a regular basis – to provide a warm and comfortable environment.

For further information or to enjoy a tour of the centre contact Anna Barnard – a.barnard@osjct.co.uk or 01452 760429

Monday – Friday
9am – 4pm £46 per day
Last Saturday of the
month 10am – 3pm £35
Bath/Shower £9

Westbury Court,
Westbury on Severn,
GL14 1PD



Relax and chat
with friends



Healthy home
cooked lunch



Lots of fun
activities

Armistice Day commemoration 2018

Over 800 knitted or crocheted poppies of many different patterns and shades of red adorned St Peter's church on Armistice Day 2018. I think they looked beautiful and all thanks to Cathy Thomas for organising the knitting, pinning and placing in the Church. It took about 14 hands and arms to hold the hessian while Cathy and a couple more hands and arms tied the hessian to the pillars with string! Kate Oxley placed the poppies on the altar, Pat Haisell-Neves made the flower arrangement on the table and I undertook the font. In the line up in the final photograph from left to right are: Sue Parry, Julie East, myself, Pat Haisell-Neves, Jo Stait, Lin Hart, Mary Cooper. Not in the photograph but a helper was Betty Jayne.



The service on Sunday 11th November, conducted by Rev Steve Taylor, was truly moving and the Church was full with villagers from Minsterworth and Westbury supporting the two British Legions. The Vicar read out all the names of the those who had died in WW 1 and 11 and for two small villages there were too many, some are familiar names as their descendants/families still live in the area today: Bennett, Woodman, Selwyn... To hear the last post and the exhortation that was read out in Church by Terry Bourne and then again at the placing of the poppy wreaths at the war memorial was poignant and brought home to us all, that yes, they did give their tomorrows for our todays and we should remember them.

Julie Fisher

HISTORICAL SNIPPETS AROUND MINSTERWORTH



If, in Minsterworth, back in the mid-to-late 1700's, you could read and had the money to buy it, you would have got your news from the Gloucester Journal weekly newspaper. Published by the eminent Gloucester printer and philanthropist Robert Raikes from his premises in Southgate Street (now the beautifully restored timber-framed Robert Raikes Inn). The Journal provided news from all around Gloucestershire and neighbouring counties and also Wales. I have recently come by an original, very fragile, copy of the paper dating from 16th April 1764 and very interesting reading it makes too.

Minsterworth people would particularly have noted on page two the reported existence of a *'new turnpike road leading from Gloucester, through Newnham, Lydney and Chepstow to Abergavenny and other parts of Wales, which is by far the best and neareft Road to all those Plafes; and there are good Houfes all the way, where Gentlemen and Ladies may depend on meeting with the best Accommodations'* (this road replaced the first turnpike road through Minsterworth created in 1726).

Horse-drawn carriage or coach was the main form of transport and elsewhere in the paper is an advertisement for the *'Gloucester Flying Stage-Coach'* which left Fleet Street London for Gloucester every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday night at 10pm and reached Gloucester by 7 o'clock the following evening. The Coach made the return journey from Gloucester to London leaving Gloucester at 10 o'clock every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday night.

On a less pleasant note the reader would have noted an ad. For a *'Subscription Cock-Match'* to be fought at Andoversford, involving 31 cocks on each side, the prize being 2 Guineas a battle. On the same page was a report that one Daniel was executed at Gloucester for stealing 4 cows. It reports that, on mounting the scaffold, *'his deportment was fuitable to his melancholy situation'*.



ST PETER'S P.C.C.

The Whist Drive

Thank you to all who helped and attended the November whist drive. Special thanks too, to Betty, Beverley, Hazel, and Mary, who during the course of the year give of their time to make the tea and coffee and serve refreshments for this event.

The next monthly whist drive will be on Monday December 3rd. We do try to make the December drive special by extra festive prizes. If you would like to support the evening by the giving of a prize then this would be most welcome. Please contact Liz on 750401 for further details.

200 Club

The winners of the November draw were:

£50	No. 048	Liz Duff
£20	No. 092	Matthew Gardner
£10	No. 165	Anthony Reeve

The December draw will include the extra prize of £100.

Church Service times & Flower rota November

Date	Time	Service	Flowers
2 nd	11am	Family Service	No flowers
2 nd	5pm	Evensong	No flowers
9 th	11am	Holy Communion	No flowers
16 th	4.30pm	Advent Carol Service	No flowers
23 rd	10am	Benefice Communion Service*	
24 th	11.30am	Midnight Communion Service	Pat Haisell-Neves
25 th	11am	Family Service	Pat Haisell-Neves
30 th	10am	Benefice Service*	
30 th	5pm	Candlelight Carol Service	Pat Haisell-Neves

- The Benefice Services are at Northwood Green

Reindeer's Story at Christmas

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl. We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

Funny-jokes.com

Christmas riddles

How many ears has Captain Kirk got? Three: the left ear, the right ear, and the final front ear.

What do lions sing at Christmas? Jungle bells!

How do snowmen get around? On their icicles.

What does Santa call reindeer that don't work? Dinner.

What is the purpose of reindeer? It makes the grass grow, sweetie.

Where do you find giant snails? On the ends of giant's fingers.

Funny-jokes.com

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**Westbury
Post Office
and Stores**

Off on your holidays? Order foreign currency with us for next day collection or travel money cards for home delivery.

We continue to stock a wide range of groceries and household goods, from baked beans and cereal to biscuits and cleaning products.

Pop in to see how much!

Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm
01452 760682

I married Mr Right, I just didn't know his first name was Always

A man will know every good joke his friend has told him but not be aware that his friend has split up from his wife

When she's sharing confidences with you she's not complaining – it means she trusts you

Women use silence to punish men.
But men love silence.

Farewell to Anthony Lynch

At the conclusion of the Communion Service on Sunday 28th October the Church community of St Peter's bade a heartfelt, affectionate and sad farewell to Anthony Lynch and his wife Paula as they prepared for their move to Newnham.

Anthony and Paula have lived at the Naight House in Minsterworth for almost 40 years, where they have opened their beautiful gardens at snowdrop time to raise funds for the Church. They have been great friends to all in the village as well as involved in so many of the organisations and events that make Minsterworth such a special place.

Anthony and Paula will be particularly missed by their friends at St Peter's where Anthony has spent the last seven years as Churchwarden and Paula was already serving on the PCC, and both have been central to the many community events that the Church has organised. Anthony has led on the many developments in the Church that have made St Peter's such a well-loved and well-maintained centre of the community.

The Rev Steve Taylor presented them with a token of our appreciation. Fortunately they are not going too far and promise to return often.

It was agreed unanimously that Mrs Anne Cowdrey would assume the vacant position of Church Warden working alongside Jo Stait and the members of the Parochial Church Council in continuing the mission of St Peter's in being available to all and proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ within our parish.

Minsterworth Village Hall

Registered charity 255668



Available to hire

Booking clerk - Brian Billingham 01452 750492

*A beautiful, traditional Hall with a stage,
well-equipped kitchen and recreation ground.*

Suitable for outdoor events and marquees.

Main Road, Minsterworth, Gloucester GL2 8JH

e-mail - village_hall@minsterworth.org

Website - www.minsterworth.org

Notes from Parish Council Meeting 12th November 2018

Present: Cllr. R Blowey, Cllr. C Elias, Cllr. S Ingham, Cllr. N Garbutt, Cllr. C Thomas, Cllr. R Crisp, clerk F Wallbank, Cllr. P Awford

Apologies: Cllr. D Davies

County Cllr. Awford

Resurfacing of the A48 has been completed.

Unfortunately it is clear that Gigaclear have 'a problem' with a huge backlog of broadband installations. There is no news on when Minsterworth's fibre will happen. TBC's JCS is out for consultation.

Public comment

There was a query about Minsterworth Garage's change of use.

Planning

18/01001/FUL Thatchers Farm change of use to equestrian. Concern about effluent runoff.

18/01024/FUL Parcel 0020 erection of 2 infill dwellings with vehicular access. Concern about sufficient turning space. Not in keeping with existing properties. Height etc.

Chimney looks low with bungalow so close. Objection to current plan,

18/01023/FUL still using same plan so could overlook existing dwelling. Refer to previous letter objecting.

18/0102/FUL Now still 4 bed but same footprint. Support

18/01085/FUL Essentially gated community. Not compatible with current street scene as suggests 'not safe' therefore object. Was pond on original application?

18/01083/FUL concern over setting a precedent by agreeing to 3rd storey - beside a bungalow. Also talk of becoming a gated community. Against - out of character with street scene

Late application - next to Rosemary Cottage 2015 Calcotts Green

2015. Now up to 6 bedrooms (already agreed). Surface water?

Support.

Late application - Lyncroft Support

18/00663 & 00666 Highcross Farm granted

Greenacres going to committee

The next meeting is on 10th December in Minsterworth Village Hall at 7.30pm

This report doesn't necessarily reflect the minuted discussions and decisions of the Parish Council; anyone wanting further information, or to inspect the agreed minutes, should consult the Clerk Fiona Wallbank on 01452 849178

FOR YOUR DIARY

December 2018

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Sleeping At Work?

Excuses To Use When Caught Sleeping At Work...

They told me at the blood bank that this might happen.

This is just a 15 minute power nap like they raved about in that time management course you sent me to.

I was working smarter - not harder.

Whew! I must have left the top off the whiteout.

I wasn't sleeping! I was meditating on the mission statement and envisioning a new paradigm!

This is one of the seven habits of highly effective people!

I was testing the keyboard for drool resistance.

I'm in the management training program.

I'm actually doing a Stress Level Elimination Exercise Plan (SLEEP). I learned at the last mandatory seminar you made me attend.

Ah, the unique and unpredictable circadian rhythms of the workaholic!

Allcleanhumor.com