

THE SIGNAL

A Community Newsletter for
KINNERSLEY-SARNESFIELD-LETTON-NORTON CANON-BROBURY
STAUNTON-ON-WYE-MONNINGTON-ON-WYE-MOORHAMPTON

No 85

OCTOBER 1989

15p

countryman's diary

The rose boom of the 1950's and early 1960's had left many horticultural businesses on the bread-line, and many firms tried promoting various types of plants with varying success. One of the best ideas being the sale of ground-cover plants. This was a sound commercial idea; many local authorities were in the market for such labour saving plants and ordinary gardeners too could see the benefit.

The idea was that you could fill an area with plants that would mat together, excluding weeds. A second excellent point was that, by using a mixture of plant types, the risk of damaging attack by, say, aphids or mildew was minimised. The principal drawback was the cost of buying the large number of plants involved, as they all had to be put in together. The principle caught on, albeit in most gardens somewhat watered-down. The problem was that most gardens, twenty years ago as today, already had various plants in them which the owners were loathe to throw out. The ground-cover plants, therefore, had to be worked around those established specimens. And it worked! By their nature spreading plants advance to fit the space provided. So with a little care we too can fill our gardens with flowers instead of weeds. Don't let it stop there though; things like courgettes and strawberry plants are useful fillers for under-planted spots in your garden.

It is important to remember that this is permanent planting, and therefore you should incorporate a good amount of manure or, failing this, plenty of bonemeal. The other vital point is that all perennial weeds must be taken out or killed off with tumbleweed before any planting takes place. The range of ground-cover plants is endless; it includes shrubs and herbaceous plants and it should not be forgotten that bulbs of many types can be planted beneath to rise up through the cover and flower. I won't ply you with dozens of varieties, but try to see them growing in someone's garden before choosing them. One point about ground-cover plants should be mentioned; it is far better to plant blocks of a few varieties rather than having one of each of many. It gives an altogether bolder and settled look to the garden. Expensive, you may think. Not necessarily so! One solution is to purchase two or three plants of each sort, put them in and propagate from them. The majority of ground-cover plants grow easily from cuttings, so anyone with greenish fingers can, in a couple

of years, increase the original purchases to fill quite large areas. Another idea is to get a like-minded friend to purchase some different varieties and then do an exchange. Not only will you spend an enjoyable afternoon choosing your plants together but you will have an interest in your friend's purchases too!

Dwarf evergreen shrubs are very useful, spreading out to cover quite an area. Larger shrubs too, which remain wide at the bottom, can also be regarded as ground cover. Varieties of ferns are an unusual choice; like many of the shrubs most ferns are lovers of shade. If you have a sunny spot how about growing some perennial grasses? Not the lawn grass species but some of the taller types - many are around the two foot mark. Amongst the hardy perennials there are both sun and shade lovers. Again, many are evergreen, although those that lose their leaves in winter should not be despised; bulbs are excellent for under-planting these. Staking, too, is a chore that can be forgotten when these plants are used to fill a garden. From the giant leaves of the Gunnera to the lovely Ajuga, there are undreds of ground-cover plants to suit all positions and tastes!

The time is coming to tidy up your garden (you mean to say it's not tidy?) for the winter. If you are thinking of moving things around do it just before you cut the plants down. That way you'll still have some idea of their size. Don't leave your runner beans and unused summer cabbage plants in the ground; they're no use and will only harbour pests. Time too for putting your wallflowers and forget-me-nots in their final positions, and at the same time planting out your bulbs, for preparing areas for shrubs, perennials and - dare I say it - ground-cover plants. In fact, it's time to tear yourself away from the television and leap into action in the garden. Just like you've been doing all year!

Since her fiance had a habit of declaiming poetry, the young woman driver was not perturbed when, as she took a blind corner fast, he exclaimed in alarm: 'Brake, brake, brake!'

'Even I know that one - "on thy cold gray stones, O Sea!",' she chirped, two seconds before hitting the back of a coal cart.

(from the Daily Telegraph)

A gossip talks about others, a bore talks about himself and a brilliant conversationalist talks about you.

ARROWVALE WINE CIRCLE

There were 28 members and guests at our September meeting to see a slide show given by Mrs. Claire Price of Sun Valley.

After seeing the wide range of processes carried out in the various sections of this company Mrs. Price proceeded to tempt our palates with a variety of dishes using some of the Sun Valley products, all of which we were invited to taste. A generous selection of Sun Valley products were given for the raffle and with great hilarity and generosity of members lucky enough to draw more than one winning ticket very few, if any, of our members went home empty handed.

Norah Medcraft

All contributions for the October issue should be sent to Gareth Evans, Lanzerac, Norton Canon (0544 318505) by **MONDAY 23 OCTOBER**

STAUNTON-ON-WYE AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD OF YORE

continuing our series of articles by RICHARD PANTALL

Herefordshire Spring Assizes, 1840 Wheat Stealing

Thomas Davies, aged 40, labourer, was charged with stealing a quantity of wheat in the chaff, the property of Mr. Charles Griffiths of Church House Farm, Staunton On Wye. Mr. Skinner conducted the prosecution; the prisoner was undefended. John Lane deposed that he thrashed a quantity of wheat in the prosecutor's barn on the 13th March, and left the same safe in the barn at night; the next morning he discovered a quantity was missing from the heap, and gave information to the prosecutor. Mr. Charles Griffiths, the prosecutor, deposed that he missed about two and a half bushels from the heap and observed that some persons had got into the barn by wrenching a board off.

John Mason, labourer, who had also been charged with the robbery, was admitted Queen's Evidence. He deposed that he lived at Bredwardine under the same roof as the prisoner. On Friday night the 13th March, he saw the prisoner between ten and eleven o'clock, and he asked witness if he would go with him that night; he consented, and they went to the prosecutor's barn, the prisoner had a bark-peeler in his hand, and on their arrival at the barn, he said to witness "Mind the road," which he did; the prisoner took a small board off the barn, but could not get in; he then got into the loft at the end of the barn, but he found the barn door was locked, and he could not get the door open; the prisoner then asked for the bark-peeler, which he called his keys, to wrench another board off; having got the board off, the prisoner then enquired for the bags, and he and witness got the wheat out, and took it away to a wheat rick; they then proceeded on their way home, and hid the wheat in a rough dingle belonging to Mrs. Penny.

On the Sunday following, witness saw the prisoner's wife and daughters cleaning wheat (the wheat stolen was in chaff), prisoner asked witness if he knew a mill at some distance, and witness answered the Cwm Mill; this was between six and seven o'clock in the morning; witness and prisoner then took the wheat to the mill; the miller objected to grinding upon a Sunday, but the prisoner told him that he had got to have bread; the wheat was ground and the miller took toll for the payment.

Whilst they were there the prosecutor's servant came to the miller and brought a sample of wheat with him, and asked the miller if he had ground any like the sample lately; the miller told him he had and the men were in the mill; the miller compared them together, and the prisoner then said he had bought the wheat off a man at the Moor, near Hereford; they then started home and on their way the prisoner told witness "he had broken open many a barn with that peeler." In answer to a question from the prisoner, witness denied having received any part of the wheat from the prisoner. Mr. William Oxall, of Cwm Mill, deposed that the sample brought to him by witness and prisoner corresponded with the one brought by Mr. Griffith's servant.

Mr. William Pantall, farmer, of Bliss Hall, Staunton On Wye, (Parish elected constable) deposed that he found some shoes in the prisoner's house which he compared with tracks near the prosecutor's barn, and they exactly corresponded. Mr. Pantall also produced a bark-peeler, which he had found in prisoner's house, and the board which had been burst from the barn, and the mark on the board corresponded with the point of the peeler. - Philip Morgan, police constable, produced the samples. The Jury returned a verdict of Guilty and the prisoner was sentenced to seven years transportation.

Robbery at Staunton On Wye

On Saturday night last, 28th November 1841, a man named Duggan, living in the parish of Staunton On Wye, left his errand cart outside his door, and sometime between midnight and 8 o'clock on Sunday morning, a thief stole from it a box containing a great quantity of cutlery goods, consisting of pocket knives, pen knives, handsaws, handsaw and pitsaw files etc., the whole of which were purchased off John Beet and Sons, Sheffield - and no doubt bear his mark upon them.

Case before Weobley Petty Sessional Court

William Davis, alias Gorsty, was convicted on Monday 20th March, 1843 before Rev. L. Frear, R. Coleman and R. Parkinson, Esqrs., of having assaulted and "knocked dead" with a blacksmith's hammer, Thomas Thomas, labourer of Staunton On Wye. Fined £2 and 14s. costs; in default of payment, two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Wheat Stealing

John Price, labourer, aged 42, charged with having stolen, on the 12th November, 1846, at Staunton On Wye, one peck and a half of wheat in the chaff, valued at four shillings, pleaded guilty, at the same time stating that he was driven by necessity to the attempt, he was at the time working for 10½ pence a day, and had to maintain a wife and six children out of the pittance; he also urged the fact of his having not been before a court previously. The Chairman said it was absolutely necessary the property of the description named in the indictment should be protected by law. Sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

SOME HOWLERS FROM THE DAY SCHOOL MAGAZINE OF THE SCHOOL AT BELMONT ABBEY, WITH DUE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. The prisoners were locked in each night by a turkey.
2. He intended marrying a beauty queen.
3. The wife of a Duke is a Ducky.
4. Rhubarb is a kind of celery gone bloodshot.
5. Christians are only allowed one wife, this is called monotony.
6. Solomon had 300 wives and 700 cucumbers.
7. Sir Francis Drake circumcised the earth.
8. She heard a horse whisper behind her.
9. Rabies are Jewish Priests.
0. Coup de Grace - A lawn mower.

You might like to try our competition (no prizes offered) 'IN SEARCH OF IAN'. The first 25 clues are below and further clues will be in subsequent issues.

The answer to each question is a single word containing the letters ' ian ' - eg "he was best known for his wall" = HADRIAN, "usually he gives a ring" = FIANCE.

We will be glad to hear from anyone who manages to get the 75 right'

- 1 Ian is 100 years old, or more..... (11)
- 2 With a small measure, Ian changes sex..... (7)
- 3 Ian with a brother becomes another..... (5)
- 4 Beaming happily and glowing..... (7)
- 5 Brave and heroic (7)
- 6 The possessions of a Queen's reign (10)
- 7 Like a lizard (7)
- 8 Of an artist combining the richest surface
an colour..... (11)
- 9 Unconcern (11)
- 10 Thick twilled fabric (7)
- 11 Architecture relating to wisdom (9)
- 12 Exuberant in growth (9)
- 13 A humble petitioner..... (9)
- 14 A tropical climbing plant (5)
- 15 Food and more food (6)
- 16 This Tibetan wild ass could be a king! (5)
- 17 Pertaining to birds (5)
- 18 A diamond, sparkling (9)
- 19 Betelgeuse and Antares are, above other
large bodies..... (11)
- 20 To betroth (8)
- 21 Red or white wine of Tuscany (7)
- 22 Umbelliferous spice plant..... (9)
- 23 A drunken reveller..... (12)
- 24 A heavy breed of dairy cattle (8)
- 25 The rock-rose genus (12)

Husbands are like fires. They go out if unattended.

When the insects take over the world we hope they will remember with gratitude how we took them along on all our picnics.

'Amid the cheers of their many friends in the farming community the bride and groom cut the wedding cake made by Mrs Luston (shaped like a haystack on stilts).'
(from an Ohio newspaper).

greenway gardens

'growing with enthusiasm'

Christopher Greenway
1 Court Farm Cottage
Mansell Gamage

Tel: Bridge Sollars (098122) 366

ALL TYPES OF GARDENING UNDERTAKEN

Town Hall notice: 'Owing to the fuel crisis officials are advised to take advantage of their typists between the hours of 12 and 2.'

* CHIMNEY SWEEP *
* *
* Brush, Vacuum *
* Clean, efficient service *
* Reduced Rates OAP'S *
* B.LANE *
* Hereford 274 555 *
* Please ring early evenings *

two more ghost stories (1)

Of course there are no such things as ghosts, and yet.....

My father's name was John. Nearly ninety years ago he sat with his family at the long dining-room table in a West Country vicarage. He was fifteen and was on leave from Osborne Naval College. He was feeling happy to be home that winter evening but he noticed that his father, the vicar, looked tired and thin. The next morning was Sunday and they all crossed the frosty churchyard for Communion in the ancient church. John sat in the front pew with his mother and two brothers. There were fifty three communicants that morning. The central aisle of the church was very wide and the ornately carved oak pews reached to the outer walls of the church so that there were no side aisles.



Presently, as John knelt at the altar rails, he felt a sudden icy chill sweep over him and he saw his father stare at him as he handed him the Bread. John managed to remain on his knees, now shaking with cold until he had taken the Chalice, and then walked dizzily back to the vicarage pew behind his mother. Later, while they were having breakfast, he asked his father what had happened. "A monk came up to take the sacrament" he told his son calmly, "He knelt between you and your mother. What surprised me was that he walked up the side of the church through all the pews". No one else had noticed anything and soon they all left the room. When it was time for Mattins John's mother went into her husband's study. He was sitting in his chair by the fire, an open Bible in his hands. He had been dead for about an hour. "Perhaps he took the service so reverently and was so near to heaven that the monk felt compelled to join us" his mother told John much later.

The family prepared to leave the vicarage and a new curate came to live there temporarily. He was interested in local history and had made a study of the church. One evening, shortly before they left, he asked John if he knew that there had been a monastery nearby in medieval times. John scarcely listened. He bitterly resented the talkative curate and was still inconsolable at the loss of his beloved father. He was dreading leaving the only home he had ever known and was deeply sad for his brave mother. "It was a large monastery" went on the curate, "Henry VIII dissolved it. Did you know that the pews in the church were only installed

about 1690? Before that they were set in the centre of the church so that there were only two side aisles".

ELIZABETH MOORE

(2)

Some thirty years ago I had occasion to visit a young lady who was taking part in the clinical trials for tuberculosis vaccination. It was early evening and she had not returned from work when I arrived. Her mother invited me in to wait and we sat and chatted. The house was typical of that area of north London, terraced and having a tiny front garden, inside stairs ran up opposite the door. After a few minutes I heard the gate click, the door open and light high-heeled footsteps mount the stairs to cross the room overhead. Then silence. The mother went on talking so eventually I asked if we had better let the daughter know about my visit in case she was going out again. She looked surprised and wondered what had made me think that her daughter had come home. I told her and there was dead silence for a moment after which she asked if I would mind telling her exactly what I had heard. At the end she said "Oh, so you've heard it too. Her boy friend hears it regularly. It has started since my husband's sister died".

Pip Aldhous

CANON MOTORS

(Brian Robbins)

NORTON CANON — HEREFORD HR4 7BH

Telephone: Weobley 0544 318317

CAR SALES * SERVICE * REPAIRS * PETROL * DERV * TYRES * ACCESSORIES * OIL

UNLEADED PETROL NOW AVAILABLE - HAVE YOUR CAR CONVERTED

MOST MODELS ONLY £3.00 + VAT CONVERTED WHILE YOU WAIT

* SELF-DRIVE CAR HIRE AT VERY REASONABLE RATES *

HUGE DISCOUNTS ON ANY MAKE AND SIZE OF CAR AND LIGHT VAN TYRES

ALSO BATTERIES AND EXHAUSTS UP TO 50% OFF AND FREE FITTING

PLEASE 'PHONE FOR A QUOTE: WE THINK YOU WILL BE SURPRISED

SERVICING, MOT PREPARATION AND ALL MECHANICAL AND WELDING REPAIRS

HOURS OF BUSINESS - MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

(Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays)

WEOBLEY GROUP OF PARISHES
CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

SARNESFIELD

8th. 10am Holy Communion
22nd. 10am. Morning Prayer

NORTON CANON

1st. 9am. Holy Communion
8th. 9am. Morning Prayer
15th. 9am. Holy Communion
22nd. 11am. Family Service

STAUNTON ON WYE

1st. 11am. Holy Communion
8th. 11am. Morning Prayer
15th. 11am. Holy Communion

BYFORD

8th. 9.30am. Holy Communion
15th. 11am. Morning Prayer
22nd. 10am. Family Service

MONNINGTON ON WYE

8th. 9.30am. Holy Communion

LETTON

8th. 11am. Family Service
22nd. 6pm. Evensong or
Holy Communion

HARVEST FESTIVALS

Sarnesfield	Oct.6th	7pm
Norton Canon	" 13th	7.30pm
Byford	" 1st	6.30pm
Monnington	" 22nd	6.30pm

Group Communion

Oct.29th. 10.30am Monnington

CHURCH SERVICES - KINNERSLEY
FOR OCTOBER

1st.	6.30pm	HARVEST FESTIVAL preacher the Lord Bishop of Hereford
8th.	10am	Mattins
15th.	10am	Holy Communion
22nd.	10am	Family Service
28th.Sat.	10am	Holy Communion (St Simon & St Jude Apostles)
29th.	6.30pm	Ecumenical Service preacher the Rev.Warren Bardsley

NOVEMBER

5th. 10am Holy Communion

WHAT'S ON....

FITNESS TRAINING starts at the Village Hall on Thursday 28th September starting at 7pm. Both men and women are welcome - for details ring Barbara Clarke on Moccas 346.

STAUNTON RIFLE CLUB meets every Tuesday, 8.30pm, at the village Hall. For details contact Roy Jenkins on Moccas 394.

the street of yesterday

When the moon is shining bright
And the world is wrapped in night
There's a spell comes floating down
Gliding through the ancient town
Waking up the ancient rafters
With the sound of bygone laughter

Tread you quietly down the street
Gently, gently place your feet
And with eyes that understand
Watch the folk walk hand in hand
In a light of silver grey
Down the street of yesterday

Watch the shadows on the ground
Quietly rise and float around
Tinselled dress & gold brocade
Slowly walking in the shade
Crinolines and flowing gowns
Memories of Hereford Town

Watch the figures come and go
Through the columned portico
Silks & satins, red & green
Lovely costumes of a dream
Past the houses old and brown
Past the church of Hereford Town

Hear their lightly moving feet
Stepping down the cobbled street
Underneath the gables tall
By the old Cathedral wall
Shades that whisper near our ears
Gracious words of bygone years

Suddenly the vision fades
Figures vanish in the shades
All is quiet and still again
Only you and I remain
By the houses old and grey
In the street of yesterday

F. A. EVANS.

NEW INN DONATION

The Staunton Village Hall Committee were extremely gratified to receive a donation of £531.37 from Peter & Barbara Clarke, proprietors of The New Inn, Staunton.

This magnificent sum - which will be put towards improvements to the building - was the result of weekly draws, friendly pool matches, and other functions over the past few months, culminating in a competition to guess the amount of money in the collection bottle.

Many thanks to the Clarke's for organising these events and to all those who participated.

A good weekend for The Home Farm Trust! A good crowd turned up at Roy & Joy Brocks in Kinnersley on Friday 22nd September for their 'punch & pie' party. Proceeds, which were donated to HFT were £95. Many thanks to Roy & Joy and all who contributed. The preliminary total arising from the antiques 'road show' at Garnons the following evening was £750. The Herefordshire Friends of Home Farm Trust wish to thank all who took part and helped to make it such an enjoyable and interesting evening.

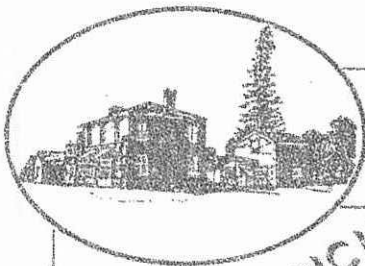
Grateful thanks to all who helped with the Disco & Social Evening at the Hostel in aid of the St. Mary's Churchyard Fund. The princely sum of £87.28 was given to me for the fund.

P. McCann

Brisk business was transacted at Staunton Village Hall 50-50 sale on 23 September. Many thanks to all who helped out, especially Terry Clark for organising the event and auctioning the 100 or so lots. The final sum for the Village Hall Improvement Fund was £311.25.

FAREWELL, FOR THE TIME BEING, TO ROY AND JOYCE BROCK AND JOAN BEDFORD OF KINNERSLEY WHO LEAVE FOR SPAIN IN OCTOBER.

They will all be sorely missed and their many friends wish them bon voyage and look forward to seeing them next year.



Fully Licensed Freehouse Cottage Accommodation

The Kinnersley Arms

Country Inn and Restaurant

Kinnersley, Herefordshire HR3 6QA. Tel: Eardisley (05446) 240

SUNDAY LUNCH
3 Courses £4.75 child £3

BAR SNACKS
Every Lunchtime & Evening

RESTAURANT
Evenings only - Closed Monday/Tuesday

MEETINGS - PARTIES - PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

OUR DINING ROOM & BARN RESTAURANT ARE BOTH AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS, PARTIES AND PRIVATE FUNCTIONS. NO HIRE CHARGES ARE MADE FOR THE USE OF EITHER. FOR FUNCTIONS - THE DINING ROOM WILL SEAT 26, THE BARN, UP TO 36. FOR BUFFETS UP TO 60 CAN BE ACCOMMODATED. SEATED MEETINGS, UP TO 40 PERSONS. A SELECTION OF SET MENUS IS AVAILABLE FROM £5/head upwards, BUFFET Menus from £1.75/head.

JAY OR GARY, THE PROPRIETORS, WILL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS.

CATERING FOR THE COMMUNITY

SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHES
£3.00/head
served Wednesdays only

From a letter in the Daily Mail:
 'I read with interest of the lady golfer who, when confronted by a naked man wearing only a bowler hat, asked him whether he was a member, and then hit him with a Number 8 iron.
 Purists will long dispute whether it was obviously a mashie-shot, or whether the niblick should have been used. I hold no strong views myself, but I do wonder what the lady would have done had the man produced from his bowler hat a valid membership card.'

o o o o o

A man who wanted to sue his barrister for professional negligence was refused a legal aid certificate. Later he was granted legal aid to appeal against the decision to refuse him legal aid.
 (from the Sun)

o o o o o

A member of the African Family Planning Association said: "We are having a lot of trouble with pregnancy in secondary school girls, and this represents a lot of man-hours wasted".
 (Medical News)

Robert Loxston

- * Extensions
- * Repairs
- * Roofing
- * General building
- * Alterations
- * Chimney repairs

Post Office, Norton Canon

Phone: (0544) 318825

CHRISTMAS 1989

OVEN-READY FRESH

Chicken 6lb-12lb
 Duckling med & large
 Turkey 10lb-15lb approx
 Goose 10lb-18lb

DELIVERED

ring A. Cole
 Weobley 318260
 last orders December 18

A FURTHER MATTER OF GRAVITY

Following up John Phillips' Brobury Monumental Inscriptions (August issue), this Australian version may light heartedly be appreciated:-

"Remember me as you pass by,
 as you are now, so once was I.
 As I am now, you soon will be,
 therefore prepare to follow me."

To which a wag had added:-

"to follow you I'm not content,
 until I know which way you went."

Richard Pantall

The Portway Inn

STAUNTON-ON-WYE
 Herefordshire
 HR4 7NH

Telephone: Moccas (09817) 267

BAR SNACKS

every lunchtime & Tuesday
 to Saturday evenings

SUNDAY LUNCH

3 course - £5.95

PARTIES, WEDDINGS & PRIVATE
 FUNCTIONS



this notorious charity

An attentive audience of 50 people attended Staunton Village Hall on 13th September to hear Richard Pantall give a talk on "George Jarvis, his family, his will, and his charity". Over the past 100 years or so a number of pervasive myths had grown up concerning the origins and life of George Jarvis and, although Mr. Pantall produced a wealth of documentary evidence to scotch these the real story was no less fascinating.

Dealing with George Jarvis's birth in 1704 (at The Green in Staunton) to yeoman farmer parents, his childhood at 'Little Weston' in Bredwardine, his London apprenticeship as a 'currier', and his subsequent success in that trade, Mr. Pantall embellished the story with a mass of detail illuminating the period and bringing the subject to life. George Jarvis had three marriages, the second of which produced a surviving daughter, Mary, who figured prominently, though not by design, in the establishment of the Jarvis Charity. Her behaviour in adult life, and that of two of her four children so offended George Jarvis that he was moved to prevent them from inheriting the considerable fortune he had amassed in business, and, in the last of his eight wills, dated 1790, £30,000 was left in trust which, together with the residual balance of his estate, was to be used for the relief of the poor in Bredwardine, Staunton and Letton, - the trustees being the Bishop of Hereford and the two Members of Parliament for the County.

After George Jarvis's death in 1793 his daughter challenged the provisions of the will, her plea being rejected five times between 1793 and 1800, by which time the amount in trust totalled £76,000. Mr. Pantall then went on to describe in great detail the problems the Trustees had in implementing the provisions of the trust, not least in dispensing such huge sums of money to a relatively small number of people, the early attempts to provide schooling, medical aid, and food distribution. Such were the problems - "the evils of plenty" - that local clergy began collecting evidence of maladministration and impropriety and in 1841 succeeded in getting the charity schoolmaster and medical officer dismissed. By 1852 the charity's funds amounted to over £100,000 and, despite the will stipulating that his bequest should not be used 'for any public or any other building', the High Court of Chancery instructed the Trustees (which were increased to 12) to build a school for 60 older children and schools for younger children in the three parishes, together with a meeting room, store room, accommodation for the medical officer etc. These, together with the almshouses were built between 1856 and 1860 and the total cost of all land acquired, building and furnishing of the Staunton 'complex' and schools at Letton and Bredwardine was £22,000.

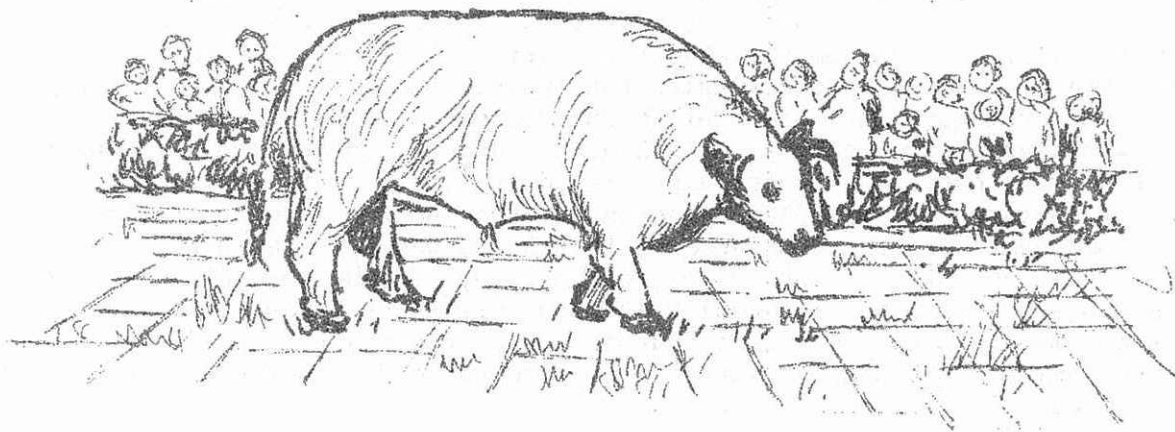
Still the problems did not go away - not for nothing did Mr. Gladstone refer to it in 1863 as "the notorious Jarvis Charity". In 1884 the Charity Commissioners proposed demolishing the main school as it had never been used (it was not occupied until the 1890's) and during the 1890's considerable local opposition was aroused to plans to alter the administration of the charity. These plans succeeded in 1904 when the charity was split into two - taking the form it has today.

At the conclusion of his two-hour talk - which never flagged - some present expressed the hope that Mr. Pantall would publish the results of his four years research into the subject. The evening concluded with ample refreshments and the sum of £50 was divided equally between the Churchyard Fund and the Village Hall Improvement Fund.
(any unwitting errors in the above are the author's - not the speaker's).

11
JOHN PHILLIPS

A LOAD OF OLD BULL - or 'WHERE THERE'S MUCK THERE'S BRASS ...!

Aberaeron Round Table has divided the grass square in the centre of the town into 6,600 blocks and sold them for £1 each. On the 3rd September a bull will be let loose on to the field and the "Bull Powder competition" - as the Round Table coyly described the event - will begin. Spectators will then wait behind hedges to see which block of the grid is first covered in 'powder'. The lucky winner will receive £1,000 and many local good causes will benefit.



pinions regarding the suitability of such an exercise has, not unexpectedly, seriously divided the town but it would appear that the majority are in agreement with the Round Table. 4,000 tickets have already been sold with the clever money being put in the grid squares immediately in front of the spot where the bull's trailer will be opened. Wise gamblers predict that the bull will be so terrified that it will instantly open its bowels as soon as it enters the field.

The opposite of talking is 'nt listening - its waiting.

IF ONLY YOU COULD ACT!

(from a film review in 'The Listener')

A would-be Hollywood starlet of pneumatic physique was once picked up from a casting couch by a bigtime film mogul who promised her a part in his movies if she would only remove her underwear. Having had his way with her he then tried to get rid of her only to discover that she had made a video of his performance including close up footage of acts which would constitute criminal offences in most states. Accordingly, he was obliged to make good his promises.

The only snag was that the lady had absolutely no acting ability at all - even walk on parts were beyond her capacity. In desperation the mogul managed to get her the lead in the travelling stage production of 'The Diary of Anne Frank'. Even here her performance was so awful that, when the Gestapo finally arrived hammering at the door, the whole audience rose and roared as one man 'She's in the attic! She's in the attic!'

CANDLESTICKS

Oh, if I were a blacksmith I would make a candlestick
To light my love at even. And a thing to trim the wick.
I'd see it in my mind, there'd be no need to draw a plan;
I'd see it all as finished, like, before the work began.
A plain wide base I'd give 'un, with a circle for the thumb;
A fluted sort of column, rather taller, p'raps, than some;
The top would be my special for to hold the candle tight,
And all made sound and solid for to give her, plainly, light.

And if I worked in silver I would let my fancy roam
To make a fitting candlestick to grace my lady's home.
For on the slender column I would put a climbing stem
With tendrils, buds and flowers, and a bee attending them.
I know I would delight in beating silver paper-thin,
And cutting it, and shaping it - Oh, when can I begin?
The softly-gleaming metal in my hands would come alive -
Reflect a bit of Eden if my soul could so contrive!

Alas, I'm but a wordsmith, and my metal does not last
No matter how I mix it and no matter how it's cast.
My candlesticks don't carry much illuminated thought -
The words don't come to illustrate, express things as they ought.
The beautiful undying phrase, the memorable words,
The apt allusion, clarifying, bright as tropic birds,
Are lacking. Still, it's fun, you know, to scribble, scratch
and scrawl
Upon the backs of envelopes. Have you tried it at all?

Harold Aldous

She was so house proud that she even put paper under the
cuckoo clock.

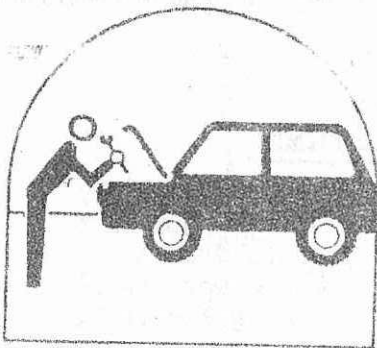
WEOBLEY HISTORY SOCIETY

A party of 35 from the Weobley History Society visited
Bitterley near Ludlow on Thursday 14th September.

In fine weather we assembled at the ancient church where we
met the Rev. Alan Seabrooke and his Churchwarden Mr. Jack Baker
whose place of worship this had been for more than 80 years.
His knowledge of its artefacts and 900 years of history were
very dear to him and he entertained us for an hour. He said
he was happier "yarning" about Bitterley and its Church than
reading from the notes he had written, albeit in fine copper-plate.

Through a gate in the churchyard we entered the gardens of
Bitterley Court with Titterstone Clee as a beautiful background.
Mrs. Susan Wheeler of the Court was our charming hostess.
She had planned for David Lloyd, a Birmingham University
historian, to act as guide but in the end she became host, guide
and tea provider. The weather turned nasty but her persistent
smile and a number of log fires provided the warming background
to a splendid 'spread' in the dining room.

Built in 1650, the house has been in the hands of prominent
Shropshire and Worcester families but had fallen into a
state of severe disrepair. The present owners began an extensive
rescue programme 12 years ago and now have an interesting house
with a family atmosphere, so clearly in evidence during our
visit.



PIT STOP

Spares and Accessories
for Cars of All Ages

OPEN - MON. - SAT. 9.30 to 6.00 p.m. SUNDAY 10.00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- ★ Motor Oils
- ★ Service Kits
- ★ Wheel Bearings
- ★ Filters - Oil & Air
- ★ Spark Plugs
- ★ Comprehensive range of Brake
Parts, Pads, Shoes and Pipes
- ★ Track Rod Ends
- ★ Fan Belts
- ★ Wiper Blades
- ★ Body Panels
- ★ Refinishing Materials and Polish
- ★ Accessories
- ★ Styling Kits **AND MUCH MORE!!!**

COMPARE OUR PRICES

THE WHARF, EARDISLEY.

TEL: 05446 233



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

In less than three months now we will, hopefully, all be celebrating the happy annual event, CHRISTMAS. However, at this time of year, and up to Christmas the burglars, thieves, and con-men are organising their Christmas shopping-money, or even presents !

The Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators - Bob Doody (311) Peter Clarke (346) Margaret Sheers (234) Barbara Arthur (567) Val Andrews (439) Ivor Courtney (344) Martin Powell (621) John Phillips (470) - ask all residents, including children, to be especially watchful at this time and to report to the above any suspicious circumstances, however un-important you think they may be.

Let's get through the next three months, and after, without any upsets, then everybody can have a Happy Christmas.