

Misterton

Village Magazine



Queen Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022

October 2022



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Note from the editors

It feels like a lot has changed since our last editors note, the biggest change being the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Geoff Albert has written a very eloquent eulogy, which we hope you will appreciate.

We originally had plans for the front cover to be a photo from the Misterton flower festival in August, but have squeezed as many photos of the beautiful floral displays as we can into Sue Coquet's article about this instead.

Finally, but very importantly, we would like to thank the many distributors of our magazine who do such a good job including organising cover when they are unavailable - they provide an invaluable service and we couldn't deliver this magazine to you without them.

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the November magazine is Friday 21st October.

Contributions please to mistertonmagazine@gmail.com or through the letter box at Chestnut Lodge, Broughtons Drive.

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<https://mistertonparishcouncil.org.uk/village-information/village-magazine/>



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Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team

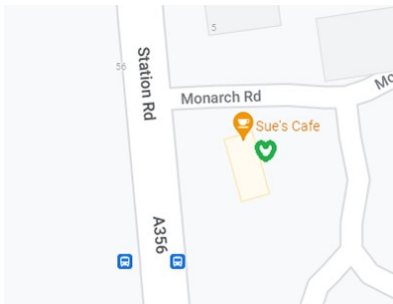
One of the roles the Misterton Emergency and Resilience Team (MERT) undertakes is to check the defibrillators in the village apart from one which will be covered by the staff at Misterton Garage. If you would like to know their whereabouts, below are small location maps to assist. The one at the garage was previously at the WI hall and has moved because of the impending sale of the building.

At the beginning of the year MERT organised an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) training session to help provide familiarisation with the devices for those who were interested. We intend to do the same in January 2023, if we have sufficient interest from the community, as it is a useful skill to have. If you would like to attend a short two-hour course one evening in January either for the first time or as a refresher, please let us know and we will compile a list and update the village with more details in due course.

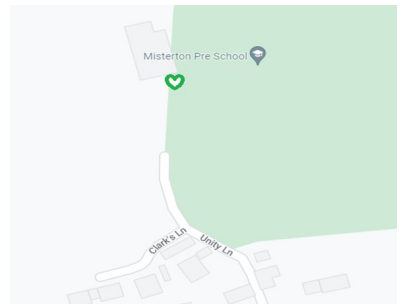
The other matter that is likely to impact the village this autumn or winter is flooding. To this end we hope to check the stream, in the next month, as it flows through Misterton and identify any potential issues. If you are aware of any pinch points, please let us know and we'll report updates in future magazines.

Phil

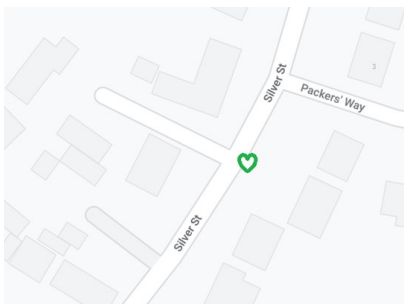
MERT member



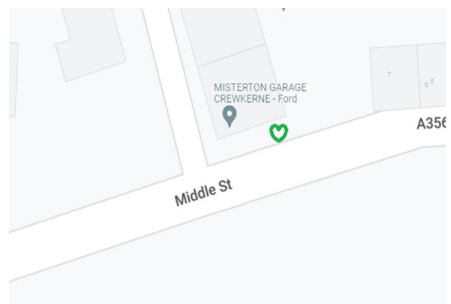
Station defib



Village hall defib



Silver Street defib



Garage (ex WI hall) defib

MERT Contact Details

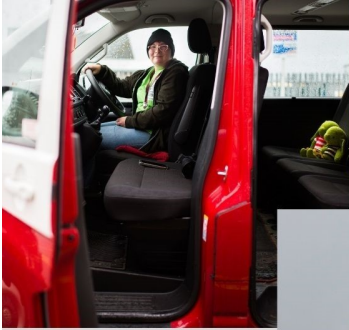
If an incident occurs in Misterton and you would like the assistance of the emergency and resilience team please call:

Iain Rowland on 01460 78951 or 07968 232998

Phil Clifton and Sally Gray on 01460 73815 or 07775 841204 philclifton@hotmail.com

Pete and Jackson Marshall on 01460 73507 or 07909 967319 / 07980 768125

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News from the Parish Council and Recreation Field Trust



This last month we seem to be living in tumultuous times. Firstly, on 5th September, we have a new Prime Minister in Liz Truss. So what, many of you may say, but in our country the parish council is the lowest form of government and in our current difficult times the direction taken by the PM can have reverberations.

On the whole the parish council electricity use is minimal, and we have yet to see the effect of increasing fuel costs on mowing the recreation ground and cemetery.

We have recently received a request from Somerset County Council asking what the parish can do to help to provide warm spaces for the public during the coming months, something we plan to address. Our recent questionnaire (already a good return of 10%) identifies many common interests that would in turn meet what is sought: coffee mornings, book clubs etc. are just what is needed to get villagers together. But locations are required if all the meeting wishes of Misterton residents are to be met. The sale of the WI hall, the school being unavailable for evenings until September 2023, the Turnpike Green meeting room not currently being used and the village hall planning a major refresh (supported by a grant from the PC) mean there is a shortage of locations. As a result, the parish council has agreed to re-state their request for the WI hall to be listed as a community asset.

Our next shock was the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8th September. We, along with so many, went into mourning. The church and cemetery chapel were opened daily with books of condolence for parishioners and there were nearly 100 villagers present at Turnpike Green when we gathered with the rest of the country for a united silence and National Anthem on Sunday 18th September at 8pm.

Now it is time to move on, working together to solve our problems and make Misterton the best place to live. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th October, destination to be confirmed.

Paul Bradly
Chairman

WELCOME INFORMATION LEAFLET for newcomers to the village - a useful leaflet telling you all you need to know about Misterton is available on our website at Misterton Parish Council; alternatively, if you would like a copy via email or a hard copy, please contact the Parish Clerk at mistertonpc@gmail.com. ***Village businesses who advertise in this leaflet should forward any amendments to the Parish Clerk.***

Defibrillator move

As you know our WI Hall is being sold. So the defibrillator which was on the outside wall was moved on Thursday 8th September to Misterton Garage, where Mark is very kindly taking it on. It was installed the same day.

Judy Welch

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Letter from Anne

It always amazes me how the parables in the bible written so long ago are still so relevant today.

It should not, of course, as wisdom is timeless. I was rereading the parable of the labourers, Matthew 20 1-16. It is the story where each worker receives the same pay whether they had worked all day or just for an hour. It led to seething resentment from those who felt they had been unfairly treated.

We call this reaction a sense of entitlement, and sadly it is a human trait that is difficult to fight. Richard Rohr, my favourite theologian puts it this way.

‘We all think we deserve just a bit more; this really creates a high degree of unhappiness and anger in our society. The way most of us measure things - especially if we are privileged and comfortable - demonstrates that we might in fact not love God at all, but just ourselves.’

There is only one way to get us out of this meritocracy and entitlement. Once in our lives we have to experience undeserved love at a deep, gut level. Where we did not merit it, we were not worthy of it; in fact, we were unworthy of it, and we got it anyway. That is called mercy. Only the experience of divine mercy breaks down this entire way of counting.

Every expectation of our rights is a resentment waiting to happen. When we expect, we are soon going to resent it when we do not get what we think we deserve. So, what the Gospel says is ‘Stop expecting!’ Entitlement is lethal for the soul. Everything is a gift - one hundred percent pure gift. And so, the only real prayer is to say, ‘Thank you!’

As we move into a period of financial difficulty for many, let us all thank God for what we have, and I suspect we will all be a little more thoughtful to those who have not.

Rev Anne Charlton

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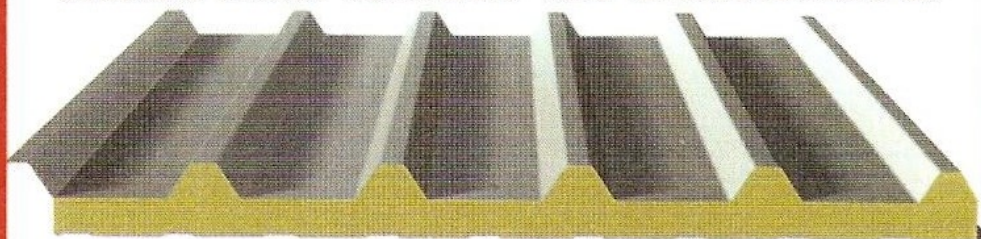
Once again Christmas is not so far away, and this information needs to be in the October magazine. I am asking that instead of sending cards to local friends you donate a sum of money that in turn will be given to a local charity. The donation can be any sum. The amount will never be revealed; however, your name and greetings will appear in the December edition of the village magazine.

The charity this year is Crewkerne Transport. Please donate, as many Misterton people have used this means of travel and it is such a valuable service.

Donations can be handed to me at Knowle House, Knowle Lane or if easier I can collect. Many thanks. Please would you let me know by 13th November to enable me to get the names to the magazine committee for entry in the December magazine.

Diane Bradly
01460 76761

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On the death of Queen Elizabeth II

She had been our queen for seventy years, the longest reign this country had ever known and for many of us in the village, she was the only monarch we had known. She was 96 years old, and many of us realised she had become frail, but on Tuesday 6th September we saw her radiant smile, greeting her new Prime Minister at Balmoral. On Wednesday she was unable to attend a planned meeting, an indication that she may be unwell, and on Thursday the news came that there was concern and her close family had been called to Balmoral. The news of her death on Thursday afternoon was a great shock to us all.

Balmoral was her family home in Scotland where she spent so many happy times relaxing with family and friends and entertaining the occasional head of state. It seems appropriate that her life should end at Balmoral, the home she loved so much.

So very much has been written about the Queen, and so much wonderfully recorded by the BBC and ITV since her death, leading up to the lying in state at Westminster Hall, to the funeral service at Westminster Abbey and to her final resting place at St George's Chapel, Windsor. We have seen the flowers, the crowds, the pageantry, the long queues of people paying their last respects with reverence and dignity, all wanting to convey their love and gratitude. It makes one feel very proud to be British.

In the village, Paul and Diane Bradly tolled the Cemetery Chapel bell for an hour and on Sunday evening before the funeral, they arranged for villagers to gather at Turnpike Green and join communities around Britain, for a moment of reflection. A goodly crowd of villagers turned up and were able to spend a few thoughtful moments recalling Her Majesty.

Recollections from the period of mourning include both formal and informal. The Prince of Wales tells people in the crowd that Paddington Bear has knocked the corgis off the top spot! How fortunate we are to have had a Queen who could rise to any occasion and give us such vivid memories. Her parachuting adventure with James Bond, her pleasure and excitement when her horse Estimate won the Gold Cup at Ascot in 2013, and all those Christmas broadcasts. No wonder there is an out-pouring of love and affection for her. Soon after her coffin left Balmoral it passed a field in which eight or ten ponies were lined up facing the cortege paying their respects, and then on either side of the road, dozens of colourful tractors lined up with their front loaders raised in salute. These countryside responses say it all really.

We have seen the continual flow of people into Westminster Hall, then the funeral service at Westminster Abbey, before the procession to Wellington Arch, and the start of the Queen's journey to her final resting place in St George's Chapel.

It has been a sad but magnificent occasion. A fitting tribute to a worthy and well-loved Queen, who gave a long life of service, and who well fulfilled all the promises she made.

Geoff Albert



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Sunday 2nd October 2022: Trinity 16

Haselbury: 9:30am HC-CW - Rev A Daynes

Hewish: 9:30am HC - Fr G Reilly

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC - TBC

Wayford: 5:00pm Harvest - Rev CJ Davis

Sunday 9th October 2022: Trinity 17

Haselbury: 9:30am HC-BCP - Rev CJ Davis

North Perrott: 9:30am HC-CW - Rev A Daynes

Misterton: 11:00am BCP Harvest - Fr G Reilly

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC - TBC

Sunday 16th October 2022: Trinity 18

Misterton: 9:30am HC-CW - Rev CJ Davis

North Perrott: 9:30am Harvest - TBC

Wayford: 9:30am HC - TBC

Haselbury: 11:00am Family Service - Home Team

Hewish: 11:00am HC - Rev D Newman

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC - TBC

Sunday 23rd October 2022: Trinity 19

North Perrott: 9:30am HC-BCP - Rev CJ Davis

Haselbury: 11:00am HC-CW - Rev D Newman

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am all ages - TBC

Sunday 30th October 2022: Trinity 20

St Bart's, Crewkerne: 11:00am HC combined service - TBC

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October 9th	Flower Guild	-	Mrs C Walker
October 16th	FG to check	-	-
October 23rd	-	-	-
October 30th	-	-	-



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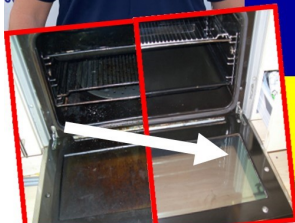
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Flower Festival

We hope you agree that the 2022 flower festival 'Anniversaries' was worth waiting for. Because of the Covid lockdown, it has been three years since the last one. We were determined to have the festival especially when the fete, the flower show, the harvest supper, and other village events are no more.



We have photos and notes back going back to 1993 when the title was 'The Common Market' - very topical at the time. However, there are memories of our earlier flower festivals, the first being staged by Peggy Bridges who, with no helpers, simply decorated the church altar and draped clerical vestments over dressmaking dummies.



In 1999, we did 'Somerset Crafts and Pastimes', though there was a problem with maggots infesting the poaching display. In 2007, the theme was 'My Lady's Wardrobe', during which there were complaints

about a display that featured fishnet stockings and knickers made out of red roses. It was considered to be indecent!



Two years later, we chose 'Festivals'. The Glastonbury display included a half-hidden spliff. Well, it was Glastonbury.

Teas in Church Lane gardens have always been a highlight of the festival weekends,



and the last few teas have been in Brenda England's garden in front of her house 'Finials'. It is ideally situated and is a lovely place to relax with friends, drinking tea and eating cakes. Thank you, Brenda.

Our flower festivals are not just people arranging flowers in the church. There is a large group of villagers without whom it would never happen. For instance, Phil Clifton puts together a group of strong helpers to erect the tea tent and stall and

bring tables and chairs etc. We must also mention the lovely cake-makers - we had 25 of them this year - and Waitrose kindly donated the tea, sugar, and coffee. By the way, we raised £1,731.87 for the church.

Sue Coquet

All photos by Jessica Watt





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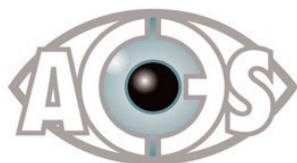
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Misterton Tennis Club



I am pleased to say that, remarkably, the ladies team managed to stay in division 1 of the Summer Yeovil League. They managed this feat by the narrowest margins of one point after victories against Yeovil and Sherborne ladies B teams.

It is now the season of club tournaments which got off to a great start on Thursday 25th August when Roger Lacey and Andrew Hayman won the men's doubles. This was followed up on Sunday 28th August by the ladies' doubles won by Shiona Meikle and Rosemary Foot. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, the mixed doubles tournament was postponed on Thursday September 8th and will now take place on Thursday September 29th.

Bob Waterhouse

Chairman

Dennis Evans

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Crewkerne Probus Club organises meetings for lunch on the last Wednesday of each month. These are held at the **Windwhistle Inn** at 12.15 for 1.00pm. The 2 course meal currently costs £15 per head and is followed by an after lunch speaker on an interesting topic.

Each year special events are held to which our partners, as well as other guests, are invited – a Ladies Lunch in May, an Autumn Supper, a Christmas Lunch and a summer outing.

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WHO is 102?

INSPIRING WOMEN Misterton WI members are pleased to celebrate their 102nd birthday and look forward in a positive way to being as active in the community as always. However, despite our article in the June magazine some villagers do not appreciate or understand our decision to sell the hall, so the time has come to provide you with a fuller picture of our situation and related circumstances.

We have fundraised for 52 years to support our WI in the upkeep of our hall, which may surprise some of you. In the past our hall was well used by the community and parishioners, which seems to have been forgotten by some. However, like many other small charities we were hit first by the pandemic and latterly the cost of living crisis, forcing us to deplete our small reserves. Had it not been for the Government's payment of £10,000 the decision to sell would have been made some time ago. This sum was utilised, as intended, for the upkeep and running costs which continued during the pandemic. Admittedly this sum was well received at such a time when many businesses collapsed, and owning our hall is akin to running a business despite being a charity.

The time came to take stock of our situation when various activities were poorly supported, for example the monthly lunches and coffee mornings. Another example is the annual flower and produce show, which we could no longer manage unassisted. Requests for help in Misterton magazine produced one response, and so this has also folded.

The fact that our expenditure exceeds our income was a major factor in the future of the hall, and discussions started in May 2021. Our annual costs for the current year are estimated at £10,000, including £500 per month for electricity. Our funds have been further depleted by pressure being put on the WI for which we have had to seek legal advice.

You will understand this decision has not been an easy one reached solely by the trustees but voted upon by the members resulting in a majority vote, leading to legal advice prior to proceeding further. A decision has therefore been reached to 'close the doors' of our much-loved hall on 1st November.

Misterton WI aims to continue to be active in the community, as we have done for the last 102 years. We have no intention of this changing despite our feeling that this has been wrongly implied to the village community and fellow parishioners. In fact, we are moving with the times and look forward to being able to generate positive changes in our future as a strong and resilient WI with the trustees continuing to act in the best interests of their members with their continued support.

We strive to continue to be a positive presence within the community. On reaching our decision to sell the hall the funds held by Misterton WI after the sale are intended for 'local community projects' and 'local charitable causes'.

We as WI Trustees, in accordance with our Constitution and the Charities Commission, are required to act in the best interests of our members at all times and will continue to endeavour to do so.

Susan May (President) on behalf of Misterton WI Trustees

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Refugee Support Group (RSG)

Recently we held two successful fundraising events: Music in the Meadow, our annual May open-air event on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon, was enjoyed by a large audience. In June one sunny morning the house of a group member in Ilminster filled with generous supporters enjoying coffee, cake and conversation. Between them £2,000 was raised for refugee charities. We now invite you to enjoy two more events to raise further necessary funding for those facing winter in refugee camps.

Our quiz, popular and wide-ranging, preferably for teams of four, is scheduled for Friday October 15th. This year it will be in Ilminster in the Parish Hall, North Street (TA19 0DG) starting at 7:30pm. Tickets £10pp including supper, with wine available for a donation. We look forward to welcoming you so book the date now with your team members and look out for posters with further details.

A concert has been organised by Jo Martin for Thursday 27th October at 7:30pm in the David Hall, Roundwell Street, South Petherton. It features Jo, a singer/songwriter with a jazzy bluesy sound, who has played on Radio 6 Music. She will be supported by Mitch Norman, and both freely give their talent to support refugee charities. Tickets will be £12 from Jo or available on the door; there will be a bar and there will be a raffle. Look out for her posters.

RAFT (refugee aid from Taunton) is seeking donations for refugees, including for those in Ukraine. They need unwanted clean washable winter clothing and suitable winter footwear for men, women, children and babies, hygiene items for all, and blankets, sleeping bags and tents.

Raft will also accept clothing and footwear of any kind in very good condition if donors are willing for them to be sold to raise money to buy, for example, necessary hygiene items, or to use towards the rent of their new building.

Raft address - Unit 4, Enterprise Park, Priorswood Road TA2 8FR - if you wish to deliver the items.

Otherwise, I will receive donations and deliver to Raft.

With grateful thanks to all who care and are able to support this work.

Geraldine Downey
RSG 01460 271358



Anagrams of famous people's names

Enid Blyton: Tiny blonde. Clint Eastwood: Old West action. Ian Botham: Oh man, I bat.

Alec Guinness: Genuine class. Nelson Mandela: Lean and solemn.

Margaret Thatcher: That great charmer. William Shakespeare: I am a weakish speller.

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Misterton Gardeners Association

This month's meeting will be on **Thursday 27th October at 2:30pm** in the WI hall. **Please note the time and day.** Our speakers are David and Pauline Wright. Many of you may have visited their wonderful house and garden at Forton near Chard a few years ago. It was named 'Lift the Latch'. And visitors' entry to their garden was gained by lifting the latch on the gate in their garden wall, whereby a breath-taking scene confronted them. Pauline and David will be talking and showing slides about their garden as well as telling us what they did to their new garden when they moved to Yeovil more recently. Do come and join us - it will be the last meeting of the season and we will have the final results of our Flower of the Month contest. So do bring your best flower along - there is a prize for the winner.

Members will recall that at our first meeting of 2022, we handed out a small fuchsia plug to everyone. If any have survived (the hot summer weather put paid to most) do bring them along, or if you wish, a photo of them at their prime. Again, there is a small prize for the winning entry.

As most of you will know the WI hall is being sold. The WI has kindly offered the gardening club five tables and thirty chairs when the hall closes for use by the community. We are very grateful, not least since they are being given to us at no cost. The tables and chairs will be there for any Misterton activity and will be made freely available on contact with John or myself.

There are still things to do in the garden in October. Pick the last of your dwarf beans. If you put in a late crop of lettuce or other salad plants, best to cover them with a cloche - in this way they will last a few more weeks. Clear out your greenhouse and wash all glazing panels. In the flower garden, lift and pot up tender perennials and move any deciduous shrubs which are in the wrong place. Plant out drifts of spring bulbs like daffodils, crocuses, or snake's head fritillaries.

It has been a funny year in the garden. For us, some things have done really well (like courgettes, early potatoes and cucumbers). For other plants it has been a disastrous year - our runner beans have been awful, as have most of our salad crops (they have disliked the very hot weather). Most of our flowers have done well, not least of all those roses not quite in full sun. Our favourite? These vary by month, but the one named Eyes For You (see photo) was particularly splendid in June.

Diana Dyke
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Misterton memories

In John Dyke's article in last month's magazine there was a picture of the bridge in Silver Street with a man in the middle of the road. I would like to think that he may have been my mother's father Ernie Walbridge (also known as Ernie Charles Squibb). He was a railway engineer (water) and in 1903 he lived in 3 Rose Cottage (now known as Park View). Also a railway worker was his brother Jim Walbridge who lived at Woodbine Cottage and next door in Railway Cottage was Frank Norrice and Jim Manley who came from Honiton in 1960. My great uncles Jack Harwood and Bill Elliot were also railway workers.

When I was ten years old I can remember walking under the bridge every day to help Jane Sweet with her goats which were on the railway bank. I used to pass Jim Walbridge who would say 'you're a Doble'. It wasn't until I did some family history research on Ancestry that I found out he was my uncle. Below is a picture of railway workers, some of whom are from Misterton.

Angela Doble



.....providing work for many: this photo – c 1900 - was taken near the tunnel

Did you know??

That the huge railway embankment from the recreation ground to Silver Street is made up of soil and rock removed when the lengthy railway tunnel beyond the level crossing in Cathole Bridge Road was dug out. Were this tunnel not necessary, a viaduct would have been built. How different the view would have been in this part of our village.

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Events in British history that happened in October

- 4th 1911: Britain's first escalator is installed at Harrods in London
- 7th 1920: Women given the right to study for university degrees
- 9th 1967: Introduction of the breathalyser
- 12th 1984: An IRA bomb explodes at the Grand Hotel in Brighton
- 14th 1066: The Battle of Hastings
- 16th 1902: First prison for young offenders opens at the village of Borstal in Kent
- 21st 1966: Aberfan colliery tip engulfs a school and houses, killing 144
- 25th 1854: The Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava
- 26th 1863: The Football Association is founded
- 29th 1618: Sir Walter Raleigh beheaded

John Coquet



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Dates for your diary

October 2022

Tuesday October 18th	Parish council meeting	6:30pm	TBC
Thursday October 27th	Gardeners Association meeting	2:30pm	WI hall

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